

# sunshine in Shirley

August 2025

Kia ora koutou

## Knit and Knatter

This amazing group of people love to knit for others. Between them they have knitted over 1,200 items in the last year!! Most of the knitting is for babies or children, and goes to hospital wards or the local preschools and kindy. They are often called by the hospital asking for more beanies or singlets as the group are known for both the quality and reliability of their knitting. Added to all this, if they hear of anyone in the community who is going through cancer, they gift them a blanket.



Wool is provided for all the knitting that is gifted to these places. Given this, they are very appreciative of any donations of wool. Oddments are fine too; they can be made into slippers, blankets or into striped garments.



Everyone is welcome – and if you would like to learn how to knit or crochet, they are happy to teach you as well.

They meet at the MacFarlane Park Centre, 10am on Yellow bin Wednesdays and would love to see you there!

For more information, please contact Sue on 027 614 9600.

# SHIRLEY Spring Market

We are starting to plan for our next

## Spring Market

coming up on

**Saturday 20 September**

If you are interested in having a stall at the market please contact Sharyn on 022 621 8269 or sharyn@shirleycommunitytrust.org.nz

Empowering people...changing lives



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# SHEAP

## SHIRLEY EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN



As mentioned over the last two months, Shirley Community Trust has been working with Council, Civil Defence and other local organisations to create an action plan for a coordinated response to any future emergency events.

Once you are prepared in your own home, you can think about how you may be able to assist in the community. In the event of an emergency, there will be one or more Community Hubs set up as meeting points and to co-ordinate relief efforts.

Our next step is to compile lists of "People Power" and "Ready Resources" that could be called on depending on the type and scale of event. Whether it's offering support at the hubs, door-knocking to assess needs, or if you have specific skills eg. building repairs or providing first aid/medical assistance, everyone can play a part. Ready Resources could include specialised tools, generators, 4WD vehicles or kitchen facilities etc available in the community.

If you would be willing to be added to either list, please contact [office@shirleycommunitytrust.org.nz](mailto:office@shirleycommunitytrust.org.nz) with the subject "SHEAP".

## Congratulations Jo Atara-McKenzie

Jo Atara-McKenzie, a Shirley resident, was presented with an award for her work with the Filipino community in Christchurch in a ceremony as part of the Philippine Independence Day on 12 June. Ten Filipinos were given awards across Canterbury.



Jo (second from right) receiving her award

Jo is employed as a Cultural Support Worker by the Oak Development Trust based in Riccarton. As part of that role, she started Supling Language and Cultural Filipino playgroups which are held in Riccarton and Richmond.

In her acceptance speech Jo stated that there was a need to have a supportive space for young Filipino parents and their preschoolers that would enable, encourage and celebrate being Filipino; to help mitigate isolation and loss of direct support from families back home.



Supling Filipino Playgroups meet in term time on Tuesday mornings in Riccarton and on Wednesday mornings in Richmond. For more details contact Jo on 021 115 1657.

Free classes  
Kai provided

## KAPA HAKA & TE REO MĀORI

A relaxed environment to learn together

Wednesdays (during term time)

**Kapa Haka 5.15-6.15pm**

**Te Reo Māori 6.30-7.30pm**

MacFarlane Park Centre

Come for one or stay for both

For more info about Kapa Haka contact Bec - 021 125 7846  
For more info about Te Reo Māori contact Ann - 027 4700 442



MacFarlane's  
On the Park

# CAFÉ

Open  
FRIDAY  
MORNINGS

9:30am - 12pm  
During Term Time



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





www.shirleyvillage.org  
 facebook: Shirley Village  
 instagram: shirleyismyvillage

LEGIT  
ART  
WALL

Between Shirley Library and Resene, a community creative space is developing with a “legit wall” for street art, framed by amazing works from established local artists.  
 OPENING EVENT with DJ music, food, drink, barbers, braids: Friday 15 August, 3-6pm, Alma Place



These aspirations are from the Community Led Development Plan for Shirley, now 2 years old. (Check it out on our website).  
 If they spark ideas for you, we'd love to hear them!  
 bec@shirleyvillage.org

## THE COMMUNITY WE WANT

An environment we're proud of



A learning, earning, contributing community



## Hanmer Springs Bus Trip



Thursday, July 3rd dawned wet and cold, but that didn't dampen the excitement of more than 50 locals gathered at the Neighbourhood Centre on Acheson Avenue. The group was a lively mix of adults and kids – around 20 children and the rest made up of parents and other community members. By 8:45am the buzz was building, we boarded the bus and set off at exactly 9am sharp.

After a stop in Culverden, we rolled into Hanmer Springs just after 11am. Rain still fell steadily, and the temperature hovered around a chilly 6 degrees. Once through reception, the day was ours to enjoy. Some headed to the café, while others, like me, made a beeline straight for the pools.

The sound of distant shrieks from the hydro slides rang through the air and mist rose from the steamy surface, steam curled up into the grey sky, creating a magical, almost surreal atmosphere. It was the perfect place to relax, connect with others, and simply soak in the warmth of the moment.

Right on time at 2:45pm, the bus pulled up and we all clambered back aboard. No stops on the way home this time – just tired, happy faces and shared stories from the day. We arrived back at Acheson Ave just before 5pm.

As someone new to the area and attending this annual pilgrimage to Hanmer Springs for the first time, I found the entire trip warm, welcoming, and really well organised. The atmosphere on the bus, the laughter in the pools, and the simple joy of sharing a hot pie with new friends made it a day to remember.

For anyone who's new to the community or thinking about joining future trips – just do it. You'll be surprised how easy it is to connect with others, feel part of something special, and have a genuinely good time. I'd encourage everyone to put yourself out there and join in with the activities offered by the Shirley Community Trust. You won't regret it. - From an anonymous first-timer

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). If you would prefer to receive the newsletter in digital format, you can sign up at <https://shirleycommunitytrust.org.nz>. Thanks, the SCT team.