

Verve

ISSUE 9: DECEMBER 2011

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Welcome to the December Issue of Verve, our last for 2011 and what a year it has been! What's happening at Metlifecare... well, you will see Crestwood Village celebrated its 25 Anniversary (Page 7). In actual fact MLC was incorporated in 1984 so that makes us 27 years old and ageing gracefully.

Did you know that Greenwood Park located in Tauranga has a fully equipped pottery and china painting studio complete with Potter's wheel and two kilns? Their Annual Art & Craft Bonanza (Page 4) was a huge success. Then we travel down country to our Kapiti Village and attend a book launch by Resident, Bob Norman. Keep going south and we arrive at Oakwoods our Nelson Village and share in the upgrade of the Community Centre (Page 8).

We also talk about Sponsorship, MLC is

very proud to sponsor many community events but recently we were invited to Sponsor the World Press Photo Exhibition here in Auckland. Read first-hand the experience of one of our Residents (Page 5) as one photo in particular stirred up an old memory.

As Christmas and the holiday season fast approaches we would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas, and if you're travelling over the holidays, remember we have 16 villages around the country, so if you find yourself in the neighbourhood, please drop in and say "Hello".

Thank you to everyone for sharing your stories and please keep them coming:
Clara Puglia, Verve Magazine, c/o PO Box 37 463, Parnell, Auckland 1151 or email: clarap@metlifecare.co.nz

Clara Puglia, Editor

Alan's Corner.



It is the Christmas season and the last time we were able to enjoy a Christmas with some of the same characteristics was back in 1987! For those of you who are already onto it, well done. For those who

are wondering what we are on about, well it is all about that Trophy in the cabinet at Rugby Headquarters called the William Webb Ellis Trophy! The World Cup was an outstanding period of two months for New Zealand as a whole. It was beautiful to see communities get together and support some of the teams that were probably never going to win the trophy.

Across Metlifecare the true spirit of caring and participation was seen. I do believe that the residents of Metlifecare Palmerston North went the extra mile after embarking on a team effort to hand knit the entire Georgian Rugby team beautiful bed socks to take home following their match in Palmerston North. The bonus for the village is that the Georgians spent a couple of hours at the village which proved to be a hit with all the residents (see the article on the next page).

The world cup provided a sparkle, and generally New Zealand is doing well when one considers the challenges faced across the world. Metlifecare has also been performing well and we believe that at the core of this are our key values which focus on Professionalism, Teamwork and Quality. Our self-imposed challenges are to seek to continuously improve as we pursue excellence. To this end we are focusing on our centres of excellence as the key driver of continuous improvement. In its simplest form we seek to identify the best of the best and replicate those performances across the entire group. We are highly committed to achieve this.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our residents, intending residents, staff and their families the very best of wishes for a blessed and Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year. Till next time, have fun!

Alan Edwards, Managing Director & CEO

Rugby World Cup 2011

Metlifecare Palmerston North meets the Georgia Team.



Palmerston North Residents meet Georgia rugby team

The Rugby World Cup was a time of great excitement for the residents and staff at Metlifecare Palmerston North. As part of the build up towards the cup we decided to back team Georgia as the overseas team we wanted to support. We launched into flag making and all those things that go along with learning about our 'adopted' team and their country.

Knitting was the order of the day, with a handful of the residents making black and white wool slippers, enough for the entire team to take home with them as a memento of their time here in Palmerston North.

Newspaper interviews and articles, radio stations calling, and Sky Television interviewing us saw the Village receive some high profile attention.

Then to top it all off, the entire Georgian team visited the village to be presented with their slippers the minute they arrived in

Palmerston North. The Village lounge soon became a buzz with excited residents and staff who mingled with the Georgian players (who were rather overcome by the experience themselves!) and had time for autographs and a quick chat for what was an unforgettable experience for all.



Art & Craft Bonanza

Metlifecare Greenwood Park Village, Tauranga
– By Bob Wakelin



Knitted Dolls by Pauline Thomas

It was not all knitted dolls. It was the 2011 Metlifecare Greenwood Park Arts and Craft Bonanza. People came from all over the region and very few went away empty handed. This was a premium exhibition of both art and craft. It was the ideal place to purchase greeting cards, patchwork, quilting, machine embroidery, pottery, paintings (oils, watercolours, sketches, acrylics, and pastels), garments, towels, and sundry gift items.

The prices were reasonable, the workmanship absolutely top class. The creativity on display and actually resident in the hearts and minds of the artisans makes a visit totally worthwhile, and the Bonanza is probably the best kept secret in the Bay of Plenty.

“Move over Briscoes!” The Greenwood Park Bonanza is the place to be for a full range of Christmas giftware.

Artists and Crafters had been busy all the year in preparation. Prices hardly ever reflect the time spent in creating their handicrafts. They support their hobby with the sales of work at the fair. It is a sustainable economy.

The large display spaces available at Greenwood Park were all filled and morning and afternoon tea were provided, along with excellent nibbles from the Restaurant.

The surprise for the visitor was the fully equipped pottery and china painting studio complete with potter’s wheel, and two kilns. There are lovely pieces of work made here. Looking forward to next year? YES!

Pauline Thomas was born in the same year as Yves Saint-Laurent. Both are involved in dressing models and are brilliant designers. Colour and form are the very essence of their creations. But somehow, Pauline breathes life into hers.

“My first knitting project at age 5 was a small dusky pink cardigan. I remember it well”

As a girl Pauline loved to play tennis and fortunately, this passion was shared by Neil Thomas, the handsome young man whom she ultimately married 54 years ago. Then they loved dancing and now they love living at Metlifecare Greenwood Park Village. They made the move in July 2009 and almost immediately began to make knitted dolls for the Bonanza and so another passion was ignited. Now with a history of having created more than 60 brilliant little people all with names and personalities she has established a tradition here at Greenwood Park. Starship Hospital is where many of her little “chappies” have gone to live after the fair.

A world of emotion viewed through a lens

Ivy Kendall - Resident of Metlifecare Highlands.

The World Press Photo Exhibition is on for the second consecutive year in Auckland and is an initiative of The Rotary Club of Auckland.

The 2011 Exhibition showcases the winning photographs from the world's largest and most prestigious annual press photography competition.

This year's exhibition displays around 200 photographs chosen from a record 108,000 images submitted to the World Press Photo Contest 2010 by photojournalists, agencies, newspapers and magazine from 125 countries around the world.

Metlifecare were very proud to be sponsors of this event and as sponsors we were allocated free tickets to distribute to Residents. One of our Resident's was so taken by the Exhibition and one photo in particular that she wanted to share her experience.

I recently took advantage of the free ticket offer, to see an exhibition in Auckland of photos judged to be the best worldwide, taken by news photographers. Each photo was a split-second moment never to be repeated in time and beside each photo was the photographers name and a short explanation of the event. All were interesting, some grim, some I would prefer to forget but one I found almost incredible. It was in full colour, a close-up of a bullfight in Spain, and at first glance I thought the Matador was smoking a cigar. I blinked and looked again at this photo of a massive, blood splattered bull, with stilettos jabbed into his shoulders, tossing the Matador into the air. The photo was taken at close range at the left side of the bull, and one huge upward pointing horn seemed quite near to the camera, but on the right side, the horn was deep in the Matador's neck, through his tongue, and out through his mouth.

My thoughts raced around for a remedy for this awful predicament – would they shoot the bull, saw off the horn to pull it out? Then experience told me that this was on the first toss, and the bull

would lower his head to toss his tormentor again. Thus pulling the horn out. This apparently is what did happen because the blurb on the wall said the Matador recovered and was able to return to the ring.

As I walked away from the exhibition thinking of this photo, my memory went back 80 years when like many teenage girls in the Great Depression, I had to leave school to do a man's job on the farm. On my parents farm we had a most vicious aggressive jersey bull who would come roaring across the paddock to meet you. I usually approached from the other side of the fence and sent the dog to round up the cows, but on one occasion I found the bull standing alone by a barbed wire fence, and the cows in the far distant. Realising something was wrong, I approached the bull from the other side of the fence and could see that the short chain fixed to the ring in his nose, was tangled in the barbed wire and it was going to be my job to free him. The nearer I got, the louder he roared, and by the time I touched the wire his whole body was screaming with fury. I could feel his hot breath on my hands and his long tongue curled out right around my wrist as I struggled to get him free. When the chain fell away there was a sudden silence, then he took a step back, turned sideways, looked at me as if he was not sure what to do next, then he took a deep breath and said "HUFF" and walked slowly back to the heard, leaving THIS Matador still shaking in her gumboots. And No. We did not become friends.

**WORLD PRESS PHOTO 11
EXHIBITION**

To get to the other side

By Bob Norman - Resident of Kapiti Village

A personal encounter with some bridges around the world.



Lee Benjamin, Village Manager & Bob Norman

Metlifecare Kapiti Village was honoured to have hosted the Book launch of one of its Resident on Friday 18th November 2011.

Robert G. Norman graduated with a degree of Bachelor of Engineering with honours from the University of Canterbury in 1944. He then joined the Second New Zealand Expeditionary Force and served overseas in Egypt, Italy and Japan. On his return to New Zealand he joined the Public Works Department as an engineer in the Civil Engineering Design Office. He then spent two years in the United Kingdom in 1949-50 on a University Travelling Scholarship gaining experience in civil engineering construction. Back in New Zealand he continued as a design engineer, and at the same time read for an honours degree in mathematics in the University of Wellington.

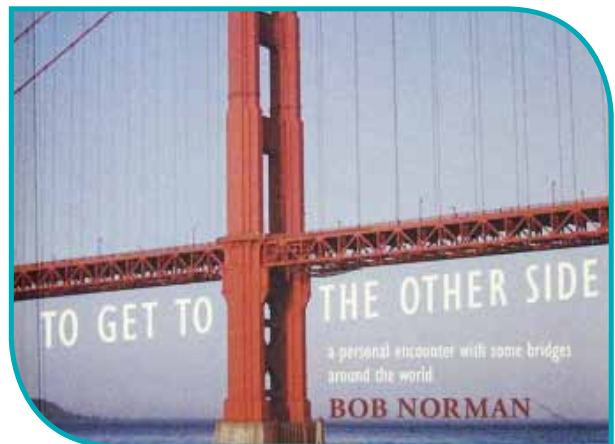
In 1956-57 he spent 15 months in the United States on a Harkness Fellowship of the Commonwealth Fund, New York, studying roads and bridges. He returned to the Works Civil Engineering Design Office, and was appointed Chief Designing Engineer in 1965.

After many years of experience in NZ and around the world as a Civil Engineer at a

senior level Bob was appointed Commissioner of Works in 1983, retiring from that position in 1985. He held the post of President of the Institution of Professional Engineers in 1981-82.

He is the author of three books, two on engineering, and one an anthology of original verse and prose.

The launch was attended by about 65 people from the Village. Pat Shepherd a close friend and resident here at the village chaired the event as many people spoke. Bob shared two great stories from the book.



The Poynton

Lewis Eady Concert – Saturday 12 November, 2011

In conjunction with The Lewis Eady Charitable Trust, The Poynton held their next “Piano at The Poynton musical event”. Piano at The Poynton has become a regular tradition to help support talented musicians.

Lucy Zeng only eighteen years old and currently a second year Bachelor of Music student at Auckland University’s School of Music, studying piano with Rae de Lisle. She started learning the piano at the age of seven. In 2010 she won the Janetta Mcstay prize for the ‘Most Deserving Pianist’ from the University of Auckland. In 2011 she was a semi-finalist at the 1st Australian International Chopin Piano Competition and a recipient of the University Blues Award, the highest Cultural accolade that can be attained at University level.

The bubbles were poured, the canapés were savoured and 100 residents and guests enjoyed the evening while Lucy played to her hearts content. The Concert was memorable.

Metlifecare takes great pride in Sponsoring young and talented musicians and it is one way that the grand piano at The Poynton is appreciated by both Residents and Musicians.



Lucy Zeng

Crestwood celebrates its 25th anniversary

Aaron Love - Village Manager

Crestwood celebrates its 25th Anniversary on the 14th October. This is a picture of Joy McEwin cutting the cake. Joy was the Third Resident moving into Crestwood on the 17th of January 1987. The Village was so new the steps and ramp hadn’t been completed to her unit and she had to climb a ladder for a few days. Joy has been a very active part of the Village as well as being part of the Social Committee for at least 12 years.



Aaron Love, Village Manager & Joy McEwin

Opening ceremony of the newly upgraded Community Centre

Metlifecare Oakwoods – Richmond, Nelson
By Derryl Beck



Oakwoods upgraded Community Centre

At last, on the 7th October 2011, Alan Edwards our Managing Director opened the long awaited refurbished Village Community Centre at Oakwoods Village in Richmond. The general conclusion has been that despite the delays and upheaval caused to our residents and staff alike the finished product was definitely worth waiting for.

The bright, vibrant colours and comfortable furnishings have breezed a new life into the heart of the Village. Our existing residents are thrilled to bits with the freshness and the colours that now welcome them each morning as they stroll through to the Café for morning tea.

It is a delight to watch the faces of new visitors and especially those that have visited the village over the years to enter through our doors into a spacious reception area and through into our lounge area with the natural light that is

streaming from overhead creating different moods through-out the day. The Café, Dining Room, Hairdressers, Nurses Station and the handsomely finished Library all complement the fine-looking gardens that surround our stunning village.



Residents enjoying the new Centre

Naval Cadets visit Highlands Village

Helen, Social Coordinator



Naval Cadets visit Highlands Village

Twenty-five smartly dressed naval cadets visited our village for the Armistice Commemoration Day. An informal one minutes silence was held in the lounge for residents who were present at the time.

After the Cadets where paraded around the village in their very smart white uniforms they visited the nursing care unit and chatted to the residents for quite some time, followed by a light luncheon and some free time together in the activities room.

The Cadets then served the lunch time meal to the Serviced Apartment residents. What a treat that was to have handsome sailors attending their tables, everyone had a smile on their face.

Two minutes silence was observed to commemorate the efforts of those who served for their country, remembering the many young lives lost while serving.

Dennis Gilbert then addressed the very large audience of residents with memories of his Naval days passing around his memorabilia. The cadets all listened intently to his stories with lots of interest and questions at the end.

Next the naval cadets all lined up in front of the audience and spoke about the different medals they wore. They thanked us for a memorable day at Highlands Village.

The Devonport Naval museum will be on the village programme next year. Do take the opportunity to visit the new site in Torpedo Bay, it is a very interesting outing.



It's all in the service

Espresso Fudge

By Susie



Recipe care of Ourkitchen
www.ourkitchen.fisherpaykel.com

Fisher & Paykel

Base

2 250g packs plain
wine biscuits

1 tin (395g)
sweetened
condensed milk

180g butter

2 shots espresso*

70g bag chopped
walnuts

Icing

400g cream cheese

1 1/2 cups icing
sugar

2 shots espresso*

70g bag chopped
walnuts

The great thing about this is, it's easy to make, no baking required, and an excellent indulgence for an afternoon pick me up.

- 1** Crush the biscuits — I used the end of a rolling pin and crushed them in a bowl.
- 2** Melt the butter and condensed milk together in a saucepan until smooth, then mix the espresso into this. Make sure it is thoroughly mixed in, making a delicious coffee colour.
- 3** Add the condensed milk mixture to the biscuits with the chopped walnuts and mix until well combined. Press into a lined rectangular (15x25cm or similar) tin and refrigerate until set.
- 4** To make the icing, put the cream cheese into a blender and blend until smooth. Add icing sugar and espresso and blend again until smooth.
- 5** Spread icing over the biscuit base and sprinkle with walnuts to garnish. Refrigerate until the icing has set and then cut.

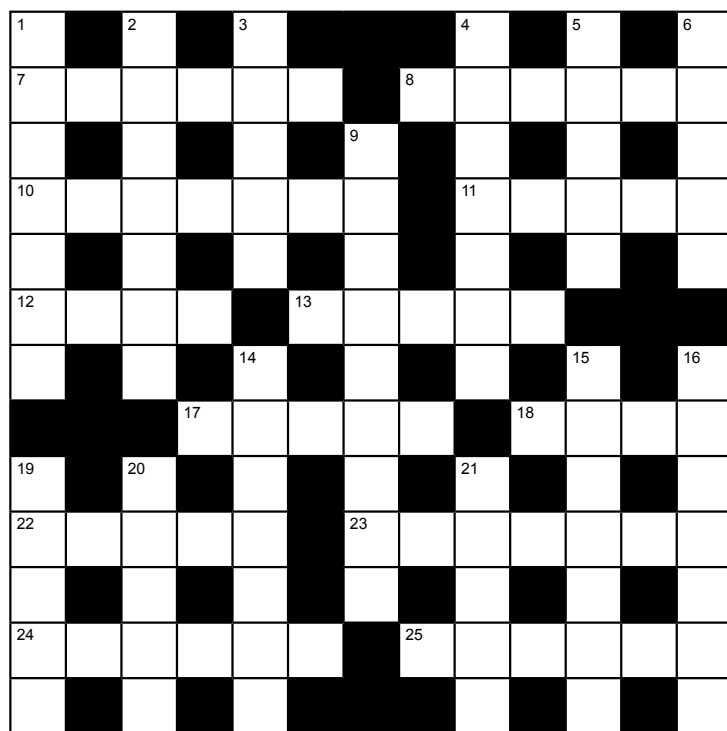
Tip

* If you don't have access to an espresso machine you can substitute each shot of coffee required for 50mL very strongly brewed coffee.

SERVES 6 - 8



Crossword



ACROSS

7. Village in Banks Peninsula, with an interesting history as an early but brief French colony (6)
8. (And 23 across) Latin words, meaning an overall champion in a sports competition, usually at school or college level (6)
10. Bay of Plenty lake and city, a major international and domestic tourism centre (7)
11. Coastal township in Westland, named after a German scientist and explorer (5)
12. The last British ---- was George VI (4)
13. (And 16 down) Christchurch-born writer, who in her lifetime sold over 19 million copies of her 55 romance novels (5)
17. "If ____ be the food of love, play on" wrote Shakespeare in Twelfth Night (5)
18. Maori word for 'sacred' or 'holy', with serious religious and ritual overtones (4)
22. Guide ____ was an early identity in the growth of tourism in the city of 10 across (5)
23. See 8 across (7)
24. New Zealand's third great miler and 1500m Olympic champion (6)
25. To seem to come into sight or view (6)

DOWN

1. The ____ Plains extend southwards, west and east from the Firth of Thames towards the Waikato and Coromandel (7)
2. At times hair-raising tourist activity, racing down rapids and fast-flowing rivers on purpose-built platform vessels (7)
3. Labour Prime Minister (briefly) in 1990 - NZ's 51st PM (5)
4. The Russian cruise ship that ran aground and sank in the Marlborough Sounds in 1986 was named the ____ Lermontov (7)
5. Form of power for machinery that helped sustain the Industrial Revolution in 18-19th century Britain (5)
6. The rocky headland at the eastern side of the entrance to the Bay of Islands is known as Cape ____ (5)
9. Famed short story writer, born in NZ in 1888 but worked in Britain and Europe till her early death in 1923 (9)
14. The Queen should reach her diamond ____ late in 2012, if her family's usual health and long life don't fail her, that is (7)
15. Great and Little ____ are islands in the Hauraki Gulf (7)
16. See 13 across (7)
19. Main town on the Hibiscus Coast, quiet retreat in winter but a busy holiday centre for young and old in summer (5)
20. NZ's second great miler and middle distance runner, three times Olympic champion in 800 and 1500m races (5)
21. Very proficient, skilled or expert at particular tasks (5).

Quick Quiz

1. What year did the referendum occur that resulted in the introduction of MMP to New Zealand elections?
2. When were New Zealand's first parliamentary elections held?
3. Women in New Zealand gained the right to vote in 1893. In what year did they gain the right to stand for Parliament?
4. Who was New Zealand's first female Prime Minister?
5. In what year were did Parliament agree to set up four electorates specifically for Maori?

		8		5	6	9
7		4		1		
	6					
		6				4
	1		2	7		8
	4				5	
						6
				3	9	1
5		2	8		4	

Quick Quiz: 1. 1993 2. 1853 3. 1919 4. Jenny Shipley 5. 1867
 Crossword: ACROSS 7. Akaroa 8. Victor 10. Rotorua 11. Haast 12. King 13. Essie 17. Music 18. Tapu
 22. Rangit 23. Ludorum 24. Walker 25. Appear DOWN 1. Hauraki 2. Rafting 3. Moore 4. Mikhail 5. Steam
 6. Brett 9. Mansfield 14 Jubilee 15. Barrier 16. Summers 19. Orewa 20. Snell 21. Adept

January

The New Zealand Herald Christmas Carnival - New Year's Day
 Ellerslie Racecourse, 80-100 Ascot Ave,
 Auckland..... 1 January

Farmers' Market Taranaki
 Currie St, Currie St, New Plymouth
 8 January

Mount Mainstreet Farmers Market
 Phoenix Car Park, 137 Maunganui Rd,
 Mt Maunganui..... 9 January

Festival Nelson Lakes
 Lake Rotoiti, Nelson Lakes..... 21-22 January

**Painting Workshops with Kate McLaren
 NZ Landscape Artist**
 311 Willis St, Te Aro, Wellington 27 January

Sarau Festival
 Moutere Hills Community Centre,
 Upper Moutere..... 29 January

February

Auckland Lantern Festival
 Albert Park, Auckland 3 February

Manawatu Vintage Ag Expo
 Collis Farm, 169 Lockwood Rd, Kairanga,
 Palmerston North..... 4-5 February

Art in the Park
 Levin Public Gardens, 119 Bath St, Levin
 12 February



Lantern Festival



The New Zealand Herald
 Carnival - New Year's Day

Devonport Food, Wine & Music Festival
 Windsor Reserve, King Edward Parade,
 Auckland 18-19 February

March

TV3 Derby Day - Auckland Cup Week
 Ellerslie Racecourse, 80-100 Ascot Ave.....
 6 March

Flavours in the Bay
 Blake Park, Maunganui Road, Mt Maunganui..
 10 March

Kilbirnie Festival
 Bay Rd, Kilbirnie, Wellington
 11 March

Summer Opera in the Gardens: Ayrliès
 Ayrliès Gardens, 125 Potts Road, Auckland.....
 11 March

13th Tauranga Multicultural Festival 2012
 Historic Village on 17th, Seventeenth Ave
 West, Tauranga 17 March

St Matthew's Chamber Orchestra
 St Matthew-in-the-city, 187 Federal Street,
 Auckland. Michael Joel – Conductor
 18 March

MarchFest 2012
 Founders Heritage Park, 87 Atawhai Dr,
 Nelson 24 March



For further details visit www.eventfinder.co.nz