



Abbeyfield Western Bay of Plenty Inc

February 2021

Despite Covid 19 causing major disruption, and slowing down our progress last year, much was achieved to move us towards our own Abbeyfield House in Katikati. This year we are full steam ahead with fundraising and exploring options to purchase a section.

We are currently looking at purchasing a section in Katikati that will more than met our needs. The owner of the land has been a long time generous supporter of Abbeyfield and we hope to progress with this and be able to report to you soon.

Our finances are in an excellent position thanks to several major donors who have gifted us funding. Our thanks to Liz Parker, Bill and Elizabeth Rae, Ron and Maryanne Calver and several other anonymous donors. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Our special thanks goes to Pauline van Rijen who has worked tirelessly producing Jams, Jellies, Chutneys, and Sauces with the help of a small team of volunteers. Pauline has then attended numerous markets throughout the summer months, selling the produce along with vegetables and flowers. Some weekends Pauline has attended three markets, as well as run the Friday night Katikati Produce Market. Thank you also to the people who work with Pauline both in the kitchen and at the market.

Much of the produce that is used for the products Pauline sells is donated by local people or grown on Pauline and Theo's property. Pauline's produce is extremely popular and she has been known to sell out at a market. The income from these markets has been a major boost to our finances and we are extremely grateful for the work that Pauline is doing.

Pauline does have help from several people with the peeling, chopping, cutting and preparing of the fruit and vegies. However, this time of the year is an extremely busy time with a lot of

fruit and vegetables arriving at Pauline's door that needs to be prepared and turned into jams, jellies, chutneys and sauces.

*We would **love** more help for Pauline and the team so we can raise as much money as possible without wearing Pauline out. We need volunteers to give a couple of hours every now and then, working with Pauline, to prepare the fruit/veges. You could do this at Pauline's home in Katikati or you could do it at your place what ever worked best for you. If you could spare some, time and would like to help please give Pauline a call on 021 0289 4793.*

Requests for help could be short notice, as it is not always known when produce will arrive. If you ring and can't get hold of Pauline, then please, please, leave her a message and she will get back to you.

We are very grateful also for the support of Bill and Elizabeth Rae. Bill and Elizabeth grew trailer loads of vegetable and flower seedlings and sold them at numerous markets prior to Christmas. They then donated all the funding from this to Abbeyfield BoP. It was an amazing effort and commitment to grow and sell the seeds. Thank you very much; the contribution was very much appreciated. Thanks also to Isabel who on several occasions helped at the stalls.

A funding team has been established. They are currently exploring options and have several good ideas for activities that will help boost our funds and create awareness of our plans for an Abbeyfield House in Katikati. The team is a small group at present however, as they progress with their plans, we will invite more people to be involved and help.

We continue to look for other options for grants, donations and financial gifts towards the purchase of the section and then the building of the house. Abbeyfield NZ, our National office, is currently lobbying possible options and we have had meetings with some key developers and funders.

We are also keen to talk to anyone who shares our commitment to building an Abbeyfield House in Katikati to ensure older people can enjoy a safe, supported, affordable retirement.

If you know of anyone who would like to contribute towards achieving our goal, please do not hesitate to give him or her my contact or let me know and I can get in touch with them.

I look forward to keeping you up to date with progress and please don't hesitate to contact me or any of the committee if you have any ideas, suggestions or contacts that you believe will assist us.

Kind regards

Carole Parker ph 0274 579 686
Chairperson, Abbeyfield Western Bay of Plenty
Building an Abbeyfield House for Katikati