



The Chris Ruth Centre  
*promoting a good life for adults with disabilities*

# 2024 End of Year Message FROM THE CEO

As I write this I wonder where the year has gone. 2024 seems to have flown by with Christmas and the New Year upon us.

The year has been filled with multiple opportunities for people we support within the community. These are identified in the certificate presentations at each of the centre's break ups. No two certificates are the same.

This is a day I particularly enjoy. It is a privilege to shake the hand of each person we support while giving them their certificate. A truly magical moment and one I feel privileged to share.

## **Highlights of the year**

There have been many highlights this year. The first big one being the completion of the extension to the Kaiapoi building. The new space looks great and will be well utilised.

The outdoor space at the Bishopdale centre has had a huge transformation with the addition of the shade sail and the raised garden beds. Acknowledgement to Debbie and Jo for all their efforts to give the space a much welcome lift.

In October an engagement/advisory group was established for persons who attend. Each centre has at least one representative. Meetings are held once a month and have been very inspiring to date. This is an opportunity for ideas, concerns, issues to be shared and discussed as well as a chance for individuals from each centre to get together and contribute to the organisation.



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All of the centres have their own highlights to share, one I feel deserves exceptional mention was the Wearable Arts day.

The work and effort that went into this day was outstanding and is the perfect example of support staff making things happen for those they work with. The pride and joy on individuals' faces was a memorable moment.

## Thank you

Thanks are extended to Suzanne Hosking for being with us for this year. It has been great to have Suzy back, (albeit short term). We appreciate Suzy's knowledge and ability in the Accounts/Administration role. Suzy you will be missed and we wish you all the best with your new endeavour.

We also extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to Ken and Joy Drury family for their generous donation of a 2015 Toyota Hiace wheelchair van.

Recognition and appreciation is forwarded to the Wigram Lions for their support with purchasing a PAT tester. This tester will enable us to test and tag all our electrical equipment enhancing our Health & Safety requirements.





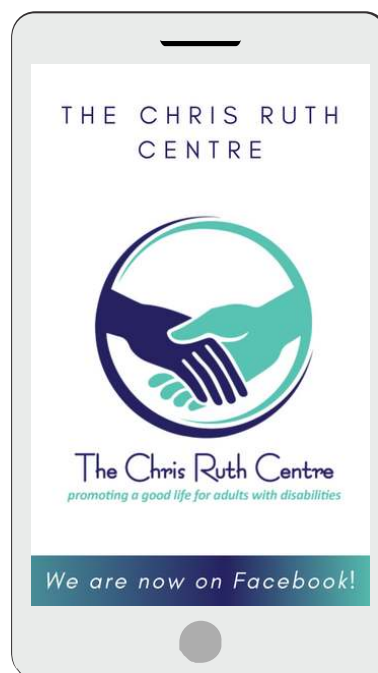
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## Welcome

It is with great excitement we welcome Amy Pawson as our Fundraiser Manager. (Many of you will have met her at our break ups). This is an exciting role where Amy will not only be securing additional funding resources for upcoming projects and operational costs but will also eventually be working on the capital fundraising for the Hoon Hay redevelopment project.

We also welcome Debbie Newman as our new Accounts/Administration Officer. Please be patient with Debbie while she navigates the onerous task of learning our systems.

A further welcome is extended to Elaine Dunlop. In recognition of the growth of The Chris Ruth Centre Trust and the number of staff employed, Elaine has been appointed in a People and Culture role. Along with this we have also introduced an Employee Assistance Programme to all employees. We value our staff and acknowledge them as our greatest asset and resource. Ensuring they have the best support available allows them to pass their best mahi onto the individuals they work with.





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## Service Recognition

This year we recognised four staff for their 20 years service to The Chris Ruth Centre. These staff moved to the Hoon Hay site in 2005 from the previous location at Hillmorton High School.

These people were:

Adrienne Webley

Lynette Wilson

Adrienne Lyon

Paula Woolhouse

Marilyn Paston (23 years)

A huge thank you to you all for your commitment and dedication.

Finally, I share my sincere thanks to everyone for your support this year. We wish you all the best holiday season and look forward to seeing everyone again when our centres re-open on January 20th 2025.

Warmest regards  
Marilyn Paston

