

A close-up portrait of an elderly man with white hair, a prominent nose, and a gentle smile. He is wearing a dark blue sweater over a light blue collared shirt. The background is a soft, out-of-focus indoor setting.

The **WORD** from **THE STREET**

SPRING 2025

Tom's fresh start

A story of hope and connection

A gap year with purpose

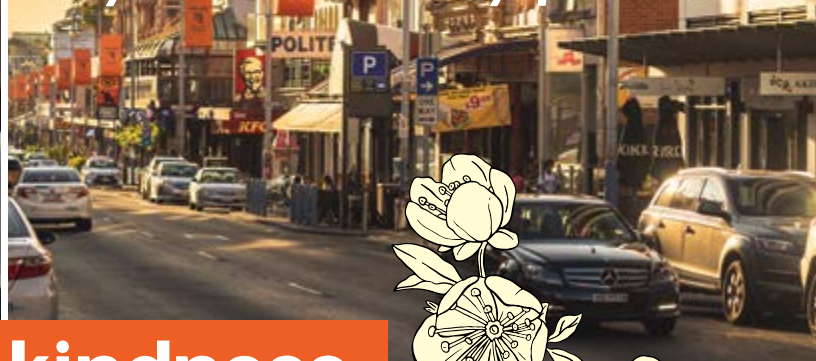
Walking 1,200 km for change

Offering hope in times of need

Pastoral care at Hutt St Centre



"Getting a house is number one for me. I want to be able to say to people, 'Hey, come to my place.'" - Tom



Thanks to your kindness,

Tom found a fresh start and new meaningful friendships



When Tom returned to Adelaide after fifty years overseas doing charity work, the city he came home to was nothing like the one he remembered.

At 84 years old, he made the heartbreaking choice to leave behind the life he knew — hoping to spend his final years in the place he once called home.

But with only a pension to live on, the only accommodation he could afford was a single room in a noisy Hindley Street hotel. The constant thumping of nightlife made it nearly impossible to rest. Worse still, the steep steps at the entrance made it dangerous for someone his age just to come and go.

Feeling lost and alone, Tom started asking around for help.

"I started looking for places that helped people without a home, and everyone said Hutt St is where you need to go."

Tom was hesitant when he first walked through the doors, but a warm welcome quickly eased his worries.

"The staff have been caring for me. the food here is really good. I've had help from the nurse, podiatry service, and occupational therapist."

Beyond meeting immediate needs like meals and healthcare, our Aged City Living team connected Tom with the Lifestyles Group, helping him fill his days with purpose and joy.



"My partner of 14 years had melanoma, and I nursed her for five years when we decided I should return to Adelaide."

"There wasn't going to be any safety net for me overseas as I got older, while I knew I could get help in Australia."

Click the link below to read how you've made Tom's homefulness journey possible.

huttst.org/toms-story

A gap year **with purpose:** **James and Jamie's journey** **to end homelessness**

James and Jamie's gap year after finishing Year 12 was anything but ordinary. Driven by a desire to make a real difference, they took on the 1,200 km Heysen Trail — a challenging three-month journey to raise funds for people experiencing homelessness.

"We decided to fundraise for Hutt St Centre, because we wanted to support a charity that we both like and has a big impact on issues we want to help with. Homelessness was the first thing on our list."

With determination, a spring in their step, and years of careful planning, James and

Jamie set out with a goal to raise \$2,400 — one dollar for every kilometre walked by each of them. Their story, shared through Instagram and radio interviews on FiveAA, inspired others and raised an incredible \$8,464!

Thanks to their grit and generosity, blisters and

all, more people in need can now access meals, healthcare, and vital support at Hutt St Centre.

We're truly inspired by James and Jamie's courage to push themselves to new limits and create a brighter future for people doing it tough in our community.



Walking in Perry's boots

About 20 years ago, Perry was sleeping rough near Hutt St Centre, with only a swag for shelter. But with support from his case manager, Perry found a safe place to call home.

"When I think about the phrase walk a mile in my boots, I can see that I've come a long way on my journey. You've got to keep walking forward with your head up."

To celebrate Walk a Mile in My Boots 2025, Perry painted a special pair of boots — each brushstroke sharing a story of resilience, culture, and belonging.

"I just love painting and putting my art out there. My nannas showed me how and I always think of them when I'm painting. It's spiritual for me, I feel a sense of belonging to things like Indigenous art, or memories of my nannas — good things."

Perry is a proud Noongar man from South Perth, with connections to Yamatji Country through his dad's side. His boots artwork draws on Dreamtime stories, native animals, and bush plants — symbols of strength, healing, and connection to Country.

Perry has come a long way since first walking through Hutt St Centre's doors, and he knows just how much your support means.

"A lot of people are getting benefit from Hutt St. You can get your bearings in life here and move forward."

Click the link below to read the story behind Perry's artwork.

huttst.org/perrys-boots



Thank you for saving lives this winter

Because of your kindness, people doing it tough didn't have to face homelessness alone during what can be the hardest time of year — when cold weather, illness and isolation hit hardest.

Your support helped people like Bailey* survive four months of rough sleeping – and come out the other side with a place to call home.

"I'm a lot more relaxed now that I've got a home. I've been able to decorate, cook, put up lights – it's mine. That means a lot. If I could meet the people who donate, I'd say thank you. It's good to know people care."

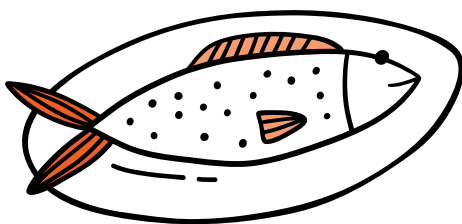
Thanks to you, Hutt St Centre could offer warmth, connection, and essential care to people walking through our doors this winter. Together, we are helping to save lives, bring people in from the cold, and onto their journey to homefulness.



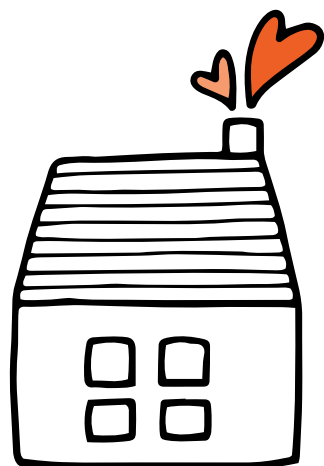
Hutt St Centre staff holding a Winter Warmer pack

Here's what you **made possible** this winter:

Over
11,816
nourishing
meals served



848
loads of
washing



10,695
visits to
Hutt St Centre
**Extended opening
hours and shelter
offered during more
than 10 Code Blues**



539
medical
checkups



2,848
hot showers

Your support helps women take the brave step to better health

A health check-up can be lifesaving — but for many women, especially those facing the daily challenges of homelessness, it can also be overwhelming.

Thanks to your generosity, our Pathways team is making it easier — and more comforting — for women to care for their health.

Recently, six women supported by Pathways were warmly welcomed by BreastScreen SA for routine breast screenings, starting with a cup of tea, cake, and biscuits to ease nerves.

Pathways Officer Barbara said the thoughtful hospitality made all the difference:

"Breast Screen SA were very informative and explained in thorough what the procedure was and made sure everyone had their individual needs met and felt calm."



For women whose nights are often filled with worry just to survive, moments like these remind them they're not alone — and that their health matters too.

This feedback from attendees shows just how valuable this trip was:

"Breast Screen SA made us feel very welcomed and I now feel comfortable returning in two years' time for my next screening"

"It can be an uncomfortable experience, but I felt very supported today by both Hutt St Centre staff and Breast Screen SA, thank you"

"I'm glad I did this today and ticked it off my list"

Thank you for helping make these lifesaving health checkups possible. Your support means women facing homelessness can take important steps towards better health and wellbeing.





Offering a listening ear and hope in times of need



Meet Jacko, Hutt St Centre's Pastoral Care Coordinator. His unique role supports people on their journey to homefulness by caring for their spiritual and emotional wellbeing.

"My role is to care for people's spiritual side. There is already great help for physical needs like meals and showers – I'm here as a listening ear."

For many facing homelessness, relationship breakdowns leave them without family or friends to turn to in tough times. That's where pastoral care truly makes a difference.

"We're here to listen, help people reflect, and hopefully

offer a bit of hope. Some days I might have three long conversations; other days I'll have fifteen short conversations."

This legacy of care has been part of Hutt St Centre since it was founded in 1954 by the Daughters of Charity.

Every Wednesday, Jacko hosts Common Grace — a group where people sing, read the Bible, pray, and share life stories in a quiet, welcoming space.

"All kinds of people love coming to Common Grace and spending time together. We have people come who say they're humanist, atheist, agnostic, Muslim. Anyone is welcome."

Thanks to your generosity, Jacko and his team of volunteers can provide support without judgment, helping people through their hardest moments.

"If I could see a donor right now, I'd say a heartfelt thanks for your support. Thanks for being passionate about helping people in need. It's because of people like you that Hutt St Centre can continue to be that warm, welcoming space in our city."

Click the link below to read the full story.

huttst.org/meet-jacko



A long walk with big heart

For over a decade, the Long Walk from McLaren Vale to Hutt St Centre has been a remarkable journey of community spirit, endurance, and compassion.

It all began in 2011 with the Willunga Wanderers — a group of passionate locals led by Jock Harvey from Chalk Hill Wines — who took on the 50-kilometre trek to raise awareness and funds for people experiencing homelessness.

In 2019, McLaren Vale Primary School joined the walk, creating a strong connection that inspired students and families alike. Through targeted learning programs, market days, and their own Walk a Mile in My Boots events, the school community has raised an estimated \$300,000 alongside the Willunga Wanderers over the years.

This year marks McLaren Vale Primary School's final year participating in the Long Walk and we're deeply grateful for their years of dedication, fundraising, and the empathy they've fostered in their community.

The Long Walk continues with teams from Willunga Wanderers, Cardijn College, DJ's Growers, and others still walking side-by-side, proving that every step taken together brings us closer to ending homelessness.

Thank you to everyone who has walked, donated, and supported this journey — your kindness truly makes a difference.



**While some names and images have been changed for privacy, these stories are very real and reflect how important your generosity is for helping people start their journey towards homelessness.*

Join our community
@HuttStCentre / HuttStCentre



Hutt St Centre

end homelessness

258 Hutt Street, Adelaide SA 5000

P: (08) 8418 2500 | E: fundraising@huttstcentre.org.au | huttstcentre.org.au

If you no longer wish to receive our newsletter, or would prefer to receive our newsletter by email, please let us know at fundraising@huttstcentre.org.au or call (08) 8418 2509