

# CHECK IT OUT

MCHL Newsletter Issue #10 June 2026

“

Manawatū Community Hub Libraries (MCHL) provides services at Te Āhuru Mōwai and satellite locations for the community and visitors.

## Welcome | Haere mai

There is something for everyone with our exciting range of events, activities, and workshops coming up.

Enjoy convenient services like Homelink and free movies with Beamafilm, get creative at the Makerspace Showcase, find a bargain at the Annual Book Sale, celebrate Matariki, explore our new Pop-Up Matariki StoryWalk®, support young entrepreneurs at the Youth Market, or test your skills at our Murder Mystery event.

Stay up to date with all the latest news and events through the Check It Out Newsletter.



### From Idea to Artwork at the Makerspace

A school holiday project has become a six-metre korowai-inspired artwork at Mount Biggs School, created by teacher Colleen Bennett-Bezuidenhout using the Manawatū Community Hub Libraries Makerspace at Te Āhuru Mōwai. The design draws on kōwhaiwhai patterns and local iwi narratives, reflecting whakapapa, waterways, and student identities. Using laser cutting, design software, and AI, the project took over 20 hours and 11 panels to complete. Since finishing the panels, the project has continued to grow. It is now quickly filling up with the faces of all the tamariki in the class, as well as those who will join throughout the year, making it a true living part of the classroom.



View the full story online by visiting:  
<https://www.mchl.co.nz/your-mchl/latest-news/2024/2025/makerspace-where-innovation-meets-tradition>

### Comfort Delivered to Your Door



As the season changes and winter settles in, leaving home can become more difficult for some people.

For many in our community, however, winter also brings something special: a bag of stories, puzzles, magazines, and friendly connection delivered by local volunteers. Manawatū Community Hub Libraries (MCHL) HomeLink service supports people who cannot visit the library due to age, mobility, disability, illness, surgery, or winter conditions.

Every fortnight, books, DVDs, audiobooks, magazines, and puzzles are delivered to recipients' homes. For some, it is a quick drop-off; for others, it is also a chance for a friendly chat.

The free service is tailored to individual interests. Feilding residents can receive fortnightly deliveries, while arrangements can be made for rural residents.

This winter, MCHL is encouraging more people to sign up and seeking volunteers to help deliver items.

A warm story and a smile might be closer than you think this winter.

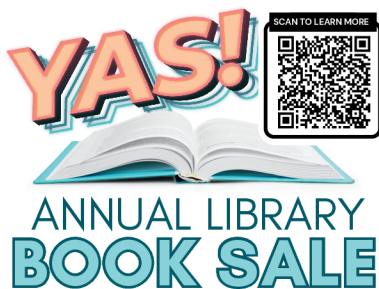
View the full story online by visiting:  
<https://www.mchl.co.nz/your-mchl/latestnews/2024/2025/comfort-delivered-to-your-door>





## Makerspace Showcase

Join us on **Saturday, 13 June**, from 10am to 1pm at Te Āhuru Mōwai, Feilding, for the MCHL Makerspace Showcase is a celebration of local creativity, innovation, and inspiration. Come along to see what our community has been creating, explore the possibilities of making and creating, and discover ideas that might inspire your own next project.



**Saturday 27 June - Saturday 4 July 2026**

**WHILE STOCKS LAST!**

## Hidden Stacks, Big Bargains

We invite you to our **Manawatū Community Hub Libraries (MCHL) Annual Book Sale** from **27 June to 4 July** at Te Āhuru Mōwai in Feilding, offering discounted books, DVDs, puzzles, toys, and other retired library items, many priced at \$3 or less and ranging from 50 cents to \$10. The sale opens daily from 9:30am and visitors are encouraged to arrive early and bring a tote bag or box for their purchases.

## Youth Market

Youth Market at Te Āhuru Mōwai, 64 Stafford Street, Feilding, is on **Saturday, 18 July, from 10am-1pm**. Entry is free, so come and support local young entrepreneurs selling art, jewellery, crafts, clothing, baked goods, stationery, vintage finds, and more. Cash only. Proudly brought to you by Manawatū District Council and Manawatū Community Hub Libraries. **Want to be a stall holder? Scan the QR code to register.**

## Pop-Up Matariki StoryWalk®

Celebrate Matariki with a free **"Flit the Fantail and the Matariki Map"** StoryWalk® by Kat Quin in Manchester Square from 20 June until the end of July. Follow Flit and friends through the rose garden near the cenotaph as they journey home beneath the Matariki stars.

## School Holiday Programme

Celebrate Matariki these July School Holidays with the **MCHL programme, running from Monday 6 July to Friday 17 July**. Enjoy a fun lineup of activities for the whole whānau, including Movie Mondays, Tamariki Tales with Alan Dingley, seed planting workshops, Spaceward Bound Planetarium Sessions, and immersive VR Sessions.

## Something Mysterious

Murder at Sundown in Silver Creek (R18 event) will be held on **Saturday 15 August**. Expect costumes, clues, mystery-solving, prizes, supper, and a licensed bar. Come along for one unforgettable evening.

**Save the date! Tickets available soon.**

## What's On Spotlight



### Free Heart Health Checks Wednesday, 17 June

**11:00am - 1:00pm**

Free Heart Health Checks are being provided by the Heart Foundation. Take 10-15 minutes to check in on your heart health, it could change your life.

### Hato Hone St John Drop In Session

**Friday, 19 June 2026**

**10:00am - 12:00pm**

Would you like to learn effective CPR and save someone's life? Would you like to learn about a free friendship phone service where you get matched up with someone for a friendly chat?

This free session caters to individuals of all ages who are interested in exploring the offerings from St. John's.

### Feilding Creative Fibre Showcase

**Tuesday, 16 June 2026**

**11:30am - 2:30pm**

Join us for a relaxed drop-in session with Feilding Creative Fibre and discover the timeless craft of spinning. Watch the process in action, learn how raw wool is transformed into yarn, and explore a stunning display of handcrafted wool creations to spark your creativity.

**For more info visit:**

[www.mchl.co.nz/whats-on/events-calendar](http://www.mchl.co.nz/whats-on/events-calendar)



## Practical Parenting Support



Parents and caregivers across the Manawātū District can access free parenting support through Parentline Manawātū, funded by the Manawātū District Council Community Development Priority Services Fund. The internationally recognised Triple P – Positive Parenting Programme is being delivered locally at Te Āhuru Mōwai, offering practical workshops and discussion groups for families with children aged 3–10 years and teenagers.

Sessions address common parenting challenges, including managing behaviour, reducing conflict, handling emotions and building positive family relationships. Parentline Manawātū Manager Raewyn Persson says the programme provides a supportive, non-judgemental environment where parents can share experiences and gain useful strategies.

Additional Term 3 sessions will cover a range of everyday parenting topics, helping families build confidence and strengthen wellbeing.

View the full story online by visiting:

<https://www.mchl.co.nz/your-mchl/latest-news/2024/2025/practical-parenting-support>



## Discover Your Family History

Research your ancestry for free at Te Āhuru Mōwai using Ancestry Library Edition and FamilySearch from MCHL's digital resources. Explore millions of records from New Zealand and around the world to uncover your family's story. Public computers and laptops are available to use in the library and in the heritage area.

Need help? Book a free 30-minute one-on-one session with the MCHL team, just ask at the front desk.

Visit the MCHL website to learn more.  
<https://www.mchl.co.nz/digital-library>



## HELL Reading Challenge!

Wheels are available now from the Manawātū Community Hub Libraries front counter.

Children in Years KIA 1–8 can take on the challenge:

- Read 7 books
- Collect your stamp from MCHL staff
- Earn a FREE HELL Pizza!

Reading helps build children's confidence, creativity, and lifelong learning habits and a delicious pizza reward is a fun way to keep young readers motivated.



## Check Out Beamafilm!

As the weather gets colder, now is a good time to get started with our free film streaming service, Beamafilm.

Access a wide range of movies, TV series and documentaries, there's something for everyone.

Join online for free with your Manawātū Community Hub Libraries (MCHL) membership.

To learn more.  
<https://www.mchl.co.nz/digital-library/documentaries-movies-and-tv-series>



## Register now for workshops

### Harakeke Flower Weaving Workshop

22 June, Monday | 11.00am – 12.30pm

A free weaving workshop where community members can learn how to weave flax flowers.

Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult

### Pono Weaving Workshop (16+)

2 July, Thursday | 5.00pm – 7.00pm

A free weaving workshop for community members with some prior weaving experience who would like to extend their skills by weaving a basket.

### Rongoā Workshop

6 July, Monday | 10.00am – 11.30am

A free workshop where participants can learn the basics of rongoā Māori (traditional Māori healing and herbal remedies) and make their own kawakawa balm.

Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

### Tamariki Tales with Alan Dingley (Ages 8–12)

7 July, Tuesday | 10.00am – 11.30am

A free storytelling workshop where children can learn the art of storytelling with Alan Dingley.

### Children's Flax Weaving Workshops

8 July, Wednesday

Free weaving workshops for children to learn how to weave whetū (stars), putiputi (flowers), and bracelets.

#### Workshop One (Ages 5–8)

10.00am – 11.00am

Whetū & Putiputi

10 spaces available

Children must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

#### Workshop Two (Ages 8–10)

11.30am – 12.30pm

Whetū & Putiputi

#### Workshop Three (Ages 10+)

1.30pm – 2.30pm

Whetū, Putiputi & Bracelets

Registrations are required for all workshops with limited spaces available.

To register and view the full programme visit:

<https://www.mchl.co.nz/whats-on/matariki-herenga-waka-for-everyone>

*Thank you for reading!*



## Matariki Herenga Waka – For Everyone –

This year's Matariki theme, Matariki herenga waka the mooring place for all canoes reflects Te Āhuru Mōwai as a space where people come together to connect, learn, and belong within the Manawatū District.

From 22 June to 11 July, Manawatū Community Hub Libraries will host a range of Matariki events and activities for all ages, including weaving workshops, storytelling, rongoā Māori (traditional Māori healing and herbal remedies), family quiz night, craft mornings, and collaborative whetū (stars) installations.

A highlight of the programme is the Community Memory Wall (22–27 June), where people can share memories of loved ones and places no longer with us. The wall will be located on the internal street by the café entrance.

Matariki is a time to remember loved ones, celebrate with whānau and friends, and look ahead with hope and renewal. This spirit is reflected throughout Te Āhuru Mōwai, where cultural narratives and the stars of the Matariki constellation are woven into the building's design. When you glance up outside to the second floor, you see the seven stars of the Matariki constellation; Waitī, Waitā, Waipunarangi, Ururangi, Tupuānuku, Tupuārangī and Matariki, are all guiding and welcoming you to Te Āhuru Mōwai.

MCHL Programmes Specialist Lydia Smith says the programme was designed to bring people together through creativity, learning and shared experiences.

"Our aim is that Te Āhuru Mōwai feels like a place where everyone belongs during this special time of year," says Smith. The best time to view the Matariki star cluster in 2026 is from 10–14 July, around 30–60 minutes before sunrise, looking towards the north-eastern horizon.