What a fantastic response we have received for the 2015 Te Omanga Hospice Vintners’ Lunch event, to be held at the Trentham Gardens on Sunday 26 July.

Six top Wellington Chefs will be creating a divine six course degustation lunch with matching wines for each of our 220 guests.

The Chefs involved this year are Ivan Nugraha - Wellington Racing Club, Sarah Searancke - Sarah Searancke Catering, Mark Hartstonge - Boomrock, Paul Dicken - Le Cordon Bleu, Ryan Tattersall - Cobar Restaurant and Chetan Pangam - One80˚ Copthorne Hotel.

One of our major auction prizes is a brand new bright red 2015 Vespa Sprint donated by Black Gates Meek & Dong Optometrists Lower Hutt. You can participate in the bidding on Sunday 26th July 2015 at the Vintners’ Lunch. Otherwise you can bid on TradeMe, with the online auction finishing during the lunch. Watch out in July for the TradeMe listing to come up.

The event is a sell out but should you wish to support Te Omanga, we would be happy to receive donations of produce, auction prizes or vouchers for the Mystery Envelopes. If you are able to help, please email Brian Wood our Events Manager brian.wood@teomanga.org.nz or phone 04 569 0689.

Volunteering at Te Omanga

June is the month when we celebrate the magnificent contribution that volunteers make in this country and especially here at Te Omanga. Not only does working at Te Omanga make a difference to our patients’ lives it also makes a difference to volunteers’ lives.

A member of the volunteer team recently relayed to our Manager Volunteer Services how working at Te Omanga had made such a difference to their life.

They were suffering health and personal issues when their Counsellor suggested they try volunteering as a way of regaining their self esteem. They do not know why they chose Te Omanga to start on the road to recovery. They had never been here before - but felt the tranquillity as soon as they came down the driveway. They mentioned the feeling to our Manager Volunteer Services who confirmed that when this happened, she knew she was going to have a dedicated volunteer.

They commenced volunteering in the hospice kitchen and quickly became part of the regular roster. The kind and friendly staff and other volunteers made it the best place they had ever worked. They also joined the hospice ukulele group – which includes staff and volunteer staff.

Their self esteem, health and wellbeing have improved enormously. Te Omanga Hospice has been their saviour.

There are many other similar stories among our volunteer team. We are so proud of the people who contribute their time and talents so willingly. We could not provide the service we do without the support of our 500 plus volunteers.

Thank you to you all. We never forget that you are a most valuable member of the Te Omanga team and the gift of your time that you bring to the hospice is immeasurable.

If you would like to find out about volunteering opportunities at Te Omanga please contact Janice Henson 04 569 0682 or email janice.henson@teomanga.org.nz.

Entertainment Book

To those of you who have already purchased an Entertainment Book membership, thank you. Those of you who have yet to order please use the link below to purchase online your book or digital membership today. Please remember that from every purchase made, $12 comes to Te Omanga Hospice. We have a target of $5,000 to reach from the sale of these books – It would be fantastic if you could help us beat our target by visiting this link today...

https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/1042g50
Everything we do at Te Omanga is to endeavour to enhance the time remaining for patients in our care living with a life limiting condition. The Living Well group, coordinated by Heather Lock, is an opportunity for patients and families to socialise and participate in activities in a supportive environment.

Gordon is a member of the group and has been attending for the last four months when able and recently wrote to us about his experience with the group which we would like to share with you.

“I have had the benefit and privilege of being amongst others in the same situation as myself. This is so important to me, and I’m sure the others in the group too. My confidence of being able to share experiences of our journeys when able to is magnificent. I know that we not only understand each other but we are often truly experiencing either the same or similar.

We are on the same journey. Heather, and her very kind volunteers make the total Living Well group environment welcoming, warm, compassionate and truly an important part of the week.

For some of those attending it is their social outing of their week – that is almost an essential for their life.

I have been privileged to be able to attend The Living Well group and wish to continue for the remainder of my terminal period of time. Living Well is a part of my life now. Blessings to Heather and the Te Omanga team”.

An update on Kumanu
We have recently received an update on Kumanu the Kiwi we had the privilege to name last year. In early June a team went in and tracked him to his burrow which he has set up on the east side of the Whakanui Track in the Rimutaka Forest Park. The trackers were able to perform a health check and a transmitter change.

Kumanu was found to be in very good condition. He weighs a healthy 1410 grams and was also reported to be “feisty and stroppy” and attacked the handler... all good signs! At this weight, Kumanu is well able to deal with rats and stoats and have an "adult" size transmitter fitted which has a battery that will last 12 months. He is unlikely to be disturbed again for another year but his activities and location will be monitored.
Welcome

By the time you receive this Newsletter the shortest day will have been and gone. It is amazing how quickly the year is passing and equally amazing how generous your support has been during the first six months of the year. Your continued support of Te Omanga and your trust in our place in the community means everything. Thank you.

You may have seen or heard that Bill English announced in the Budget that additional funding has been awarded to hospices over the next four years to assist with the growth in need and to support new innovative services in partnership with Aged Care and Primary Care. We are extremely grateful for this additional funding. However, it will not go all the way to meeting the costs required to fund a free palliative care service to the Hutt Valley Community and will not diminish our need for your support.

As one of our valued supporters, we would like to get to know you better. That is why I am asking for a moment of your time to complete the enclosed Supporter Survey and return to us in the Business Reply Paid envelope you will also find with this Newsletter.

When the last Supporter Survey was distributed in 2012 I was delighted to find an incredible number of individuals and businesses had been with us since Day One when the hospice first opened its doors. I will read with interest the results from this year’s survey and let you know the results in our next Newsletter.

I would like to update you regarding the annual major fundraising event you read about in our March edition - The Vintners’ Lunch. This event sold out very quickly, and I would like to thank all of you who have purchased tickets to attend. For those of you who have missed out on tickets, but would still like to support the event please contact Brian Wood our Events Manager, to see what is still required in the way of sponsored product and auction items. You can contact Brian on 04 569 0689 or email brian.wood@teomanga.org.nz

This year we anticipate providing care and support to over 540 local patients and their families. With your generous support, we are able to provide quality care to people at their time of need.

"This year we anticipate providing care and support to over 540 local patients and their families."

Biddy Harford
Chief Executive

STOP PRESS - We are proud to advise that our CE Biddy Harford was elected as Chair of Hospice New Zealand at the recent Hospice NZ AGM. Well done Biddy, we are all very proud of you!

New Appointment – Fundraising & Marketing Team

Brian recently joined the Te Omanga Hospice Fundraising & Marketing team as Events Manager after working for The Dowse Art Museum as a Curator Public Programmes & Events. Before that, Brian was a cultural assets valuer for five years in the museum and gallery sector. He joins the team with passion and enthusiasm for events that have positive fiscal outcomes.

Jumping straight into this role his first project was our annual Street Appeal which raised over $26,000 and his next project is our annual Vintners’ Lunch which is already looking to be one of our highlights on the fundraising calendar. Brian’s strengths are developing long term relationships and he is keen to work with various community groups that can host recipient charity events.

Outside his day job, Brian is still involved in the arts and is a Judge for the 2015 Central Otago Art Awards. Please feel free to contact Brian if you have an idea or would like to support Te Omanga with a fundraising event on brian.wood@teomanga.org.nz
We are very fortunate to have a number of community supporters who are passionate about raising money for Te Omanga.

Earlier this year Cobar Restaurant, Eastbourne, in conjunction with Te Omanga Hospice presented a very special five course degustation fundraising dinner. Guests were treated to a sumptuous dinner created by Award winning chef Ryan Tattersall with each course matched with an appropriate Tohu wine.

In summer the Lowry Bay Residents Association held a “Lowry Bay Day”. This year they included a Garden Walk with the proceeds from the tickets sold going to Te Omanga.

The annual twilight golf tournament held on Friday 13 March and managed by Eastern Hutt Rotary and Boulcott Farm Heritage Golf Club raised over $10,000 for Te Omanga, bringing their ten years of support to in excess of $100,000.

This year’s funds were used to purchase a mousse mattress, tube mattresses and roho cushions. These mattresses and cushions are expensive to purchase but vital with providing our high needs patients with comfort and support.

Talking about golf, Tall Poppy & Hutt Valley Chamber of Commerce golf tournament organising committee chose Te Omanga as the charity to benefit from one of the fundraising hole proceeds run at their golf tournament held on 27 February.

Thank goodness for all these generous golfers!

Diary Now –

SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER
The Valley 3 Putt Club Golf Tournament, Trentham Golf Club

SUNDAY 5 JULY
Matariki Bowls for “Soup’s Up!”

Every year we hold an event to say thank you to our very special financial and in-kind supporters. We held a fabulous event this year on 26 March at The Dowse. This was a break away from our usual venue but feedback from guests was very positive. Catering was provided by Sarah Searancke Catering with event support material kindly supplied by our print partners, Apex Print.

Te Omanga has refreshed our existing Facebook page to reflect a more professional presence on this popular social media site. Since we updated and took full control of this page, we’ve received nearly 100 extra supporters, which is really positive. If you haven’t ‘Liked’ us on Facebook yet, please find us at https://www.facebook.com/pages/Te-Omanga-Hospice/73960993669. We use Facebook to keep our supporters involved in our events, community support and general important announcements.

We look forward to welcoming you to our new, improved Facebook page.
A successful appeal driven by committed staff and an army of passionate volunteers -

That describes our 2015 annual Street Appeal held on Friday 22 and Saturday 23 May. Thank you to the 150 plus volunteers and staff who collected over the two days raising in excess of $26,000 for Te Omanga. We could not run this appeal without you.

Thank you also to the Hutt City and Upper Hutt City Councils for permitting us to collect on the streets and to the numerous local businesses that allowed our volunteers to collect outside their business or supported the ‘Hospice Cuppa’ morning tea fundraiser.

A special Thank You to everyone who gave on the street to our Annual Appeal.

Our Shops – Connecting with our Community

The Te Omanga retail shops are not only a place where you can find a treasure, but a place where you can acknowledge and connect with what else is happening in the community.

Prior to Anzac Day Te Omanga Hospice Shops wanted to remember and celebrate our ANZAC loved ones with storewide displays and memorabilia. Te Omanga’s own values and the ANZAC message of remembrance have a fabulous synergy, so we wanted to share with our community and celebrate the lives of the ANZAC forces and all our loved ones.

Our grateful thanks to the following Trusts who have recently supported our work with a generous grant

Pelorus Trust
Bill Brown Trust
Infinity Foundation

'Good in the Hood'

May was ‘Good in the Hood’ time again and we were chosen by Z VIC Corner to participate – fantastic! Through the ‘Good in the Hood’ programme, Z will contribute more than $1 million to neighbourhood groups and projects that matter the most to its customers.

In addition, Z is this year offering an extra $250,000 to help “super charge” 2015 for up to 25 of the neighbourhood groups that have been selected to be part of ‘Good in the Hood’. Local customers and Z staff will help to decide how that $250,000 is distributed amongst the groups. Thank you Z and everyone who voted for Te Omanga resulting in a $1,600 donation to us.

Te Omanga is developing a new website

As part of the work within our Fundraising & Marketing strategy, Te Omanga has identified the need to develop a new, accessible and informative website for our community. Work is well underway on this major project, and we are excited about offering a more modern and dynamic website to those who want to find out more about what we do.

If you would like to find out more about Te Omanga’s marketing activity, please email Leanne McLean, Fundraising & Marketing Director on leanne.mclean@teomanga.org.nz

www.teomanga.org.nz

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If you would like to find out more about Te Omanga’s marketing activity, please email Leanne McLean, Fundraising & Marketing Director on leanne.mclean@teomanga.org.nz

www.teomanga.org.nz
Our wish list

We really appreciate the generosity and gratitude that so often comes back to us from the family and friends of people we have cared for on our programme.

We sometimes receive enquiries from people wishing to donate something specific for the hospice that we are not able to acquire through existing funding.

Patient Care Products –
Many of our patients have the need for patient incontinence products. Currently our contract with DHB does not cover the provision of such products which means that Te Omanga purchases these on behalf of patients. The cost annually for products can be in the vicinity of $16,000. A donation towards meeting these costs would be greatly appreciated.

Bibles –
Bibles with large print for loan to our patients would be highly valued by our Spiritual Care Coordinator.

To find out how you can contribute please email Julie McMeeken, Funds Development Manager julie.mcmeeken@teomanga.org.nz or phone 04 568 0725.

Art Night at Petone Shop

On 28 May, Te Omanga’s Petone Shop at 374 Jackson Street invited clients, friends and family to their inaugural Art Sale night. Many responded and joined the team for mulled wine and nibbles whilst they perused the art and other treasures to be found. Feedback from those that attended was overwhelmingly positive. So keep an eye out to see what the next speciality night will be and at which shop it will be held!