



TE AWA
Lifecare Village

TE AWA February 2024 PARTYLINE



Message from Mandy

As we bid farewell to February and feel the snap of Autumn arriving, I am thrilled to reflect on the bustling month we've had at Te Awa Lifecare Village.

With the sun beaming down upon us, we witnessed the completion of our exquisite showhome, a testament to our commitment to excellence in senior living.

Additionally, I am delighted to announce our role as the Major Sponsor for the upcoming Cambridge Autumn Festival. This prestigious event promises an array of entertainment at The Woolshed, from musical delights by The Nukes and Grant Hava to the mesmerising performances of Magician Zero Xiao. Our sponsorship underscores our dedication to fostering community engagement and cultural enrichment.

I eagerly anticipate the festivities at Te Awa Lifecare Main Street Carnival & Autumn Art Market, on Sunday 17th March in Cambridge where our community can revel in the vibrant community atmosphere. It is an honour to contribute to such a remarkable event that celebrates unity and creativity.

The Te Awa Flag-pole

There is a back story to the Te Awa Flag-pole. There is a reference to it on the small metal plaque on the fence in front of it but that merely served to pique my interest. So I went to the person who knows all about it & who in fact donated the Flag-pole to Te Awa - Diana Dunn. I was unprepared for the richness of the history behind it.

Diana's father, Richard Morris Stovin Taylor DDS(NZ), DSc (Auck), DSc(Otago), distinguished dentist and anthropologist, was born in Whanganui on 16th September 1903, a great grandson of the Anglican Missionary, Rev Richard Taylor, MA, FGS, after whom both he and his father were named.

The Rev Richard Taylor (1805-1873) arrived in NZ in 1839 and took over an Anglican mission school at Te Waimate (Northland between Waitangi and the Hokianga). He was present at Waitangi for the Treaty signing in 1840 and was involved in the signing of it .

In 1843 he was sent to the Whanganui area (after the Anglican reverend there was drowned). There he concentrated on working with Māori while maintaining his interest in natural history (he made a significant find of Moa bones) and literature.

While in Whanganui the Rev Richard was directly involved in the founding of Wanganui Collegiate in 1854 after he persuaded Governor Grey to make a land Grant in 1852, the school being originally conceived as a "native boarding school". Diana has in her possession copies of 16 volumes of the Journals of the Rev Richard Taylor!

Late in life, Diana's father, Richard



Taylor, completed his own memoirs under the title "Look - and See Through" (1992). In it he describes the origin of the Flag-pole now at Te Awa:

"Those pine trees in our section remained for many years and I loved climbing. Once when high up and knocking cones off with a hammer, I saw my mother watching anxiously from the kitchen window, and I am sure she was praying. My favourite tree was tall, straight and easily climbed to my lookout at the top. My ascents became more frequent

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The journey of our flagpole

>>From front page

when I made a flag pole from a tall straight sapling and hauled it up for fixing from my lookout. ... It must have been parental anxiety that prompted Dad to offer me a rough sawn Oregon pole if I would dress it down and make a proper flag pole"

This offer was made at a time when the Union Jack was regularly flown during WWI.

So at the age of 15, Richard Taylor made the Flag -pole with a large in-ground totara base dated 22.4.(19)19 (which Diana also donated but was not needed for the Te Awa Installation), a square lower section of 4"x 4" (100mm x 100mm) then a gradual conical shape to the top (estimated 20' (6m)), whittled not turned (although the top cap may well have been turned). It has to this day remained remarkably straight and true.

Richard Taylor records:

"It served for many years at "Coveney" (Whanganui) and when the old home was sold I set it up at my own home in Papatotoe... Later I sent (the) flagpole...to my daughter's farm for my grandsons."

The Flag-pole then went from Diana and Ted's farm at Pukeatua to their new home in Te Awamutu. On coming to Te Awa, Diana then donated it to Te Awa. Thank you Diana.

The erection of a flag-pole at Te Awa greatly pleased vexillologist & one of the owners of Te Awa, Terry Pratley. What's that you called Terry, I hear you say!

Vexillology comes from the Latin "vexilla" meaning a little sail and the Greek suffix "ology" meaning the study of. So Vexillology is the study of flags. More of that in the next edition of Te Awa Partyline.

Follow us

Scan the QR code with your phone camera and it should take you to our Facebook page.



Croquet on a sunny afternoon



On Thursdays and Sundays, the lawn of Arnold House is abuzz with activity as residents gather for a game of croquet.

Against a backdrop of swaying trees and gentle breezes, the scene epitomises community and camaraderie.

Residents gracefully wield mallets and strategise their shots, while laughter and conversation fill the air.

This timeless game serves not just as recreation but as a catalyst for friendships and shared experiences.

Villagers, while enjoying this fine weather, are invited to 'have a go' - check out the Village Calendar to see when the next session is."

Artistic Adventure: A Day of Creativity



Te Awa Villagers immersed in a painting class led by artist, Lesley Hodgson of Cambridge Art House in the Bowls Room, meticulously replicating her artwork stroke by stroke. Amidst laughter and focus, residents explored their artistic talents, drawing joy from the process and marvelling at the delightful comparisons of final portraits.



A Child's Grace

Bruce Mason CBE (1921-1982) is one of New Zealand's most significant playwrights, his most well-known plays being *The End of the Golden Weather* and *The Pohutukawa Tree*.

He and his wife Diana (a noted obstetrician) had 3 children - 2 daughters and a son.

When one of the daughters was a child, she was invited to a friend's place for a meal and on return reported to her father that, before the meal, her host family said grace.

The daughter asked why they (the Mason family) did not say grace.

The Mason parents were not religious but Bruce Mason said he would nevertheless write a grace for his daughter.

This is that grace.

From air and soil
From bees and sun
By others toil
My bread is won

And when I bite
The soil the air
The bees and light
Are still all there

So I must think
Each day afresh
How food and drink
Became my flesh

And then I'll see
The great big sun
The earth the bee
And me, all one

Bruce Mason



GRANT EDGECOMBE

14 JANUARY 1947 – 23 DECEMBER 2023

Farewell, friend

Our Village flag is at half mast
To show that our friend, Grant, has passed.
A man who warmly befriended us all
Delivered our papers and answered the call
From any of us who needed his aid
This passionate railwayman always obeyed.
He was even beloved by Dilly and Dally,
Who right to the end around him would rally
And, as though it were sorry to see our Grant leave,
The grey sky wept tears for him all Christmas Eve.
They took him away in a long white saloon
As we stood in the rain saying farewell too soon.
But we can be certain that every December
Our Grant is the friend we'll always remember.

From a Village friend

BOOK REVIEW by ANNE PHIPPS

The Kite Runner

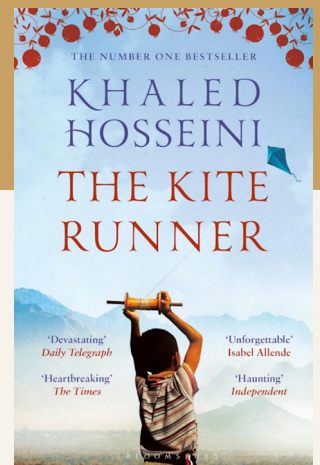
AUTHOR: Khaled Hosseini PUBLISHER: Pub Great Britain, Clays Ltd, 2003

Before I came to Te Awa in August 2022 I had limited time to engage in my most favourite lifetime pastime, reading. My mother used to say "Get your head out of that book, Anne!!!" I sometimes pretended I hadn't heard her. Given that she had to get the next-door neighbour, ex school teacher the very fierce Mrs Brooker, to make me learn to read when I started school, she may have regretted doing so. Once I had mastered it, my return home after school was always delayed because I invariably stopped at the local all-purpose store to read the comics. And mum had to send someone to bring me home! Now that I am at Te Awa with more time available, I am devouring the library, several books at a time, assisted by Heather and her offerings.

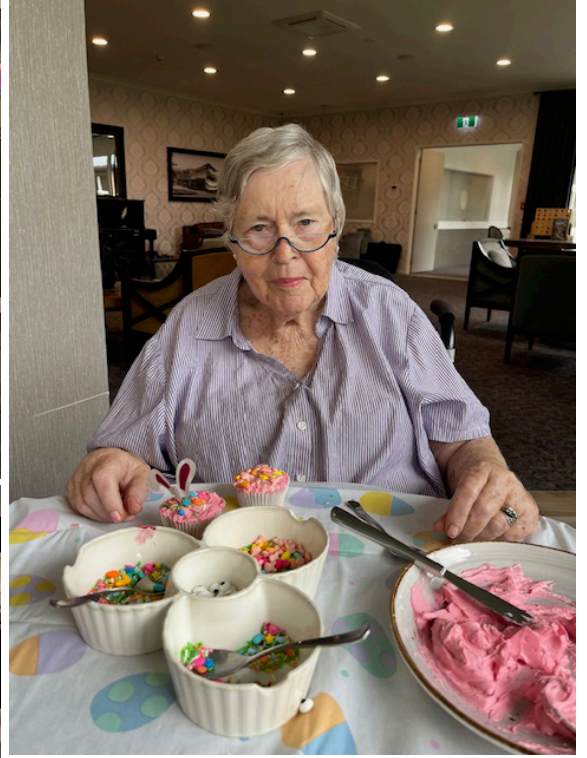
I digress. To "The Kite Runner". Not a new publication, so many will have read it or seen the film. I haven't. I often find films don't match the imagery of the books. Maybe I will when the enthrall of the written word has worn off a bit.

But what a story. Supposedly a novel. But I read on the front page that the author "was born in Afghanistan and his family received political asylum

in the USA in 1980." Not knowing that till after I read it, I can say is shows. Hosseini's experiences shine through from beginning to end. How else could anyone be able to write about the contrast in Amir's childhood to the impact of the Russian invasion and then the Taliban "rule" on life and living, its brutality and senselessness. And then there is the boy, Sohrab. And what he must have endured at the hands of the so-called government. Yet throughout is Amir's own personal emotional war and how he chooses to deal with it. This book is written with a skilled understanding of the psychological impact of particular events on the child (in this case two) and the adult. I found it sad at times and at others courageous. It is one of those books that when you put it down it continues to resonate for some time after. I hope others are as captured by Hosseini's writing as I was, eventually staying up late at night to finish it because I couldn't put it down.



From our Care Centre



It's been an action-packed month for a care residents

Amidst the serene setting of Te Awa, care residents enjoyed a whirlwind of activities.

Physio-led chair exercises invigorated limbs, while Arnold House became an ice cream paradise for sundae crafting.

The Main Care dining room buzzed with lemonade and punch-making, strictly free from any mischief!

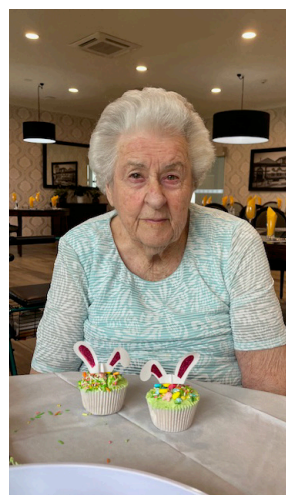
Residents preserved nature's beauty from our gardens with bookmark flower pressing and

crafted colourful paper stained glass suncatchers to hang in their bedroom windows.

Their excitement continued with countryside drives, thrilling rounds of bingo, sing-alongs with Gill and brain-teasing Friday Jeopardy games. Saturdays brought refreshing walking exercises, with our compassionate HCAs.

Easter

PREPARATION



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