

TimeBank launched

5 October 2017 - Mid Canterbury TimeBank was officially launched in Ashburton on Sunday with participants enjoying a taste of just what it can offer the community.

A number of "taster" stalls demonstrated sushi making, hair and make-up, knitting and flax weaving, while others offered advice on gardening, technology and how to make kombucha and hummus.

The TimeBank concept trades time rather than money and works on the premise that everyone in the community has something to offer and every person is equally valued.

Mid Canterbury TimeBank founder Kate White said it was great to see a steady stream of people of all ages and backgrounds attend the launch.

A number of new membership applications would be activated in the week ahead to enable more people to start timebanking.

Work was also continuing on developing the website mctimebank.nz.

"We offer weekly starter sessions and attending one is a prerequisite for anyone wanting to join the TimeBank.

"In October we had 22 new sign ups, adding to the 40 or so done in September," said Mrs White.

Also showcased at the launch was the TimeBank Learning Exchange, which encourages people to share their skills, knowledge and passion in the delivery of informative workshops.

The exchange operates in the same way as timebanking, with those giving the talks earning time credits for their time, and those attending paying in time credits to attend.

A number of workshops are confirmed for the rest of the year.

Mirna Dassano tries her hand at sushi making under the watchful eye of Japanese born Chiyo Hunt.

Read more local news at [The Ashburton Courier](#)

