

OZANAM HOUSE TRUST
ANNUAL REPORT
2003

As I come to the end of my current term as Chairman of the Trust Board, I have pleasure in reporting on a number of the highlights of our year to 31st March 2003. The Trust has, for 31 years now, been providing support to those of us less fortunate who may contract the disease, Cancer. We endeavour to ensure that their visit to Palmerston North for treatment is as pleasant, and their accommodation is as homely, as they would wish it to be. While the figures to which I will refer later in this document indicate that those attending Ozanam House have remained at a reasonably constant level, we note with concern the reduction in the number of patients whom we have been providing accommodation for in recent months. We express the view that we would be extremely disappointed if this trend resulted in a longer waiting time for patients.

Contractual arrangements with the Ministry of Health involve us in periodic inspections. One of these took place during the year, and I am pleased to report that, with a small exception, all aspects of the Trust operation met with approval. The one matter which did not was an administrative arrangement to do with the provision of an accident register. Matters which were raised have been attended to.

In last years report I commented on the undesirable trend of patients having to come to Palmerston North for examination and spending one night and then returning home, awaiting a further call for a treatment appointment. The Regional Cancer Treatment Centre have, during the year, made arrangements to largely eliminate the need for this to occur. In particular, patients from Gisborne are now assessed for their treatment prior to them having to travel to Palmerston North, when the actual treatment can then proceed.

Another positive development during the year was a step taken by Mid Central Health Limited which, by making firmer contractual arrangements with the Trust, has improved our relationship immensely. I want to acknowledge the contribution made to this situation by the Cancer Society, both at the Manawatu Centre level and also Mrs Bronwyn Laurensen, the Chief Executive Officer of the Central Districts Division, and Mrs Ann Tuffin, CEO for the Manawatu Cancer Centre, who made a number of representations on our behalf. We were

grateful for that and also the much improved lines of communication between us and the treatment provider.

We are currently carrying out a similar exercise for the purpose of establishing a more stable financial base for the Shuttle Service which the Trust operates between Palmerston North and Hawkes Bay. It is hoped that next year's report will confirm that satisfactory arrangements have been completed.

VOLUNTARY FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The irregular production of our newsletter 'Update' took place recently. Benefactors respond favourably to receiving advice as to items of interest and developments which take place at Ozanam House from time to time. As a result of the issue of this magazine our benefactors respond positively and I am pleased to report once again our funds have improved substantially as a result of donations received from the readers of 'Update'.

There are a number of other donations which we should also acknowledge and include, for the second year, our new policy of acknowledging the generosity of the Palmerston North City Council. They have, once again, agreed to remit any rate charges against the property occupied by the Trust. Bequests this year total \$50,129 (\$125,809). Our donations, however, were \$196,493 (\$159,584). Amongst the donors, it is noted that the following names appear;

- Peter Harris Trust-Napier
- Estate of Joyce A Cappell
- Mr & Mrs Mooney
- Lighthouse Lions-Wairoa
- Mr & Mrs F Bettany
- Mr & Mrs Treweek
- Mr A Crawford
- Mr & Mrs TA Kyle
- Mrs E Hodges
- Mr & Mrs Cooper
- Mr & Mrs A Pattison
- St Vincent de Paul Soc Havelock Nth
- Springhill Charitable Trust
- Frimley Foundation
- Mrs Burmeister
- Jacobs Florentine & Partners
- Mr & Mrs F Jansen
- Est William George Johnson
- Clark Charitable Trust
- Est Malcom Roy Palmer
- Mr & Mrs AT Webster
- Mr & Mrs J Melhuish

- Mr Colin Campbell
- Mr N Morris
- Mangatawa Beale Williams Memorial Trust
- Mr & Mrs AJ Smyth
- Mr & Mrs J McConville
- Estate Patricia Donnachie
- Cosmopolitan Centennial Trust Napier
- Mrs JE Milne
- Mr & Mrs Kirsk
- Club 40 Havelock North
- Havelock North Bridge Club
- Havelock North Bowling Club

This is a brief but representative list of those donors who continue to be most generous to us and whom we particularly wish to acknowledge. There have been, of course, other donors including Country Womens Institutes, R.S.A.'s and Lions Clubs all of whom continue to be very supportive. We acknowledge that this generosity is a reflection of the standard of the facility offered and the staff who operate it, but nevertheless we continue to be grateful for this source of income.

STATISTICS

While the catchment area of the Regional Cancer Treatment Centre is based largely on the Central Districts Region, from the East Cape across to Taranaki down to Otaki, we are also host to patients from the Wairarapa.

Mid Central. Patients and Caregivers

	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
Patients	395	423	442	388	319
Carers	244	287	264	265	277
Carers Only	7	26	60	84	72

Room Nights

9,739

Taranaki & Tarawhaiti. Patients, Caregivers

	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
Patients	333	283	304	167	241
Carers	260	205	185	101	179
Carers Only	5	13	36	32	49
<u>Room Nights</u>					
10,043	<u>1244</u>	<u>1237</u>	<u>1295</u>	<u>1037</u>	<u>1149</u>

FINANCES

Our income of \$231,570 added to our overall financial position but was a reduction of \$82,868 on the previous year. \$365,259 was received by way of interest on our investments and voluntary donations from the public. This indicates that without the support of our donor base we suffered once again a deficit in our accommodation account. This has been addressed in recent discussions with the Ministry Funding Agency and will be improved. We do not anticipate that all our costs will be met from this source. Due to reduction in numbers we have accommodated carers and recorded their stay as Income. A transfer from Donations is made to meet these charges.

Our overhead costs, \$788,180 compared to \$706,484 the previous year, have moved due to the increased amount of unrecoverable accommodation, a matter I referred to earlier as being addressed and righted. We continue to maintain a strong cash position and ensure that the generosity of our donors is respected by utilising the funds to maintain a high standard of accommodation. The reserves which we hold are deemed to be prudent in respect of the possibility of a possible Government decision resulting in a downturn in our principal source of income, which could jeopardise an otherwise successful operation.

SHUTTLE SERVICE

While remaining a popular facility provided by the Trust the service again operated at a deficit. Income, was similar to last year. Costs were maintained but the basic problem is that without a contribution from the passengers themselves the income level provided by Mid

Central Health Ltd are seriously insufficient. While it is said to be as a result of the Health Board's policy, we wonder if the policy is being correctly applied or if it should be changed. During the year our understanding relative to the GST content of the payments we receive was decided in favour of Mid Central Health, resulting in us losing 11% of our gross income from that source.

	2003	2002	2001	2000
Patients	531	594	687	432
Carers	285	335	174	177
Mileage	62095	68505	52393	50309
Capacity	51%	86%	89%	86%

GENERAL

I wish to pay tribute to all members of the Oncology Department with whom our staff have dealings. The relationship, as always, continues to be very cordial and has for reasons already mentioned, improved substantially.

Last year I paid respects to my then fellow Trustee Dr Percy Bydder.

During the year Dr Bydder resigned his position on the Cancer Society's Management Committee. As is their policy, the Cancer Society's appointee to represent them on the Trust Board is required to be a member of their Management Committee, so Dr Bydder was replaced and we welcomed Mrs Natalie Hope.

I have said it before, but it bears repeating, that Perc's contribution to the running of this Trust over a long period of time, almost since its' inception, has been immense.

While it might be said that his position as a physician in the Oncology Department at the Treatment Centre required him to make this contribution, we recognise that any contribution he made was far and away in excess of that which such a duty would require. His down to earth practical contributions, together with his knowledge of the workings of the local treatment centre contributed much to the deliberations of the Trust as it grew and expanded

over the years. There were many difficult times when his expertise, advise and sound judgement guided us on a proper path which enabled us to maintain the standard which we had already set under his guidance and which we hope to continue in the future. We join with others in the area of cancer work who have saluted Dr Percy Bydder and add our thanks to theirs in wishing him a happy and pleasant retirement and a continued long and fruitful life.

To my fellow Trustees. Les Walden never faltered in his support, in particular his regular visitation of the House and his circulation amongst the patients was widely appreciated by the Board, and certainly by the patients. Dr Bernard Forde has contributed, as we would expect that he would, based on his extensive knowledge and experience of community voluntary work. To Mrs Eileen Day and her staff who have once again absorbed the pressures exerted, for a number of reasons, always beyond their control. As usual the Secretary, complemented by his staff, continues to provide for our needs in a very able way. My fellow Trustees join me in this expression of gratitude.

Finally, I would like to say that I appreciate the opportunity provided to me by my fellow Trustees to be your Chairman these last two years. I am confident that the Trust has been handed on to my replacement in a sound position and I look forward to continuing to serve the interests of the Trust well in to the future. I am continue to be committed to uphold the Trust which our benefactors display in us in ably administering this facility.

Cliff W. Craven

CHAIRMAN