The Buzz from the Buzz
Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter, April 2025.

Celebrations

Well done to Liev who is working for the Nelson Weekly delivering papers Wednesdays or Thursdays. He is getting to know people on his route and is becoming a popular figure in Nelson CBD.

Nelson

CBD gets new *Weekly* deliverer

SARA HOLLYMAN

If you are wandering round the streets of Nelson's CBD on a Wednesday or Thursday afternoon, chances are you may bump into Liev Bierga delivering the *Nelson Weekly* with his new trolley. Partnering with Choices NZ, 27-year-old Liev was looking for some part-time work, and becoming the new CBD deliverer was the perfect fit for him.

Choices NZ works with people with disabilities and health needs to achieve employment and thrive on the job.

Nelson Weekly sought the help of Whakatū Menzshed to build Liev a suitable cart to carry the papers around.

Colin Johnstone jumped at the chance to help get a young person into employment, building it for him.

"That's the cool part about this," Colin says. "A sense of purpose to get out of bed in the morning."

Cutting Edge Signs' Arko Biswas says the existing relationship with Top South Media meant he didn't think twice to get involved in the project to get Liev into work.

"A lot of the time those little things make a big difference to one person."

Choices NZ employment facilitator Sophie Ward says Liev enrolled with the service so she was able to help him find the role, which needed to be a minimum five hours of paid work a week.

"Using his skills and strengths and what he would really like to do, we did a bit of job carving for this role."

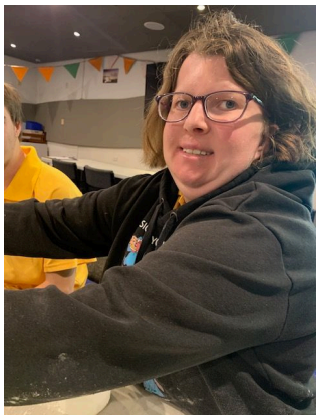
Sophie will provide in-work support while Liev finds his feet and says he is building up a nice rapport with the city's baristas.

If you see Liev and feel about, be sure to say hello.

Sophie adds that anyone that would like to know more about the service can contact her by emailing sophie.ward@choicesnz.org.nz

Cutting Edge Signs' Arko Biswas, Liev Bierga, Nelson Weekly editor Sara Hollyman, Whakatū Menzshed's Colin Johnstone and Choices NZ employment facilitator Sophie Ward at the Defence Force base where the cart is stored. *Photo: Gordon Preece.*

Good luck to Beau with her work experience as a teacher aid at Enner Glynn School. Thanks to Enner Glynn for giving her this wonderful opportunity.



Jeffrey is continuing his work in the Nelson Food Bank on Wednesday and Friday mornings, and we are getting very positive feedback about his progress.

Service IQ

Jordan continues to achieve very well in his service IQ studies and has successfully completed his first 2 units of a Level 3 Business Certificate.
Beau is also doing well with her service IQ qualifications and has passed her last 2 assessments.
We hope to engage other young people in service IQ qualifications during this year.
The service IQ team is very pleased with the Buzz achievements and look forward to working with us in the future.

Service IQ
Te Pūkenga

Yay!! excellent work everyone

Honey Sales

Our honey is sought after far and wide and we are making great progress with our sales.
The team are gaining many skills in marketing, sales, labelling and presentation as well as promoting the Buzz at the Honey table at the Nook Cafe and at the Pretty Crafty Markets in Richmond.

Pretty Crafty Market

The next Pretty Crafty Market is on Sunday 13th April at Richmond Town Hall.
Thanks to Lorraine for organizing and running our stall at the Pretty Crafty Markets.

Our Groups in brief

Our groups are a hive of activities on Wednesday and Friday mornings.

We couldn't manage without our amazing volunteers - a huge thanks goes out to
Gera, Carolyn, Lorraine, Philippa, Jordan and Denise (our newest volunteer)

We nurture our great working relationship with the Nelson Food Bank & Restore.
We recently teamed up with Amy Cornelisen from the Ministry of Inspiration to support their Aqua Robotic programme by helping with measuring and cutting pipework for the robots.

We are also creating some visual effects that will be part of the Nelson Light Festival in July.

We continue to receive enquiries from potential new young people and we are proud of our good relationship with the local colleges to support young people through their transitions from school into the community.

We have recently teamed up with Whanake Youth to practice job interview skills - the first session was a great success all round and our young people have gone home and practiced the skills they learned with family and friends.
We are working with each young person on their Individual Work Plans to realise & support their goals and aspirations to help their transition into work experience and/or a job, when they are ready.

Farewell

Sadly, we are saying farewell to Jana, who has been part of the Buzz team for over 3 years.
She is leaving us to set up 'Able Gardeners', a gardening business which aims to employ people with disabilities. We wish her every success & we look forward to working with her again in her new venture.

Funding

Thanks to Rata Foundation, they continue to be great supporters of the Buzz and we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for their continued support.
Thanks also to Pub Charity for supporting the Buzz and to Nelson City for their continued support.

www.thebuzznelson.nz

Nelson City Council | Te Kaunihera o Whakatū

Rātā Foundation

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