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One Mother to Another's "blossoming"

New wards. New city. A Gala dinner. Another award. Spoiling fathers.

I've umm'd and aghh'd about where to start this update (read... written and rewritten it a fair few times) because there's just so much to share.

The most exciting news by far though is that we've been able to expand One Mother to Another into THREE new hospital wards, including into a brand new city - Dunedin. This means we'll support another 1000 parents (primarily mothers) in hospital EVERY year in wards with newborns, cancer patients and those with serious mental health challenges.

We've been wanting to do this for so many months and it's all been possible thanks to the amazing success of our inaugural fundraising gala dinner and the extraordinary generosity of those on the night who helped us raise **\$35,000 (yes we are blown away!!)**. Also thanks to our new volunteer team in Dunedin, headed up by Gemma Wragg.

We're already receiving feedback from grateful parents (and staff) in these news wards as we provide our monthly support (you can read more from one of the Charge Nurses further on). We've also had some lovely messages from those who got one of our special 140 Father's Day care packages in September.

We've also been busy behind the scenes as a leadership team redefining our mission and purpose (read on to see it).

And now, we're in the throws of organising our special Christmas gift bags as we really want those spending that day in hospital with their child, to feel like they're seen and remembered!! We're also gifting each nurse in the wards we support a wee treat too, so our December packing day will see us making 900+ packages. (Yes we're VERY keen for your help... wink wink joking not joking)

Anyway... read on to hear about our mahi, and make sure you watch Angie's story. The Olympian was separated from her newborn while she was in NICU, and we were privileged to journey some of that with her. Her story is a tear-jerker!

Joy

Joy Reid, Chief Executive & Co-Founder of One Mother to Another

Angie's Story

Imagine giving birth several weeks earlier than you expected and then your baby being in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and being unable to visit.

That's what happened to Olympian Angie Petty - she got Covid just days after her first child Azaliah was born. She discusses her experiences and how One Mother to Another helped her during this extremely difficult time - PS cute baby alert!!



News & Media

New wards

We are so excited to share that we have expanded our support into **three new hospital wards and to another community organisation**. This is huge for us (an expansion of nearly 30%) and will mean an **extra 1000 care packages each year** go into the hands of deserving mothers and whānau.

This means we're now also supporting:

- Dunedin hospital's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)
- Christchurch hospital's Children's Haematology Oncology (CHOC) ward
- Princess Margaret hospital's Child, Adolescent and Family Inpatient Services



Purpose

After a lot of brainstorming... we've redefined our focus to guide our work and future projects, including further expansion plans.

Purpose: Through the simple act of gift giving, we care for and empower parents and whānau with sick babies and children.

Mission: To connect with communities and become a sustainable charitable partner to support whānau in all neonatal and paediatric units in Aotearoa.



Gala goodness

Our inaugural gala dinner was a HUGE success - so much so, we exceeded our fundraising goal and raised \$35,000!!!

It was such a fun night with more than 85 people joining us at the Canterbury Club. Guests were treated to a presentation from our special guest and patron Sir Jerry Mateparae (former Governor-General), a three course meal, great wine and cocktails and a lively live auction. Some lucky bidders went home with Elton John VIP tickets, coaching from a former All Blacks Captain, a luxury Akaroa escape, a new trampoline... and so many more treats.

Dozens of companies and people donated towards making this night a success, and we are so grateful for every ounce of generosity, particularly our event sponsor the Mint Foundation.



Our Board chair - retired Judge Rob Murfitt's story in black and white

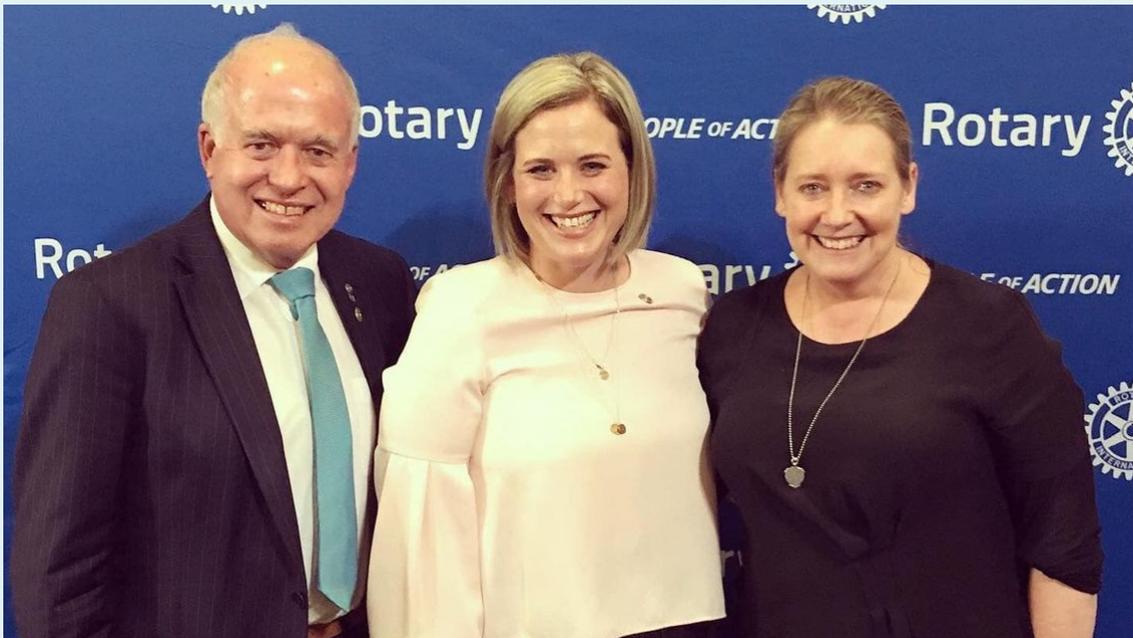
One Mother to Another's board chair, retired Family and Youth Court Judge Robert Murfitt features in this month's Latitude magazine. Read all about Robert, writing children's books and his involvement with One Mother to Another in the October/November issue of [Latitude Magazine](#).



Joy Reid awarded a Paul Harris Fellow

We are proud to announce that our Chief Executive and Co-founder Joy Reid has been awarded a Paul Harris Fellow by the Christchurch South Rotary club. This is a huge achievement and a reflection of Joy's amazing dedication and work supporting mothers and caregivers. Joy joins a long list of recipients, which includes presidents, and of course wonderful Kiwis doing great things in their community. Joy would like to thank the South Christchurch Rotary Club for their long running support of One Mother to Another, particularly Kathryn Dalziel, Athol McCully and Graham Dockrill.

Pictured below from left: Athol McCully, Joy Reid, Kathryn Dalziel.



Story from the frontline

“It helped give them some joy and kindness” says Barbara Loomes, Charge Nurse Manager at Christchurch’s Child Adolescent and Family Inpatient (CAFI) Unit at Princess Margaret Hospital.

of the amazing mahi at this specialist regional (South Island) treatment and assessment service for children and adolescents who have severe psychiatric, emotional, behavioural, or developmental disorders.

And now we can help! CAF is one of the three new wards we've expanded into, made possible thanks to our fundraising dinner.

The nursing staff on the ward say that the One Mother to Another care packages are already making a difference and providing a very special gift and kindness to parents in an unfamiliar environment.

They say "a couple of mothers have cried receiving the care packs because they just didn't expect it and were so grateful."

"It helped give them some joy and kindness especially the District parents, in a city where they may not know anybody or have that family support close by."

"It is a warm fuzzy and special distraction, to receive the care pack." - Nursing team at CAFI Unit.

Pictured below from left: Catherine and Barbara from the CAFI Unit



This is our biggest packing day of the year where we will be packing all our regular packs, as well as our Christmas packs and nurses gifts! If you would like to come along and volunteer a couple hours to create these special packs then please get in touch with our [Volunteer Coordinator](#). You can even bring along a few workmates or friends to pay it forward this Christmas. These are packed in central Christchurch. We'd love to have you there!

March 26th 2023 - Rail Trail Rampage

Come and stretch your legs and support One Mother to Another along the way! This year we are so proud to be the recipient charity for the Rail Trail Rampage. With lots of different distance options for walkers or runners (from Marathon to 5km family options) come and explore the historic Little River Rail Trail. Fast and flat, these courses offer competitors a great run alongside ever-changing scenery which finishes in the picturesque village of Lincoln. The Rail Trail Rampage is the perfect day out for families. With post-race family friendly entertainment to keep your young ones happy and busy! We look forward to seeing you there.

May 11th 2023 - Fundraising pizza night

Save the date! We are excited to be able to run another fundraising event in May at Winnie Bagoes, Christchurch City. This is bound to be a great night with delicious food, beverages and some great raffles. Stay tuned for more details to come.

[Rail Rampage - Sign up](#)

Can you help?



We need your help!

As we grow and grow we need your help to keep our care packages as luxurious and practical as possible. As a charity we rely heavily on product donations, so if you

- Christmas appeal - We are particularly keen on body products, men’s gifts, and treat items such as jewellery and nail polish. If you are able to help us with any donated products it would mean so much to the families in hospital.

If you can help we would love to chat with you! Send us an email on info@onemothertoanother.org.nz.

You are now able to support One Mother to Another by becoming a regular or one-off donor. Click the button below to find out more!



Thank you



Our latest care packages were full of goodies. Thank you to all our generous sponsors, we couldn't do it without you. Our suppliers include: Latitude Magazine, Mindfood Magazine, 180 Degrees, Goodness, Linden Leaves, Essano, Whittakers, Arnotts, Dilmah, Dignity, Original Foods, Glow Lab, Small Babies, and Office Max.

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