

Aged Care Commissioner— Carolyn Cooper



My first few months in the Office of the Health and Disability Commissioner has reinforced the importance of my role to ensure older people's rights to the best and most appropriate health care services are upheld.

We must value our older people and I am committed to giving you a voice and greater confidence in the quality and safety of health and disability services.

As we move to living with COVID-19 in the community, the ongoing impact of the virus continues to put the aged care and home and community workforce under further pressure as our older population increases in size and complexity of needs.

The effects of the nursing shortage on the aged care sector is very topical. I have serious concerns about the pressure the aged care workforce is under. However my expectation remains that there should be an appropriately qualified workforce with the numbers necessary to care for older people wherever and whenever this is required.

I recently provided a submission to the Health Select Committee on the petition to legislate for safe staffing levels in Aged Residential Care (ARC) facilities. While I understand the petitioner's desire for targeted legislative change, I feel this would not provide the flexibility required at this time. Staffing numbers are important but in the aged care environment, where people's acuity and support needs are

evolving, the right skills mix of staff is also important for patient safety.

We need to ensure providers have access to tools that allow them to match capacity and capability of staff to the needs of people in their care. Rather than focusing on legislative change, we should focus on improving the sustainability of aged care services.

Work around the aged care workforce and planning for adequate and sustainable levels of staff to care for older people needs to be prioritised, especially the retention and recruitment of nurses in ARC facilities.

I will continue to work hard to advocate on behalf of you and your whānau, so you have confidence in the quality of care and quality of life ahead of you.

It's been great getting out and about to meet with the individuals, communities and providers in the aged care sector, to see and hear about the issues and your needs for better health and disability services.

Sourced: Office for Seniors

Free Eye Tests and Spectacles for Community Services Card Holders



Do you hold a Community Services Card? If so, you are eligible for a free Vision Voucher for an eye test and one pair of basic spectacles through the Salvation Army and OPSM. All you need to do is visit the Salvation Army Community Ministries, on Monday, Wednesday or Friday between the hours of 9am – 12noon. They are located at 375 Cameron Road, Tauranga (above the Salvation Army Family Store – parking is available at the rear of the building).

Our Vision: Older people live a valued life in an inclusive society.



This **FREE** classroom based course will help you re-familiarise yourself with traffic rules and safe driving practices. It will also increase your knowledge about other transport options and help you remain independent for longer.

Upcoming Courses
Time: 10am — 2.15pm

DATE: Friday 28 October

VENUE: Tauranga Senior Citizens Hall, 14 Norris St

DATE: Wednesday 2 November

VENUE: Greerton Senior Citizens Hall, 33 Maitland St

DATE: Wednesday 9 November

VENUE: Paengaroa Community Hall, 4 Old Coach Rd

REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL

Please call us on 07 578 2631 to register
Tea/coffee provided, bring your own lunch



**Disabled Persons Assembly Appoints
Paula Tesoriero, Chief Executive,
Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People**

The Disabled Person Assembly (DPA) NZ welcomes today's announcement of the appointment of Paula Tesoriero as Chief Executive of Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People.

“When the establishment of the new Ministry was announced, our view was that disabled leadership would be fundamental to the Ministry’s success, and this needed to be from the outset,” DPA Chief Executive Prudence Walker says.

“It’s exciting to see Paula Tesoriero appointed as Chief Executive; the appointment of a disabled person is a good starting point for the new journey.

“Paula Tesoriero is not only a disabled person, but one who has built trust and respect in the community, particularly in her role as Disability Rights Commissioner.

“We look forward to working with Paula and hope to see disabled leadership continue to grow within the ministry.

“As far as we are aware, this is the first time that a person who identifies as disabled has been appointed to a Chief Executive role in the public service - this in itself is significant cause for celebration.”

Disabled Persons Assembly Press Release 30.8.2022



*We would like to acknowledge **ACORN FOUNDATION** for their very generous donation to Age Concern Tauranga and supporting the services we provide in the community.*

Digital Day Clock Competition

Winner drawn on 23rd September 2022



Congratulations:

MERILYN ANDERSON

Age Concern Tauranga thank the following Funders and Sponsors for their continued support:



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THE LION FOUNDATION



Capital & Coast District Health Board
UPOKO KI TE URU HAUORA



Tauranga District Stamp Club



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Lawyers • Notaries

COVID-19 UPDATE

The COVID-19 Protection Framework ended at 11:59pm, 12 September 2022

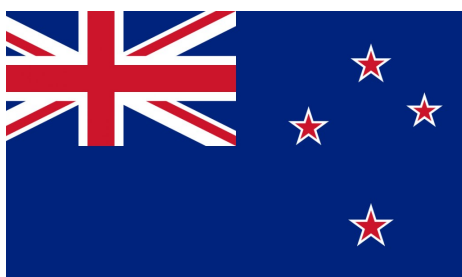
With cases and hospitalisation's low, improved access to new medicines, and high vaccination rates, it is now safe to move on from the traffic light system and provide greater certainty for people, whānau, communities and businesses.

There is a focus to just a couple of requirements to manage the spread of the virus.

The requirements everyone needs to remember are:

- to isolate for 7 days if they test positive for COVID-19 and
- to wear a mask when visiting healthcare facilities (hospitals, GPs, pharmacies and aged care homes).

Household contacts no longer need to isolate but are asked to undertake a daily RAT everyday for 5 days. If negative they can go about their daily routine. Wearing a mask is encouraged for household contacts particularly if visiting vulnerable people, using public transport or in a crowded indoor space.



Protecting Vulnerable People and Communities

Availability of free anti-viral medicines to everyone aged 65+ and Māori and Pacific peoples 50+ who need them, free boosters, free medical grade masks and ongoing isolation requirements for positive cases will help protect at-risk people and communities from the virus.

Sourced: New Zealand Government

A Lifelong Devotion to Duty Queen Elizabeth II 1926—2022



Queen Elizabeth II's most memorable, poignant quotes:

'I remain committed to serving you'

Age Concern Seminar Series 2022

Enduring Power of Attorney - Why do I need one?

- ◇ What is an Enduring Power of Attorney?
- ◇ Why have an Enduring Power of Attorney?
- ◇ Choosing an Attorney.
- ◇ Your Attorney's powers and responsibilities.

Presenter:

Michelle Carabine, Harris Tate Lawyers.

Where: Tauranga Citizens Club, 70 Thirteenth Avenue, Tauranga. Upstairs lounge.

When: Thursday 10 November 2022

Time: 10.30am to 12.00pm

Entry Fee: \$4.00pp

*To avoid disappointment registration is essential.
Phone Age Concern Tauranga (07) 578 2631.*

What's On

Monthly Meeting

When: Thursday 27th October 2022

Where: Tauranga Citizens Club, 170, 13th Avenue, Tauranga

Time: 10am—11am

Cost: \$4pp tea/coffee provided

Guest Speaker: Janet Baird, Grief Support Tauranga

Topic: Grief, Loss and Change: Finding Your Way Through

All Welcome!

500 Card Group

Have you always wanted to play 500 but don't know how?



We will teach you. A friendly fun group gets together at 9.30am until 11.30am every Monday (except Public holidays) held at Age Concern, 177a Fraser Street, Tauranga.

Gold coin donation appreciated.

Light refreshments provided.

Coffee & Conversation Groups



Do you miss having someone to chat with over a relaxing cuppa? Then come and join our Coffee and Conversation Group to meet others who are friendly and like-minded.

For catering purposes please register your interest by phoning Age Concern on 578 2631.

Brookfield Group

When: Wednesday 5 October & Wednesday 2 November

Time: 10.30am to 12.00pm

Where: St Stephen's Methodist Church Hall, 9 Brookfield Terrace, Brookfield, Tauranga

Cost: \$3pp

Te Puke Group

When: Tuesday 11 October & Tuesday 8 November

Time: 10.30am to 12.00pm

Where: Citizens RSA, Te Puke 179 Jellicoe Street, Te Puke

Cost: \$5pp

Greerton Group

When: Thursday 13 October & Thursday 10 November

Time: 10.30am to 12.00pm

Where: Greerton Senior Citizens Hall, 33 Maitland Street, Greerton.

Cost: \$3pp

Mt Maunganui Group

When: Wednesday 19 October & Wednesday 16 November

Time: 10.30am to 12.00pm

Where: Mt Maunganui RSA, 544 Maunganui Road.

Cost: \$3pp

Wednesday Walking Group

All groups leave at 10.00am unless advised



Wednesday 5 October

Briscoes, Chapel Street

Wednesday 12 October

Papamoa Plaza (Gravatt Rd)

Wednesday 19 October

Countdown Bureta

Wednesday 26 October

Waipuna Park, Welcome Bay (off Kaitemako Road)

Wednesday 2 November

Ferguson Road (off Tilby Drive)

Wednesday 9 November

Change Point Church, Ohauti

Wednesday 16 November

Kulim Park (off Kulim Avenue)

Wednesday 23 November

Memorial Park (off 7th Avenue)

Wednesday 30 November

Christmas Bus Trip to Whakatane/ Ohope—RSVP Renee 022 156 408

Age Concern Tauranga Membership Form

Please forward your subscription with this form to: Age Concern Tauranga, 177a Fraser Street, Tauranga 3112

Age Concern Tauranga is a registered charitable entity (CC25758) and appreciates the generosity of the community by way of subscriptions, donations and legacies. Donations over \$5.00 are tax deductible.

Name: Email:

Address: Postcode:

Phone: Mobile: D.O.B.:/...../.....

New Member Existing Member Receive magazine by email

Pakeha (NZ European) NZ Maori European (incl. British) Pacifica Other:

Subscription per household \$25.00 (1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023)

Donation: \$5 / \$10 / \$20 / \$50 / \$..... other **EFTPOS available. Sorry no credit card payments accepted.**

Internet Banking: 03-0445-0172665-00 Westpac (e.g. Particulars—Sub, Reference—Surname & Initial)

Donations help us to continue to promote the welfare of older people in Tauranga and are welcomed.

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