

# OZANAM HOUSE TRUST

## CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2013

The end of the year 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013 marked the 42<sup>nd</sup> year of the Trust's operations. I am pleased to report on the Trust's activities for this year.

The Trust now provides 68 self-contained suites for patients and carers. All rooms are double rooms, ensuited.

The year can best be described as one of consolidation.

After our greatest investment in our people, we have again expended funds in the care of our houses to enhance and maintain their high standard.

The renovation of the front Ryan House kitchen was completed, together with re-wallpapering and an upgrade of the Vincentian kitchen. Hush glass was installed in the front bedrooms of Williams Wing, Lloyd Morgan Wing and the Vincentian Cottage - this has vastly improved the reduction of the noise level from passing traffic.

Extensive exterior painting of the houses has taken place maintaining the excellent appointment of our houses.

The rejuvenation of the Lions Court (the area in between the Ryan Wing) has commenced and is almost completed. Again, this has been made possible by the support of 38 Lions Clubs from the central North Island, Districts 202D and 202M.

It was sad to report during the year that Dan Butler passed away. Dan, an active member of the Society of St Vincent de Paul for many years, is credited (along with others) of conceiving the idea in 1966 of providing a "home away from home" for cancer patients from out of town undergoing treatment at Palmerston North Hospital.



After talking to a patient from Gisborne and witnessing his loneliness, as he was separated from his family and could not afford to stay in Palmerston North while he was in hospital, Dan had the inspiration of what we now have today as Ozanam House.

The vision was to have a “Home Away from Home” where spouses could also stay free of charge, therefore alleviating the pain of separation. We can be proud that this vision continues.

*Photo: Dan Butler visiting Butler House in May 2012 with Francis Yates and wife from Gisborne.*

Although well signposted for over 12 months, from July 1<sup>st</sup> this year Tairāwhiti District Health patients will be treated at Waikato Hospital. The financial impact of this policy change will affect the Trust in the short term, longer term the vacuum is likely to be filled from patients undergoing treatment from the existing catchment areas of Taranaki, Hawkes Bay and Wanganui regions.

This Health Board policy change has been a catalyst for the Trustees to discuss with Health Board representatives future needs and opportunities for the Trust to consider in planning for the future requirements of cancer sufferers in keeping with the Trusts’ mission.

## **DONORS**

The list below recognises those who gave substantial support during the year.

Estate Jack D Woodley, Palmerston North	J Watson, Havelock North
Estate James Walker, Wairoa	L Aston, Stratford
R B McLaren, Hastings	Mr & Mrs F Yates, Gisborne
Hastings Karamu Rotary Club	P King, New Plymouth
Joan Fernie Charitable Trust, Hastings	Z Service Station, Palmerston Nth
B R Goble, New Plymouth	M Maynard, Gisborne
B & M Brownlie, Wairoa	J Pene, New Plymouth
P & A McDonnell, Ohakune	E & J Edridge, New Plymouth
Estate Nigel Wood, Oakura	N Evetts, New Plymouth
B & S Strong, Waipawa	Mr & Mrs L G R Bell, Waipawa
J & C Foster, Hawkes Bay	Estate J A Chapel, Hastings
M J Russell, Hastings	Mr & Mrs R W Ridgeway, Havelock Nth
B Kirk, Napier	Wairoa Lighthouse Lions 202M District
Estate Archibald G Waugh, Napier	B L & J P Wilson, Havelock North
P Fowler, Hastings	M P Dewar, Masterton
Lions Club of Rongotea & Districts	Mr & Mrs Dravitsky, Inglewood
Mr & Mrs M Saxton, Patea	N Moller, Oakura
P Flower & J Mills, Hastings	Dr J Kerr, Hawkes Bay
Wairoa Lions Club	R Jones & M Purvis, Napier
St Vincent de Paul, Our Lady Help	Feilding Kowhai Lions Club
Of Christians Conference, New Plymouth	Stop Inn Charitable Trust, New Plymouth
Lucy Jacques, Palmerston North	J N Williams Memorial Trust, Gisborne
Estate Patricia M Wareham, Gisborne	H B Williams Turanga Trust, Gisborne

Once again our benefactors have been extremely generous. In addition to donations of \$161,787, bequests totalling \$113,726 were received.

We enjoy the goodwill and support of our local authorities. The Trust benefits from a rates remission from the Palmerston North City Council of \$17,395 / LY \$16,707 and Horizons Regional Council of \$4,739 / LY \$4,819. We are grateful for that expression of support.

## STATISTICS

<b>MID CENTRAL (including Hawkes Bay to Wairarapa and Wanganui)</b>							
	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Patients Only	197	208	129	102	84	122	137
Patients with Carers	257	264	247	257	258	234	243
Carers Only	59	89	81	81	93	69	80
Total	513	561	457	440	435	425	460
Room Nights Occupied	9350	8271	8984	8767	8461	9041	8398

<b>TARANAKI</b>							
	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Patients Only	97	87	67	55	50	36	52
Patients with Carers	149	186	183	175	144	143	144
Carers Only	27	40	49	40	40	25	29
Total	273	313	299	270	234	204	225
Room Nights Occupied	5525	5370	5095	5588	4839	4161	4720

<b>TAIRAWHITI (Gisborne)</b>							
	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Patients Only	34	24	25	31	15	17	23
Patients with Carers	74	72	75	80	78	62	65
Carers Only	11	18	27	31	21	9	19
Total	119	114	127	142	114	88	107
Room Nights Occupied	2178	1599	2381	2972	2407	1808	1982

<b>ANNUAL TOTALS</b>							
	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Annual Guests (patients & carers)	905	988	883	852	739	717	792
Available Room Nights	25180	25489	25053	23296	22571	22708	22460
	72.3%	69.4%	65.7%	75.4%	69.6%	66.9%	67.2%
Room Nights Occupied	18212	16027	16460	17327	15707	15010	15100
Room Nights Reimbursed	11603	12072	10987	10392	-	-	-

Average stays -	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
Patients	23 days	20 days
Carers	15 days	13 days

## FINANCE

The financial position of the Trust remains strong thanks to the generosity of our many benefactors and careful investment of funds.

Investment income at \$152,435 / LY \$131,030 reflects a good return in a period of declining interest rates. The Trusts' investments showed an increase of \$476,897 on the previous year.

Although the number of guest-patient/carers declined in 2013 compared to the previous year, their stays were longer and subsequent room nights occupied also increased.

Our unsolicited donor income in this year was \$275,513 / LY \$348,272.

It is pleasing to note the reduction of expenditure costs even taking into consideration the large amount expended last year on house renovations. Total overhead expenses were \$242,476 / LY \$248,978. Total operating expenses 2013 were \$783,584 / LY \$1,107,458, a decline of \$323,874.

Operating revenue improved by \$83,785 compared to the previous year. This was attributable to improved occupancy and less need to utilise motels. The occupancy level in 2013 was 72.3% / LY 2012 - 62.8%.

This strong financial platform gives the Trust the flexibility to consider replacing the leased accommodation that it provides, together with other initiatives.

Our accountants, Coombe Smith, have supported our administration, answered many queries and offered advice.

Our auditor Darryl Pinny has carried out his duties in a timely manner and has tendered good advice. I thank him for his efficiency and will be recommending his re-appointment to the board.

## **GENERAL**

This year marked a milestone for Eileen Day, the welcoming face of Ozanam House, attaining 20 years' service as Administrator. Over this time Eileen's passion and dedication has made sure guests/patients are well cared for and their needs are met.



Staff regularly receive accolades from guests for providing a "home away from home" and expressing their gratitude for providing the unique flavour of homely accommodation in their time of need. They enjoy intermingling with fellow guests in an environment of care and support and sharing accommodation with others in a similar situation.

The many accolades expressed are certainly the greatest recognition for our long and loyal staff and reinforces to us the exemplary service we strive to provide for our guests.

My thanks to our volunteer gardener Rose and her helpers for their dedication in keeping the gardens and surrounds looking good.

As Chairman, I would like to thank my fellow Trustees Bill Bly, Peter Noble-Campbell and Barney O'Connor for their support and acknowledge their contributions of wise counsel and time they have made to the governance of the Trust. The Trustees often visit and spend quality time with guests and attend social functions, which is well received by both parties. Additionally, I gratefully acknowledge the expertise and efficiency of our Manager, Roger Clark and his assistant Kay Donoghue in ensuring that daily life at Ozanam House provides a "home away from home" as enshrined in our constitution.

**Terry Comber**  
**CHAIRMAN**

August 2013