



Ōtautahi
community
housing
trust

Our Chat

May, June 2022

Kia ora. Ngā mihi nui, he mihi makatia ki a koutou. Hello. Warm greetings to you all.

We're getting free COVID tests to ŌCHT tenants

We're delivering boxes of COVID-19 tests to our communities.

We've been gifted rapid antigen tests (RATs) to supply to ŌCHT households across the city. Our team will be delivering the boxes to homes as soon as possible.

There are five tests in a box and they come with an easy to follow instruction sheet.

Please use them whenever you're experiencing COVID-like symptoms.

Two red lines on the test means you've got COVID-19.

It also means you need to stay home and take time to rest and recover.

Please consider letting ŌCHT know if you're unwell. We might be able to help if you need it, and we can reschedule visits for when you're feeling better.



OCHT tenancy team member Trudi with some of the RATs we'll be delivering to tenants over the next few weeks.

How ŌCHT is working during Covid-19 Response Orange

We're at Covid-19 Response Level Orange—and that means we're just about back to business as usual.

We're doing everything we can to keep people safe while we work.

Visiting you: We'll try and keep 2m away and we'll wear a mask where we can't socially distance. We'll also wear a mask when visiting your home.

Community lounges: They're open—but for your peace of mind, please wear a face mask at gatherings.

Digital coaching and employment coaching services: They're both up and running. We'll wear masks—and we look forward to seeing you. Please call us on **0800 624 456** to register for either service

Our office is open: Please wear as mask when you visit. If you have a mask exemption, we need to keep a 2m distance. If possible, please call ahead on **0800 624 456** to let us know you're coming in.

Please don't come to the office if you're unwell. We can see you when you're feeling better!



More new homes open: Tenants are now living at Coles Place, St Albans, the 11th new community ŌCHT's delivered since 2019. The 33 home community has one 4-bed, one 3-bed, three 2-bed, and 28 one-bedroom homes. They replace 20 weatherboard units built in the 1950s. ŌCHT opened 37 new homes at Gowerton Place, Richmond in December and we're building more in Halswell.

You'll find much more on our website: www.ocht.org.nz

Keep track of what's happening

Our maintenance team has a lot on over the coming months, including a focus on water main leak repairs, fence repairs and car park lines. We'll let you know if we're working in your community.

Upgrades

We're progressively upgrading some of our older homes. We're making great progress at Wycola Place and we'll start work at Roimata Place next month.

Up on the roof

We've been repairing roofs at Concord Place and we'll be back to paint when winter becomes spring. There'll be repairs to Walsall Place's gutters and we'll re-roof the first block at Guthrey Courts into next month, before finishing them all over summer. Our contractors will be at Kaumatua Place by the end of June, to start reroof work.

Painting

Our exterior painting project has focused on the first dozen communities on our long-term list. As you read this, we'll have put the finishing touches on Veronica Place and be focusing on Halswell Courts. Incidentally, we're completing path cleaning at Veronica Place, Bartlett Street and Aberfoyle Courts, too.

Staircases and balconies

Greenhurst Courts has new exterior stairs as part of our ongoing maintenance programme. This was a very big job and our contractor is in the process of removing scaffolding. We're also starting work on new balconies, where needed, at Aorangi Courts and Aberfoyle Courts in July.

Handyperson service

Our handyperson team is visiting the



Flawless Finishes painter Terrence gets ready to paint homes at Veronica Place.

last of the homes in their annual visit programme. We'll drop you a line if we didn't pay you a visit over the past 12 months.

Spouting cleans

The next block of spouting cleans started in early May and will go through to the end of June. We'll send you a letter or a text message to let you know if our contractor, Golemans, will be working at your community.

Lawn fertilising

We'll be spreading fertiliser on some community lawns over the next two months. Thankfully, not every lawn needs it!

As you can see, we've got a busy few months ahead. Please remember to drop ŌCHT a line on **0800 624 456** if you have any questions about any of our work; please don't approach our contractors – they've got plenty to do already!

We're here to help

COVID-19 restrictions have made it harder for our tenancy team to visit all ŌCHT homes in all our communities but that won't stop us doing all we can to help.

Please call us on **0800 624 456** if you'd like to catch up for a chat about things affecting your tenancy.

Our Housing Champions (that's our call centre team) will put you in touch with the person who works with your community (we call them Portfolio Advisors) and they'll help you out.

We get hundreds of calls a week from people letting us know when things need fixing, when people need help and when things are going just fine.

Please also give us a call if you're not sure who your Portfolio Advisor is—we'll let you know who they are and how to get hold of them.

We also have at least one planned visit to people each year, in addition to any visits we make because you've asked to see us or because we need to see you. But remember, you don't have to wait until then; give us a call if you'd like to see or talk to us.

We'd love to hear from you—we're here to help you in your tenancy.

Thank you!



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**DIGITAL
COACHING
SERVICE**

Open your world—learn basic digital skills for free!

ŌCHT's got a new digital coaching service to support people to use digital technology.

We offer group learning and one-on-one support to ŌCHT tenants—and best of all, it's free!

Give us a call to start your digital journey!

Use our digital coaching service and get more from your digital devices!

- ⇒ Use email, video chat and social media
- ⇒ Shop on the web and use internet banking
- ⇒ Find, download and use free service apps
- ⇒ Enjoy movies, music and games
- ⇒ Stay safe and secure online
- ⇒ And much, much more!

GETTING HELP IS FREE AND EASY

Call 0800 624 456 to make a booking or get in touch with ŌCHT's Digital Coach



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**Employment
Coaching
Service**

Looking for work? Our job coach can help!

ŌCHT Job coach Lyn offers **FREE** one-on-one advice and support for ŌCHT tenants who want to find work.

Job coach Lyn can help you:

- ⇒ **Identify your skills**
- ⇒ **Find and use job seeking resources**
- ⇒ **Create a CV and covering letter**
- ⇒ **Prepare and plan for interviews**
- ⇒ **Prepare for work**
- ⇒ **Support once you're in work**

Give Lyn a call to get started!

Job flash!

Looking for barista or cleaning work? Call Lyn on **0800 624 456** to discuss opportunities!

Job Club is back!

Job Club is back and ŌCHT job coach Lyn is on hand with advice and support to help your work journey.

The May sessions are:

Monday, May 16 and 23, between 10am and 11am at Tūranga, the city library.

Check ocht.org.nz for dates in June and beyond!

Job Club is an informal and supportive place for job seeking tenants to come together and talk more about finding work. It's exclusive to ŌCHT tenants. Call Lyn on **0800 624 456** to register!

CV drop-ins

Lyn can help you start your skills-based CV at drop-in sessions **at the Linwood Library in Eastgate Mall on Thursday, May 19, 26, between 10am and 12pm.**

Pop on down—it's FREE and only for ŌCHT tenants!

IT'S ALL JUST FOR ŌCHT TENANTS

For free help call Lyn at the ŌCHT
Employment Service on **0800 624 456**