

# CHECK IT OUT

MCHL Newsletter Issue #9 April 2026

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

## Welcome | Haere mai

Discover we are more than just a library. We are an Information Centre, Makerspace and Community Hub with something for everyone.

Get creative in our Makerspace with help from our specialists, and mark your calendars for our Annual Book Sale, our New Makerspace Showcase, and don't miss our May workshops, including candle making and handmade body care. Enjoy board games, download the MCHL app, or bring in photos to digitise in our Heritage Area. We also support the environment by providing residents with rat traps. Check it all out!



## Makerspace: Where Innovation Meets Tradition

The Makerspace offers a welcoming environment for learning, creating, and exploring new possibilities. Blending traditional crafts with modern technology, the Makerspace supports learning, connection, and hands-on creativity for people of all abilities. A Makerspace Specialist has been experimenting with what can be created with 3D printing tools like yarn bowls. Designs range from playful sheep designs to clever cotton reel shapes making knitting easier and more enjoyable, so makers can focus on their craft. Interested in buying, a yarn bowl or maybe working to design your own? Have a talk to the Makerspace team.

View the full story online by visiting:

<https://www.mchl.co.nz/your-mchl/latest-news/2024/2025/makerspace-where-innovation-meets-tradition>



## Feilding & District Information



## Discover More, Close to Home

The Feilding & District Information Centre is celebrating its first year at Te Āhuru Mōwai, delivered by Manawatū Community Hub Libraries (MCHL). In that time, it has become a trusted place for locals and visitors to find out what's happening, where to go, and how to plan their time in the Manawatū District and beyond.

Based at the shared service desk, the MCHL team can help with local information, practical advice, and domestic travel bookings, including bus, train, and ferry options. They also offer tips on places to eat, shop, and visit around the district.

The hub encourages people to become "Backyard Explorers" and take a fresh look at what's nearby. Brochures and maps are available to help spark ideas and make planning easy.

Open Monday to Saturday at Te Āhuru Mōwai, the centre offers free Wi-Fi and friendly, practical support for anyone looking to get out and explore.

View the full story online by visiting:

<https://www.mchl.co.nz/your-mchl/latest-news/2024/2025/discover-more,-close-to-home>



**YAS!**  
**SAVE THE DATE**  
**ANNUAL LIBRARY BOOK SALE**  
**Saturday 27 June - Saturday 4 July 2026**  
 While stocks last!

manawatū community hub libraries Te Āhuru Mōwai\*

## Book Sale

Join us from 9.30am, 27 June to 12.30pm, 4 July when items are sold for the Manawatū Community Hub Libraries (MCHL) annual book sale. Browse a wide range of pre-loved books, puzzles and more. For all ages and interests at bargain prices. It's a great chance to pick up a good read while supporting your local library. All Welcome!

**makerspace**  
**SHOWCASE**  
**JUNE 13TH**  
**2026**

## Makerspace Showcase

**Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> June**  
**10am - 1pm**  
 Te Āhuru Mōwai, Feilding

Save the date! Join us at the MCHL Makerspace Showcase a celebration of local creativity, innovation, and inspiration. Come along to Te Āhuru Mōwai to see what our community has been creating, discover what's possible, and get inspired to make something of your own.

Term 2 Children's Programmes  
**SPACES AVAILABLE**  
**BOOK NOW**  
 manawatū community hub libraries  
 Te Āhuru Mōwai\*

## Term 2 - Book Now!

We offer a range of activities suitable for all ages including weekly after school programmes. Spaces are limited for some sessions, so don't miss out!

**Ask at the front counter or book online:** <https://mdc.jonasleisure.com.au/Course/Enrol>

**For the full list of children's activities:**  
<https://www.mchl.co.nz/whats-on/childrens-activities>

## What's On Spotlight



**Candle Making Workshop**  
**Saturday, 2 May**  
**2:00pm - 4:00pm**  
**Cost: \$80pp**  
 The talented team at The Social Scent Company will guide you step-by-step through the process of creating your own beautifully scented pieces. All materials and guidance provided.

**Volunteer Central Cuppa & Chat**  
**Thursday, 14 May 2026**  
**10:00am - 12:00pm**

Want to give back to the community but unsure of how to begin? If you're seeking new opportunities to make a difference, form friendships, acquire new skills, and enjoy your free time, this is the perfect chance for you!  
**For more information**  
[www.volunteercentral.nz](http://www.volunteercentral.nz)

**Paint & Pour Party with Alana Mays Creations**  
**Saturday, 30 May**  
**5:00pm - 8:00pm**  
**Cost: \$85pp**  
 Sip on your favourite drink, unwind, and get creative at our relaxed and inspiring Paint & Pour Party. Enjoy a fun evening of painting while you socialise, laugh, and let your creativity flow. Makes a perfect Mother's Day gift — treat Mum (or yourself!) All materials and guidance provided.

**For more info visit:**  
[www.mchl.co.nz/whats-on/events-calendar](http://www.mchl.co.nz/whats-on/events-calendar)

## Protecting Our Backyard

Manawatū Community Hub Libraries (MCHL) is supporting efforts to reduce pest numbers and protect native wildlife in the Manawatū District by offering free rat traps in exchange for a donation of canned goods.

Working with Predator Free Feilding, St Joseph's School, and the Feilding Oroua Rotary Club, local residents can collect traps from Te Āhuru Mōwai, 64 Stafford Street, Feilding.

Residents are encouraged to record their results through the Predator Free Feilding project on Trap.NZ and share updates online. Trap.NZ is a nationwide platform used to track trapping and biodiversity outcomes, with more than 845,447 predators controlled across Aotearoa this year, including over 394,245 rats.

All canned donations are given to Manchester House Social Services, supporting those in need locally.

Community Hub Libraries Manager Robyn Ballard says, "By making traps available through the Hub, we are enabling our community to contribute to local environmental protection while also supporting our local community."

Enquire at the MCHL front counter to get involved.

**View the full story online by visiting:**

[https://www.mchl.co.nz/your-mchl/latest-news/2024/2025/protecting-our-backyard/\\_nocache](https://www.mchl.co.nz/your-mchl/latest-news/2024/2025/protecting-our-backyard/_nocache)



## Why buy when you can borrow?

Explore our growing collection of quality board games. The collection includes family favourites to strategy and party games, there's something for all ages and skill levels. Free to borrow and it's an easy way to try something new or enjoy a friendly game night!



## Take the Library with You – MCHL App

The MCHL app makes it easy to browse the catalogue, reserve items, and manage your loans wherever you are. Search for books, audiobooks, magazines, digital resources, and more, then place holds with just a few taps. You can also renew items, check due dates, and keep track of your library card all in one place.

Whether you're planning your next read or managing your account, the MCHL app puts the library in your pocket. **Download it today!**



## Digitising the Past

Every photograph holds a story: a moment, a memory, maybe even a piece of Feilding's past. At Te Āhuru Mōwai, a valuable new addition the Epson photo scanning system which makes digitising photos easy. Manawatū Community Hub Libraries hosts free monthly sessions: Digitise Your Photos (10am–11am) and Capturing Feilding & District Heritage (11am–12pm), held on the last Friday of the month. These sessions help individuals scan and share images for personal use, while also growing the Heritage Collection and preserving local history for future generations.

**View the full story online by visiting:**

<https://www.mchl.co.nz/your-mchl/latest-news/2024/2025/digitising-the-past>





ANZAC display currently available for April at Te Āhuru Mōwai.

## Courage, Resilience and Sacrifice

Cabinets filled with hats, badges, coins, books, photographs and even a teddy bear tell a story at Te Āhuru Mōwai that spans generations of service, sacrifice, and remembrance. These displays have been made possible with the support of the Feilding Returned and Services Association (Feilding RSA Inc.).

These displays offer an insight into conflicts from the First and Second World Wars through to Vietnam, Afghanistan and beyond. Each item whether worn, carried, carefully kept or preserved in remembrance honours the courage, resilience and sacrifice of all who have served.

As Capt. Barrie Law, Quartermaster / S4 – 1st Battalion, RNZIR, reflects, “Every piece in these displays has a story behind it. It is important that we continue to share those stories so future generations understand the reality of service and sacrifice.”

The displays can be found in two locations within the library: one near the front counter cabinet by the self-checkout machine, and the other in the adult fiction section. They are free to visit, offering a space for the community to learn, reflect and remember.

Many of the items on display have been generously shared by local families, preserving personal stories that connect the community to wider national and international history. This year Te Āhuru Mōwai will be unstaffed on ANZAC Day Saturday, 25 April, and Monday, 27 April (Observed). However, Open Plus access will remain available for visitors on both days.

These current displays also highlight how meaningful it can be to share collections with the wider community. What may begin as a private collection can become something that creates conversations, connection and understanding.

Manawatū Community Hub Libraries invites individuals, groups and hobbyists to showcase their own collections in its free display cabinets. Whether your treasures tell a story of history, culture or a personal passion, they have the potential to inspire others.

If you have a collection you would like to share, chat with a Manawatū Community Hub staff member, or email [mchl.bookings@mdc.govt.nz](mailto:mchl.bookings@mdc.govt.nz) with your details.

View the full story online by visiting:

[https://www.mchl.co.nz/your-mchl/latest-news/2024/2025/courage-resilience-and-sacrifice/\\_nocache](https://www.mchl.co.nz/your-mchl/latest-news/2024/2025/courage-resilience-and-sacrifice/_nocache)



## DISPLAY WITH US BE SEEN, BE PROUD

SHOWCASE YOUR PASSION AT TE ĀHURU MŌWAI



Chat to MCHL Staff or Email [mchl.bookings@mdc.govt.nz](mailto:mchl.bookings@mdc.govt.nz)

*Thank you for reading!*