



SHALOM COURT
HOSPITAL AND CARE HOME

FOCUS

FRIENDS OF SHALOM COURT ASSOCIATION

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Enjoying some lunch on the Terrace

Autumn is upon us, and what beautiful weather and this edition of focus we hear from Shalom Court Board Chair Esther Haver and keep you updated on the work of the board.

We celebrate the opening of the Gerti Blumenfeld Memorial Garden, we share some stories about our wonderful residents, Shalom Court farewells someone special.

Our celebration of Passover is highlighted and we share some wonderful jokes and as always we encourage you to support Shalom Court and all the hard work and dedication of our staff.

Reminder: Please find enclosed in the newsletter the FOSCA membership form. Thank you for renewing as really we appreciate it.

Should you have any suggestions for future newsletters to please let us know as your feedback is appreciate~!

SHALOM COURT

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From the Chair

Krishna who took over as clinical head nurse after Mary left last year, has worked tirelessly in this very difficult role – she has, however, decided to spend more time with her family who have recently arrived from Fiji. Juliette will talk more about the staffing side of Shalom Court.

My personal thanks to Juliette from HBH, as well as Jasper, Bonnie and Sachin who have been regulars here (especially Juliette and Jasper) and are keeping things well in hand. Juliette is often here until late in the evening, chatting with staff and working on so much (too much to mention in this newsletter). With Covid times, we have had to implement some difficult rules by not letting our residents leave unless for medical appointments, but still allowing visitors in. This has just been changed with Covid rules and residents can leave for outside visits. We have had no resident get sick with Covid which is a huge achievement in NZ's rest homes. Some of our staff did succumb to Covid, however, but through careful management, they have all recovered after time off.

During the past few months we have unfortunately lost 3 residents. The first was Peter Jackson who had been in Room 1, Philip House as a palliative care resident. Then a few weeks ago Irene Levy passed away after being here for 9 years. I went to Irene's funeral which was very special, and Lima (one of our carers) spoke about Irene and their special relationship. Just very recently (as I write this), we lost Roy Turner who at the age of 97 had only been with us for 2 weeks. It is always extremely sad to see much loved residents depart, but it is also amazing to see the exemplary care they have received here at Shalom Court.

I would like to add that Rachel Denyss left us a few weeks ago to Kingfisher House. Rachel was an icon here at Shalom Court for quite a few years.

Marion, our wonderful accounts lady, is presently in Auckland Hospital after major surgery, and will be returning to work only in around 3 months. Roberta has been employed in the interim to make sure our accounts are all kept in check. Sachin (Accountant from HBH) is helping with this.

Karlo, our amazing caregiver of 30 years and has also undergone surgery, and is hoping to come back eventually. However, I think her recovery will take a little while yet.

Part of our new Eden philosophy was to get animals and besides Juliette's adorable two chihuahuas of whom you will see photos, we got two rescue adult cats. However, as I write this, they have decided that the garden and beyond is a better place for them, and we are hoping that eventually they will come back inside... watch this space.

With this newsletter is a renewal form for FOSCA membership, and I do hope you will all renew your memberships as you are an integral part of the Shalom Court family. I am always available to have a chat, so if you would like to get hold of me, please ring Shalom Court and ask for my contact details.

With the winter months, I am sure that my daily place at Shalom Court will be reduced with the employment of a new head nurse (Marc) and others. I have a new career (at the sprightly age of 66) as a Restorative Justice facilitator which I will be working at more and more.

Finally, I'd like to thank each and every one of you for your interest and support in Shalom Court. We all have history here and it is only with our combined efforts will we be able to continue providing the care for our friends and families.

Board News

The Governing Board of Shalom Court is working hard with HBH and doing a sterling job, incorporating many changes. This includes new staff (with new uniforms for everyone), training for staff, refurbishing of cottages 1 and 2 (in front of the lower lounge), the two new gardens and tidying up of others, Passover, Easter, Mother's Day and we are already working on future functions and celebrations.

Realistically we need to promote Shalom Court in the general community, and **Chris Harris** is working with a specialist in the marketing field to get this up and running. This will include research of other homes in the area, conversations with staff and residents, and eventually a new website and brochures (to name but a few). Thank you to Chris who also edits this FOSCA newsletter for his dedication and hard work.

Congratulations to **Caleb Parker** (Board treasurer) on the birth of his second child, a son, Shaiyah (or Shai) – named after my later father, Sol Filler. Caleb has been very busy with two small children at home, but his input and expertise as treasurer is ongoing and greatly appreciated.



Mazel Tov also to **Inge Kronquist** on her 60th birthday milestone. Inge is always keen to be part of what is happening at Shalom Court, and was extremely helpful when getting a physio back at Shalom Court after 6 months of no one. Inge and her husband Simon helped with the festive Christmas day BBQ and is a very valued member of our Board.



George Erdos is a regular here at Shalom Court and has personally overseen the refurbishment of the lower two units, one of which is already occupied. This is no small feat, and George is always available to offer advice and roll up his sleeves to help in a whole range of things.

Adele Hirsh (Board secretary) is amazing – she pops in and buys presents for residents (birthdays) and often has first class suggestions on what we could be doing. Adele was a Trust Board member and is still on our Entertainment committee. She only recently resigned as Residents' Advocate.

Steven Golubchik resigned from the Board as living in Pokeno and his podiatry work, made it difficult to attend meetings. Thank you to Steven for his wonderful input over the past few years.

Judi Lubetzky, who is our residents' advocate, has joined the Board and we welcome her passion and drive for the future.

Thank you to my hard working Board, HBH, the Trust Board, and above all, the incredible staff at Shalom Court.

Esther Haver-Board Chair

Positive changes, happier residents

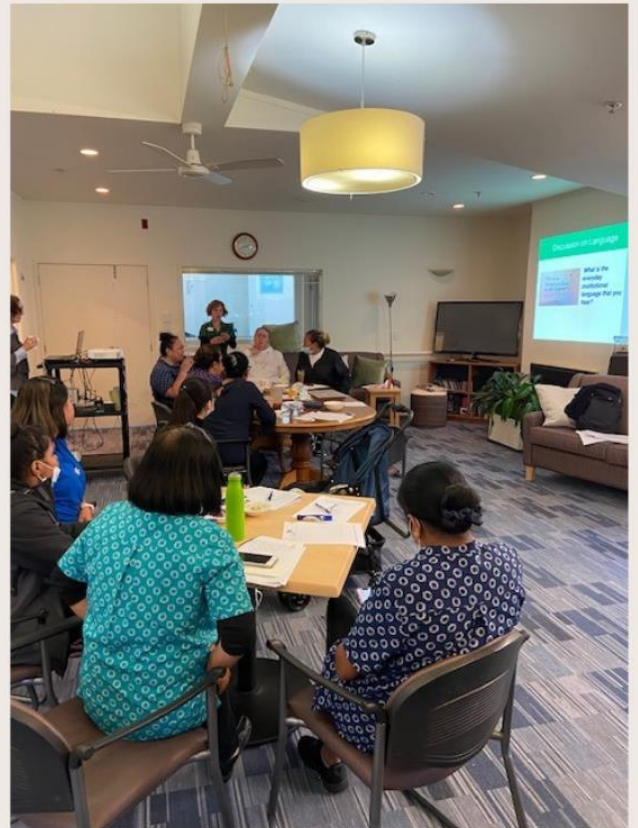
As you may know, HBH Senior Living officially took over the management of Shalom Court in early February this year. Since then we've introduced some exciting new initiatives, which we're delighted to share with you.

Firstly, some great news ... we're pleased to announce the appointment of new registered and enrolled nurses, including our new Nurse Manager, Marc Augusto. He is supported by Jennifer Pacleb and Toni Wong, both of whom are very experienced nurses who have recently joined us as part of our successful recruitment drive. Jennifer has previously worked in a Jewish facility in New York. All of our RNs currently live in the local area. Jasmin is due to join us in late June and will be leading our wonderful night team.

We've also started adopting the Eden Alternative philosophy, a philosophy of care that puts the needs of older people at the centre of everything we do. One of the ten principles of Eden focuses on making aged care facilities more like a home - with plants, animals, more colour, less institutionalised uniforms, and more home-like furniture. Another is involving residents and staff in decisions – it's your home, so it's important that you have a say in how it's run.

Not only that, new systems have been put in place for human resources, communications, administration and finance with support of HBH Sachin Adkar (our Finance & IT Manager) and Roberta (our interim Accounts Manager), plus we're setting up new systems to ensure consistent quality of care and communication, as well as an improved admission and welcome process.

Management of Shalom Court will be overseen by myself, (Group GM – Clinical Quality) and Jasper Young, (Group Services Manager – Clinical & Community). There are more positive changes to come, so watch this space for the next update!



Staff training by HBH



Juliette - HBH

Opening of Gerti Blumenfeld Memorial Garden

On Sunday 1st May, a small group of people gathered at the front of Philip House at Shalom Court, to officially unveil the Gerti Blumenfeld Memorial Garden.

Nina Blumenfeld along with Judy and David Hoadley (two of Gertie's daughters and son-in-law) were guests of honour, and on the beautiful Sunday afternoon, we all remembered Gerti as a very special lady, spending four full years here from 2012 to 2016 when she died aged 94.

Christine Hanley did an exquisite job of the rose garden, additionally establishing a fantastic herb garden in front of the lower lounge, which is happily used by our chef, Albert. Christine also tidied up the rows of hydrangeas and the garden in front of Albert House. She also hung several pots inside Shalom Court, and a general tidy up of pots. A huge thank you to her for spending weeks planting, preparing, weeding, trimming, buying, (in all parts of Auckland to get a good deal), irrigating, and overseeing work. The end result is stunning and she incorporated the row of rose plants that existed in the front garden originally planted by Margot Hart, but needed a lot of TLC. These roses have already given us a glorious blooming season just recently.

The plaque now sits proudly in this front garden, so please take the time to have a look when you next visit. Right now the residents and staff very much enjoy the end of summer weather, sitting outside or gazing into the gorgeous English garden that has been established.



Right: Memorial Garden in front of Phillip House



Left: Nina Blumenfeld with Judy and David Hoadley at the unveiling of Gerti's Memorial Garden

Passover at Shalom Court

On Saturday 16th April, Shalom Court celebrated Passover.

Esther Haver and her daughter Samara, ran the service.

Lunch was scrumptious as chef Albert made chicken soup with Matzo balls, and a delicious main and dessert. Michal from our staff had bought some beautiful table decorations which were set beautifully by the staff that day.

Michal also arranged for the 'haggadot' and menus to be distributed and it was very much appreciated.

All the residents enjoyed this yearly ritual and fun was had by all.



Residents enjoying their Passover meal



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Irene Levy z"l

Extracts from her eulogy as read by her son, Ellis

Irene was born in February 1930 in Cairo Egypt, the eldest of two children and the family was a loving Jewish family in an Arab country – but life was good.

In 1950 she was married but by 1956 the family was forced to leave their home country due to political unrest and seek refugee status in the UK, taking only what they could carry and none of their assets – they had to basically start over which in a new country and not knowing the language was hard.

Irene had three sons (having lost two children in child birth) followed by the last son a few years later.

Irene worked at the primary school as a dinner lady and later she worked in retail at Brent Cross (at the time the largest indoor mall in the UK) before eventually moving to NZ.

Over the years age and ill health began to be a problem – two broken hips and a stomach complaint slowed her down and about 10 years ago she moved to Shalom Court Rest Home

Irene's love for all things kitsch has never waned (in fact it accelerated) and she was protective of her family and was a friend to everyone

She had a big heart, she was a great mum, a fantastic Nana / Grandma to Joshua, Benjamin, Rabiya and Yamen.

Her sons are confident that when she meets their father she will tell him all about the grandchildren and together will watch and guide them as they grow to be as loving as they were with their sons.

So hopefully you have learned a bit more about Irene and that it has made you smile –

We hope that her funeral will be not so much mourning but a celebration of who she was.

Finally a special mention to

The Shalom Court Family for their care and support for Irene – very much appreciated

To Wendy for her support– thank you

And lastly to make mention of the NZ grandsons' relationship with their Nana – their patience, support and unconditional love

This is truly the end of an era



Irene Levy z"l



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Yehi Zichra Baruch (May her memory be a blessing)

A Global Citizen-An interview with Cynthia Griffiths

Cynthia is friendly and has an amazing sense of humour, and very much a people's person. She has travelled the world with South America being top of the most visited, alongside the Pacific Islands of Fiji, Samoa and Tonga.

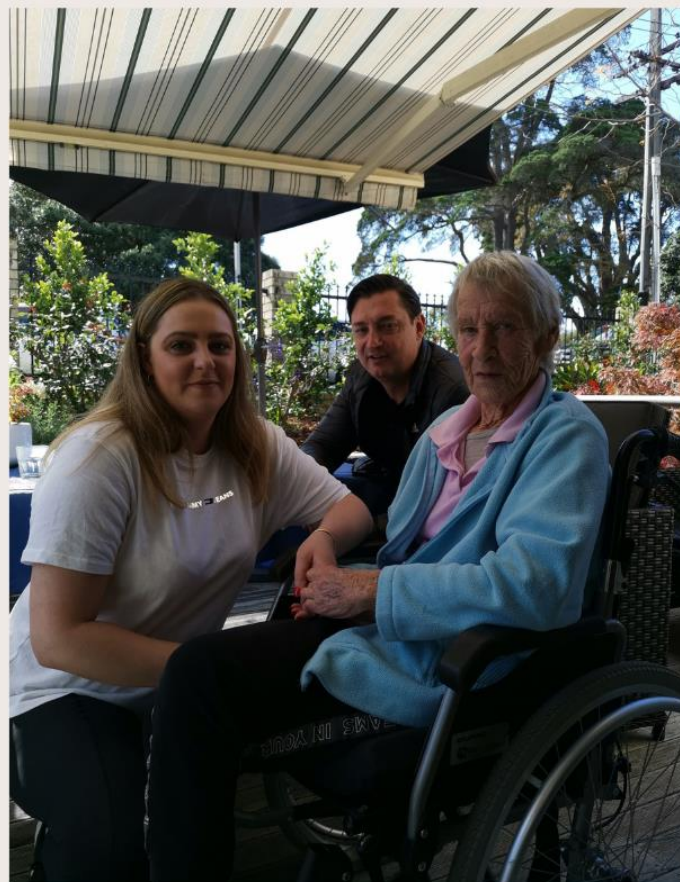
With the gift of loving and interacting with people she bought and operated a hostel in Whangaroa for a couple of years, this gave her the opportunity to meet people who were travelling to New Zealand from all around the world.

She later sold the hostel and purchased one in Mount Eden and there she continued her passion of meeting visitors to Aotearoa New Zealand. After 5 years she repurchased the Lodge in Whangaroa.

During the time of owning Whangaroa she met many Israelis, with whom she formed a special bond, to the extent that the backpackers didn't feel the need to travel further and stayed put, volunteering and helping around the hostel.

Cynthia is truly a citizen of the world and has experienced many adventures during her time and thank you for sharing some of these with us.

Interview by Michal



Under the Mask-An interview with Leslie Mack

Leslie is a man of many talents with a soul of an artist, he is quiet and a bit shy. When I first entered his room, I could instantly feel his taste in art and antiques.

As I recently learnt, Leslie owned an interior decorating and home design store and he used to dress Queen Street department store windows.

After selling his shop he went to Italy for a few months and learned the basics of mask making and from then on made masks, and sold it to the Greek and Italian communities in Australia as they have mask parties three times a year.

On Purim he dazzled us with creating beautiful masks for our festive lunch table (see Photo below) and decorated a table piece and for Easter he created beautiful egg baskets and decorated a table for Easter Monday.

He used to make Christmas wreaths as well as masks and took pleasure donating them to hospices so they would sell them and raise money.

Interview by Michal





Laughing Corner

Cheating

Feinstein returned home from a business trip to discover that his wife had cheated on him
“Who was it?” he roared. “That bastard Wolf?”
“No,” replied his wife. “It wasn’t Wolf.”
“Was it Green, that creep?”
“No, it wasn’t him.”
“I know — it must have been that idiot Sherman.”
“No, it wasn’t Sherman, either.”
Feinstein was furious. “Whatsa matter?” he cried. “None of my friends is good enough for you?”

The desert Island Joke

A Jewish man is shipwrecked on a desert island. He’s stuck for years! Using materials from around the island, he builds a house, a store, and a synagogue. Eventually, he’s made a whole neighbourhood.
One day, he’s rescued by a passing ship. The sailors help him collect his few possessions and get ready to leave the island forever. Just before they leave, one of the sailors says, “Hey! Why’d you build two synagogues?”
The man rolls his eyes. “This,” he says, pointing at one building, “Is my synagogue.”
“And that,” he says, pointing at the other, “Is the one I would never set foot in!”

The (loving) Jewish Mothers Joke

Three Jewish mothers are sitting on a bench, arguing over which one’s son loves her the most. The first one says, “You know, my son sends me flowers every Shabbos.”
“You call that love?” says the second mother. “My son calls me every day!”
“That’s nothing,” says the third woman. “My son is in therapy five days a week. And the whole time, he talks about me!”

The following bricks have been donated to Shalom Court in the last 12 months

LESLEY SCHER in honour of her special birthday

Barbara Jolson(18), Sharon and Roy Nates(27)

ANTHONY HART

60 bricks from the CAB Family

HILDA GOSLING in honour of her 100th birthday

Cohens of Tudward Glade(25), Faye Cohen(45).

In fond memory of RUTH FILLER, JILL STONE, RAYMOND SPITZ, and LESLIE BREM

Brenda Shenken (50)

ADY KORPUS....in honour of his 80th birthday...Neville Baker(50), Malindy Rose(30)

Sylvia and Arnold Treister (80)

ANN GLUCKMAN thanking her for her generosity

Brenda Shenken (10)

Thanks to the amazing staff of Shalom Court, (500)

Donated by Margaret McLean, wife of resident Ian McLean

JOAN STONE wishing her a happy 90th birthday

Brenda Shenken (27)

LARISSA LIEBMAN wishing her a happy birthday

Brenda Shenken (27)

CLAUDIA BAKER wishing her a happy birthday

Brenda Shenken (27)

DAVID ROBINSON wishing him a happy birthday

Arnold and Sylvia Treister (25)

We hope we have not excluded anyone

To arrange a donation of bricks or for more information, contact Michal at Shalom Court (09)5217325 or Merle Newland 021 421678.



Something Special

A BRICK

HONOUR SOMEONE

Recipients receive a gift certificate from Shalom Court ; it shows the donor's name, the donor's message, and the number of bricks donated.

ONLY \$2 EACH

To arrange a donation of bricks or for more information, contact Michal at Shalom Court (09)5217325 or Merle Newland 021 421678.

Details of recipient's address, donor's message, and donor's address will be required

TAX DEDUCTIBLE



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Life around Shalom Court



Dr Young with Nurse Toni and our little friends in their pram on doctor's rounds



*Happy Birthday
Ruth*





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For more information

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<https://shalomcourt.co.nz>