

It's because of the generosity of our community that Hospice services can remain free of charge. If you are a supporter of Hospice Waikato, our whole team sincerely thanks you for your support.

June 2025

Another incredible Bucket List Banquet

After six months of planning, the 2025 Hospice Waikato & Montana Food and Events Bucket List Banquet finally took place at the Claudelands Events Centre on Friday 16 May.

It really was a night-of-nights! 1,050 guests, looking resplendent in dinner jackets and sequin dresses, entered via a silver tunnel into an expanse of disco lights and giant silver balls for the Disco Luxe-themed banquet. Canapes served on old vinyls and disco anthems performed by Hannah Fang and DJ Josh Leys added to the spectacular theming at what was a high energy, entertainment filled evening.

The event provided Hospice Waikato's new Chief Executive Officer, Alex Gordon, an opportunity to speak to a room full of hospice supporters, outlining the importance of hospice care, and thanking them for their ongoing support.

And support they did! The event generated a record-breaking \$623,000 and

proceeds from the event will contribute significantly to the organisation.

The Hospice Waikato team would like to acknowledge all the businesses and individuals who donated live and silent auction items, we've listed all these people below, and all the guests who bought tables, won bids, purchased raffle tickets, spun the Heathcotes Wheel of Care and purchased a Last Chance Mystery Envelope. You were significant contributors to the success of this event.

We would also like to acknowledge our major event partners for their generosity and their belief in Hospice Waikato: Montana Food and Events, H3 and the Claudelands Events Centre, Heathcotes, 2degrees, Lion, Greenlea Butcher Shop, Templeton Group, Ricoh and Rabobank. Also a huge thank you to the team from Harcourts Hamilton who delivered such a successful live auction and to our event management partner, janda Productions. If you're interested in registering your interest to support the Bucket List Banquet in 2026, please email marketing@hospicewaikato.org.nz.



Scan this QR code if you'd like to see a short video of the night, or to see all the event images, please follow our Hospice Waikato Facebook page.

Cody's Story - a Hospice Waikato patient

Cody Hill had a typical Kiwi childhood. He was adventurous, some would say overly energetic, and fearless. A bit of an adrenalin junky, he had that "jackass" mentality where he wanted to experience crazy feats and push himself out of his comfort zone. He loved to skate.

Cody lives in Whitianga with wife and soul mate, Deb. He has two young daughters, Ella (aged 9) and Stormy (aged 7), and he has a very tight group of best mates who have always absolutely loved him for his energy and positivity, and now they love and support him as, at 36 years of age, he battles advanced Motor Neurone Disease.

Cody's Motor Neurone Disease story began about four years ago, after he had a horrific injury to his leg as the result of a skateboarding accident. It was about that time that he noticed some small but unusual failings of his body, he'd drop a glass of water or struggle to do the 'thumbs up' sign.

It was a physio who, while helping him recover from his skateboarding injury, talked to Cody about these unusual things he was noticing, and encouraged him to get checked out.

Cody remembers the day he was finally diagnosed, with his disease progressing quickly in the past three years.



Cody with Deb, Ella and Stormy.

When we caught up with Cody in January of this year, the disease had impacted his mobility and speech, and from time to time, his breathing was laboured.

What Cody hasn't lost, though, is his positivity and his love of life. Cody is reflective, grateful and very thankful for his family and friends. Life is very difficult, without a doubt. Cody doesn't qualify

for ACC and the WINZ subsidy doesn't cover their mortgage. Deb has given up her job to be Cody's full-time caregiver and although for many years, Cody had worked as an electrician, hating his job but loving the money, now his perspective has changed. It's not money that is important, it's people, and time, and looking up to see the sun.

In Cody's video, we talk to Cody and two of his best mates, Andrew and Zak, and Hospice Waikato Nurse Niamh, about Cody's journey. Andrew and Zak are the kind of best mates everyone wants. They are funny, they tease Cody endlessly, and they will stand beside him every step of the way. Niamh epitomises hospice care. She knows when to laugh with Cody, she understands what he needs, and she cares for him with dignity and kindness.

And Cody shares some incredible insights about his life, and life in general, and about the incredible difference Hospice Waikato has made during these last three years.



Please scan this QR code to hear Cody's story.

Compassion behind bars at Waikeria

Waikeria Prison is located near Te Awamutu in the Waikato region. At Hospice Waikato, we believe that everyone deserves compassionate healthcare, regardless of their circumstances, and Debi Wreford-Clark, one of our dedicated Clinical Nurse Specialists, has been providing specialist palliative care support to several prisoners at Waikeria Prison since early last year.

This is an example of how our care is not only delivered to patients in their homes, in aged care facilities, and in our Inpatient unit. Debi is working alongside the amazing Corrections Registered Nurses at Waikeria Prison and this collaboration and shared care approach is positively impacting on the lives of many prisoners, providing relief, comfort, and emotional support during their final months, weeks and days.

Prisoners generally respond positively to hospice care, appreciating the compassion and dignity it provides, and we have included some examples below -

- Many feel a sense of relief knowing they will receive proper care and pain management. Hospice care helps them live their final days in comfort.
- Hospice programs often provide emotional and psychological support, which is crucial for prisoners who may feel isolated, or who struggle with loneliness and sometimes limited family support.
- Hospice care focuses on improving the quality of life for terminally ill prisoners, allowing them to receive care and support in their final moments.

Hospice care in prisons is a vital service that addresses the unique needs of



Hospice Waikato's Debi Wreford-Clark with members of the Corrections team.

terminally ill prisoners, providing them with much-needed comfort. We are delighted to share our story of the compassionate work being done at Waikeria Prison, the wonderful relationship we have developed with the Corrections team, and the difference this shared care approach makes in the lives of these individuals.

Living Every Moment gin

Our limited edition Living Every Moment gin is a wonderful collaboration with local brewers Good George Brewing. The gin reflects our tagline of "Living Every Moment" and is a tribute to the joy of life, and a reminder to embrace the present and cherish the memories made along the way.

Crafted to support Hospice Waikato, every bottle sold helps provide compassionate care and comfort to those who need it most. Whether you're raising a glass with friends, thanking clients or gifting something truly meaningful, your purchase makes a difference.

Scan the QR code to purchase.



A special thank you to our supporters

Firstly, to the key supporters of the 2025 Hospice Waikato & Montana Food and Events Bucket List Banquet.

Once again, we'd like to acknowledge Montana Food and Events, H3, the Heathcotes family, 2degrees, Lion, Greenlea, Templeton Group, Ricoh and Rabobank.

We'd also like to acknowledge our Live and Silent auction item donors who are generous and significant contributors to the success of the Hospice Waikato & Montana Food and Events Bucket List Banquet each year, and we encourage you to support these businesses if you have the chance. They are wonderful members of our community.

Live auction items donors: APL Window Solutions, Auckland Live, Auckland Museum, Best Travel Hamilton, Culprit, Fiji Airways, Gallagher Chiefs, Good George Brewing, Greenlea Butchers Shop, Harcourts Hamilton, Helicorp, Heritage Expeditions, House of Travel Hamilton, Island Hoppers Fiji, Janda Productions, Livingstone Building, MC & CJ Senth Family Trust, Mortgage Express, Oarsman's Bay Lodge Fiji, Peninsular Beachfront Resort, Project Unite Limited, Roger & Robyn Giles, Saletoga Sands Resort & Spa Samoa, Templeton Group, Transport Trailers, The Rees Hotel Queenstown, Zealong Tea Estate.

Silent auction item donors: 2degrees, Amisfield, Auckland Museum, Barbara Nicholson, Bear & Moo, Bernier Solarcare, Bidfood, Coromandel Shelly Beach TOP 10 Holiday Park, Corporate Challenge Events, Dave & Sharyn Cook, David Nielsen, Dilmah New Zealand, Dorset Suit Hire, Ebbett Volkswagen, Elizabeth Arden, Forgotten World Adventures, Forrest Wines, Get Out!, Good George Brewing, Hahei Beach Café, Hahei Explorer, Hamilton Skin Cancer Centre, Hamilton Zoo, Heathcotes, Hell's Gate, Hobbiton, Ingham Prestige, Jade

Thorby Photography, Jeana Sayson, Karen Walker, Karl Martin, Kevin Deane Real Estate, Kinross Winery, Kitchen Things Hamilton, La Roche Posay, Lifted Pilates, Lola Badman, Malcolm & Marita Barrett, Margaret Devlin, Matamata P's & Q's Quilting Group, Maureen Chrystall, Mora Wines, Mt Cook Lakeside Retreat, NAI Harcourts, Nancy Caiger, NZ Auto Traps, Palate Restaurant, Parshark, PBO Group, Precious Metals, Premium Liquor, Primo Vino, Prolife Foods, Raglan Boat Charters, Raglan Surf School, Real NZ, Revlon, Ricoh, Rite Group, Sanctuary Mountain, Serenity Wellness Centre, Shop 9, Soar Communication Group, SkyCity Hamilton, Sue Pearson Clarke, Taste of Tours, Te Tiro Accommodation, The Little Loft, The Lookout Bar & Kitchen, The One NZ Warriors, The Tool Shed, Tieke Golf Estate, Tim Southee, Tuatahi First Fibre, Vilagrad, Waikato Diocesan School for Girls, Waitomo Caves, Wet & Forget Hamilton, Wild Life Art, WILDbella.

In addition, we'd like to acknowledge the other incredibly generous people and organisations who have supported Hospice Waikato in recent months.

Amber Nurseries, Anglo Painters, AP Group, Bloomin Plants and Stitches, BlueSky Community Trust, Drusan Farm Limited, Frozen Fresh, Industrial Tube Manufacturing Limited, Inner Wheel Club of Fairfield, Matamata Club, Matamata Osteria, New Zealand Certified Builders, Rosetown Lions of Te Awamutu, Souter Trust, St Paul's Collegiate School, Selaks/Brand Spanking, Seddon Park Funeral Home.

We'd also like to acknowledge Latitude Homes who are donating \$1,000 from every home sale to Hospice Waikato. An incredibly generous gesture and we are delighted to have them onboard as one of our partners.

Our wish list

As always, we are in need of supermarket vouchers and petrol vouchers. The supermarket vouchers are donated to patients in need and we offer petrol vouchers to our volunteers who are travelling some distance to support patients in their homes. If you are in a position to donate small denominations of vouchers (\$20 each), we would be very grateful. These can be mailed to us at PO Box 325, Hamilton 3240, or delivered to Karen Mansfield at our 334 Cobham Drive site in Hamilton. We would also appreciate receiving donations of clean memory sticks, which we will use for Patient Stories.

One last unusual request. We are also after donations of good quality brown papers bags. We use these for nursing equipment and need an endless supply. If you've built up a collection of these types of bags (often as a result of a supermarket shop), please consider donating them to us. We would be very grateful.



Wāhi Whakanoa – Cleansing Place

In Māori tikanga (custom), a wāhi whakanoa is a place where people can spiritually cleanse themselves upon entering and exiting a building or area.

Did you know we have a Wāhi Whakanoa outside our Inpatient Unit in Hamilton, for use by visitors to our site and we welcome you to use this as you visit whānau in the Unit.

Will you support Hospice Waikato & Rainbow Place?

Please make a donation today to support patient care.

E-receipts

Would you like to receive your receipt via email?
Please include your email address below and return this to us in the prepaid envelope provided.

Section 1. Your contact information

^ YOUR NAME

^ YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

^ YOUR PHONE NUMBER

Section 2. Your donation

\$

^ VALUE OF MY DONATION

☐

Donate via Internet Banking. See HW bank details, below.

☐

Credit Card - Monthly . Debit this amount to my credit card monthly.

☐

Credit Card - One Off. Debit amount to my credit card just once.

^ NAME OF CARDHOLDER

^ CARD NUMBER

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/

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Mastercard

☐

Visa

^ EXPIRY DATE

^ SIGNATURE

Please return this form in the enclosed stamped addressed envelope to:

Hospice Waikato, PO Box 325, Waikato Mail Centre, Hamilton 3240

Scan the QR code to donate:



hospicewaikato.org.nz/en/donate

Donate via internet banking to:
Westpac 03-1555-0091553-00. Please ensure you use your name and DON04 as a reference so we can identify your donation.

Donate over the phone by:
Calling 07 859 1260 to speak to one of our team.

Donations over \$5 can qualify for a LD1 tax credit: Hospice Waikato Trust, Charities Commission , Reg No: CC20547, IRD No: 26-079-713.

The Privacy Act 2020 requires us to advise you that we keep supporters' names and contact details on file to help with fundraising. We undertake to keep the data safe. Please advise us if you do not want your personal information stored. If you would like to see your information and/or correct any mistakes, please contact us. Also, notify us if you wish to be removed from our mailing list - please email marketing@hospicewaikato.org.nz

An offering from volunteer Geoff Taylor

You may have read Geoff's story in our December 2024 newsletter, where he shared his very personal story of the loss of his son, Jesse, in Hospice Waikato care, and his reasons for volunteering on the drinks trolley each week at our Inpatient Unit in Hamilton. If you haven't heard Geoff's story, you can read it in the News section of our website - www.hospicewaikato.org.nz.

Geoff was a goldsmith by trade and although he is now semi-retired, he does still spend some of his time crafting beautiful heirloom pieces.

He's offered to make and sell one such piece as a fundraiser for Hospice Waikato, an intricate gold bracelet in 9ct yellow gold with tubular stylised Norfolk Pine leaf style links. The weight is 31.75 grams and the bracelet is valued at \$8,850. Geoff has offered to sell it for \$7,500, with all proceeds going to Hospice Waikato (a valuation is available on request).

If you've been looking for a beautiful piece of jewellery for someone special in your life, and you'd like the opportunity to significantly support Hospice Waikato, this is a unique opportunity. Please reach out to our Director of Volunteer Services, Karen Mansfield, at karen.mansfield@hospicewaikato.org.nz if you'd like more details.

