



COMMUNITY OF



BRINGING
HOPE

TRANSFORMING
LIVES

Summer **2023**

www.thehopecommunitytrust.org

SUMMER

No Christmas tree, decorations, lights, nativity scene, wreath, or tinsel, absolutely no sign of Christmas. That was me, this Christmas, although two days before Christmas day I did a token wreath on the door. Anybody would think that I don't like Christmas, actually Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year. But this year I was tired, some nights after a long day my feet were so sore they throbbed so badly I couldn't sleep. It was a busy week leading up to Christmas day, but I passionately believe as the Hope Community Trust, we are here to serve and for me, if that means fewer Christmas decorations and sore feet then that's ok.

For us, Christmas means summer, not the snowman, snowflakes, or the holly we see on wrapping paper and Christmas cards, or in Christmas movies. There's something easy about summer this side of Christmas, it's easier to relax, and stress a little less, time slows and seems more abundant. The breeze tends to be warmer and has a gentleness nudging it, and the days are a little hotter, the clouds a little higher. Jandals, shorts and sundresses, sunglasses and sun-hats are the height of fashion. Afternoon naps seamlessly slip into the day's programme. Summer is my season to pause, stop, at least slow down, reflect on the year past, and take the time to consider the year ahead with no pressure of time that can easily sway conclusions.

In 2023 I'm going to read more, write for pleasure, laugh more often, drink less coffee, slow down and smell the roses. The Hope Community Trust starts the new year with the knowledge for many within our community 2023 will bring

challenges. Our goal is to be proactive and adaptive to these, being timely in our response, and letting the community know we are here, and that we are ready to help. Rising costs will be one of the many challenges, particularly food. We acknowledge that asking for help or receiving a food parcel is difficult and may not always meet the ongoing needs, and while food parcels are always available our new innovation is called "TOP UPS." The aim is to top up the weekly grocery shop. Providing items, we have a surplus of. Our goal is to help families save that \$10, \$20, and \$30 that could be put towards other household expenses and ease any financial burden.

We have started a Facebook group called TOP UPS, it is here where we will post when we have items available and when and where to collect them. We remain committed to providing practical help and support to the community of the Waimakariri.

Tracy

Hope Community Trust supports the people of Rangiora and the Waimakariri district by providing wrap round support: food bank, counselling, Op Shop, Community Garden, Financial mentoring, Painting group, Hands of Hope (camping ground support) Drug & addiction support.



MSD Rangiora Thank you

The Hope Community Trust are sincerely grateful to Ministry of Social Development Rangiora for thinking of us and their donations to the Trust. The Rangiora team came together and organised clothing and New World gift cards to be donated to the Trust to support our clients over the festive season.



Pictured above (left to right) Michelle Becks (Work Broker), Tracy Pirie (Manager, Hope Community Trust) and Tina Robinson (Manager, Client Service Delivery).

SUMMER Favourite

Ice cream is good any time of the year, but in summer on long hot days, there is nothing better than an ice cream float or spider as you may know them. They are so simple to make. Place two scoops of ice cream in a large glass and slowly pour in your favourite fizzy drink. Using a spoon and/or straw, sit down, put your feet up, and enjoy.





OPERATION Christmas Dinner

On Saturday morning in mid-November amongst the weekly chores and family life, Operation Christmas Dinner was born. When reflecting on recent conversations that for some families Christmas dinner would not be an option I came to the realisation it was time for action and we need to meet the needs and provide Christmas dinners .

With donations from generous donors, mostly private and local churches we were able to provide food for Christmas for 40+ families.

It's always good to get feedback and we received the following messages:

Hi,

We are incredibly grateful and humbled to receive the pack, it has definitely helped get through the holiday period. The quality of the food and the fact we could have a meal that we likely wouldn't have had if not for your generosity means so much.

Thank you again

Thank you so much for the Operation Christmas dinner! My family and I enjoyed having a well-cooked meal and they loved having a different selection to choose from. It just managed enough for boxing day lunch too! Once again thank you to the team at hope trust!

Thank you so much for the Christmas dinner parcel it was a huge blessing for not only my family but 2 other families who we shared the Christmas food with, we are so thankful, the kids enjoyed the wee treats it was really something special for them and we are eternally grateful, the packs were really well thought out and a lot of things we received are usually well out of our budget so was so special to receive these treats.

The Christmas Dinner provided by the Hope Trust family helped my family in many ways we cannot explain. Originally it was no presents and bacon & eggs for Xmas, but because of this, we had a pork roast meal with a baked cake ourselves. We were even able to watch our boy open a few gifts also gifted by Hope. Thanks to this we slept with full bellies and my brother was able to live out the warm, cosy, and enjoyable festive night it made not having a tree okay. I am forever grateful and in debt always.

Operation Christmas Dinner was overwhelming for many of the families that benefited from the packs. They all were incredibly grateful for the dinners they received, one phone message just had the words of a very sincere thank you.....

To those people who so generously donated the funding to make this possible, your generosity helped create not only lasting memories. But provided Christmas dinners to families who otherwise may not have had one, a very sincere thank you for making Operation Christmas Dinner possible.

To whom it may concern,
 We were extremely lucky to have been gifted a food parcel for Christmas from the HOPE church in Rangiora. As things have been tough this year I had to stop work due to ill health we have had to struggle financially so it was a real help for us to receive the food. My daughter and I were able to have a lovely Christmas meal with some treats which we would not have had without the help from the kind donation. We are very grateful for the help of the food hamper thank you.
 Many thanks.



Hope Community Garden

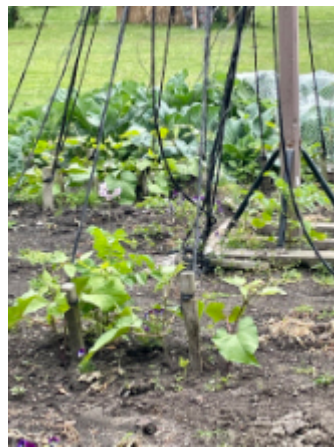
We had some new additions to our Community garden at the end of the year- Scarecrows! The wonderful addition were a collaboration with Peppertree Preschool for a scarecrow competition. Schools and preschools around Rangiora entered the competition, designing, creating and establishing the scarecrow in its new home in the garden. They have brought colour and interest to our wonderful garden and we have seen many groups and families have come through and explored the garden looking for them all! They are all different in size, structure and design, not only do they scare off the birds from our crops, they join our butterflies to create fun and colour to our garden!

In the garden itself the ever faithful broad beans are coming to an end and the stalks are great for nitrogen in the compost but would encourage you to put in the rubbish any diseased stalks. We are continuing to thin the carrots which

allows for better growth and bigger carrots. The thinned carrots can be eaten small which are delicious! The corn is growing well and the beans are above ground. We have had many lovely broccoli and the next plantings will be ready soon along with the brassicas e.g. Cabbages and cauliflowers.

We have been very fortunate to have received some lovely silverbeet plants donated ready to plant. We have decided to pull out our garlic as it has rust on it. It will go straight into the bin, not the compost as we don't want it through the garden. Garlic is prone to this in certain soils.

Our flowers are adding colour to the garden and the bees are loving them! The orchid is starting to fruit with plums ready to pick!



Thank you The Warehouse Rangiora

Many thanks to The Warehouse Rangiora for donating pellets for feeding the soil and Bio Feed to give the plants some well deserved nourishment. Rachel at The Warehouse garden centre says its time to feed, mulch and feed!





Hope Community Garden
115 East Belt (beside the high school)
Monday- Friday 9.30am-12.30pm

Craft Group

The well established Craft group has been running for many years and has grown in popularity!

The group get together on Wednesday mornings from 9.45am-11.45am during the school term.

For a \$2 entry fee plus material cost it is a great weekly activity to come and meet new people, or bring a friend along to catch up.

There is a myriad of craft activities and include:

- Knitting and nattering
- UFO's (Unfinished Objects)
- Chocolate Treat making
- Paper Tole- 3D Picture making
- Scrapbooking
- Card Making
- Stitched Cards

You can bring your own crafts or try something different on the day. There is also regular guests bringing new craft ideas!

Join them for coffee and crafts.

For more information contact:

ynette 313-6370, or

Mavisanne 313-8589.

Rangiora Baptist Church

111 East Belt (beside the high school)




CraftGroup-RBC



Getting old is not always easy

AFFORDABLE COUNSELLING

 (03) 928 3066

 thehopecommunitytrust.org

MEET The Team

Tracy - Hope Community Trust Manager

My favourite flower is: Daisy (they always make me smile)

My favourite ice cream flavour is: Creamy vanilla

The best thing about your job: The people: our staff team, the volunteers, the people I come in contact with daily, it's always the people.

How long have you worked at Hope Community Trust? 3 1/4 years

Where's home for you? Alexandra

What gets you up in the morning? If I'm perfectly honest, the dogs



Sandra: Hope Community Garden

My favourite flower: Rose

My favourite ice cream flavour: Goodie goodie gumdrops

The best thing about your job: He Tangata, he Tangata he Tangata. (The people, the people, the people)

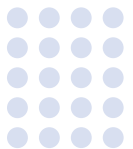
How long have you worked at Hope Community Trust?: 12 years

Where's home for you? Waimate

What gets you up in the morning? When I'm awake, I'm up.



We would like to acknowledge and thank all of our wonderful sponsors who support The Hope Community Trust



PEOPLE Of Hope

Why did you decide to volunteer for HCT?

I wanted to get some work experience to put on my CV.

How long have you volunteered at Hope Community Trust? And where do you volunteer?

I have volunteered at the Op Shop for 1 year.

What is the best thing about volunteering?

I like it all.

I enjoy the weekly interaction with regular customers and the team that I volunteer with.

I like the recycling sustainable aspect of the Op Shop, I would like to think that I am helping and making a difference.

What is one thing you have learnt about yourself by volunteering?

A lot. I never envisioned myself in retail, but I have enjoyed customer interaction and now see retail as a career option. I used to be anxious and shy, but volunteering has brought me out of my shell.

If someone were thinking about volunteering what would you tell them? JUST DO IT.

I have no regrets, volunteering opens up opportunities to meet new people and to grow.

Dany has recently moved and now travels over one hour one way so she can continue to volunteer, we appreciate her commitment and dedication to the Op Shop.



Dany



VOLUNTEERS Make a Difference

At Hope Community Trust we could not operate without our dedicated volunteers. I want to publicly acknowledge our volunteers for their service and the time they so selflessly give.

SUPPORT Hope Community Trust

For more information on how you can support the work of Hope Community Trust please phone or email

Phone: (03) 928 3066

Email: support@hopecommunity.co.nz

Become a donor and financially support

the work of Hope Community, whether as a one-off, an occasional or regular donation.

Hope community Trust Bank account
03 0674 0012155 00



The Hope Community Trust have created this new initiative called "TOP UPS." The aim is to top up the weekly grocery shop providing items, we have a surplus of. Our goal is to help families save that \$10, \$20, and \$30 that could be put towards other household expenses and ease any financial burden.

Join our Facebook group "TOP UPS" to be notified when food is available and details on when and how to collect.



Unexpected bill this week?
Kids sports subs due?

Our Foodbank is here to help ease the burden.

TO ORDER A FOOD PARCEL

(03) 928 3066

foodbank@hopecommunity.co.nz

<https://www.thehopecommunitytrust.org/food-bank>



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