



Neighbourhood News

Issue 3, 2026

Mairehau & St Albans Community Update

Hello from the Neighbourhood Trust Team and welcome to our 3rd issue of the Neighbourhood News for 2026. We hope you and your whānau are staying warm and well. Winter can be a tough season, but the good news is that Spring is on its way. Soon we will be enjoying warmer days, fresh air and new growth.

In this issue we take a break from our Initiative Spotlight and instead take a look at a few recent moments that brought encouragement and cheer to our community. We also have the exciting task of once again announcing the return of a magnificent (and free) community event that you don't want to miss. Happy reading to you all!

WHY YOUR LETTER BOX?

Kia ora Neighbours, We are delivering the Neighbourhood News to letterboxes in our local community that are not marked "No Community Newspapers" or similar. However, you can contact us at comms@nht.org.nz if you do not want to receive further publications.

Brought to you by Neighbourhood Trust;
the community arm of St Albans Baptist Church

nht.org.nz | [@NeighbourhoodTrust](https://www.facebook.com/NeighbourhoodTrust) | 64 McFaddens Rd



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Recently at the NHT: Volunteer Celebration (June)

June was National Volunteer Month across New Zealand. We endeavour to make sure we always show our appreciation to all our incredible volunteers. This year, we had the honour of attending the Volunteering Canterbury Volunteer Awards as Glenda, one of our volunteers was recognised.

Glenda has dedicated time across multiple Neighbourhood Trust Initiatives, including Golden Connections and Women's Connections. Trying to write a blurb about the impact that Glenda has on our team, programmes and clients is really hard to squeeze into just a few sentences. But just know that she is truly a shining star.

To witness Glenda walking up on the stage was a blessing. We know how hard our volunteers work, how kind they are and just how amazing they are. But to share the impact that our volunteers have with many other community organisations was a heartwarming experience.

We simply have to say a very big Thank you to Volunteering Canterbury for organising and hosting this wonderful event.



Glenda and Don at the Volunteer Awards.
(15th of June 2026)

Community Highlights



Produce growing in the Mairehau Neighbourhood Garden on a 17°C winter day.

OSCAR Holiday Programme – Crafts inspired by popular games.

Coming Up... Light Party

Saturday October 31st | 4:30pm–8pm | 64 McFaddens Rd

With our 3rd issue of the Neighbourhood News also comes the exciting reminder that we are hosting our annual Light Party on the 31st of October. This Free Family Event is always a massive highlight of our year because we get to share this special event with all of you. Not to mention we are excited to say that this year things are a little different.

So what's new this year?

Extended Finish Time: We have extended our runtime and will now finish at 8pm. This gives us a whole 3.5 hours to enjoy all the activities.

New Theme: This year's theme is "Create & Break". Join us for a range of hands-on, creative activities for the whole whānau to enjoy. This includes Lego building, Crafts, a Digger Ride, Seed Planting and more.

But don't worry, not everything has changed.

We are returning with our **Best Dressed Teddy Bear Competition**. This year have a go at dressing up your teddy as someone with a creative job – such as an artist, painter, builder, designer or inventor. Our Teddy Bear Competition will be displayed for an hour, and you (the public) will be the judge of the best dressed teddy.

And last but not least we will have a range of ever popular rides and inflatables that we know you don't want to miss. We really can't wait to see you there so make sure to keep this up on the fridge because this is going to be so much fun!!



A very special THANK YOU to all our Funders and Supporters!

Christchurch City Council | Rata Foundation | Ministry Of Social Development | Lottery Grants Board | Grassroots Trust | The Tindall Foundation | Community Organisation Grants Scheme | St Albans Baptist Church.
Manchester Unity | David Ellison Charitable Trust

Regular Neighbourhood Activities



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*The Whānau Centre is located at 49 Nancy Ave.

WEEKLY

GOLDEN ACTIVITY

Mondays - Time Varies

Social events and services for over 65 year olds, including Foot Clinic, meals, trips, movies and much more. **Contact Don for a programme,**
E: 027 956 9202 **E:** golden@nht.org.nz

KAI SUPPORT

Wednesdays 12:30 - 2pm, Whānau Centre

Kai Support is available for households in the local area who need some assistance. Visit **nht.org.nz** and click on "Request Kai Support".
Bookings Essential. Contact Sarah,
E: operations@nht.org.nz **M:** 027 710 0042

OSCAR Before & After School Care

Monday-Friday 7:00-9am & 3-6pm

Holiday Programme

7:30am-5:30pm School Holidays

Contact Roana, E: childrens@nht.org.nz

TERMLY

CAP Money Course

A revolutionary, free money management course that teaches people budgeting skills and a simple, cash-based system that really works.

Contact Jan,

E: cdw@nht.org.nz **M:** 027 710 0022

Tuning Into Kids

This programme focuses on strengthening the connection between parents/caregivers and their kids. When kids and parents develop skills in effectively communicating about emotions, family relationships are stronger. **Contact Jan, E:** cdw@nht.org.nz **M:** 027 710 0022

WOMEN'S CONNECTIONS

Tuesdays 10:30am - 12pm, Whānau Centre

Women from the community learning together through connection, fun & support. We explore topics together, go on outings and have guest speakers. **Contact Jan,**
E: cdw@nht.org.nz **M:** 027 710 0022

MAIREHAU NEIGHBOURHOOD GARDEN

Thursdays 10am - 12pm, 64 McFaddens Rd

All are welcome to come and work in our garden. Check **Facebook @NHTGarden** for any changes to work times. **Contact Don,**
E: community@nht.org.nz **M:** 027 956 9202

STRENGTH & BALANCE CLASS

1pm every Friday, 64 McFaddens Rd

A low impact circuit class for ages 65+
Finishes with a cuppa. \$2 donation.

Contact Sarah,

E: operations@nht.org.nz **M:** 027 710 0042

Game On!

Parenting Course for Dads (6 weeks)

Game On! seeks to support men by promoting active and involved fathers and providing a space to discuss the skills needed to be a better Dad.

Contact Don for dates,

E: community@nht.org.nz **M:** 027 956 9202