

## Presidents report

As I look back on the year, challenging as it has been, I am thankful and grateful that our society has been able to hold together thanks to the work by the past members.

Unfortunately there has been some bereavements this past year which is part of life as we get older,

I sometimes wonder "what I am doing here", then a phone call from someone who is struggling. I count it as a privilege that I have survived cancer and my experience and knowledge is not for me alone it is to be passed on. I have had that second chance of life (so many don't get that).

Since October I have had a number of injuries from working too hard on the property, however thanks to cortisone in my knees and shoulder I have returned to some sort of normality.

Due to unforeseen circumstances and health issues for Richard McNair and myself we have had to cancel the Ostomy NZ /Asia Pacific Ostomy Association joint Congress 2023.

We are looking for new people to come on the committee ,if you feel you would like to join the team now is your opportunity.

The highlights for me this past year was the end of year Christmas B.B.Q. at our place with music supplied by Cindy, it was a lot of fun.

Also the morning tea where the lifetime membership awards were given to Doug Haig, Shirley Youngman and Barbara Mels. Learning about those early days from them was enlightening, (we have it easy in comparison).

In summary I am prepared to stand for another year as president, however if there are others I will gladly step down, I have put my heart and soul into Ostomy since 2017 and feel another year will be my lot.

We would like to encourage the other support groups in Wakatane Kawerau and Taupo this year as they emerge from covid.

Look forward to seeing you in the near future.

Take care keep safe,

Dian President