



Tēnā koutou katoa

It has been a privilege to step into the role of Interim General Manager and to work alongside an incredible team of six. I am grateful for the opportunity to lead such a small but mighty team, and to collaborate closely with our Board, kaimahi, volunteers, sponsors, and the wider community as we continue our shared mahi supporting people impacted by cancer across Te Taihū. One of the most important roles we hold at the Cancer Society is to stand alongside people during some of life's toughest moments. In turn, we would like to sincerely thank you for standing with us over the past year. Your support, and your membership, play a vital role in enabling the care and services we provide every day.

It has been a busy and rewarding year, with several standout events including the Historical Homes Tour, Daffodil Day, the Mowsworth Rampage, and Relay For Life. Each of these not only raised essential funds but also strengthened the sense of connection and community that sits at the heart of everything we do. Our promise is to support anyone, anywhere, with any cancer. We are here to connect with you and your whānau, ensuring you feel supported every step of the way and that is exactly what we have been doing.

Our Supportive Care team has continued to support individuals and whānau through and post their cancer treatment. Between April 2025 and March 2026, we provided one-on-one support and information to over 600 individuals and their whānau, including 350 newly diagnosed or re-referred people. We funded 330 counselling sessions and issued 117 welfare grants. Of these grants, 52% were for grocery vouchers, 30% for petrol vouchers, and 18% for other cancer related costs such as specialist physiotherapy, oncology massage and St Johns Ambulance Membership. Across our various support groups and yoga classes through the region, we recorded a total of 1441 attendances. We also supported 41 people to engage in gym rehab programmes following treatment.

Demand for our Volunteer Driving Service increased significantly during 2025/26, with 295 patient drives provided — including 99 in the final quarter alone — placing added pressure on staff coordination and our dedicated volunteer drivers, who continue to go the extra mile for patients across the region.

I'm incredibly proud of our small but dedicated team and deeply appreciative of the commitment shown by our Board and supporters. Together, we are making a meaningful difference.

Working together towards a future free from cancer. *Te mahi tahi mō te anamata matepukupuku kore.*

Word from the chair

As we begin a new membership year, we warmly invite you to renew your membership with Cancer Society Nelson Tasman for 2026/27 and remain part of the support we provide across our region. Thanks to the ongoing support of our members, donors and wider community, we are able to walk alongside individuals and whānau affected by cancer, offering practical support, information and care when it is needed most.

Over the past year, we have continued to strengthen and grow our services across the Nelson Tasman region, including through our Motueka office, which enables us to provide ongoing support to people and whānau throughout the Tasman community.

Our dedicated team have continued to provide compassionate support to those affected by cancer while also delivering successful fundraising events and community initiatives across the Nelson Tasman region. As a 100% community-funded organisation, every membership and contribution helps make this work possible.

On behalf of the Board, thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to the Cancer Society Nelson Tasman. We value the important role our members play in helping ensure no one in our community faces cancer alone, and we hope you will renew your membership for the year ahead.

Skin Check Vouchers and Shade Loan Initiative – In October 2025, 1,000 skin check vouchers valued at \$100 each were issued to the public and were claimed in just eleven hours. It's great to see so many taking up this important health offer. Thanks also to the 58 local events and organisations who used our Shade Loan Scheme over summer. From marquees and umbrellas to our sunscreen stations, their efforts helped share vital SunSmart messages across the region. These initiatives are thanks to a generous bequest from David Blunt, who wanted to improve access to skin checks and support SunSmart resources in the community.



Venus Guy
General Manager



Stephen Neas,
Chairperson



Find out more about Cancer Society Nelson Tasman

cancernelson.org.nz

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Broadening access to cancer awareness and services

Last year we worked with local refugee health and social service workers to explore how we could improve our outreach to the local former refugee communities. Two projects resulted:

- A cancer information pamphlet in plain language and using clear visual symbols, in English and then translated into 7 local former refugee languages. The pamphlet is distributed through GPs, pharmacies, and community settings.
- A Cancer Health Expo held in September 2025 at Victory Community Centre involving health professionals covering skin, lung, bowel, prostate, breast and gynaecological cancers. Interpreters circulated to translate for each refugee group, and the Cancer information pamphlet was also given to all attending in their own language. Feedback from those involved was very positive and we are exploring making this an annual event.



Pictured from left are interpreter and health navigator at Victory Square Pharmacy, Sushma Suba; refugee health social worker for Te Whatu Ora, Freyja Stocker; community navigator at the Victory Community Centre, Norma Sequera; and cancer support coordinator at Cancer Society Nelson Tasman, Cyndy Smith, with the new pamphlets. Photo: Kate Russell (Nelson Weekly/Nelson app).

Breast and Gynaecological cancers – Treatment updates & HPV vaccination



In October, Dr Kate Gregory, Nelson Hospital Oncologist and Co-Medical Director of the Cancer Society, generously shared her expertise with those facing cancer, volunteers, and local health professionals. She shared updates on breast and gynaecological cancer research & treatment; and emphasized how critical HPV (human papillomavirus vaccination) is to eliminating cervical cancer, as well as preventing other cancers. Dr Gregory highlighted UK evidence showing the HPV vaccine reduced cervical cancer rates by 78%, underscoring the urgent need to increase HPV vaccine uptake in New Zealand.

A year of community fundraising

The past financial year has once again shown the generosity, energy, and aroha of our Nelson Tasman community. Together, our supporters, volunteers, sponsors, schools, workplaces, and fundraisers have helped raise vital funds to support local people and whānau affected by cancer.

Jump for Cancer 2025 saw 12 brave jumpers raise over \$23,000, including an amazing effort from the team at Summerset in the Sun and our wonderful volunteer Jan Holt, who was the highest individual fundraiser nationally.

Daffodil Day 2025 was another outstanding success, raising over \$150,000. From ANZ Nelson and Richmond's Bingo Night, to the Nelson Vintage Car Club Show and Shine with The Moutere Hop, and the incredible support from our schools and early childhood centres raising more than \$23,000 collectively, the community truly got behind the campaign once again.

In October 2025, **Mowsworth Rampage** was held once again with 50 riders taking on the rugged journey from Molesworth Station to Hanmer Springs and raising more than \$64,000 for Cancer Society Nelson Tasman and Nelson Tasman Hospice. **The Longest Day Golf Challenge** also continued to grow, with 22 participants raising more than \$25,000.

We also had many incredible individuals take on personal fundraising challenges through our **You Can For Cancer** platform.

And finally, **Relay For Life Nelson Tasman 2026** brought our whole community together in a truly powerful way. With 995 participants across 70 teams, Relayers walked through the night to remember, honour, celebrate, and support those affected by cancer – raising an incredible \$248,866 along the way. Our heartfelt thanks go to every volunteer, sponsor, supplier, supporter, and especially Shirley and Stephen from GJ Gardner Homes Nelson for helping make Relay such a meaningful event for our region.

As a 100% community-funded charity, every dollar raised stays local and helps us continue providing counselling, transport to treatment, practical support, and care for more than 600 people and their families across Nelson Tasman each year. From the bottom of our hearts — thank you for standing alongside us and helping make a real difference in our community.



Thank you to our amazing volunteers - Volunteer Christmas Party 2025



Our Volunteer Christmas Party on 4th December at Saxton Oval was a fantastic way to end the year, with 115 volunteers coming together to celebrate. We were thrilled to welcome Nicola Coom, Chief Executive of Cancer Society New Zealand, who flew in to spend time with us and share her story. It was a great evening connecting with everyone and recognising the amazing support our volunteers give to our organisation.



Thank you to our board

We were delighted to welcome Debbie Cooper-Norriss to our Board. Debbie brings a rich blend of compassion, leadership, and entrepreneurial insight to the board.

Beginning her career in nursing, she developed a deep commitment to people and community - values that continue to guide her work today. For the past eight years, Debbie has successfully run her own business, gaining hands-on experience in strategy, operations, and customer engagement. Her ability to balance practical decision-making with genuine care gives her a unique perspective and valuable insights as a board member. Passionate about giving back, Debbie is also a Gold Sponsor of the Cancer Society Nelson Tasman, reflecting her dedication to supporting the wellbeing of her community.

A heartfelt thank you to all of our board members for generously dedicating your time and expertise throughout the 2025-2026 financial year. Your leadership and commitment continue to shape the direction of Cancer Society Nelson Tasman, helping us meet the needs of those in our community affected by cancer. We are truly grateful for your service and the meaningful difference you make.



Stephen Neas
Chair



Ian MacLennan
Treasurer



Megan Clark
Secretary



Jack Fletcher



Miraka Norgate



Andy Malcolm



Mary-Jane Reade



Patrick Smith



Debbie Cooper-Norriss

At Cancer Society Nelson Tasman, we are continually grateful for the strength and generosity shown by our community. Your support - whether through donations, bequests, fundraising, or volunteering - directly enables the work we do every day alongside people affected by cancer. Because of you, we're able to provide a wide range of practical and emotional support services, including one-on-one support, counselling, support groups, wellbeing workshops, financial support, rehabilitation gym programmes, mobility classes, and gentle yoga. Each year, our team walks alongside more than 600 people and their whānau across Nelson Tasman as they navigate the challenges that come with a cancer diagnosis. Every contribution, big or small, helps ensure no one has to face cancer alone.



Thank you to our Local Hero sponsors



G.J. Gardner. HOMES



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MASTER VALET

The **1 in 3** could be me

28 August 2026

When 1 in 3 is affected, every one of us matters.



Register to support at daffodilday.org.nz

Cancer Society | ANZ | Major Sponsor

Visit our website: www.cancernelson.org.nz



@cancersocietynelsontasman

Join Our Community of Support

Becoming a member is a great way to stay connected with the work we're doing across Nelson Tasman.

As a member you'll receive:

- The opportunity to have your say on the future direction of Cancer Society Nelson Tasman
- An invitation to our Annual General Meeting (AGM) and voting rights at the AGM
- Invitations to key information sessions and updates throughout the year
- An invitation to our annual Volunteer Christmas Celebration
- Our local newsletter with updates on services, events, fundraising activities, and community impact
- A copy of our Annual Report

While the membership fee is modest, becoming a member gives you a stronger connection to the work we do and the difference we're making together across Nelson Tasman.



Name:
Address:
Phone:
E-mail:

Create a Legacy for Future Generations

No matter how large or small, a Bequest to the Cancer Society Nelson ensures you can continue to support a cause close to your heart, now and into the future.

YES, please send me more information on leaving a bequest to the Cancer Society in my Will.

NB: We offer \$250 towards your legal costs when creating your will.

Two easy ways you can pay your membership

Online \$10 Individual \$40 Family \$..... Donation

You can pay for your membership and include a donation in one of two ways:

1. Either visit cancernelson.org.nz/membership – or scan the QR code >
2. Or transfer your donation into the Cancer Society bank account
Account name: NZ Cancer Society Nelson Centre Inc.
Account number: 06 0705 0316662 00
Please include **your name** and reference **membership**.

SCAN ME



Regular Giving - Become a regular donor

Setting up a regular donation to the Cancer Society Nelson Tasman is a simple but powerful way to provide ongoing support, helping ensure we can continue delivering care, counselling, and practical assistance to local people and their whānau when they need it most. Regular donors support the Cancer Society Nelson Tasman by donating a set amount via an Automatic Payment (AP). It's easy to do! Let's get started!

Choose how much you would like to donate monthly: \$25 \$50 \$100 \$500 Other \$

I would like to set up my own AP online.

The Cancer Society's bank account details are: ANZ Bank, Nelson Branch
Account Name: NZ Cancer Society Nelson Centre Inc.
Account No: 06 0705 0316662 00
Please include **your name** and reference **regular donation**.

I would like help setting up an AP. Tick this box and we will be in touch to assist you.

I would like to have my donation paid direct from my wages. Talk to your employer. They can organise for contributions to be automatically deducted from your wage.

Set up regular donations online using your credit card
cancernelson.org.nz/donate

SCAN ME



Help us keep you up-to-date by email

Yes, I would prefer to receive email communications. Your email address: _____

I would like to receive updates from the Cancer Society about:

- Relay For Life Daffodil Day Cancer Society Ball Local community events



He waka eke noa | We are all in this together

