



TE AWA
Lifecare Village

TE AWA PARTYLINE September 2025



A word from Nikki

Spring is in the air at Te Awa Lifecare, and with it comes a flurry of activity around the village.

Our arborists have been hard at work with the seasonal pruning, ensuring the grounds are looking their best as the warmer months settle in.

You may have noticed that progress on the new gate is moving along steadily. While we don't yet have an official "go live" date, the finishing touches are well underway. The new signage is about to be installed, the landscaping is in place, and it's been wonderful to watch the area take shape. With all this activity, we're also hoping those trusty road cones—our rather overstaying guests—will soon make their final exit!

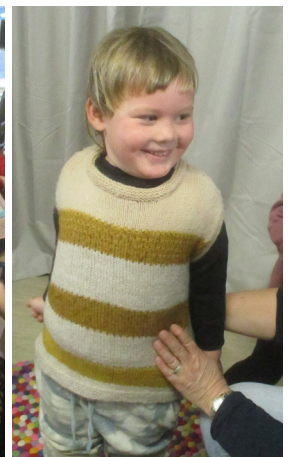
A highlight for many was the recent Knitting Nanas trip to Hazelmere Kindergarten. This was a lovely outing, and we've dedicated the main story in this edition to it—so please do have a read.

We also recently held our AGM. It was heartening to see the strong sense of spirit and engagement in the room. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to such a positive discussion.

Behind the scenes, we've been reviewing some of our contractor services for scheduled maintenance. This helps us ensure that both the village and residents continue to receive the highest standard of care and attention.

And finally, on a more personal note, I may have slipped away briefly to Christchurch to visit my beautiful grandson. If you see me around, do ask for the latest photo—I promise, he's every bit as cute as you'd imagine!

Warm regards, Nikki



Nana's Knitting Group – Stitching Warmth and Love

Throughout the winter months, our wonderful Nana's Knitting Group gathered each week, needles clicking and yarn flowing, to create something truly special. Their dedication and care resulted in a collection of hand-knitted garments, which were gifted to the children of Central Kids Hazelmere Kindergarten in Te Awamutu.

The Nanas recently spent a morning at the kindergarten, sharing stories, reading books, and playing with the children before enjoying a lovely morning tea together. It was a heartwarming exchange—the gift of time and love was just as treasured as the garments themselves. The kindergarten staff and families were absolutely delighted, with some siblings of the children also receiving items. The joy was written on their faces, as they proudly donned their new woollies.

One photo in particular captured little Malakai, whose knitted vest matched his beautiful eyes perfectly—a reminder of how thoughtful and personal these handmade gifts can be. What might seem like a small act to some has made a world of difference to these families, ensuring their children are kept warm and snugly through the colder months.

To our Nana's Knitting Group—we salute you. Your kindness, creativity, and community spirit truly rock!

Te Awa Lifecare Village | 1866 Cambridge Road
07 827 6103 | admin@teawalifecare.nz

Events for the coming months - book your spot!



Thu 2nd Oct 3:00pm - 5:00pm

Mission Wines & Over the Moon - Wine & Cheese



Fri 31st Oct

Elevenses - Lisa Lorell



Sun 2nd Nov 10:00am - 3:00pm

Cirque du Soleil - Corteo -

Celebrate Christmas at Te Awa Lifecare Village

Traditional Christmas Lunch & Dessert

Served Sundays 7th 14th & 21st December 2025

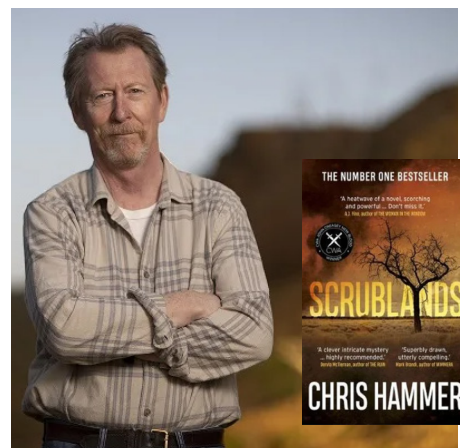
**Woolshed Café
Children 8-12 \$45 Adults \$70
Lunch served at 12.30pm**

Book at Reception - Full Bar available - Limited spaces

Discovering Chris Hammer – a new crime favourite

very so often, those of us who love crime and mystery stumble across a previously unread author—and what a joy it is when that author quickly becomes a favourite. For me, the last time this happened was with Lucinda Riley and her Sisters series. Now, I've found a new hero in Australian crime writer Chris Hammer.

Hammer spent 30 years as a journalist before turning to fiction, and his novels include *Scrublands*, *The Seven*, *The Valley*, *Silver*, *Tilt*, and *Treasure and Dirt*. His extraordinary gift for plot development makes his stories thoroughly addictive, while his ability to capture the sights, sounds, and searing heat of Australia provides a vivid backdrop to the action. Many critics credit him with singlehandedly



elevating the reputation of Australian crime writing.

We're fortunate to have four of his novels available in our library. I highly recommend giving him a try—you won't be disappointed!! - **Malcolm**

Stoked recipients of Nana's Knitting Group vests



Malakai

A Taste of summer style

Last week, a group of our residents enjoyed a special outing to Bettie Monroe in Cambridge to view their fresh new summer collection. The boutique, known for its vibrant colours, flattering designs, and easy-to-wear styles, didn't disappoint. There was plenty of excitement as residents admired the beautiful fabrics and unique pieces that Bettie Monroe is so well loved for.

By the looks of the photos, there may have been a few irresistible finds tucked away in shopping bags—ready to make their debut once the sunshine arrives and the weather is a little kinder. Outings like these are always a highlight, offering not just the chance to shop, but to share in the fun of fashion and friendship. We can't wait to see those new outfits making an appearance very soon!



Refuge zone nearing completion

The new refuge zone on the way down to the bottom villas is nearly complete, however is open for use. The non-slip strips have been applied to keep it safe in wet conditions. We're waiting on the seat to be completed. Please remember—pedestrians should continue to “own the road” when walking up or down, and drivers are asked to wait at the top or bottom until the way is clear.

INTRODUCING

Gurbinder Singh

Registered Nurse



When Gurbinder Singh (aka Garry) joined the team at Te Awa Lifecare in 2023, he brought with him not only years of nursing experience but also a deep sense of compassion and commitment to care.

Originally from Punjab in northern India, Gurbinder moved to New Zealand in 2015, encouraged by his sister, who was already settled here. Nursing runs strongly in his family, both his sister and mother are nurses, and he proudly continues that tradition. Before joining Te Awa Lifecare, Gurbinder spent six years as a rehabilitation co-ordinator after completing a year of study in rehabilitation health. To practice as a registered nurse in New Zealand, he had to go through a rigorous qualification process, something he approached with determination. Today, he describes nursing as both expected and unexpected, every day is different, and to him, it feels like a professional adventure. His passion for working with the elderly has inspired him to pursue postgraduate study with the goal of becoming a Registered Nurse Prescriber.

Outside of work, life has been equally fulfilling. In February 2024, Gurbinder returned to India to marry Namrata, a schoolteacher. The pair enjoyed a beautiful wedding and honeymoon in India before returning to their home in Hamilton. They explore the country's outdoors, cook together, and enjoy multicultural celebrations such as the Diwali Festival, which allows them to share their culture with friends. At Te Awa, Gurbinder is known not just for his clinical skill but also for his warm approach. He believes caring extends beyond medical needs to social connections, often enjoying chats with residents that brighten their day. He values teamwork, praising the way staff across every role contribute to making residents feel cared for and heard.

Later this year, Gurbinder and Namrata will return to India again for her brother's wedding, a trip they are especially excited about as it means celebrating with family and bringing back wonderful photos and stories to share with the residents at Te Awa.

From our Care Centre



Care Centre and Homestead highlights

What a month it has been! Creativity was at the forefront as residents designed their own “fashion” elements for our very own mini World of WearableArts (WoW) event. Over five weeks, Tuesday afternoons were filled with laughter, planning, and plenty of crafting as hats and garments took shape. The grand finale came at Happy Hour, where residents proudly modelled their designs: Lorraine with her charming Garden Party Hat; Judith Fogg’s elegant High Tea with the Queen; Richard Carr’s clever My Head is in a Puzzle cheese cutter; Carol Pearson’s colourful All I Need is a Margarita Mexican-inspired hat; Mary

Rowe’s vibrant Fiji Holiday; Marianne Boyd’s stylish Day at the Races; and Denise Mackay’s tranquil Ocean Vibes. The event went off just like the real WoW show—full of colour, flair, and fun. We also welcomed Don from Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari, who gave a fascinating talk about the ecological restoration happening there, including the precious native birdlife the project is protecting. Inspired by nature, residents enjoyed bird-themed art activities leading up to the annual Bird of the Year contest—this year’s winner was the kārearea (New Zealand falcon).

Add to this asparagus sandwich making (delicious!), flower arranging, and meanders down to the pond now that the weather is warmer, and you can see why it has been such a lively month. Board games, baking, and crafts continue to be popular too.

Looking ahead, we’re excited for Happy Hour and Jill’s sing-along, table tennis, bingo, jeopardy, pet therapy, indoor golf, Halloween fun, and two great films: The Sound of Music and Tina.

Scan the QR code for Care Centre calendar



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