



MHSS NEWSLETTER



Achieving Community Resilience

**August 2020
Issue 4**

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Donate:
By cheque to Manchester House at PO Box 349, Feilding.

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MHSS FOODBANK REBUILT AND REVITALISED.

Stages 3 and 4 of COVID-19 were a busy time for Manchester House foodbank, with requests for emergency food parcels quadrupling as people struggled to make ends meet. It was during this time that it became clear that the foodbank storage room was simply not physically fit for purpose. Major work needed to happen to ensure we could store food adequately and process food packages easily in the knowledge that the COVID recovery period would mean demand would still remain elevated. Donations from the public and various philanthropic sources have helped us make this a reality and today, we have a larger, newer space that means food parcels can be packaged with ease.

Our thanks to Bruce McKendry and Vince Jordan for their incredible work on this and to Flooring Xtra for their contribution of new flooring. Our thanks also to Feilding New World and to Countdown for their incredible donations of food from their Foodbank Appeal's which have helped keep our new shelving full.

A NEW WEBSITE ON THE HORIZON...

There will be a new, easier way to find out about the work of Manchester House, make enquiries and support our work when an all new website is launched in September.



The website will be designed by Palmerston North based company Firecrest with photography and video created by talented local filmmaker Charlie Higgison. The website will give greater details about all our services, staff and programmes and will also offer the opportunity to get in touch more easily, make donations, and find our various projects and services dotted around Feilding.

You will be able to find us at www.mhss.org.nz

Donations and community partnerships are essential, especially now as we looked to meet longer term needs during the recovery phase of the pandemic.



[Go to https://givealittle.co.nz/org/manchesterhouse](https://givealittle.co.nz/org/manchesterhouse)

FAMOUS IN NZ: MANCHESTER HOUSE METH GROUP ON NEWSHUB.

The incredible work of the Manchester House methamphetamine support group was showcased on television in July as Newshub's National Correspondent Patrick Gower paid the programme a visit. Gower was inspired by the work the group was doing to support each other and by the presence of social worker Robyn Duncan who he called 'the angel in the darkness of meth'. The programme has been running for just over a year and is attended by up to 15 people, both meth dealers and users in varying stages on their road to recovery.

Since the broadcast was aired in July, Manchester House has seen a surge of interest in the programme from people all over the country, in particular from victims of users (family members) who also need support in living with meth addicts. The generosity and support of our local community was also evident through a bake sale that raised almost \$1000 to help the group continue.

Please contact Robyn Duncan on robynduncan@mhss.org.nz for more information.

To watch the broadcast go to: <https://www.newshub.co.nz/home/new-zealand/2020/07/patrick-gower-we-must-not-give-up-fighting-meth.html>



**Manchester House Social Worker
Robyn Duncan**

FOLLOW THE SAFETY CAR



A regular fundraiser for charity offers the public the chance to drive their road car around Manfeild's Chris Amon Circuit.

During the lunch break of the Manawatu Car Club's winter race meeting on August 2 drivers paid a donation of \$10 or more per car and followed the race car circuiting the track. This is an opportunity to experience the track from the driver's seat. Car Club Secretary Jeff Bowden said the club offers these lunch time circuits and after the August 2 "Follow the Safety Car" event the club donated about \$220 to Manchester House Social Services, but in the past has raised around \$500.

The next opportunity to take part in this event will be on Sunday September 13. Although most cars had only one occupant the event is advertised as a chance to take the kids for a ride around Manfeild.

MHSS Board Chair Kevin Darragh left his Rav in the car park and hitched a ride in a more powerful BMW with an experienced Manfeild driver behind the wheel. He reported having an exciting and enjoyable experience which he is keen to repeat.



MANCHESTER HOUSE OP SHOP WOULD BE INCREDIBLY APPRECIATIVE OF ANY DONATIONS OF WINTER AND SPRING CLOTHING AND FURNITURE FROM THE COMMUNITY. THESE CAN BE DELIVERED DIRECTLY TO THE SHOP AT 115 FERGUSSON STREET.