



Helen and her granddaughter Lucy in the kitchen of her new home.

Helen settles in

When Helen Speers moved into a new-build Trust House home in Opaki Road, Masterton, she cried tears of relief and happiness.

After several years of caring for her sick husband and coping with her own health issues at their former Trust House home in Cameron Crescent, things came to a head for Helen.

Her husband died, and Helen underwent major surgery. Getting up and down the stairs at Cameron Crescent was just too hard, and the home was too big for Helen. She asked Trust House if she could move to a smaller home.

Fast forward to November 2024, and Helen received a very exciting phone call. Tenancy advisor Rowan McArthur shared the good news with Helen that she was eligible to move into one of the newly developed units at 52 Opaki Road. Helen said yes straight away, and within a few weeks she was in her new home.

It was a kind of a 'homecoming' for Helen. She lived in a home at that site years ago before it was redeveloped. Helen's health and contentment are returning now that she's settled into the unit with her two cats, Rossie and Mama. "I love it here," she says. She's able to relax in her easy-care home, and spend time tending to her potted flowers, plants and vegetables in her garden and on the patio.

She has friendly neighbours to pass the time with, over a chat and a hot drink. And her puzzles and crafts keep her occupied in her cosy home, where she enjoys her own company.

Her children all live nearby, and three of her many grandchildren are also in Masterton, so Helen has good family support.

"I'm happy in this lovely place," Helen says, "but I wish my husband could see it. I wish he was still here."

home



Above: The new development at 52 Opaki Road, Masterton.

Below: A bedroom at the complex.

New homes

You may be aware that Trust House has started upgrading its social housing in the Wairarapa.

Now we are gearing up to transform four more of our sites in Masterton. We will soon put in an application with Masterton District Council, to redevelop the sites at 8-10 Matai Street (Lansdowne); 12-14 Short Street (Solway); 16-18 Kaka Street; and 27-29 Kuripuni Street.

We are already in touch with neighbours of the site, including our tenants, to keep them informed.

The existing properties on the sites are, or soon will be, empty. They are not suitable to be upgraded, so they will be demolished. We will replace them with new homes that better suit the needs of our community.



We will keep you informed.

The development is part of our plan to invest up to \$130 million in redeveloping and upgrading most of our social housing stock in the next five to seven years. This will provide our tenants with warm, dry, modern and efficient homes.

We will keep you updated on our progress. If your tenancy is going to be affected, we will contact you well in advance.

Your tenancy advisors are here to assist you. If you have a question or concern about your tenancy or your home, you can contact them on 0800 878 700.

Nick Atherley covers the Eastside of Masterton, and Rowan McArthur is the tenancy manager for the Westside. Karen Herbert covers tenancies outside Masterton.



Nick



Rowan



Karen

You can find out more about the new developments on our website trusthouse.co.nz/homes/projects/ OR SCAN THIS CODE



We're a TOLL FREE call away 0800 878 700



TRUST HOUSE
HOUSING



Craft classes are popular at the community hub. Photo courtesy of Te Āwhina Community Hub.

Te Āwhina Community Hub is there for you

If you've never been to Te Āwhina Community Hub in Stuart Crescent on the Eastside of Masterton, now's the time to plan a visit.

The hub's activity programme gets up and running in February after the summer break – and there's a heap of cool stuff for you to join in with. The craft classes are proving hugely popular, and there's a regular garage sale if you're looking for preloved items for your home. If you need to get online, there's access to wifi and a computer. There's a room available for community meetings. And if you'd like assistance to connect with local community services – legal, health, housing, for example – you'll get fantastic support from our

friends at the community hub. Donna Gray, the hub's coordinator, says everyone is welcome. You might want to get involved in activities or volunteering – or you might just want a chat and a hot drink. You'll find friendly faces, a listening ear and good advice. "The hub is a safe, healing place," Donna says. "Everything we do is about supporting and lifting up our people."

The hub is at 2 Stuart Crescent, at its intersection with Church Street. If you'd like more information about the activities and services, pop in or give them a call on (06) 378 9638, or check out their website at Teawhinacommunityhub.wordpress.com. You can also follow them on Facebook – search for Te Āwhina Community Hub.



Coordinator Donna Gray