We’ve had all kinds of community events taking place around the villages over the last few weeks, and tenants have also had opportunities for Sunday drives, trips to the movies and other outings in the community transport minivans. I hope you’re enjoying the chance to get out and about and to catch up with neighbours and others in your local area.

The Haumaru Housing team has been continuing its work with organisations in the housing sector, exploring the potential for new housing opportunities for older people. We’re also liaising with various community organisations, such as the Manurewa Seniors Network and the North Shore’s Kaipatiki Communities Facilities Trust, with a view to delivering more innovative and broader-reaching services to seniors. At the end of this month, I’ll also be meeting with a number of Government ministers and other key MPs, to advocate for more affordable rental housing solutions for the older population and other ways in which we can improve people’s wellbeing.

All the best.

Gabby Clezy, Chief Executive Officer

Spotlight on...

Welcome to Andy Ferrer who started with us at the end of July as our ‘rapid response’ specialist, attending to all manner of small jobs for tenants.

With over 20 years’ experience in the property maintenance industry in both New Zealand and the Isle of Man, he’s held multi-faceted positions and handled maintenance and service requests for large-scale housing companies. His wealth of practical experience and ability to get things done in a fast and efficient way mean he’s proving to be a big hit with everyone.

This is a new position for Haumaru Housing, which we’ve created as a result of tenants’ customer satisfaction feedback. You told us in our survey that a timely response to maintenance issues is important to you, as is the speed with which general maintenance is carried out and the quality of the work that’s undertaken. From the fantastic feedback we’ve received since Andy joined us, we think he ticks all the boxes.

‘Men at Work’

You’ll notice some temporary information signs popping up around the villages. In future, whenever our contractors are improving your village environment or doing some maintenance, we’ll be putting up signs in the vicinity to let you know there are ‘men at work’. These will be in addition to the notices that we leave in your letterboxes, advising of any work due to get underway. When your Community Managers visit your village, they’ll be displaying a sign as well to let you know they’re around. It’s all part of our focus on keeping you informed.
What’s new in your area?

Your Community Managers continue to organise a wide range of presentations and meetings of interest to tenants, involving community organisations and local agencies that can provide services and advice of help to older people.

This month, Belmont Court hosted Devonport Peninsula Trust’s ‘What’s new in Devonport’ information roadshow, which was also attended by Neighbourhood Support and the SPCA. Everyone enjoyed having a chat over morning tea, whilst the Devonport Community Coordinator gave an update on the latest activities and forthcoming attractions. Tenants Paul Bennett and Joseph Brown provided some extra sparkle with entertainment on the guitar. Next month’s session will be hosted at Kings Court, as part of this ongoing series of events that are held on a rotating basis around the six Haumaru villages in the area.

If feeling unsafe or in immediate danger at any time – or if another type of emergency arises – tenants shouldn’t hesitate to call the relevant emergency service on 111, who will respond as quickly as they can.

Windsor Court tenants in Mairangi Bay enjoyed a presentation on the benefits of telehealthcare from Sandi Millner, Selwyn’s telehealth nurse (Sandi also works in Selwyn’s Community team as Operations Manager). She demonstrated the use of the telemonitoring equipment and talked about the other services that her team can deliver to Haumaru Housing tenants. A new telemonitoring programme will be starting soon, and anyone who would like to participate should talk to their Community Manager who can put you in touch with Sandi.

In a combined event for tenants of Pakuranga’s Marriott, Mattson and Dale Courts, local representatives from Fire and Emergency New Zealand and NZ Police provided important advice on safety awareness. Tenants turned out in force to learn from fire prevention officers about the need for smoke detectors in the home and receive general tips about fire safety, and the Community Police Officer spoke about how people can keep themselves safe from intruders.

Anyone for knitting?

Meet Harmony Village tenant, Irene Croft, who’s applying her passion for knitting with the intention to help raise funds for hospice work and to provide comfort for babies at Auckland’s Starship Hospital. The Glen Eden resident is an avid knitter and, for the past two years, has been sending the knitwear, knick knacks and colourful cuddly toys she produces to a hospice shop in Rotorua where her sister-in-law works. She also knits for the babies receiving care at the Starship children’s hospital, and knits teddy clothing of all shapes and sizes for Christmas gifts.

Irene, who’s originally from England and has been living at Harmony Village for five years, reached the tender age of 90 on 5 September. She says that knitting keeps the brain creative and active, and the result is certainly evident in all the beautiful and intricate items she produces for those in need.

Anyone for knitting?

Meet Harmony Village tenant, Irene Croft, who’s applying her passion for knitting with the intention to help raise funds for hospice work and to provide comfort for babies at Auckland’s Starship Hospital. The Glen Eden resident is an avid knitter and, for the past two years, has been sending the knitwear, knick knacks and colourful cuddly toys she produces to a hospice shop in Rotorua where her sister-in-law works. She also knits for the babies receiving care at the Starship children’s hospital, and knits teddy clothing of all shapes and sizes for Christmas gifts.

Irene, who’s originally from England and has been living at Harmony Village for five years, reached the tender age of 90 on 5 September. She says that knitting keeps the brain creative and active, and the result is certainly evident in all the beautiful and intricate items she produces for those in need.

We always appreciate your feedback. You can talk to your Community Manager, call us on 0800 430 101, email info@haumaruhousing.co.nz or visit www.haumaruhousing.co.nz