



# CONNECTING MID CANTERBURY

## ANNUAL REPORT

2020 - 2021



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# CONTENTS PAGE

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- 3 -4 Chairperson's Report, Trustees
- 5 About the Trust
- 6 -8 Keep Learning Mid Canterbury
- 9-17 Mid Canterbury TimeBank
- 18-19 Coordinator's Report
- 20 Treasurer's Report
- 21- Annual Financial Report (14 pages)



# CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

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Connecting Mid Canterbury has been going for over four years now but this past year has been quite a year of change. Founding trustee Gen de Spa stepped down as chair in December 2020 and coordinator Mari Swindley finished up with us the same month. I then became Chairperson and the board later employed Ramandeep Kaur as the new TimeBank coordinator.

Thanks to funding from NZ Lotteries Covid-19 Wellbeing Fund we have been able to increase staffing hours from 20 per week total to 40. This has been of immense benefit, enabling Kate & Ramandeep to connect and collaborate with other community organisations, run both our initiatives more effectively and better support people.

Another change has been the new name for the Learning Exchange. We feel *Keep Learning Mid Canterbury* better reflects the nature of this initiative and our desire to promote the 5 Ways to Wellbeing, one of which is 'Keep Learning'. We are grateful to youth timebankers in the US who designed a logo for Keep Learning Mid Canterbury and also our new Trust logo.

I'd like to acknowledge the work that has been done by Kate, Mari and Ramandeep as coordinators, also volunteers Roberta Risk and Margaret Thorpe in running the weekday café catchups and supporting members. Thank you to the many Keep Learning facilitators who gave talks and workshops during the year and all the volunteers who have helped with our events. A big thanks also goes to all Timebank members who have connected, contributed and helped create a sense of belonging in the Mid Canterbury region.

I would like to thank the Trustees who give their time to the Board to ensure that various governance aspects are taken care of including paying bills, financial reporting, policies and procedures, employment, strategic planning, health & safety etc.

During the year we welcomed Donna Favel to the Board who brings an immense wealth of governance experience and is also well connected with other organisations in Mid Canterbury. We are very fortunate that founding trustee Coby Snowden was able to return to the Board as our Treasurer, replacing myself when I stepped into the Chair role. Josie Tallents joined this year as a younger person wanting to learn more around governance but unfortunately has had to resign due to health issues. We thank her for her willingness to continue to help the organisation where she is able. A big thank you to Bruce Sim and Maria Jimenez who will continue on the Board in their roles of HR and health & safety respectively.

It has been great to work with founding trustee Suzie Early who has been our ever reliable secretary, ensuring that our discussions in board meetings are accurately recorded. It will be sad to see her go after this year's AGM, due to work commitments outside of Ashburton. Kirstin Cook will also resign at this AGM due to health issues and we thank her for her 4 years of service including a year as Chairperson.



# CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT CONTD.

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We are very grateful to our funders for their support with our initiatives. In this financial year, we have received funding from NZ Lotteries, Ashburton Licensing Trust, COGS & Ashburton District Council, Advance Ashburton, Creative Communities (ADC), Lion Foundation and Nelson Building Society. Without their support we would be unable to run our initiatives which help 'to support the growth of a regenerative, resilient and caring community by connecting people, services and resources in Mid Canterbury' (our mission).

Looking to the year ahead, we are excited about launching a Keep Learning Mid Canterbury website in October, which will not only show the Keep Learning events we organize but ALL the learning opportunities available in our district. We have three interns from Otago Polytech IT department who are developing [www.keeplearningmc.nz](http://www.keeplearningmc.nz). The site will enable groups without a widespread voice to promote their courses or learning opportunities to enrich the lives of people in Mid Canterbury.

We also look forward to growing the Timebank to reach more people in our community through sharing skills, reducing isolation and supporting people in their time of need.

Antony White  
Chairperson



## TRUSTEES - AS AT JUNE 30 2021

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Antony White (Chair)

Maria Jimenez

Suzie Early (Secretary)

Bruce Sim

Coby Snowden (Treasurer)

Donna Favel

Kirstin Cook

Josie Tallents



# ABOUT THE TRUST

Connecting Mid Canterbury is a registered Charitable Trust (CC55035), formed in July 2017.

## VISION

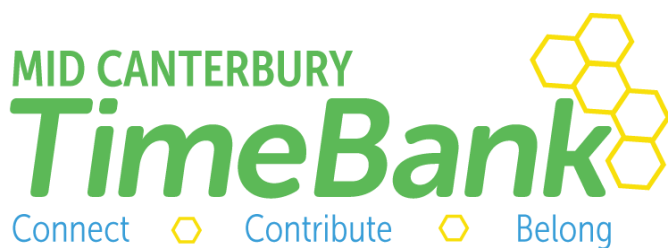
Mid Canterbury is a connected, regenerative, resilient community that cares.

## MISSION

To support the growth of a regenerative, resilient and caring community by connecting people, services and resources in Mid Canterbury.

## INITIATIVES

In order to fulfil its purpose the Trust launched two initiatives on October 1st 2017, the Mid Canterbury TimeBank and the Learning Exchange, now known as Keep Learning Mid Canterbury.



Promoting Keep Learning Events & the TimeBank at Hakatere Marae, Waitangi Day 2021



# Keep Learning

## MID CANTERBURY

Keep Learning Mid Canterbury (formerly known as the Learning Exchange) organises about 40 talks and workshops per year on a wide variety of topics. These learning events are delivered by members of the community and are open to all. The aim is to fill the gap in the district of non-vocational community education opportunities and help people to 'Keep Learning', one of the 5 Ways to Wellbeing recommended by the NZ Mental Health Foundation.



## KEEP LEARNING MID CANTERBURY

July 1 2020 - June 30 2021

# 39

Keep Learning Events

# 390

Keep Learning Attendees

41 % were members of the public

59 % were TimeBank members







## What Keep Learning events have we held this year?

- Guided Tour of the Universe x 2
- Immunity builders
- Rags and Remnants
- Focus on Apps
- Photography
- Traveling in Jordan
- Happiness & Wellbeing
- Unbaked Slices
- NZ Sign Language
- Phones, Apps & Security
- Spring Garden Tour
- Get Creative - Fafetu in Action
- Suicide Prevention
- Harakeke Wānanga x 4
- Preserving Food
- Shinrin Yoku
- Feet, facials & massage
- Coming to NZ - Refugee Journey
- Collage, Sculpting & painting
- Kombucha
- Filipino Culture & food
- Preparing for an emergency
- Local Food Resilience
- Summer Car Check up
- World Soil Day
- A Taste of Guatemala
- Library Tour
- Digital Detox
- Get Creative- Card Making
- Know Your Rights
- Danube River Journey
- Beekeeping
- Reducing Electricity Bills
- Te Reo Māori Pronunciation
- A Taste of Poland







*I enjoy learning new and useful things through the many Keep Learning events I've been to. I've learnt what to do to prepare for an emergency, how to keep my house warm and save on power bills and how to make kombucha. The session on knowing our rights when accessing health and disability services was useful too. And then there's the opportunity to learn new skills like weaving flax which I found fascinating and relaxing. It is great to have these opportunities to*

*Keep Learning!  
- Margaret Lambie*



*Each term I wait eagerly to see what will be on the Keep Learning Programme. I have enjoyed some wonderful workshops eg Immunity Builders, Bee Keeping, Filipino, Guatemalan and Polish culture and cooking classes. I really appreciate the effort put in by those who run these workshops. I enjoy the chance to meet new people when I attend the Keep Learning events.*

*Everyone has something valuable to share.*

*- Christine Widdowson, 2021*



MID CANTERBURY

# TimeBank



Connect



Contribute



Belong

In a TimeBank people give and receive help exchanging time credits instead of money. Everyone's time and skills are valued equally.

Timebanking software enables members to post offers and requests and respond to others' requests and offers and record exchanges. Not only does the TimeBank system provide a way for people to share their skills and get their needs met, it enables people to **connect** with others, feel useful and valued and gain a sense of belonging to the community.

**Organisations** are also members of the TimeBank so some exchanges are organisations rewarding their volunteers with time credits for their volunteering. Mid Canterbury TimeBank as an organisation also records exchanges with those who volunteer in different ways to make the TimeBank run.

On average 38 TimeBank members completed & recorded exchanges each month

*(Previous year: 34)*

## NUMBER OF EXCHANGES

July 1 2020 - June 30 2021

**1,090**

*(Previous year: 923)*

Since Launch

Oct 1 2017 - June 30 2021

**3,959**

## HOURS EXCHANGED

July 1 2020 - June 30 2021

**2,538**

*(Previous year: 1,963)*

Since Launch

Oct 1 2017 - June 30 2020

**10,470**



# What have people exchanged this year?

## Animal Care

- Sheep Rustling
- Bunny Pedicure
- Caring for Animals
- Dog Sitting
- Dog walking
- Bunny sitting
- Garden and Bunny care
- Hives & Honey
- Looking after sick dog

## Practical/ Crafts

- Sewing
- Mending Socks
- Elastic Fixing
- Curtain Hanging
- Mending Merino
- Knitted jumper
- Handwashing my creations
- Crochet and Embroidery
- Golf bag fixed
- Altering homemade socks
- Re-upholstering antique chair
- Mending and darning
- Trousers taken up
- Small patch on jeans
- Dog bed alterations
- Knitting

## Tech & Admin

- Administration help
- Powerpoint
- Using handy sites
- Help w phone & tablet
- Savings pools accounting
- Review financial statements
- Amendment of paperwork
- Sign Writing
- General Computer Help
- Scribe



## Garden

- Landscaping
- Garden Bed Preparation
- Revamp of Vege Garden
- Pruning - fruit trees, roses, vines
- Roller/ Prep soil for lawn seed
- Pavers
- Making raised beds
- Chainsaw job
- Gardening buddy
- Stump Removal
- Lawn mowed
- Installation of Fence
- Build Bean Frame
- Propagating seedlings
- Move garden supplies
- Use of trailer
- Xmas Lilies
- Hothouse helper
- Tree removal
- Manure spreading
- Garden with me
- Rose propagation
- Rotary hoe garden
- Plant out vege garden
- Hedge trimming
- Calf poo gathering and delivering
- Clean up strawberries
- Garden tool restoration
- Gardening working bee
- Put in flowers
- Spread pea straw
- Garden advice
- Hard yakka
- Worm farm help
- Section clean up
- Pruning old vines
- Tidying shrubs
- Watering



## Driving

- Driving to Fairlie
- Airport run
- Lift to Staveley

## Home

- House cleaning
- Childcare
- Decluttering
- Household chores
- Tidying and cleaning
- Bathroom clean
- Shifting furniture
- Home help
- Sanding and painting a cot
- Curtain hanging
- Organise, declutter and decorate
- Hang board with hooks
- Preparation for an invasion
- Create order out of chaos
- Fix Leaky Tap





# Exchanges continued.

## Wellness

- Wellness Support
- Mutual Brain Dump
- Luxury Facials
- Listening to me
- Second Brain
- Co- Pilot of life
- Auxiliary Grey Matter
- Fitness Buddy
- Foot Massage
- Brain fog support
- PA for the day
- Neck & Foot massage
- Beauty treatment
- Friday avo downloads
- General assistance
- Wine & good company

## Kitchen

- Yummy Preserves
- Cooking lesson
- Breadmaking
- Kombucha Bug & advice
- Lemon Curd
- Knife sharpening
- Baking (LOTS)
- Feijoa Magic
- Yummy cheesecakes
- Kombucha demo
- Baking for school lunches
- Milk pick up
- Cooking
- Preserving apples
- Meals

## Other

- Install handles
- Sanding a Bench
- Guitar lessons
- Waterblast driveway
- Use of ebike
- Replaced Rocker cover gasket in my car
- Disposal of farm leftovers
- Golf trundler alteration



# What exchanges have happened with organisations?

## Member Organisations

- Learner Driver Mentor
- CAB volunteer
- Boost Literacy tutoring
- Sorting clothes at clothing exchange
- Red Cross Training
- Overlocking for baby blankets
- Helping with Art Addicts club
- Facebook posts
- Fundraising
- Community Directory
- Childcare for Driving Scheme



## Keep Learning

- Keep Learning Facilitator
- Photography
- Event Hosting
- Providing venue
- Event assistant

## MC TimeBank

- Guardian Angel Support
- Digital Storytelling Planning & filming
- Interview subject for Digital Story
- Kitchen Assistant
- Photography
- Festive forest tree help
- Stall Helper at promotional events
- Treasurer role
- Phoning/ welcoming new members
- Help serving afternoon tea
- Welcome desk helper
- Pack up/ set down at events
- Governance meetings
- Strategic planning
- Help with Office move
- Neighbour's Day
- Health & TimeBank hui
- Financial reporting
- LGBT survey & report
- Idea meeting for hui & stall
- Community Van driver for trip
- Minute taking
- IT support
- Cook for B party
- Banner making
- Big Swap helper
- Supper provider
- Annual report binding
- Cafe catch up organiser

Rewarding volunteers with time credits is a great way to acknowledge all the unpaid work people do to make organisations in our community tick.





# TIMEBANK SOCIAL GATHERINGS

Social gatherings are a key component of the TimeBank that allow people to connect with others, have fun, hear about others' needs and skills, and generally feel a sense of belonging to the TimeBank community. People often feel more comfortable and willing to help or exchange with those they have met, so organising these events helps facilitate that.

This year we organised 10 larger social gatherings and 18 other Meetups. TimeBankers also actively participated in community events, representing the TimeBank, for example at Back to Basics and the Neighbours Day Community Fete @ Trots Gardens. We had a TimeBank team in the Black and White Quiz night and a TimeBank tree in the Festive Forest, both events put on by other organisations.



## TimeBank Social Gatherings 2020-2021

- Pizza & Games Night
- The Big Spring Swap
- B Party
- Awa Awa Reserve trip
- End of Year BBQ
- Pool Party
- Ashburton Lakes Excursion
- Staveley Camp
- Staying Alive Party
- Variety Concert
- Cafe Catch ups x 13
- International TimeBank Day
- Geraldine Trips x 2
- Neighbours Day Community Fete
- Morning Tea with Chris Ruth Centre
- Simply Eco Morning Tea





# TIMEBANK MEMBERSHIP

As at 30 June 2021

**182**

**INDIVIDUAL  
MEMBERS**

**25**

**MEMBER  
ORGANISATIONS**

**207**

**TOTAL  
MEMBERS**

*The following data is from the 80 % of individual members who completed our annual survey in July 2021*

## Demographics of TimeBankers

### LOCATION

70 % live in Ashburton, 21 % live elsewhere in Mid Canterbury, 25 % live rurally

### NEWCOMERS

30% were born outside of NZ

9 % have lived in Mid Canterbury for less than 2 years, 23 % between 2-5 years.

### AGE & GENDER

1 % are under 20, 21 % between 20-40, 42% between 40 - 60, 37% over 60

79% are women, 20 % are men and 1% are non-binary

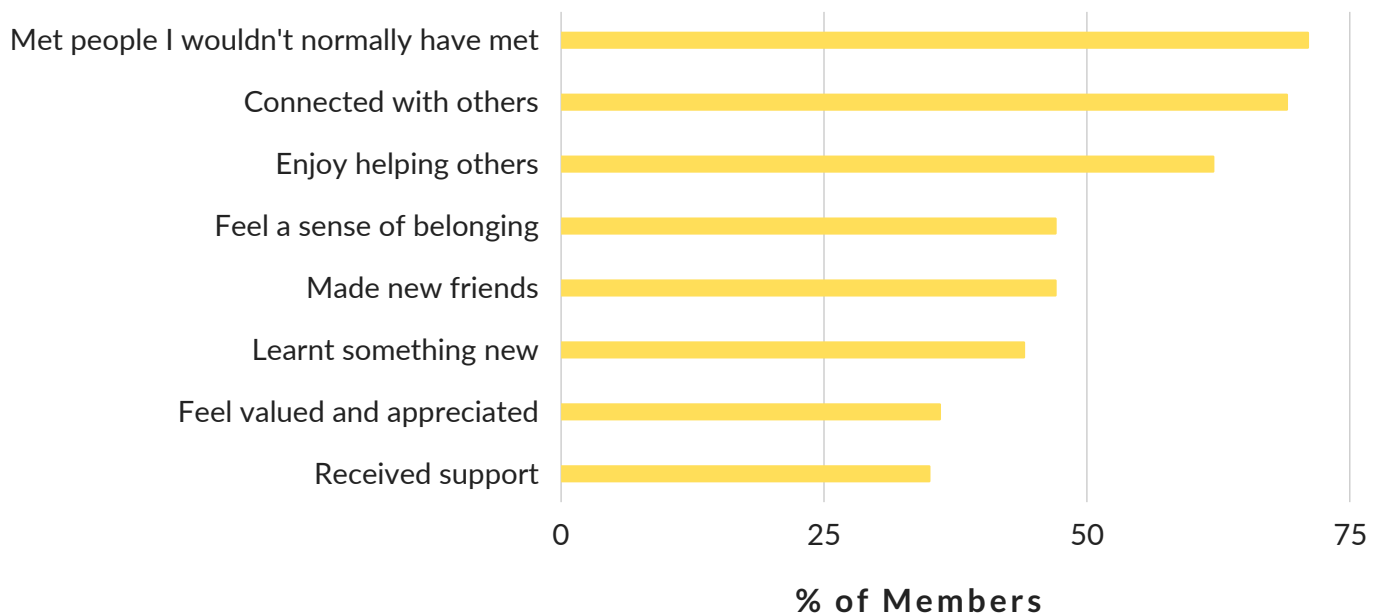
## Do people feel better off by being part of the TimeBank?

87% of all members consider themselves better off

98% of active members consider themselves better off

70% of members were active in the previous 12 months, i.e. they completed exchanges and/or attended social gatherings or Keep Learning events

## What contributed to members feeling better off?



# 5 WAYS TO WELLBEING

Promoted by the Mental Health Foundation of New Zealand

TimeBank members identified which of the 5 Ways to Wellbeing they've put into practice through their involvement in the TimeBank & Keep Learning initiatives.

	CONNECT	GIVE	KEEP LEARNING	KEEP ACTIVE	TAKE NOTICE
<b>% OF MEMBERS</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>30%</b>
<i>Previous Year</i>	(53%)	(43%)	(45%)	(28%)	(31%)

## Wellbeing statistics

17% of members have physical health issues or a disability

17% have mental health issues

12% have been socially isolated

21% of members say the TimeBank has helped them feel less isolated

68% say the TimeBank has contributed positively to their wellbeing





# FEEDBACK FROM MEMBERS (JULY 2021)



*TimeBank gives me an opportunity to share what I have and receive what I need. This past year, I was able to share my prolific rhubarb and gain some help propagating a favourite rose bush. TimeBank provides access to a wide network of people, knowledge and resources that I really appreciate.*

*- Lydia*

*There is nothing like being around lovely genuine people and being uplifted, contributing to the wider community*

*- Maz*



*I love the eclectic mix of people who are in the TimeBank. It is great to meet and socialise with people I wouldn't normally spend time with. It also really helps to reduce my stress levels knowing there are people who can help with things that I find difficult, like mending.*

*- Kate*



*Receiving help during times when many things needed to get done (all at once) and when another set of hands was useful has been helpful.*

*- Kristine*

*I have the ability to share/receive knowledge with people. As I'm retired it encourages me to get out in the community.*

*-Paul*







*I haven't been in the timebank long but think its a marvellous way for people to share their skills & connect. I become a bit of a couch potato in winter & probably wouldn't be bothered doing anything but the events of the Timebank & Keep Learning are a little different & pique my interest enough to get me out & about.*

*- Maria*

*I thoroughly enjoy all aspects of TimeBank. The people are generous and friendly to offer their skills and it is very inclusive of all cultures. I would recommend highly the work they do to bring the community together.*

*-Glenis*



*I have made a lot of fantastic new friends. Help has been available for many tasks that I am no longer able to carry out. I never feel "out of it" at any function. I love the ability to learn new things.*

*- Margaret T*

*I've found Timebank a great opportunity for being involved in the community. I've offered my expertise (talking about wills, compiling a recipe book) and benefitted from the expertise of others (decluttering, getting a jumper knitted). You never know what will be available, and it's fun.*

*- Cathie*



*I find that all the members I meet are wonderful and go above and beyond*

*-Leigh*

*Timebank brings the best out in everyone! It is a huge plus to have in our community and it is exciting to see it grow from strength to strength.*

*- Suzie*

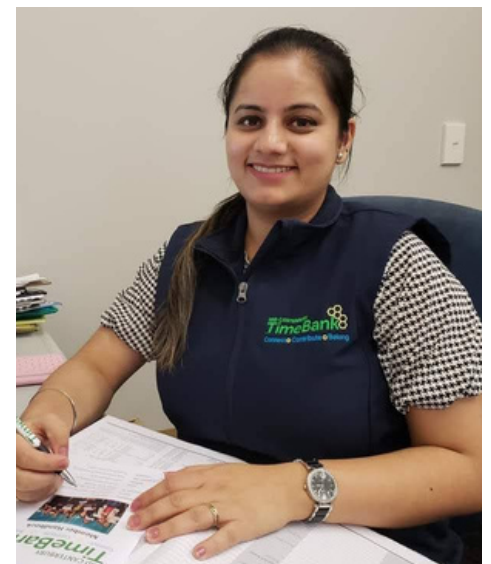


# COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Kia ora! As our statistics and survey data show, the TimeBank and Keep Learning initiatives have continued successfully helping people connect, contribute, belong and keep learning this year. Behind the scenes we have had some restructuring of roles and responsibilities, and thanks to our funders, an increase to our staffing hours, to help us meet community demand.

Mari Swindley and I had the joint role of coordinators of the trust's initiatives since August 2018 until she resigned in December 2020. My thanks go to Mari for the enthusiasm, dedication and creativity she brought to the coordinator role. After her departure and a successful (one-off) Covid Wellbeing fund application, hours and roles were redefined. I was employed as coordinator for the Trust (11 hours p/w)– to promote both initiatives, connect with other community organisations, seek funding and support staff. Then we would have coordinators for each initiative – with me coordinating Keep Learning (4 hours p/w) and a new TimeBank coordinator (25 hours p/w).

I am delighted to introduce Ramandeep Kaur, who has jumped right into the challenging and varied role as our new TimeBank Coordinator. Ramandeep is originally from India, where she completed a law degree and MBA. She moved to New Zealand to be with her husband who is farming here and they have a young family. Ramandeep started the role in March and thanks to her enthusiasm, friendly nature and the increased staffing hours, we have seen a marked increase in the number of new members joining the TimeBank this year. Ramandeep's own experience of rural isolation and the difference timebanking can make is a powerful motivator for her. She is thoroughly enjoying connecting with people and helping others connect through the TimeBank.



We've been promoting our initiatives wherever we can, including at Waitangi Day – with stalls at Multicultural Bite and Hakatere Marae, the Neighbour's Day Community Fete at Trotts Gardens in March, the Youth Pathways Expo and a stand in Ashburton Public Library in May. We've also held a TimeBank info night and an event together with the NZ Red Cross in June, promoting the TimeBank along with their Be Good and Ready programme.



Community Fete at Trotts



Be Good & Ready event



Youth Expo



One of the highlights of the past year for me has been the increasing community connections I've developed, including joining the Caring for Communities Welfare Recovery Group. Thanks to Sarah Wylie's Research (Sept 2020) we have a great picture of 'Community and Social Recovery Needs and Capacities in Ashburton District in Covid-19 Times' and are able to work together to address them. One need, not in the report but brought to my attention, was the lack of services for the LGBT+ community in Mid Canterbury. Thank you to CMC trustee Josie for initiating a survey of the local LGBT+ community & analysing the results. I organised & facilitated a hui in April which brought 40 people together to connect, discuss needs (based on survey), discover services available and work on solutions. This has led to a social group for LGBT+ youth getting established, training on Rainbow Inclusion offered through Keep Learning and a subgroup forming to work on this kaupapa.

The increasing connections we've made in the community have led to a number of organisations joining the TimeBank this year: *Hakatere Marae, NZ Red Cross, Anglican Advocacy, Waitaha Primary Health, Whānau Āwhina Plunket, Citizens Advice Bureau, MC Rural Support Trust, Dementia Canterbury.*

Others have referred their clients or patients to the TimeBank and many have collaborated with us on Keep Learning events: *Ashburton Public Library, Ashburton Art Gallery, Refugee Resettlement Service, Deaf Aotearoa, Community Energy Action, Health & Disability Advocacy Service, Lives Worth Living, Ashburton Learning Centre, Unifil.*



New developments this year include increasing our TimeBank Cafe Catchups to twice a month and Ramandeep's initiative of a monthly Friday outing - to get to know TimeBank members and help them connect with each other. We celebrated International TimeBank day with a morning tea in March and moved to a bigger, better office in April, still in Community House.



Our organisation joined ACE Aotearoa - the national body for Adult and Community Education and I attended their conference in Wellington in June. This led me to new thinking around our Keep Learning initiative, how we can connect with a broader range of people and support other organisations so everyone can 'Keep Learning'.

Keep Learning got a Facebook page and its own logo this year, thanks to Youth TimeBankers in the US who designed it for us! A website is next and not only will it list our events but ALL learning events in the district. This will become the go-to platform for Mid Canterbury residents to find information on learning opportunities and for groups to promote their learning events. Super exciting!

It is a real joy for me to form connections within and across organisations and groups in Mid Canterbury and work towards our Trust's mission 'to support the growth of a regenerative, resilient and caring community by connecting people, services and resources in Mid Canterbury'.

Kate White - Connecting Mid Canterbury Coordinator

# TREASURER'S REPORT

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For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

*Annual Report – Page 8 (Statement of Financial Performance) – Revenue and Expenditure.*

**REVENUE:** Grants contributed 95% of the total revenue, up \$13,012 from last year's \$37,278 which was 91% of total revenue). The \$50,290 was made up of:

- NZ Lotteries \$20,922
- Ashburton Trust \$12,798
- Ashburton District Council \$ 5,000
- COGS \$ 4,000
- Advance Ashburton \$ 3,000
- Creative Communities Scheme \$ 2,404
- Lion Foundation \$ 1,600
- NBS \$ 565

The actual amounts mentioned here may differ from what was actually received during the 12 months due to unspent funds being carried over to this current and next year.

Other Revenue totalled \$2,491, most of which was Keep Learning fees and Fundraising Income.

**EXPENDITURE:** Expenses totalled \$52,408, an increase of \$11,891 from last year.

- Wages paid totalled \$40,721, which was \$14,711 higher than last year due to the recruitment of Ramandeep, funding for which was secured from NZ Lotteries.
- Recruitment costs \$1,027, money well spent to get the best.
- Venue hire reflects the increased number of events the Trust supported, many of which were unable to proceed last year due to the Covid lockdown.
- Last year's expenses included \$6,300 for training, this was for the Digital Storytelling project. Also paid for last year was Zoom software.

*Annual Report – Page 10 (Statement of Financial Position) – Assets, Liabilities & Accumulated Funds)*

**ASSETS:** These totalled \$31,668 as at 30 June 2021, predominantly funds in the bank. These are for grants received but not spent yet and budgeted to be spent by March 2022.

**LIABILITIES:** These totalled \$30,845, mainly Grants Received in Advance \$29,562 as follows:

- NZ Lotteries \$26,026
- Creative Communities Scheme (Flax Weaving early 2022) \$ 2,856
- Lion Foundation \$ 679

Thanks to Antony White for his help while I get familiar with the Trust's systems.

Coby Snowden - Trustee / Treasurer  
Connecting Mid Canterbury Charitable Trust (CC55035)  
August 2021

