# Focus



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## Not a member yet?

#### What is FOSCA?

Fosca, is the Friends of Shalom Court Association. Are you member? If not, you need to join and learn about all of the happenings at Shalom Court through these newsletters, from great speakers, shared meals, and being part of this wonderful community.

#### So how do I become a member?

Follow this link https://shalomcourt.co.nz/supporting-shalom-court/#donate and join us today

#### Already a member?

Have you paid your annual subscription? Not paid in a while? Now is your chance, contact Esther at operations@shalomcourt.co.nz

What are you waiting for? Come and support your local providers of top, quality care for those in need.

Commitment. Care. Comfort.

#### From the Chair

Our last FOSCA newsletter was in June, and we held the AGM in August – attached to this newsletter are those minutes for your perusal. Thank you to those who attended. We welcome Deb Levy (Bookman) and Roger Reynolds as two new board members and we look forward to their valuable input. Chris Harris stepped down but continues to be part of our Shalom Court family, doing an amazing job as editor of FOSCA newsletter, and doing an incredible job of producing the AGM booklet. George Erdos, Inge Kronquist, Adele Hirsh and Judi Lubetzky are still board members, and their contribution is very much appreciated.

You will have all received the new membership form for FOSCA, and most of you have responded and paid your membership. Everyone who has been a member this past year will receive this newsletter, but after this if you haven't rejoined, then you will no longer receive newsletters or notifications from Shalom Court. I understand that circumstances change, but being a part of Shalom Court, albeit indirectly, is appreciated and we value everyone's support.

We have lost several more residents since June, and in this newsletter, we have photos and a short piece about Michelle Cumin, Agnes Paykel, Gary Irwin, Joan Rivlin, Colin Wilson, Rona Saul, Frank Rose and Annette Clelland. Some of these lovely people were with us for a short time, and others a little longer. It is always so sad to see these residents pass, and I send my condolences again to all the families. It is always a privilege to attend the funerals which I do when I can.

We have welcomed new residents and are, as I write this, mostly full of just 2 beds vacant.

For the first time we are accommodating a wonderful couple (Raoul and Ruth Ketko) where Raoul is in a unit, and Ruth in rest home care. This is something that most homes cannot do, and this is working beautifully.



Flowers presented to
Esther for her
outstanding contribution
and hard work to Shalom
Court. You are amazing!



We were able in the past few months, to accommodate some respite care people, which we were not able to do when we were completely full. Which leads me to congratulate Marlene, our nurse manager, who has accepted a full-time permanent role here and with Roberta (General Manager) are doing a fantastic job 'steering the ship'. I say there is never a dull day in Dodge, (Shalom Court) and each day we ride the calm, and sometimes the storm of who we are.

Congratulations also to Albert, our wonderful cook from Cater Plus, who recently passed his audit here with flying colours.

We have pleasure in showing you the photos in this newsletter of various events that have happened here in the last few months. We celebrated Rosh Hashana (the Jewish New Year), had a very interesting talk by Simon O'Connor (MP for Tamaki), to name but a few. Soon we will build our Sukkah for the festival of Sukkot and with the wonderful Spring weather, we look forward to enjoying that.

Our new kittens, Yafa (beautiful in Hebrew) and Micky, are settling in incredibly well. Rhoda is their adopted Mum, but it's wonderful to see how the residents and staff enjoy their company, and I do hope they continue to give the comfort and peacefulness that cats do. They are rescue kittens, both de-sexed and it's fabulous to give them the opportunity to be part of our family.

I returned to Canada in August, to visit my youngest daughter (second time in 4 months), and each time I return to New Zealand, I am so grateful to come back to Shalom Court and be part of the energy that exudes from this place. Besides my time here, I am also a Restorative Justice facilitator as well as a volunteer for a critical thinking programme in some Auckland jails – so with my other daughter and family still in Auckland, my life is full to the brim.

Wishing you all the very best for a wonderful Jewish new year, happy voting (in the elections) and may we continue to grow, onwards and upwards.

Warm regards, Esther Haver

#### MEET THE NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Shalom Court Governance Board is proud to announce two new board members who join the existing members Esther, George, Adele, Inger, and Judi. They are both highly skilled and respected individuals in their fields and we look forward to their contributions to this amazing board.

#### **Deborah Levy**

Deb is a new member of the Shalom Court board. She is a professor at Auckland University and she has 3 beautiful children and is also a grandmother.

Deb's mother, Betty Mills was a resident of Shalom Court for a few months recently, and we are delighted that Deb is now part of our Board.



#### **Dr Roger Reynolds**

Roger's roots in Aotearoa-New Zealand go back to 1842, when his Keesing forbears were part of the first minyan in Auckland. He grew up in Auckland attending AHC with his family.

He has been a member of Beth Shalom for 35 years, has been President of the congregation, and is currently serving on its Board as secretary.

He has also been on the Steering Committee of Limmud for 10 years, and is a Trustee. He is now a semi-retired physician, having worked at Middlemore Hospital for over 30 years. He looks forward to bringing his clinical experience to the Board of Management of Shalom Court.

# In Memoriam for those who have passed recently, our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

On the Death of the Beloved by John O'Donohue

Though we need to weep your loss, You dwell in that safe place in our hearts, Where no storm or night or pain can reach you.

> Your love was like the dawn Brightening over our lives Awakening beneath the dark A further adventure of colour.

The sound of your voice Found for us A new music That brightened everything.

Whatever you enfolded in your gaze
Quickened in the joy of its being;
You placed smiles like flowers
On the altar of the heart.
Your mind always sparkled
With wonder at things.

Though your days here were brief, Your spirit was live, awake, complete.

We look towards each other no longer From the old distance of our names; Now you dwell inside the rhythm of breath, As close to us as we are to ourselves.

Though we cannot see you with outward eyes, We know our soul's gaze is upon your face, Smiling back at us from within everything To which we bring our best refinement.

Let us not look for you only in memory, Where we would grow lonely without you. You would want us to find you in presence, Beside us when beauty brightens, When kindness glows And music echoes eternal tones.

When orchids brighten the earth, Darkest winter has turned to spring; May this dark grief flower with hope In every heart that loves you.

May you continue to inspire us:

To enter each day with a generous heart.

To serve the call of courage and love
Until we see your beautiful face again
In that land where there is no more separation,
Where all tears will be wiped from our mind,
And where we will never lose you again.



# **Ness Paykel**

Ness was born in Scotland in 1923 and arrived in New Zealand with her family as a three year old. Her early years were spent in Northland and Waikato/King Country. Like many at that time, the family went where work could be found, and the children attended a number of different schools.

The skills Ness had learned in book-keeping and shorthand-typing gave her the means to work, to travel to Australia, and later to provide for and educate her children through the 1960s and 70s.

Later life brought a change of pace for Ness. She and her much loved Maurice enjoyed travel and horse-racing together, and she supported him in his business and charitable work. Ness took up bridge, golf and bowls, forming many lifelong friendships in the process.

The huge gap left in her life after Maurice's death in 2002 was eased by these friendships and by her family, particularly her five grandchildren.

Ness spent the last ten months of her life in the care of Shalom Court, where she celebrated her 100th birthday in April.



#### **Annette Clelland**



Annette Gwendoline Clelland (née Agar) was born on 25 May 1937 in Remuera. She grew up in Mt Eden, Mt Roskill and Remuera and attended May Road School and St Cuthbert's College. After leaving school Annette worked as a legal secretary in Auckland and Christchurch.In 1959 she set sail for the UK on her OE where she worked as a secretary for the General Medical Council in London. Her OE provided the opportunity to holiday in Europe. She met John in 1961 who shared the same upstairs/downstairs flat in London and they married in 1963 on the Channel Island of Jersey. In 1965 Annette returned to New Zealand with John where they settled in Remuera, first renting and then building a family home in 1970. Annette worked at this time as a secretary at a printing firm in Auckland.

Two boys followed, Andrew in 1971 and Peter in 1975 and Annette became a full-time mother. Annette was totally devoted to her family. She was the best Mum to her two boys and a much loved grandmother to Andrew's three children, Amy, Emma and Toby. She was a great home baker and an avid reader, often having two or three books out from the Remuera Library at the same time. She loved art and had a particular interest in New Zealand artists including Rita Angus, Louise Henderson, Frances Hodgkins and Colin McCahon. Holidays were enjoyed at the family bach. In 2012, following John's retirement, Annette and John completed an extensive road trip of the South Island which included visiting friends, a well deserved holiday for them.

Annette and John celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary on 2 March 2023. In later life Annette had many health issues in addition to being hard of hearing, particularly with chronic nerve pain. Annette moved to Shalom Court in August 2023. She passed away on 17 September 2023 at Auckland Hospital. Her family will miss her every day. We wish to thank the management and staff of Shalom Court for their devoted care of Annette at the time when she needed it most. We will be forever grateful.

# **Gary Irwin**

Gary Irwin was born on 11th May 1939 and grew up in Mt Albert, attending Mt Albert Boys High School. After leaving school, he worked for his father's roofing business until his father died when he took over the management.

At the age of 22, he married Claire and had 3 children - sadly she died at the age of 28 and he was left with the small children. Several years later, Gary met Julie at the bank and they got married 2 years later.

Gary was a keen tennis player and loved the outdoor life. He also gained his pilot's licence and enjoyed flying.

Gary was very active until he got ill and passed away at Shalom Court on 26th June.

He was a wonderful husband and Julie says she will miss him deeply.



#### Frank Rose



Frank David Rose was born in October 1926 in Tirau (Waikato) to Edna and Frank Rose. He and his brother Bill attended Tirau School before going onto King's College in Auckland. On finishing his secondary schooling, he returned to Tirau to work in the family's general store business Rose Bros Ltd.

In 1950 he married Avril Ring from nearby Hinuera and shortly afterwards they bought a sheep farm on the outskirts of Tirau. While farming, they had three children who all attended Tirau School. They remained on the farm until the late 1970's when they sold it and moved into Tirau township.

For the next 20 years and while living in Tirau, Frank bought and sold a variety of residential properties in Auckland as well as investing in commercial properties in Hamilton, Tirau and Tauranga. In the late 1990's he and Avril moved to Mt Maunganui where they lived their retirement years.

In 2017 the three siblings who were all living in Auckland, moved them to Remuera Gardens Retirement Village. Avril died in November 2018.

Frank remained at the Village until he was hospitalised in May 2023 after which he moved to Shalom Court for what turned out to be his final few weeks.

He died peacefully on 30 June 2023.

#### Joan Lardner-Rivlin

Joan was born in the Cape Province, South Africa, her family later moving to Benoni, Transvaal. As an adult she lived in London before returning to South Africa from where she moved to Zambia where she got married, had three children, and worked as a social worker.

After some years in Hongkong, Joan and her family came to New Zealand, where she used her UK experience of working for the London County Council, as a Community Development Officer, to work with the then Auckland Regional Authority.

In 1973, having been interested in the CAB in the U K, Joan was part of a group which started the first CAB in Ponsonby-Grey Lynn. She went on to be involved in establishing the Birkenhead, Takapuna and Northcote CABs, addressing the high needs of the new and growing numbers of new immigrants on the North Shore.

In Hongkong, Joan had learned about an organisation for Physically Handicapped and Able Bodied (PHAB) which was introduced to the country by an English social worker. Years later, in New Zealand, Joan set up PHAB in Auckland. Today, the organisation is called Yes! Disability and has celebrated 50 years.

Joan came to OWN through the Writing Groups and joined the Executive Committee. When Edna Peters, the energetic chair of OWN passed away very suddenly in 2014, Joan stepped up to become the chair of OWN where she continued Edna's work until 2020.

In her time as chairperson, the Committee changed the OWN trading name to "Our Women's Network", changed the logo, revised the Constitution and organised many very successful events. Joan was also in charge of the Theatre Group – she chose the theatre plays and booked special seats for the OWN spectators.

Joan was active in both Writing Groups and shared many stories from her amazing life in different parts of the world.

In her later years, Joan served on the Auckland Council's Seniors Advisory Panel. She was a strong defendant of "seniors" and disliked the term "the elderly".

Her energy and commitment in serving on and chairing many boards and committees, were acknowledged in 2007, being awarded the Queen's service medal. In 2019 she was awarded the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to seniors. After she suffered several falls in 2020, Joan slowly lost her memory, but she still had little sparks of her old energy every now and then. We miss her.

May the Source of Peace send peace to all who mourn and bring comfort to all who are bereaved among us.... and together we say: Amen. (Words taken from her service)

### **Michelle Cumin**

Michelle Brenda Cumin left behind a charmed life in South Africa, and embarked on a new adventure in a foreign land, New Zealand, while pregnant with her second child. It was a decision that showcased her profound commitment to her family's well-being and her courage.

Her selflessness also extended beyond her immediate family, as she found a new friend-family within the Jewish community, where lasting bonds were formed that endured for over three and a half decades. She became a wonderful mother-in-law and then transformed into the world's proudest "Nana" when her grandchildren, Mia and Reuben, came along.

Michelle spent just 15 weeks at Shalom Court. Her time there was filled with joy and engagement, a testament to the warm community she was a part of. Michelle's legacy lives on in the hearts of her family and the community she cherished, reminding us all to embrace life with smiles and love, just as she did throughout her life.



#### **Colin Wilson**

Colin arrived in Shalom in November 2022 he had been in Auckland hospital for the previous month after a fall and was not walking when he arrived. His notes from Auckland hospital stated 'this man will never walk again, but they didn't realise how determined Colin was and with a lot of wonderful help from the Carers at Shalom he did walk again!

Colin was a man of action all his life. He was a Dental Surgeon trained in Dunedin and spent 16yrs in UK as a dentist.

Back in NZ he converted a dairy farm into a Deer Farm was a successful property developer and businessman. Colin suffered from dementia and died on the 1st of June from Pneumonia

My daughter Emma and I are thankful that Colin is now free of a life with Dementia which is no life at all.



#### **Rona Saul**

Growing up in South Africa, Rona was a vibrant young girl with golden hair, freckles and a big smile. She was a happy-go-lucky girl who loved going to the beach, riding her bicycle, hanging out with her best friend Pat. She was an "extrovert who loved people"; "a lively spirit" who made an impression on everyone who came into her orbit.

As a teen, Rona was sporty and talented. She excelled at swimming and ice skating, she could sing and play guitar, and she had an excellent eye for fashion. It was this talent that led to her becoming a fashion buyer for Woolworths in Cape Town, eventually becoming 'Head Buyer of Women's Fashion' for the new Game store when it opened in Durban.

When her brother and sister-in-law (Ed and Leigh Saul) migrated to New Zealand in 1996, Rona followed 5 years later. The big attraction for Rona was to be closer to Ed & Leigh's son David, who she adored, and who adored her.

Whilst Rona never found the man of her dreams, she always managed to find incredible friends. She regarded her friends as her family. She was generous to them. Her friends were her life.

Rona loved 'arts and crafts' and was always drawn to the buzz of flea markets. She started a small 'craft shop' at Victoria Market, called 'Secret Rainbow'. Rona was never happier than when she ran that little shop.

Then, fast-forward to the past few years.

Illness is one of the harshest tests of character, which Rona passed with flying colours. When first hospitalised with jaundice, she joked that with dyed green hair, she could pass herself off as a carrot.

When diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, and with the incredible support of her family and friends, never once did Rona complain that life was unfair to her. Never once did she complain about the pain or suffering. Never once did she complain about the many difficult treatments she had to endure. She never sought pity but maintained a positive and optimistic outlook under the very worst of circumstances. Right to the end, Rona was positive and brave.

Rona will be missed by all who knew her. May her spirit be at peace, and may she know the rich blessings of eternity.



#### Life around Shalom Court

The past few months have been very busy around Shalom Court, as you can see tin the photos below, we had in June, the Philippine culture was on show for residents to be entertained and informed of the culture.

We had the arrival of two cats Mickey and Yafa doing their best to disturb Esther from her work but at the same time getting lovely cuddles from Rhoda. Both cats have settled in well and even thinking they are the new general manager of Shalom Court.

Last week Member of Parliament Simon O'Connor visited the residents and viewed some of the outstanding new changes around the place. I am sure he would have been impressed by all of these. Given the election is not far away discussions around this would not have been too far away from the residents and Simon as well.

At Shalom Court, we want you to be comfortable, so our commitment is to provide that individualised care that you deserve.

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#### **MORE FUN AND SHARING**

Rabbi Rube came into Shalom Court on Wednesday 13th September to the spirit of the child into old age, blow the Shofar, Betty Adams getting a private session (see below)

The secret of genius is to carry which means never losing your enthusiasm





Kadimah children with their teacher, Marti Lazarus at a visit to Shalom Court in September.





#### **BIRTHDAY TIME**

Hilda Gosling's 102nd birthday, 12th July 2023

# Happy Birthday

HILDA



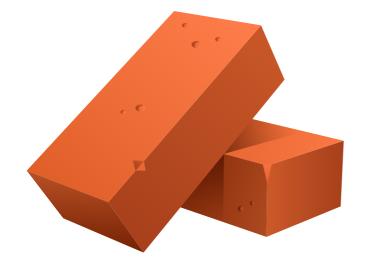


#### **BIRTHDAY TIME**

Charlotte Marams 80th birthday on Tuesday 26th sept

# Happy Birthday CHARLOTTE





#### **BRICK DONATIONS**

If you are wanting to honour or celebrate a family member, friend or organisation then contact our operations team or click on the link on our website.

The perfect gift for someone.

I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver. .

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