



A good turnout for The Big Sleepout

A message from our CE

Ngā mihi o te tau hou,

As we find ourselves in August, much has unfolded since our last newsletter. There has been significant media discussion about the growing issue of homelessness in New Zealand—a topic we previously brought to light. We've celebrated many successes and occasions. On July 10th, we hosted the Big Sleepout, and I am incredibly grateful for the support shown by business and community leaders, as well as the generosity of all who donated. I am delighted to share that we have raised over \$196,000—an achievement we cherish deeply, especially given the current economic climate. On a different note, After 15 rewarding years with Lifewise—including founding and leading the Te Arawa and

Rotorua services, and serving as Chief Executive—I have made the heartfelt decision to step down and spend more time with my whānau. Throughout these years, I have stayed true to my personal mission of active advocacy. I have always remembered the promise made to my whānau, hapu, and iwi of Te Arawa as a young social worker: to never remain silent in the face of adversity and to uphold my responsibility as an emerging leader for Te Arawa health and social aspirations. The Methodist Church has provided ongoing guidance and support for my sometimes disruptive leadership, empowering me to challenge spaces that many would not. We are called to help the needy, and I have stood proudly with teams across the Three Trusts to honour our theological ethos.

This decision comes after much personal reflection, and my tenure will conclude on Friday, August 29, 2025. I am deeply grateful for the support, achievements, and shared lessons within the Lifewise community, and I am confident our important mahi will continue to flourish in the future. This issue is brimming with further successes, as well as events and initiatives to look forward to. And for the last time as CE of Lifewise, noho ora mai.



Haehaetu Barrett
Chief Executive, Lifewise

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Whānau Whakapūāwai

Celebrating Strength, Growth, and New Beginnings

On 8 May 2025, we proudly celebrated the achievements of our Housing First whānau through a special Whānau Whakapūāwai graduation ceremony – a powerful moment marking their journey from chronic homelessness to living independently and thriving in their communities.

Each graduate was honoured with a certificate, taonga, and an Ula Lole – a Samoan-inspired candy necklace – symbolising their resilience, commitment, and personal growth. It was a proud day not just for the graduates, but for the entire Lifewise Housing First team who have walked alongside them every step of the way.

The term Whānau Whakapūāwai speaks to blossoming – growth, renewal, and the strength found in supportive relationships and stable housing. These graduations reflect the deep impact of the Housing First approach; placing whānau in homes first, then surrounding them with the support they need to heal, grow, and move forward with mana.

Seeing our whānau stand tall, with dignity and purpose, reminds us why we do this mahi. It's not just about housing – it's about transformation, empowerment, and reconnection.

We look forward to many more celebrations as our whānau continue to flourish on their own terms. To our graduates – ka rawe! Your strength inspires us all.

It was a proud day not just for the graduates, but for the entire Lifewise Housing First team who have walked alongside them every step of the way.



Key Worker Lusia with newly graduated whānau.



Key Worker Tamara presenting whānau with taonga

Celebrating 10 years of Waimumu ECE - and Farewelling Glen Eden ECE

This June, the Lifewise Early Childhood Education (ECE) whānau came together to mark two important moments – one full of celebration, and the other filled with heartfelt gratitude.

On 16 June, we said goodbye to Glen Eden ECE. For many years, Glen Eden ECE was a place where tamariki laughed, learned, and grew. It was a space filled with aroha, where passionate kaiako (teachers) and kaimahi (staff) worked tirelessly to support children and their whānau. We're incredibly thankful to everyone who played a part in Glen Eden's journey, you've made a lasting impact.

While it's never easy to say goodbye, we're not dwelling on endings. Instead, we're celebrating the journey and looking ahead with hope. Our commitment to Early Childhood Education continues through Royal Road Preschool and Waimumu ECE, with the latter celebrating a huge milestone – 10



delightful years of nurturing young minds.

The anniversary celebration at Waimumu ECE was a joyful day, filled with laughter, connection, and reflection. Tamariki stole the show with an adorable performance that had everyone smiling. Whānau and staff brought kai to share, creating the kind of warm, welcoming atmosphere that's been the heart of Waimumu since day one.

Over the past decade, Waimumu has built strong relationships with whānau and the wider community, embracing a holistic and culturally grounded approach to learning.

Its success is thanks to the dedication of our amazing team, the trust of our families, and the curiosity and spirit of our tamariki.

As we look back with pride, we also look forward with excitement as the journey continues – guided by aroha, strengthened by the community, and inspired by the bright futures of our tamariki.

Ngā mihi nui to everyone who's been part of our story. Happy 10th birthday, Waimumu ECE.

Volunteer Week celebration at Merge Café

As part of Volunteer Week, Merge Café held a heartwarming celebration to honour the incredible mahi of our volunteers. Chef Kelvin led the ceremony with warmth, handing out chocolates and handwritten cards from Chief Executive Haehaetu—personal notes of gratitude for each person's contribution.

Leadership Reflections

Jo, our Community Service Manager, described the volunteers as the glue of the café, praising their dedication and commitment: "Even in the hardest times, you don't give up—you turn up."

Chief Operating Officer (COO) Ann-Marie closed the event with a



Celebrating our amazing volunteers – the heart of Merge! Ngā mihi nui.

reflection on the café's mission: "We see the work that the volunteers do—the reason why this café is called Merge is because it's about merging communities. Know that we see your work, and we're tremendously grateful."

The celebration ended with shared kai. More than just an event, it was a heartfelt tribute to the people who embody the values of Merge Café every day—true pillars of the Merge whānau.

Matariki 2025

Honouring the Past, Celebrating the Present, and Inspiring the Future Across Lifewise Services

Matariki, the Māori New Year, is a time of remembrance, celebration, and renewal. Across Lifewise's services – from Auckland to Rotorua – this special season was marked with heartfelt gatherings, creative expression, and shared kai that brought our communities together in meaningful ways.

On 19 June, staff and colleagues from across the Three Trusts (Lifewise, Airedale Property Trust, and Methodist Mission Northern) came together at the head office to mark Matariki with a special gathering. The event began with a karakia to bless the food, followed by shared kai where staff brought along dishes – a gesture that reflected unity, generosity, and a strong sense of community.

Head of Mission, Shirley Rivers, addressed the group, speaking about the significance of the Matariki star cluster, which appears during June and July and marks the beginning of the new year for many Māori communities. She highlighted the richness and diversity of Māori tradition, noting that different iwi recognise different stars within the cluster depending on regional visibility.

Merge Café: Dawn Service and Neighbourhood Whanaungatanga

Merge Café joined the Karangahape Road Business Association in celebrating Matariki with a dawn service on the overbridge. The Auckland Street Choir opened the morning with heartfelt waiata, setting the tone for a day of connection and community.

Merge Café served breakfast pāreti (porridge) to over 200 people, welcoming neighbours, friends, and new faces into the warmth of the café. The spirit of Matariki was alive in every bowl served, every smile exchanged, and every story shared.

In a beautiful act of reciprocity, Merge shared their cooking with neighbouring businesses like Daily Daily Coffee, who in



The hustle and bustle of Merge Café as the community celebrates Matariki

turn gifted doughnuts and scones to help stretch the food further. It was a day of generosity, laughter, and new friendships – truly embodying the essence of manaakitanga and kotahitanga.

Lifewise Rotorua

Healing and Connection Through Hautapu and Pohutukawa Ceremony

At Lifewise Rotorua's Mental Health and Addictions Supported Accommodation service, residents commemorated Matariki through. Matariki was commemorated through the Hautapu and Pohutukawa ceremony, which involves making kai offerings to the stars. This sacred tradition marked a time for remembrance, celebration, and ushering in the new year.

Residents and their whānau honoured the memory of loved ones who had passed since the last rising of the star cluster through storytelling, name recitation, and shared reflection. Following the ceremony, everyone gathered for a Kai Hakari, where residents presented their whānau with Matariki-themed presentations – a beautiful way to cultivate connection and craft memories that will inspire future generations.

A special highlight was the visit from Whaea Marie-Anne, who generously volunteered her time to demonstrate the preparation of Tiroi, incorporating the elements of Waitā and Tupuānuku. Her presence brought joy and laughter, and her teachings were deeply appreciated by all.

From flax weaving to shared kai, storytelling, cultural demonstrations, and dawn gatherings, Matariki 2025 across Lifewise services was a beautiful reflection of our values – whanaungatanga

(kinship), manaakitanga (hospitality and generosity), and kotahitanga (solidarity). As we look to the stars and the year ahead, we carry with us the warmth of these gatherings and the strength of our community.



Whaea Marie-Ann demonstrating the preparation of Tiroi



Residents and whānau honouring the memory of loved ones

Health & Disability Team Celebrations

Honouring Long Service and Academic Achievement

It's been a time of well-deserved celebrations for the Lifewise Health & Disability team, with two special events recognising the dedication and accomplishments of its people.

The first celebration honoured six remarkable staff members who have each dedicated 20 years or more to the organisation. The event was a touching tribute to their loyalty, hard work, and long-standing commitment—not only to Lifewise, but to the wider community. Each awardee received a certificate, a bouquet of colourful flowers, and a box of chocolates in recognition of their extraordinary service.

In a separate celebration, the team came together to recognise the academic achievements of three valued colleagues. Paula Bohte and Shirin Darab successfully completed their Level 5 Diploma in Business Leadership and Management, while Michelle Smith completed her Graduate Diploma in Business at Auckland University of Technology.

These team members have shown incredible dedication and resilience in balancing their studies with their roles, serving as an inspiration to all. Their new qualifications bring fresh insight and enhanced leadership skills to the Health & Disability team—an asset to both colleagues and the people they support.

Together, these celebrations have highlighted the strength, commitment, and excellence that define our Health & Disability team.



Health and Disability team members celebrating 160 years of collective service by Farida Bano, Jennie Rissetto, Mafa Salanoa, Rose Fusimalahi (20 years each), Aapa Egelani (25years), Tina Fuafiva (35 years). Together their dedication, compassion, and skilled service has improved the lives of countless people and families who needed ongoing support to continue living in their own homes due to illness or disability.

From number to name

Not often do we hear stories of transformation, where the spirit of whānau and manaakitanga runs deep, but when we do, it is a stark reminder of the power of hope, resilience, and community.



Shaun with Lifewise Team leader Sharon Collier, and Support worker, Hope Maxwell and Tashita Morey

Battling depression, PTSD, and bipolar disorder, Shaun found himself at rock bottom, exhausted and humiliated by a life consumed by drugs and alcohol – substances he says had “found their way into my bones”.

One such story is that of Shaun Staples, a 47-year-old, with ties to Ngāti Kahungunu, whose journey of incarceration to reintegration was made possible with the help of the Lifewise Post Treatment programme at Te Arawa.

Shaun's life was once defined by a number: 22616947. For 18 years, that number marked his identity within the prison system, stripping away his mana and sense of self. Battling depression, PTSD, and bipolar disorder, Shaun found himself at rock bottom, exhausted and humiliated by a life consumed by drugs and alcohol – substances he says had “found their way into my bones”.

But Shaun's story didn't end there. In prison, he chose to reclaim his future. He

immersed himself in education, completing NZQA-accredited courses in Agriculture (Level 3), Educational Achievement (Levels 1-3), and Horticulture (Levels 1 and 2). These achievements were more than qualifications; they were stepping stones to a newfound life.

His turning point came when he got accepted into Te Whare Oranga Ngakau Rehabilitation, where he completed a 12-week programme. Focussed on healing and personal growth upon completion, Shaun was referred to Lifewise, entering their post-treatment programme in March 2025.

From the moment he walked through Lifewise's doors, Shaun felt something different. “Lifewise didn't judge me. They treated me like a person, not as a lifer,”

he shares. The staff became like whānau, offering not just support, but aroha, understanding, and a holistic approach to reintegration that honoured Shaun's potential.

Today, Shaun is no longer defined by a number. He is proud to be Shaun Staples – a man of strength, dignity, and purpose. With Lifewise by his side, he remains resolute in his recovery, determined to maintain the freedom he fought hard to earn.

Shaun is filled with excitement for the future of Lifewise. “Lifewise is not scared of a challenge. They leave no stone unturned and aren't afraid to try new things. Because of that, they'll continue to turn lives around – just like they did for me.”

Shaun's story reminds us that with the right support, every person can heal, grow, and thrive. Lifewise's commitment to restoring mana and walking alongside those reintegrating into society is not just transformative – it's life-saving.

Revival of The Big Sleepout

A night of courage, community, and compassion

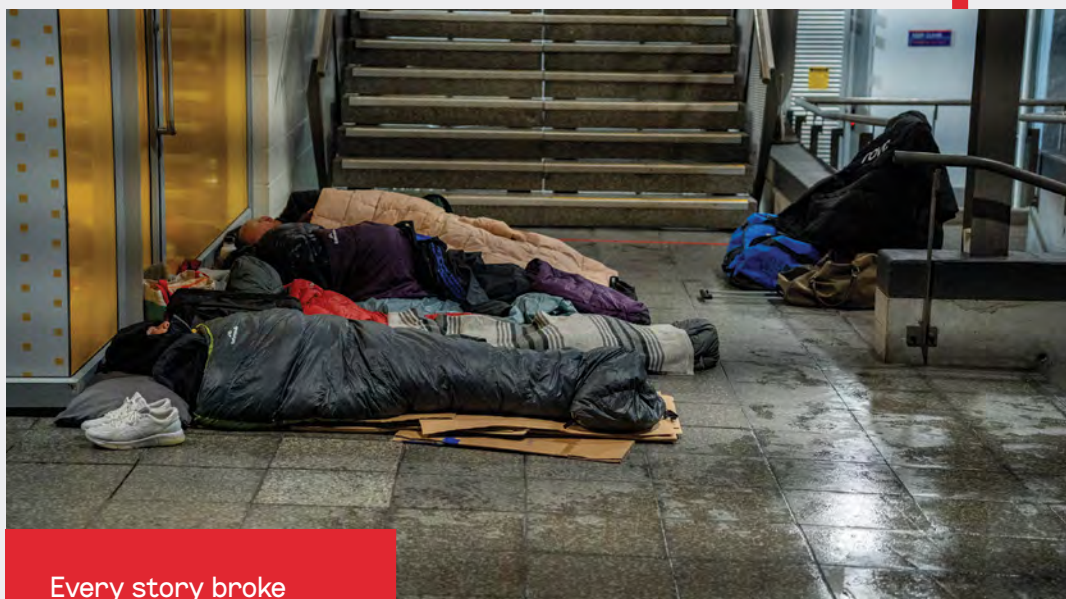
What a night! The Big Sleepout returned in spectacular fashion, turning AUT Hikuwai Plaza into a beacon of hope, solidarity, and action. Sixty brave business and community leaders exchanged their cosy comforts for cardboard shelters, immersing themselves in the raw reality faced by those without a home. Through the drizzle and chill, the spirit of unity burned bright.

This event was far more than a fundraiser—it was a transformative experience. We are deeply grateful to every courageous speaker, every participant, and every donor whose generosity fuels real change in Auckland. Together, we are raising not just funds, but vital awareness of homelessness and the resilience of Aotearoa's street whānau.

Stories of lived experience

We were honoured to listen to five inspiring speakers, each sharing their lived experience of homelessness:

- Six recounted her journey as a transgender student at AUT, highlighting how homelessness reflects broader societal challenges and calling for empowerment, engagement, education and encouragement and inclusion at every level.
- Saskia bravely discussed the intersection of mental health struggles and homelessness, shining a necessary light on this vital connection.
- Tammie shared a moving story of transformation—from a life shaped by violence, crime, and addiction to one devoted to service and hope.
- Shogun spoke powerfully about seeking safety in public spaces, battling substance abuse.
- Joe Daymond reminded us that homelessness can affect anyone, telling of his own time living in his car after moving to Auckland and the challenge of asking for help.



Every story broke down barriers and built bridges of understanding, reminding us of the real faces and voices behind the statistics.



Heartfelt gratitude to our inspiring speakers for their courage. From Left: Saskia Hawke, Tammie Parker, Six, Shogun and Joe Daymond.

Every story broke down barriers and built bridges of understanding, reminding us of the real faces and voices behind the statistics.

Creative expression

The evening culminated in a celebration of resilience with heartfelt performances from Niuean Samoan artist Hools, whose music brought warmth and joy.



Hools performs "Walk with you", commissioned by Sarah Trotman, the Big Sleepout anthem. lifewise.org.nz

continued on next page ->

Revival of The Big Sleepout continued

The Auckland Street Choir and moving waiatas created an atmosphere of togetherness, while our creative street whānau wowed all with art exhibits and a stirring film premiere, *The Wall Between* by Shadow and Kat'z.

Incredible generosity through a community united

Thanks to the combined efforts of our participants, donors, and sponsoring organisations, an astonishing \$150,000 was raised by night's end—to date, the total has reached \$196,000! Every dollar supports Merge Café and the essential services they provide to Auckland's homeless community.

We extend heartfelt thanks to our top fundraising teams and individuals:



Councillor Josephine Bartley and Milo, brave the winter night

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
PwC	AUT	One NZ	Lifewise	Foodstuffs	ANZ Bank	Mediaworks
\$28,845	\$13,742	\$13,106	\$12,038	\$10,013	\$9,074	\$7,636
Jai Nario, Tess Riwai	Rob Campbell, Damon Salsea, Alison Sykora, Amy Malcolm, Smita Singh, Cordelia Stewart, Mike Orams, Sommer Kapitan, James Scarlet	Ezekial Rau, Michael Wells, Mike Purchase	Karen Coleman, Pam Elgar, Haehaetu Barrett, Yvonne McLaren	Simon Kennedy	Antonia Watson	Wendy Palmer, Nickson Clark, Mel Rundle

Gratitude to our generous sponsors

Our heartfelt thanks go to AUT for hosting and supporting the Big Sleepout, and to MediaWorks and MaiFM for amplifying our message. Special thanks to the MaiFM morning crew who visited Merge Café. Thank you Tasti for the night snacks, Sarah Trotman and Mike Marr for your dedication on the BSO Steering Committee, and Jason Roberts (Fintech NZ) for connecting leaders such as Antonia Watson (ANZ) and Rachel (Westpac), with appreciation also to Jason Paris and the One NZ team.

Thanks to Jai and Tess from PwC for leading the silent auction, and to Fred Soar at SCG for providing and managing the cardboard beds. We appreciate Orange Sky, St Johns, AUT Security, Bunnings, OfficeMax, Speedy Signs, and EmbroidMe for your contributions. Thank you to all the business leaders, legal professionals, faith

leaders, and for your participation and generosity.

To all fundraisers, supporters, and sponsors—your compassion drives this movement. Ngā mihi nui for standing with us to end homelessness.

Voices amplified and awareness raised

We are proud of our leaders and community members who have spoken out about the Big Sleepout—Chancellor Rob Campbell's poignant reflection in **Newsroom**, Barrister Mai Chen's story in the **Otago Daily Times**, Councillor Josephine Bartley's words in the **NZ Herald**, Lifewise Board Chair Pam Elgar's heartfelt **Tv Breakfast Show** interview, and our awe-inspiring Lifewise CE, **Haehaetu Barrett**, for her relentless discussions and provocation of the status quo. Their advocacy, and yours, is sparking meaningful conversations citywide.



Missed The Big Sleepout - join our upcoming webinar

If you missed the Big Sleepout, there's still time to join the movement—every action, every donation, every story counts. Visit bigsleepout.org.nz for the latest updates and for information on an upcoming webinar on 18 August from 12pm – 1pm.

Together, we are changing lives, one night at a time.

Discover Myers Park Cottage at the Heritage Festival!

Are you ready to experience Auckland's vibrant past and create new memories with your whānau? This year, Lifewise is participating in the Auckland Heritage Festival opening the charming Myers Park Cottage to the community for a celebration of history and play—all set against the backdrop of the lush green Myers Park.

It's a two-hour session packed with insights and surprises—perfect for curious minds of all ages.

Relive Sporting Glory

Wednesday 24, Thursday 25, Friday 26 & Sunday 28 September 2025 from 11am – 1pm

Step back to 1950 and witness the magic of the Empire Games, when Auckland became the stage for 590 athletes from 12 nations. Lifewise is hosting a captivating three-day public screening of rare archival footage—see the triumphs, the crowds, and the spirit that shaped our city's sporting legacy.



Meet Local Historian

Join local historian Edward Bennett on Sunday, 28 September for a lively talk uncovering the stories behind Myers Park and its surrounding historic buildings. It's a two-hour session packed with insights and surprises—perfect for curious minds of all ages.

Wander through a fascinating display of vintage photographs and excerpts from Edward Bennett's book. Don't miss the Heritage Resource Corner, where you'll find self-guided maps and materials to help you unlock the secrets of Myers Park at your own pace.



Make it a Whānau Day Out

After you've soaked up the stories and explored the cottage's treasures, why not let the kids run wild in the park? Myers Park, with its playgrounds and leafy walkways, is the perfect place for a family adventure. Pack a picnic, bring a ball, and enjoy the open space—it's a wonderful way to blend learning with laughter.

Don't miss out on this rare chance to connect with Auckland's past, present, and future!

1950 Empire Games screening

Wednesday, 24 Sept 25 - 11am - 1pm

Thursday, 25 Sept 25 - 11am - 1pm

Friday, 26 Sept 25 - 11am - 1pm

Sunday, 28 Sept 25 - 11am - 1pm

Edward Bennett Historic talk

Sunday, 28 Sept 25 - 11am - 1pm

Everil Orr Residents enjoy a memorable outing to Morris & James

The residents of Everil Orr retirement village set off on a delightful van trip to the renowned Morris & James Pottery studio in picturesque Matakana. With blue skies overhead and smiles all around, the day promised joy, and it delivered.

Upon arrival, residents were welcomed into the studio for a factory tour. Residents were treated to a fascinating behind-the-scenes look at the artistry and craftsmanship that go into every Morris & James piece. From clay preparation to hand-finishing, the tour offered insight into the time-honoured techniques that make this local business so special.

Residents enjoyed browsing the vibrant pottery showroom, with a few treasures making their way back to Everil Orr as keepsakes of a special day. The trip to Matakana was more than just a change of scenery. Days like these remind us of the joy found in shared experiences as laughter, conversation, and admiration filled the day.

If you ever get the chance to visit Morris & James, the residents wholeheartedly recommend it. A wonderful day out, indeed!



"Behind the scenes magic" – Taking in the factory tour and learning about the pottery-making process.



"Smiles all around!" – Everil Orr residents outside the Morris & James studio in Matakana.

Kawakawa Balm: Healing with Heart on Greys Avenue

The Merge Community and Youth Housing team has been busy with something special, making kawakawa balm alongside our neighbours at the Te Matawai State housing development on Greys Ave.

Kawakawa is a taonga in Māori healing traditions, known for soothing everything from cuts and infections to joint pain and insect bites.

This wasn't just about the balm; it was about providing connection. We came together, shared stories, learned from each other, and created something meaningful with our hands and hearts.

We gifted some of the balm to support the Thursday night Hauora sessions run by Win Natural Healing and Fat Yoga, both our neighbours in Karangahape Road.

This mahi reminds us that healing starts with community – and sometimes, with a humble leaf.



Freshly made pots of kawakawa balm symbolising community, healing, and shared tradition.



The harsh realities of budget cuts, and the hope we can offer

The impact of recent budget cuts on social services is both immediate and profound, falling heaviest on those already balancing on the edge. When essential support systems—food assistance, family support, housing advocacy, mental health care—are reduced or eliminated, it is not mere inconvenience; for many families, it means the difference between security and hardship, hope and despair.

As preventative and early intervention services vanish, crises grow in both frequency and severity. Parenting education and community outreach, which foster resilience and break cycles of hardship, become rare resources. Mental health services, already under strain, become even less accessible, leaving individuals and whānau ever more isolated. The loss of budgeting and welfare advice further increases vulnerability, pushing families deeper into debt and uncertainty.

Short-term savings from these cuts come at the cost of long-term harm. Problems left unaddressed become more expensive, more complex, and more damaging. The weakening of community bonds and the fraying of support networks make recovery more distant and difficult to achieve.

Those most affected are often those already carrying the greatest burdens. Māori communities, families

in emergency accommodation, refugees, and people grappling with mental health challenges and even regular families feel the brunt of every withdrawn service. The loss of these programmes means more than a gap in support—it is the erosion of lifelines, trust, and the possibility of a more stable future.

The lifewise Christmas Auction

In the face of these challenges, your participation in the Lifewise Christmas Auction becomes an act of solidarity and hope. Every item bid on, every gift purchased, directly supports Lifewise's essential family services—extending food assistance, nurturing parenting education, and reaching out to families in crisis. This is not charity at a distance; it is a lifeline thrown to those teetering on the brink.

When you bid on a gift you will be



bringing Christmas joy to your loved ones, while supporting vital programmes that bring tangible relief to families in need.

How you can help?

1

Donate a Gift

Contribute to the auction by offering products, services, or experiences. Contact marketing@lifewise.org.nz to make a difference.

2

Bid on Gifts

Find something special for your family or friends, knowing your money is going towards doing good for those less fortunate.

3

Spread the Word

Share the auction with your networks. Each new participant increases our collective ability to support the most vulnerable.

4

Stay Connected

Watch for the online auction launch and encourage your community to join in.

5

Make a donation

Or you may just wish to make donation.

Celebrating Youth Week 2025:

Honouring Rangatahi Resilience and Achievements

The Lifewise Youth Housing team proudly celebrated Youth Week (19-25 May 2025) with a day dedicated to fun, connection, and recognition.

This year's theme, "Take Our Place – Whai Wāhitanga," encouraged young people to assert their place in the world and contribute meaningfully to their communities.

To mark the occasion, our rangatahi (young people) from our various housing sites, together with our youth workers, enjoyed an exciting outing to Rainbow's End, followed by a shared lunch and awards ceremony at Lone Star.

The day was filled with heartfelt moments, offering a chance to relax and connect with peers and staff.

The awards ceremony honoured a wide range of achievements, including:

- **Housing stability** – securing tenancies and transitioning to independent living
- **Youth Programme Engagement** – Active participation and engagement in personal development and support services
- **Education & Training** – Re-engaging in education and gaining qualifications
- **Employment Readiness** – Building CVs, applying for jobs, and securing employment

Lifewise Youth Housing team and our young leaders come together for a day of fun, connection, and recognition during Youth Week 2025



- **Driver Licensing** – Completing driving lessons and obtaining licences
- **Personal Growth & Resilience** – Demonstrating resilience, independence and leadership

Special acknowledgements were also given for mentorship, commitment to boxing training, and being positive role models.

At Lifewise, we believe our rangatahi are the leaders of tomorrow – but we're happy to witness that they are already making an impact today. Youth Week serves as a strong affirmation of their strength, potential, and the importance of creating spaces where they feel seen, supported, and celebrated.

John Kingi appointed as Pou Manukura

Papaki tū ana ngā tai
ki Te Reinga
Ka pō, ka pō
Ka ao ka awatea
Tihei mauri ora!

Tēnā rā koutou katoa

Ko te reo ō mihi tēnei e tuku atu nei ki a koutou

I am truly humbled and honoured to have been appointed to the role of Pou Manukura, and I look forward to the opportunity to working alongside my colleagues of the Three Trusts.

In this role, I will be placing a strong focus on the ongoing development and enhancement of tikanga Māori within our spaces. My intention is to help create meaningful pathways for us all to learn, practise, and participate in the richness of te ao Māori. These practices are not only taonga for Māori, but also offer powerful ways to connect, reflect, and grow together as a wider community. My door is always open, and please don't hesitate to connect for a kōrero at john.kingi@mmn.org.nz.

Nāku it noa, nā

John Kingi



Celebrating the appointment of Pou Manukura, John Kingi. From left: Shirley Rivers, Head of Mission, John Kingi, Pou Manukura, Pam Elgar, Executive Chair, Haahaetu Barrett, Lifewise CE.

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