

THE CHRIS RUTH CENTRE TRUST

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2026



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

SAVE THE DATE

The Official Opening of
the Tuam Street Centre

Friday 28th August-
Invitation on page 20.

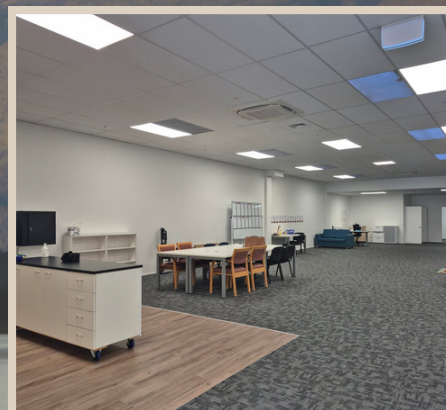


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Dates for Your Calendar

Friday, August 28: Official Opening Ceremony- *Tuam Street Centre, 11am at 462 Tuam Street, Phillipstown. Invitation on page 20.*

Monday, October 26: Centres Closed- Public Holiday- *Labour Day.*

Friday, November 13: Centres Closed- Public Holiday- *Canterbury Anniversary Day- Show Day.*

Friday, December 18: Last Day for 2026.

Kia ora koutou,

Here we are already over halfway through the year, with many of us still wondering how, and when that happened. The months seem to be slipping by at speed, helped along by the huge amount of activity across our centres.

Tuam Street Centre

Exciting news from Tuam Street- the centre is now fully operating, with the people who have moved into the space already making it their new place to be. Sorelle and Stella, in their leadership roles and the team have done a wonderful job creating an inviting, warm environment. We will be holding an official opening ceremony on Friday 28th August and would be delighted to have you join us.

Satisfaction Survey

A big thank you to everyone who has taken the time to complete our satisfaction survey, your feedback is genuinely appreciated. We welcome further responses, so if you haven't had a chance yet, please do take a moment to complete this quick and user-friendly survey.

Board Governance Update

An organisation like ours doesn't run on frontline activity alone, there is

always important work happening behind the scenes to ensure we remain strong, stable, and future-focused. This is where the Board plays a key role.

At present, Board members are beginning a forward-looking piece of work to consider the future direction of The Chris Ruth Centre Trust. As part of this, the Board is undertaking a Strategy Day exercise, which includes reflecting on our purpose as a service; what we do well, where we can improve, and what opportunities or changes may be needed over the coming years. This helps shape a clear picture of what our organisation could look like in years' ahead.

In addition to the strategy work, the Board has approved a full organisational financial review. This is being carried out by an independent company and will provide the Board with a long-term view of our financial position over the upcoming years. Our current financial structure is stable, and there is no cause for concern, this review simply supports good governance and future planning.

Thank you for all your support.

Warm regards
Marilyn



Ashburton

Tēnā koutou katoa.

As the colder months settle in, we've continued to make the most of winter with plenty of laughter, creating, and community connection here at Ashburton CRC.

This season has been filled with opportunities to build confidence, strengthen relationships, and enjoy new experiences together. From getting creative with winter themed arts and crafts to baking warm treats, puzzles, music and sensory activities.

We've also continued to get out into the community whenever the weather allows. Whether it's visiting local cafes, exploring shops, attending community participations, or enjoying a crisp winter walk.

We are also grateful for being featured in a local newspaper article highlighting the Able

Art Collective hosted by the Ashburton Art Gallery.

A special highlight this season has been seeing the continued progress people are making towards their personal goals. Every achievement, big or small, is worth celebrating, and we're incredibly proud of the determination and resilience shown by everyone at the centre.

As always, none of this would be possible without our amazing staff. Their dedication helps create an environment where people feel safe, supported, and encouraged to thrive.

Ngā mihi

Sapphire and the Ashburton team.



Harrison enjoying a swing and music



Newspaper article highlighting the Able Art Collective- Ashburton Guardian 18th June Edition



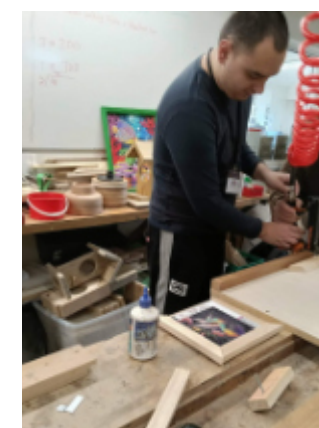
Jasmine and all of her baking that was kindly donated for elder abuse week



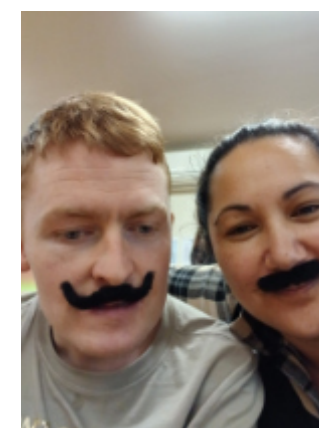
Matariki Celebration at the Ashburton Centre



Jacob fascinated with the Virtual Reality



Aidan working on a frame for his diamond art



Fun and games at Ashburton CRC!

Bishopdale

Greetings!

It has been a busy time for the Bishopdale Centre. Our main focus recently has been preparing for a play we will be performing in competition with the Sockburn Centre in September! We look forward to sharing more details about it over the next couple months!

When we are not working on the play, our time has been filled with many exciting activities, including a mid-winter dinner, a PJ party, and a celebration of shared kai for Matariki.

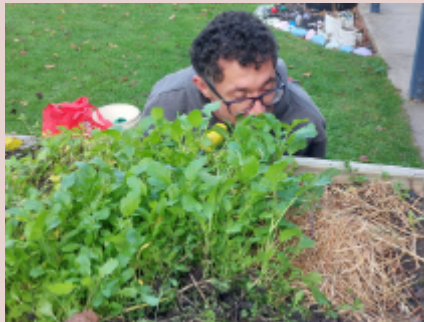
In addition the people we support have enjoyed going to the workshops kindly run by Bunnings, have started an internal bowling competition, and are getting the garden ready for planting during the warmer season. We also celebrate Jesse’s success in

growing winter cabbage!

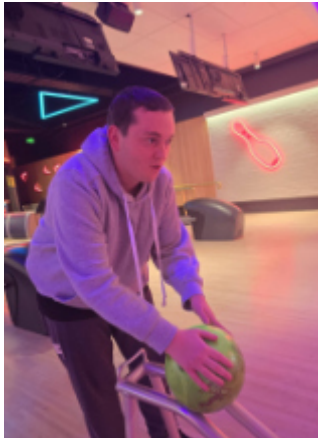
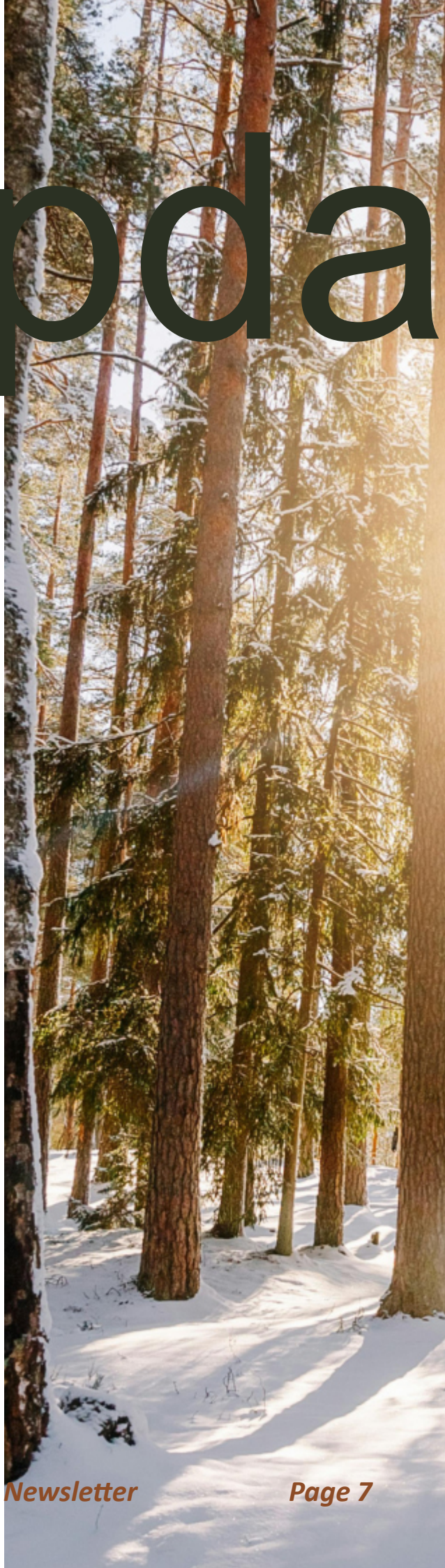
Other activities within the centre are individuals working towards their own goals. This has included individuals getting pen-pals, making gifts for family and friends, and one person we support making a special bag that was raffled off.

It was also warming to see Jeremy, who started this year, go to MOVE (Jolt) for the very first time. His smile was incredible!

Greg and the Bishopdale team.



Alex T preparing the veggie bed for winter



Alex at ten pin bowling



Jeremy (Jem) going to Jolt for the first time!



Joshua receiving a letter from his pen-pal.



Kate laughing through silly games



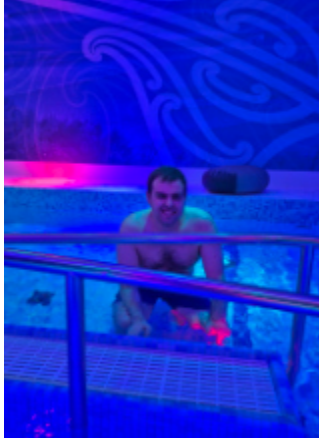
Liam doing his baking goal, treats for mum!



Devon at Jolt



Kate, James and Devon enjoying the new sensory pool at Parikore



David at Bunnings

Hoon Hay

Kia ora everyone,

It is crazy to think we are already halfway through the year! As you can see, we are making the absolute most of every single day. Here is a quick look at what has been happening around here lately.

Team Updates & Changes:

Farewell to Robel:

We recently said goodbye to Robel. We'll miss him, but we hope to have him back with us again before too long!

Welcome Back, Gavin: Gavin is officially back after being away for a month. We have been thoroughly enjoying our Thursday music sessions with stand-in musicians, Barb and Bella! As you can see Shane is a fan of the guitar!

Unexpected Flooding

Unfortunately, we recently had to cope with some indoor flooding. This was caused by an

individual (or individuals) attempting to steal the copper guttering from the roof. Thanks to everyone for their assistance and patience while this was getting sorted out with noisy blowers and dehumidifiers.

Matariki Celebrations:

We recently enjoyed wonderful Matariki celebrations together, complete with a shared lunch and games. Thank you so much to everyone who brought goodies to share and to all who helped make it a fun day.

Winter Activities:

As the colder weather sets in, we are looking forward to enjoying more clear winter days and helping everyone with their chosen activities.

Mid year break:

I hope everyone will be well rested after our mid-winter break.

Stay warm,
Adrienne and the HH1 team.



Chevani and Junior having a game of air hockey



Shane watching Gavin play his guitar



Alice very pleased with her choice of sensory toy



Alicia ripping paper for her paper face craft



Batin proud of her model



Junior at Circability



Kristian heading out to the park



Logan engrossed in his woodwork with Mark



Tanner enjoying the wheelchair roundabout



Claudia and Sam at mini golf



Sofia doing her exercises

Hoon Hay



Bethany typing up her story



Neve at Circability

Kia ora koutou, from the Lamar team.

We're right in the thick of winter, and what a chilly few days we've had. The cooler morning starts have not deterred us from keeping busy, and getting out and about.

We've visited the Pioneer Sensory room, JOLT drop in sessions, Circability, and testing out our swimming skills at a variety of local swimming pools.

We've been keeping busy here at the centre with baking and cooking, participating in our weekly move and music sessions, and working towards our goals.

We recently celebrated Matariki, and what a beautiful celebration we had. We gave thanks, and acknowledged those who are special to us. This years' Matariki celebration centered on the theme 'Matariki herenga waka - for everyone', to signify unity, belonging, and inclusion for all people.

A special thanks to all the wonderful people involved with Lamar for navigating the absence of Lynette, and return of myself over the past few weeks.

Ngā mihi,
Jess, and the Lamar team



Sara working on her cooking goal



Courtney at Circability



Chrystal at Circability



Melissa making her mocktail



Liam and Teresa making sausage rolls



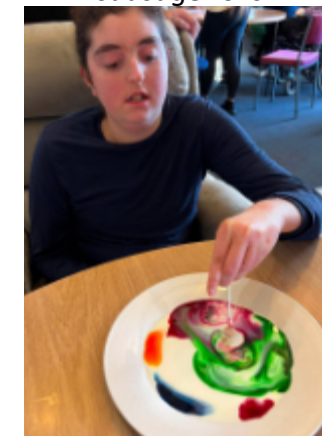
Teresa having fun at a day held by Tima Sports



Having fun with experiments and baking at the Lamar Centre



Chrystal at the Bunnings workshop



Rachel being creative



Charlotte at Jolt

Hoon Hay

Hello whānau and friends.

Hoon Hay 3 have enjoyed some new experiences over the last couple of months. These have included a trip to the Ferrymead historic park and an afternoon at Timezone trying to win on the machines.

Earl spent some time on one of his goals- to go out to menswear shops to see if he can find a bargain or two for himself. As you can see he is a passionate Crusaders supporter and it looks like he found some treasures! When he isn't out shopping he can be found at the Cashmere High School library putting books back on the shelves weekly.

The bus continues to be a firm favourite for the people we

support in our room, and as these photos depict Jenny and Ant are no exception to enjoying this activity.

Stuart made his first magazine purchase, to be kept at the centre for him. He is very proud of the choice he made and rightfully so!

Nikki has returned to one of her favourite activities- horse riding! And although she has had a break from riding she still appears comfortable and confident with it. Go Nikki!

Jessica has been enjoying getting out for regular walks which are made even better when the sun is out.

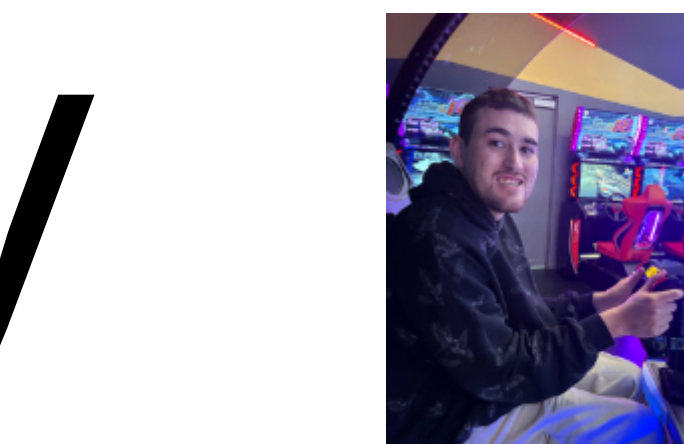
Shelley and the team at HH3.



Nikki horse riding



Harry at Ferrymead



Eli at Timezone



Huong at Ferrymead



Jenny on the bus



Ant on the bus



Jessica out walking



Chris at the beach



Henry at Bunnings



Graffiti busters



Stuart's first magazine purchase



Earl with Crusaders gear



Earl at the Library

Kaiapoi

Welcome!

What a busy time we have had! Visits to Launch Pad, volunteering at Mini Ha Ha, weekly visits to Waimak Open Door, achieving transport goals, monthly Jolt sessions, and the occasional pub visits just to name a few. It's also exciting to see the Coreboards installed in the community!

We brought the sunshine indoors with our Tropical Fiesta day! Filled with hula dancing, tropical games, music, delicious mocktails, a tropical themed buffet, and colourful hula skirts!

We are incredibly fortunate to have Rachel and Theo volunteering their time to lead our creative arts group sessions. We are very grateful for the time and talent they generously share with us each week.

Our weekly Chat Groups continue to be a highlight of the week, providing positive communication opportunities in so many ways.

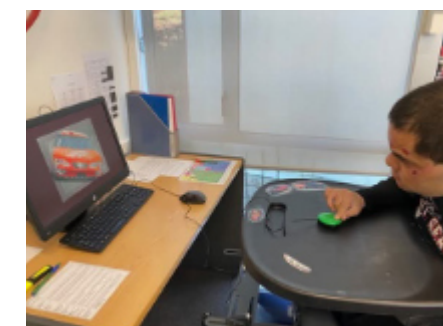
We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has helped make our music and sensory rooms possible. Our music room provides opportunities for self-expression, creativity, movement, and connection through music. Our sensory room offers a calm and relaxing environment where people can explore sensory equipment, soothing lights, fibre optic lighting and tactile resources. It is a space where the people we support can relax, regulate, recharge, and simply enjoy being in an environment suited to their individual needs.

We are incredibly grateful for the funding that has enabled us to purchase this specialised equipment. These resources are a significant investment, and they make such a difference to the people we support every day.

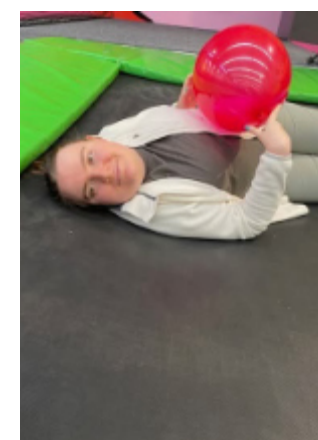
Caroline and the Kaiapoi team.



Flynn showcasing the new Coreboard



Edwin using the switch



Jewel enjoying Launch Pad



Sophie on fiesta day



Matthew having fun at Launch Pad



Friday Move session



Wednesday Chat group



Art and craft session



Petra creating a master piece with Rachel



Tobias and Lisa volunteering at Mini Ha Ha



Courtney enjoying the music room

Sockburn

Kia ora whānau, friends, and our wider community.

Winter has been a season of fun, friendship, and new experiences here at the Sockburn Centre. We've enjoyed getting out and about, learning new skills, and creating wonderful memories together.

Some of our highlights include: A scenic trip on the Diamond Harbour Ferry, cooking and baking, Bunnings workshops, movie outings, community bus trips, and making great use of the new pool facilities. Some of us enjoyed catching up with friends from the Halswell Hub music group over a game of bowling, and some also made the most of our visits to Timezone.

We celebrated King's Birthday with a special high tea, had lots of fun on Pyjama Day, and proudly supported Pink Shirt Day alongside our Executive

Team, promoting kindness, inclusion, and respect.

This season, we also celebrated several birthdays, including Candice's milestone 40th birthday, and said farewell to three valued team members as they moved on to new opportunities. We thank them for their contributions and wish them all the best.

We hope you enjoy looking through the photos and sharing in the wonderful memories we've made together. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to another exciting season ahead.

Ngā mihi nui,

Chris Ruth Sockburn Centre.



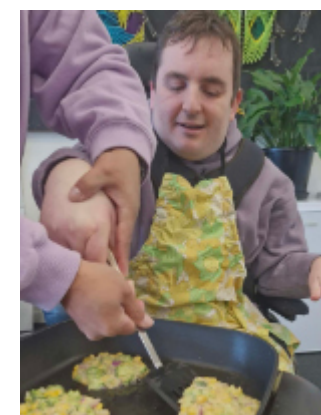
Pyjama Day at the Sockburn Centre



A visit to Diamond Harbour



Candice best dressed lady and Paul best dressed gentleman at the high tea event



Cody cooking for his family



Henry taking part in an activity at Bunnings



Holly engaging with Bunnings customer service



Jessica exploring Sensory music



Karina handing over the raffle prize



Simon enjoying a look around the toy section



Shalene baking for her family



Saskia doing a work out at the park



Noah on the bus

Tuam Street

It's hard to believe we're already halfway through the year! Winter has been a wonderful time of growth at Tuam Street Centre as we've continued to settle in, build routines, strengthen friendships, and plant roots in our community.

We've enjoyed a busy few months filled with community outings, Jolt sessions, sports, cooking, arts and crafts, and a memorable visit to the Air Force Museum. We are also incredibly proud of Geraldine, who has joined Handmade Studios, and of course everyone else who continue to work towards their individual goals and learning new skills.

Matariki was a special time for us as we reflected on the past year, created our own Matariki star maps, made fry bread together, and looked ahead to the months to come.

We've also celebrated some

exciting firsts, including Ignacia's very first car ride from the centre- a milestone that brought plenty of smiles. Another highlight was our pizza day, where everyone enjoyed preparing and sharing lunch together.

Thank you to our wonderful whānau, carers, and residential providers for your ongoing support. We hope you enjoy the photos below, which capture some of the many special moments we've shared this winter.

Ngā mihi nui,

Sorelle and the Tuam Street Centre Team.



Matariki Art Designs



Logan enjoying time at Jolt



Sudip at ten pin bowling



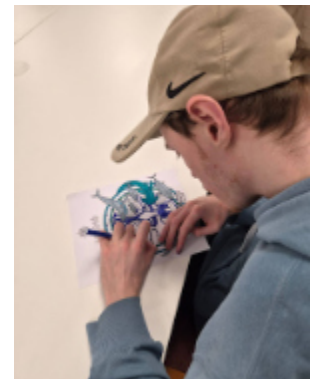
Asher enjoying his pizza



Sudip working hard at 0800 Hungry



Geraldine at Handmade Studios



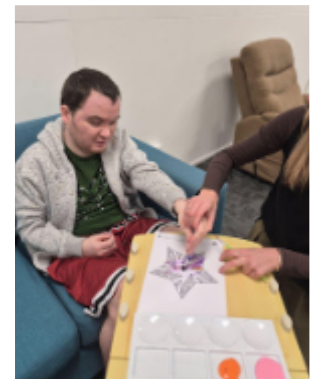
Isaac enjoying being creative



Lucas and his baking



Erik at Circability



Conrad being creative



Ignacia celebrating going out



Lucas and Asher at the Airforce Museum



Ignacia whipping up a treat!



The Chris Ruth Centre

promoting a good life for adults with disabilities

Official Opening

The Chris Ruth Centre
Tuam Street

August 28

Friday, 11AM
462 Tuam Street
Christchurch

RSVP to Amy Pawson
fundraiser@chrisruthcentre.co.nz by
Friday 21st August

Spotlight on Our Supporters

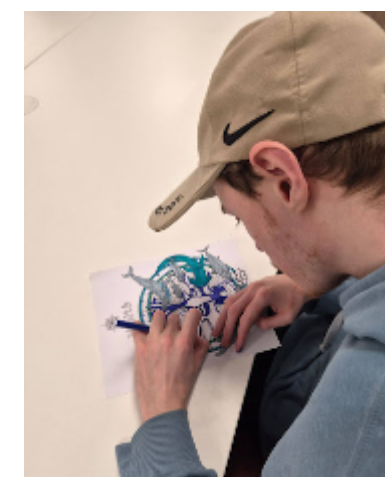
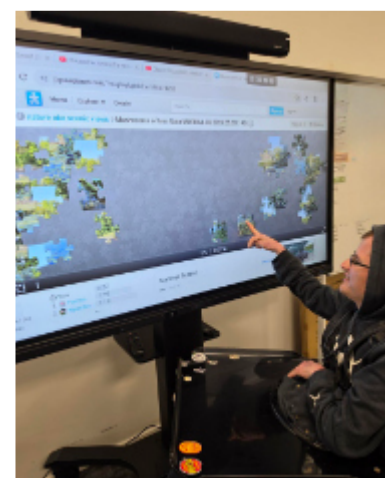
Supporting our new Tuam Street Centre

It has been a busy few months with the new centre on Tuam Street opening at the end of April. We are very grateful for the support and funding we have received for items to set up the centre.

1. **Kiwi Gaming Foundation Ltd-** Commbox, stand and accessories.
2. **Christchurch City Council Computers to the Community Scheme-** Donation of desktops and laptops for Tuam Street (and our other centres).
3. **Harcourts Foundation-** Musical

instruments and props for Tuam Street (as well as Kaiapoi and Hoon Hay Thursday Music Session).

4. **David Ellison Charitable Trust-** 3x tablets and cases for Tuam Street.
5. **Christchurch Casino Charitable Community Trust-** Art and crafts supplies for Tuam Street.
6. **Bunnings Riccarton-** Donation of a swing chair and lockable cabinet and safe for Tuam Street.
7. **Air Rescue Services Limited-** AED defibrillator and accessories for Tuam Street.



Thank you for your support of the new Tuam Street Chris Ruth Centre

Thank you to Our Supporters





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