Earlier this month, we held our second Annual General Meeting, which allowed us to reflect on our successes and all that we’ve achieved across our service areas during 2018/19. The last financial year has seen Haumaru Housing go from strength to strength as a responsible social landlord, and we continue to focus on enhancing tenants’ enjoyment of their homes and villages through quality service delivery, ongoing improvement to living environments and innovative programmes to support tenants’ wellbeing.

To boost our efforts in this, we’ve increased the number of Community Managers assigned to our villages to a total of nine, bringing the staff-to-tenant ratio to 1:160. Our staff team are committed to developing better communities for older people and I thank them for the dedication and passion that they bring to their roles each and every day.

Following the recent local body elections, on behalf of us all at Haumaru Housing, I’d like to congratulate Mayor Phil Goff and all those who have been (re)elected to represent their Wards and Local Boards. We look forward to working closely with all the Ward councillors and Local Board representatives, as we continue to develop supportive and age-friendly neighbourhoods.

Good luck to the Rugby World Cup finalists!

Gabby Clezy, Chief Executive Officer

Lancaster Court celebrates its re-styled community house

Beach Haven’s Lancaster Court is the latest village to have its community house fully renovated with new fixtures and fittings, décor and soft furnishings. A re-opening celebration was held on 17 October with tenants and Haumaru staff, who enjoyed having a catch-up over morning tea.

Strengthening our Good Neighbour Programme

Over the next few weeks, our Community Managers Sam and Tracey will be running focus groups across our three Auckland regions to collect tenants’ thoughts on how we might strengthen community cohesion in the villages and help tenants support their neighbours. The feedback will be used to develop a ‘tool-kit’ of resources, particularly if issues arise with individual tenants. More news on this soon.

New SuperGold app and website launched

A new SuperGold app is now available to make it easy to find discounts close to home and around the country. SuperGold cardholders can get savings in over 9,500 locations throughout NZ on everyday essentials like food, healthcare, insurance, fuel and much more. Well-known companies like Qantas, Spark and The Warehouse have recently joined the scheme, too. Download on a smartphone or tablet (eg, iPad) from App Store or Google Play. The card itself hasn’t changed, and you’ll still need to show it when making purchases. For more information and to search for SuperGold savings, visit www.SuperGold.govt.nz.
Tenants get interactive!

A group of tenants from across our Northcote villages recently took part in a fun quiz and dance lesson at the Northcote Citizens Centre organised by the Kaipātiki Local Youth Board. The event was a way for the young people to give back to the seniors in the area and help bridge the generational divide.

Entitled ‘Seniors... get interactive’, our tenants and other older people in the community were invited to the three-hour session which also included lunch. Everyone really enjoyed the activities and there were a few new dance moves mastered, with our seniors also teaching the younger ones a thing or two when it came to Rock 'n' Roll!

VIP visitor at the Franklin Positive Ageing Expo

Haumaru Housing attended the 14th Franklin Positive Ageing Expo at Pukekohe Indian Association Community Hall, sharing an exhibition stand with The Selwyn Foundation. The Expo showcased 100 participating companies which provide a range of services to seniors in the region, and also included presentations, music and stage acts. It was a valuable opportunity to highlight Haumaru’s work, and the community drop-in centres (Selwyn Centres) were also profiled, with two of our tenants representing their local Centre. One of the many attendees was Minister for Seniors Tracey Martin, who’s pictured with our new Community Manager, Daniela Jansen Van Rensburg.

International Day of Older Persons celebrations

To honour seniors living in the Otara area on the United Nations’ International Day of Older Persons, Te Puke ō Tara Community Centre organised a lovely community event.

Everyone was treated to cultural performances, guest speakers and lots of food, with a great time had by all.

Myrna - this is your life!

A new autobiography on the life and times of Windsor Court tenant Myrna Hargreaves has just been published, which charts Myrna’s exciting and colourful 84 years so far.

Myrna, who’s lived at Mairangi Bay’s Windsor Court for 17 years, personally typed the manuscript over four months, with her Community Manager Mirela Sandu providing some help with the formatting and layout.

The 52-page memoir provides a detailed account of the highs and lows of Myrna’s life and her experiences as a wife, mother and registered nurse in both New Zealand and Canada.

Myrna, who is a mother to three, a proud grandmother to twelve and great-grandmother to eight (with two more on the way), has written her life history as a lasting record for her family. At times moving, it also has many humorous moments, as she recalls her various hijinks, including her face-to-face encounters with a monkey escaped from Wellington Zoo on her first night duty alone and with a huge black bear on a cold Canadian winter’s night!

Her new book has been self-published and is appropriately entitled ‘Myrna’s Story’.

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

The Selwyn Foundation

Auckland Council

Te Kaurihere è Tamaki Makaurau