



TE AWA
Lifecare Village

TE AWA PARTYLINE

July 2025



A word from Nikki

This month's highlight was the wonderful opening of RD4. Our oldest resident, Jerry, had the honour of cutting the ribbon alongside Mandy, and it truly was a celebration to remember. With 14 rooms, including four designed for couples, we welcomed our first residents on 23 July, with more arriving this week.

You may have noticed the new road markings painted on the hill down to the villas for our shared zone, where both pedestrians and vehicles use the same space. Further signage will be going up soon, but in the meantime, we ask our residents walking up or down that road to "own it" and walk in the middle. Drivers please stay a safe distance behind walkers rather than driving too close, as being right on their heels can cause unnecessary pressure – and that's when accidents can happen.

Stage 3 construction is also underway, with plans for 20+ villas. Please note that this is strictly a no-go zone for residents due to heavy activity and important Health & Safety regulations, including after hours and at weekends.

A big thank you to our team for organising the fabulous mid-year Shindig – it was a fantastic night, with plenty of toe-tapping well into the evening.

As we continue through the colder, damper months, I encourage everyone to take care of their health. If you're feeling unwell, please stay home, and remember – if you need a hand, our team is here to help.

Thanks, Nikki



Te Awa Lifecare's oldest resident, Jerry Wake, with the help of owner Mandy Hudson, cuts the ribbon to officially open our newest wing, RD4. Staff joined in the celebrations, along with our very first new resident (pictured right).

Celebrating the opening of RD4

This month we proudly celebrated the opening of RD4, our newest wing at Te Awa Lifecare.

The occasion marks more than just the completion of a building – it's a celebration of our vision to provide exceptional services and professional, compassionate care for the elderly.

While the journey to this point has been a long one, it's incredibly rewarding to see the project come together and, most importantly, to welcome our new

residents. We're especially proud that RD4 includes four rooms designed for couples, offering the opportunity for loved ones to remain together – something we know will be quickly embraced.

With this new chapter, we're excited about what lies ahead and confident it won't be long before the wing is full. RD4 represents another step in ensuring Te Awa remains a place of warmth, care, and community.

Doing our part: e-waste at Te Awa

At Te Awa, we're committed to reducing waste and protecting our environment.

To the right of the Hobby Shed, you'll find clearly marked bins for e-waste – perfect for old printers, small appliances, mobile phones, laptops, and more. There's also a battery bin for hearing aid and small appliance batteries.

These bins are regularly collected by Urban Miners, a Cambridge organisation, who ensure all items are disposed of correctly and don't end up in landfills. Every year, New Zealand generates thousands of tonnes of e-waste, much of which contains harmful materials that can damage our environment if not handled properly.

By using these bins, we're helping to keep our community – and the planet – healthier.



Country night a hit at Te Awa

Just over a week ago, residents enjoyed a hugely successful Country Shindig night filled with music, dancing, and plenty of fun.

The band kept the toes tapping while the line dancers brought great energy to the floor. Peter and Gerry from the Care team joined in the festivities, and

many residents dressed in their best country attire to capture the spirit of the evening.



Planting success – 2,000 in the ground

The planting around the wetlands pond at the bottom of Stage 3 has now been completed. It will be wonderful to watch these plants flourish and grow over the coming years, creating a lovely outlook while also helping to keep the pond healthy and functioning as it should.





An evening of harmony

Recently, The Woolshed came alive with the rich sounds of barbershop at the Shear Harmony concert. Featuring Mighty River Harmony, the talented rangatahi-driven chorus Manu Mātātahi, and the ever-entertaining Usual Suspects Quartet, the evening delivered a truly memorable musical experience. Those who attended were treated to a night of spectacular harmony, laughter, and entertainment — a celebration of music at its very best.

Building momentum on Stage 3

Exciting progress is happening on Stage 3! Drainage is being laid, the first villa is rising from the ground, and footings are already in place for the next. With truckloads of earth being shifted (and plenty more to come), the site is a hive of activity. Our builders will certainly be kept busy over the next couple of years as this new stage of Te Awa takes shape.



INTRODUCING

Neil Voice

Te Awa's new Maintenance Man



Neil's story begins in the Wairarapa, but in 1978 he made the move to Tokoroa to join the Pulp and Paper Mill at Kinleith. That role became a defining part of his life, with Neil dedicating an incredible 40 years of service there.

Married to Rona, Neil is a proud great-grandad who prefers to be known as 'Gramps'. Eight years ago, Neil and Rona were married at Te Awa's Arnold Cottage, with Mandy and Terry as their witnesses, and they now happily live in Leamington.

In early April 2025, Neil decided to retire — however that lasted just three weeks! A keen road cyclist, he covers up to 200 kilometres a week in summer, and around 120 kilometres during winter. His energy and enthusiasm shine through in his work.

Neil loves his new position, especially the chance to connect with residents. He believes there's real value in taking the time for a friendly chat and in learning each person's story. His days are wonderfully varied — from gardening and replanting, to mowing lawns, hanging pictures, tackling small repair jobs, and most recently helping to prepare RD4 for its new residents.

Behind the scenes, maintenance at Te Awa has recently been enhanced with new maintenance software, making it easier to plan jobs, record assets, and streamline repairs. At daily toolbox meetings, Neil and the team are allocated tasks, ensuring everything runs smoothly. He is especially proud to be part of a small but mighty team, led by his daughter-in-law Leonie.

At 74, Neil is proving that you're never too old to learn, enjoying the opportunity to pick up new skills and share his knowledge with others. He values building confidence within the team so they can tackle more tasks in-house, without always needing outside contractors.

With his warmth, dedication, and can-do spirit, Neil has quickly become a valued part of Te Awa. We're thrilled to have him on board.

From our Care Centre



Scan the QR code to see what's happening next month in the Care Centre.



A busy and joyful month in the Care Centre

What a month it has been in the Care Centre, with our residents enjoying a wonderful mix of activities that have kept both minds and bodies active.

Afternoons have been particularly lively, with board games such as Connect Four and Scrabble proving popular – a great way to spark friendly competition and plenty of laughter. Bocca bowling has also been a clear favourite, especially when played on the Woolshed Bowling Green where it can be enjoyed from the comfort of a chair.

Exercise with Tanya continues to be a highlight, offering a fun way to get the blood pumping. There's never a shortage of smiles – or noise – when pool noodles are involved! On the foodie front, residents enjoyed making delicious hot chocolates, although the much-anticipated mulled wine session was postponed until Tracy is back to full health. Our regular activities continue to bring great enjoyment.

The sing-along sessions with Gill always brighten the week, while exercise with the physio helps keep everyone moving. Jeopardy has brought out some feisty competition, and the men's group and women's chat group provide wonderful opportunities for conversation and connection. Weekly country drives have also been a much-loved outing, offering a change of scenery and plenty to talk about afterwards.

A real highlight this month was the Shear Harmony concert, featuring Mighty River Harmony, Manu Mātātahi and the Usual Suspects Quartet – an evening of spectacular music and entertainment that delighted all who attended.

Looking ahead, we have more to look forward to, starting with International Beer Tasting on 1 August!

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