



Well, here it is December and now the countdown to Christmas. What a year it has been, with the house completed and the residents moved in.

Now the opening is over and done the house is settling down and the residents are getting used to flatting with each other. It's not easy when you have been living on your own for many years.

### **Gardens**

A couple of volunteers have helped clear the rocks out of the residents' small gardens outside their studios and topped it up with dirt. This means the residents are able to plant flowers or in some cases vegetables in their gardens. We also have a fabulous, raised garden bed which we are now sorting to fill with compost and soil, and we will grow vegetables for the kitchen. A couple of residents have indicated they are keen to look after it.

We have a fabulous team of volunteer gardeners who come in and help with the weeding the gardens around the house. The mulch has helped keep the weeds down, but some are determined to have their place in the garden. We are very appreciative of the gardener's. Many thanks for your help.

We are extremely grateful for Taylor Brothers who donated all the mulch we put in the garden; it was an enormous amount. We are also thankful to our volunteers and the staff who came from Humes to help do the last bit to the gardens just before the opening.

The herb garden is flourishing, and the espaliered apples are blossoming. We have one more small part of the garden to plant, and we are thinking this will be for vegetables too.

### **Jigsaws and games.**

We now have a lovely jigsaw table. There are several residents who love to do jigsaws. We have had numerous jigsaws donated which has been fantastic, we are now on the hunt for board games. Shot Darts has donated a fabulous dart board which has been well received. Many thanks to Peter at Shot Darts for their generosity in donating a board with darts etc.

Abbeyfield WBOP, registered Charity No CC57847.

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Web site: [abbeyfield.co.nz](http://abbeyfield.co.nz) - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AbbeyfieldWBoP/>

## Many thanks

Many thanks to people who have been donating fruit and vegetables to the kitchen, it's greatly appreciated and helps keep the budget down. The residents are loving the fresh fruit.

## Fundraising

We had a fabulous weekend at Rod and MaryAnne Calver's garden during the Garden Ramble in November until the rain on the Sunday afternoon made it difficult to keep going.

Thank you to the volunteers who came along and helped on the stall and manned the gate checking tickets. Many thanks to Elizabeth and Bill who donated a trailer load and more of plants and trees which we sold. They were very popular and helped increase the money we raised.

November the 8<sup>th</sup> was the last time we would be selling Pauline's Jams, Jellies, Sauces, Relishes, Preserves and Chutneys. With the fundraising for the house completed, Pauline will now be raising funds for the Cambodia Charitable Trust. They raise funds for education for vulnerable Cambodian Children. We wish Pauline every success with her new challenge. Please don't hesitate to recycle your jars and lids you can drop them off at the Saturday Waihi Beach Market.

We are extremely grateful for everything Pauline and her team have done over the past 7 years raising funds at markets with her preserves, fruit and vegies. It is an enormous amount and had a big impact on our fundraising.

Many thanks for your support of the Abbeyfield House over the past years.

Wishing you all a lovely Christmas and hope the New Year brings you all the very best for 2026.



Warmest regards to you all.

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