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THE ESSENCE OF

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CHARITABLE TRUST

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*December 2016*

## Contents

INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHAIR: .....	2
OUR BEGINNINGS... ..	3
TRUST BOARD MEMBERS – Who we are / What we bring:.....	3
OUR MISSION & VALUES .....	6
OUR COMMITMENT .....	6
OUR CULTURE.....	6



## INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHAIR:

In May 2015, the Race4 Life Trust was established. The Trust's main objectives are to provide a wish-list service and events for people living with life limiting illness. This is such an exciting venture and has been received with so much support in our community. It is truly a privilege to be involved with the Race4 Life Trust and to move forward knowing that we are making a real difference in people's lives.



As a team we strongly believe that opportunities to bring people together and to share on many levels, are crucial ingredients to living life to its fullest. Providing a Wish Service for the terminally ill is primarily our focus, at the same time we offer opportunities that bring people together.

2017 marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Race4Life event at Hampton Downs. We will be pulling out all stops for this event on March 28<sup>th</sup> 2017.

Each year we hold a special Luncheon for patients at Orakei Bay Convention Centre. This fabulous day is called A Day to Inspire. As our special guest each year, we invite motivational and inspirational speakers, who have changed near tragedy in their own lives, into something extraordinary. In 2016 we had Mark Inglis share his story. In 2017 we are hoping to have Rob Matthews as our guest speaker. Rob is a blind athlete who has achieved heights that many able bodied athletes still aspire to.

The Race4Life Trust has a forever growing base of dedicated and generous supporters. The services we provide are dependent on the support we get from service providers, sponsors, partnership networks and volunteers. In 2016 we received a generous donation from Hugh Green Foundation to help us to continue our work of granting wishes to patients throughout New Zealand.

The services of the Race4Life Trust have been in operation for 12 months and during this time we have benefitted and made a real difference in the lives of over 70 people.

From our humble beginnings we have grown to the point where we are now in new premises and have a fabulous team of Volunteer workers. The board is always looking at ways to improve our services. We are continually investigating how we can further provide opportunities to serve the Palliative Care community.

As we move forward we realise that our strong leadership and experience will allow us to create a sustainable future. Our intention is to deliver on our mission - to enable people living with life limiting illness to realise their dreams and create memories that they and their families can cherish.

I invite you to read through this prospectus and to share our goals and objectives of the Race4 Life Trust.

## OUR BEGINNINGS...

In 2008, a number of businessmen, race car owners and drivers, sound sponsors and many volunteers, family members and organisations, came together to support a Race for Life event. The purpose was to provide an opportunity for Mercy Hospice patients and their dear ones, to enjoy a day out doing something very different. And different it was, whether it was riding in a racing car or on a Harley Davidson, taking a trip in a helicopter or experiencing the deep throated roar inside a Mustang muscle car. The key word, that occurred to everyone there, whether patients or helpers, was “togetherness”.

The event was so successful that a decision was reached to make it an annual event and to call it RACE FOR LIFE.

Such was the communication, sharing and listening on that day, it became apparent that there were a good many unfulfilled desires amongst those, whose life expectancy was limited. Thus arose what is now officially called the WISH-LIST service, which is the true basis of the Race for Life Trust.

## TRUST BOARD MEMBERS – Who we are / What we bring:

**Vivienne James**  
B.Ed



A teacher and deputy principal for some years, mother of three adult children and married to a land surveyor, Viv worked for 8 years in the Palliative Care area with Mercy Hospice Auckland (MHA). Her role there was to establish what was called the Opening Doors Programme which plays a significant part in improving the quality of life of people living with life limiting illness. The programme introduced people to new ideas, new people and new concepts. The objective of the programme was based on the belief of “living every moment”. Viv insists that a major ingredient of the whole exercise is the recognition of FUN! It was a privilege to see how the programme established an atmosphere of relaxation and connection for people who otherwise would often be socially isolated.



The Wish-List Service, whereby patients expressed some of their innermost desires, with a chance of seeing them fulfilled, was a natural development from all the fore-goings.

Viv’s persistence that the primary purpose in all this, was to LISTEN TO THE PATIENT, treating them with respect, for their integrity, while showing understanding, has been a driving force throughout.

February 2015 saw a totally unexpected development when Viv was given a diagnosis of Melanoma. This brought her even closer to those for whom she had been striving. Her passion for seeing that this work continues, has led to the development of the Race for Life Trust.

Her whole heart is set on this project, knowing that it can make such an amazing difference in peoples’ lives.

**Daniel Williams**

B.Surv., MNZIS., RP Surv.



Daniel has been a Director of Woods, since 1996 and has over 24 years' professional experience as a surveyor. He has been involved in a broad range of projects including master planned communities, large infrastructure builds and commercial developments throughout New Zealand and the Pacific Islands. He has a proven track record of delivering projects of varying complexity and is often sought to fulfil the role of project leader.

As a specialist in 'developer driven' residential projects and high profile infrastructure builds, Daniel provides front end feasibility studies, planning advice and design investigations to a number of clients within the public and private sectors. He is adept at providing technical advice to a variety of stakeholders and is experienced at providing commercial expertise, compliance, risk analysis and project management services to a diverse range of clients, both locally and abroad.

During Daniel's period at Woods, the firm has experienced a large amount of growth and currently numbers 100 staff. Woods have always been a strong supporter of the Race for Life event and through this Daniel has embraced the vision and values that the Trust stands for. He believes that the Race for Life Trust is a charity that has benefits for everyone that it touches through its activities.

Other governance roles that Daniel has, include being on the New Zealand Institute of Surveyors Governance Board, as well as deputy chairperson of his Son's Air Training Cadet Squadron. Outside of work Daniel is married with two teenage children that occupy most of his free time. He enjoys spending time with them being involved in their many activities. Any free time after that is spent catching up with friends over a good pinot.

**Mark Cole**

NZCE Civil., Cert. Survey

Tech.



Mark is an experienced businessman and is currently Chief Executive and Director at Hick Bros Civil Construction Limited. Under his guidance, Hick Bros has grown from a thriving business to a significant, and sought after head or partner contractor in major projects across New Zealand.

Outside of business Mark is a keen sailor, racing car driver, a strong supporter of his two sons rowing interests and has recently taken an interest in horse riding.

Mark has personal experiences of supporting people with life limiting conditions and so when the idea of a race day event for people in palliative care was put to him, he was fully committed from the outset.

Mark brings his business nous and governance experience to the Board table along with his enthusiasm for Race for Life Trusts mission and purpose. He is fully committed to ensuring the eternal success of Race for Life Trust.

**Janine Ewan**

As a Registered Nurse, from early on Janine found a real niche working in the community. This love eventually led her to work in Community Palliative Care for St Joseph's Mercy Hospice in 1994 now Mercy Hospice Auckland). Janine found being alongside patients and families



faced with life threatening illness both humbling and rewarding and which taught her so much.

Janine believes that when people are faced with their own mortality the layers are peeled away to the very essence of what makes people human. The uncertainty of life is revealed, vulnerability and courage see-saw in the search for meaning and hope. Living 'in the moment' becomes more real and there is a deeper appreciation for what 'matters'.

In 2001, Janine became involved with Eastern Bays Hospice, then a fledgling organisation in Glendowie. Over the past 15 years, she has had great satisfaction in the leadership and evolution of the Clinical Service, now known as Dove House and Dove Wing (both day and 24hr care programmes) which serve over 500 people in the community at any time.

Janine first met Viv James when she volunteered at Dove House many years ago and since then they have had a long collegial friendship. Janine has no doubt that the success of the Race for Life event which has been running for 8 consecutive years now is due to Viv's enthusiasm, zest for life and 'arm bending' skills to gather support and sponsorship. Hearing first hand from patients and families how much this event means to them, the opportunity to step outside of illness even briefly, experience the thrill of challenge, the excitement of doing something fun with family and friends, the opportunity to regain some normality and experience hope is all good healing stuff!

Janine brings to the Trust her leadership and development, management, community relationships and fundraising experiences.

Janine has a collaborative and inclusive attitude and a joy of working with like-minded people so is looking forward to this opportunity to assist in the Trust's further progress

**Robert Hitchin**



After thirty-nine years with Qantas Airways Robert finally hung up his wings in 2013 and he has been very happily grounded ever since.

Robert had an interesting and exciting career with the airline especially in the early years and would do it all over again without hesitation, though being able to now commit to regular pursuits without jet lag, nor reference to a roster, makes retirement a very appealing destination.

When his wife Lindy, was diagnosed with a terminal illness in 2002, it was her greatest wish to pack as much living and life into her remaining days as possible. With the help, unbelievable generosity and a tidal wave of love from friends, family and Auckland's Mercy Hospice, her wish was granted and with it a legacy of treasured memories of that special time with Lindy, remains with Robert and their three children to this day.

It was through Mercy Hospice Auckland and his profound gratitude to that organisation, that Robert became involved with "Opening Doors" and met the inspirational and dynamic driving force behind the life changing programme, Viv James.

In establishing the “Race For Life Trust”, Viv is realising a long held vision. Born of compassion and an immense love for life and driven by her passionate desire to greatly enhance the lives of palliative care patients and those who love them, Robert is thrilled to have been afforded the opportunity by Viv to contribute to her endeavour.

## OUR MISSION & VALUES

The aim of Race for Life Trust is to enable people, living with life limiting illness, to realise dreams, that they, and their families can cherish. Our mission is to seek to provide people, with the means to fulfil their wishes and therefore everything we do, will be driving towards the wherewithal, to make it happen.

In order to do this well and appropriately we will make sure that we avidly listen and that we come from a position of integrity, perseverance, understanding and respect.

## OUR COMMITMENT

The Race for Life Trust is a registered not for profit charitable organisation committed to:

- Raising the spirits and wellbeing of persons, with life limiting medical conditions, through the provision of events, activities, and/or special occasions in New Zealand.
- Facilitating services and the fulfilment of wishes of people, with life limiting medical conditions, in the palliative care community in New Zealand.
- Supporting all such things that are incidental or conducive, to the attainment of the charitable objects described above.

## OUR CULTURE

Race for Life Trust has a culture of gratitude which we demonstrate through “the essence” of what we do and with a focus on **S**upporting, **E**nabling, **C**onnecting and **C**elebrating

**T**ogether:

- **S**upporting and advocating for people with life limiting conditions and their families.
- **E**nabling the communities that we work amongst.
- **C**onnecting people with whatever and whomever is needed in order to fulfil wishes.
- **C**elebrating, congratulating and sharing gratitude.
- **T**ogether.