

Part of Our Community

This vital community service operates Monday to Friday, transporting clients who live in Otaki and Horowhenua to-and-from medical-related appointments throughout the District and Palmerston North.

The local St John health shuttle service began in 2009, helping patients with limited transport options attend medical appointments.

Transporting clients to and home from the Horowhenua Health Centre as well as local

Health Shuttle Service

eye, dental and physiotherapy clinics and aged care facilities it also offers several return trips a day to the hospital and medical clinics in Palmerston North.

With two shuttles operating, the door-to-door service relies entirely on St John volunteers and is run on a donation-only basis.

St John Horowhenua health shuttle service team leader Jen Hutchings says she is very fortunate to have such a

wonderful team of volunteers including drivers and support personnel.

"The commitment and dedication of our volunteers is humbling, and a credit to St John. Over and above transporting clients, our volunteers also clean and help maintain the vehicles, as well as helping with St John fundraising events and other community activities," Jen said.

"We currently have 20 shuttle volunteers, but are always looking for more and would love to hear from anyone who may like to help out. We're a friendly bunch and have great camaraderie."



St John
Here for Life

Over the past year,
St John Horowhenua and
Otaki health shuttle
volunteers have:

- given **5709 voluntary hours**
- driven **131,141 kms**
- transported **3422 passengers**

Jen said all St John health shuttle crew carry first aid qualifications and must complete a comprehensive shuttle operator course. Both shuttles carry defibrillators and are equipped with hoists for clients with mobility difficulties.

For more information on the service or for shuttle bookings, please phone 06 368 6369 or email otakishuttle@gmail.com, otherwise contact 0800 ST JOHN (0800 785 646).



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