

THE CHRIS RUTH CENTRE TRUST

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2026



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

THANK YOU!

Hugo Charitable Trust
for the generous
donation of three brand
new vehicles.



<https://chrisruthcentre.co.nz>

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Dates for Your Calendar

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

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

Thursday, December 3: Bishopdale End of Year Celebration

Friday, December 4: Ashburton End of Year Celebration

Monday, December 7: Sockburn End of Year Celebration

Tuesday, December 8: Hoon Hay One End of Year Celebration

Wednesday, December 9: Lamar End of Year Celebration

Thursday, December 10: Phillipstown End of Year Celebration

Friday, December 11: Hoon Hay Three End of Year Celebration

Monday, December 14: Kaiapoi End of Year Celebration

Friday, December 18: Last day for 2026.

Friday, January 15 2027: Staff only day.

Monday, January 18 2027: Return day for the people we support.

Kia ora koutou,

Spring is my favourite season of the year. Seeing gardens burst into colour and trees come alive with fresh leaves is a wonderful reminder of growth, renewal, and new beginnings.

This season, I am delighted to share some exciting news from across our centres. In particular, we extend our sincere appreciation to the Hugo Charitable Trust for their generous donation, which has enabled us to purchase a new wheelchair-accessible van and two hybrid Kia Carnival people movers. These fantastic additions to our fleet are already making a real difference, providing safer, more comfortable and more reliable transport for the people we support. The new vehicles have also allowed us to retire three older vehicles that had become increasingly expensive to maintain.

We also celebrated the official opening of our Phillipstown Centre on Tuam Street on 28 August, and Sockburn's 5th Birthday on 15 October. It was wonderful to see so many people join us to mark both these incredible milestones. Thank you to everyone who attended and to both teams for making it such a special day.

Another significant development for the Trust is the sale of our Bishopdale site. While saying goodbye to a property that has been part of our journey is not

without mixed emotions, the sale also presents an opportunity for a fresh start. The terms of the sale allow us to remain on site until 3 September 2027, giving us time to find a new property that better meets our future needs. Please be assured that we are actively looking for a modern site that we can make our own, and we will keep everyone updated as plans progress.

Following on from my message in the previous newsletter, I am pleased to report that the Board has completed two of its three strategic planning sessions. These discussions are extremely valuable and have provided greater clarity and direction as we continue to plan for the future of the Trust.

Finally and most importantly, I would like to thank our staff, persons we exist to serve, families, donors and supporters. Your commitment, energy, and encouragement are at the heart of everything we do. The achievements celebrated in this newsletter are only possible because of your ongoing support and dedication.

As we embrace this season of growth and renewal, we look forward to the opportunities ahead and continue to strengthen the services, supports, and communities that make the Chris Ruth Centre such a special place.

Warm regards, Marilyn



Ashburton

Kia ora koutou,

As spring arrives and the weather begins to warm up, we have been making the most of the sunshine and getting out and about in the community. It has been wonderful to see everyone enjoying new activities, staying active and spending time together.

We recently celebrated Te Wiki o te Reo Māori, enjoying daily quizzes, practising Māori greetings and making delicious fry bread to share. It was a fun week of learning, connection and celebration.

We have also been enjoying visits to the MenzShed, the Public Library, the Able Art Collective at the Art Gallery, and the Ashburton Street Market. We have also been keeping active with Walking Netball on Tuesdays at the EA Networks Centre.

Looking ahead, we have two birthdays to celebrate in October, and this year we were

fortunate to be one of the organisations to receive a donation from the annual Ashburton Golf Tournament. We are truly grateful and appreciative of this kindness and recognition.

The Chris Ruth Centre Ashburton is proud to support the Ashburton Community Care Packages project and is excited to be a local drop-off point for this wonderful initiative. If you have any unwanted or spare items that could help fill a care package, we would love for you to consider donating them. Every little contribution can make a meaningful difference to someone in the community who may need a little extra support.

Here are a few photos for you all to enjoy! We hope they bring a smile to your face and show some of the wonderful activities we have been enjoying this spring.

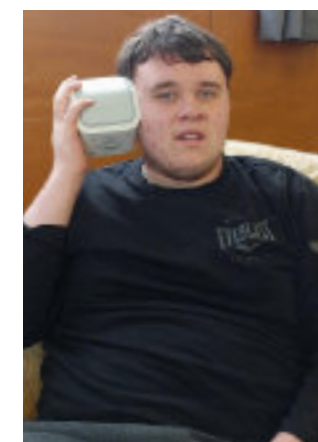
Sapphire and the team at CRC Ashburton



The group enjoying the Virtual Reality System



Everyone enjoying a beautiful day outside



Harrison enjoying the Yoto player



Harry and his Armour building project



Aidan busy at the Menzshed



Levon busy at the Menzshed



Jasmine showing her paper mache skills



Hayden looking proud of his new shirt he made using the cricut



Jacob and his gramophone project using the cricut



Olivia busy in the kitchen making fry bread for Te wiki o te reo māori

Bishopdale

Welcome from Bishopdale!

The new owners of the building have been busy improving the space next door, and they've been fantastic in ensuring our daily activities continue without disruption, aside from one unexpected fire alarm.

With the weather improving, we've been able to enjoy more outdoor activities and exercise, and we continue to discover new places to explore together.

Our first introduction pen-pal letters sent to the Community of Hearts organisation in Canada (via traditional snail mail) were received and replied too! Everyone has been waiting in anticipation for their replies, and are excited to hear from them! Several individuals have also been pen-paling with local friends, which has been wonderful to see.

Over the past few months, many people have been working on long-term creative projects, making items and gifts for family

and friends, from doll blankets to table toppers and more.

The play is progressing well, and a small preview will be shared at our end-of-year celebration. There will be no early hints... you'll have to attend to find out what's in store!

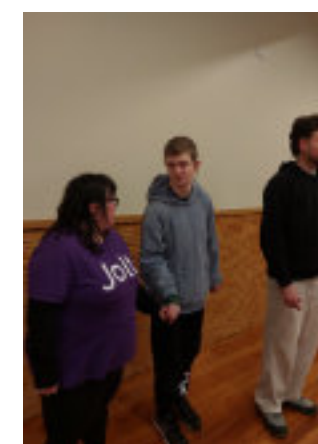
Greg and the Bishopdale team.



Mike switching to control the sewing machine making a doll blanket for his niece



Devon at the Big Fun Gym



Jeremy at Jolt



Joshua making lolly cake



Kirsten working on her baking goal



Liam making a table topper for his mum



Alex at his wood working class



Joshua, James and Jesse enjoying a special Jolt show at the Town Hall



Mike receiving his letter from his pen-pal in Canada



Kate at the Botanical Gardens



David at Bunnings

Hoon Hay

Kia ora,

Hoon Hay One welcomes new staff member Jade to the team.

We are extremely happy to be getting some warmer days and of course we're making the most of them.

Junior has finally been able to achieve his busing goal, and Alice and Rick enjoyed a beautiful day at Willowbank recently.

Logan and Lou headed to Diamond Harbour on the ferry and had a fish and chip picnic. Alicia and Tanner have been enjoying the spring blossom and fresh air.

Emily reached a milestone birthday, celebrating her 40th with us. She wanted a 'lolly cake' cake so we shaped one into an 'E' for her; she loved it!

Junior and Claudia both enjoyed meeting new people and improving their ball skills at

netball. Logan continues to improve his fitness at Pro Active Karate.

Daniel and Tanner went to see 'Winnie the Pooh' at the Court Theatre recently and their touring group performed 'He Kura Kōrero' at Hoon Hay during Māori language week.

Summer is approaching fast and Sofia is excited to see all the Christmas decorations in the shops.

We are looking forward to the rest of the year and a quick reminder to include hats for the sunny days.

Noho ora mai rā
Adrienne and the HH1 team.



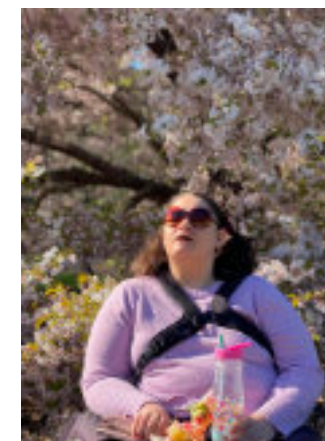
Sofia looking for new Christmas decorations



Lou at Diamond Harbour



Logan enjoying his gym sessions



Alicia enjoying the spring blossoms



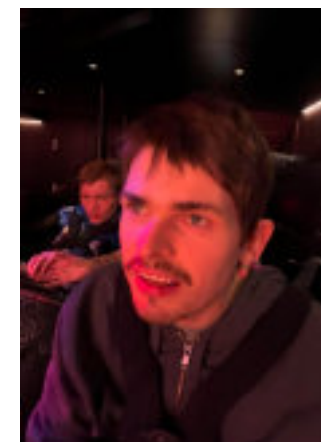
Alice at Willowbank



Celebrating Emily's birthday



Claudia having a game of netball



Daniel and Tanner at the Court Theatre



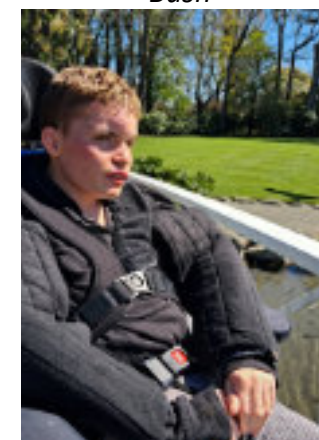
Kristian at Riccarton Bush



Junior catching the bus



Batin painting a picture



Tanner enjoying the outdoors

Hoon Hay

Kia ora

As we transition out of a busy winter season, it has been wonderful to welcome the arrival of spring blossoms and take advantage of the warmer weather with more outdoor activities.

Our participants in the Lamar Room have been actively working towards and achieving a variety of individual goals. Hands-on projects this month have included baking, sewing, and floral arranging. Members have also been dedicated to researching topics of interest and engaging in local work placements.

Community involvement remains a strong focus. The team has enjoyed participating

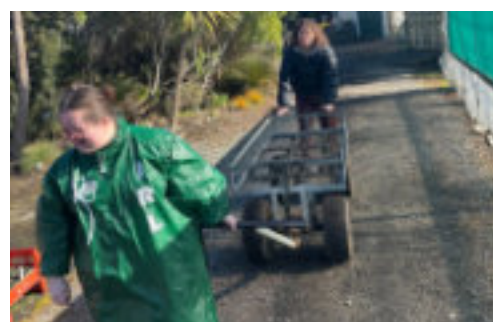
in 'Move with Jolt' sessions and Jolt drop-in activities, as well as taking part in hands-on workshops at Bunnings. A key highlight for everyone was attending a fantastic Court Theatre production at Hoon Hay.

In celebration of Māori Language Week, our group collaborated on a meaningful cultural project to build a *Te Whare Tapa Whā / Whareora* (House of Wellbeing). Everyone contributed by designing and colouring a section, coming together to create a beautiful piece of collective art that is now proudly displayed on our wall.

Ngā mihi,
Lynette, and the Lamar team



*Te Whare Tapa Whā - Whareora
(House of Wellbeing)*



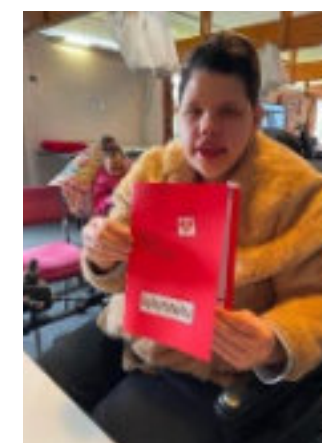
*Lisa and Charlotte working at Trees
for Canterbury*



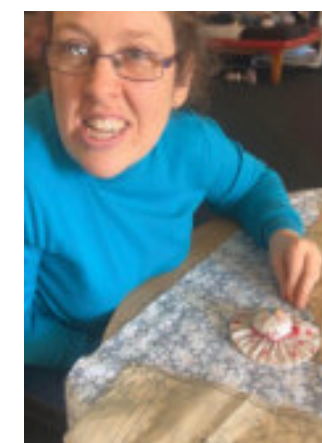
Teresa playing Tball cricket



Rachel catching bubbles



*Rest in peace Courtney.
We will miss you*



*Bethany working on her
sewing project*



*Isaak at the music
session*



*Chrystal working on her
cooking goals*



*Jessica packing apples
for 0800 Hungry*



*Rory loves the keyboard
and abacus*



*Liam enjoying the
accessible swing at the
Botanical Gardens*



*Niamh looking dapper
for her community
outing*



*Hannah resting while having
passive stretching exercises*

Hoon Hay

THREE

Tena Koutou Katoa

As we head into Summer, it is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the amazing people of Hoon Hay 3 who make our centre such a special place to be.

Every day brings opportunities for connection, laughter, learning, creativity and new experiences. We are incredibly proud of the way the people we support embrace opportunities, try new things, develop their independence, and most importantly, enjoy being themselves. From creative activities and outings to music, games and simply hanging out together means there is always something to smile about.

We have seen so many wonderful examples of people supporting each other and building friendships. Often Stuart can be heard saying "good girl" when witnessing someone completing a task

successfully, while Earl has been heard thanking others in the community when they moved aside to let his wheelchair through.

These moments captured, remind us that Hoon Hay 3 is much more than a place to come to for the day - it is a place where people belong, have a voice, make choices and are valued for who they are.

As we enjoy the longer days and warmer weather, let's celebrate our people: their achievements, their individuality, their friendships, their courage to try new things and all the joy they bring to those around them. Here's to a fantastic summer filled with sunshine, laughter, adventures and plenty of memorable moments.

Shelley, Adrienne and the wonderful team of HH3



Earl doing some baking



Ant and William at the local park



Stuart out buying his monthly magazine



Ant making a bird house



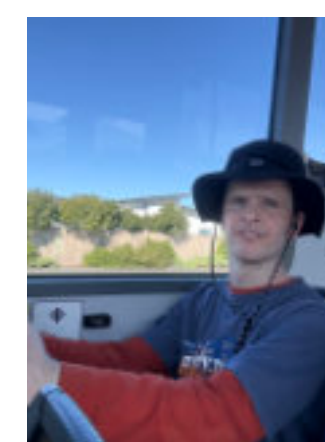
Jessica at the Warehouse



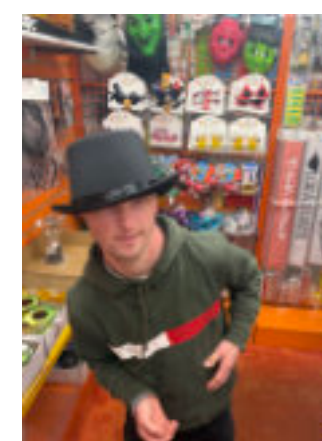
Michelle enjoying a visit to the local cafe



Huong at the park



Harry enjoying a bus ride



William at the Look Sharp store trying on the hats he likes



Jenny enjoying playing the drum in the music room



Chris at the beach

Kaiapoi

Welcome!

As we welcome spring, it's a great time to look back on what has been a lovely winter at the Chris Ruth Centre!

We feel incredibly fortunate to have received a brand new van, thanks to the generosity of the Hugo Charitable Trust. We are so grateful for this support, which has already made such a difference.

There has been lots happening, with something for everyone to enjoy, including bus trips and a day in Christchurch riding the tram. We have enjoyed our Pioneer sensory sessions, Operatunity Concerts, plenty of celebrations and our ever popular MOVE sessions on Fridays.

Open Door has been a big hit, with enjoyable games of bingo with some of the community groups that join. Theo and Rachel have joined us for lots of fantastic craft sessions, bringing plenty of creativity and fun.

Our artist, Lauren, has also been busy creating a beautiful blossom tree for one of our rooms, and it is looking absolutely wonderful!

We are particularly excited that Brittany secured a work placement at the Darnley Club! This is a fantastic opportunity for her to develop skills, build confidence and experience being part of a working environment.

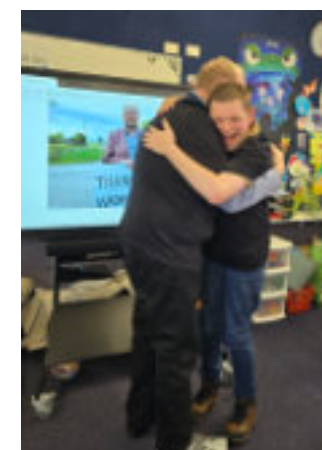
We had a very important visitor on Wednesday! The Mayor Dan Gordon joined our Wednesday Chat Group for a special question and answer session with the people we support. Dan was presented with a Wednesday Chat Group T-shirt. We enjoyed hearing what Dan had to share, asking lots of questions and enjoying a fun session together!

Here's to a wonderful spring filled with sunshine, smiles, laughter and new opportunities.

Caroline and the Kaiapoi team.



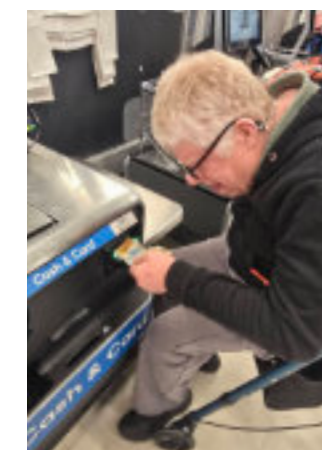
Wednesday Chat group with Mayor Dan Gordon. Daisy having a chat with him.



Daniel very happy meeting the Mayor



Flynn out and about



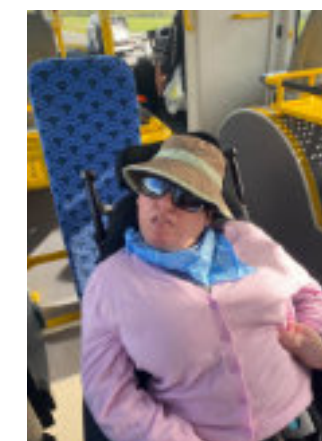
Johnny enjoying his trip to Kmart



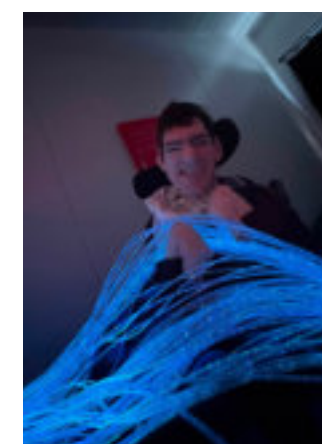
Jewel having fun on the Virtual Reality System



Matthew enjoying the tram ride



Sophie enjoying a bus ride



Anthony enjoying the sensory room



Tobias having fun in the music room



Lovely afternoon painting shells

Sockburn

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou,
tēnā koutou katoa,

As the days have grown warmer and spring has arrived, we've loved spending time together, getting out into the community, and creating special memories at the Sockburn Centre.

Over the past few months, we've enjoyed neighbourhood walks, taking in the fresh air and beautiful gardens, as well as a lovely morning tea at Café 186 with our speech groups. It was a wonderful opportunity to relax, chat, and share plenty of laughs.

We have also celebrated some very special birthdays, including milestone birthdays for Paul, Cody and Shalene. Thank you for letting us be part of these memorable occasions.

Many of us have enjoyed visits to Mona Vale, the Botanical Gardens and Westlake, making the most of Christchurch's beautiful outdoor spaces. It's also been fantastic to see everyone pursuing their interests, with Paul, Saskia and

Camille attending Opawa Move sessions, Cody enjoying cooking for his family, and Holly making new friendships through Shine Tribe.

There has been no shortage of fun, with popular outings to bowling, mini golf, the Pioneer Sensory Room and the sensory pool, which continues to be a favourite for many.

We are so grateful to our families and whānau for your ongoing support, encouragement and trust.

We look forward to sharing many more adventures, achievements and happy moments together in the months ahead.

As the flowers bloom and the days grow longer, we wish you all a season filled with sunshine, happiness and special moments with those you care about. Here's to a wonderful spring and many more memories to come!

Ngā mihi nui,

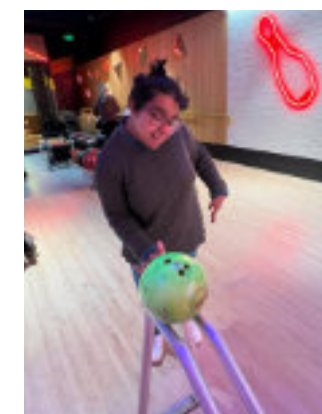
The Sockburn Centre Team



Camille having a go at bowling



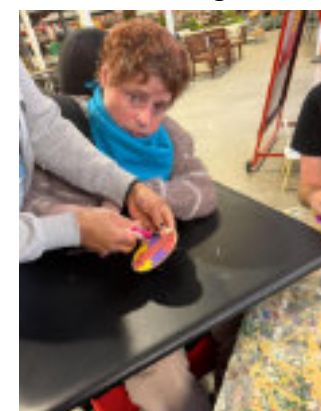
Holly having her turn at bowling



Shalene having fun at bowling



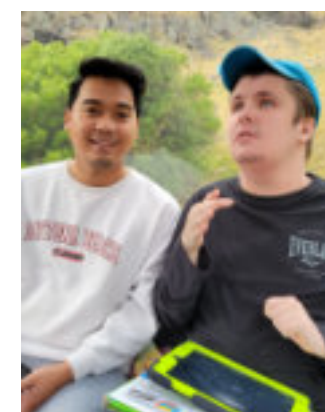
Paul having a dance at Move



Sarah taking part in the Bunnings activity



Saskia having a go at the Bunnings activity



Bayley taking in the scenery on the gondola



Tanya making cookies to share with friends



Noah at Timezone



Simon out and about, making the most of spring



Cody shopping for ingredients for his cooking



Henry at mini golf

Phillipstown

Kia ora koutou,

Spring has been a great time to get out and about, celebrate special occasions and enjoy new experiences at Phillipstown Centre. The past few months at the Phillipstown Centre have been filled with plenty of community adventures, celebrations and time spent together. We've been exploring the Christchurch CBD, visiting local parks and heading to the beach, making the most of the warmer weather.

We celebrated both Lucas's and Tim's birthdays, enjoyed lunch outings and welcomed friends from the other centres for visits. Māori Language Week was another special highlight, where we created pēpeha and shared kai together. We were also very happy to welcome Ignacia back to the centre, and it has been lovely having her reconnect with everyone.

A big thank you to everyone who attended the opening day. It was wonderful to have so many whānau, friends and supporters there to celebrate this special milestone.

Thank you to the wonderful whānau, carers and residential providers for the ongoing support. We hope you enjoy the photos, which capture some of the special moments shared this spring.

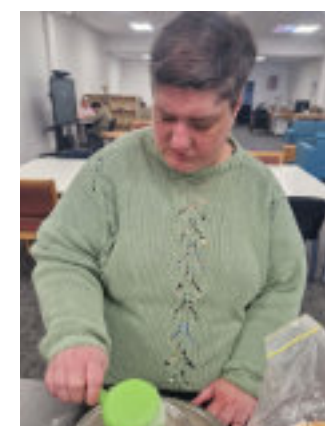
Ngā mihi nui,
Sorelle and the Phillipstown
Centre team



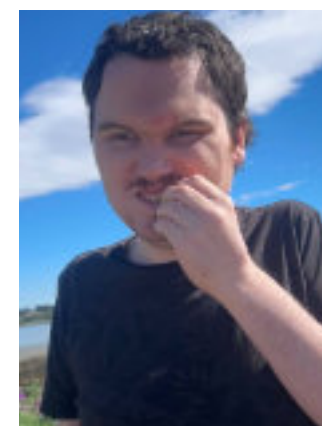
Celebrating Lucas's 30th birthday with friends at Phillipstown Centre!



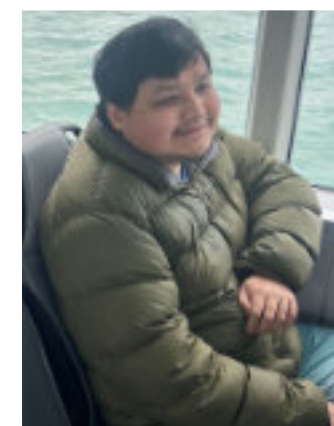
Caite enjoyed spending time together with Batin at a local café



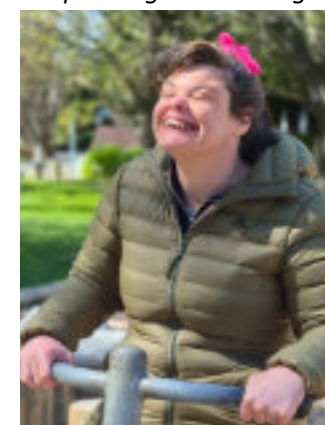
Geraldine enjoyed spending time baking



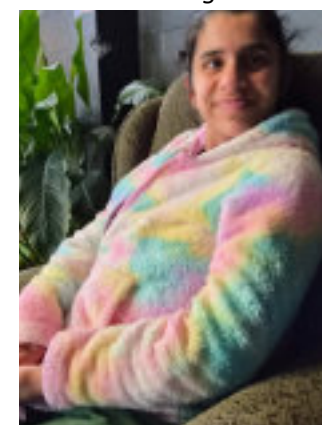
Conrad enjoying a lunch outing



Asher enjoyed a trip on the Diamond Harbour Ferry



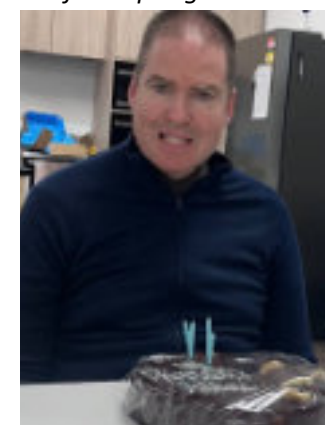
Courtney making the most of the spring sunshine



A big welcome back to Ignacia!



Logan enjoying the beach and some fresh sea air



Tim enjoying his birthday celebrations with the team at Phillipstown Centre



Salih enjoyed getting out and about in the community

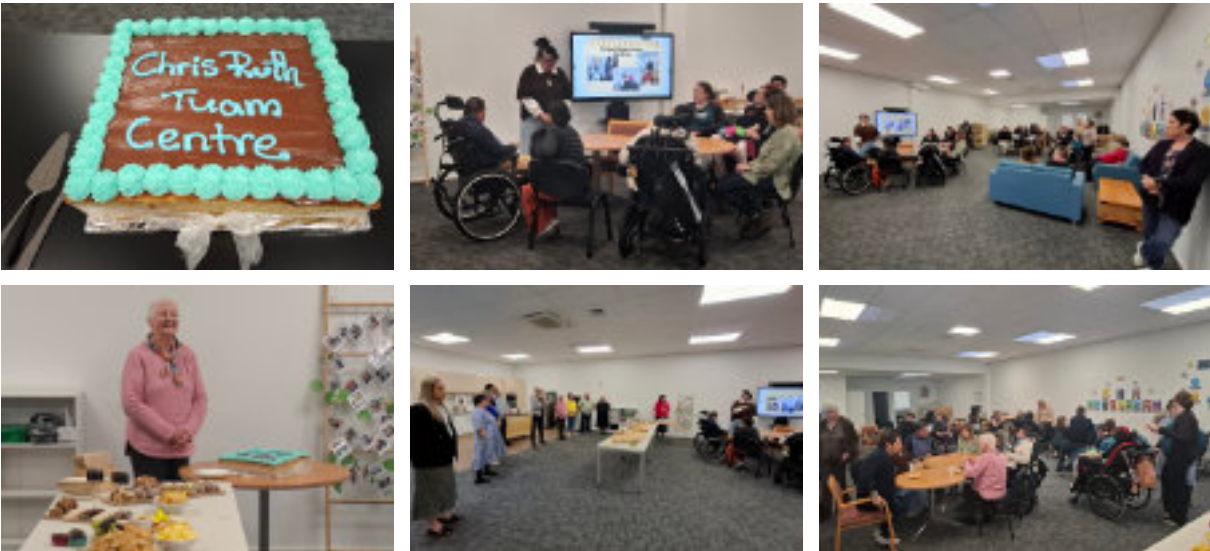


Erik enjoying making music and engaging with sounds and rhythms

CRC Celebrations

Official Opening of the Phillipstown Centre

The Chris Ruth Centre Trust have had a couple of celebrations over the last few months including the official opening of the Phillipstown Centre (Tuam Street) in August. The centre had done an incredible job catering for the day, and it was celebrated with family and friends, staff and CRC Board members. Thank you to everyone who came and celebrated with the centre.



Sockburn Centre's 5th Birthday

In October the Sockburn Centre celebrated their 5th Birthday with a party. It was incredible to hear the speeches by the people we support, they did an incredible job. Ka pai, great effort! Thank you to everyone who came along and celebrated the day with the centre.



Spotlight on Our Supporters

Three brand new vehicles from the Hugo Charitable Trust

The Chris Ruth Centre Trust are very pleased to have received three brand new vehicles donated by the Hugo Charitable Trust; a wheelchair accessible van and two Kia Carnival hybrid SUVs.

us to retire three older vehicles whose maintenance costs were no longer sustainable.

We are sincerely grateful to the Hugo Charitable Trust. The donation arrived when we needed it most. It allowed

The vehicles are already in regular use. They are taking the people we support to voluntary work participation programmes, activities and out and about in the community.



Thank you Hugo Charitable Trust for your donation to The Chris Ruth Centre Trust

Thank you to Our Supporters





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

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