



10th Anniversary Press Release 22nd November 2011



Today we celebrated the tenth anniversary of the day we opened our doors to residents. It gave us an excuse for a party. That was the principle that was instilled by our founders, Mitch and Joanna Komedera, and today is a great day of celebration.

Mitch Komedera's foresight was amazing. He was over 70 himself when he decided to buy the site of Blanchelande Convent and School, in order to convert it to a Nursing Home. He would have been proud to see Blanchelande Park today as a thriving establishment devoted to providing the highest level of care to 40 residents with a further 30 sheltered accommodation units on the estate.

Joanna Komedera still lives in a bungalow at Blanchelande Park and she was able to join in the fun as we celebrated all day long.

Dedication of staff

The anniversary gives us an opportunity to pay tribute to those who have played their part in helping us reach this milestone. Our staff members cover a wide range of services including Nurses, Carers, Housekeepers, Chefs, Receptionists, Activity Organisers, Maintenance and Administration staff.

Special mentions must go to Matron Liz Cozens, her predecessor Sharon Williams and Company Administrator Alex Ogier.

Our two non-executive directors Ray Salisbury and Colin Guilbert provide their advice and wisdom as they did to the whole Komedera family over the years.

Loyalty

No less than eight employees have been with us since we started and nearly half our staff have worked with us for more than five years.

It gives us great pleasure to reward everyone with a service-related bonus and a gift for all who have completed 10 years.

Learning

We never stop learning. From day one we have learned to manage the business and this process continues each day. At the same time, we learn so much from our residents and their families. With an average age of 90 (3,500 years in total!), our clients have a wealth of experience and wisdom. So everybody brings something to the party, and many have been great achievers in their time. They deserve great respect and we can learn so much from them.

Development of Skills

The second most important aspect of our work after delivering care is to encourage and develop our staff. We not only train our own staff, but take part in training various States schemes to provide work experience. We have been accredited as a Training area/ establishment, for degree pathway student nurses, by the University of East Anglia. We are also involved in supporting students undertaking the Entry in to Care in conjunction with the College of Further Education

Achievements

We have a lot of achievements to celebrate from our first ten years.

Firstly, the company has survived and we have learned much in the process.

We have excelled. We are very proud of our record in maintaining consistent high standards whenever we are assessed or inspected.

Most importantly, we've had fun along the way. Our residents have enjoyed a wide range of activities and events such as Sports Days, shows performed by staff members, outings and many interesting and exciting visitors.

We take our lead from Mitch and Joanna Komedera whose philosophy was always "Any excuse for a party".

