Ashhurst Village Voice

Informing the Ashburst & Pohangina Communities

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August 2021

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Community Comment

The first signs of spring have arrived as early daffodils offer some colour and fruit trees begin their displays of blossom. Cherry and almond trees on street berms are especially enlightening.

The daffodils on the grassy mound on the State Highway 3 bend are keen to stake a claim for space before plans for a revised intersection are finalised. Waka Kotahi road designers have met with immediate neighbours and affected businesses to discuss options based upon a new roundabout proposal. This follows weeks of a 30 kph limit and a road cone invasion under the watchful eyes of road safety staff. The intermediate fix is a temporary 50 kph speed limit, removal of the confusing Give Way sign and its associated painted traffic island.

Draft plans for a roundabout in this early discussion phase have been challenged. Options to cater for the new shared path over the hill via a bridge clip-on are absent in the plans so far. Any attempt to close off the Short Street exit to Cambridge Avenue will likely be disputed by local residents and heavy industry. The community has grudgingly accepted the loss of a York Street connection in recently completed road works and will not be keen on a further split of our village.

The increase of accidents at this intersection is driving these changes, in association with the increased traffic flow of the diverted state highway. Future traffic design needs will also be considered as the detour traffic is replaced by the proposed

larger intensified residential population in Ashhurst in the future.

Chorus contractors are steadily installing the broadband fibre network in our Ashhurst streets. Loops of optic cable migrate from power pole perches via underground connections to residential Telecom junction boxes. The challenges of our stony ground limit horizontal boring technology so a number of trenches in the street have appeared with bumpy results.

A meeting for the Palmerston North City Council pre-consultation phase of the representational review was relatively well attended. A formal review is required due to the introduction of a Maori Ward for our local body elections. As a consequence, there will now be a consultation process to determine the number of councillors to be elected, which will also determine if one, or two, Maori seats are at the Council table.

Options for ward-based elections are also possible, as is the prospect of elected community boards for particular communities of interest. Active residents of Bunnythorpe, present at the Ashhurst meeting, are considering the option of a community board with legislated governance responsibilities in order to counter the demands of rail freight hub developers. Alternatives of a regular forum for the community to be consulted and contribute to their local development needs are also options. These forums are cheaper in terms of staff time and representative costs, but have little real

power and come and go according to Council needs.

Formal consultation will begin in August, written and oral submissions through September and a Council decision expected in October. The Local Government Commission has the final say in these governance decisions.

Harvey Jones

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September Issue Submission Deadline 5.00pm Friday, 20th August 2021

Letter from the Editor

Hello and welcome to the August edition of the Village Voice.

In my column last month, I inadvertently gave the wrong date in regards the Emergency Preparedness Seminar hosted by RECAP. Just to clarify it is on Wednesday 18th August. Thanks Ric for letting me know. Apologies for this mistake.

August is the last month of winter (although the winter weather often continues in through spring). If you are new to gardening now is a really good time to begin planning a garden.

Now is the time to plant fruit trees, and strawberries are available and potatoes will be appearing in stores shortly, if not already there.

Many summer vegetables can also start to be sown, but they do require protection due to cold nights. There is nothing like tomatoes picked ripe directly from the vine and vegetables that cost a premium in store are often very easy to grow and can be prolific. The other advantage to home grown vegetables is the variety of colours are available to the home grower, as opposed to those purchased in store. Purple carrots and beans and broccoli, striped or yellow beetroot, multicoloured tomatoes, the list goes on.

However, one of the biggest challenges I have found is showing restraint when it comes to seed catalogues—of which there are many. There are so many varieties, but only so much space available to plant. It can be a fun challenge.

Our local library has many books available on the topic of gardening to check out. If you are more of a visual learner—YouTtube has plenty to offer as well. Here's hoping for a good season.

Llyvonne Barber—Editor

Letter to the Editor: Proposed Section Sizes

I would like to respond to the Deputy Mayor's comments in the July issue of Village Voice:

In the last Village Voice the Deputy Mayor made a remark, and I quote: "We also sought feedback on aligning the minimum Ashhurst section size with Palmerston North to enable infill development and whether medium density housing development should be encouraged in Ashhurst".

I am horrified by reading this. The Palmerston North City Council Act states that on a section size (350 or 500m2) you are able to put a dwelling and also an accessory building which is 1m2 less than the proposed dwelling.

What this means is that two houses are able to be built on this section size.

This makes a mockery of the 350 or 500m2 minimum size, but it is what Councillors have decided in the past.

If the Palmerston North City Council

reduces this accessory building size and make this a non-habitable building it may be better

My question is why change the outlook of Ashhurst? We are, whatever other people think, a rural community.

We seem to destroy all different buildings because of "progress" but what is progress and where is the past?

We should also have a balance between nature and housing. At the moment we seems to favour housing .

I thought the Palmerston North City Council was anti-pollution and in favour of the environment, but I have now my doubts about this.

The Palmerston North City Council seems to be more pro developer and less community and environment.

Joe Erkens

Ashhurst Senior Citizens Association

Without a doubt, the entertainment for our July 47th birthday celebration was just the best. The Campbell Street Boys played and sang in their inimitable way and we did enjoy a wonderful programme. We cut a cake and shared in a great afternoon tea, making the day a happy time for us all.

For our August meeting on the 5th we are going to have a young university student entertain us. He is doing a degree

in music and will play the piano and saxophone. There is no doubt that music helps in so many ways to lighten the mood when we need it. We always enjoy those who bring music to us to encourage us so well. So if you are keen to enjoy an afternoon of great entertainment meet us at the Methodist Church Hall in Bamfield Street at 2.00pm. The fellowship and camaraderie is always wonderful.

Terry Carr—Secretary

To the Residents of Ashhurst and Pohangina

From the Committee of the Ashhurst Memorial R.S.A.

Christmas can be a lonely and stressful time for a lot of people especially those who are on their own or those with families who cannot afford to celebrate Christmas as they would wish. A survey, done by an R.S.A. executive member in January this year, found this to be the case in our village and surrounds.

The R.S.A. executive has decided that this will be no longer the case and we

are happy to announce that the R.S.A. will host a community Christmas Dinner on December 25th at our premises. The dinner will be entirely free and open to anyone who may wish to join us, there will be no questions asked and no one will be turned away. For those who may not be able to leave home we hope to be able to deliver a meal. Closer to the time we would, if possible, ask that people register or suggest names to us so we can contact these people.

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To the Residents of Ashhurst and Pohangina continued

This is a major event and we invite local groups to join with us to make this a joyous and happy event.

We would like to invite representatives of any and all groups and all other interested parties to a meeting to be held in the R.S.A. clubrooms on Monday, 16th August at 7.00pm.

This meeting will be to formulate the event, discuss fund raising, sponsorship and any other matters of interest relating to the proposed event.

Thank you

On behalf of the Executive Committee

Don Barrett-Vice President

Red Cross REaD Bookshop has a new location

The Red Cross REaD Bookshop has relocated. (We were closed by earthquake regulations.)

You can now find us on the corner of Church Street and Cook Street. Open longer hours—Monday to Saturday 10.00am—4.00pm.

Donations for the bookshop—books, jigsaw puzzles, games, CD's, DVD's and records—can be dropped off during shop open hours.

A Better Bus Service

A review of the Palmerston North—Ashhurst bus networks is being undertaken, including an opportunity for communities to share their views on creating a simpler, connected, frequent and fast service.

Horizons Regional Council (who contract passenger transport services for communities in the Manawatu-Whanganui region) is putting forward two options for Palmy which include stops closer to home and 30 minute frequency or 15 minute frequency during peak hours with stops slightly further from home.

Proposed improvements for Ashhurst see an increase in frequency for both weekday and Saturday services, providing a better connection to the city.

The intention is to provide an improved network that is adaptable for future needs. Public transport is a cost efficient, sustainable alternative to private vehicles, with environmental benefits. A better bus network reduces traffic congestion, travel times and reduces carbon emissions. It is hoped improvements in the service will also increase passenger numbers.

To share your thoughts and complete the survey head to *betterbuses.horizons*. *govt.nz* before 5.00pm Friday, 3rd September.

This is your chance to have your say about a better bus services for your community.

RECAP Update

Tena koutou katoa from RECAP.

After the recent storm, we are very pleased to have an emergency preparedness seminar on offer for August, as the more prepared we are as a community the more resilient we will be for future adverse events.

This is a civil defense preparation course led by the Palmerston North City Council Emergency Management Team, tailored to our area to help whanau and individuals be best prepared for a range of location specific scenarios. Have you made a plan for how you will manage in an emergency? Do you have your emergency kit ready? Where will you go in Ashhurst? What if you are cut off from Palmerston North? How will your response change during the day compared to at night? All ages are welcome and supper will be provided with time to talk with staff.

Please register for this at recap.org.nz.

When: 6.30pm—8.30pm Wednesday, 18th August.

Where: Village Valley Centre-

JustOne Please

Thank you for the donations of Long Life Milk. They were well received at the Women's Refuge. The item for this August is Coffee.

A big shout out to the lovely person who donated the Tea Towels, always handy to have extras.

Any queries please contact Louise Bowe 020 410 86128.

Donations can be dropped off at the Ashhurst Library.

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Manawatu Rangitikei Methodist Parish Ashhurst, Bunnythorpe and Pohangina Congregation

Ashhurst Devonport Worship and Community Centre

10.00am 1st and 2nd Sundays

Pohangina Community Church 10.30am 3rd Sunday

Contacts:

Parish Office—323 4127 Heather Fairless—326 8355

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Palmerston North Neighbourhood Support Alison Jarden JP, Manager 06 355 4468 | 021 0248 4139 info@pncitysupport.com

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Ashhurst Memorial R.S.A. Inc

74 Cambridge Avenue, Ashhurst. Ph: 326 8296

Hours (From 6th October)

 Sun/Mon:
 3.00pm—6.00pm

 Tuesday:
 3.00pm—7.00pm

 Wed/Thurs:
 2.00pm—9.00pm

 Friday:
 2.00pm—11.59pm

 Saturday:
 1.00pm—9.00pm

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Ashhurst Yoga Classes

Gentle beginner to intermediate yoga classes are on every Wednesday, during school term time, 9.15am at the Village Valley Centre.

Cost \$7.50 and bring your yoga mat.

Working to your own level, the classes are 45 minutes long and we work on building and maintaining core strength and flexibility—you don't need to have either to start yoga! Phone Vanessa, 06 359 5386, 027 243 0187, Email: vlbphotography@inspire.net.nz



Ashhurst Bowling Club

67 Stanford Street.

Season starts end of September through to mid April.

If you would like more information on lawn bowling please call or email:

Adrianne Harding 326 8972/027 283 6317 ashhurstbowlingclub@gmail.com



RECAP Update continued

Centennial Room.

Cost: Free, but koha appreciated.

RECAP August Crop Swap.

Our Crop Swap continues to grow with many people now bringing their excess produce and a host of other goodies. If you haven't popped along previously, please do. As always this is more of a sharing event so no need to give in order to take and visa versa.

When: 11.00am—1.00pm Saturday, 28th August.

Where: The Ashhurst Community

Library Cost: Free

The Seed Library continues to be stocked with seasonal seeds. It is located within the Ashhurst Community Library, and once you sign up you are free to

take three free packets per month. If you save seeds yourself, you are also able to donate them to be distributed to others. Please contact: <code>info@recap.org.nz</code> if you have seeds you would like to donate.

We are working on filling the library with Spring and Summer seeds at present, so keep checking in.

Pest Traps are still available for Ashhurst and Pohangina. These are specialty traps which are free for residents. If you would like a trap, please contact lan Rasmussen at *irassy64@gmail.com* to find out more.

To keep informed, you can follow us on Facebook—ResilienceAshhurstPohangina, Instagram—recap_ashhurst_pohangina, or visit our website—recap.org.nz.

Noho ora mai.

Chris Love—RECAP coordinator

Ashhurst Volunteer Stoat Trapping Group—12 Years

For all your automotive needs

In July, the Ashhurst Volunteer Stoat Trapping Group completed its twelfth year of predator control along the Gorge Track. During the trapping year (August 2020 to July 2021) our group recovered 153 rats, 16 stoats, 29 hedgehogs and two mice from the 109 traps. It was pleasing to see a decline in the number of predators following a spike the previous year.

The Gorge Track is in fairly good condition, apart from a few muddy patches after rain, most of which can be easily skirted around. Boardwalks have recently been upgraded near the Woodville end. On some days the native birds along the track

seem to be particularly abundant but on other days relatively few are seen or heard. In August, DOC will be commencing a renewed predator control campaign, using poison bait stations, to reduce rat and possum numbers, so it is hoped that the bird population will increase permanently. Interference to the mechanical DOC traps used by our group has not been a major problem during the past year, perhaps because traps are becoming less of a novelty as predator control becomes commonplace throughout the district.

There is a spacious new car park at the Ashhurst end of the track which is being

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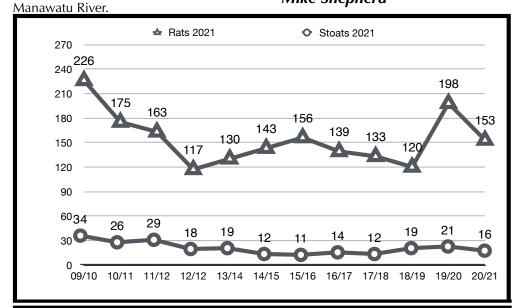


Ashhurst Volunteer Stoat Trapping Group—12 Years continued

well used by walkers and runners and also provides fascinating views of the construction of the new bridge over the

Thanks to the group for their continuing commitment.

Mike Shepherd



Book Review: My Italian Destiny

My Italian Destiny: A True Story of War, Love and Destiny-by Lynn

I found this newly published memoir by local author Lynn Kirkland to be a fascinating and very personal account of her life and that of her family.

It is divided into five parts, starting with her father's wartime experiences, then moving on to her early childhood in the United Kingdom and the family's subsequent emigration to New Zealand.

The book is interspersed with copies of Lynn's letters to her relatives in her own handwriting, many of which were never to be received by them. They are truthful and heartwarming to read.

Bound up in her actual family history is Lynn's account of retracing her father's Italian wartime steps with her own youthful O.E. accompanied by a friend. This section of her story has romance and intrigue when she catches up with the same Italian family who gave her father a home and care after he was badly injured in a torpedo attack, and afterwards spent time as a Prisoner of War. He was given shelter and became part of this family while he recovered from his injuries.

The author's acquaintance with this special family in Italy many years later is poignant, healing and life-changing for her. Giovanni is the grandson of the couple who saved the life of her father and the two become very close during her stay with them. However, destiny intervenes and we see that although her life takes a different path, this Italian connection has a bond that will never be broken.

Beautifully illustrated with old family photos and places visited and some lovely landscape shots, it is both very readable and attractive to look at.

Enjoyed this book, especially with its local connection.

Robyn Dare

Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency Update

Construction on track despite wintery conditions

The past few weeks have presented our earthworks and planting crews with some pretty challenging conditions but all work streams on Te Ahu a Turanga are running to time or ahead of schedule.

Over 434,140 cubic metres of earth has been moved since earthworks began in January—a credit to the skilled operators who are driving heavy machinery in difficult terrain, and the support teams around them. The safety of our operators is paramount and in winter this makes good planning even more important than usual.

On wet days the team has been doing StaySafe training and planning for when the good weather windows appear. Altering earthworks schedules to suit the forecast has enabled us to meet our targets while ensuring the team is safe at all times.

Our landscaping team has also had their fair share of weather and testing conditions but have reached mid-winter ahead of schedule with close to 50% of planting completed at two farm sites in

Anglican Parish of Pohangina

St Mary Magdalene's Church, Ashhurst

8.00am: 1st Sunday of the month 10.00am: **Every Sunday**

St Bartholomew's Church, Komako

2nd & 4th Sunday of the 10.00am:

month

Officiating Priests — Rev Michael Russell,

Rev Pam Barnett

Contact the Parish office for further information on phone 326 8543 or email: info@parishofpohangina.net www.parishofpohangina.net

Our services at present are held based on the COVID-19 alert levels. Please keep an eye on our notice board and/or website for current updates.

St Mary Magdalene Church—Office Hours

(subject to change at short notice):

Monday: closed Tuesday: 2.00pm—5.00pm Wednesday: 2.00pm—4.30pm Thursday: 2.00pm—5.00pm Friday: 2.00pm—5.00pm



Little Kiwis Playgroup

Little Kiwis Playgroup is currently on hold.



Ashhurst Music Club

Live original music in your back yard Our club is open to all ages and skill levels. Monthly meetings are about to start mid Febuary so keep watch on the Facebook page and in the Village Voice.

Contact kiwifieldcrew@inspire.net.nz phone Grant 027 432 7648



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Steady As You Go

Steady As You Go, exercises for all over the age of 65+years. Gentle exercises to improve your balance, strengthen muscles and help prevent falls. No equipment required. 131 Cambridge Street Ashhurst. Thursdays 11.00am—12.00noon. Inquiries to Age Concern 06 355 2832



B4 School Check

The B4 School Check is the final Well Child check. Free for all four year old children.

It includes a distance vision screening test, audiometry hearing test, height, weight, dental health and child development.

Contact Jess 351 6506 or 0800 692 445

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Stretch and Balance Ashhurst

Move it—or Lose it! Join our friendly group for a gentle, low impact exercise class, (no floor exercises) with an emphasis on fun. Optional—go for coffee afterwards.

Where: Village Valley Centre

When: Monday mornings, 9.45am

—10.45am **Cost:** \$6 per class.

Enquiries: Maria, phone 329 4166

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Ashhurst Budgeting Service

Thursday 9.30 am — 1.00 pm Operating from St Mary Magdalene Anglican Church, 67 Cambridge Street, Ashhurst. For Appointments Contact: Manawatu Home Budgeting Scripe.

Phone: 358 2279; Cell: 0800-228 343

Ashhurst Indoor Bowling Club

Weekly Club bowling starts Thursday, 18th March—30th September. We meet in the Village Valley Centre and games start 7.30pm.

Welcome to new and existing members. Come along and find out how challenging this game can be!



Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency Update continued

the wider project area.

The team also discovered a 200 year old Plagianthus tree in the western access area. Also known as Ribbonwood or Manatu, this tree will not be disrupted by the highway and will be visible to cyclists and those travelling on the shared use path once the highway is built.

Back at the site office we have had a leadership transition, with Tim Watterson handing over as Alliance Project Director to Tony Adams, who will be leading the project through construction.

The project celebrated Matariki with a week-long calendar of events to help our project whanau deepen their understanding of this special time. Matariki and the maramataka—the Maori lunar calendar—have an important role to play for Te Ahu a Turanga, bringing ancient wisdom around environmental stewardship to the project.

During Matariki, we also celebrated the completion of the Te Awa o Manawatu

Cultural Health Monitoring Framework. The Framework provides a reference point for guiding the work of the Kaitiaki team as well as the wider project, and for relating construction to Te Ao Maori in a tangible way.

The Framework was created to consider a cultural health approach to environmental management, and originated from iwi discussions during the project's consenting stage. The Framework gives us a way of looking at the world, and making decisions, through a cultural lens. At the centre is Mauri/Life force, which relates to all aspects of our environment and our people. We often talk about 'treading lightly' through the environment. The Te Awa o Manawatu Cultural Health Monitoring Framework will help us to do this, leaving our environment better than we found it.

For the latest on Te Ahu a Turanga, including the latest drone flyover, see nzta.govt.nz/projects/te-ahu-a-turanga/

Hiwinui School

What a busy term we had in Term Two and looking forward to the Term Three events ahead of us, this too is going to be full of many varied events.

While the weather for the school holidays certainly hasn't been the best, it is one where the children have had to have a compulsory rest. I am sure that the parents are eagerly looking forward to the new term beginning.

Our Student Leaders organised and ran some wonderful whole school events during the term. Both the small, and the not-so-small, certainly enjoyed the Wacky Dress Up Day. This brought out some interesting characters. The Pink Shirt Day was a Gold Coin donation and the Leaders were able to make a well-earned donation to the "Stand Up, Stand Together, Stop Bullying Fund".

As is understandable, all students look forward to hearing which House has won the most points during the term. This term, Kowhai House won and the House Leaders created a wonderful "Ninja Warriors" obstacle course for the

members of Kowhai on the last afternoon of term.

There certainly were many and varied sporting fixtures which took place and for most, the Kainui Cross Country and Rippa tournament were highlights. Our little Year 1 and 2 Rippa team certainly enjoyed the atmosphere and were extremely happy to have sausages and chips for lunch. The Year 5 and 6 and the year 7 and 8 teams were much more competitive and took the event more seriously. We appreciate the support that we receive for these occasions from the parents, without whom we would not be able to attend.

A little group of enthusiastic distance runners were trained up and competed in both the Manawatu Striders event and the Interschool's Cross Country. This was the first time we had runners placed in the top five in this event.

We welcomed "The Team from Epic Music Academy" this term and have record numbers of students learning guitar and drums with them. Our piano students are also growing in numbers and we have appreciated a parent stepping

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Hiwinui School continued

in and teaching our students while our piano tutor is on Maternity leave.

Our "Book Worms" entered in the Lit Quiz in Feilding and enjoyed their experience. As they were a young team they'll have plenty of knowledge for next year's event.

"The Nanas Club" has enjoyed working with Manawatu Peoples Radio and are looking forward to hearing their hour long show broadcast from Manawatu Peoples Radio 999am in the new term. We are grateful to Helen and Hugh for the time and support that they have given this group.

Two very fluent speakers were taken to the Manawatu District Council Submissions Hearing to voice the school's needs for the walkways to be extended down Watershed Road. We were thrilled to hear that, in fact this is still being considered and in the future it will happen. A very proud moment to have students confident enough to speak in such a formal setting.

A group of keen environmentalists spent an afternoon planting trees with Horizons. At the end they cleaned up all

the empty plant pots and made one giant flexible caterpillar. A great learning experience while supporting our local community.

After two terms of fundraising and learning, our Hiwinui Huntaway AgriKids team finally got to the Grand Finals in Christchurch. The early morning starts to this event were hard on the parents who found standing outside watching extremely cold. While the Hiwinui Huntaways weren't placed in the top three they certainly enjoyed the event and found the whole competition a step up from the local events.

The Presentation Award ceremony was held in the Christchurch Town Hall and it has been recorded that the team were the only ones to walk down the Red Carpet in their Redbands. They were clean and it was a rural event! This was a huge undertaking for the families and we appreciate their support with this.

The term ended with written reports going home and the new term will begin with three-way conferences to be held in Week Two.

Nga mihi nui

Brenda Leigh—Principal

Ashhurst Plunket

Every Monday and Tuesday. Providing family health and wellbeing; child growth and development checks.

For more information call Plunket Area Office—0800 692 445 or 06 357 4844

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Ashhurst Foodbank

Open 2.00pm — 3.00pm every Thursday. Methodist Church, Bamfield Street Ashhurst.

Contact: Zosha 027 446 7769 or Marianne 027 627 2054

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River Church

Meet in the Village Valley Centre each Sunday at 10.00am. All welcome. Contact: Pastor Doug Stewart, Phone 022 565 1213 www.riverchurch.nz

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Steady As You Go

Steady As You Go exercises at 131 Cambridge Street Ashhurst.

If you are 65+ years and would like to take part in light exercises, call in on Thursdays 11.00—12.00noon.

Contact Age Concern phone 355 2832

900

Ashhurst Genealogy

If you require assistance with Ashhurst History or Genealogy research Phone Heather Smith on 326 9989 or email whizjoy@inspire.net.nz

Ashhurst School

Kia ora koutou

What a magnificent night we had at Matariki this term. The food was great, the speakers were wonderful, and it was

wonderful to see the whole community get together and learn more about our unique culture here in New Zealand. A huge thanks has to go to Damian Mcgregor. Damian has been heavily

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Matwork Pilates Sessions

Tuesdays at 6.00pm—55 minutes. Centennial Room at the Village Valley Centre. Free first session.

Bring a mat or \$12 mats available.

"In 10 sessions you will feel the difference, in 20 you will see the difference, and in 30 you will have a new body." Joseph Pilates To register contact Narrelle 021 2673676



Loved 4 Life

Delivering quilts, meals and knitting to families with new babies in Ashhurst and

If you have had a baby in the last six months or know someone who has please contact Judith 328 7719 or 027 440 1420.



Ashhurst and District Senior Citizens Association Inc

Meet on the first Thursday of each month in the Methodist Church Hall, Bamfield Street, at 2.00pm. We invite you to come along and enjoy an afternoon of friendship and entertainment.

Contact: Terry Carr, 326 8074



Ashhurst Clay Target Club

(claybird shooting)

Meets the last Sunday of every month from 9.30 am at 651 Valley Road Anyone welcome to join us

Queries: Ken Simonsen, Phone: 329-4800



Ashhurst Red Cross

Secondhand Shop, Cambridge Avenue. Warm winter clothing now in store, new items available daily.

Donations accepted only while the shop is open.

Opening hours are:

Monday—Thursday 12.30am—2.30pm Friday 10.00am—1.00pm



Local Justices of the Peace

Mrs AK Rutherford

Available by appointment—027 404 5881

Pohangina Road RD 14—029 254 3206

Mr IC Culling

Pohangina Road—3294825

Mrs EM Thompson

Wyndham Street—326 7434

Ashhurst School continued

involved in our Maori celebrations, organising speakers, cooking the boil up, and it is hugely appreciated. This year he was supported by Pa Scott. Next year we will all look forward to celebrating Matariki on a public holiday.

I can tell by the bounce in many children's steps at the end of the term that they had a great time at the PB4L (Positive Behaviour for Learning) Rewards Day at school. Our children have had various rewards from Cloud Nine, technology time, and swimming at the pools to celebrate their hard work and great behaviour over the term. For new parents to our school, each child has a card. There are 10 clicks on the card. Students who show any of our four values (Whai Ngakau—Respect, Manawaroa— Resilience, Tu Tangata—Responsibility, and Eke Taumata—Achievement) get a click from a teacher. Each full card they complete goes into the fortnightly draw for Sterling or the bag in assembly and gets tallied for a reward at the end of the term. The more clicks children get, the higher the reward. All students' clicks are recorded on our SMS each term so that we can track each student.

Term 3, we welcome Catherine Chittenden to the teaching staff. Catherine will be teaching part-time in Rooms 10 (Fridays) and Room 12 (Thursdays) and releasing some teachers for their classroom release. Next term, we are really excited to open the 21st classroom with Mrs Julie Cranshaw opening Room 14 for our next New Entrant classroom, and Nikki Stockman will be releasing her on Fridays. As many parents are aware, we hope to welcome Mrs Pearce back at the start of the term. Michelle had popped over to Australia to visit her first newborn grandchild, and unfortunately, the border closed. A big thanks to Mrs Collins for covering in the meantime. We will also be welcoming back Mrs Kelly Jones. We were all surprised to hear that Kelly was expecting her first child, but then to hear she will be expecting her

first and second child with the news she is having twins was quite the surprise. We are glad she is now feeling much better and is ready to return to work.

This year we are really excited to extend the opportunities for our Year 7/8 students to participate in AIMS games this year in Tauranga. AIMS is the premier Intermediate school's competition. About 16 sports are available, and over 11,000 students compete. It is the largest sporting event in the southern hemisphere. Over the past few years, we have taken a netball team. This year we are taking both a netball and ripper rugby team. Information about this event is going home with children. The information will outline the costs, dates and forms to fill in for the event. If you have any questions concerning this, please feel free to come in and see me. Next term, we are looking forward to seeing our children competing in Elite sports, football, and basketball.

Some of the children may be talking at home about different teachers reading to them on a Thursday afternoon. As part of our PB4L programme, Kaz has organised all the teachers, including senior management, to read to different classrooms. Each teacher takes a picture book that has a story that relates to our school values. Some examples of this might be teasing, losing a game, not being able to share, making friends etc. The teacher then reads the book to the students, and they have a discussion on what the story was about, what value the story links to and how they might try to implement some of these strategies in the classroom or playground.

Next term, keep your eyes open for our school mini production. This year we are having a downscaled production as it clashes with camps after we missed out on camps last year. More information will follow this shortly!

Naku iti noa, na

Heath Chittenden—Principal



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A Little Ashhurst History—Exotic Animals

It was not unusual in the early days for farmers and householders of the district to bring into the region what they required in the way of livestock. Thus sheep, cattle, pigs, goats, horses, chickens and other creatures like cats and dogs etc... all came to Ashhurst and its surrounds. after the initial timber trade had moved

What did start appearing for reasons known or unknown, were introduced animals. Some are certainly pests now, and some just blend into our landscape.

A native fish that was in the Manawatu River, discovered there in at least 1842, by Albert J Allom, is the eel-like Lamprey, their breeding site thought to be in the Gorge itself. They were noted again in the 1890s, and sporadically thereafter. But other fish were soon introduced to play competition for space in the Manawatu.

By 1888, trout were making their appearance in the Manawatu River as Acclimitisation Society members liberated them. William Akers, alone, liberated about 4000 trout into tributaries of the Pohangina River in 1891. In 1888 it was also noted that hares were in great numbers on the Ashhurst flat, their numbers on a steady increase. In fact, a group of three "sportsmen", ventured into the Ashhurst district in 1888, and bagged 300 native pigeons, 11 hares, and several "braces" of ducks and pheasants.

Native birds suffered as a consequence



Photos: Kuri-Native Wild Dog

of developers and many became extinct from our region, or all of New Zealand as expansion proceeded, the Huia being one of note. In the early 1880s, bounties could be put on the heads of native birds. For instance, in Whanganui there was a bounty of one shilling a head on our native hawk. Ironically at the same time, there was a fine of five pounds per head for anyone killing hawks in the Napier region! They must have been rare by 1909 as the Manawatu Standard ran an article about hawks on Mr Akers property, with "three lusty young birds in the nest".

A weasel was described in Ashhurst in 1891, there being an exciting chase until the little beastie's life was extinguished in the hen house. At a similar time it was remarked how an Ashhurst farm once ridden in rats, had these little vermin eradicated by a very same weasel. The pros and cons of the very same critter.

In 1918, an article ran about sightings of hedgehogs in Palmerston North and Ashhurst. An avid reader then wrote in to say that while they were at the Christchurch Exhibition (1906), daughter brought back some hedgehogs from the South Island, some escaping at Ashhurst, and the rest escaping when they moved to Palmerston North...oh dear! Mrs L. Plews of Ashhurst described the humble hedge sparrow in Ashhurst in 1918 too. Obviously, though liberated in 1865, their numbers were slow to multiply, and they were only just being

> noticed by the end of WW1. They are a very common sight these days.

> A twelve pointer stag was chased through the Ashhurst Domain in 1913, the animal making its escape with a jump that was described as "being able to land it on Mars..."!

The most interesting story though, coming from the year 1900, describes the capture of a New Zealand wild dog by Mr Cornford of

Ashhurst Pohangina Squash Club

Club night is Monday, from 6.00pm. Come along and give squash a go!

All members and newcomers welcome. Courts are located at the rear of the Village Valley Centre on Guildford Street

Contact Braydon on 027 390 5611, ashpohsquashclub@inspire.net.nz, or find us on Facebook.



Ashhurst Pohangina Lions

The Ashhurst Pohangina Lions meet every second Thursday of the month at the R.S.A. Clubrooms at 6.30pm.

This established and friendly Lions Club is community oriented.

Contacts:

Jack Zwart (President) 326 8958 standishzwart@gmail.com Dennis Moore (Secretary) 357 5651 dmoore@inspire.net.nz Mike Forlong (Memberships) 329 4741 forlong@inspire.net.nz Alyn Edwards (Media) 329 4833 diawlbach@inspire.net.nz



Reiki Group Meeting Welcome to all Reiki Practitioners, of any level, from any lineage!

Meetings will be at 7.00pm on the first Sunday of every Month at the Ashhurst Library. (June being the exception, when it will be the second Sunday due to Queen's Birthday Weekend)

Contact: Tricia Kirkwood

Phone: 326 7279 or 022 184 1968 Email: 2activatehealth@gmail.com



Kids 'n Motion

Kids 'n Motion is now in its 18th year of providing music and movement for Ó-5year olds within Ashhurst and the surrounding community.

When: Every Friday 9.45am—11.15am during school terms.

Where: Village and Valley Centre, Guildford Street, Ashhurst.

Cost: Gold coin donation.

Contact: Cherie O'Leary, Ph: 326 9688 Check out our Facebook page and like us! Kids 'n Motion is such a great group to come

along too-see you there!



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Pohangina Rubbish Collection

Rubbish is collected every Monday. Bags out by 7.30am.

Taekwondo

Taekwondo / Self defence class for all levels and abilities, men and women, boys and girls. Tuesday and Wednesday nights from 5.20pm—7.00pm during term time at the Lincoln Park Ashhurst Pohangina Rugby Football Clubroom in Ashhurst. Come and see what it's all about.

Check out our Facebook page—https://www. facebook.com/ashhursttkd)



Pohangina Yoga Classes

Mondays 6.00pm—7.00pm \$10 per class or \$50 for six classes Suitable for beginners and those with more experience of yoga.

Contact Catherine: hauorayoga@gmail.com or 021 0270 4400, www.hauorayoga.co.nz Facebook: Hauora Yoga



Ashhurst Playcentre

Licensed Early Childhood Education Provider. Over 50 years in your community. Spaces now available for children 0—6 years. Call 326 9270 or email ashhurst@ playcentre.org.nz or Drop in for a free visit and a cuppa.

Tuesday and Thursday 9.00am—1.00pm. 118 Stanford Street, Ashhurst



Pohangina Local Christian Radio

3ABN Radio is now broadcasting in Pohangina Township on 107.7FM. Offering lifestyle radio with a difference! Broadcast 24 Hours 7 Days a week for the 'Best News Ever!' www.3abn.org Contact Rex 06 356 1141 for Free Bible Studies, Books and DVD's





Mobile: 0274 456 201 **Ashhurst**

A Little Ashhurst History—Exotic Animals continued

Ashhurst in the Tararua Ranges, having a coat of black and white and looking like a mixture of Collie and Fox Terrier, "the animal strongly resenting capture". Interesting, because the "Kuri"

Polynesian dog, was thought to have gone extinct by the 1860's, the dog described possibly being one of the last of its kind.

Kerry Griffiths

Ashhurst Library

Hi everyone, a huge thank-you to everyone who attended our holiday events, it was one of our busiest programmes ever. Just a note to keep an eye out for some pop-up events over the next month for both kids and adults.

Digital Help Sessions

Jocelyn has been helping with a range of IT problems. If you require assistance with any of your devices, please come down to see her.

Wednesday, 11th August 2.00—4.00pm Wednesday, 25th August 2.00—4.00pm

Village Valley Centre

The centre has had a mass of bookings for a whole range of events this yearweddings, birthdays, sports, expos etc. Can we please just put in a reminder to make sure all cleaning is done at the end of your event, including the ovens if used, thank you.

Ashhurst Jumping Jellybeans

Jumping Jellybeans is our preschool session of music, stories and crafts. We always have lots of fun at these sessions and everyone is welcome.

Thursday, 12th August 10.30am Thursday, 26th August 10.30am

Elizabeth Thompson-Justice of the

We are very lucky that Mrs. Thompson is making herself available Tuesday 1.00— 2.00pm if you require a JP. Thanks Mrs. Thompson, it is much appreciated.

Talk with Mayor Grant Smith

Tuesday, 24th August 5.00pm—6.00pm

Come for an informal chat with our Mayor Grant Smith who will be available to talk to you about any issues and concerns. Refreshments are provided and you are all most welcome.

Ashhurst Library Facebook

Just a reminder that if you want to keep up to date with all our latest news, events or announcements, just visit us at https:// www.facebook.com/AshhurstLibrary and click "Like".

Ross Meads—Ashhurst Librarian

Ashhurst Clay Target Club

With the combination of a dismal, rainy day and the last weekend of duckshooting, there were only sixteen hardy shooters (three squads) for the June shoot. The clubrooms were so quiet that you could even hear the radio on in the background! The photo shows most the June shooters gathered under shelter before competition started.

Club Top Gun: Michael Romley Club Handicap: Alan Davison

(after a shoot off with Dave Rigby and

Tony Bucknell)

Second Shoot: Paul Keeley (points score 70 out of 75)

Karen Pawson—Secretary





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Mayor Grant Smith

Kia ora tātou

Spring is just around the corner, and that should add to the general air of optimism about how the city is tracking in general.

Special thanks to Ashhurst Community Library staff for their extra input and engaging programmes during the recent school holidays.

District Plan rezoning

Responses to the rezoning proposals for Ashhurst are still flowing in following June's well-attended community meeting.

There has been continued feedback about traffic, stormwater, parks and reserves, and section size adjustment.

While I understand some residents are concerned that growth may cause Ashhurst to lose its rural village character, under central government's Policy Statement of Urban Development 2020, Council is legally obligated to release land for housing

This is the first time we have seen this level of central government intervention in our local planning processes.

Until October when the formal notification on District Plan changes will be published for public consultation, Council staff will be working on the technical aspects of those changes.

Due diligence for Ashhurst includes new stormwater hazard risk assessment, and the provision for stopbanks to withstand a one in 200-year flooding event.

At present, the stopbanks are designed for a one in 100-year flood.

Further details and preliminary response opportunities are available at pncc.govt.nz or call 06 356 8199.

Representation Review

Thanks also to those who attended last month's community meeting at the Village Valley Centre about the forthcoming representation review.

The review is to work out the whys and wherefores of the new general and Māori wards for next year's local government elections.

Residents expressed a range of views during this pre-engagement session, with further details about the process published on the pncc.govt.nz website from August 9.

There will be another representation review community consultation drop-in with council staff on Tuesday August 24 joining the monthly Meet the Mayor session.

City parking

Village residents who commute to the city centre for work and shopping are welcome to express their views on changes to city centre parking hours.

Council voted last month to pause its central city parking proposals and seek more feedback from residents, with those responses being presented in September.

However, the increase in the hourly rate for parking is not up for consultation, and has risen from \$1.50 to \$1.70 per hour.

Civic Honours

A reminder that nominations for Civic Honours are open until August 14.

These awards recognise outstanding service by individuals in their communities and neighbourhoods.

The Ashhurst Community Library has information and nomination forms, which are also available on the pncc.govt.nz website.

Happy splashy

It's been two years since the refurbished Splashhurst community pool opened.

Staff reported the second birthday celebrations on July 10, which included gold coin entry and free inflatables, were well-attended and well-received, with the pool proving its value as a Village activity centre.

A heads-up that due to a private function, the pool will be closing early at 2pm on Saturday August 14.

This month's Meet the Mayor takes place in the Ashhurst Community Library on Tuesday, August 24 between 5 – 6pm, and includes a representation review drop-in session with

council staff. Ngā mihi

Mayor Grant

Meet the Mayor

Ashhurst Community Library

06 326 8646

Open days

Monday 2pm - 5pm
Tuesday - Friday 10am - 5pm
Saturday 10am - 1pm
Sunday closed

Access the full range of library digital resources at: citylibrary.pncc.govt.nz

Splashhurst Community Pool

06 350 0849

Open Days

Tuesday - Friday during school term

6am - 9.30am

1pm - 7pm

Saturday

8am - 6pm

Sunday - Monday closed

Contact tracing at the pool and online

clmnz.co.nz/splashhurst

Ashhurst Rubbish + Recycling

Rubbish bag collection Tuesday morning. Bags out by 7.30am.

Glass Crate

10 August

24 August

7 September

Recycling Bin

3 August

17 August

31 August

Mulgrave St Transfer Station

Recycling, green waste and general rubbish disposal.

Open Days

Tuesday 1pm - 3pm Saturday 10am - 4pm



info@pncc.govt.nz / 06 356 8199 / pncc.govt.nz

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Letters to the Editor

Letters under 200 words are preferred. The writer's contact details are required on all letters (not for publication), including address, email and phone number. We may need to contact you to clarify minor details.

The editor reserves the right to edit, abridge or decline letters or articles without explanation. Pen names or letters submitted elsewhere are not acceptable.

If supplying images, high resolution images are required. Please feel free to contact the editor if you are unable to email images.

Advertising Rates & Information

Articles and community notices are free. Advertising varies from 2—3 lines to a business card advert and costs vary accordingly. Conditions apply. A 10% discount is offered if you pay in advance for ten issues. A business card size advert is to be 60mm by 100mm at 300dpi and costs \$50.

For further information on advertising costs and payments please contact Grey Smith. For technical details please contact the Editor. Contact details above.

Advertisers, we prefer that you supply files in pdf or psd format. Please note that files supplied in .pdf format are unable to be adjusted from our end. Adverts can be created by the Editor for a small additional cost. These can be adjusted as required.

Village Voice Deadline

Deadline for articles and advertising submissions for the next edition is:

5.00pm Friday, 20th August 2021.

We cannot guarantee your submission will be included after this date.

Ashhurst Indoor Bowls Club

This month has seen a very busy time for members, starting off with a trip to Blenheim for a group of seven, for the New Zealand Nationals. Most successfully qualified in at least one of the four events run over the eight days of competition. It was really good to catch up with indoor bowlers from around the country as last year's Championships had been cancelled due to COVID-19.

Jennie Veale and Etty Wells played well in the North Island Masters team although the South Island Masters team were the victors overall.

A highlight was the four person team from Ashhurst, Gloria Hall, Jennie Veale, Margaret Grant and Marion McKenzie representing Manawatu in the District Challenge and making it through to the quarter finals before losing to the Ashburton team loaded with three New Zealand players, who were the winners of the Challenge. A really good fun night with a referee who really did try to help out the "underdog" teams.

The Manawatu Centre named its top eight players to contest the Zone Final of the Paterson Trophy. Ashhurst members selected were Tim Veale, Bruce Meyer and Phil Clinch. This is a really tough weekend playing against the best from North Taranaki, Taranaki, Whanganui and King Country. North Taranaki took out the weekend with Manawatu runner-up. North Taranaki is a crack team as six of their eight players took out the top six placings with Tim a very meritorious 7th.

At Club level we have now played the Championship Pairs with Alan Cowley and Greg Veale winners, Marion McKenzie and Ewen Morrison runner-up and Joyce Williams and Etty Wells third. Alan and Greg will now go on to contest the Champion of Champions Pairs against other Manawatu Club winners. The Champion of Champion Singles has now been held with Ashhurst Club Champion Tim Veale taking out the Manawatu Centre Champion of Champions title. Congratulations Tim.

The Centre 2—4—2 Pairs was played in the Feilding Civic Centre with Gloria Hall and Joyce Williams qualifying and eventually losing to the overall winners.

The annual club visit to Takaro Star Club was held with lots of banter, finished off with prizes and a great supper.

We welcome all to join us on Thursday evenings at the Village Valley Centre. Play starts at 7.30pm.

Margaret Grant—Publicity

Ashhurst Rainfall

113mm of rain fell in June 2021, above the monthly average of 106.1mm.

Rain was recorded on 18 days with the highest one-day rainfall of 27mm on the

27th June 2021.

Total rainfall this year is 433.75mm. This is below the annual average of 509.4mm.

Margaret Pemberton

