Part of Our Community Horowhenua **Community** Health Shuttle



In the past 12 months Horowhenua Community Health Shuttle ferried 10,000 passengers to and from various health facilities between Horowhenua and Palmerston North. A team of 57 volunteer drivers gave 274 hours of their time to keep the six day a week service running.

The first shuttle left Horowhenua Health Centre in February 2009 and it remains under the umbrella of the Horowhenua District Health Transportation Trust. The service was set up to cut down on Horowhenua patients missing medical appointments due to transport issues.

In 2009 two minibuses with 35 volunteer drivers made the trip to and from Palmerston North twice a day every weekday. Now four shuttles and 57 drivers provide five return trips to Palmerston North every weekday, plus transport for dialysis patient treatments on Saturdays.

Passengers are collected from and returned to Levin, Shannon, Foxton and Tokomaru. While donations are gratefully accepted, there is no set fee for using the service which allows users of all ages without transport, or who cannot drive themselves, to attend medical appointments at the hospital or nearby clinics.

BOATING SAFETY

Sailing or moving boats near powerlines can be dangerous as many yachts exceed the standard safe clearance height of 4 metres. The main risk when boating near powerlines is the mast contacting overhead wires, potentially causing injury or death for the crew or others near the boat.



The first shuttle departs from Levin at 6.30am, the final return shuttle leaves Palmerston North hospital at 5.00pm.

The timetable is regularly updated and is available on line at: http://www.horowhenua. govt.nz/Community/ **Older-People/Shuttle-**Services-Transport

Launching or retrieving boats from the water using a trailer is also hazardous as many people forget to check for overhead powerlines near water. There are often powerlines in car parks or near boat-ramps at marinas, and these should be observed by sailors before entering or leaving the water. Motorboats with large aerials or radar equipment should also avoid travelling near powerlines.



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