

# sunshine in *Shirley*

December 2023



## Christmas Reflections

It is hard to believe it is December and 2023 has nearly finished. The Shirley Community Trust wants to thank you for your support of our community and for all you each contribute – it is a privilege to be part of Shirley.

As we approach Christmas and the end of the year, it is an opportunity to ponder, as Mary did on the first Christmas, the achievements and learnings of the year. It is also ok to acknowledge the challenges this year has brought and the pain at times we carry.

Let's enjoy the summer days, stay connected, be grateful and be kind to yourself and others. May this Christmas be a special time for each of you. There are a number of wonderful Christmas celebrations and community events locally for you to enjoy.

*From the team at Shirley Community Trust.*

## Join us for a Christmas Lunch

**TUESDAY 12TH DECEMBER**  
**12-1.30PM**

**MacFarlane Park Centre**  
19A Acheson Ave

*Lunch provided // Guest speaker*

**RSVP to Sharyn**  
**022 621 8269**

shirley  
community trust

**SPEECH and language DROP IN**

DO YOU HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S SPEECH AND LANGUAGE?  
DROP IN FOR A CUPPA AND CHAT WITH YOUR LOCAL SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPISTS FROM MINISTRY OF EDUCATION.

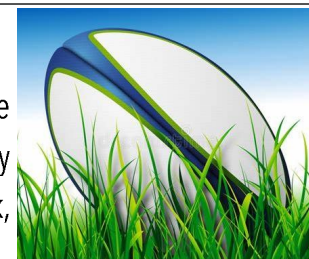
**TUESDAY 5TH DEC 9-12 |**  
**McFARLANE PARK CENTRE, 19A**  
**ACHESON AVE, CHRISTCHURCH**

**Te Mahau** **CAROLINE (PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE)**  
WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO  
SUPPORT WITH ANY QUESTIONS YOU  
MAY HAVE **Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga**  
Ministry of Education

## Social Touch Rugby

The final Social Touch Rugby for the year will be at 6.15 pm on Monday 18 December in MacFarlane Park, with a BBQ to follow.

Touch will restart on Monday 15 January 2024.



## Dates to Remember



The final **MacFarlanes Café** is on Friday 1st December, and will restart again in February.

**The Neighbourhood Centre** closes on 13 December and officially re-opens on Monday 29 January 2024.

There will be **Neighbourhood BBQ** at 5pm on Friday 26 January 2024 to kick off the year.

Please keep an eye on Facebook for information on when other activities will start up again in 2024.

## Farewell Steve

After 5 years of leading the Shirley Village Project Steve Jones-Poole is signing off! He is leaving the Shirley Village Project in the capable



and enthusiastic hands of Bec, Emma, Teresa and Dietrich. See the next page for details of his farewell.

Through the work of the Shirley Village Project and their Community Led Development approach, there are an increasing number of agencies and organisations with a presence in Shirley. Plus there is the community lawnmower, Tool Shed, Firewood Club, Listening Post, murals in the park, family violence prevention plan, employment support, the recent "Welcome to School" events at Shirley Primary School and much more...

Steve, from all of us we say thank you! You have given so much! And because of you and the legacy you leave, Shirley will continue to be a caring, colourful and connected community. Ngā mihi nui Steve.



Have you seen what's been going on in the **Community Garden** lately? There is now a permanent covered pergola, with table and seats still to come...

Thanks to CCC for the Sustainability funding, Ampelite for the awesome roofing, and Bunnings for the purloin timber... As well as massive ngā mihi nui to the builder, Tim McGurk and all the wonderful volunteers.

**Empowering people...changing lives**

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community trust



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www.shirleycommunitytrust.org.nz

**Thanks to all those who contribute to this newsletter – through articles or photos plus all those who deliver the copies each month.**





# Shirley Village Project

"Shirley residents and organisations working together for a 'caring, colourful, and connected' Shirley Community."

For more info visit: [www.shirleyvillage.org](http://www.shirleyvillage.org) or Shirley Village FB



## YOU'RE INVITED

to celebrate  
5 years of  
Shirley Village Project  
and thank  
Steve Jones-Poole

10am, Thursday 14th December  
MacFarlane Park Centre  
19A Acheson Ave

### Supporting School Attendance:

Kids attending school benefits them and the community, so over Term 4, Shirley Village Project and other community organisations have been showing how important we think it is by celebrating the kids as they arrive at school each Monday morning. It has been heaps of fun, especially when



the kids got to dunk a teacher! Please get as many kids to school as possible in December so the kids can dunk the principal, Mr Sim – hopefully on Monday 11th December.



### Bike Fix Up session

At the Listening Post on Monday 4th December, 2.30pm to 4pm at the MacFarlane Park Community Garden. Bring your bikes and we will help fix them so you can get zooming again.



## Final Listening Post for 2023!

Mon 11 Dec  
2:30-4:30pm  
MacFarlane Park  
Community Garden

### Water fun!

Bring your togs and towel to join in the fun for our last session of 2023!

The dunking machine and slip and slide will be ready to go!

Food and other treats provided.

You will not be able to get wet if you are in school uniform, so please bring togs or a change of clothes.

### Steve's haircut!

Steve is grudgingly willing to part with those locks if we raise enough money for a community cause. Give your donation to Emma at Listening Post or Sharyn at Neighbourhood Centre and go in the draw to take the first snip! Proceeds will go to school uniforms for whanau in need.



**The Shirley Tool Shed** will have reduced opening days over December/January. Members will be emailed about opening days, or you can check the Shirley Tool Shed website – [shirleytoolshed.myturn.com](http://shirleytoolshed.myturn.com) for list of days it is open. For more info call Steve on 021 186 3645.

**The Community Lawn Mower** will have reduced availability over the December/January period. If you need to use it, text Warren on 021 0235 5869 and he will let you know when it is available.

# Christmas Celebrations and Community Events



### LESSONS AND CAROLS

Sing well-known carols, hear the good news of Jesus and enjoy some musical items by kids and adults.

Sunday 17th December: 10:30am

Mairehau High School Hall

### FAMILY MORNING SERVICE

Join us for an all age service full of music, fun and a kid-friendly Christmas talk.

Sunday 24th December: 10:30am

Mairehau High School Hall

### CHRISTMAS DAY COMMUNION SERVICE

Celebrate the birth of Jesus at a shorter family service.

Monday 25th December: 9:30am

Mairehau High School Hall

St. Stephen's Church Christchurch | [admin@ststephens.org.nz](mailto:admin@ststephens.org.nz) | 03 980 0929 | St. Stephen's



## Christmas EVE PARTY



CAROLS FREE BBQ BOUNCY CASTLE

4:30pm - 7pm December 24th

Invite a friend to our Christmas Eve Party. Activities, bouncy castles and a free BBQ dinner followed by a special carol service to celebrate the message of Christmas.

URBAN  
OASIS  
CHURCH

## Christmas

In MacFarlane Park

Sunday 17 December  
2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Christmas carols and message,  
sausage sizzle and visit from Santa  
Free community event  
ALL WELCOME

Emmett Street  
COMMUNITY CHURCH

TUESDAY 26 DECEMBER 2023

## BOXING DAY PARTY

11am - 2pm

BOUNCY CASTLES, SLIP N SLIDE  
KAI, SPORTS, VIBES

MACFARLANE PARK - FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

shirley

We deliver Sunshine in Shirley to every letterbox in our neighbourhood. We hope you value our newsletter more than advertising or junk mail. However, if you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please contact us at [office@shirleycommunitytrust.org.nz](mailto:office@shirleycommunitytrust.org.nz). Thanks, the SCT team.