

From the Chair: A very active time

Greetings to you all.

So much has been happening that it is challenging to keep up and it's a wonderful position to be in!

We have gone from saying little to throwing open the information portals. The location and house design, the Facebook and Givealittle pages that have taken us all over the country, and the supportive journey of leasing land with the Waimakariri District Council, it's a positive landing space; one we are celebrating with many of you.

We thank you for your patience, support and encouragement; there remains much to do before we can build it for older people to benefit from living in an Abbeyfield House.

A home to love, the street appeal of our proposed Abbeyfield House shows it will sit well in established Kingsbury Ave, Rangiora, the 14 seniors who will rent here will love to call it 'home'.

Other highlights include catering functions, monthly markets, quiz evenings, Christmas tree decorating fundraiser, an information stand at the International Day of Older Persons Expo (24th November) and an event on the 15th February 2027 that includes an auction, are on the horizon. We would love you to join us.

Volunteering is the way of establishing an Abbeyfield House. You will appreciate starting from nothing requires dedication and oh!, so much support. As our supporters

we invite your ideas, referrals and recommendations of possible philanthropic organisations we might approach. If you would like us to come and talk to you or your group, we are always pleased to do that. You can always visit us at Rangiora's Church Street Market the 1st Saturday of each month if you'd like to chat to us.

If you value volunteering, have skills and knowledge of community, IT, fundraising and promotion, and would like to apply to join our committee, please email our Secretary for more details on abbeyfieldwaimakariri@gmail.com.

To touch on disappointments, the most recent is an unsuccessful application for funding through a government initiative. We will try again in the New Year. Secondly, the cancellation of our planned Auction of Promises; we thank the many donors of activities, goods, services and tickets buyers, however, mainly because of competing events there were insufficient tickets sold. We will try again in a different format.

Best wishes to you, our members and supporters. Enjoy this beautiful Springtime.

Valda



Abbeyfield House Rangiora

- 14 rented ensuite studios of between 26 — 30sqm each with internal and external access
- a laundry in each of the two wings
- meeting room
- commercial kitchen
- large pantry
- combined communal dining-living room
- visitor toilet
- storage room
- office
- scooter shed
- outdoor terraces and seating areas
- gardens
- all meals provided
- one paid staff member: cook/ housekeeper (shared role)
- volunteers for management, home maintenance, gardening, visiting
- fortnightly rent covers en-suite studio, power, food and overheads
- no capital contribution required
- no licence to occupy
- eligible for Living Alone Allowance



Proposed Abbeyfield House, Kingsbury Ave, Rangiora

Disappointed but determined to press on

A message from Ruth Seabright, Executive Officer of Abbeyfield New Zealand

Abbeyfield New Zealand congratulates the providers selected for the Government's Housing Flexible Fund announced last month as it will deliver more than 820 new social and affordable homes across the country.

While Abbeyfield New Zealand was successful with one extension project in the Waikato, we were not successful with the other four projects, one being an Abbeyfield House for Waimakariri.

As a community-led initiative, Abbeyfield relies on years of dedicated volunteer effort to identify sites, secure approvals and raise funds.

The Flexible Fund's place-based focus came with very short lead times and targeted areas that did not align with the locations where many of our active development committees are already working.

We respect the outcome and congratulate all successful applicants on the contribution they will make to addressing New Zealand's housing needs.

Housing is not simply a housing cost: the right housing can be preventative investment. Abbeyfield helps older people stay independent and connected for longer, with the potential to reduce pressure on health services and delay the need for more intensive aged-care support.

"We are proud of the difference Abbeyfield communities already make, and we remain determined to work with those who can help create more of these homes.

Building an Abbeyfield House is a shared investment. It is not about Government meeting the full cost. The right Government investment can help unlock significant local contributions and turn community-led projects into lasting housing assets.

Abbeyfield has a proven track record of bringing partners together to create lasting community housing. Across New Zealand, our homes have been developed through a combination of Government investment, Council support, philanthropy, community fundraising

and responsible borrowing.

This outcome strengthens our resolve to keep working alongside communities, supporters and decision-makers to develop practical, locally-led housing solutions.

We remain committed to our purpose: providing safe, affordable homes and strong communities for older people.

Abbeyfield New Zealand will continue to advocate for funding and housing settings that recognise the value of small, community-led organisations delivering housing with local knowledge, local commitment and long-term community benefit.

We move forward positively and constructively, keeping older people at the centre, strengthening partnerships and lobbying for funding that supports community-led housing.

Quiz night at Ryman's

Tables are highly sought after for our annual quiz night at Charles Upham Village, Rangiora.

This year:

- 7pm on Tuesday 20th October
- \$10 cash per person paid on the night
- Up to 6 in a team
- Raffles
- Fun
- Supper
- The bar will be open for you to purchase drinks
- Book by emailing abbeyfieldwaimakariritickets@gmail.com
- Our wonderful quiz-mistress, Ann Jelfs, and her team again at the helm.

Abbeyfield House Rangiora

Artist's impressions of how it will look on all four sides.



February event

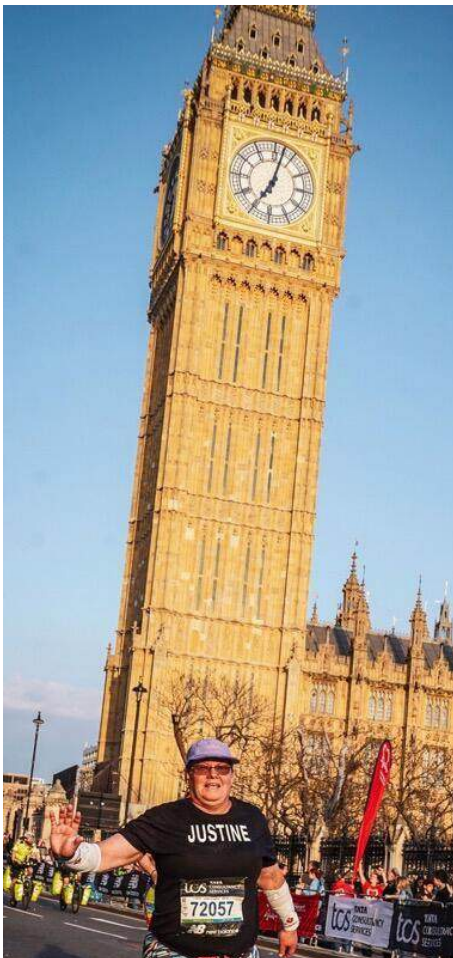
Mark Monday 15th February 2027 in your diary as the evening to attend our combined quiz and silent auction event at the Rangiora RSA.

Starting at 7pm, tickets will be \$10 per person (doors open 6pm) and bookings need to be made through abbeyfieldwaimakariritickets@gmail.com

You can purchase food and drinks from the RSA's bar and restaurant.

Information on payment arrangements, how the auction will work, the items to be auctioned and pre-auction bidding, will be advised nearer the event.

Our active treasurer



Casual parkruns and serious marathons are taken on with the same enthusiasm by Justine Sullivan who has recently taken the role of volunteer treasurer at Abbeyfield Waimakariri. A Chartered Accountant who moved from Northland to Southland five years ago then more recently to Rangiora, Justine is married with two adult sons and a wee grand-daughter. Welcome Justine!

Upcoming stalls

It's not only visitors to our stalls who enjoy chatting as they buy our home-made chutneys, jams and other treats, because our volunteers 'manning' those stalls tell us of their enjoyment too.

Linda Tolan (pictured right in the first photo) heads our team of volunteers and keeps us abreast of buyer preferences, while Chair Valda Reveley and other committee members get to as many markets as they can to share Abbeyfield news.

Between now and the end of summer, so far you will find us at:

- Gardens of Fernside event and associated fair, Sunday 2nd November 2026, 9am — 4pm
- Swannanoa Country Fair, Sunday 28th February 2027, 10am — 3pm
- Church Street Market, Rangiora. first Saturday of every month except January



Dressed to the nines! Or rather, back to 1926 style. Three Abbeyfield Waimakariri volunteers, Vivienne Feather, Linda Tolan and Lynda Kennedy, contributed to the successful centenary celebration of the Rangiora Town Hall early in September.

'No one asked them'

That was the staggering response 23% of non-volunteers gave in a recent paper from Volunteering Canterbury and highlighted in Chair Valda Reveley's address at our July AGM.

"That paper highlighted a study by Michelle Kitney, CEO of Volunteering NZ, and Eleanor Cater, CEO Community Foundations of Aotearoa NZ.

"Their research noted that 75% of New Zealanders gave their time - formally, informally or both, and that volunteering in NZ is the norm not the exception.

The report also said volunteers 'give because of who we are, not what we get'.

Valda said the report was a wake-up call for her because the researchers noted that wasn't apathy that stopped people volunteering but more an invitation gap.

"The crux of this reference is to say that we, the AWI team, invite greater participation from our members and friends, existing and new. If you have time, skills, fundraising experience or undefined talents to share, please contact us."

Valda told members of the excitement the committee team was experiencing with the arrival of the plans and drawing of Abbeyfield House Rangiora.

"That's the reason we are all here tonight, to establish a 14 studio Abbeyfield House to house and offer support to independent older people living on their own and/or in challenging circumstances.

"Now we have the plans to take to potential donors and get the next step underway."

Valda went on to acknowledge the hard work of AWI's committee volunteers and others associated with communication, catering, produce stalls and fundraising.

"It is important to acknowledge and thank the support we have had from Waimakariri Mayor Dan Gordon and the team of councillors, council staff involved in the property arrangement, and to the team at Abbeyfield New Zealand."

Following Valda's address, Waimakariri Deputy Mayor Philip Redmond conducted the election of officers, the names of whom are on the Directory panel on the last page of this newsletter.

World recognition

Abbeyfield Waimakariri is proud to be part of the Abbeyfield national body and on behalf of our team Valda Reveley congratulates our NZ National Chairman, Simon Hayes, on his appointment as Chairman of the Abbeyfield World Council.

The Abbeyfield World Council brings together Abbeyfield societies from 12 countries and provides an important forum for connection, collaboration and shared purpose across the Abbeyfield family worldwide.

As Abbeyfield continues to support communities in different parts of the world, the World Council plays a valuable role in ensuring all countries have a voice in matters that affect the wider movement and in encouraging the growth and development of the Abbeyfield model to meet local needs.

Simon brings a remarkable depth of Abbeyfield experience, with more than 25 years of dedicated involvement across local, national and international levels.

His long service began as a local councillor helping secure land for the Queenstown house, and continued through 12 years as chairman of the local society and 12 years on the New Zealand board, including the last 10 as Chair. .



Chair Valda Reveley and Secretary Rosemarie Shaw get the 2026 AGM underway.



Secretary Rosemarie Shaw and Committee Member Mary Sparrow thank the AGM's guest speaker, Deirdre Ryan, Chief Executive of Community Wellbeing North Canterbury Trust.

The Ministerial Advisory Group Report on Aged Care in New Zealand - "A Place to Grow Old" - released recently, highlights the growing pressure on housing, care, families and communities. The housing crisis is also an ageing crisis. Older people face high housing costs, unsuitable homes, isolation and difficulty accessing the right support. They need more than a place to sleep. They need a place to belong. Will you help us make that vision visible by donating towards an Abbeyfield House in Rangiora?
<https://Givealittle.co.nz/cause/flatting-for-seniors>

givealittle
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Joyful July fundraiser

Farmers' (Rangiora) foyer was the perfect place on a winter's day to stop and listen to the beautifully blended voices and music.

We thank members of the Rangiora Ukulele Group for busking so beautifully for Abbeyfield Waimakariri, and thank you to those listeners who donated.



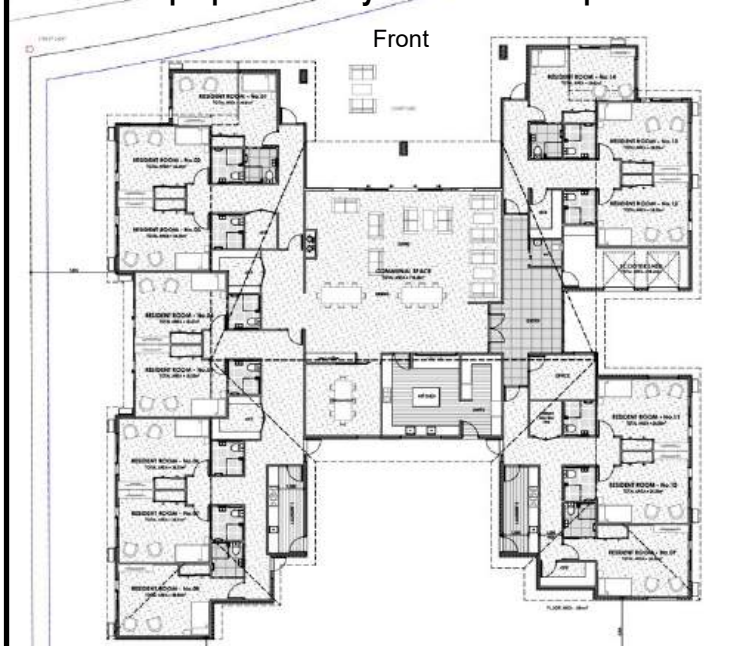
DO YOU KNOW?

- Each Abbeyfield House in New Zealand could save Te Whatu Ora \$12 million or more in rest home subsidies over 50 years.

That is a powerful number, but behind it is something even more important: older people living with dignity, independence, and the comfort of community for longer. Abbeyfield is not only a compassionate housing solution, it is a smart one for New Zealand's future.

- More than 900,000 New Zealanders are over 65. Around 300,000 are living on NZ Superannuation alone.
- Older people are named as one of the groups most affected by cold, unsafe, unaffordable and insecure housing, that is linked to poorer physical and mental health and wider inequities. The pressure is real. About 18% of older New Zealanders now face housing vulnerability, and only 5% of rentals are suitable for people with mobility needs.

The proposed Abbeyfield House floorplan



Christmas raffle

- * Ticket sales start late October
- * \$2 each or 3 for \$5
- * Available at our stalls or by contacting abbeyfieldwaimakariritickets@gmail.com
- * Bigger and better than ever



Abbeyfield Waimakariri Inc

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Abbeyfield Waimakariri



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