

MERCY MATTERS

MAY 2024

Thank you for giving families the gift of time together

Your support provides a range of care and support, enabling people and their families to spend time together when it matters most.

Highlights this month

Stories of care: Clare Bonniface

The **joys of** volunteering with Mercy

Fundraising News and Updates

10 – A Celebration of Tastes



**Mercy
Hospice**
Te Korowai Atawhai

Mercy Hospice Charities
Commission Number: CC31621

A sense of calm and gratitude

Diagnosed with a brain tumour during COVID-19 lockdowns, Jill had to rely on her husband for full-time care, and when they were able to, sons Ryan and Sean. Frustratingly for Clare, due to border closures and being Melbourne-based, she couldn't be with her family for quite some time. So it meant the world to Clare when she finally crossed the Tasman and found practical ways to help during Jill's final week.



"Helping Mom feel more comfortable in her last days was really important as it was something practical I could do so that Dad, Ryan or Sean didn't have to. This gave them the chance to just spend time with Mom. It felt really special looking after the person who's looked after me for so many years. I had such a strong bond with my Mom, so looking after her during such a time of need was a real privilege."

And there were added benefits when Clare learned how to administer pain management and operate the syringe driver thanks to Mercy CPC nurses, Claire and Corinne.

"The fact that Corinne and Claire knew I'd be able to administer pain relief (something I thought I'd never be able to do!) formed a trust between us and made me know we were in safe hands. Thank you so much for teaching me and trusting I was capable to do so."

In her final week, Jill found it increasingly difficult to communicate, which became a source of some distress for Clare. Again, she found Mercy's support emotionally supportive and practical:

"Corinne spent time explaining with such care and compassion what might happen in the coming days. This provided us with the chance to ask questions and let us know what support there was through Mercy if we wanted to speak with anyone."

Thanks to the amazing generosity of Mercy supporters, Jill Bonniface and her immediate family were cared for at home by Mercy's Community Palliative Care (CPC) team between 2021-2023. Heartfelt thanks to Jill's daughter, Clare, for agreeing to share her personal memories with our supporters today.

For many people facing this stage, events can happen so quickly, and conditions decline so rapidly that they often feel unprepared and in a state of shock or disbelief:

"Mom was always so incredibly positive about life, but this was quite a sudden decline. I just expected her to continue as she had been, which may have been naive, but that's because I had such a positive woman influencing me my whole life."

The impact of such change can be far-reaching. From the subtle and not so subtle changes to relationships and personalities, to more obvious disruptions to everyday life:

"Having the support of Mercy during such a life changing event made it easier to cope with everything that was going on. I think when you're going through something so tragic you don't always know what you need, so having Mercy there to guide us made day to day life during this period more manageable."

On July 24, 2023, Jill Bonniface, beloved wife and mother of three passed away peacefully at home.

To Clare and all our supporters whose ongoing compassion and support enables everyday Aucklanders to experience the gift of time and

care with their loved ones, thank you. It's your generosity that makes all of this possible.

"Losing Mom is the most devastating thing I've ever experienced, but the fact I can look back on her last week with us and feel a sense of calm and gratitude speaks volumes about the care Mercy provided."

On a final note, it was so wonderful to hear that Clare's brother, Sean ran his first ever marathon for Mercy in 2023 and raised just over \$10,000! This year, Clare, Ryan and Sean will all be running in the half marathon. Go team Bonniface!

"We're so glad to be able to give back to Mercy this way so you can continue to help wonderful people like my Mom, and their families. You are all truly amazing and so appreciated. Your support will not be forgotten, thank you very much."



Your support enabled

4,877

Community Nurse
Visits over 2022-2023*



Your support enabled

427

people on average to be
cared for over 2022-2023*



Thank you to the following Trusts and Foundations

who have supported Mercy Hospice through generous grants:

- Akarana Community Trust
- Alexander Harold Watson Charitable Trust
- Blue Waters Community Trust
- BlueSky Community Trust
- Dragon Community Trust
- Duo Trust
- E M Arnold Foundation
- Ernest Davis & Ted & Mollie Car Legacies
- FGMRG Charitable Trust
- Four Winds Foundation
- Heathcote Trust
- Hospice NZ Grants Programme, supported by Harcourts
- Hugh Green Foundation
- J A Redwood Charitable Trust
- Joyce Fisher Charitable Trust
- Lion Foundation
- Lottery Grants Board
- Mike Bakker Charitable Trust
- N R & J H Thomson Charitable Trust
- North & South Trust
- One Foundation
- Peter & David Picot Charitable Trust
- The Jogia Trust
- The Sir William and Lady Lois Manchester Charitable Trust
- The Trusts Community Foundation
- Trillian Trust

Make a difference.

Volunteer at a Mercy Hospice shop!

Mercy Hospice has 8 fabulous retail outlets, and there's always room for more volunteers, especially right now in our two Ellerslie shops and our big Mt Roskill shop.

If you can spare three hours per week, we would love to hear from you! Every hour you give helps continue the care to everyday Aucklanders. Plus, you'll have fun, connect with your community, and make new friends!

Please contact:

Sue Campin

Retail Volunteer Coordinator

scampin@mh.org.nz

0800 888 474 / 021 824 020



**Between
2022-2023, retail
volunteers gave
57,096 hours
of their time,
which equates
to \$1.3M of
in-kind support!***

*Calculated at the basic living wage of \$23.65 per hour.

Giving is so rewarding



Toni Jenkinson, retail volunteer. 15 years' service in retail.

My name's Toni and I've been a volunteer for Mercy Hospice at one of the retail shops for 15 years. I started off by feeling that I was just part of the furniture. Working the till and tidying clothes racks. Over time, I've become a friend to so many customers and I sometimes feel part of their families. I see them when they're happy and when they're sad. I hear all the news and each week I ask them how their families are doing. I feel so privileged that I can help Mercy in this way and to meet such wonderful people. I love every minute of my time in the shop and can recommend this experience to anyone. Giving is so rewarding and what I get out of it, is such happiness.

Your support enabled

12 days on average in IPU
over 2022-2023*



Thank you so much to our amazing volunteers! The care and compassion patients and families experience at Mercy Hospice couldn't happen without the care, energy and time investment provided by volunteers. Each and every one of you are, without doubt, superstars!!

Being a volunteer has been 'pure joy'



"Being part of the volunteer group at Mercy has been 'pure joy' for me."

Julie Upton

I've been an active volunteer in various roles over the years, but this ticks all the boxes.

Firstly, Debbie Stevens (Volunteer Co-ordinator) is at the helm, steering with aptitude, availability, and authenticity.

Then, Raissa Bogomoltz (Manaaki Group Facilitator) orchestrates with empathy and enthusiasm.

We gather each Tuesday morning in an assigned room in the Hospice. Outpatients

and Inpatients (who are able) attend this fun-filled, two-hour session of connection with others, movement to music and amazing refreshments.

I love that we work as a team with the same goal in sight, yet we are still able to retain our autonomy. As we serve patients and their loved ones, we are literally providing Manaaki (to cherish/sustain) these precious souls in our care. Lifting their spirits, lifts mine. It truly is a small 'taste' of Heaven here on earth.

Your support enabled

5,552

Family Support Visits over 2022-2023*



Mercy Hospice fits the bill!

Over the years I had experience with Hospice, both Mercy and North Shore, having had family and friends as patients, and had always been inspired by their dedication and the compassion and kindness during very difficult times.

My dear friend of over 40 years, Debbie Stevens, one of the wonderful Volunteer Coordinators, had also inspired me to help when the time was right.

Last year I volunteered with Red Cross, but it was mostly

"drop and go", and I knew I needed to be more involved. And Mercy Hospice fits the bill!

As a drinks trolley volunteer, I almost feel like I've continued in my flying role...just on the ground now!

I'm also loving the involvement with Manaaki on Thursdays. The interaction with patients, staff and other volunteers is extremely rewarding.

I look forward to getting to know more of you, so please say hi if you happen to see me lurking about!



Gavin Smith

Fundraising News Roundup

To our passionate supporters, keen to continue the care at Mercy Hospice and make quality of life a right for all Aucklanders, thank you so much!

Lights to Remember, December 2023

Hundreds of visitors and supporters visited the grounds of Mercy Hospice in December 2023 to remember their loved ones with family and friends. It was such a beautiful and magical night of music, connection, remembrance and reflection. Thank you to everyone who came and those who dedicated a light to a loved one. Together, you raised over \$70,000!



March Appeal, 2024

Hart Reynolds' story of care highlighted how profoundly families of loved ones are positively impacted by their experience with Mercy Hospice, and in turn, by the generosity of you, our compassionate supporters. How amazing to hear about Hart's mother, Dr Claire McLintock, and how she transitioned from a life of caring for others to being cared for herself. This story has touched many hundreds. Thank you everyone who helped raise over \$70,000 to date for this March Appeal.



Round the Bays, March 2024

Just look at the joy and camaraderie in these shots from this year's Round the Bays! Thanks to you, over \$11,000 was raised so that more adults, children and their loved ones can get the care and compassion they need. And did you know, three of the top ten fundraising teams on the day were supporting Mercy Hospice. Go the blue shirts!



Upcoming Events!



Show your support for
Hospice Awareness Week 13-19 May 2024

Hospice Awareness Week, May 2024

This year's Hospice Awareness Week will educate everyone about the positive impact hospice has on people and their loved ones. Plus, Mercy Hospice volunteers will be shaking buckets on Monday 13th May at these street corners and at these shops on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 16th, 17th, 18th May.

Monday 13th May

CBD

- Corner Queen Street and Quay Street

Newmarket

- Corner Broadway and Balm Street
- Outside Glassons on Broadway in wide bay

Remuera

- Corner Remuera Road and Clonbern Road (Newmarket side)
- Remuera Road south side opposite Bakers Delight

Ellerslie

- Corner Ladies Mile and Main Highway

Mount Eden

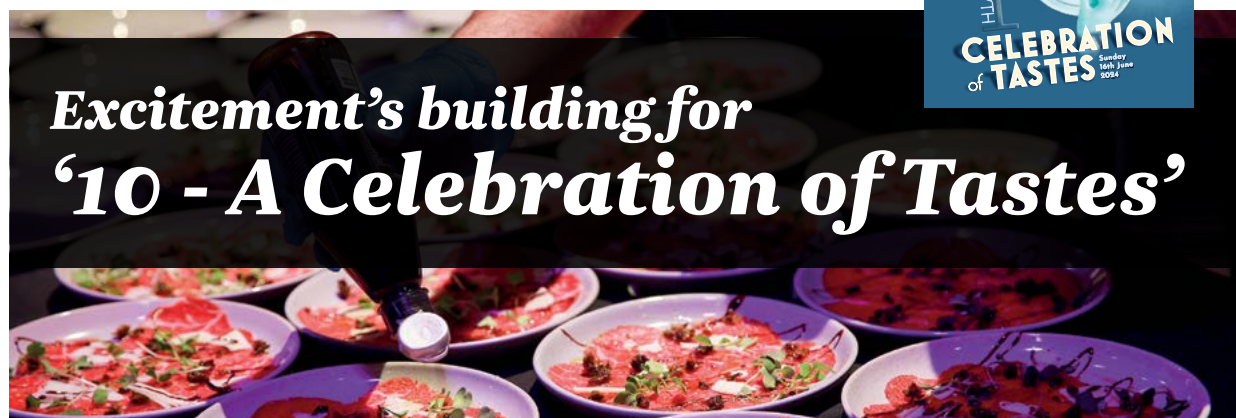
- Corner Mount Eden Road and Stokes Road

Ponsonby

- Corner Ponsonby Road and Richmond Road
- Corner Ponsonby Road and College Hill

Thursday 16th, Friday 17th, and Saturday 18th May

- [Victoria Park New World](#)
- [St Lukes Westfield](#)
- [Remuera New World](#)



On June 16, at Grand Millennium, Auckland over 400 Mercy supporters will be making a profound difference to the lives of everyday Aucklanders and their families. Huge thanks to Eurovintage for the delectable wine pairings and to this year's amazing participating restaurants. Find out more at www.mercy10.nz.

BARULHO

CORNELIA

MADAME
GEORGE



ParisButter
★★★★



Thank you!

*Thank you to all our
Mercy Hospice supporters
including our volunteers.
You're making all the
difference.*

BARFOOT & THOMPSON
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FUNERAL CARE



mansons
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*Hospice New Zealand's
supporters and sponsors*



Make all the difference

Whether it's a regular donation, a Gift in your Will, volunteering, fundraising, or supporting through your business, everyone can improve the quality of life for adults living with life-limiting illness and their families.

Complete the attached form to make your donation or give us a call on 0800 888 474 or email hello@mh.org.nz and we'll help you find a way to give back that works for you.

2024 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Get involved with Mercy Hospice!

www.mercyhospice.org.nz/events or email getinvolved@mh.org.nz to find out more!

May 13 - 19	<u>Hospice Awareness Week</u>
June 16	<u>10 - A Celebration of Tastes</u>
November 3	<u>Auckland Marathon</u>
November 8	<u>Tennis for Mercy</u>
December 1	Remembrance Service He Wa Maumahara
December 5	Lights to Remember Switch-On
December	Trees of Remembrance

You are receiving this newsletter because of your previous support of Mercy Hospice. If you don't want to receive it in the future or you would prefer to receive a digital version, please contact the fundraising team on getinvolved@mh.org.nz to update your preferences.

Yes, I want every patient to feel safe and receive the highest quality palliative care.

I would like to donate: \$

Payment methods

MM - May 2024

First Name:

Last Name:

Phone:

☐ Credit card - Please debit my:

☐ Visa

☐ Mastercard

☐ AMEX

Card number:

Expiry date:

/

CVC:

(required)

Name on card:

Signature:

☐ Directly into Mercy Hospice Auckland's bank account:

BNZ: 02 0100 0815020 00

Particulars:

Code:

Reference:

I would like to receive my receipt by:

☐ Post

☐ Email (Please confirm)

☐ I would like to make this a monthly gift.

☐ Please contact me about leaving a gift in my Will.

Please return this form in the enclosed freepost envelope, or send to

Mercy Hospice, P O Box 47693, Ponsonby, Auckland 1101

If you have any questions, please call 0800 888 474 or email hello@mh.org.nz

Thank you for your generosity and for your continued support of Mercy Hospice.

Mercy Hospice Charities Commission Number: CC31621