

THE FALLS Folkus

THE FALLS ESTATE LIFESTYLE VILLAGE MAGAZINE

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EDITION 14



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THE FALLS ESTATE
A BEGROUP LIFESTYLE VILLAGE

MANAGER'S MESSAGE



Once you become part of the Falls Family, there are so many things you can get involved with. Ranging from activities to becoming a volunteer helper, just to name a few things. This edition we talk about our flower fairies, volunteer drivers and our Village lads. There is so much to do in the Village.

Congratulations to the new elected Residents Committee members. I look forward in working with you in continuing making The Falls Estate a Village of choice.

Until next time, happy reading.

Marie Annandale Village Manager

OUTGOING CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

Election time has come around again. What a rollercoaster of a year it has been with Covid and the traffic light system dictating what we could do. Hopefully by the end of next month Village life can return to what it used to be before Covid visited our shores. We celebrated our Red & Black mid-winter Xmas just like old times and a great night we had. The Committee also put together a morning tea for our new residents one Saturday morning. It was nice to mix with them all, learn about their lives and welcome them to the village. Happy hour continued to grow and the numbers for the musical entertainment that we are so lucky to have within our Village family. Two interesting items coming up are The Village Lads singing during Happy Hour and a van trip to the Observatory at Barge Park to view the night sky. One of our Residents was a founding engineer of the Rolling Ball Clock in Town Basin, which is well worth a visit. The amount of talent among our Residents is huge and we are immensely proud of them. Thank you must go to my Committee, they have been awesome to work with and I have enjoyed my time with them. To the bar staff who take care of everyone during Happy Hour and functions on behalf of the residents and me - thank you. To all the residents who drive vehicles, help in the veggie garden, and help wherever there is a need. I have enjoyed my time both as your Residents Committee Chairperson and your Bar Manager and wish my successors all the best.



Jocelyn Allen Outgoing Chairperson

INTRODUCING THE NEWLY ELECTED RESIDENTS COMMITTEE

By Jeanette Porter

In August, the residents held their AGM, and their new Committee was elected for the forthcoming year.

I was kindly elected as Chairperson - my name, Jeanette Porter. I have lived in the Village, together with my husband, for more than eight years and have been involved in many of the activities. I have even started some new ones and in 2019 I ran a Fashion Show & Sale and later planned another, which had to be cancelled due to Covid-19.

Maria Hori was elected as Secretary, she and her husband arrived in the Village just before me. She has great experience with committees and has been greatly involved with Northlands Māori groups.

The Treasurer elected was David Haywood, a position he held in the previous Committee. David comes with the experience of running his own business, together with his partner.

Gail Martin, Dave Firman, Joke Reek and Colleen Wech were all to join us, all having been on our committees in the past. Entirely new members elected in the past year. New faces, new ideas!

As Joke was then appointed as Bar Manager, she had to resign and, in her place, we appointed Libby Townsend. She comes with a wealth of knowledge, having been in the Village longer than any of us. We also appointed Lynley Horne as Assitant Bar Manager and Peter Arlidge as Committee Auditor.

Welcome one and all. We trust we will be able to put together a programme of events some of which will interest every one of the Village's 200+ residents.



*Left to Right Back: David Haywood, Colleen Wech, David Firman, Jeanette Porter, Michael Scutt
Left to Right Front: Gail Martin, Joy Brash, Maria Hori, Joke Reek, Libby Townsend*

FUNDRAISING - DOING OUR BIT

With 71 New Zealanders being diagnosed with cancer daily, the Village once again, got involved in supporting the Cancer Society through fundraising.

Cancer organisations around the world use the daffodil as a symbol of hope. The daffodil is the first flower of spring. Bringing light after cold, dark winter days and the hope of a new beginning. It has become a symbol for people experiencing the winter of cancer diagnosis and treatment, finding hope of a new life ahead.

Every dollar raised goes to Cancer Society Northland towards cancer care for patients and the whānau, education and awareness programmes, and life-saving cancer research.



David Haywood & Marie Annandale

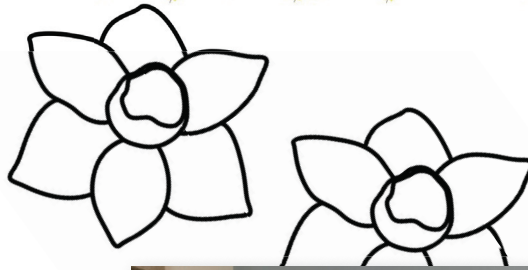
We started off with a **Pink Ribbon** fundraiser.

We did this fundraiser in collaboration with Buchanans Pharmacy, Tikipunga. Buchanans put a beautiful Pink Ribbon hamper together, which was up for grabs when purchasing tickets. You could hear the room go quiet during a Directors Drinks Happy Hour evening when the lucky ticket was drawn. Congratulations, David Haywood for winning this hamper. I know there were a lot of us who had our eyes on the earrings, or that beautiful cow printed garden shoes. We were able to raise \$210.00 during this fundraiser.

“Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference.”

– Winston Churchill





Next in the line, was **Daffodil Day.**

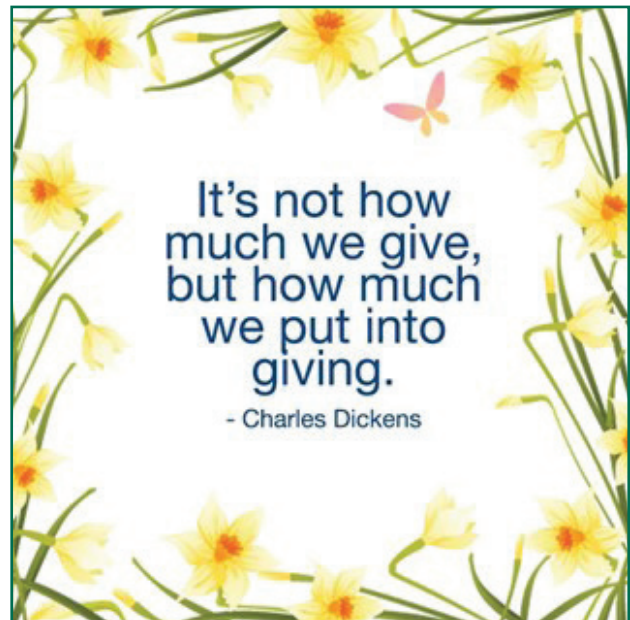
We did it a little bit differently this year. This year donations could be done either online or by adding money into the Daffodil Day Donation boxes. Taking into consideration the amount we raised through our pink Ribbon fundraiser we didn't want to put the bar too high, and our goal was to raise \$250.00. Residents came together and we raised at total of \$1,384.30 - I am so proud to be part of the Village.



Dougie Chowns with Leah

We want to thank everyone for their support and kind donations towards this important cause.

Let's do it again next year!



CARING AS A WAY OF LIFE

VACKY NOBLE



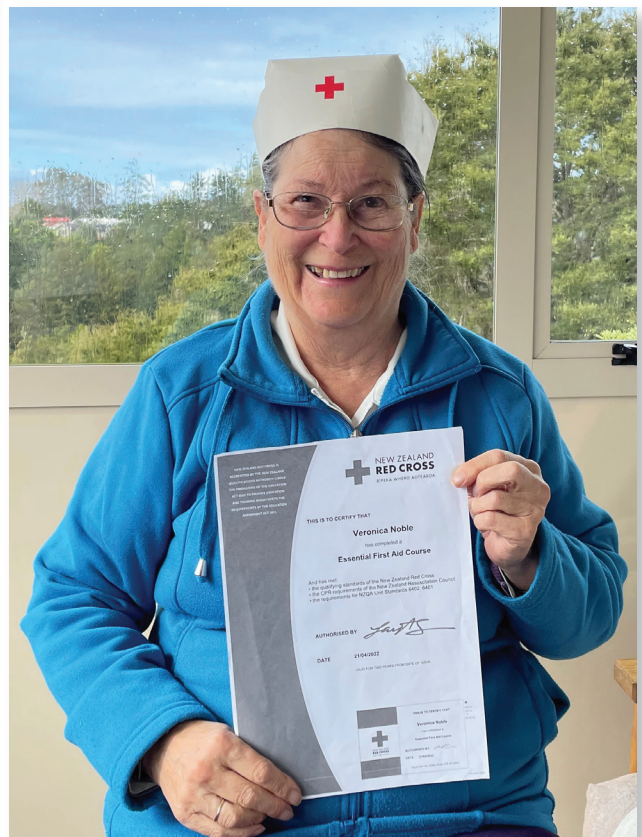
Vacky Noble was born during war-torn Britain, so some of her earliest memories were sparked by the war. On Sunday mornings the family would attend Catholic Church and they would inevitably bring home someone, mostly a refugee, to share their breakfast with and recalls that one of these refugees was Belgian man.

As a young child, Vacky would accompany her mother, a podiatrist, wearing her Red Cross uniform on her visits to the Polish Refugee Camp and Community Clinic for older people where she would treat their feet for free.

As Vacky says, "We were used to giving". Caring became a recurring theme in her life.

Vacky's mother and aunt were both in the Red Cross, and as St John does here, they attended various events where a first aider was on duty. Vacky would go with her mother, and this inspired her to join the Red Cross too.

In 1974 Vacky earned her first, first aid certificate, gaining yearly updates with her most recent certificate being awarded in April this year. She laughed to recount that she was the oldest attendee by at least 18 years!



Vacky continued with the Red Cross while working and raising her three children by herself. She became a First Aid Instructor and gained her Nursing Certificate. She was the secretary of her local branch of Red Cross in Cheshire. Vacky was proud to represent them and lay a wreath at Remembrance Day at the Runcorn Cenotaph in Cheshire.

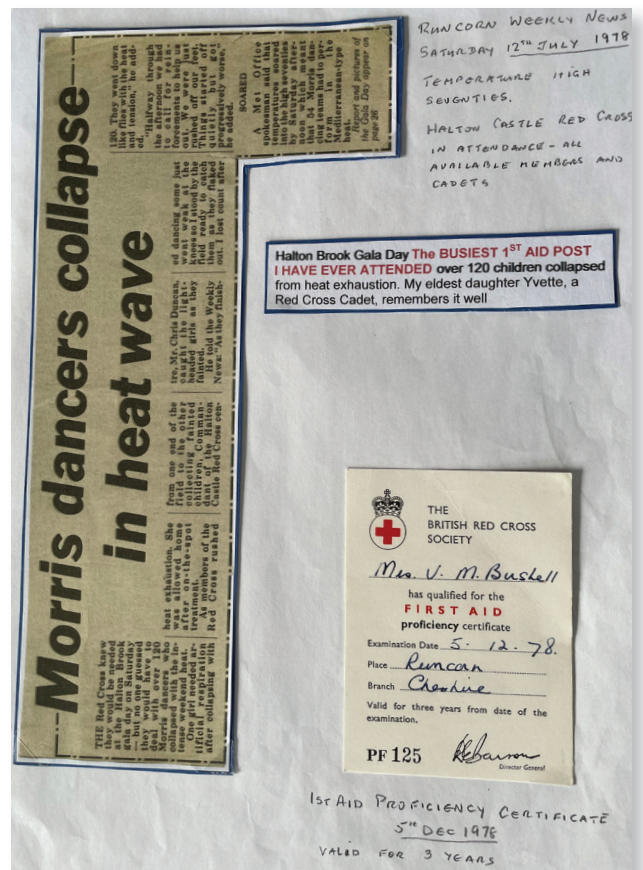
Vacky recalls attending one event with other Red Cross first aiders - a Morris Dancing competition, where so many children dancing were overcome by heat and fainted that they had to call in other Red Cross members who weren't on duty and Cadets as reinforcements. They helped 120 children that day.

At another event they were attending, they had a tent set up where the first aiders could make themselves tea. A pair of policemen on the beat came up, one of them looking very sheepish, and confided that he had split his pants, and could they help? He hid in the tent while they did the repairs, and he was able to go on his way with his dignity intact!

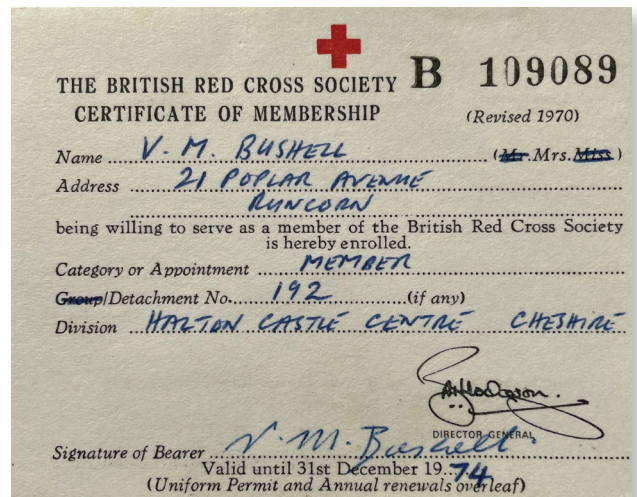
Fundraising was an essential activity. Vacky walked eleven miles in one sponsored walk around the same track and her children received a letter of thanks for their help in raising funds for their own sponsored walk around the Oulton Park Racetrack in Cheshire.

The Red Cross had a junior division, the Cadets, and Vacky's three children all joined, carrying on the family's tradition of caring. One of her daughters continued this into adulthood, becoming involved in Oxfam in several parts of Africa.

Her son also joined the Boy Scouts and Vacky was able to assist at their camps in the roles of Quartermaster and first aider.



Vacky moved to New Zealand in 2005 with her second husband, Clifford Noble when he retired, who had family connections in Northland. She has adopted New Zealand as her home.



Vacky's membership of British Red Cross commenced 31 December 1973

Vacky says "Nursing is caring - I do it instinctively" and she has called upon her nursing skills and knowledge to help in different situations. Once she was enjoying a break in Whangarei Cafe where she became aware a woman screaming as she was having knee joint problem. Vacky assisted in reducing her blood pressure levels and helped in calming the situation until further help arrived.



BritishRedCross

Vacky was driving into town on another occasion when she had to brake to avoid an accident: a woman had somehow lost control of her vehicle which had overturned, trapping the driver inside. Vacky helped other bystanders aiding the woman until an ambulance arrived. The driver had no recollection of what had happened.

Another family tradition Vacky continues to enjoy was introduced to her by her father, a stamp collector. There is a strong link between this hobby and her nursing as she specialises in two areas: British stamps and Red Cross stamps. Just like Health Stamps, you pay for the postage plus a premium that is donated to the Red Cross. These can be from all around the world - both Red Cross and the Red Crescent stamps are included in her collection.

Even closer to home, Vacky saw a man who was visiting a neighbour at the Village slip and fall. This time, the ambulance was delayed and Vacky and others were on hand to tend to the man, who'd broken several ribs until the ambulance finally got there. (There is now a safety rail where the man slipped.)



Vacky loves the sense of community at the Falls Estate. She feels in some way, fate had a hand in her being here as one day she felt compelled to visit, just as the house she lives in became available. Without hesitation she purchased it and has never regretted making either the move to New Zealand, or her move into the village after her beloved Cliff died.



*Vicky (2nd on the right) during inspection
10 July 1977*

When it comes to first aid, organisations like Red Cross or St Johns are not the 'first responder' - it's whoever happens to be around at the time. This has reinforced for Vicky the importance of knowing what to do. This has implications for one's own health, too. Vicky has experienced a few issues herself, including diabetes and cancer. Having knowledge of your own body, keeping well, being aware of any changes and dealing early with any symptoms can lead to being able to continue to live well. Caring for yourself, as well as the community.



*Vicky ready to give aid to Cross Country
contestants - 1979*



Another Red Cross Badge



VILLAGE FLOWER FAIRIES

When you enter the Village, there is a sense of “I am home” and I personally think our open gardens, green lawns and colourful flowers and plants play a big role in giving the Village its welcome feeling.

It was a few years ago, when management approached residents asking if there was interest from residents in doing flower creations in the reception area using flowers and other cuttings from the Village gardens. Jeanette Porter rose to the occasion first and started to do flower creations in the reception area. Jeanette Firman then suggested expanding these flower creations to the tables in the lounge area. This is how the volunteer Flower Fairies started.

When entering the Admin Area, you will always find a beautiful, created flower or foliage arrangements at the reception desk. Yes, you would think that it was done by a local florist, but you would be wrong. Our talented residents do all the arrangements in and around the Admin Area and Community Centre themselves.

I recall one or two residents who recently become part of the Falls Family, they wanted to be part of the group, but were “scared” they had no talent and no suitable talent and not knowing what was expected from them, as they have never done something like this before.



Alene Corneluis & Jeanette Firman



Gail Martin & Juneen Bonham





It was only last week when Flower Fairy, Susan Harris was putting together an arrangement in reception. I was watching Susan as she was putting some cuttings into the vase, stepped back, looked at it, step forward, moved a few pieces in the arrangement, stepped back again. Suddenly, Susan took her cutter and disappeared for a few minutes before reappeared with beautiful yellow and red poppies. With precision Susan added these poppies to her creation and stood back with a satisfying smile on her face. She's done it!



The majority of the flowers and plants used, are from our Village gardens. However, we do receive flower and other cuttings donations from time to time from local growers and we thank them for keeping us in mind.

What can I say! Our volunteer Flower Fairies enjoy being involved and you can see their creativity project in their final product. You do not need to be an expert and you do not need a special talent to get involved and express yourself.

We are very proud of all the arrangements in and around the Admin Block and Community Centre and we never shy back from telling visitors that it was created by our volunteers.



Janet Litt, Barbara Kerr & Alene Corneluis

Susan created something using flowers and other cuttings available from the Village gardens.

Well done, Flower Fairies!



Janet Litt & Susan Harris (cover page)



CAMELLIAS TO BE PROUD OF

By Jocelyn Allen

As the Falls Estate Retirement Village has evolved over the years, so has the number of camellias in our gardens.

The Village has an amazing collection of camellias, and we believe some of the best in Whangarei. Over time camellias were planted by our gardeners and some camellias were planted by residents.

We are lucky enough to have several camellias in the Village of Jim Findlay and Oz Blumhart, of the Whangarei Community and international breeders.

You can also find a Scentuous in the Village, which is one of the first perfumed camellias – what a delight in the evenings.

Miss Western Hills Drive Camellia and Betty Boswell Camellia are two other camellias that come to mind, which can be found in the Village. The Betty Boswell Camellia was named after our very own resident Robyn Boswell's mother.



Knight Rider

Knight Rider was developed by Oz Blumhart, whose nephew still runs his nursery today. Knight Rider is a very dark red and hardy camellia and one of the most popular of his camellia collection.

We have been showing the Knight Rider bloom successfully over the last 3 years at both the New Zealand Camellia Society Whangarei Branch Show and at the National Show.





Mansize Grown



Red Crystal

A few of the other camellias growing in the Village, which we have shown successfully at these shows are Mansize Grown, Dream Boat, Red Crystal, Black Velvet and Adorable.



Black Velvet



Adorable

This year our new gardeners exhibited the camellia blooms for the first time, with great success during the New Zealand Camellia Society Whangarei Branch show.

Over the last three years we have won multiple prizes with our camellia blooms and this year we won 2 first prizes, 1 second prize and 1 third prize.

We are very proud of our camellias and hope to continue to exhibit them in years to come as well as enjoying them in the gardens during the spring.



FALLS VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

Look left, look right and not too fast, vroom vroom and they are off, may it be in a group of residents or just enough for a car, but the care and companionship during these trips are excellent.

Since 2018, you many have seen our, then newly purchased, 11-seater van out and about in Northland, transporting residents to do grocery shopping twice a week, or visiting a garden or art centres or even passing you on the road on their way to support a local business for a brunch trip.

To enhance our volunteer van driver skills and to ensure users of the Village Van feel comfortable and safe to be driven around Northland (in the Village Van), we sent our volunteer van drivers on an AA Van Familiarisation session, which gives all an overall sense of trust and confidence.



Stan Kerr

All it takes is for a resident to add their name on a register for a specific trip pinned onto our noticeboard.

It didn't stop there and recently The Falls Estate purchased a car, to help residents who need to attend a medical appointment, but can't due to transport issues or medical difficulties to honour their appointments. Yes, we do try and help where we can and if we have a volunteer driver available.

Residents call the office, and our wonderful receptionist Mary finds a volunteer driver to drive a resident to a medical appointment.



Lynne Heatley



Reg Shaw



Michael Scutt

Over the years we have had many residents raise their hands to become part of this volunteer group. We cannot do any of this without the support and availability of our volunteer resident drivers. We thank each one of you, may you have been a past driver or a current driver, you are all offering a wonderful service within the Village and for your fellow residents.



Marilyn Williams



Andrew Hawke



John Porter



Deyal McKenzie

"THE VILLAGE LADS"

By Doug Healey

With the restrictions created by Covid, it was obvious that the Village Choir would cease to be a viable function due to separation requirements from one another.

I remember going over to the centre and experimenting with chairs as to how I would seat 30 or so members of the Choir. This experiment showed that I would spread out over the length of the centre, which is not good for Choral singing!

Last year I was approached by some of our male members of the Choir to form a Men's Group. I considered that this could be done okay, and I presumed that there would probably be about 10 fellows who may be interested.

About three months ago, I was approached once again on the matter. I was okay health-wise, so I called a meeting of those interested.

My original expectation of perhaps ten men was blown away when sixteen of them expressed interest! From that point on, "The Village Lads" were an item.

We decided to only learn and rehearse 6 songs at a time, then perform at the Village Happy Hour at about eight-week intervals.



Back Left to Right: Reg Shaw, Peter Arlidge, Gerald Batchelor

Front Left to Right: Russel Porter, Brian Atkins, Brian Kenyon, Fred Sackfield

However, my personal health did not allow this to happen.





Lynne Cullen & Doug Healey

Their enthusiasm to learn was gratifying to the extent that I was on the spot to lead them in a manner that equalled their talent.

NOTE: My leading has not always been to the standard expected!

I was very conscious, that the Ladies of the Choir were not very happy with being left on the side-line, therefore we decided that during "The Lads" rehearsal prior to a performance, we would invite the Ladies to listen and give their criticisms, and we would have a social hour afterwards.

With the enthusiastic assistance of our pianist, Lynne Cullen, we began rehearsals. From the first rehearsal, I realised I had the makings of a pretty good group of singers.

I look forward to the day when we go back to the Covid Green setting, where everyone can join in once again.



*Back Left to Right: Arie Reek, Chris Chaplin, Lew Holmwood, David Firman
Front Left to Right: John Porter, Micheal Scutt, Noel Weck, David Cooper*



*Back Left to Right: Reg Shaw, Peter Arlidge, Gerald Batchelor, Arie Reek, Chris Chaplin,
Lew Holmwood, David Firman
Front Left to Right: Russel Porter, Brian Atkins, Brian Kenyon, Fred Sackfield, John
Porter, Micheal Scutt, Noel Weck, David Cooper*

WELCOME TO THE FALLS FAMILY



Derek Allen - Hi to all. I was born in London and by the time I was one year old the family was in Australia. I spent most of my primary school years in Australia and the last couple of my primary school years in Rotorua, after the family moved to New Zealand. I completed my high school years in the UK - yep we had moved again. On leaving school I joined the British Army (Royal Corps of Signals), whilst travelling the world (all for free) and my parents returned to NZ. Leaving the Army some 6 years later, my first real job was in an Oil Storage Terminal supplying road fuel into London

by road tanker. I arrived back in NZ in 1974 joining and started work at the Marsden Point Oil Refinery in 1975. After some 30 years plus in various job positions, I resigned to head off overseas taking up short term contracts in the same industry in Egypt, Qatar, and Perth WA. Then came retirement ... what a great job retirement is! So, Whangarei, Ruakaka and Tree Point have been home since 1974. I have been a runner most of my adult life, completing in road races, half, and full marathons with Ruakaka Harriers. I am still running most days and am so lucky that my body allows me to do it. Since retirement I have taken up wood craft, playing with wood. I must admit to being a bit of a magpie / hauder of timber. I have a "stash" of dry seasoned timber ready and waiting whenever I want to get into the shed. What do I make? Well, whatever comes to mind - occasional tables, stools, breadboards, cheeseboards, flower vase, candle holders, serving platters and some unusual items off the wood lathe. I have been in the village since May this year, but not full time, as I have been the labour force on a project with my eldest son. This is coming to an end, so I am looking forward to living in the village and meeting you all. Perhaps using the tool shed and spending some time in the veggie garden.



Wendy Hoare - Hello. My name is Wendy Hoare (surname rhymes with door); it is an old Norse / Celtic name meaning tall men with white hair, e.g., the Vikings. I was born in Cornwall Park at old National Womens' Hospital, the only member of my generation to be a genuine Kiwi. I lived in Epsom all my younger life, but did go back to the UK with my parents and siblings to visit my grandparents and relies, etc. mid 60's. Beatles, Twiggy, Mary Quant, etc. were just the rage and I was hooked. We came back to Epsom, and I joined the local Am-Dram group and also took

Ballet, Tap and National dance lessons. It was discovered early in my childhood that I am tone deaf, but I still like to sing and love music. I have appeared in a number of Musicals with the Otahuhu / Howick Operatic Society, later known as the Howick Opera Company. I left school and joined NZ Government Service and gained qualified a machine printer later to be replaced by computers. Once again, itchy feet occurred and off I went to the bit OE. I later returned and married, and we lived in Takeke Valley raising our two daughters and a number of foster daughters. I have 4 grandchildren and 2 wonderful sons-in-law. While in the Hokianga, I joined St John and attained an Advanced Nursing Certificate. I was on active service for 9 years, until moving to Whangarei. I am now retired, but work part time at the Whangarei Kiwi House & Museum and live very happily in the Village, where I am enjoying playing bowls and joining in with Village Life.



GIFT
Voucher

Looking for something to add to a gift basket or something extra to slip into a birthday card?

You can now purchase Sit Fit, Bar Snack, Dinner, Tai Chi, Podiatrist or Swing Dancing vouchers from the Office or directly from the provider.

Contact the office or provider for more information.

Coming soon

Vouchers for the
Nail Fairy, Hairport, Beautician



LA DOLCE VITA THE FALLS ESTATE RESTAURANT

Sitting in La Dolce Vita you get a sense of sitting at a “café” somewhere in Europe, waiting to be served, but in fact you are sitting only a few feet from your home.

I am surrounded by folk, talking about what they have been doing over the last couple of days, sharing their stories, and keeping each other informed of their plans.

Then, out of the blue the kitchen door swings open, and food starts arriving. Yummy, that looks delicious. Tonight, the cook’s special is a hearty home cooked lamb roast, with veggies and what is that - Pavlova for dessert. I couldn’t ask for anything better.



Tuesday and Friday night, you could either enjoy a bar snack, something from the set dinner menu, or the cook’s special. Up for grabs Auntie Kimmy’s Kai also offers a Thursday \$5 lunch option. Pre-orders are essential, and family and friends are welcome.



It has been a long road, but we’ve finally found caterers who cook hearty home cooked meals on site - exactly what folk want.



Auntie Kimmy’s Kai, started a few years ago, when ex-nurse Kim Hita evaluated her live as she wanted to take “things slower”. One night whilst preparing dinner for their family of eight, Kim reminisced how she used to help her mum, prepare meals for their large family, and had a thought of starting a catering company.



Kim's new adventure started by doing catering for the local hospital out of the Golden Bay Café with additional catering for weddings and baby showers.

Business expanded and Kim needed more help, it was then that Kim's partner and ex-quarry worker Brian Te Tai, joined Aunty Kimmy's Kai. Not only does Aunty Kimmy's Kai cater for The Falls Estate, but they also cook at the RSA, with additional catering around Whangarei for weddings, baby showers, birthdays, and other events.

We hope to see you in La Dolce Vita soon, enjoying a wholesome "home cooked meal" prepared by Aunty Kimmy's Kai.



Aunty Kimmy's Kai

La Dolce Vita

Bar Snacks:
Order on the day between 4.30pm to 5.30pm
 Garlic Bread \$5.00
 Bowl Of Chips with Tomato Sauce \$5.00
 Toasted Sandwiches \$5.00 (*Choice of up to 3 fillings*)

Meals:
Pre-orders required via Booking Sheet. Remember to order your extra. Service between 5.30pm and 6.00pm.
 Bangers and Mash \$10.00
 Battered Fish of the Day \$10.00
 Chicken Schnitzel \$10.00
 Cottage Pie \$10.00
 Lasagne \$10.00
 Salmon Filo \$10.00
 Soup of the Day with Garlic Bread \$10.00

Add on Extras:
Pre-orders required via Booking Sheet. Service between 5.30pm and 6.00pm.
 Warm Winter Vegetable Salad \$5.00
 Garden Salad \$5.00
 Chips \$5.00
 Mashed Potato \$5.00
 Garlic Bread \$5.00

Bookings close 11am the day before
CASH ONLY PAYMENT





SECURELY - HELPING THE FALLS RESIDENTS LIVE WITH CONFIDENCE AND INDEPENDANCE 24/7

At Securely we are all about caring for our people, our residents, and their families. We are focused on helping our communities of seniors live with confidence and independence. Our beating heart is our Monitoring Centre which operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (24/7) and is the lifeblood for residents who trust us to always be there and to respond quickly.

Our experienced and compassionate monitoring centre team based in Levin or Tauranga routinely manage on average more than 25,000 incoming and outgoing calls each month. Over 300 of those are critical requiring an emergency response from Police, Fire or Ambulance. Our team prides itself in taking each of these calls like the resident is part of their family.

The Falls Estate Medical Alarm System

At The Falls Estate, Securely has provided each resident a medical alarm base unit and a personal pendant that can be either a necklace or wrist strap. You will also find some of these base units in the common areas within the Village. This is to help not only the resident as we all want residents and team members to be safe & well and have help at hand should something happen.

Medical Alarm Base Unit



Personal Pendant (wrist or neck)



This system provides peace of mind with access 24/7 to the Securely Monitoring Centre for residents, their families, and the Village.

Additionally, the Falls Village team has provided Securely with a village specific procedure for incidents, which ensures the necessary people within their team are notified of events and the right people are there to offer ongoing support to their residents.

Securely is a government-accredited medical alarm supplier and is audited by the Telecare Services Association New Zealand (TSANZ). Being part of TSANZ means we have codes of ethics, professionalism, and security around our procedures for looking after your details and those of your authorised and emergency contacts.

If you would like to discuss additional services like a Fall detector pendant or a Mobile Medical Alarm with GPS tracking to keep you safe when you are outside of your home, please talk with your Village Manager.



What happens when you push the emergency button?

Our operators are regularly told by our customers that they don't like pushing the emergency button, but we want to be very clear, there is no issue too small and if you are feeling unwell or have fallen, we want to be there to help. The faster we can help you the quicker you can recover. For those who may have just got their emergency alarms or have never pressed it here is what happens when you do.

- When help is needed, you should press your pendant button (as shown in the photo or you can press the 'help' button on the base unit if that is closer.
- The alarm then connects through to our 24/7 monitoring centre located in Levin where you will be able to talk with one of the SECURELY team through the medical alarm base unit.
- Our operator will determine what help you require. This could be anything from assistance from the village team, family, or friends, or for a more serious emergency that might require an ambulance to be arranged.
- Securely operators will talk through the alarm base unit until help arrives. If an ambulance is called the operator will have passed across any relevant details, you have shared with us and update the emergency service if anything changes with your condition.
- Once help arrives, our operator will end the call on the alarm and send the call notes to the Village Manager, so they are aware of what has happened.

Medical Alarm Technical specifications

Many of our in-home medical alarms connect over the mobile phone network to our Monitoring Centre.

Each alarm base unit has a battery backup for times when there may be a power cut. The alarm will let our Monitoring Centre know that the power is out at your place, and you will be confident to know that you can still use your alarm during the power cut. The battery in the alarm base unit has a 40-hour life. Your pendant also works off batteries and connects to our Monitoring Centre through the alarm main unit, so is not affected by power outages either.

From time to time, you may be contacted by our Monitoring Centre and asked to test the emergency button on your pendant or alarm base unit. This is just so that we can make sure it is working correctly.

The Falls Village and Securely teams work together to provide you with the confidence to live your best life.



OUT AND ABOUT



Some of the items being sold during our last Saturday of the month Market / Craft Day



At the end of the rainbow...

Follow us on facebook 

Any comments & feedback are welcome!
Send them to: marie.annandale@thebgroup.co.nz