

NORTH TARANAKI HEALTHCARE TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Our year has been marked by the sudden death of Ken Bedford and I repeat here some of the comments in the tribute to Ken that I wrote at the time.

Ken was one of the original Trustees from its registration as a Charitable Trust in 2003 and continuing in that position until his tragic death. He also held the position of Administration Manager. The Trust was formed to help ensure the continuation of medical services in Waitara and surrounding districts.

Ken had an excellent rapport with staff and was always their first point of contact with any building problems from fixing broken door handles to finding leaks and, where possible, he would deal with the issue himself. When it came to day-to-day matters of the Trust, Ken's 'can-do' attitude meant that things were handled efficiently and usually quickly.

In line with his heartfelt desire for this community to have these medical services available locally Ken has been instrumental in and also worked tirelessly for the success of the Trust.

Shortly before Ken's death we had been seeking someone to take some of the administration load and had invited Sue Wightman to consider the position. Suddenly Sue was thrown in the deep end and as Administration Manager has quickly picked up the role with efficiency and aplomb.

As the Covid-19 lockdown came near the end of our financial year, it had little effect on our accounts. After writing off \$42,000 depreciation, we ended the year with a surplus of \$50,000. Our mortgage is reduced to \$208,000 which should be paid off in a couple of years. In 2007 it was \$1.5 million!

Ron Payne joined the Trust during the year which has turned out to be most fortuitous as Ron (cheerfully!) picked up the small maintenance matters that seem to occur quite frequently in the building – an essential service. My thanks go not

only to him but also to Thelma Luxton, Gay Andrews and Bill Watson and in particular to Gary Cleland for his work on the finances and for dealing with a good number of other Trust issues.

This report wouldn't be complete without mentioning the retirement of Dr Naomi Pettigrew after 25 years of dedicated service to the medical needs of people in the community. She is highly regarded and will be sorely missed by her patients.

The lockdown did affect our tenants, including the medical centre and the pharmacy, and we are fortunate that the hairdresser and estate agents were able to survive. On the positive side we once again have a dentist, as Te Wai Tamati from Taylor Dental has moved into the vacant dental rooms. However, Bounce Back, the physiotherapists, are relocating elsewhere in Waitara.

This will be my last annual report as I shall be stepping down as Chairman at the AGM after about 15 years in the role and some health issues but would like to stay on as a Trustee for a little longer. I am proud of what we have achieved and feel confident this building will serve Waitara and the surrounding community for many years to come.

Bob Mahy

27 July 2020