



Ashhurst Village Voice

Informing the Ashhurst & Pohangina Communities

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June 2022

[https://parishofpohangina.net/
groups/village-voice](https://parishofpohangina.net/groups/village-voice)
Established 1997

RECAP Update

Kia ora.

An update on all things RECAP.

An important announcement from the RECAP Rescued Food Distribution:

We are moving to **winter hours** from Wednesday, 1st June. We will open at 3.15pm and close at 4.15pm.

As we now often run out of food and are not able to serve everyone, we'd like to inform you of some other places you can access free kai:

- The Ashhurst Food Bank.
Every Thursday 2.00pm—3.00pm from the Methodist Church on Bamfield Street.
- Methodist Social Services.
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 12.30pm—2.30pm. 663 Main Street, Palmerston North
- Just Zilch.
Monday to Friday, 1.00pm—2.30pm and 4.30pm—6.00pm, 248 Featherston Street, Palmerston North.
- The Salvation Army.
431 Church Street, Palmerston North. (06) 358 7455. Please call to find out their Food Bank hours.

We are working on some ways we can

potentially raise further funds for the weekly distribution, but we are already at capacity with what we can collect from Just Zilch, what the volunteers can commit to, and what we can store at the library. If you are able to make a donation of food or money to this project, please do get in touch: chris@recap.org.nz.

Winter Pruning Workshop:

Our ever popular pruning workshop has its winter session for 2022 on Saturday, 2nd July. This is a free workshop, although koha is appreciated.

Facilitated by Phil Stevens (of RECAP's Permaculture Design Workshops and Slow Farm) and Harvey Jones (RECAP chairperson), this workshop is a practical hands-on guide to the how, what and when of winter fruit tree pruning for optimum next-season fruiting. Join us for this unique opportunity to get stuck in with the loppers with guidance and support. You will need to register for this workshop: recap.org.nz

RECAP Seed Library

Our seed library is continually being refreshed with new seasonal seeds, with a focus on edibles and flowers. This is located within the Ashhurst Community Library. You can access three free packets each month, and as many of the varieties are harvested from this area they are adapted to grow well here.

Take care of yourselves and others.

Nga mihi maioha

Chris Love
RECAP
Coordinator

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Photo: Image taken at a previous pruning workshop

July Issue
Submission Deadline
5.00pm Monday, 20th
June 2022

Tetrapaks Now Recyclable

Avid almond milk drinkers and juice feigns can now tread a little lighter on the planet, thanks to the Council's new recycling service. Teaming up with SaveBOARD, the Council has introduced a new drop off point at the Ferguson Street recycling centre, where people can recycle their used food and drink cartons, or other forms of liquid paperboard.

Council's Group Manager of Resource Recovery, Bryce Hosking, says liquid paperboard is often known as 'Tetrapak' and is used for long-life milks, juice, stock and other food items found at your local supermarket.

"Residents and businesses can now drop off their used Tetrapak food and drink cartons at the Ferguson Street Recycling Centre during opening hours. This is a real milestone for Palmy as up until now, this sort of packaging has been sent to landfill."

Liquid paperboard packaging is typically made up of several different materials which are difficult to separate. For years there was no option to recycle this type of packaging within New Zealand, and so it was either sent to landfill or sent offshore. This means all recycling from Palmy continues to be recycled here in New Zealand."

Mr Hosking asks that people follow a few steps to prepare their used cartons for recycling.

"Please open and flatten each carton and make sure they're clean and dry. Then drop it off in the appropriate bin at Ferguson Street. This will ensure there is no contamination before being shipped off for processing."

Thanks to this partnership, Council will be further reducing waste to landfill and by recycling these food and drink cartons, residents will be doing their part in protecting our planet.

At this stage, liquid paperboard cartons can't go in your kerbside recycling, so these must be taken to Ferguson Street.

RECAP A.G.M.

Please save the date for the RECAP (Society for the Resilience and Engagement of the Community of Ashhurst and Pohangina) Annual General Meeting, which will be held this year on Wednesday, 8th June from 7.30pm—9.00pm at the Village Valley Centre.

We would love you to join us for supper to help us celebrate an eventful

year, and to elect our board for 2022/23. If you are interested in standing for the board, please do get in touch.

We would appreciate if you could please RSVP, and we look forward to seeing you.

Nga mihi maioha

Chris Love

Ashhurst Foodbank

Our local Food Bank, which operates from the Methodist Hall in Bamfield Street on Thursdays from 2.00pm—3.00pm, is experiencing increasing demand for its services and therefore on the supplies of food.

We are in need of such things as breakfast cereals, tea, coffee, milo, tins of spaghetti, tinned or dried vegetables, sugar, toilet paper, sandwich spreads (marmite, peanut butter, jam and honey), tins of fruit and tins of fish.

If you are able to donate anything from this list, could you please bring it to the River Church building, 131 Cambridge Avenue, either between 1.00pm—3.00pm on Mondays or 9.30am—11.30am on Wednesdays. Alternatively call me on 027 627 2054 and I will arrange to pick it up.

Our thanks go to Chris Love from RECAP Rescued Food Distribution who supports us by sharing the food she distributes, and to those of you who regularly support the Food Bank through River Church and St Mary Magdalene Anglican Church. We also appreciate those of you who call in from time to time with your excess produce and we even have the occasional anonymous cash donation!

We live in a community that truly cares for those who live here so if you are in need, please visit us. We are here to give you a hand up when you need it and to receive your donations when you are able to give.

Thank you.

Marianne Crawford

Community Christmas Dinner—Do We or Don't We?

This is a question I have been asking myself in regard to the community Christmas dinner.

The first one held last year was not exactly a great success but nor was it a complete failure.

Sure, we made some bad mistakes but we also learnt a lot, so the next one should be a great improvement.

We also know that there were a lot of people in our district who celebrated Christmas alone. This should not happen, if we are what we strive to be, that is a village, and not just another suburb of Palmy

One mistake was our advertising and

our signage for the venue. We have already had the suggestion that the event should be a ticketed event with free tickets being available from the library and R.S.A. This is subject to both venues being willing to do this.

We were greatly indebted to our sponsors you were very generous toward us, they are a vital part of the event

Finally, it is intended to hold a meeting in the R.S.A. clubrooms on Monday, 1st August at 7.00pm. Only then and by your attendance will we decide whether or not to go forward.

Thank you.

Don Barrett—Organiser

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Thursday 8.30am - 5.00pm Saturday 9.00am - 12 noon

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Community Meals

Following a successful first Community Dinner on Monday, 16th May, I am pleased to say that the team will be running monthly dinners until November 2022.

The dates will be:

13th June,
11th July,
15th August,
12th September,
10th October and
14th November.

The venue is the River Church building, 131 Cambridge Avenue and the doors open at 5.30pm. The evening finishes by 8.00pm. The meal is free of charge, however if you are able to give a donation, it would be much appreciated—but is not a condition of attendance.

The aim of these meals is to take an ingredient that is routinely seen at the Food Bank and add other food, (donated by community members specifically for the meal), to create tasty examples of use.

People who use the Food Bank are invited, along with anyone else from the Ashhurst community who would like to come. By sharing a meal together we hope to help people get to know each other better, increase their sense

of belonging and give people ideas for healthy eating that may be different to their usual diet.

We will also hold our first Community Lunch on Wednesday, 1st June, at the same venue and on the following dates after that:

29th June,
27th July,
31st August,
28th September,
26th October and
30th November.

Doors open at 11.30am and the event finishes at 2.00pm. The meal is free of charge but, if you are able to give a donation, it would be much appreciated—but is not a condition of attendance.

The aim of these meals is to provide nutritious food at midday for those who prefer not to go out at night, help people to get to know each other better and to increase their sense of belonging in the community. All the food for these meals is donated by members of the Ashhurst community.

If this is something that interests you and you would like to share a recipe, donate food, be part of the team on the day or be invited to a meal, please contact Marianne on 027 627 2054.

Marianne Crawford

Community Comment

As topics fall out of the news cycle, we tend to forget about them unless directly affected. So, find some catch up below on recent stories.

The resources consent application for a pet crematorium at the rear of Tolly Farms, as lodged by Soul Friends Pet Cremation, was approved by Palmerston North City Council in November 2021. A formal appeal by a nearby neighbour, made on technical grounds, was rejected by Environment Court Judge Brian Dwyer in March this year. The service, which currently handles 800 pet cremations each month, needs to move from its current site near Massey, when its lease

expires later this year. It is now clear to proceed.

As anyone undertaking DIY work will know, a lack of building materials is slowing down progress on many projects. This has delayed the refit of the house to be used for the new Health Clinic in Cambridge Avenue and has moved the proposed opening date to at least July if everything goes to plan. This practice will operate under the wing of the Feilding Health Care and is expected to be open five days a week.

Submissions on annual plans for our City Council and Horizons have come and gone. Councils are yet to make their final decisions on rates increases and how they will be distributed

JustOne Please

Kia ora, amazing people in my community. Thank you for the generous donations for the Safe House last month.

The item for July is Spreads. Any type, Marmite, Peanut Butter, Jam etc.

You can drop these off at the Ashhurst Library. Contact Louise Bowe on 020 410 86128 for more information.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!



Calling all residents...

We're on a mission to make our area one of the safest, best prepared and friendliest in New Zealand! Whether you're a new or long-time resident, Palmerston North Neighbourhood Support is here to help you:

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



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For girls aged 5—12 ½. Meets Wednesdays 5.30pm—7.00pm, in the St Magdalene's Church Hall, Cambridge Avenue. Contact Caroline Ray on 06 355 1993 or 0276987653. Email carojray@gmail.com



Ashhurst Memorial R.S.A. Inc

74 Cambridge Avenue, Ashhurst. Ph: 326 8296

Summer Hours

Sunday:	3.00pm—6.00pm
Monday	3.00pm—6.00pm
Tuesday:	3.00pm—6.00pm
Wednesday	3.00pm—9.00pm
Thursday:	2.00pm—7.30pm
Friday:	2.00pm—11.59
Saturday:	2.00pm—9.00pm



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



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:

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



Community Comment *continued*

between residential and commercial landowners. Many of the submissions were particularly concerned for those on fixed incomes such as pensioners, for which a rates increase of over 10% will be particularly difficult in these times of high inflation. Big increases in property valuations in Ashhurst have resulted in proportionally higher rates increases here. Larger sections incur even bigger valuation increases due to the perception they can be subdivided for multiple properties (and rates). Ratepayers on low incomes may wish to apply for assistance

Ashhurst Memorial R.S.A.

Another month has passed and it is time to put pen to paper.

The duck shooting season has opened and many ducks were weighed in at the annual R.S.A. contest although some reports suggest that the ducks were flying at about the same altitude as Air New Zealand aircraft.

The winners were:

Heaviest Duck

1st	Willie Akers,
2nd	Miles Hughes,
3rd	Wayne Southee,

Heaviest Hen,

1st	Gary Southee.
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Our thanks go to Wayne Southee and Tim Hall for the organisation and weighing, and Mike Hale for looking after the rumbling tums in the afternoon.

under the rates rebates scheme.

The local body election cycle will soon be upon us, and election signs will appear on fences near you. Contenders will be considering their options, getting their billboards printed and developing their campaign strategies. Nominations open from 15th July—12th August and postal voting concludes 6th October. Details about information sessions for candidates are likely to appear soon if you are interested in serving as a representative on one of the local Councils.

Harvey Jones

Bingo is now run weekly by Karena and the numbers attending are increasing as are the prizes. Come along to the R.S.A. every Tuesday, 7.00pm for some fun.

We have commissioned a building report which is some 90 pages long and very comprehensive and lists all the work that needs to be done. Most of it is relatively minor, but experience tells us that minor work will become major work if not attended to reasonably quickly.

We have brought two new members on to the committee until the A.G.M., namely Murray Mills and Peter Knight, both who are well known in the R.S.A. and the community in general. We welcome them.

The long-awaited A.G.M. is getting closer, the last set of accounts [2021] will be with the auditors within the next few days [if not already there] they have a timeframe of six—eight weeks to complete their work,



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then sufficient advertised notice has to be given prior to the meeting.

Our two new gaming machines should be installed within the next few weeks, now the red tape and fine print has been satisfied. These are refurbished machines and are replacing the two machines that suffered severe electrical damage and

were beyond repair.

Friday night darts are in full swing 7.00pm start. Cost is \$2 entry.

Remember we are open seven days a week, membership is open to anyone, including youth membership, inquire at the bar, you will be made to feel welcome.

Don Barrett—Vice-President

The Southern Ruahine Kiwi Habitat Restoration Project

The Southern Ruahine Kiwi Habitat Restoration Project is managed by Environment Network Manawatu via a collaboration between Manawatu River Source to Sea and Te Kauru Eastern Manawatu River Hapu Collective. The project is funded by The Department of Conservation Jobs for Nature initiative and aims to control predator pests in 13,000 ha of the Southern Ruahine Ranges, with the dream of returning Kiwi to the area by 2026. The project is delivered in

alignment with neighbouring predator control projects in the area, presenting a fantastic opportunity to return a taonga species to a significant proportion of the Ruahine Ranges.

Advantage was taken of the good weather over the last couple of months to groundtruth and increase the quantity of traps in the Ruahine Ranges. The project is logging traps, traplines and kills on the Trap New Zealand website (www.trap.nz). 1049 traps have currently been set and are being monitored and repositioned to ensure that they are at their most effective. The project uses a combination of Department of Conservation 150 double traps, AT220s and Goodnature A24's.

The project is grateful to be supported by The Egg Project who have a scheme where you can donate eggs via their website for our traps. We use hundreds of eggs a month which comes at a considerable expense and are thrilled by the public response to this. You can find out more at www.theeggproject.co.nz.

Find out more about the project by checking out the @ruahinekiwi Facebook and Instagram pages. Any queries can be sent to comms@enm.org.nz.

Helen King



Photo: Nina and Traps

The Praying Mantis

Do you know how many species of Praying Mantis we have in New Zealand? The answer is two.

Probably many of us will be familiar with our native species, which has the name *Orthodera novaezealandiae*.



Photo: Left—*Orthodera novaezealandiae*; Right—*Miomantis caffra*.

In fact, prior to 1978, it was the only species present in New Zealand. Regrettably, around that time, another species arrived here from South Africa and has found our country to its liking.

The South African Mantis, known as *Miomantis caffra*, tends to be larger



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
10.00am: 2nd & 4th Sunday of the 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 so keep watch on the Facebook page and in the Village Voice.

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



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Strength 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: \$8 per class.

Enquiries: Maria, phone 329 4166



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 Service.

Phone: 358 2279; Cell: 0800-228 343



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 Yoga Classes

Gentle beginner to intermediate yoga classes are on every Wednesday during school term time, 9.15am—10.00am at the Village Valley Centre.

Cost is \$8.50 and bring your yoga mat.

Working to your own level we focus on mindfulness, building and maintaining strength and flexibility—you don't need to have either to start yoga!

Introducing a new class on the first Wednesday of every month—Chair Yoga, suitable for all levels, especially those with limited lower body mobility or balance, a perfect opportunity to start yoga!

Phone or Text Vanessa: 027 243 0187 or email vlbphotography@inspire.net.nz, or visit www.vlbphotography.co.nz.



The Praying Mantis *continued*

than the native species, especially the female. Her egg-laden abdomen can appear grotesquely inflated before she lays down her egg-case. The egg-case itself is somewhat larger, and more untidy looking, than that of the native mantis.

Whereas our native mantis is always bright green, the South African species is more variable in colour, though usually brown or green. Probably the easiest way to tell them apart is by the width of the thorax, the long collar between the abdomen and the head. The native mantis has a wide flat thorax whereas, in the introduced species, the thorax is much thinner than the head and abdomen (see photos).

Another difference between the species is that the native mantis has a

distinctive blue patch on the inside of both front legs. The South African mantis has only a few black spots on the inside of the forelegs.

The South African Mantis was first found in Auckland but now seems to have spread throughout the country. That means both species can be found in Ashhurst, as well as the wider Manawatu. The successful establishment of the introduced mantis is bad news for our native mantis because it competes with it for food and habitat. And worse, the male New Zealand Mantis seems to be attracted to the female South African Mantis which then often eats the male. As a result of these factors, it appears that the new arrival is slowly but surely replacing the native mantis in our gardens and forests.

Grey Smith

County Fayre Update

February to April were very quiet months for County Fayre due to the increased COVID-19 infections being seen in our region along with reduced volunteer numbers as a result of this increase. Mid-February, a decision was taken to cancel our March meeting and close the doors of County Fayre until the worst had passed. However, during that period we welcomed into County Fayre groups from Palmerston North and Heretaunga, as a place for them to gather and have a jolly good time. Our delicious Devonshire Teas/Coffees nourished their stomachs as they laughed and joked with one another. Some were also provided with a presentation and cheese tasting by Jill Walcroft from Cartwheel Creamery and a light finger food luncheon was provided to another. It was wonderful to have these groups visit and is great to have them visiting our many local attractions, I look forward to seeing more of this happen in the future. If you belong to a group or are looking for a venue to hold a gathering, whether this be during the week or in the weekend, please make contact at

countyfayre@inspire.net.nz and let's see what we could do for you.

The sun came out and we reopened on Sunday, 1st May 2022, where visitors had the opportunity to view and purchase artwork from our newest exhibitor, Suzzane Chelius and meet Fiona McMorran, author of "Grape Expectations" her book based on the establishment of Pohangina Valley Estate.

We are always looking for new people to join us. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer to help at County Fayre, one afternoon once a month, email us at countyfayre@inspire.net.nz and let us know or drop in on a Sunday and chat with the volunteers.

Several upgrades to County Fayre took place over the past year and we have not finished. Future plans include replanting the front garden; installing a Skylight window to replace the plastic corrugated roofing, currently keeping most of the elements out; installing heat pumps, with the support of the Central Energy Trust, to keep us warm and dry over the cold winter months and finally an entire upgrade to the Kitchen.



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County Fayre Update *continued*

We are open Sunday's and have introduced winter hours, these are from 1.00pm—4.00pm. You can contact us at countyfayre@inspire.net.nz and check

out our facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/CountyFayre>."

Keep well and keep safe everyone and we look forward to seeing you at County Fayre.

Joanne Morris-Kynoch—President

Book Review: *The Bookseller at the End of the World*—Ruth Shaw

This newly published memoir is the amazing story of Ruth—who she was, who she became, and how she came to own two tiny, colourful bookshops in the remote little village of Manapouri in Fiordland.

And what a story—it's a vivid and emotional telling of a life lived to the full (and beyond), both reckless, exciting, puzzling and all true! There is nothing remotely mundane or ordinary about Ruth and her very rich life, at least until recent times, when she and her husband Lance finally found each other again and settled on a life in little Manapouri.

We learn of her very sad experience as a teenager, which seemingly led to her restless and unhappy early years. This traumatic event, we can see as readers, brought about many wrong choices and uncertainties but certainly wild adventures.

She sailed the Pacific for years, sometimes as a young woman alone, other times part of a crew. There were clashes with pirates and many other dangerous incidents. Many years were spent in Papua New Guinea working as a cook and running a restaurant, and some in Sydney's Kings Cross working with drug addicts and

prostitutes in a collective environment. There was also a very short stint as an escort.

Many were the broken relationships, jiltings (hers) along the way, she often mentions the feeling of not being worthy of happiness. Her parents were often afraid for her safety, and she often deliberately cut contact with family and friends while on her overseas adventures.

One incident while in Tahiti stands out when, after being arrested for illegal card games and gambling (having no money left), the local Gendarme phoned her father in New Zealand. When asked if he would pay for her airfare back to New Zealand he replied "No, she can look after herself!". "That's right—I can" she replied.

A much more settled life awaited her in New Zealand in later years, not least when she finally meets her son, adopted out as a baby, as so many were in those early days, as a young man to be proud of and learns of his happy upbringing with great parents.

Ruth reunited with her first love, Lance, and it seems like this true story does finally have a happy ending.

Robyn Dare

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



Ashhurst Foodbank

Open 2.00pm — 3.00pm every Thursday. Methodist Church, Bamfield Street, Ashhurst. Contact: Zosha 027 446 7769 or Marianne 027 627 2054



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



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 10.00am—11.00am.

Contact Age Concern phone 355 2832



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!



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027 557 8809

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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



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.
Lots of summer clothing in store, come on in to find a bargain.
We're open when the flags are out with core hours...
Monday—Thursday 12.30am—2.30pm
Friday 10.00am—1.00pm



Local Justices of the Peace

Mrs AK Rutherford
Available by appointment—027 404 8551

Mr F Saua
Pohangina Road RD 14—029 254 3206

Mr JC Culling
Pohangina Road—3294825

Amlaku's Ethiopian Update

Since my last article back in February, things have moved on significantly. With all the stolen machinery, including the grain mill, replaced, life for the people of Baretgota is, relatively speaking, back to normal, even if it's a bit of a new normal. They were able to plant cash crops of vegetables late in February and are harvesting and selling these now in order to clear their fields for the main cereal crops which are due for planting at the end of May. Our appeal for funds for seed and fertiliser almost reached its target, thanks to the generosity of some very committed supporters.

There is still no electricity in Lalibela, although construction of a new power line from the south has started. This will take until well into next year to be completed, so until then people like Amlaku rely on generators to power things up.

He is busy manufacturing his soap and detergent materials, while the Days for Girls sanitary kits are also being made again. Sales come and go, because of the economic chaos caused by the civil war, but at least his soap and detergents materials need replacing every few weeks, thus ensuring a continuing market.

Some incredibly exciting things have happened from our end this year in terms of the project. I have been looking to find a way to bring

the project to a conclusion because of my advancing years, and also because, apart from the civil war, we had pretty well accomplished all we had dreamed of.

Now a way forward for Bricks for Life is emerging, and I would invite you to a Special General Meeting to be held on Saturday, 18th June at 2.00pm in St Mary's Magdalene's Anglican Church Hall, Cambridge Avenue to hear about this.

Afternoon tea will be provided, but we would appreciate people bringing a plate to help with that.

So, do join us, to find out about:

- Two boys getting a home of their own in Addis.
- Amlaku getting a vehicle for his soap business.
- An exciting future for the project, widening the agricultural work out into neighbouring villages.

Ric Foxley



Photo: Amlaku and Ric, Gisbourne 2017

Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency Update

Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatu Tararua Highway reached a significant milestone in May, hitting the 3 million cubic metre mark for earthworks moved across the site.

This is about half of the project's total earthworks volume, and is a fantastic achievement by the team, especially considering the challenges posed by COVID-19 and inclement weather in recent months.

As is usual for major projects, the earthworks activity will slow down over the wetter months. However, the teams will continue to move earth whenever possible following Horizons Regional Council's approval of our latest winter works consent.

While the drier, summer months are ideal conditions for earthmoving, the opposite is true when it comes to planting. This is

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Ashhurst Medicine Depot

Hours

Monday—Friday: 7.00am—8.00pm

Saturday: 7.30am—8.00pm

Sunday: 8.00am—8.00pm

Public Holidays: 8.00am—8.00pm

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Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency Update *continued*

because the rain loosens the earth, making it easier to get plants in the ground, while also providing a better environment for them to grow.

About 250,000 locally sourced riparian and wetland natives were planted in the 2021 season and more than 570,000 are expected to be planted in the second season, which began in May.

As part of the project's ecological offset programme, nearly 2 million plants will be planted along the highway and at five offset sites throughout the region across the duration of the project.

The accessibility of many these sites is limited so our planting teams often have to make their way to them on foot. The timing of the season also means they are often working in challenging weather conditions, so we are extremely lucky to have a team who are incredibly dedicated and passionate about what they do.

Planting will also be taking place on Parahaki Island, under the guidance of the Parahaki Island Trust, including Trustees

Rob Karaitiana and Jean Te Huia. Along the highway, the planting and landscaping teams are preparing for permanent grassing on completed earthworks sections while also placing landscape mulch on permanent planting areas.

The second planting season is expected to end in October 2022.

In other news for the project, the Te Ahu a Turanga Alliance has been nominated as a finalist in the Safeguard New Zealand Workplace Health and Safety Awards in the Safety-II category. This is a wonderful recognition of our ongoing efforts to ensure everyone in the Alliance whanau is actively thinking about their own safety and the safety of their work whanau.

The winners will be announced in Auckland on 21st June.

For more information about Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatu Tararua Highway, including the latest flyover footage, please head to: <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/te-ahu-a-turanga/>

Grant Kauri

called, 'Ashhurst School'. Purchase your bathroom or plumbing requirements from Chesters, tell them you are from Ashhurst School, and we will receive a cashback bonus. Chesters can help with any plumbing, drainage, gas, kitchen, laundry, or bathroom requirements. Pop in and see Brett, and he will help you out.

Our school canopy has begun. At the moment, you will see the structure being erected in the court area. This is a massive structure and will be such a tremendous asset for the school pupils. As I mentioned last year, the board have also decided to gate this facility off, so it will no longer be able to be accessed by the community. We have suffered damage to the court with chewing gum, skid marks, etc. We will have to resurface this area for around \$18,000. We are also experiencing students and youths who are entering school grounds during out of school hours. We have had some graffiti, people on roofs and shade sails etc. I am concerned about the

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, ashpoh-squashclub@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 20th year of providing music and movement for 0-5-year 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!

Ashhurst School

Kia ora e te whanau

Welcome back to Term Two, 2022. It is great to have everyone back on deck for the start of the term. Last term, we overcame several challenges, and again a huge thanks to our school community for coming together and working through these COVID-19 times. It was alarming to see the statistics for students attending school in New Zealand.

At the end of Term 1 we were very fortunate to have jackets provided to our school community. A big thanks to Havelock Intermediate and New Zealand Uniforms for this fantastic opportunity and these jackets were all received by students with appreciation.

We have a new, exciting sponsorship opportunity for the school. Chesters Plumbing has come on board and has set up a rewards programme for the school. The school now has a trade account



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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/ashhurstkd/>



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



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Ashhurst School *continued*

number of children on the school grounds outside of school hours unsupervised and the danger some of these children are putting themselves in. Please ensure that if children are on school grounds, they are appropriately supervised.

Congratulations to Pa Andre, who is heading off with the Classic All Black side to play against the Spain international rugby team in Madrid. It is a real honour

Ashhurst Library

Hi everyone, we are getting ready for our first full holiday programme in some time in July. We may possibly need some support for some of our events, please keep an eye out on our Facebook page and if you are willing and available, we would love to hear from you.

Preschool Programmes

We have had many enquiries about when our preschool programmes can start up again and we were hoping to see a return in June. As of writing, we have had no word on whether these can recommence. As soon as we can, we will, just look to our Facebook page.

Matariki Celebration

Matariki is the Maori name for the cluster of stars also known as the Pleiades. It rises in midwinter and for many Maori it heralds the start of a new year. Traditionally, Matariki was a time to acknowledge the dead and to release their spirits to become stars. A time to reflect, to be thankful to the gods for the harvest, to feast and to share the bounty of the harvest with family and friends. Here at the library, we would like to invite you to come and join us for homemade vegetable soup and bread and good company between 12.00pm—5.00pm on Thursday, 23rd June. We look forward to seeing you here.

The Ashhurst Village Valley Centre

The Village Valley Centre now has a new roof, can we say a big thank you to Lance Berry Roofing for completing the job and thank you to the Palmerston North City Council for bringing this project forward by some years.

to be selected for this side, and he will be playing with several former All Blacks and New Zealand Maori legends. Good luck, Andre!

Congratulations to our ePro 8 teams who competed at the event at Whakarongo recently. This was a great night and our Year 5/6 and 7/8 teams competed very well. A big thank to Mr Lowry and Miss Herbert for all of their hard work.

Heath Chittenden—Principal

Digital Help

We have been arranging some digital help sessions, for people who need IT assistance, with Jocelyn. If you would like some help with any of your devices, please let us know and we can book you in. The sessions will be occurring fortnightly on Thursday afternoon. Please check the Facebook page for upcoming sessions.

Manawatu Home Budgeting Service

We are thrilled to be in partnership with Manawatu Home Budgeting Service who are conducting budget sessions in our library on Thursday. If you would like to talk to their wonderful staff or need some excellent budgetary advice and guidance, please let us know.

Talk with Mayor Grant Smith

Thursday, 29th June 5.00pm—6.00pm

Come in 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, you are all most welcome.

The Library Gardens

We are always looking for volunteers to keep our gardens looking as good as they do, thanks to all those who have worked away at them, it is much appreciated. If you would like to help out at any time, please just let us know.

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 Mead—Ashhurst Librarian

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GLIMPSE

Mayor Grant Smith

Kia ora tātou

A big thank you to Village residents who made submissions on Palmerston North City Council's annual budget.

We received huge written feedback on our spending proposals, and 340 people chose to speak to their submissions over nine sessions held last month.

With an awareness that across-the-board rising costs are impacting household budgets, Councillors are considering these responses with all care and diligence as we look to set rates for the 2022-23 financial year by the end of this month.

Caring community

Thanks also to the RECAP volunteers for their weekly food distribution efforts, which along with the seed library, community garden and sharing shelf, are based out of the Ashhurst Library garden.

I understand the demand for the pre-packed food parcels has been heavy, and RECAP members are now seeking sponsorships from businesses to meet the growing need, while asking for further donations of food, produce and household items.

If you can help, get in touch with Chris, who is the RECAP distribution coordinator at chris@recap.org.nz.

I also commend members of Ashhurst's River Church for their regular free and well-subscribed community meals.

Te Āpiti Masterplan

Last month the Te Āpiti Governance Group released its masterplan for Te Āpiti Manawatū Gorge.

Based around cultural, environmental, recreational, educational and leadership values, the masterplan provides a policy framework for proposals and projects to be delivered over time.

As well as the potential use of the old Gorge highway that was permanently closed in 2017, it includes enhancement of existing walking and riding trails, while adding new tracks and bridges.

The exciting proposals include a 200-metre long 'skybridge' across the Manawatū River and possible UNESCO Geopark status.

It will lead to Ashhurst becoming a bustling destination hub for trail walkers, runners and bike riders.

Te Āpiti book

It's timely then to remind residents about Michele Frey's book Te Āpiti Manawatū

Gorge, published by Te Āpiti Governance Group. That Covid prevented us from formally launching the book in Ashhurst was unfortunate, but copies are available from the Community Library, with a hard cover RRP of \$59.99 and \$39.99 for soft cover.

Te Ahu a Tūranga

Last month saw a major milestone on the Te Ahu a Tūranga Manawatū Tararua Highway. Since it began in January 2021, some three million cubic metres of soil, half the six million cubic metres total, has been shifted.

The \$650 million project, due to open by the end of 2024, is now roughly one-third the way into its construction.

There has been a delay, however, in bringing the Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency drive-thru simulation of the completed highway to the Ashhurst Community Library, but that shouldn't be too far away now.

Village Valley Centre

The Village Valley Centre reroofing project has been completed and the refurbished facility is open for bookings.

For the Cambridge Ave medical centre, material and construction hold-ups have pushed the opening date back to August.

Meet the Mayor

This month's Meet the Mayor is on Wednesday 29 June, 5pm-6pm, in the Ashhurst Community Library.

Keep an eye on the Council website and Facebook page for possible changes and further information.

Council can be contacted 24/7 on 06 356 8199, via the Council Facebook page, and by using the Snap Send Solve app to report anything that needs attention or fixing.

Kia kaha

Mayor Grant Smith JP



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

Normal hours

Tuesday - Friday	6am - 9.30am + 1pm - 7pm during school term.
6am - 7pm during school holidays	
Saturday	8am - 6pm
Sunday - Monday	closed

Online: clmnz.co.nz/splashhurst

ASHHURST RUBBISH + RECYCLING

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

Recycling Bin	Glass Crate
21 June	14 June
5 July	28 June
	12 July

MULGRAVE ST TRANSFER STATION

Recycling, green waste and general rubbish disposal.

Open Days

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



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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. Adverts can vary from a few lines in the side column to a double business card size. Conditions apply. A 15% discount is offered if you pay in advance for a full year (11 issues). A business card size advert is to be 60mm by 100mm at 300dpi and costs \$50. The costs varies proportionally for smaller and larger sized adverts.

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 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 Monday, 20th April 2022.** We cannot guarantee your submission will be included after this date.

Ashhurst Clay Target Club

What a great turnout we had at our annual duck shooters shoot at the end of April with nearly 130 shooters.

Congratulations to Alistair Burr and Rob Evans who were our top shooters with an impressive score of 89! And, of course,

well done to our local Brad Turner who was our club's top scorer with 86. Don't forget the annual rivalry between Ashhurst and Feilding Clubs which was taken out by Ashhurst!

A big thanks to absolutely everyone who helped make this such a successful day.

Karen Pawson—Secretary



Photo—Top: Chris Mooyman, Alan Davison, Alex Hall (committee members); Bottom: Participants.

Ashhurst Rainfall

21.5mm of rain fell in April, below the monthly average of 80.2mm.

Rain was recorded on three days with the highest one day rainfall of 11mm on the 6th

April, 2022.

Total rain fall so far this year is 331.6mm. This is above the average for this period of 294.4mm.

Quang Mai

