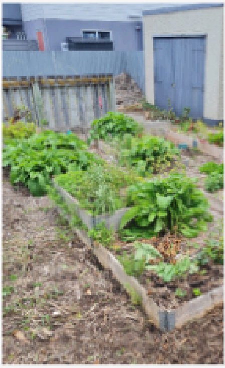
enm
Environment Network Manawatu

JANUARY PĀNUI



In this issue: a full line-up of upcoming events, highlights from our tool library, celebrations of our amazing volunteers, and practical tips to help reduce household waste.

GENERAL

enm
eif
EMPOWER YOUR COMMUNITY IMPACT
Turning Data into Community Power &
Unlocking Wider Funding Opportunities

Empower Your Community Impact
Turning Data into Community Power & Unlocking Wider Funding Opportunities

Tuesday 10th February | 5pm -7pm Globe Theatre 2, 312 Main Street Palmerston North Keynote Speaker: Thea DePetris, PhD in Educational Outcomes for a Sustainable Aotearoa. Learn about exciting new opportunities for the funding of environmental initiatives.

RSVP Here

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eif Environmental Initiatives Fund

Need Funding For Your Environmental Project?

Large Grant Open

Up to **$15,000 +GST**

Apply Now!

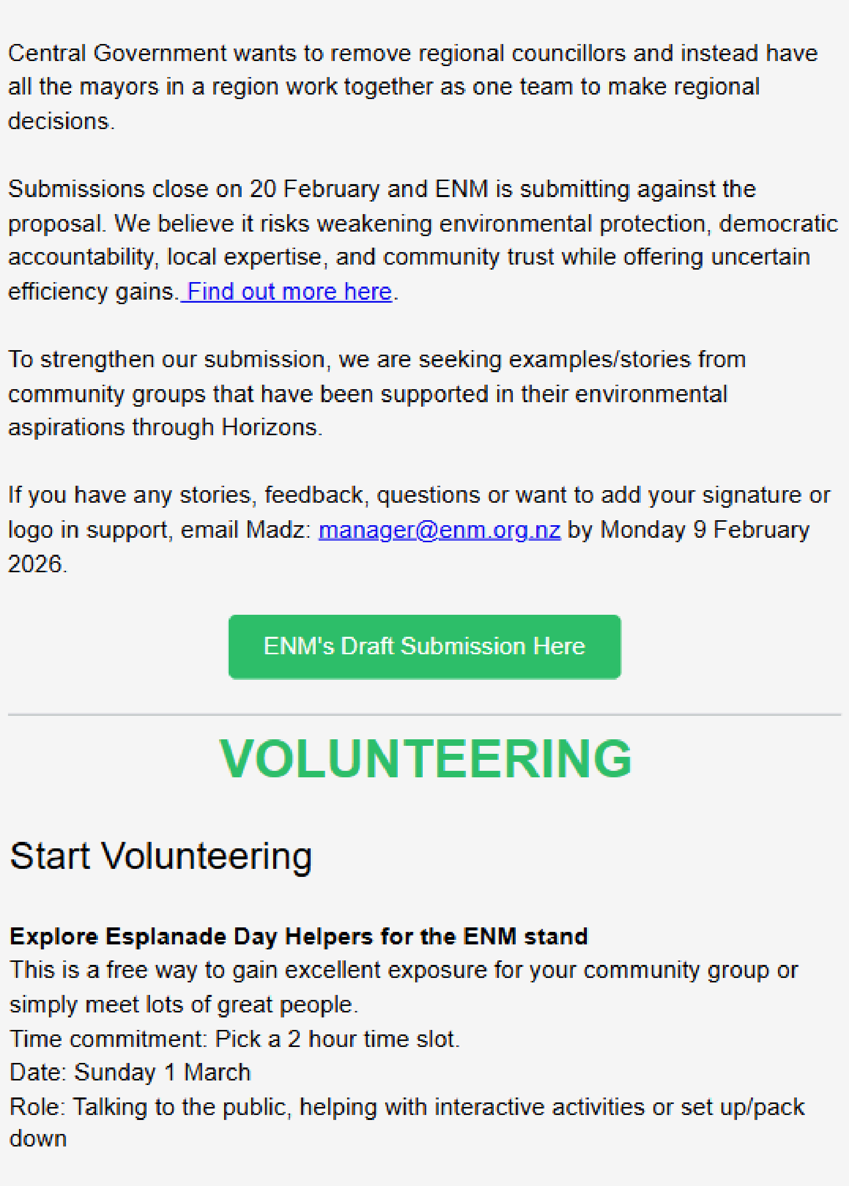
The large grant is now OPEN!
💰 Get $1,000–$15,000 +GST
📅 Open 1 Jan to 15 March 2026
👫 For organisations We're here to help!

The Environmental Initiatives Fund supports community projects that:
✅ Improve food resilience, security, and sovereignty
✅ Protect biodiversity and freshwater quality
✅ Reduce waste and support a circular economy
✅ Take action on climate change

📍 Projects must be within the Manawatū River catchment — from the source to the sea, including Tararua, Palmerston North, Manawatū, and Horowhenua.

Full Info Here

Simplifying Local Government Proposal



Central Government wants to remove regional councillors and instead have all the mayors in a region work together as one team to make regional decisions.

Submissions close on 20 February and ENM is submitting against the proposal. We believe it risks weakening environmental protection, democratic accountability, local expertise, and community trust while offering uncertain efficiency gains. Find out more here.

To strengthen our submission, we are seeking examples/stories from community groups that have been supported in their environmental aspirations through Horizons.

If you have any stories, feedback, questions or want to add your signature or logo in support, email Madz: manager@enm.org.nz by Monday 9 February 2026.

ENM's Draft Submission Here

VOLUNTEERING

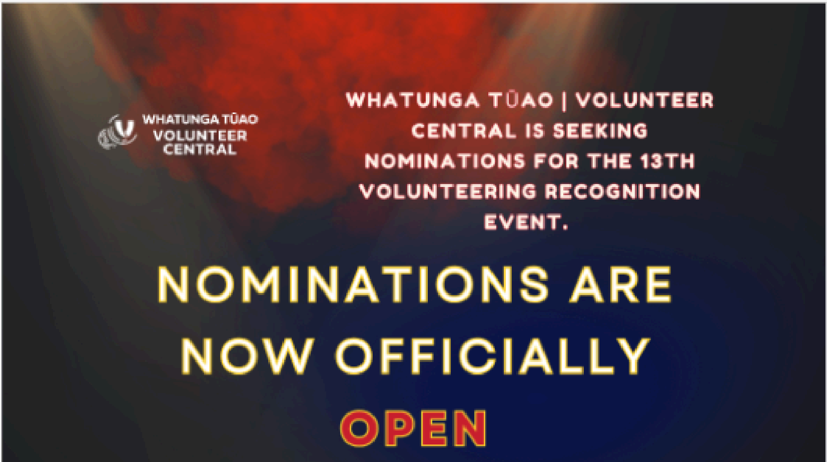
Start Volunteering

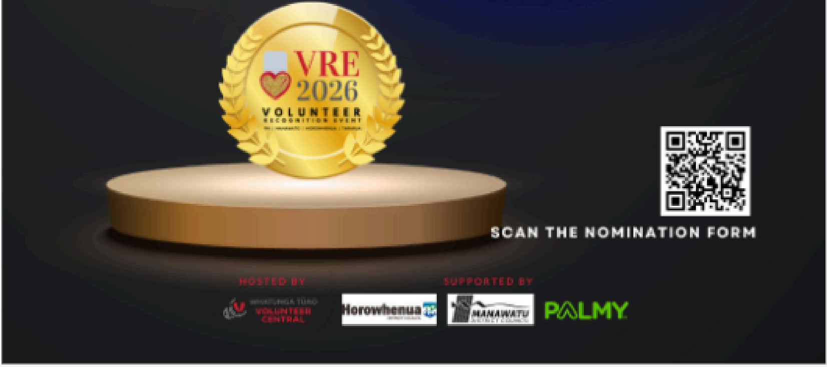
Explore Esplanade Day Helpers for the ENM stand
This is a free way to gain excellent exposure for your community group or simply meet lots of great people.
Time commitment: Pick a 2 hour time slot.
Date: Sunday 1 March
Role: Talking to the public, helping with interactive activities or set up/pack down

DOC Wellington (which includes the Manawatū) are **seeking board members for the Wellington Conservation Board**. It would be great to have someone from the wider Manawatu area to join the board. DOC are seeking someone with Manu whenua connections or legal background or policy or all of the before mentioned! Full info here
Contact sally@leesolutions.co.nz if you're interested.

See the rest of the list here

Volunteer Recognition Event 2026


WHATUNGA TŪAO
VOLUNTEER
CENTRAL
WHATUNGA TŪAO | VOLUNTEER CENTRAL IS SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR THE 13TH VOLUNTEERING RECOGNITION EVENT.
NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OFFICIALLY
OPEN



It's time to recognise your star volunteers!
Nominations are open to the Volunteer Recognition Events 2026 | Palmerston North, Manawatū, Horowhenua and Tararua regions.

Embrace this opportunity to show your star volunteers how much you appreciate their valuable contributions to your organisation. By recognising their hard work, you make your star volunteers feel special and also can inspire others to get involved.

Nominations close on Friday, 20th March 2026.
Event date and place Friday, 5th June 2026 Palmerston North (Details about the venue and event time will be given to nominators and nominees).

Nominate your volunteers!

PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

A collection of stories, updates and events broken down into our four pou.

Biodiversity Protection & Enhancement

Wildlife Foxton Trust are opening up more days

New hours effective immediately:

- Mon 9-4pm (with Senior Activities 1pm-4pm)
- Tues 9-12.30pm
- Wed 9-4pm (with Senior Activities 1pm-4pm)
- Thurs 9-12.30pm

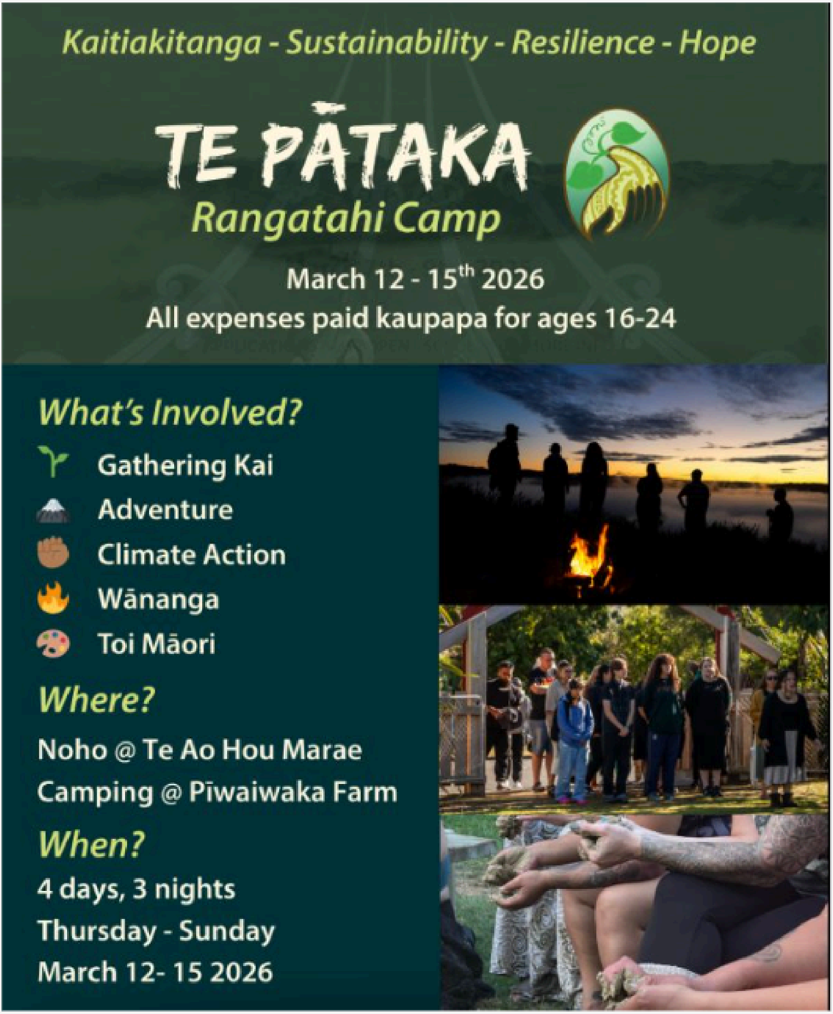
Green Corridors: Range to River

Green Corridors: range to river The Green Corridors programme develops and maintains a network of reserves throughout the gullies of Summerhill and Aokautere, along the Turitea Stream. Its aim is to enhance areas of native bush along streams, provide a place for wildlife to thrive, improve water quality, and create open green spaces from the Tararua Range to the Manawatū River.

Green Corridors runs regular working bees in the gully reserves on Saturday mornings. Summer is focused on maintenance—clearing blackberry, gorse, and unwanted exotic climbers—while winter is the main planting season, using ecosourced native species. The terrain can be challenging, so volunteers need to be reasonably agile.

Please email us for more info

Exciting news from the **Manawatū River Catchments Collective**—another catchment has been confirmed as home to the long-tailed native bat, the Pekapeka. This population has been identified on the bush edge of native forest alongside the Oroua River in Apiti. Thanks to the great work of local farmers, and support from Horizons, the bush area has now been fully fenced to keep deer out, protecting both existing forest and newly planted trees. Trapping is also underway to control pests that threaten native species, with the hope that Pekapeka numbers will grow in the coming years. Landowners in the Manawatū catchment who are curious about whether Pekapeka may be present on their properties are encouraged to get in touch. The Collective can arrange the loan of hand-held bat-detecting devices for a night-time “bat hunt,” or, where suitable, deploy a recorder to capture activity as the bats hunt insects through the evening and night.



Kaitiakitanga - Sustainability - Resilience - Hope

TE PĀTAKA

Rangatahi Camp

March 12 - 15th 2026

All expenses paid kaupapa for ages 16-24

What's Involved?

- 🌱 Gathering Kai
- 🏔 Adventure
- ✊ Climate Action
- 🔥 Wānanga
- 🎨 Toi Māori

Where?

Noho @ Te Ao Hou Marae

Camping @ Pīwaiwaka Farm

When?

4 days, 3 nights

Thursday - Sunday

March 12- 15 2026

Get your young people involved to connect them with nature.

Apply Here

Southern
Ruahine
Kiwi

Ruahine Kiwi

Captured here is Mary Nettle at her Pohangina Tour Aotearoa refreshment stall, joined by the Southern Ruahine Kiwi sign that welcomed riders along the route.

Our appreciation goes to Speedy Signs on Tremaine Ave for their same-day printing and generous donation of the sign. We'd also like to thank Anthony Burns from Swampy Things for the graphics.

Give a Little Here

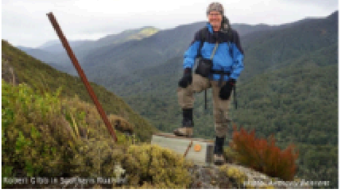
Forest
& Bird
Manawatū
BRANCH

February 2026

Tuesday 10th February from 7.00.pm.
PN City Library, George Street Entrance, Palmerston North

Talk: Southern Ruahine Kiwi

Speaker: Robert Gibb, Ruahine Kiwi Project Lead


Robert Gibb in Southern Ruahine

Southern Ruahine Kiwi (SRK) is partnering with ENM to become an independent Charitable Trust grounded in local iwi values and aspirations. Once home to kiwi, the southern Ruahine Ranges have been without them for more than 50 years due to predators. SRK is leading a collaborative effort to bring kiwi back and over 2,000 traps are now in place.

Robert will talk about the work in 2025 with Save the Kiwi to develop comprehensive plans for pest management and environmental monitoring, exciting new tech on the horizon, progress with setting up a charitable trust, funding successes and what we are doing with the money raised. There is still work to be done with funders to back the full plan and create jobs for fieldworkers. In the meantime, we are pulling out all the stops to keep the momentum going.

Circular Economy

RESCUE & REPURPOSING
TEXTILES HUI 2026

Save the date!

Thursday 26 February – Textile Rescue and Repurposing Hui: Action, Connection, Collaboration

If you're interested, put your name down to get the upcoming info

Register Your Interest Here

APPLICATIONS OPEN NOW
the
circular

economy
hackathon
BROUGHT TO YOU BY
Precycle NZ
CENTRAL ENVIRONMENTAL

APPLICATIONS ARE OFFICIALLY OPEN

Precycle NZ and Central Environmental are thrilled to announce that applications are now live for our Circular Economy Hackathon.

When: February 27th and 28th (you must be able to attend the whole event!)
Where: Manawatū Community Hub Library, Feilding, NZ

Over 24 hours, teams of 4-6 will innovate solutions for wind turbine circularity and compete for a $3,000 prize, generously sponsored by Meridian Energy.

Precycle are bringing together:
- High school and tertiary students
- Young professionals
- Engineers and architects
- Technology enthusiasts
- Creatives and designers
- Retired professionals with industry expertise

Applications close midnight, Sunday 15 February – but we're vetting and accepting applications as they come in, so don't wait.

Sign Up Here

January is International Zero Waste Month

The goal is to become reusers, recyclers, repairers, composters, educators, and innovators—all working toward a waste-free future.

Things you can do:

✅ **Borrow instead of buy** – Use community sharing platforms or borrow tools, equipment, and even clothes from friends or local libraries.

✅ **Repair and upcycle** – Fix broken items or repurpose old materials into something new (e.g., turn jars into storage containers). Check out your local repair café.

✅ **Avoid single-use packaging** – Choose products with minimal or compostable packaging, or buy in bulk. Take your own containers and check out Binn Inn.

✅ **Meal planning** – Reduce food waste by planning meals, freezing leftovers, and composting scraps. Try growing your own vegetables and making your own bread too.

✅ **Choose durable products** – Invest in high-quality items that last longer rather than cheap, disposable alternatives. When possible, buy products made from natural materials. Wool carpets can be composted when removed from your home. Linen clothing can be composted. Wood and metal spades can be reused or composted.

✅ **Say no to freebies** – Decline promotional items or giveaways that you don't need.

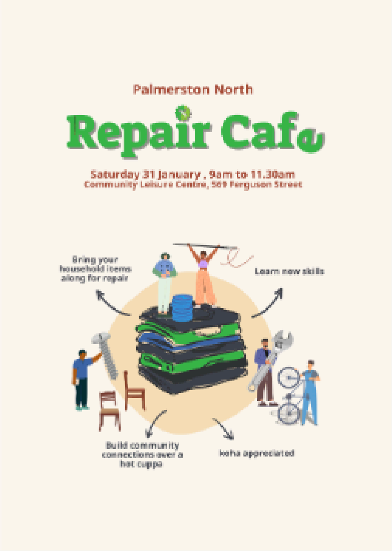
✅ **Educate and advocate** – Share zero-waste tips with friends, family, and your community. Follow zero-waste or sustainability hubs for ideas.

✅ **Buy second-hand** – Use scrap metal and timber yards. Find clothes at op shops.

✅ **Recycle glass and metal** – These materials are infinitely recyclable.

For more ideas and where to shop locally, follow our Circular Economy Page

Follow our Circular Economy Facebook page


Palmerston North
Repair Cafe
Saturday 31 January . 9am to 11.30am
Community Leisure Centre, 569 Ferguson Street
Bring your household items along for repair
Learn new skills
Build community connections over a hot cuppa
koha appreciated

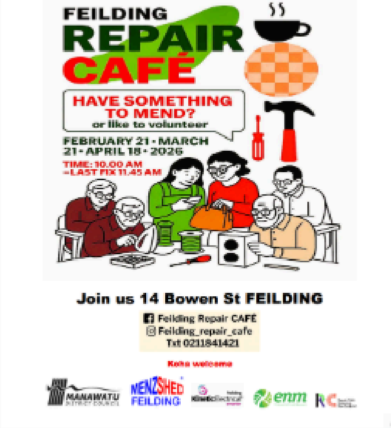
First event of the year is on the 31st of January. We look forward to seeing you there!

Come along to get your things repaired, enjoy some much-needed downtime, activities for kids, connect with others over a hot cuppa, learn a bit about repairs, and embrace the sense of togetherness in a warm, welcoming atmosphere.

Bring your belongings, and our dedicated volunteers will do their best to repair them.

Stay in the loop with the Palmy Repair Cafe Facebook

The Feilding Repair



FEILDING REPAIR CAFÉ

HAVE SOMETHING TO MEND?
or like to volunteer

FEBRUARY 21 · MARCH 21 · APRIL 18 · 2026

TIME: 10.00 AM
–LAST FIX 11.45 AM

Join us 14 Bowen St FEILDING

Feilding Repair CAFÉ
Feilding_repair_cafe
Txt 0211841421

Koha welcome

Cafe is Back in Feb

The first FEILDING REPAIR CAFE is on Feb 21 from 10am until noon the with last fix at 11.45. held at 14 Bowen St

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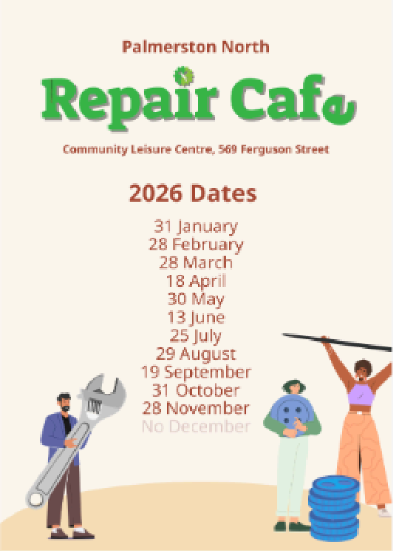


Palmerston North

Repair Cafe

Community Leisure Centre, 569 Ferguson Street

2026 Dates

31 January
28 February
28 March
18 April
30 May
13 June
25 July
29 August
19 September
31 October
28 November
No December

Save the dates

Here are all the Palmy Repair Cafe Dates for 2026!

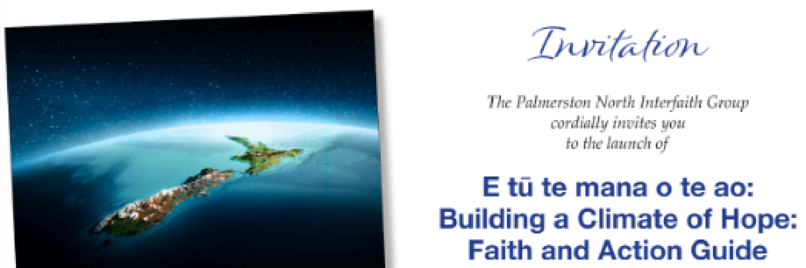
Climate
Action

Indigenous-led community research in a changing climate

New research by Manu Caddie shows that extreme weather is a long-term public-health crisis, hitting Māori and rural communities hardest. Much of the damage stems from harmful land-use systems, while underfunded marae and iwi are doing the heavy lifting in disaster response. Real resilience means supporting Indigenous leadership, sharing power, investing long-term, and preparing remote communities for future climate impacts.

Get updates like this from Extinction Rebellion Manawatū on Facebook

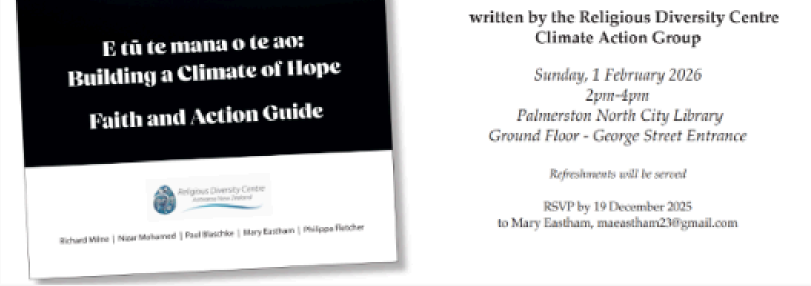
Full Report Here



Invitation

The Palmerston North Interfaith Group
cordially invites you
to the launch of

E tū te mana o te ao:
Building a Climate of Hope:
Faith and Action Guide



E tū te mana o te ao:
Building a Climate of Hope
Faith and Action Guide

Religious Diversity Centre
Aotearoa New Zealand

Richard Milne | Nizar Mohamed | Paul Blaschke | Mary Eastham | Philippa Fletcher

written by the Religious Diversity Centre
Climate Action Group

Sunday, 1 February 2026
2pm–4pm
Palmerston North City Library
Ground Floor - George Street Entrance

Refreshments will be served

RSVP by 19 December 2025
to Mary Eastham, maeastham23@gmail.com

We Invite you to the Regional Launch of RDC Faith and Climate Action Guide

Sunday 1 February, 2–4pm
Palmerston North City Library

The Palmerston North Interfaith Group will host the regional launch of E tū te mana o te ao: Building a Climate of Hope – Faith and Action Guide, the first interfaith climate action resource of its kind in Aotearoa New Zealand. The Guide has been developed by the Religious Diversity Centre Climate Action Group.

The cover draws on Pacific scholar Epeli Hau'ofa's concept of the "sea of islands," portraying Oceania as a vast, interconnected region. This image symbolises the collective strength and connection humanity must embrace in response to the escalating climate emergency.

The Palmerston North Interfaith Group considers this resource an important contribution to fostering ethical climate action in Aotearoa. They believe it will encourage people to stand for the planet, support vulnerable communities, and consider the wellbeing of future generations. They note that people of faith are often among the most committed citizens, drawing on traditions grounded in justice, the common good, and responsibility to those most at risk—including children, grandchildren, and generations yet to come. The book's dedication reflects this commitment: Mō tātou, ā, mō kā uri ā muri ake nei – for us and our children after us.

The Religious Diversity Centre expresses gratitude to the Environmental Initiatives Fund for enabling the publication of the Guide. National launches have already taken place in Auckland on 11 November and Wellington on 22 November, with the accountability report to be submitted on 9 December. The Palmerston North Interfaith Group looks forward to the regional launch on 1 February.

Community Food Sovereignty

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every bite

FOOD APPRECIATION MOVEMENT

We are back with the Every Bite Program.

Your food has been on a journey to get to you. Right now, it is estimated that 30-40% of all kai produced globally gets lost or wasted*. Homes in Aotearoa New Zealand are throwing away over 157,000 tonnes of edible food every year - that's enough to feed everyone in Dunedin for almost three years! Wasting this kai is expensive too, costing the average kiwi household $1,326 a year.

Every Bite is a month-long facilitated programme, where you will carry out simple experiments at home to better understand and prevent your food waste. More info to come!

mfan
Manawatū Food Action Network
enm
www.enm.org.nz
MORRISON MINI-HOE

Borrow ENM's Mini Hoe

We have a tool library which includes a woodchipper, hand tools and now a rotary hoe! They are all free to use.

Contact Morri for more info.

Click here

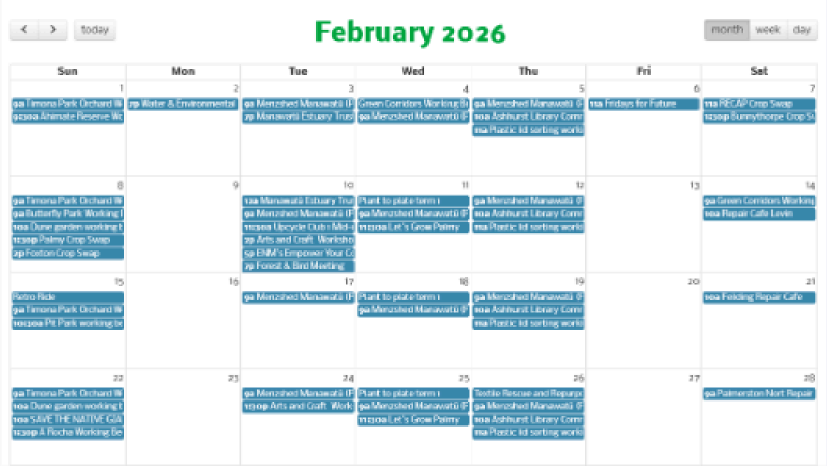
Te Whare Koha Highbury

42 Pembroke Street, Highbury, Palmerston North Open 9-12 Monday-Friday only, All Welcomed

Free service, koha coin box optional but appreciated Only accepting donations during opening hours now Please facebook message us or contact 0224023721 for alternative drop off times.

You can also support us by accessing our auction facebook group ‘Te Whare Koha Highbury Fundraising’ or by visiting our $2 Op Shop Te Whare Aroha 117 College Street,Awapuni, Palmerston North Cash or bank transfers only All money raised goes back to our operational costs in keeping Te Whare Koha open for all.

EVENTS CALENDAR



February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9a Timona Park Orchard W 9:30a Ahimate Reserve Wo	2 7p Water & Environmental	3 9a Menzshed Manawatū (F 7p Manawatū Estuary Trus	4 Green Corridors Working B 9a Menzshed Manawatū (F	5 9a Menzshed Manawatū (10a Ashhurst Library Com 11a Plastic lid sorting work	6 11a Fridays for Future	7 11a RECAP Crop Swap 12:30p Bunnythorpe Crop S
8 9a Timona Park Orchard W 9a Butterfly Park Working 10a Dune garden working b 12:30p Palmy Crop Swap 2p Foxton Crop Swap	9	10 11a Manawatū Estuary Trus 9a Menzshed Manawatū (F 11:30a Upcycle Club : Mid- 2p Arts and Craft Worksho 5p ENM's Empower Your C 7p Forest & Bird Meeting	11 Plant to plate term 1 9a Menzshed Manawatū (F 11:30a Let's Grow Palmy	12 9a Menzshed Manawatū (10a Ashhurst Library Com 11a Plastic lid sorting work	13	14 9a Green Corridors Working 10a Repair Cafe Levin
15 Retro Ride 9a Timona Park Orchard W 10:30a Pit Park working be	16	17 9a Menzshed Manawatū (F	18 Plant to plate term 1 9a Menzshed Manawatū (F	19 9a Menzshed Manawatū (10a Ashhurst Library Com 11a Plastic lid sorting work	20	21 10a Feilding Repair Cafe
22 9a Timona Park Orchard W 10a Dune garden working b 10a SAVE THE NATIVE GIA 12:30p A Rocha Working Be	23	24 9a Menzshed Manawatū (F 1:30p Arts and Craft Work	25 Plant to plate term 1 9a Menzshed Manawatū (F 11:30a Let's Grow Palmy	26 Textile Rescue and Repurpo 9a Menzshed Manawatū (10a Ashhurst Library Com 11a Plastic lid sorting work	27	28 9a Palmerston Nort Repair

Save the Dates - ENM Events

These events are great opportunities to connect with community groups and be inspired to take environmental action.

Tuesday 10 February – Empower Your Community Impact: Turning Data into Community Power & Unlocking Wider Funding Opportunities

Thursday 26 February – Textile Rescue and Repurposing Hui: Action, Connection, Collaboration

Tuesday 24 March – Harvest Hui - Celebrating a strong season of community food growth and considering how to save our collective seeds of change.

Wednesday 22 April – Climate Clarity Hui - full-day focus on supporting and developing youth action supported by ENM.

Tuesday 19 May – Biodiversity Hui: Nurturing Life from Source to Sea

Tuesday 23 June – Winter Solstice Hui: Dreamtime for an Environment Centre

Tuesday 21 July – Food Futures: Building Climate-Resilient Food Systems - exploring the intersection of food production and climate change.

Thursday 13 August – Circular Economy Hui: Education and Advocacy toward Waste Minimization

Thursday 24 September – Food Sovereignty meets Circular Economy: All about Composting

Thursday 22 October – ENM Membership Gathering & Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 3 November – Biodiversity Hui: Rewilding from Back Garden to Back Block

Thursday 1 December – Community Food Sovereignty Summer Hui: Celebrating Impacts of Volunteer-Led Environmental Action

See all events here