

Abbeyfield

Connections and community in the midst of crisis



Susan Jenkins, Executive Officer of Abbeyfield New Zealand, shares these two examples of local connections and kindness, which she says shows the strength of communities when help is needed.

Ginny, the housekeeper at Abbeyfield Hornby, Christchurch, decided to set up 'The Corona Cafe' for residents who miss going to the mall every day for their coffee fix. As residents sharing common areas of the home, they are all in the same bubble. They had their Grand Opening recently, complete with resident Vera as the waitress. The sun was shining and the mood was high, and Ginny received a round of applause at dinner. It was a great day.

(Photo of The Corona Cafe, above, by Virginia Clausen).

Meanwhile, at Abbeyfield Masterton the oft-repaired cooker finally broke down the day before lockdown started. Our amazing and well-connected committee member Jude Clark quickly organised a replacement (the last one!) from Noel Leeming and asked two local police officers from the neighbouring police station to help with loading it onto a trailer; a local electrician was on hand to install it and it was up and running so our housekeeper/cook could keep up the excellent service of providing meals for the 10 residents.

The full story and a photo of the stove being loaded is [available here](#).

More information about Abbeyfield New Zealand is [available here](#).