

Banner flying high

The Abbeyfield banner will fly at several events over the next few months aiming to raise awareness and funds for an Abbeyfield House to be built in Rangiora.

Volunteers will have a stall at the Swannanoa Country Fair on Sunday 1 March, the Rangiora Church Street Market on Saturday 7 March, and a garage sale in Rangiora on Saturday 14 March, with a promotional stall at the Volunteer Expo in the Rangiora library on Friday 6 March sandwiched in between.

“We’re certainly starting the year with a bang,” laughs Abbeyfield Waimakariri Inc (AWI) chair Valda Reveley.

“It’s clear that now is the right time for Waimakariri to have this innovative model of senior rental housing because a recent report by Ageing Well Principal Investigator Dr Kay Saville-Smith predicts that by 2040 only half of the country’s over-65s will own their own home,” she adds.

The Abbeyfield House planned for Kingsbury Ave., Rangiora, will provide private and shared spaces for single independent seniors, with an affordable rent including all meals, power and other overheads.

Annual satisfaction surveys conducted in all 16 of New Zealand’s Abbeyfield houses show that residents feel happier and healthier than they did prior to moving in.

“It’s that improved well-being and community connectiveness that keeps them from needing more earlier care home living, so it’s a winning solution for the government, residential elder-care providers under occupancy pressure, and the residents themselves,” says Mrs Reveley.

The charity’s Auction of Promises fundraiser is on track to be a popular event on Saturday 16 May, with promises of golf at Clearwater, a ride in a Lamborghini, holiday accommodation in Arrowtown and Lake Brunner, and tickets to an international burlesque show being just some of the auction lots on offer.

ENDS

Caption: Mrs Valda Reveley, chair of Abbeyfield Waimakariri, and volunteers at the Church Street Christmas fair.



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