MONTECILLO NEWSLETTER

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Montecillo Veterans Home & Hospital

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Cheree Music Therapist







We have had a great selection of entertainers including our lovely music therapist Cheree Tawhiri. Cheree sings whilst playing the piano or guitar. Cheree also incorporates poi skills in these sessions, which is good for upper body strength and co-ordination.



Housie











ITALIAN DAY

Pizza Making

Eating Italian Foods

An Italian Movie to end the day.









Toitu Visit

The men's group outing to the Toitu Museum was a fantastic morning. The men really enjoyed looking at the wonderful displays and commented on how much the museum had changed since they have been there last. Highlights were the gold rush displays, exploring the replica wattle & daub cottage. These cottages were built by immigrants from scratch in very muddy cold conditions, which earned Dunedin the nickname 'Mud-edin'. The Eden Hore Central Otago fashion collection was interesting to see. The men also really enjoyed the transport section. Peter was particularly happy to see the old fire engines he recognized from when he was working as a fireman back in the day.

Italian Day

We had a wonderful Italian day with residents helping make a delicious selection of Italian pizzas including margherita, bufala, capricciosa and prosciutto pizzas (Dave put a big effort into preparing the pizza toppings). The residents then helped make the pizzas enjoying layering all the toppings and using fresh herbs from the resident garden. We also had tiramisu and amaretti biscuits for dessert and some Italian cocktails. Before lunch we had a virtual tour of Rome, followed by some Italian quizzes and at the end of the day enjoyed a movie set in Italy *Under the Tuscan Sun*

Poppy Cushions

During our craft sessions, residents have been assisting with making poppy cushions for the large chairs in the main lounge. Mary enjoyed using the sewing machine to make the Poppy stems, whilst some of the other ladies have been stitching on the crocheted poppy flowers that were made by a local, who we will invite to see what we have done with her beautiful poppies.



Harris Leung

Residents and staff were treated to another wonderful violin performance by Harris Leung, who is a violinist from Auckland. Harris was in Dunedin to

play again with the Dunedin Symphony Orchestra and kindly offered to play to the residents at Montecillo. This time Harris performed beautiful selection of music from The Four Seasons, which is a group of four violin concerti by Italian composer Antonio Vivaldi, each of these pieces gives musical expression to a season of the year. This music was composed around 1718-1723. Harris is a very talented violinist and is also very good at explaining the meaning behind each of the songs before playing.





Random Acts of Kindness











Random Act of Kindness ...







Best Wishes

Registered Nurse - Margaret is ready to enjoy a quieter pace in life – happy retirement!!!

Cook - Dave is leaving after 8 years at Montecillo.

Reg Nurse Sonia is starting a new beginning with her family in Tasmania and Health Care Assistant Megan is moving on to another facility.

We wish you all well!!!







As part of our activities, we have been running **Random Acts of Kindness** projects. These activity groups have involved making decoupage plant pots

and vases for residents. Residents were then given the option of having an indoor potted plant or floral arrangement in a vase for their rooms. Residents made large of colorful batches fresh for the playdough nearby rainbow preschool. We had Gina, one of our residents, hand-deliver this with some new playdough tools to the preschool, much to the delight of the children who were very pleased to get a fresh batch with some new playdough tools to use. Residents have also made macaroon & shortbread treats for the staff as part of this activity group.















1940s&1950s Reminiscence Day

We had a 1940s & 1950s reminiscence day on the 9^{th of} October. We started the morning with a music quiz from this era, followed by a reminiscence chat group, talking about various events that happened in NZ and looking at large photos of these events. This led to some interesting stories shared by residents, staff and family members. The afternoon session involved a group of rock 'n roll dancers from the South Dunedin Rock 'n roll Club coming in to share their dancing skills, followed by more reminiscing with items from this

era. Thank you to all the families who kindly lent items for the residents to look at. Anita was able to hire a lovely 1940s dress, hat, skirt and handbag from the Taieri Dramatic Society, which is based at The Fire Station Theatre in Cargill St Mosgiel. They have amazing selection of costumes available to hire and have group а volunteers that can contacted to organize a time to come along and look at costumes if you have a dress up event coming up.







Indoor Soccer with Oodles of Noodles



Indoor active games like beachball hockey, balloon tennis and beachball volleyball are a lot of fun, to get the bodies moving and can get quite competitive at times.

Our morning exercise and word game groups are always busy as is Richard's newspaper reading /chat groups. Residents enjoy our regular Housie sessions, which is always a good opportunity to stock up on chocolate treats.

Halloween Time





We had a fun afternoon, dressing up in Halloween costumes and playing quirky games with Halloween sweet treats for prizes. We had a fantastic Happy Hour with Bill Acklin performing, who had all the residents singing along to finish off a great day. Thank you to all the families who came along to join in as well, it's so good having family and friends at our Happy Hour sessions on Friday afternoons.

Our best dressed resident prizes went to Peters Wicked Witch man outfit & well done to Mary for bravely putting on the Wonder Woman costume.







Don't forget to cover up for summer. **Slip** on protective clothing, **Slop** on sunscreen & **Slap** on a hat.

Thanks so much to our volunteers, Richard, Roy & Cecily – you make a real difference, and we appreciate you all!

We are super proud of our team here at Montecillo.

