



25<sup>th</sup> April 2016

Dear Marguerite, Don and friends

I am writing to express our sincere and heartfelt gratitude to you all for the amazing work that went into the Craft Fair, which again this year was a great success.

The work that went into making the beautiful articles for sale was one thing, but then to donate them to our cause was really generous and thoughtful. People can always give money to a good cause but to give arts and crafts made by you, items that took time, care, and skill, is so much more.

Thank you also to those, who not only contributed crafts to sell, but who also worked on the stalls for the week. Particularly Marguerite and Don, who I know carried most of the responsibility for the entire event.

We receive a realistic and sufficient budget from The Cottage Home Board to run the service and provide the necessary services to the families, services such as family work, individual work, play therapy, counselling, children's groups, mother and toddler sessions and so on.

However, families sometimes need practical help in emergency situations and having the proceeds from the craft fair enables us to have an "emergency fund" that we can draw from, using our discretion, to assist families in times of need.

Last year the emergency fund was used in a variety of ways, and this year when people seek help in times of distress we will have the fund there to be able to assist them. Some ways in which we were able to use the funds were

- Food vouchers for families in need at Christmas
- Summer Project

The funds that you raised through the Craft Fair enabled families to receive this kind of practical help and sometimes timely, practical support can turn a hopeless situation into a hopeful one.

So, on behalf of all in the Cottage Home Child and Family Services, a heartfelt Thank You

Margaret Lacey,

Director