



Jane Wright: From Trustee to Patron

Jane's dedication to Hospice continues

Hospice Mid Canterbury (HMC) breathed a sigh of relief when retiring trustee, Jane Wright, recently agreed to continue her long association with the organisation as patron. Jane has guided HMC from inception and it has been her vision and drive that has seen it become the strong organisation it is today.

The need for a hospice in Mid Canterbury became very clear to Jane more than 10 years ago during her father's end-of-life journey. She experienced for herself how bewildering the whole situation can be and wondered how people coped if they didn't have strong family support.

Jane says, "I made a pledge to myself at that time that I would do everything I could to help get hospice support established in the district." In mid-2013, she started to have conversations with various people in the district to gauge the need.

After thorough research and careful planning, the Hospice Mid Canterbury Trust was set up in 2014, with Jane as one of the founding trustees. She also took on the voluntary role of acting general manager and continued her tireless work in this capacity until 2020. Jane saw that this voluntary work was required until the Trust was in a financially sustainable position to be able to employ additional staff.



Jane received a beautiful Oamaru stone carving made by local artist Peter Green at her farewell party.

It hasn't always been a straightforward journey, with more opposition in the early days than Jane could ever have envisaged. As the organisation grew and demand increased, restructures and difficult decisions had to be made. The impact of Covid from 2020 onwards also required careful management.

However today, HMC has its own community-funded base, skilled and dedicated staff providing a range of services and activities, and a strong team of local volunteers. As Jane has said, "We have taken our time, and focused on the needs in the community, to build a strong, credible foundation."

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Jane regards her time developing and supporting HMC as "an absolute privilege". She believes that the overwhelming strength of the organisation is the people who have become involved, whether it be as a volunteer, service provider, staff member or trustee.

Her mantra was always to "harness the capability in the community, but I never would have envisaged how successful that would be. Hospice has drawn in the most amazing group of caring, competent people who are driven to make a difference to the lives of others."

The Board's decision to offer Jane the role of patron recognises and honours her huge contribution to the organisation. It means that Jane's wisdom and vision can

continue to benefit HMC into the future.

In reflecting on the last 10 years with Hospice, Jane says: "I believe we have built strong foundations for a service that is relevant for the needs of our community, providing true wrap-around support for individuals and families navigating the end-of-life journey."

Platinum Sponsor: *Kate Murney*

Hospice Summer Fair

17th November 2023



Massive thanks to the Hospice volunteers, volunteers from ANZ Ashburton and everyone who supported, donated, crafted and came along to make the first Hospice Summer Fair a success. Together we raised over \$5000!



Sponsor Profile: McLeod Real Estate

McLeod Real Estate is a Gold Sponsor of Hospice Mid Canterbury.

Owner Clark McLeod has been in real estate for over 20 years, with the McLeod Family having been in real estate and valuation in Ashburton for over 50 years. The company provides professional property services throughout the Ashburton District across all asset classes, including sales, valuations, consulting and both residential and commercial property management. The only wholly locally-owned real estate business in Ashburton, McLeod Real Estate successfully combines a local business and brand with modern technology and systems and an international reach.

"As a community-based business, we wanted a way to support our community," says Clark. "We are 100% local, and we like to support local." Clark and Susie McLeod had personal experience with other hospices, and so decided Hospice Mid Canterbury was a great match for the company to support. "Hospice is a great cause. People can benefit from the support and the services that it has. "It can be a difficult and challenging time for a family so the more support the better," says Clark.

Susie adds, "A lot of people need the support now. There's a lot of people with terminal illnesses, not just older people. Catering for the individual persons needs as well as the family." We are thankful for McLeod Real Estate's sponsorship.

McLeod REAL ESTATE



Clark and Susie McLeod from McLeod Real Estate

Community Education: Cultural Perspectives of Death

Community education at HMC aims to encourage open dialogue about death and dying. In October we heard from four speakers representing different community groups at "Cultural Perspectives of Death & Dying". Jennefer Juntilla spoke on practices in the Philippines, where 75% are Roman Catholic. Reverend Indrea Alexander spoke on her experiences as an Anglican priest. She always ensures her funerals have a message of Christian hope. Jo Metcalf of Memory Funerals explained how they can accommodate many personal and cultural requirements. Tumanu Paiaaau spoke about cultural traditions in Samoa, such as the use of mats, how only females may wash a body, and funerals where the body can sadly not be recovered. All four also graciously answered audience questions. We are grateful to our speakers for sharing their cultures with us.



Tumanu Paiaaau was one of four speakers.

HMC Data at a glance

June — November

Currently supporting

82

Clients and their families

184

Therapy hours

57

Counselling hours

513

Volunteer client support hours

113

Volunteers

89

Biography hours

1347

Shop volunteer hours

136

Sitting / companionship hours

2202

Total hours of HMC volunteer service

Golf Ball Drop



Farmers' Tree of Remembrance & Bauble

This is the 10th year that Farmers has generously supported hospices nationally, helping keep hospice services free of charge.

Farmers' customers can support hospice in two ways.

In-store, donate to the Christmas Tree of Remembrance. You will receive a remembrance card to hang on the in-store tree, on which you can write a special message for someone you'll be thinking about this Christmas.

In-store and online, purchase a limited-edition hospice bauble for \$15.99. This year's bauble has a beautiful design of

the NZ Christmas flower, Pōhutukawa. 100% of all customer donations to hospice from the Tree of Remembrance and the full price of the bauble stays in the community.

We are so thankful to Farmers for helping us to ensure we can continue supporting locals with a life-limiting condition.

Instead of the traditional Christmas raffle, HMC decided to try something a little different this year: a Golf Ball Drop. \$10 got punters one of 1000 individually numbered golf balls. They were dropped from a helicopter on Wednesday 6th December. The 10 balls closest to the pin won prizes, with the closest ball, number 119, winning the top prize: an incredible \$1000!



 **Farmers**

Te Kahu Pāiruri
o Aotearoa
hospice
New Zealand

Thank you

...to everyone who has given us their support through cash donations, goods and providing their services. We are very grateful to you all.

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Annie's Friendship Group
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Ashburton Trotting Club
Ashburton Vintage Car Club MoPars event
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John McArthur
Joyce Read
Juice Signs
Lion Foundation
Lions Club of Ashburton County
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Malene Anderson
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Mel Beckley
Mid Canterbury Rural Women
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Mt Hutt Elim Church Replenish Women's Conference
Natalie & Barry Quantock
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Rev. Indrea Alexander
Ross & Maria Thielson Shaw
Ruth Ivison
Tumanu Paiaaau
Unique Boutique
Wakanui Women's Institute
Wendy Lennon

A big thank you to those who donated towards the success of our first ever summer fair, including:

Mitre 10 Mega
ACL
ANZ Ashburton
Cancer Society
Cleavers Corner
Farm Source
Formosa
M&J Kingsbury
Midland Apiaries
Paper Plus
Plains Museum
Rakaia Lions
Ross Smart
S&K Shearer
Talbot Security
The Warehouse
Whitcoulls
Value Plus Processing

Donations to Hospice Mid Canterbury

If you wish to donate to us, you may do so via:

- Internet banking: 06-0837-0319291-00
- Cash or eftpos at Hospice base, (70 Havelock St) or Hospice Shop (71 Tancred St)

All donations over \$5 are tax-deductible.

The Privacy Act of 1993 requires us to advise you that we keep contact information of supporters on file to help us with fund-raising. If you do not wish us to keep your information, please advise us.

5 Reasons to shop at Hospice Shop Mid Canterbury

1. It's cheap!

Whatever you need, find heaps of great items at reasonable prices. Clothing, homewares, small electricals, books, jewellery...

2. Find unique treasures!

Instead of being restricted to latest trends, you can find pieces that suit your unique style. Find



vintage, antique and one-of-a-kind items.

3. It's environmentally friendly!

A new item consumes resources to manufacture and transport to shops. But buying pre-loved items keeps them out of landfill and reduces your environmental impact.

4. It's a treasure hunt!

With a fast stock turnover, and every item different, you can find new treasures weekly. It's fun finding an item you love (and at a great price!) in op shops—like hunting for treasure!

5. Profits help to fund Hospice Mid Canterbury!

All profits stay in the community, helping HMC to remain a free service. It's an easy way to support Hospice while buying something for yourself!

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