

OZANAM HOUSE TRUST  
CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

2008

In my capacity as Chairman, this is the first opportunity that I have had to report. I wish to record some of the highlights of the financial year to 2008.

I wish to commence by paying tribute to Mr Les P Walden, QSM, a member of the Trust board since its inception and Chairman up until my appointment, at which time he retired from the board.

I welcome Mr Roger Clark, nominated by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and acknowledge that his contribution has already proved valuable.

The year under review has been one of consolidation, following considerable activity in the previous year. I will speak later on the progress being made with development of our St. Mary's site.

At this point in my report, I take the opportunity to express again how gratified we are as members of the board in administering the Ozanam House Trust, with the continuing good relationships with all those involved in the treatment of cancer patients in Palmerston North. Our association with the Regional Cancer Treatment Centre continues to be cordial and during the year we have improved on the good relationship which was established recently with the Ministry of Health. The transition period has taken a little longer than we may have anticipated, but I can happily say that we have now settled down to a regular pattern which is proving to be less difficult administratively.

My fellow trustees, Cliff Craven and Bernard Forde, and more latterly, Roger Clark, continue to make a substantial contribution. I am grateful to them for their support.

**DONORS**

Our major donations and bequests received during the year are included in a list which I set out hereunder. The list continues to contain names of those who regularly give generously to the Trust.

Mr & Mrs EWG Taylor (New Plymouth)	Mr David Morgan (Hastings)
Mr & Mrs A Selles (Havelock North)	J Peryer (Havelock North)
Mr & Mrs B T Flack (Napier)	Mr & Mrs C Hall (Napier)
Gisborne-Turanga Lions Club	Cancer Society (Wanganui)
Lions Club of Gisborne Pakeke	Miss P M Kennedy (Wanganui)
Mr & Mrs O'Neil (New Plymouth)	Estate D M Kealey
St. Vincent De Paul (Gisborne)	Mr & Mrs C Finch (Waipawa)
Mr & Mrs J B Nalder	H B Williams Turanga Trust
Mr & Mrs P Pollock	Estate K R Gilmore
Mr & Mrs D M Law	Susan Henden
Mrs Elizabeth Murray	Hastings Pioneer Lions Club
Joan Fernie Charitable Trust	Hastings Karamu Rotary Club
Mr & Mrs D Christian	Havelock North Lionesses
Mr & Mrs L Evans	Mr & Mrs K B Gudopp
Mr & Mrs B L Curtis (Napier)	St. Vincent de Paul (New Plymouth)
Estate J E Greaney (Hastings)	Mr & Mrs B J K Morrissey (Gisborne)
Mr & Mrs P Blackholl (New Plymouth)	Mr & Mrs M T Waaka (Napier)
Turanganui Masonic Lodge (Gisborne)	North Island English Masonic District
United Manawatu Lodge Benevolent Fund	Charitable Trust
W G Johnston Charitable Trust (P.N)	C Littlejohn
J Bracegirdle	Mr A I Dixon (W & B Sturmeay Trust)
Mangatawa Beale Williams Memorial	(Havelock North)
Trust (Gisborne)	Clark Trust
Estate C F Jacobsen	Estate J E Greaney (Hastings)
Mr & Mrs Oxford (Napier)	Mr P Allen (Hastings)
Mr D Garlick (Stratford)	Mr K D Buchanan (Wanganui)
Mr & Mrs L Smith (Hastings)	St. Vincent de Paul (Hawera)
Mrs M Tollinson	

The list of donors is much longer than that which is shown here, but there is a substantial donation list and I can assure you that all donors have been acknowledged and thanked for their generosity.

A valued contribution under this heading is the generosity shown by the local bodies who service the area. A partial, but substantial, reduction in rates indicates the appreciation they have of the work of the Trust.

## STATISTICS

<b>MID CENTRAL (including Hawkes Bay to Wanganui)</b>							
	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Patients Only	122	137	152	127	142	151	223
Patients with Carers	234	243	257	304	307	244	287
Carers Only	69	80	93	81	55	7	26
	425	460	502	507	504	402	536
Room Nights Occupied	9041	8398	9355	9858	9712	-	-

<b>TARANAKI (up to 2003 includes Tairawhiti)</b>							
	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Patients Only	36	52	62	34	55	73	83
Patients with Carers	143	144	191	201	203	260	205
Carers Only	25	29	49	39	37	5	13
	204	225	302	274	295	338	301
Room Nights Occupied	4161	4720	6085	6507	7339	-	-

<b>TAIRAWHITI</b>							
	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Patients Only	17	23	21	21	17	-	-
Patients with Carers	62	65	67	64	64	-	-
Carers Only	9	19	24	23	14	-	-
	88	107	112	108	95	-	-
Room Nights Occupied	1808	1982	2324	2414	2361	-	-

<b>ANNUAL TOTALS</b>							
	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Annual Guests (patients & carers)	717	792	916	889	894	740	837
Available Room Nights	22708	22460	22656	23630	23630	-	-
	66.9%	67.2%	79.3%	79.5%	82.2%	-	-
						-	-
Room Nights Occupied	15010	15100	17959	18779	19412	-	-

The downward trend of 'room nights occupied' from 2004 appears to have been arrested for this year. The possibility of this trend continuing needs to be examined and explained. Previously there was an indication that treatment of patients in outside areas was a reason for the reduction in numbers coming forward.

## **FINANCE**

The Trust has, during the year, improved its position thanks to the generosity of its donors. In addition, the prudent investment of surplus funds has made a valuable contribution.

The accounts this year reflect a change in the attitude of our Government support. There is more readiness, now, to make available funds for carers. This fact is noted when the cost of carers is recorded at \$161 (L/Y \$64,253.00). This change of policy was flagged in last year's report.

Our operating revenue at \$681,490 (L/Y \$652,400) is a result of an increase in rates applied across the board, while taking into account the reduction in occupancy during the year.

Overall we have managed to keep a control of overhead costs and in areas in which they have increased, they are kept under careful surveillance. The costs are constantly being reviewed to ensure that there is value for the use of the money which is so hard earned and undervalued by those who supply it.

Overheads, which included depreciation costs of \$121,464 (L/Y \$124,666), were at the level of \$638,043 (\$628,217).

It is pleasing to see that our costs in providing the accommodation outside our own availability to supply have reduced substantially during the year.

Return on investments, as has been the case previously, is satisfactory and shows a reasonable increase on the previous years. This year \$226,146 (L/Y \$205,345).

As I said above, the Trust is in a sound financial position.

Finally, I would like to thank the efforts of our auditor, Darryl Pinney. This year they were slightly more onerous than previous, due to circumstances beyond our control. We continue to be grateful to him for the efforts he makes to ensure that the Trust's accounts and records are audited promptly. I intend to recommend his appointment as auditor once again to the Board.

## **GENERAL**

Last year the purchase of land for development and expansion was reported. As seems to be inevitable these days, progress has been slow and expensive. While the process itself is costly and a big impact on a charity such as ours, the lengthy delays impose other costs. Increases in materials and the double up of capital investment to maintain our services are examples. It is hoped that the promise of a new administration to streamline its process and reduce costs, while too late for our immediate benefit, will come to fruition.

Construction of the first of two six-bedroomed houses is to commence in the near future.

The Trust is contemplating a fundraising exercise in the New Year. We proceed with the confidence of knowing that the project will enhance the level of accommodation we offer to our fellows who are suddenly worse off than ourselves.

It has been a pleasing feature of the administration at Ozanam House that staff remain constant. The Trust is fortunate in the quality of personnel whom we have engaged over the years to assist us with our duty in caring for the guests.

The day to day administration and the provision of care for our guests is under the control of Eileen Day, our administrator now for some 12 or more years. She is ably assisted in this role by Claire Murray.

The other members of staff continue to assist in maintaining a high level of comfort. They are such an asset to our organisation. What I have to say about the staff is certainly featured in the many reports that come back to us from guests after they return home.

The Secretary and his staff also continue ably to serve the Trust. The past year has presented some difficulties for the Secretary, which have been handled with diligence and without interruption to the administration.

I am pleased to finalise these few comments with a vote of thanks for all those who have assisted me in carrying out this work and I am grateful to all. I also thank the Cancer Society for its expression of confidence in allowing me to serve in this role.

**Bill Bly JP**  
**CHAIRMAN**