



## From the Chairman

Your Health Trust has received feedback that local residents, either without their own

transport, or perhaps temporarily unable to drive, have difficulty attending local health appointments. These appointments are important for recovery and rehabilitation, whether they be doctor, physiotherapy or specialist visits from Waitakere.

We would be most interested to hear from you as to whether a volunteer driver service for local appointments might be of assistance to you. Please phone the Health Trust (09) 420 7878 if you have feedback or an interest in supporting this.

Waitemata runs a community-to-hospital shuttle service for Waitemata Health residents who are attending appointments at North Shore, Waitakere and Auckland Hospitals and the Greenlane Clinical Centre. There are charges made for this service, but children under five are free. Other passengers pay standard fares.

For more information about fares and bookings, phone 0800 809 342 OR (09) 426 0918 Monday to Friday between 9.30am – 4pm. Bookings are essential and must be made two working days in advance.

## Child Health

The opening of the extended children's ward in June is very good news for local families. The Rangitira Ward at Waitakere Hospital was officially opened by the Hon. Paula Bennett. There are now 33 beds for children.

Waitemata Health strongly advise that children who are unwell should be seen by their local doctor **first**. Local doctors can work closely with the paediatricians at Waitakere anytime and get 'on the spot' advice by calling them directly from the surgery. As a result, we can ensure that the best decisions for the healthcare of our children are made. If the doctor refers the child, then the Hospital and paediatrician are expecting the unwell child on arrival.

The Waitakere service also provides specialist clinics for children at the request of your family doctor. The clinics are run at Waitakere Hospital but some outreach clinic sites include a monthly paediatrician clinic based in Helensville at the Kaipara Medical Centre.

This is all part of the ongoing development of child health services in our region. Some of the planning to prevent hospital admissions and keep children healthier is involving work with Auckland, Counties and Northland District Health Boards acting as a regional group. This group is looking at ways to work together to reduce childhood injury, sudden infant death, serious skin infections, serious chest infections and rheumatic fever.

## Strategic Broker

The South Kaipara Community is fortunate to be one of five recipients of Ministry of Social Development funding for community development. This will support an 18 month contract for a strategic broker.

Arohanui – Grace was appointed to this position in May. Grace is working closely with a wide range of social agencies and trusts in our community.

The purpose of this project is to work with services and organisations, towards creating a more collaborative, connected way of managing funding and activities to achieve healthy outcomes. The Health Trust has been appointed to administer the funding and is working closely with Grace to help facilitate her work.

We are actively supporting the South Kaipara Community Treasure Hunt on Saturday 18 August. Join in and find out what we already have in our community. You may be very pleasantly surprised how much is happening!

Dianne Kidd,  
Chairman

## Our South Kaipara Community Treasure Hunt Seeking out the treasures of our community

- ★ Come to our FREE Community Treasure Hunt for the whole neighbourhood!
  - ★ Start at the Helensville Memorial Hall and travel around finding the treasures with your whanau and neighbours
  - ★ Travel around Helensville collecting clues that piece together some of our area's amazing story and natural beauty
  - ★ Bring your whole family, friends and lively spirits
  - ★ You can walk to find clues and surprises, go hard out on your bicycle, scooter or donkey to cover the distance, or just sit back and enjoy the hustle and bustle
  - ★ Gather a team and enter the fun!
- Registration for the event will start at the Helensville Memorial Hall at 12.30 pm on Saturday 18th August 2012 and treasure hunters will finish at the Hall by 3pm.

There will be something for everyone to participate in and enjoy!

Contact Grace on 027 457 1550  
oursouthkaipara@gmail.com

## Helensville Birthing Centre update

For the fifth year in a row we are hosting 'The Big Latch On' at the Alison McKenzie community House. Local mums and their babies will gather to try and break the record for the number of babies breastfeeding simultaneously throughout the country. The theme this year is Protecting, Promoting and Supporting Breastfeeding.



Baby Estelle, born at Helensville Birthing Centre keeps warm in her Alpaca hat.

The Baby Friendly Community Initiative in the Helensville district continues with HIPPIY tutors and Parent Aid completing their breastfeeding support training. Other community organisations are expected to follow.

In the last year we recorded more than 400 families having stayed with us for either birthing or post natal care after a transfer from either North Shore or Waitakere Hospitals. Even after some of our busiest months ever, comments such as these reinforce the value of this special community service: 'The most calming and tranquil experience with a newborn baby.' – (first time parents) 'All the advice was great and extremely helpful and instilled confidence.' Our special thanks to Waitakere Alpacas and others who have generously donated knitted garments for babies who stay here to take home with them.