



Our Stories — How We Make a Difference

April 2026



Chief Executive's Report

Nau mai haere mai

It's fair to say we've experienced a summer that never quite lived up to its name. Many of us were left wondering if summer had skipped us entirely. Now, as autumn settles in, the cooler days and turning leaves bring a sense of renewal and reflection.

Despite the unpredictable weather, PSSC has continued to move forward with purpose. One of our most significant milestones is the completion of The Homestead restoration and strengthening project. This magnificent building has now fully reopened, and it was a privilege to celebrate its official opening with staff, residents, whānau, and our wider community. Seeing the Homestead restored to its former glory — and ready for the decades ahead — has been a true highlight for us all.

Across PSSC, change has also been happening within our

teams. Over recent months we've welcomed a number of new staff members, and I'd like to express my excitement and gratitude as they settle into their roles. We continue to grow, evolve, and strengthen as an organisation, and each new team member brings fresh energy, skills, and perspectives.

To our existing staff and volunteers — the heart of PSSC — **thank you.** I remain incredibly proud of the commitment, professionalism, and compassion shown every day. Many of you consistently go above and beyond, and your contribution does not go unnoticed. Our organisation is only as strong as its people, and you truly are remarkable.

I encourage everyone to stay connected through our website www.pssc.org.nz and our Facebook page, where we continue to share stories and moments from across our Enliven Homes and Family Works services.

Thank you for reading this Support Report and thank you for your ongoing support of our work and our mission.

Ngā mihi nui
Carolyn Cooper, **CEO**

Croft Homestead Heritage Project ✓

Presbyterian Support South Canterbury has proudly reopened the beautifully restored Croft Homestead, (now launched as The Homestead Community Hub), following a two year strengthening and refurbishment project. Officially opened on 30 January by Hon James Meager MP for Rangitata, the revitalised heritage building reflects both its rich history and its renewed purpose.

Originally gifted to PSSC in 1968 by Lorna and Hamish Grant, the Homestead has long symbolised generosity and community connection. Today, the building serves as a welcoming hub for Croft Village residents, volunteers, staff, and local organisations. Downstairs, three meeting rooms are available at no cost to not for profit groups, supporting collaboration and easing financial pressures for local charities. PSSC's senior



leadership team is now based upstairs, bringing key services together under one roof.

As a Heritage New Zealand Category 2 Historic building, the Homestead's restoration preserved its early 20th century character while strengthening the structure and updating safety and functionality. The project was made possible through a generous Lotteries Grant, public donations, with the bulk investment from PSSC which funded the majority of the nearly \$4 million rebuild.

Reflecting on the completion of the project, PSSC Chief Executive Carolyn Cooper said, *"We are extremely proud of this rebuild, it looks stunning!!"*

The reopening marks a new era for this cherished landmark—once again a warm, vibrant space where people can come together and feel at home.

Please turn to page 4 for photos of official opening.



PSSC Celebrates Double Victory at the 2025 South Canterbury Business Excellence Awards



Proud Moment

We Did It!

Presbyterian Support South Canterbury (PSSC) achieved an extraordinary milestone at the 2025 *South Canterbury Chamber of Commerce Business & Community Excellence Awards*, taking home not just one accolade, but two of the evening's highest honours.

At the gala event held on 15 August 2025 at Caroline Bay Hall in Timaru, PSSC was named the winner of the **Community Award**, recognising its commitment to uplifting the wellbeing of people across our region through meaningful, people centred services.

But the celebrations didn't stop there.

These two prestigious awards celebrate the work of PSSC's staff, volunteers, partners, and supporters. The recognition highlights the organisation's ability to deliver high quality, compassionate services while continually adapting to meet the evolving needs of the South Canterbury community.

The **Supreme Award** is an extraordinary honour and a testament to our team's commitment to delivering care and support with dignity, respect, and professionalism. Winning *both* the Community Award and the Supreme Award reaffirms the impact our services have on strengthening the wellbeing of people throughout the region.

This recognition energises us as we continue our mission: to support people in our community to thrive, live with dignity, and feel connected. With gratitude for the trust placed in us, PSSC remains committed to serving South Canterbury with integrity, warmth, and excellence.

Once again, thank you to everyone who has been part of the PSSC journey. These awards are not just a win for our organisation—they're a win for our entire community.

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Meet the PSSC Board...



ABOVE (left to right): Jan Hide, Jo Goodhew (Board Chair), Keith Shaw, Judith Earl-Goulet, Paula McPherson, Toni Torepe and Margaret Turley.
INSET: Raeleen de Joux, Gordon Handy and Nina Mackay.

PSSC Introductions



Rawiri Morunga
General Manager
Social Services

PSSC welcomes **Rawiri Morunga** in the new role as Social Services General Manager and joins the PSSC Senior Leadership Team.

Rawiri oversees Family Works, Refugee Settlement Services, Pou Ārahi Māori, @Home Services (including Te Pokapū, (The Hub) and Dementia Mate Wareware Homeshare - in conjunction with the GM - Services for Older People).



Lana Williams
Pou Ārahi Māori
Cultural
Advisor

Mā te atawhai ka toro atu taku ringa, mā te mähaki ka tū tahi tātou, mā te aroha ka mauri ora te anamata.

Through kindness, I extend my hand, through humility, we stand together, through compassion, the future will flourish.

Lana is of Kāi Tahu, Te Arawa, Tainui, and Mataatua descent. Whakawhanaungatanga sits at the heart of her work. She values building genuine, trusting connections and creating spaces where people feel safe, supported, and empowered to learn and grow together. She approaches her role with enthusiasm, humility, and a readiness to contribute in

meaningful ways.

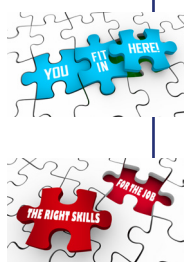
As a Cultural Advisor, Lana is committed to weaving Mātauranga Māori and tikanga into everyday practice, helping to create environments where Māori perspectives, values, and relationships are honoured, respected, and able to flourish. She brings established relationships and a deep passion for Mātauranga Māori, guided by the belief that these knowledge systems inspire care for the environment, nurture relationships, and uplift communities.



Ani Walker
Property & Grounds
Supervisor
Croft

*Kia ora,
Ko Rangipoua te maunga,
Ko Haparapara te awa,
Ko Mataatua te Waka,
Ko Te whanau a Apanui te iwi,
Ko Te whanau a Rutaia te hapū,
Ko Ani Ohare Walker tōku ingoa.*

Ani, (preferred name 'Matua Ani'), originated from Omaio, a small settlement 70km from Opotiki, Eastern Bay of plenty. Previously serving in the military for just under 10 years; in Australian mines; real estate and property management, also has experience in teaching te reo māori. Ani is super excited to be the Property and Grounds Supervisor at The Croft. He is very approachable, has a good sense of humour, can take a joke and enjoys a bit of banter. He is open to learning and to all advice and suggestions that can help him complete his duties better, describing himself as "Happy, humble, and eager to grow."



Gary Prentice
Property & Grounds
Supervisor
Strathallan

Starting at the same time as Ani, Gary comes from a background revolving around building and joinery trades.

Interests include many years of actively playing a large variety of sports, including coaching football and squash. Previously the President of the Temuka Football Club and honoured to being made a Life Member of the Temuka Squash Club an organisation he has been involved with since his early teen years. More recently due to age he has taken up outdoor bowls which is a work in progress, so anyone who has bowls knowledge, all tips and tricks will be gratefully received.

Gary and his wife both enjoy their large garden and keeping their home and grounds looking lovely, and love to get away camping in their very retro 1970's retro fitted caravan.

Homestead's Grand Re-Opening...



Celebrating Long Service

Presbyterian Support recognises that staff are our greatest asset. We acknowledge those staff members who have completed 5, 10, 15 and 20+ years of service by awarding long service badges and certificates.

At the 107th PSSC AGM, 15 November 2025, staff members were presented with Long Service Awards.

40 years: Debbie McGregor. **35 years:** Rowena Collings.
25 years: Lynsey Harris. **20 years:** Carolyn Ferguson, Diane Forbes, Jo Gould, Louise Kiddey, Melissa List and Anne Mackay.
15 years: Brenda Guyan, Jay Francis, Jennifer Matheson,

Kathleen Conroy and Tamara Page.

10 years: Alan Sandilands, Connie Barcellano-Coe, Gay Eder, Gillian Fraser, Gurjeet Kaur, Jane Sanders, Julie Hosking, Kristina Wilson, Norma Obillo, Roselyn Thompson, Sandra Worthington, Sheryl Knight, Steven Kumar and Valerie Hewlett.

5 years: (Staff completing five years are awarded their badges by their Service Manager): Benjamin Kottackal, Elsabe Van Niekerk, Gurvir Kaur, Haley Burgess, Jill de Joux, Kim Longley, Kim Purcell, Linda Rowe, Liza Frear Hanson, Lorraine Heron, Natasha Martin, Sagrika Patel and Sashi Sahai.



"Long Service isn't just time – it's countless moments of kindness, patience, and care. Thank you for sharing your gifts with PSSC and the community."

Pictured L-R: Jane Sanders, Janet Francis, Lindsey Harris, Tamara Page, Debbie McGregor, Jo Gould, Rowena Collings, Sheryl Knight and at back Alan Sandilands.

The Croft Home



Residents at The Croft are enjoying new initiatives in partnership with the activities staff. These include the *Tipsy Tea Club*, the *Men's Den* and *Around the World*. This gives them the opportunity to connect with others, give and receive care while doing something meaningful,



grow by trying new things as well as to be spontaneous.

These activities rotate throughout the year, providing a sense of anticipation and fun.

Helen McLeod, *Nurse Manager*

Farewell and Thank you...

Farewell to *Helen McLeod* who retires after nearly 30 years of dedicated service as *Nurse Manager* at The Croft, leaving behind a legacy of kindness, professionalism, and exceptional care. Deeply loved by residents and staff alike, Helen has made a lasting difference through her compassion and commitment, and she will be greatly missed.



Margaret Wilson Home *This story is like "The Little Engine Who Could"...*



Wayne, a well-known chatty, kind, caring man, who used to work as a Funeral Director, came to live at Enliven Margaret Wilson Home.

He and his wife built a 2-story home which includes a chair lift, to enable him to still be able to remain at home when his Parkinsons worsened. However, this was not an option following an acute event and hospitalisation.

Initially resentful, withdrawn and frustrated, as we began to get to know each other, he became more interactive and began talking about wanting to go home.

He and I established a good rapport and had many honest and open discussions together. He believed he could go home and our challenge was to see if we could make that happen. So we formulated a plan to build his strength and function towards this goal.

His mental wellbeing improved with this goal in sight. He became very focused on his program and became more actively involved in life at Margaret Wilson – greeting and including new residents, sitting quietly chatting with residents living with advanced dementia, making his own breakfast, cleaning his own room and making the bed, sewing labels on clothing and much more.

He had a new spring in his step and a glint in his eye.

As he continued to improve, he went home on day leave, often coming back to share that he had been up the ladder cleaning the heat pump, or weeding the garden, cleaning the car or painting. This renewed energy was met with much positivity and encouragement within the team. He would often laugh and say he should only pay half the fee as he

was only here for bed and breakfast.

The day leave progressed to overnight leave as he continued to show how well he and his wife were managing. He was walking up to 4km per day and feeling the best he had been for a long time.

After two months of focus, determination, self-belief and positive encouragement and support from the team and his family, he was discharged home.

His parting words being "I am going to miss my extra work wives".

The man who once used to come to Margaret Wilson to take deceased residents into his care with a guard of honour from staff, was now having his own guard of honour from staff, with balloons, party poppers, farewell banner and a huge applause and cheering from staff.

What a joyous celebration and achievement for everyone.

Six months on from his discharge, he is driving again and frequently pops in to have a chat with staff and residents and share a story and cup of tea.

We are all so proud of him and how he worked to reach his goal with our support, and that of the wider team - GP, Physio, Occupational Therapist, Dietitian, District Nurse, NASC.

This demonstrates our commitment to living Eden in every day.

"Embrace new opportunities with optimism and a determined spirit".

On reflection he stated that Margaret Wilson has a homely feel, and he requested to come here, especially when he was discharged from hospital.

Jenny Purdon, *Nurse Manager*

Strathallan

Celebrating Mid Winter



In July the Strathallan Village Residents and Staff had a wonderful mid-winter party where we stepped back in time to the 1970s, with groovy dance moves, funky fancy

dress, and plenty of fun and laughter. The night was such a hit that it had everyone was chatting and laughing about it for days afterwards.

“ FEEDBACK... We are grateful to receive such lovely feedback...My Partner has been at Lorna Care since the 7th October 2025. I just wish to thank you for running such a caring and happy Unit. I cannot speak highly enough about your Nurse's and Carer's, they really are wonderful people. At Christmas they had a large Christmas Tree and decorations up. I truly appreciated being able to share Christmas Lunch with him, the meal was delicious, the tables beautifully decorated and

even Christmas Crackers which he enjoyed pulling. I know he can be difficult as is the case of a lot of Dementia Patients but your Nursing Staff and Carer's are just so lovely and caring of him and the other Patients, not an easy job but they do it with a smile on their face. Special mention of Carlos, he rocks in like a bolt of sunshine and radiates happiness to Lorna Care. How lucky are we as a family to have him at The Croft. I can't thank you and your Team enough.

”
We love hearing from you! Thank you to everyone who has shared feedback. Your input helps us improve, and we always welcome your thoughts.

Introducing... NEW SERVICE...for Presbyterian Support South Canterbury

PSSC @Home - Support that Fits Your Life

Life gets busy and sometimes you just need a bit of extra help to keep everything running smoothly.

PSSC @Home is a flexible, user-pays service for anyone of any age who wants practical support, social connection, or a helping hand at home.

Whether you're flattening, studying, working full-time, recovering from an injury, parenting young kids, supporting your whānau, or retiring and living your best life, @Home is here to make everyday life easier.

What our friendly, reliable team can support you with:

- ◆ Home tasks: cleaning, laundry, tidying, meal prep, changing beds.
- ◆ Personal care: showering, dressing, assisting with meal prep.
- ◆ Companionship: someone to chat with, walk with, or

hang out with.

- ◆ Recovery help: short-term support after surgery, illness, or hospital stays.
- ◆ Errands & life admin: shopping, appointment support, getting things sorted.

Choose as much or as little help as you like, we tailor everything to your lifestyle, schedule, and goals. Our @Home team is fully trained, kind, and committed to making life easier, safer, and more enjoyable. From a casual clean-up to regular weekly visits or short-term recovery help, @Home is built to fit around your life - keeping you independent, supported, and in control.



Allie Hitchcock
@Home Coordinator

23 North Street, Timaru | Athome@pssc.co.nz | 027 331 0513
pssc.org.nz/at-home/

*Let our family
Take Care of Yours!*

Farewell and Thank you...

Shaun Anderson, Property & Maintenance Supervisor with the quickest wit, the funniest emails, and skills with a nail and hammer that never failed. No job was ever too big or too small, and we're incredibly grateful for all the hours you gave

beyond normal time. Your hard work, humour, and can do attitude will be greatly missed. After 15 years, Happy Retirement Shaun.



Heritage Catering

Need catering for a function?
 We can provide both in-house and external meetings/ functions

A range of hospitality options within the beautiful Homestead at Park Lane:

- High Tea & Guided Homestead Tour - \$50 per person
- Devonshire Tea & Ground floor Tour - \$20 per person.

Venue Hire & Catering:

- Not-for Profit organisations - **free** Homestead hire.
- The Homestead hire also for business functions, with on-site catering tailored to your needs.

External Catering:
 We are pleased to offer catering at your own venue.

Enquiries regarding a Homestead booking or catering, email: homesteadbookings@pssc.co.nz



A Season of Kindness

The 2025 Christmas Angel Project

In December 2025, PSCC's Family Works once again spread joy across South Canterbury through the annual **Christmas Angel Project** — a cherished community initiative led with heart and dedication by coordinator **Erin Krivan**.

Thanks to the generosity of local families, businesses, schools, and service groups, hundreds of beautifully wrapped gifts made their way to children and whānau who needed an extra touch of Christmas magic. Erin and the team at Family Works worked tirelessly behind the scenes—matching donors with wish lists, organising drop offs, and ensuring every parcel was delivered with care and dignity.

The true spirit of the project shone through in the small moments: a parent relieved to know their child would wake to a present under the tree, a teen receiving something chosen just for them, or a family feeling seen and supported during a tough season.

Under Erin's thoughtful coordination, the 2025 Christmas Angels Project became more than a gift drive — it became a reminder that our community is strongest when we lift each other up.



A heartfelt **Thank You** to **Craig's Investments, Bleeker & Weith** and **Temuka Transport** for their continued support for this project.



THANK YOU
 I know you like giving people presents all love from M. Jones

THANK YOU
 We are very pleased to receive such amazing and thoughtful gifts. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts. These very happy children on Christmas day. xxx

THANK YOU
 To the lovely ones Angels we will love everything with love thank you

THANK YOU
 Thank you very much for supporting my little whānau for Christmas if Family Works made our Christmas one we won't forget. I will never forget your kindness.

THANK YOU
 Thank you for our Christmas presents and gift cards. It means a lot to my family especially myself and my siblings.

THANK YOU
 Thank you so very much for helping make my kids Christmas magical!! You truly are an angel! I can't thank you enough!

THANK YOU
 We are so very grateful and hope you had a lovely Christmas also.

THANK YOU
 Thank you for the helping hand this year!



Recover in Comfort... with ACC Support



PSSC Homes – Your Rehabilitation Journey Back Home

When an injury disrupts your daily life, the most important step you can take is giving yourself the right environment to heal, rebuild confidence, and prepare for your return home. At Presbyterian Support South Canterbury (PSSC) our Enliven Homes offer exactly that - a welcoming, supportive place where your rehabilitation is our purpose.

Your stay with us is tailored to your unique rehabilitation needs. Whether you're recovering from a recent injury or working through a longer-term rehabilitation plan, we

collaborate with you and ACC to ensure your support is consistent and effective. Our goal is simple - *to help you build strength, independence, and confidence so you can return home safely and successfully.*

Let our dedicated team support you as you work towards what matters most, getting back home, feeling stronger, and ready for the next chapter.

If you'd like to learn more about ACC rehabilitation stay options at PSSC Homes, or wish to discuss availability, we're here and ready to help.



☎ 03 687 7945

enlivenenquiries@pssc.co.nz

All money donated stays right here in our community to help local people.

Donation Form

Give today so the legacy stays
alive for tomorrow

Your generous contribution supports and sustains our important work — every donation counts and is used locally.



Contribution Amount:

- \$10 \$30 \$50
 \$100 \$500 Other \$ _____
 One off donation Monthly donation
 Six monthly donation Other:

or please charge my Credit Card/Debit Card:

(Mastercard / Visa) \$ _____

Name of Cardholder: _____

Card No: _____

Expiry Date: ____ / ____

Signature: _____

Donation paid by: Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss (Name/s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Join Mailing List (Newsletters & Updates): Yes No

12 Park Lane, Timaru 7910
DX WX10630
PO Box 278, Timaru 7940
Email: admin@pssc.co.nz
www.pssc.org.nz

SR2026

Gifts over \$5 are tax deductible.

To receive a tax receipt please make sure you have filled in address details above.

Charities Number: CC11472

Thank you

FOR YOUR SUPPORT

There are many wonderful organisations who help our community by giving grants and donations during the year and we're tremendously grateful to all of them.

As a charity we rely on this financial assistance to support vulnerable children, whānau/families and older people.

Ways you can support our work:

1. Credit Card

- Complete a donation form and post to Presbyterian Support SC
- Donate securely online at pssc.org.nz/donate.

2. Bank Transfer

Internet banking, telephone banking or popping into the bank to make a donation. Our **new** bank account is (Presbyterian Support Services South Canterbury Incorporated) **02-1268-0145539-010**. (BNZ). So we know who made the donation these should be included:

- Donor's address
- Donor ID (if known)
- The service the gift is to benefit, e.g. Family Works.

3. Automatic Payment

For automatic payment information and further assistance please call us on 03 687 7945.

Making a difference together

P.S. Thanks for supporting Presbyterian Support