



MANCHESTER HOUSE PANUI

Achieving Community Resilience

**October 2021
Issue 11**

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Welcoming our new Funding Manager

This month we farewelled our Funding Manager of three years Helen King. Helen worked to help to cement sustainable funding systems around grants and donations and implement a clearer communications strategy through newsletters, social media and the new website. She moves on to a new role at Environment Network Manawatu in Palmerston North. We warmly welcome Maxene Adamson to the role who will be known to many through her work with St John's Church and in the Manchester House Opshop.

Max brings with her a wealth of experience in project management and health administration and is married to an Anglican Priest. Her hobbies include singing in a small women's choir, handicrafts and enjoying her garden. She is a passionate volunteer and is looking forward to her work at Manchester House. Max can be contacted via email on funding@mhss.org.nz



Manchester House Hubs and services at Level 2.

All Manchester House service buildings (Social Services Hub, Senior Hub, Opshop and ASAP) are open as per usual hours during Level 2. Mask wearing and social distancing is mandatory and we expect people to scan or sign or scan into the premises to ensure contact tracing is fully in place. Our shared food table in the foyer of the Social Services hub is still operating, thought distancing protocols are being enforced. There is fruit, bread and school lunches available on a daily basis for the community to access.



Senior Expo postponed until 2022

As a result of still being in level 2 the decision has been made to postpone the upcoming Senior Expo which was originally scheduled for 29th of October to the 18th of March 2022. We look forward to seeing you then.

Spring has sprung in the Aorangi Street Orchard



Peach and plum trees are starting to beautifully blossom in the urban orchard planted on the grassy verges of our Social Services Hub at 68 Aorangi Street, bringing a bit of cheer to the often grey days of the Manawatū spring. The orchard was planted in July 2021 with funding support from the Mazda Foundation and receives frequent positive feedback and admiration. The purpose of the project is to grow and showcase food production for our Foodbank and to give life to what has been an unused grassy space.

Food security has come into question again due to the most recent lockdown, some people in our community struggling to feed their families during these challenging times. This has meant an increase in both numbers and the amount of food in our food parcels to ensure those who need it do not go without.

Donations of food are always appreciated and can be made directly to our Social Services Hub on 68 Aorangi Street.

Arts for Senior Classes make a colourful splash in the community.

Creative Communities funded 'Arts for Seniors' Classes concluded their pilot in September and have proved exceptionally popular with over double the participants expected to enrol choosing to participate and some wonderful, inspirational works of art created.

Feedback has been heartening, one participant noting 'I have loved doing the art class with Joe. It's absolutely enhanced my life. I felt awkward signing up for class with no artistic talent, as I'd felt all my life, but the skilled, encouraging way he teaches has put me at ease. I've experienced great joy in trying different techniques and getting something down on paper and wood as the minutes fly past. It's been amazingly rejuvenating to reach so far outside my usual activities and work demands'

These works will be displayed for viewing at 2pm on Saturday 16th of October at The Art Studio and Gallery 51a Fergusson Street. Please contact mrjoemcmenamin@gmail.com for more information.

We hope to start the next round of classes in November and they are open to members of the community aged 65+ at the cost of \$40 for a 6 week course.

Contact Senior Hub manager Sandra Hirst on 06 323 2410 to enrol.



Donate to the work of Manchester House by, for and about our community through our new website forum.

Manchester House has launched a new donations system via its website to help make giving towards valuable mahi for our community even easier.

Now more than ever support is vital so we can continue ensuring the health and wellbeing people young and old during this changeable and stressful time. **Go to <https://manchesterhouse.co.nz/donations/>** Anything you can offer will help us walk alongside those who need it most right now.

