

Garden of Tranquillity *Book an opportunity to be inspired*



Barbara Johnson tells a moving and inspirational story of how the tragedy of losing her son Greg, a time of immense sorrow and pain, was transformed through love and inspiration, into a vision for a garden.

The Garden of Tranquillity at Palmerston North Hospital is a sanctuary, a place for quiet reflection, a place of peace and contemplation, a place of beauty, a sensory garden and an opportunity for healing.

“A Garden of Peace and Tranquillity”

“Come with me back to the year 2000. It is summer, February the 9th, and my son Greg is once more admitted into the Psychiatric Inpatient Unit of Palmerston North Hospital. Since being diagnosed with Schizophrenia 15 years ago, Greg has been admitted to this unit a number of times, never willingly. Outside there is a patch of gravel with weeds struggling through and a gazebo where people can smoke. There is nothing therapeutic about this environment; there is no opportunity for peace or tranquillity. Back home in my summer garden there is birdsong, butterflies and beauty”.



Greg's Hope

Rainy day blues

Blow the other way

For the sun begins to shine

When you say

That things are getting better

For tomorrow's not far away

A better future

A feature of my life

To be happy is

Everybody's right



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