



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

PROMOTING A GOOD LIFE FOR ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES



SUMMER 2026

Table of Contents

A message from the CEO	3
Ashburton	4-5
Bishopdale	6-7
Hoon Hay One	8-9
Hoon Hay Three	10-11
Kaiapoi	12-13
Lamar Room (HH2)	14-15
Sockburn	16-17
Spotlight on our Supporters	18-19
Thank you to our Supporters	20-21
What's on in the Community	23-24

Dates for Your Calendar

Friday, February 6: Centres Closed- Public Holiday- *Waitangi Day.*

Friday, April 3: Centres Closed- Public Holiday- *Good Friday.*

Monday, April 6: Centres Closed- Public Holiday- *Easter Monday.*

Monday, April 27: Centres Closed- Public Holiday- *Anzac Day Observed.*

Monday, June 1: Centres Closed- Public Holiday- *Kings Birthday.*

Friday, July 10: Centres Closed- Public Holiday- *Matariki.*

Kia ora koutou,

As we step into a new year, we are delighted to welcome new people we support to our centres:

Kaiapoi – Samantha W

Bishopdale – Devon L and Jeremy K

Sockburn – Saskia S

Hoon Hay 1 – Ignacia V and Emily P

Hoon Hay 3 – Jack R

Alongside these new arrivals, we have also welcomed a number of new employees. I look forward to seeing everyone settle in and make the most of the opportunities ahead.

We have started the year strongly with three valuable professional development opportunities for our staff. These included Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI) training, leadership-focused training, and cultural awareness training, alongside a webinar presented by Habit Health on mindfulness, resilience, and wellbeing. These opportunities support all staff to bring their best skills, confidence, and care to their day-to-day roles.

An update on the Tuam Street Centre:

We are hopeful the centre will be open by early April. Progress is moving steadily, and I am pleased to

announce that the leadership team has been appointed. Stella T, currently based at our Lamar Centre, has been appointed Team Leader, and Sorelle R has been appointed Executive Leader. Sorelle joins us from Waitaha School, bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience. I look forward to working alongside this team as we move toward a successful opening. We will continue to provide updates as appropriate.

Developments for the Hoon Hay site: The Board is working diligently behind the scenes to continue the momentum and pre planning required. We look forward to sharing updates throughout the year.

The year ahead promises to be busy and exciting. While waiting for the next newsletter, please keep an eye on our website and social media- Facebook and LinkedIn for updates, photos, and news.

Warmest regards,
Marilyn.



Ashburton

Kia ora,

We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas, New Year, and a refreshing break. As we look back on the lead-up to the end of the year, it was a busy and rewarding time at the Centre, with people actively working towards their goals, exploring interests, and taking part in meaningful community experiences. Participants were involved in completing creative craft projects and engaging in a range of community connections, including Kai for Kids, the Menzshed, the Ashburton Community Garden, horse riding, and a disco in Christchurch.

We were fortunate to celebrate the end of the year with not one, but two Christmas parties. The Walking Netball Christmas party brought together around 30 participants who enjoyed a Christmas scavenger hunt, themed games, and plenty of laughter. The following week, we held our CRC end-of-year celebrations, featuring certificate presentations, delicious food, and some impressive dance moves. We would also like to highlight the incredible work happening at the Ashburton

Community Garden. The dedicated team of volunteers continue to work tirelessly to ensure the garden is accessible and inclusive for everyone in the community, including wheelchair users. Their commitment reflects the power of community collaboration and creating spaces where everyone belongs.

Thank you to all our families, staff, and community partners who continue to support good lives, valued roles, and strong connections.

Sapphire and the team at CRC Ashburton.



Catching up with friends at the disco in Christchurch



Everyone patiently waiting for their ice creams



Aidan shopping for his recipe ingredients



Walking Netball Christmas party



Levon at the Menzshed



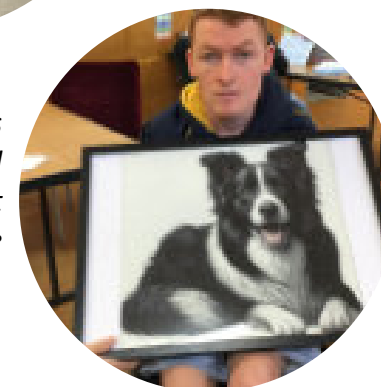
Jacob's completed costume



Harry at his horse riding lesson



Jasmine visiting the Sockburn Centre



Hayden's completed diamond art piece



Celebrating Jasmine's birthday with a ice cream truck for everyone to enjoy



Bishopdale

Welcome to 2026!

We start the year welcoming new people to Bishopdale and new staff.

It is a pleasure to welcome Bruce to the Bishopdale centre (from Kaiapoi previously). We also welcome Devon from Allenvale School and Jeremy (Jem) from Ferndale Satellite.

Alongside these new enrollees we are pleased to have Tabz, Alesia and Barbara join our staff. We look forward to seeing everyone settle in and enjoy new opportunities and experiences.

At the end of last year a number of new people tried out the Jolt MOVE sessions with great fun and success.

We also completed an individual project with each person making a picture frame with their initial, and a item or picture that represents themselves or an interest of theirs. They are now proudly on display at the centre. There were visits to a classic car show, a new trampoline park, A&P show, Cup Day and a lot of exploring!

Watch future newsletters for exciting updates!

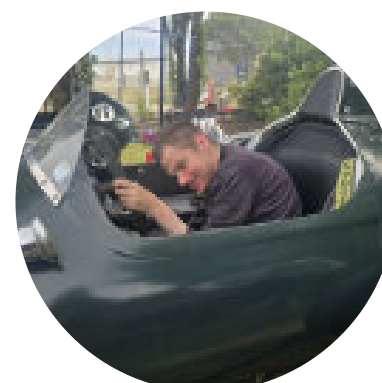
Greg and the Bishopdale team.



Isaac reaping the rewards of the garden



David having his first go at MOVE (Jolt)



Joshua having fun at the Wigram Revival



Cup Day races



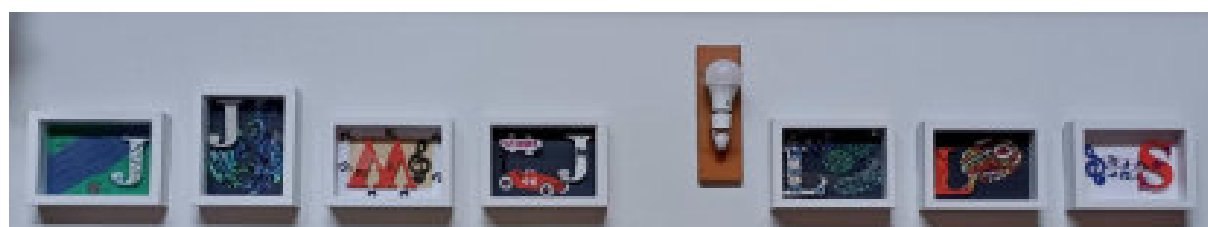
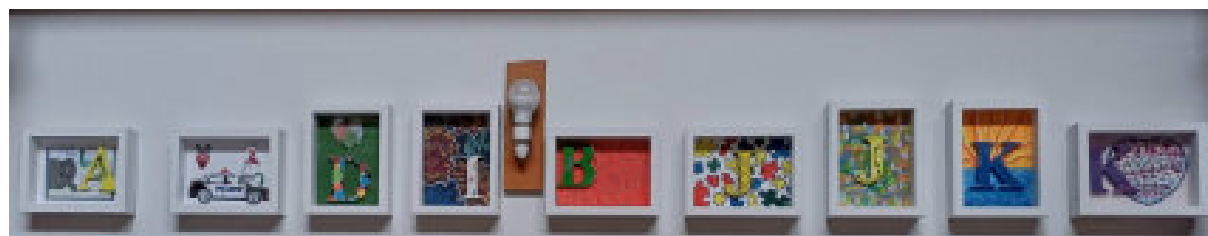
Kate relaxing at Riccarton Bush



Alex using the overlocker



Luke visiting the Lavender Farm



Handmade individualised art frames

Hoon Hay 1

Kia ora,

Unfortunately, we start the year with news of the unexpected passing of Connor Kerr. We're all going to miss him very much.

This year we welcomed new staff members Sarah and Mandi and said goodbye to Tamati. Late last year we had a new person join the CRC family- Emily P and this year we look forward to getting to know Ignacia V.

As we start 2026, we hope our circle of families, carers, staff, supporters,

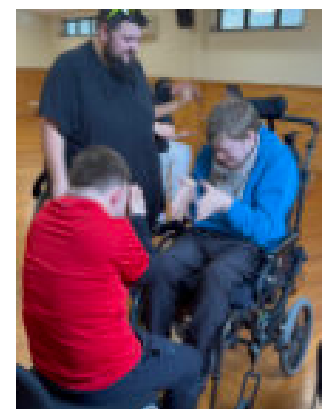
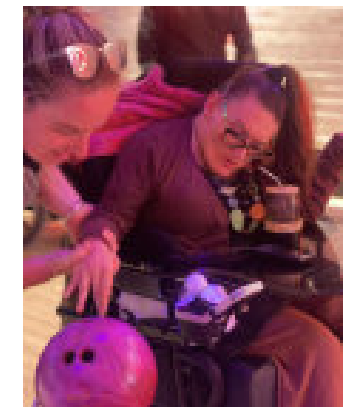
students and friends had a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

We look back on the achievements of 2025 and reminisce all the special moments. Included are some photos of a few things we got up to during the later part of the year. Looking ahead, 2026 is full of potential and we are planning on making it an exciting year!

Noho ora mai rā
All the very best from Adrienne and the team.



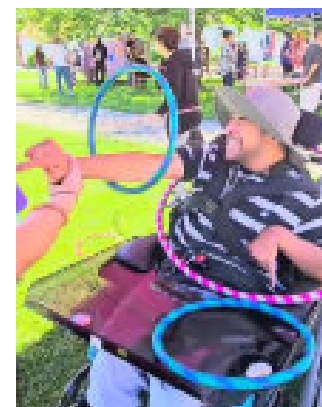
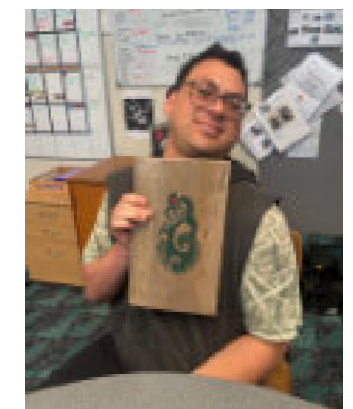
Caite, Chevani and Emily enjoyed Caite's 21st bowling party



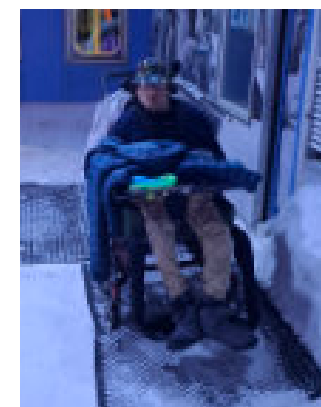
Shane is absolutely loving his Jolt sessions



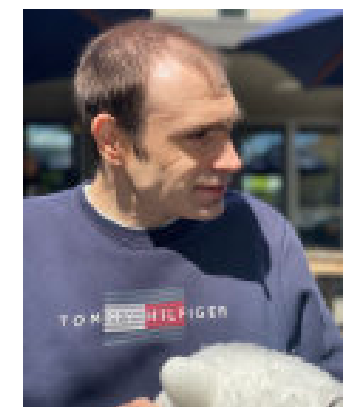
Logan has been working hard on his kowhaiwai art and enjoyed an outing to Godley head



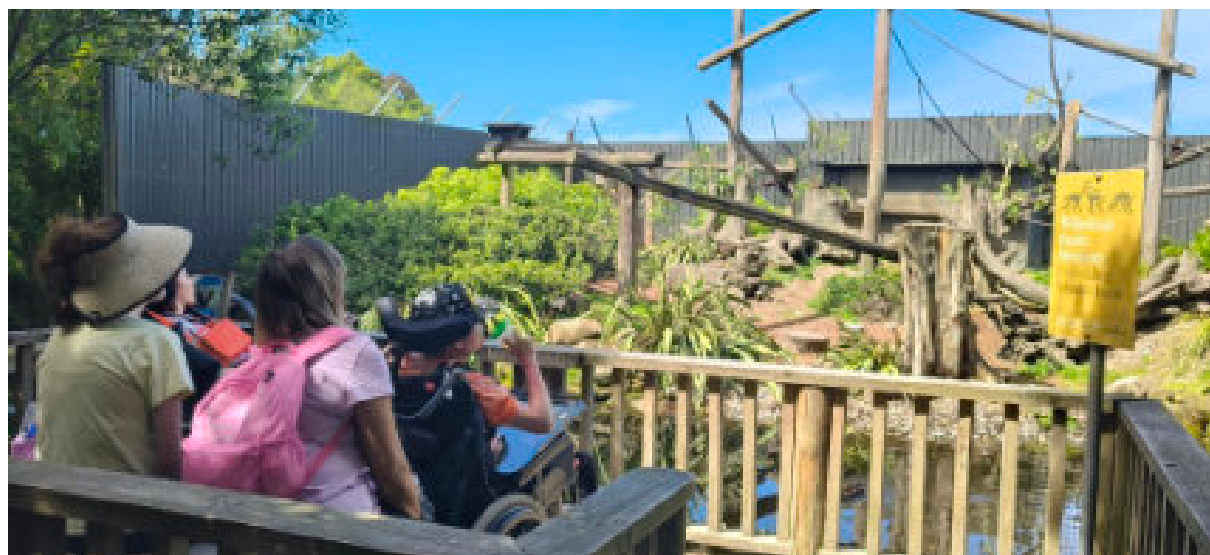
Junior had a blast joining in at the Hohepa Circability Day



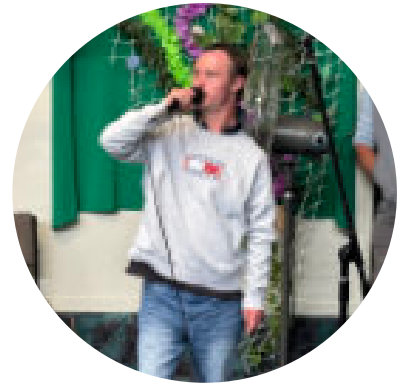
Lucas had a visit to the Antarctic Centre



Kieran enjoying his goal to have a beer and lunch out



Claudia, Lucas and Caite loved visiting Willowbank



Hoon Hay 3



Tena Koutou Katoa

A very happy new year to one and all. We look forward to seeing what 2026 brings.

In Hoon Hay 3, 2025 ended on a busy note trying to include as many activities and outings as we could before finishing up for the year.

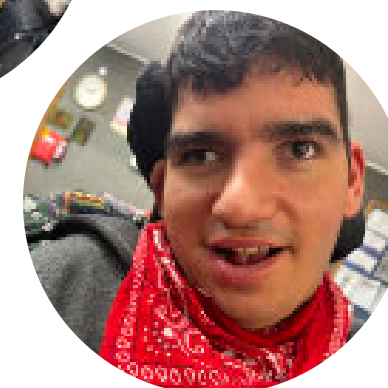
William and Harry are two of the people who utilised some of the new equipment in our music room, while Charlotte had some more Jolt sessions. Earl, Jessica, Nikki and Ant had the opportunity to go into town to see some of the beautiful Christmas displays and Eli took advantage of a Christmas backdrop in the Lamar room.

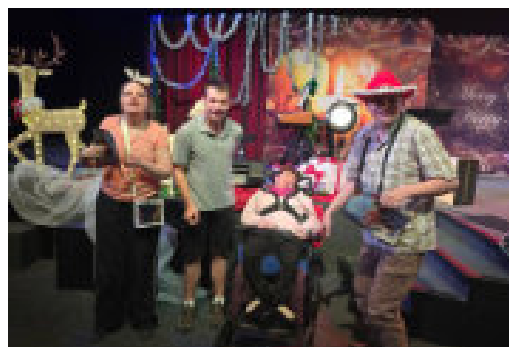


Harry got to host his first themed tea party and chose under the sea. We look forward to finding out the themes he chooses for the next party or two.

The team wishes to acknowledge the kindness and generosity from the HH3 whānau and their continued support as we go into yet another year.

From the Team of HH3.





Kaiapoi



Greetings from the Kaiapoi Team!

A warm welcome back, we hope your break was enjoyable!

Prior to the end-of-year break, the Kaiapoi Centre had a jam-packed December with visits and opportunities including concerts and prize-giving, making it an incredibly special time for everyone involved.

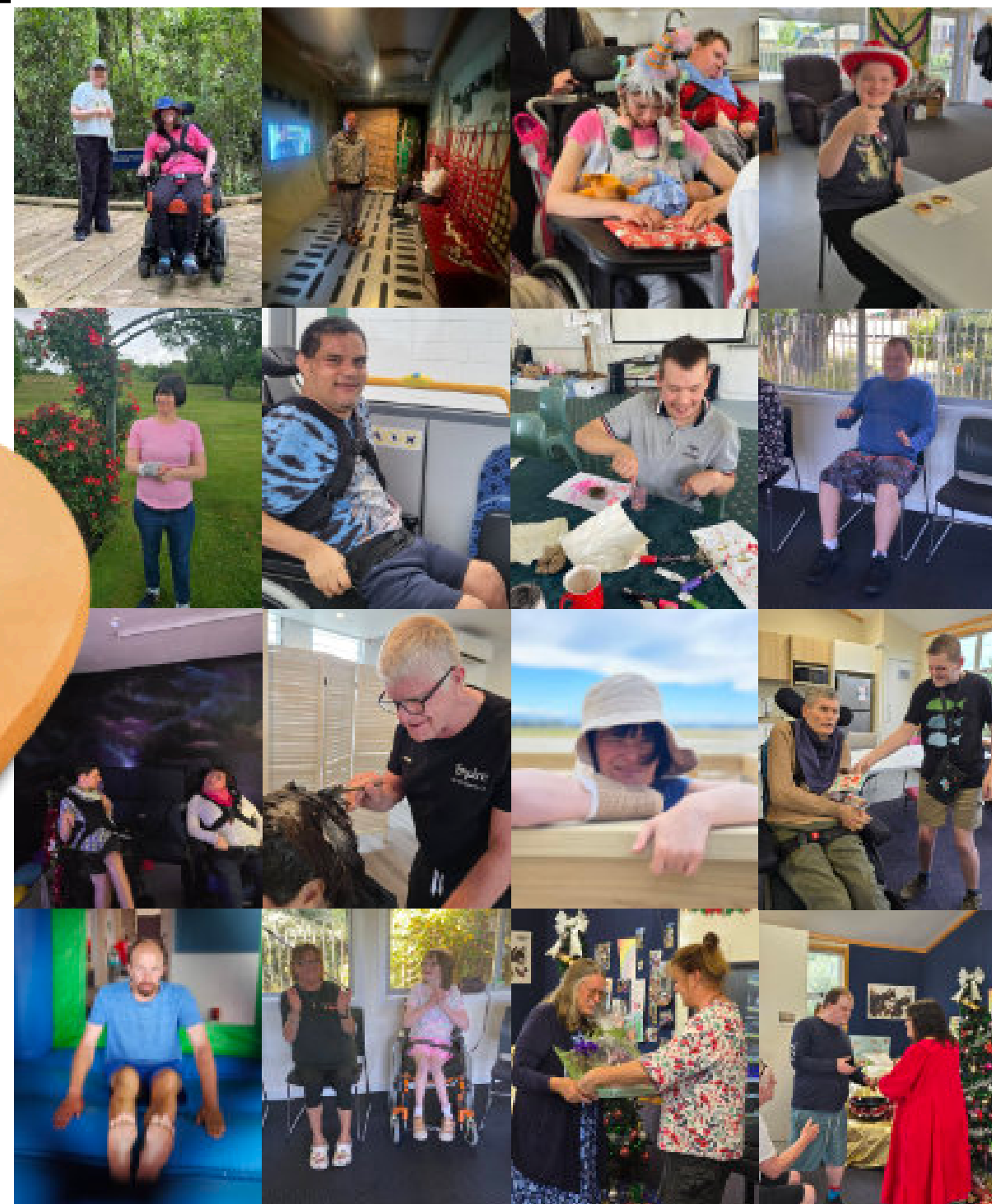
A huge thank you to Downer for their generous donation which enabled us to buy items for our sensory room, enhancing this wonderful breakout space for the people we support to enjoy.

A big thank you to everyone who supported us last year, including the donations for our raffle. Your generosity was instrumental in the success of the raffle with amazing prizes and donations. We hugely appreciate every contribution.

We are looking forward to a fun and exciting year ahead, including the start

of an exciting mural project! Thank you all again for your ongoing support.

Caroline and the Kaiapoi team.



Lamar Room

Nau mai,

Welcome back to another exciting and busy year!

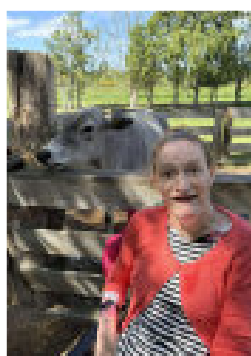
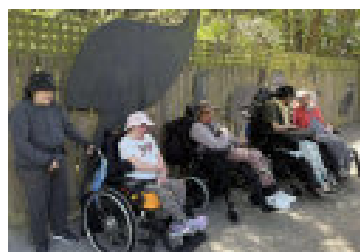
Just before Christmas, we had a wonderfully busy time. We attended the Operatunity Christmas Concert, where everyone enjoyed the music and songs.

We also took part in a scavenger hunt in the city centre and had a fabulous Christmas party. It was lovely to see all of you! It fills us with joy to see the people we support smiling and proud of their achievements when they receive their certificates.

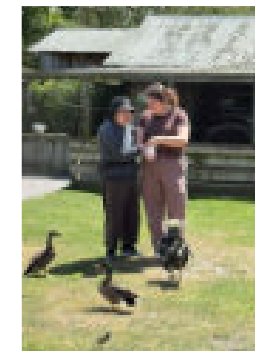
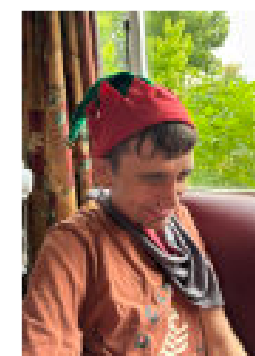
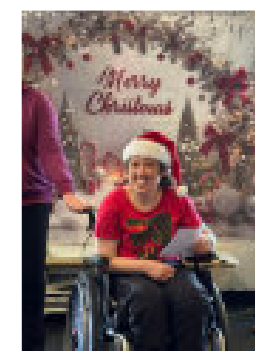
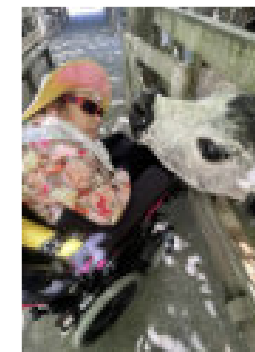
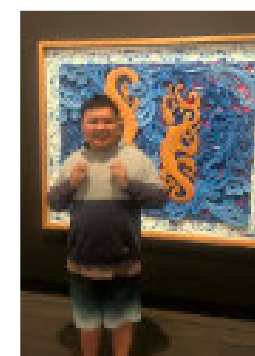
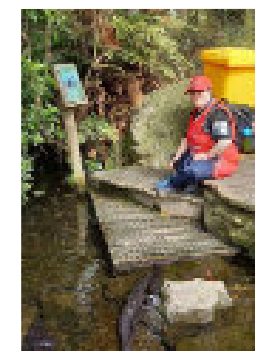
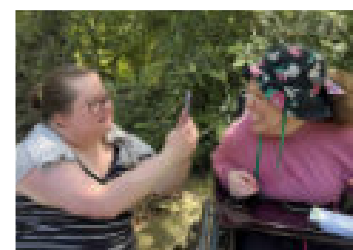
The final week is always filled with fun and games, including a visit from Father Christmas, a water fight, large board games, and a picnic lunch. I am sure 2026 will be another year filled with amazing opportunities!

Ngā mihi

Lynette and the Lamar team.



Group outing to Willowbank and the end of year Celebration 2025



Sockburn

Namaste, Ni hao, Talofa, Kia Ora and Hello!

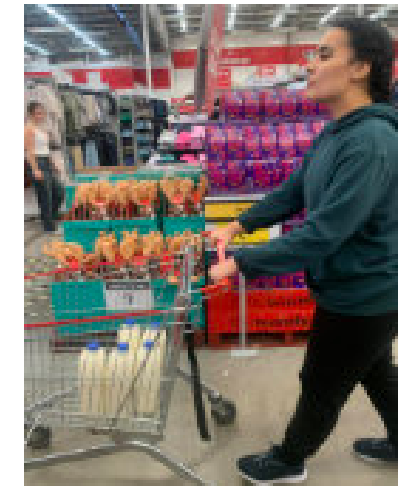
Welcome to our first newsletter of 2026. We hope you all had a joyful Christmas and a happy new year.

We're excited to share a collection of photos highlighting the incredible activities we've had the chance to experience recently. Take a moment to browse through and enjoy the memories with us. We look forward to continuing this journey together and sharing even more moments ahead.

With gratitude,

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa,

Phillipah, Candy and the Sockburn team.



Spotlight on Our Supporters

Downer

The Kaiapoi Chris Ruth Centre were grateful recipients of the Downer's 12 Days of Christmas – Making a difference in our communities initiative.

Downer received 116 nominations from incredible charities across Australia and New Zealand supporting causes across various categories, including health and wellbeing, youth, local communities, children's wellbeing, and food and shelter.

Under the health and wellbeing category the Chris Ruth Centre in Kaiapoi were chosen for funding to enhance the sensory room for the people we support at the centre.



Downer

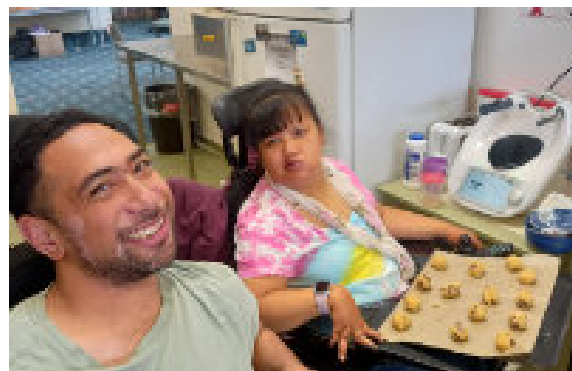
Top Left: Downer presenting the cheque to the Kaiapoi centre
Top right: Junior and Batin making biscuits in the Thermomix

Thermomix

One of our wonderful staff at Hoon Hay One- Rachel entered a competition to win a Thermomix for the Centre, and wrote a compelling story about how this would benefit the people we support to create fresh, nutritious meals and be a tool for inclusion.

Rachel had an introductory session with Sarah the consultant for Thermomix to get a run down on how to use it, and its capabilities before bringing it into the centre, where eager individuals were ready to give it a go!

We can see this as a great resource for the centre.



thermomix
VORWERK

Spotlight on Our Supporters

The Lion Foundation and Braided Rivers Community Trust Ashburton

Prior to Christmas, The Chris Ruth Centre were successful recipients of a joint application to The Lion Foundation and Braided Rivers in Ashburton. We are sincerely grateful for their continual support for the Chris Ruth Centre Trust which enables us to continue the incredible work our centres do.



The Jones Foundation



The Chris Ruth Centre would like to acknowledge the ongoing support from the Jones Foundation. The funding gifted was allocated towards an asbestos survey required as part of the pre assessment for the Hoon Hay re-development project. We are incredibly grateful for the support.

Waimakariri District Council and Creative Communities NZ

Watch this space!

The Kaiapoi Chris Ruth Centre are embarking on a mural project at their centre, creating a wonderful design on the side of the building to welcome people to the centre, and beautifying the container. This is going to create a wonderful opportunity for

local rangatahi to be involved with an experienced muralist- Mel from Off The Wall. We look forward to the final vision to come to fruition!

A huge thank you to the Waimakariri District Council and Creative Communities NZ for the funding.



Thank you to Our Supporters



The Roy Owen Dixey Charitable Trust

Estate of George Sevicke Jones

Steady as You Go walking group



What's on in the Community

Want to connect with the local community?
Want to learn about some local options for disabled people and whānau?

Selwyn Community Drop in sessions



ST DAVIDS CHURCH, 75 HIGH STREET, LEESTON
25TH FEBRUARY 2026 | 5:30PM-7PM

Join us to connect and to ask any questions you may have.
NZSL interpreters are booked.



For more information phone: 0800 225 570 or email: EGLCinfo@msd.govt.nz

HŌHEPA CANTEBURY PRESENTS

INCLUSIVE SPORTS DAY

FRIDAY MARCH 6TH 2026
@ SPENCER PARK, 10:30AM-2PM. FREE

WE ARE BACK WITH OUR NEXT INCLUSIVE SPORTS DAY! THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO ANY PERSON WITH A DISABILITY TO EXPERIENCE A RANGE OF SPORTS AND THEIR ASSOCIATIONS. LACROSSE, NETBALL, BASKETBALL AND MORE!



BARBQUE DINNER FOR LUNCH INCLUDED




What's on in the Community

Special Events Canterbury Trust

ST PATRICK'S DAY BALL

2026

\$25

\$2 Raffle



March 14TH

6pm till 9pm
64 Kirk Road
Templeton

A Night of Greenery,
So come in your finest green attire
and we will see you on the dance floor!!

**Your ticket may win
be sure to bring it**

\$2 raffle - Supper at 8.15pm
Any concerns please email
speialeventscanterburytrust@gmail.com



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

Head Office:

Unit 7, 4-6 O'Briens Road

Sockburn 8042

PO Box 9027, Christchurch 8149

Ph. 03 339 2930

E. admin100@chrisruthcentre.co.nz