

The Chris Ruth Centre

Newsletter - June 2024



The Chris Ruth Centre



Kia ora koutou

I am very pleased to be sharing this newsletter with you all. It is hard to believe we are into June, the year is racing away. Please enjoy catching up with what has been happening.

Welcome to all the new people who have started with us this year, both persons we support and staff. 10 new persons have joined centres across the Trust and 14 new support staff have been employed to cover the new enrollees and staff resignations which have occurred since the beginning of the year.

Thank you and goodbye to Diana Tippet who retired as the Centre Manager of Sockburn. We wish Diana a happy retirement. Congratulations to Phillipah Muyani for her change in position as the new Sockburn Centre Manager. Candice MacDonald has been appointed as the Lead Vocational Support Person to support Phillipah. We have also appointed Jessica Saywood to the role of Lead Vocational Support Person at Bishopdale and Bridget McGregor as the Lead Vocational Support Person at Kaiapoi.

Sadly, we share the news of the passing of Michael Winder and Sarah King. Sarah was one of the very first four people who started with The Chris Ruth Centre when we were known as Christchurch Supported Employment Centre and working from Hillmorton High School. Michael was a graduate from the Upland Unit at Hillmorton High School and started with us in January 2006. Both Sarah and Michael will be greatly missed.

Welcome back Suzanne Hosking. It is fantastic to have Suzy back in the position of Accounts/Administration Officer and who also puts together our newsletters.

Staff Development:

We acknowledge and appreciate the importance of supporting staff with ongoing professional development therefore, Tuesday, 2nd April saw a number of staff attend a variety of staff training sessions. Included were Passive Stretches in conjunction with Safe Handling and Moving, Assisted Augmentative Communication sessions, along with Autism training, Crisis Prevention Intervention as well as a session on multiple topics including Mental Health, Resilience, Intra and Interpersonal Communication, Neurodiversity, Intellectual Disabilities and Mental Health.

Changes in the Disability Sector:

Those of you who are familiar with IF (individualised funding) and EGLPB (enabling good lives personal budgets) will be aware there has been some changes to the purchasing guidelines recently. We are doing our very best to ensure that the persons we support are not impacted by the changes, fighting for funding levels to be such that people can continue to have good lives and make choices in their day, week, year. If you have any queries around these changes, please feel free to contact me or alternatively you can look on the Whaikaha - Ministry for Disabled People website for the information.

Building(s) update:

The extension to the Kaiapoi Centre is progressing very nicely. There is an additional CEBUS unit being added to the existing building to support the growth demand in North Canterbury. All going well this unit will be completed before the end of 2024, allowing for upcoming new enrollees over the next few years to commence with our service.



Unit being airlifted into position

The Hoon Hay site redevelopment is a much larger project and will take a significant period of time to complete. There have been and continue to be multiple meetings, discussions and planning around what is needed. To date we have secured Barrer & Co to assist with a financial feasibility report. This company will also be assisting

us with a strategic plan, information and resources to move forward to apply and secure funding for the project.

The architectural plans are almost completed and once these are ready for perusal we intend to invite interested parties to an open day where we can share the vision but more importantly involve individuals especially with how they can support us to make this project successful and a reality. Please look out for more information about this in the future.

My thanks are extended to Paul McGirr and other members of the Board of Trustees for their support and input required to get this project underway. Paul chairs both the Building committee and Project Finance committee for the Hoon Hay redevelopment. Both tasks are equally integral, and must go hand in hand to make this project successful.

Service Satisfaction Survey:

Our greatest appreciation to all those who responded to our survey. It is great to get your ideas and feedback as to how we are doing. Comments and acknowledgment about the quality of work our wonderful staff do is very much appreciated and has been passed on. This survey is still open so please feel free to complete.

Warmest regards,  Marilyn CEO



Caite



Claudia



Junior

HOON HAY 1



Shane

Kia Ora all

Welcome to new attendee Logan and new staff Daniel, Kailah and Rachel.

Here's some pictures of the activities we have been up to so far this year. Alicia recently went on a lunch date to a Chinese restaurant and chose to try ducks feet – celebrating her Chinese heritage. She did say “they were a bit chewy”. Caite is enjoying her craft goal, she’s currently making a soft toy for her nephew. Claudia loves all things “transport” especially boats and trains, her trip to Quail Island caused much excitement. Logan is enjoying trying new things. He went up the Adventure Park chair lift recently and also loved the penguins and Haagland

ride at the Antarctic Centre. Junior wore out his guitar during the Thursday music sessions (and at music therapy), he’s very happy to get a new one! Sam is enjoying his bus rides and a visit to the Air Force museum - he was nervous, but tried the Wii flying app with Deb while there. Daniel has been enjoying the Move sessions and will be going to Jolt this term. And as you can see Rick enjoys the beautiful Autumn days.

We hope you all are keeping warm as it looks like winter has arrived early.

*Nga mihi,
Adrienne & the Hoon Hay 1 team*



Rick



Daniel



Sam



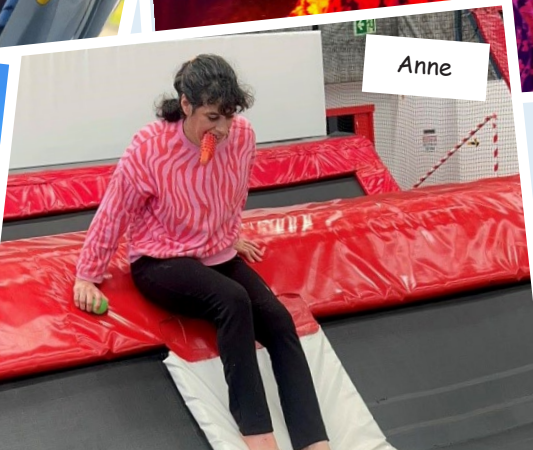
Kristian



Alicia



Logan



Anne

HOON HAY 3



Chris



Kia ora koutou

Gosh here we are six months into the 2024 year. Hoon Hay 3 has been busy settling new people into the Centre, trying new things and enjoying each other's company. Logan, Isaac, Stuart and Erik have all joined our centre this year and are a welcome addition. Say hi if you see them.

Additionally, Megan is enjoying her now role in her voluntary position at an Op Shop, along with this there are others who continue to give their time and effort to O800 Hungry in support of their wider community. Getting on a bus and exploring the CBD continues to be a strong favourite for many attending our Centre. Everyone attending HH3 should be feeling very proud of themselves and the effort they have put into the start to their 2024 year. It has and continues to be a privilege to walk beside them all.

Shelley & the HH3 team



Logan



Isaac



Erik



Stuart



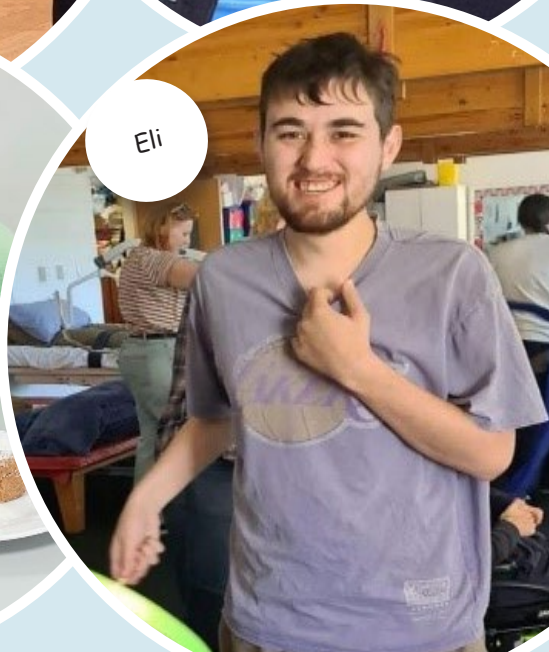
Harry



Jen & Megan out for a bus ride



Courtney



Eli





Lamar

Jessica participating in a ball game in the park



Liam enjoying a ride on the lawnmower

Sara working on one of her favourite puzzles



Tim at the Tūranga music room



Rory baking for his flatmates



Melissa purchasing her cooking ingredients

The year has started off with a hiss and a roar, we have been busy creating fun activities and working on mana enhancing goals for everyone as follows: personal grooming, baking, music, transport and swimming are just some of the goals and aspirations.

We are very pleased to welcome, Salih, Niamh and Bethany to the Lamar room, we look forward to seeing their activities and achievements.

Enjoy our photo show.

We look forward to what the rest of the year will bring.

*Nga mihi,
Lynette & the Lamar team*

Charlotte at the Southern Centre



Isaak baking his gluten free carrot cake



Hannah at Margret Mahy park



Bishopdale

Kia ora koutou

Exciting things are happening. After some hard work by staff person Deb, we presently have workers erecting a shade sail for the garden. Deb has also worked with the Bunnings social network team, who are donating wheelchair usable raised planting boxes. These are scheduled to be in place by the end of June. Keep an eye out for flowers and perhaps vegetables appearing in the future.

Recently we sadly said goodbye to Candy as she has moved to the Sockburn centre in the same role. However, we warmly welcome back Jessica Saywood (Hatcher) as the new Lead Vocational Support Person. We also welcome Shelley and Aimee to the team. They have brought new ideas and passion for the role.

Please enjoy a few of the many highlights of the last few months.

Greg & the Bishopdale team



James cooking lunch



Mike enjoying socialising with friends



Mike & Dan meeting some stars from the Operatunity show



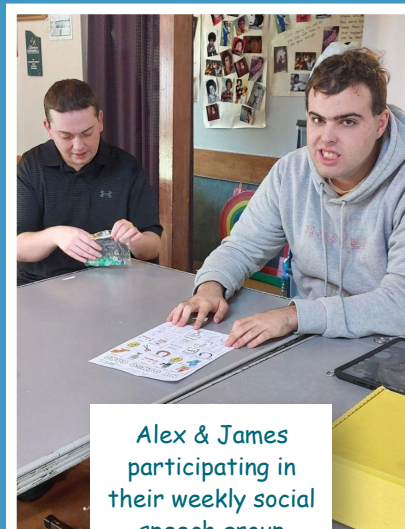
Kate out on a day trip on the Diamond Harbour Ferry



Abigail at her Move session



Luke visiting ANZAC memorials leaving poppies in recognition of those listed



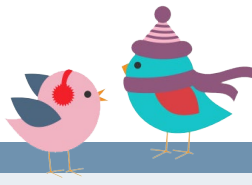
Alex & James participating in their weekly social speech group



Issac & Sarah volunteering at local Community Gardens



sockburn



Welcome to the Sockburn Whanau!

Greetings and a warm welcome to all our members, both new and old, at the Sockburn Centre! It's been an exciting time as we continue to grow and thrive as a community.

New Faces, New Beginnings: Let's extend a heartfelt welcome to our newest members. Shalene joined us full-time earlier this year, while Armaan recently became a part of our whanau, attending the centre full-time just a couple of weeks ago. We're also delighted to welcome our new staff members, Thomaskutty and Melissa. And a special shout out to Candy, our latest addition to the Sockburn team. We're thrilled to have you all on board!

Strength in Unity: Despite facing some challenges with staff being away, the support and collaboration we've received from other centres have been invaluable. The spirit of teamwork has truly shone through, making these past few months a testament to our collective strength and resilience.

Embracing New Experiences: Our individuals have been busy exploring different parts of Canterbury and embracing new adventures, from bowling to ice skating and visits to Willowbank. Our Friday activities have been filled with joy and creativity, from bowling outings with friends to engaging in wonderful art projects right here at the centre. We extend heartfelt thanks to Aman and her community for generously

offering individuals we support the opportunity to embrace diverse cultures through a visit to the Indian temple. Their kindness enriches our community and fosters meaningful experiences for all involved.

Celebrating Milestones: Let's not forget to celebrate the milestones and birthdays that have marked our journey. From Tanya's 40th to the birthdays of Karina, Noah, and Holly, it's been a month of joy and celebration.

Celebrating Progress: We're thrilled to witness the progress of Will, Chessie and Karina during their work placements at Oderings, with fantastic feedback pouring in from the staff there. And over at Funky Movements, Sarah, Tanya, and Cody are shining bright, with exceptional feedback received, especially from Michelle.

As we continue on our journey together, let's keep embracing new experiences, celebrating milestones, and supporting each other every step of the way. Here's to many more moments of growth, joy, and togetherness at Sockburn!

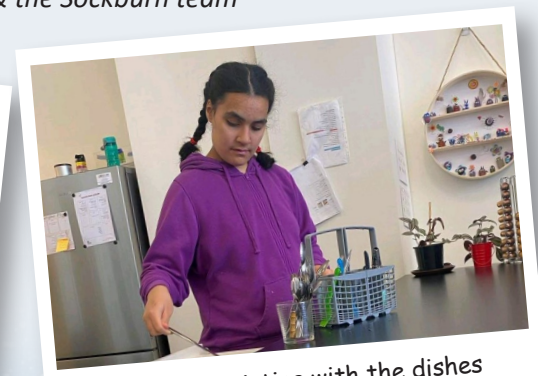
*Warm regards,
Phillipah, Candy & the Sockburn team*



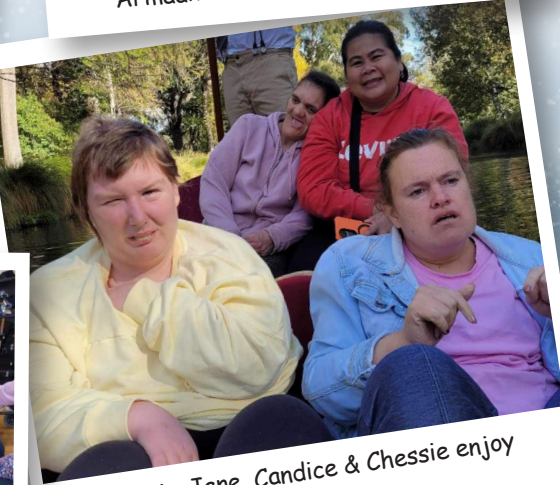
Simon approaching bowling with determination, giving it his best shot



Cody shows self determination by ice skating



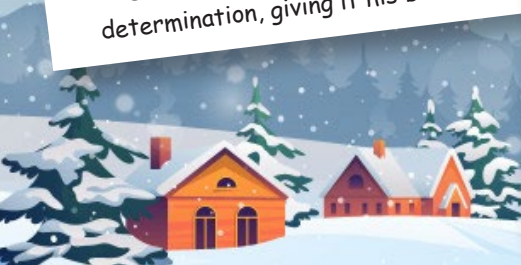
Armaan assisting with the dishes



Margie-Jane, Candice & Chessie enjoy punting on the Avon



Shalene making new friendships at Move





Ashburton



CRC Ashburton taking part in 'Pink Shirt' Friday

New People: We welcome Marita and Jacob to our centre.

Birthdays: We have celebrated four birthdays with Daniel, Olivia, Aidan and Hayden.

Ashburton Art Gallery: We have started accessible art sessions at the Ashburton Art Gallery. We explored the TUITUI TANGATA exhibition of Cook Island Tivaevae (quilts) with Hope and Katie and then made similar art with fabric paint and stencils.

Altrusa Donation: A heartwarming thank you to the ladies at Altrusa Ashburton for their generous donation which we have used to purchase some items to improve our centre which included a trolley for our art supplies. Levon enjoyed assembling this for us.

Community Garden: Some of the people we support are keen gardeners. Through Te Whatu Ora and Mid Canterbury Keep Learning there is a new initiative to set up a community garden in the Ashburton area which will open soon. We were consulted and have contributed suggestions and initiatives to make the garden accessible and inclusive for everyone. We look forward to being actively involved once it is completed by contributing to the maintenance of the garden and therefore giving back to the community.

*Nga mihi
Sapphire & the Ashburton team*



Hayden celebrating his birthday



A warm welcome to Jacob & his family to CRC



Jasmine enjoying an inclusive art session at the art gallery



Levon assembling our new cart for art supplies



Aidan pricing items at his work participation at Hello Banana



Levon & his amazing Bob Marley mosaic!

Kaiapoi



New building

Greetings from Kaiapoi Chris Ruth Centre. We are excited to share with you some exciting updates and news from our centre. Firstly, we would like to welcome Jewel who joined us at the beginning of the year from Allenvale School.

Our new building extension has arrived and we are looking forward to the extra space. The next stages include the decking and the interior refit. We are looking forward to sharing with you the progress over the next few months. Exciting times ahead!

We have celebrated two big birthdays. Johnny turned 60 in March followed by Matthew who turned 50 in May. The unit was filled with cake, music and laughter. A great time had by all.

We have had some social outings with the Bishopdale centre this year which has promoted connection for all concerned. These outings have included Ice skating, T-ball, picnics and lunch dates at the Papanui club. We have also been making the most of the lovely days to be out and about in the community to complete other activities, some of these being

horse riding, movies, Antarctic Centre, the local Church open door, rest home visits, swimming, bus trips to town and the Jolt drop in centre

A group of the people we support also enjoyed a visit to Wigram Airforce Museum to experience the Orion plane exhibit. We were delighted to be a part of our first T-ball competition joining Bishopdale and Hoon Hay. The people who attended were very excited to participate every Thursday.

We have also achieved some transportation goals this year which were using buses and the tram as well as a boat trip to Diamond Harbour.

As the weather is getting colder we would like to remind all parents/caregivers to please send in appropriate clothing and footwear, tissues and wipes. If a person that we support is showing symptoms of being sick we ask for them to not attend to help us stop illnesses spreading.

If you have any queries or concerns our door is always open.

The Kaiapoi team



Matthew's 50th Birthday



Brittany at T-Ball



Johnny's 60th Birthday



Courtney enjoying music



Lisa baking



Anthony on the Tram



Jewel horse riding



Notice Board

CENTRES CLOSED

Reminder: As mentioned in the 2023 end of year notice there has been a change to when all of our Centres will be closed for the year.

Please note in your calendars/diaries etc these dates.

**All Chris Ruth Centres will be closed for one week:
From: 29 July to 2 August
Reopen: 5 August**

This means that we will be closed for a shorter period over the Christmas break.
(Exact dates will be shared later in the year).

CONGRATULATIONS

Career Force

Congratulations to:

Dianne Moloney for completing
Level 2 Career Force Health & Wellbeing

Bridget McGregor for completing
Level 3 Career Force Health & Wellbeing

Designed by Suzanne Hosking



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