



Ashhurst Village Voice¹

Informing the Ashhurst & Pohangina Communities

ISSN 2324-5468 (Print)
ISSN 2324-5476 (Online)

March 2022

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

Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency Update

Fishing for tuna, bullies and crayfish may not be the first thing that springs to mind when you think about the Ruahine Ranges, but the maunga is home to a variety of fish that live in the streams and ponds that flow down to the Manawatu River.

Recently, Te Ahu a Turanga Project Ecologist David Pickett organised a 'Fishing Master Class' for the ecology and Kaitiaki team, to provide an opportunity for everyone involved in defishing on the project to learn from each other.

"We used fyke nets (compartmentalised nets that separate fish by size) and went over how to fish a stream to save and relocate the fishlife, and spent a day fishing for tuna (eels) at catchment four in Cook Road," David says.

"It's a soft-bottomed stream that flows through a native QEII area and flows to a wetland and pond, then out to the Manawatu River. It's one of the higher value stream systems in the project area and has a good flow that can support big fish."

David worked with the Kaitiaki team to coordinate efforts between ecologists and Kaitiaki to learn from western and Maori

perspectives, taking the best parts of both traditions.

Poutiaki Taiao, Kaitiaki Coordinator, Terry Hapi says: "It's that sharing of Matauranga, sharing of knowledge, and seeing this put into practice. Having our senior Kaitiaki waist-deep in water, mucking out streams and ponds—being in a position to lead that work with ancient methodologies—is a great sight to see. From a Kaitiaki point of view, what we are enjoying is the sharing of that knowledge that deepens everyone's understanding of why we do things the way we do."

There are three streams in the Te Ahu a Turanga project area with significant native fish populations: the Mangamanaia, the Mangakino (tributary to Pohangina) and an un-named stream in Zone 3. Before construction can start in an area with a stream or pond, the area needs to be defished to ensure there is no fishlife before the earthworks machines move in.

David explains the process: "Using traditional defishing methodology, pools are dug and a ti koura—a bundle of Manuka and foliage—is placed into the water. The fish come and eat the bugs in the vegetation and hide underneath it, and are

caught with nets. Once you get to a low enough catch rate you move the methodology to muck-out.

"The fish that are salvaged are relocated downstream to similar habitat types to where they were moved from. The species we are seeing the most are longfin tuna (eel), shortfin

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**April Issue
Submission Deadline
5.00pm Sunday, 20th
March 2022**



Letter from the Editor

Welcome to the March issue of the VillageVoice. I hope you enjoy this issue. I have heard some feedback about our publication and it is nice to hear that it is appreciated in our community.

As we are reliant on the community for our content—this is a publication that is by the community and for the community—I would like to encourage groups within our area to feel free to submit articles that let people know what is going on in our community.

It can be easy to just think about communicating online, but there are those in the community who are not on social media for various reasons. Technology has its advantages, but also disadvantages.

The deadline for submissions is found on both the front page (lower right hand corner) and the back page (left hand column). You can email submissions to ashhurst.voice@gmail.com.

I do my best to include all content provided. If something is not suitable, I will let you know—but this rarely happens. I have noted that in the last few months some have said that they made submissions that were not successful. On looking back, I did not receive them. I am not sure why. However, please doublecheck the spelling of the address when you send things in.

With the spread of the Omicron variant, it is likely that we will see cases of COVID-19 in the community shortly. Be kind to one another. Remember, if you do need assistance, please ask. Chris has supplied information regarding this in the RECAP Update.

All the best until next month.

Llyvonne Barber—Editor

Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency Update *continued*

tuna, common bullies, upland bullies, and koura (crayfish) in certain catchments.

"The fish are put in a bucket with an oxygenator before being relocated downstream. Eels don't mind living in mud but they'll come out to get oxygen. With a muck-out, a digger operator works under the instruction of an overseer who guides the driver to slowly create catch pools. They take little scoops and spread it out on the side of the stream, where the mud is carefully sifted through by ecologists and Kaitiaki. A recent muck-out saw the successful relocation of 16 eels and 62 koura in the last remaining pools.

"Often, to make sure we've got the very last one, we'll drive away and get a cup of tea, and when we get back a few more have appeared. The goal is to safely relocate every last fish."

'Treading lightly' through the environment is one of the guiding principles of the Te Ahu a Turanga project, and it's great to see the sharing of knowledge across academic disciplines and cultural traditions being part of that.

To view progress on the project, check out the latest flyover at nzta.govt.nz/projects/te-ahu-a-turanga/

Ashhurst Pohangina Junior Rugby

Ashhurst-Pohangina Junior Rugby Football Club are on the hunt for some superstars to join our family friendly rugby club for the 2022 season! You don't need experience just a willingness to have fun, learn new skills, and make new friends (parents too!).

We are seeking players for all grades from Under 6's and 7's Ripper through to Under 8's first year tackle right up to Under 13 grades.

If this sounds like you then head down to

our second Registration Day on the 25th March 4.30pm—6.30pm at the Clubrooms, 2 Lincoln Street Ashhurst. Here you can ask our committee any questions, see what we are all about and register your player.

Online registrations are also available at www.sporty.co.nz/aprfcjr You can also follow us on Facebook! Any questions contact Melissa Lindop Club Convenor at ashhurstjuniorrugby@gmail.com.

A.G.M. Women's Section—Ashhurst Memorial R.S.A. Inc.

The Annual General Meeting for the Women's Section of the Ashhurst Memorial R.S.A. is to be held on Monday, 11th April 2022, at 6.00pm at the R.S.A. clubrooms,

74 Cambridge Avenue, Ashhurst.

**Lorraine Hale—Secretary,
Women's Section Ashhurst R.S.A.**

Just What the Doctor Ordered

The Ashhurst community has been without a resident Doctor for 15 years.

"Having access to a Doctor based at Ashhurst has been sorely missed," says Richard Tankersley, Chairman of the Ashhurst Community Trust.

Richard, along with the pro-active people of the Ashhurst Community Trust, wanted to re-establish local medical services.

"We embarked on this project a few years ago. We began meetings with various providers that included the District Health Board and Primary Health Organisations. We

also talked to the people at Feilding Health Care about their facility that opened in 2016. When we approached Feilding Health Care to learn more, we were very impressed with their incredible support and willingness to share experience and knowledge about their new facility."

Feilding Health Care is an integrated primary health care service for Feilding and districts that offers General Practice services, pharmacy, radiology and District Health Board Services for the community. It is a workplace that promotes a culture of communication and sharing of skills and knowledge.

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Tuesday 8.30am - 5.00pm

Thursday 8.30am - 5.00pm

Saturday 9.00am - 12 noon

Wednesday & Friday evenings by appointment

141 Cambridge Avenue

Just What the Doctor Ordered *continued*

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"We believed that Feilding Health Care would be a great fit for our community, the ethos of the committed practitioners along with the care and attention of every individual welcomed into the facility was just what we were looking for," says Richard. "Unfortunately, two years ago, it was just not the right time."

Fast forward two years and Feilding Health Care reached out to Ashhurst Community Trust to revisit the opportunity that they would be able to provide healthcare.

Ashhurst Health Care is aiming to open in April 2022.

Nicky Hart, Chief Executive Officer of Feilding Health Care says, "It will be the first stage of a vision for a larger family health centre for Ashhurst in the next three—five years. It will be owned and run by Feilding Health Care Partners to meet the needs of the Ashhurst and Pohangina Communities. It will have its own dedicated team of Doctors, Nurses and administration team."

Richard and the Ashhurst Community Trust are developing the centre for us. They have a great vision for Ashhurst to take their community well into the future. We feel excited to be part of that."

Richard is delighted that the Ashhurst Community Trust has secured premises to adapt for a medical centre, including four clinic rooms.

"The fit was right and the timing was right. The need for local health care in our great community is rapidly growing for all age groups. The premises are situated in the heart of the Ashhurst Central Business District. We envisage that the facility will be available five days a week for health care services, including General Practice, Nursing and other wellbeing support".

If you would like to register your interest in becoming a patient with Ashhurst Health Care, please email hello@ashhursthealthcare.nz and we will contact you when we open.

Sally Darragh

- Community Testing Center, Massey University Campus.
Drive-through service.
Monday—Thursday, 10.00am—11.00am and 1.30pm—3.00pm.
Call 06 350 5533 to book.
- City Doctors White Cross.
Please call 06 355 3300 for more information.
- Hokowhitu Medical Center.
Covid-19 testing for enrolled and casual patients. Please call 06 357 2092 for more information
8.30am—5.00pm.
- The Palms Medical Center:
Provides Covid-19 testing to people with symptoms or who are close or casual contacts. Please call 06 354 7737 for more information (If you have no symptoms and require a test please go to 575 Main Street.)

Local Support

In Ashhurst/Pohangina we have contacts from local community groups that you can

NZTA Reviewing Speed Limits

Hi everyone, Waka Kotahi are currently reviewing speed limits along Napier Road and are inviting your feedback. Click on the link below to have your say or drop into Ashhurst Library to collect a form that you can fill out manually.

<https://nzta.govt.nz/.../sh3-napier-road-speed-review.../>

JustOne Please

Kia Ora everyone. Thank you for your donations for the Safe House. They were gratefully accepted.

The March item is Tissues.

You can drop these off at the Ashhurst Library. If you have any questions, please contact Louise Bowe on 020 410 86128.

RECAP Update

Kia ora from RECAP.

With COVID-19 case numbers rising significantly, it's important to know where to access support. Below is some information specifically for those who may not have internet access. If you have any COVID-19 symptoms (the common ones being fever, cough, loss of taste or smell, sore throat) it is a good idea to get tested.

If you are experiencing severe symptoms, it is advisable to call your GP. Testing sites are still open, but you should also be able to get a Rapid Antigen Test (or RAT) from your pharmacy or GP to do at home.

If you test positive, the number to call to report this is: 0800 222 478. With a positive test, you should also expect to receive a text (or phone call) to direct you to support services.

Testing Centers:

- 575 Main Street, Palmerston North.
Drive-through service.
Monday—Sunday, 8.30am—4.00pm.

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:

- Get to know your neighbours
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- Gain tips and resources, including from NZ Police
- Be able to give back or receive support
- And much much more, all for FREE!

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info@pncitysupport.com
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We are a community based project run by volunteers



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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: 2.00pm—6.00pm
Monday: 3.00pm—6.00pm
Tuesday: 3.00pm—7.00pm
Wednesday: 3.00pm—9.00pm
Thursday: 2.00pm—9.00pm
Friday: 2.00pm—midnight
Saturday: 1.00pm—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:

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



RECAP Update *continued*

also call on. We are not able to provide medical advice, but can assist with practical support (such as delivering food/medicines) and phone support.

Contact Numbers:

- Ashhurst-Pohangina Lions Club—Alyn Edwards 329 4833 or 0204 075 3354
- R.S.A. Welfare Section—Tim 021 250 7626
- Ashhurst Senior Citizens Association—Terry Carr 326 8074
- RECAP—Chris 021 755 314

If you have some spare volunteer time, call one of these numbers and offer your services. Having a larger number of people who can offer support is useful as some volunteers may become ill themselves.

Most pharmacies can arrange for medicine/prescriptions to be couriered to you. Some will allow someone to pick up on your behalf if you contact them to arrange.

Other Numbers That May Be Helpful:

- Healthline: 0800 358 5453—this is the COVID specific number
- Seniorline: 0800 725 463 A free information service for older people.

For Mental Health Support:

- Free call or text 1737 any time for support from a trained counsellor.
- Lifeline: 0800 543 354 (0800 LIFELINE) or free text 4357 (HELP)
- Anxiety NZ: 0800 269 4389 (0800 ANXIETY).

In Other RECAP News:

The RECAP Rescued Food Distribution continues to be well used. We give out a free bag of kai from the library back room every Wednesday from 3:30-5pm. You currently do not need a vaccine passport to access this service. For more info contact info@recap.org.nz, or join us on facebook: [facebook/RECAP Rescued Food Distribution](https://www.facebook.com/RECAP-Rescued-Food-Distribution).

The Seed Library (within the Ashhurst Library) is continually stocked with new, seasonal seeds. Once you sign up you can take three free packets of seeds per month. If you are unable to access this, email us at info@recap.org.nz and we will provide you with a list and can deliver.

RECAP and Slow Farm (slowfarm.co.nz) are very pleased to announce that we will be providing standalone Permaculture Workshops in 2022. There are twenty places available in each workshop. Some venues require the use of vaccine passports and some do not. We will be confirming dates, times and venues for the following workshops soon:

- Understanding and improving your soil.
- Trees, forests, and foods: an ecosystem approach to perennial food gardening.
- A process approach to small garden design.
- Using and modifying microclimates for effective and diverse food gardening. Social solutions for more sustainable living.

The first standalone Permaculture Workshop: Observing and Understanding Your Land will be held on Saturday, March



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no travel or service charges within the village mon-fri

RECAP Update *continued*

19th, 10.00am—3.00pm, at the Ashhurst Village Valley Center Centennial Room. This workshop is designed for new home owners (and land-owners)—or for those who want a new look at their home before planting the next tree or before installing a garden shed. The workshop will introduce two central concepts in permaculture design: Landscape and site assessment and zoning as a design approach. Registrations are essential for this, and can be made at recap.org.nz. Attendance at this first workshop **does not** require a vaccine passport.

Please note that other public health

measures such as scanning or signing in, wearing a mask or showing a mask exemption, and keeping a physical distance between yourself and others as necessary will be required. Please do not register if you are not willing to follow these.

To stay informed, we recommend you check our website regularly recap.org.nz, sign up to our newsletter email info@recap.org.nz to request or follow us on facebook [facebook/ResilienceAshhurstPohangina](https://facebook.com/ResilienceAshhurstPohangina) as updates will be posted there.

Look after yourselves and others.

Chris Love—RECAP coordinator

Ashhurst and District Senior Citizens Association

Warm weather, the holiday atmosphere and Covid restrictions have made for a very different December and New Year. We are now into February and the air of languidity and relaxation still hasn't dissipated itself, has it? Nevertheless, our members did enjoy a fabulous afternoon's 'jaunt' to Longwood Gardens on the 3rd February. Here our hosts took us on a relaxed stroll through their beautiful three acre 'estate.' Tall hedges and various garden designs around every corner delighted our senses.

Then we were given a delightful afternoon tea and enjoyed the camaraderie of being together on a pleasant afternoon.

Our March programme at the Methodist Hall on the 3rd of March will be subject to Covid restrictions but we will be pleased to welcome the Drama Group to entertain us. Come along at 2.00pm and enjoy—yes! let's enjoy what they have to give us and be encouraged yet again in spite of the pandemic, so called.

Terry Carr—Secretary

Community Comment

While not yet advertised, the city's annual plan consultation processes will soon be underway. Last year's 10 year plan has earmarked funding for a number of projects in Ashhurst. This includes water and stormwater infrastructure, which I assume is destined to support urban growth in Ashhurst. I have also heard it includes funding for a pedestrian/cycle bridge over the railway to better link the Domain to Ashhurst's walking tracks.

Consultation for the annual plan is generally notified about mid-March each year. City residents can express their views on how and when the Council spends its rates in this budget plan by various means. Check out the 'Participate Palmy' link from the Palmerston North City Council web pages for more information on this budget and any other consultative processes which may be underway. Community support for particular projects may nudge earlier delivery, or promote increased activity in delayed options such as the shared pathway between Ashhurst and the city.

Te Waka Kotahi recently shared information about its recreational pathway fund associated with the new Te Ahu a Turanga highway over the hill. City planners also shared their extended vision of shared paths linking local walkways with connections to the Western Gateway reserve and tracks on the eastern bank of the Pohangina River. Completion of the

Manawatu River bridge clip-on and the shared pathway to Palmerston North, in conjunction with these local improvements, would generate increased tourism dollars to the region.

Water quality and chlorine odour are of concern to some residents. Do let the Council's 24-hour help line know of any water problems as they occur. Complaints are noted and mapped to identify areas of concern. Flushing mains to remove sediment buildup may resolve these problems once they have been notified. Use the 'Snap, Send, Solve' app on your cellphone for an easy resolution.

It has been disappointing to hear that bulk harvesting of fruit from the community orchard has been occurring. This has included fruit not yet ripe and likely to be thrown away. The orchard is maintained and pruned by volunteers as part of RECAP's educational activities. Responsible community use is welcome under the principles of 'fair share' and 'no waste'. Please respect this resource so we can all share in the taste of tree-ripened fruit as it becomes available.

The COVID-19 outbreak has now become very real with widespread infection expected over the next month or so. Make some plans and develop a buddy system with friends, family and neighbours to share shopping duties as self-isolation periods beckon.

Stay safe

Harvey Jones

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 mid February 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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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



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.



Ashhurst R.S.A. Update

The R.S.A. is looking for a capable person[s] to lease the Kitchen and provide good quality meals at reasonable prices to members and the general public. There are also opportunities to cater for many other functions that are done during the year. Full details are available and the kitchen may be inspected during the trading hours of the R.S.A. or phone 06 326 8296 for an appointment to discuss the position.

The successful applicant[s] will have exclusive use of the kitchen and rights to all functions that may occur. The initial lease period and conditions will be discussed with applicants.

Reminder—Subs

Your subs are now due, as from 1st March

How Healthy is the Pohangina River Ecology?

The Pohangina Catchment Care Group has been monitoring the conductivity, nutrients, turbidity and bacteria at 11 stream and river sites in the Pohangina Catchment since August 2020 as part of a wider goal to protect and enhance our precious local river/awa. One of the challenges in using nutrients and bacteria to evaluate the health of a waterway is that they can change dramatically in response to rainfall events, river flow rates, temperature, growth of instream algae and many other changing conditions. Once we even had a dead possum in the stream that spiked the bacteria (E .Coli) levels.

A better assessment of ecological health can be obtained by looking at what kinds of animals live in the stream or river. They are living there 24/7 so even a single pollution event can change the composition for weeks, months or years. It would be similar to your neighbour accidentally over-spraying with weed killer and getting your vegetable garden while you were at work. You wouldn't actually see the spray event, but you know it happened because all your vegetables have died.

Some of the invertebrates (insects and other creatures that live in streams) like clean water and others are happy to survive in polluted water. Insects like mayflies, stoneflies and caddisflies prefer clean water and snails,

you cannot legally purchase or consume alcohol until you have paid your sub. Single \$35 double \$65, these can be paid at the bar during normal trading hours or by internet banking. New members are especially welcome, just talk to any of the bar staff or committee members. There is no nomination fee.

Events

For information, please inquire at the bar, or check Ashhurst Chat or our Facebook pages, there are some exciting events coming up.

ANZAC Day,

Due to COVID-19 restrictions the Anzac services have had to be altered. Full details are available on our Facebook pages.

Don Barrett—Vice-President

midges and worms are happy in polluted waters. By collecting the invertebrates, you can assign scores to each type based on how sensitive they are to pollution—the cleaner the water they like the higher their scores. You can then add all the scores to yield what's called the Macroinvertebrate Community Index (MCI).

The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management assigns a score of 130, or higher, for a good (A band) stream and a score of 90, or less for a polluted stream (D or below the bottom line).

Below is a graph of the MCI measures we recorded from sampling in 2021. The streams and rivers all indicate ecological health is moderate (above dashed line MCI = 90) to good (above solid line MCI = 130) for all the sites we are monitoring.

These graphs are called boxplots. The main part of the chart (the "box") shows where the middle portion of the data is: the interquartile range. At the ends of the box, you find the first quartile (the 25% mark) and the third quartile (the 75% mark). The line in the box is the median (50% of data points are above and 50% below). Note this can be different to the average or mean when some numbers are large. The "whiskers", extended lines outside the box are the reasonable range of the data. Data beyond the end of



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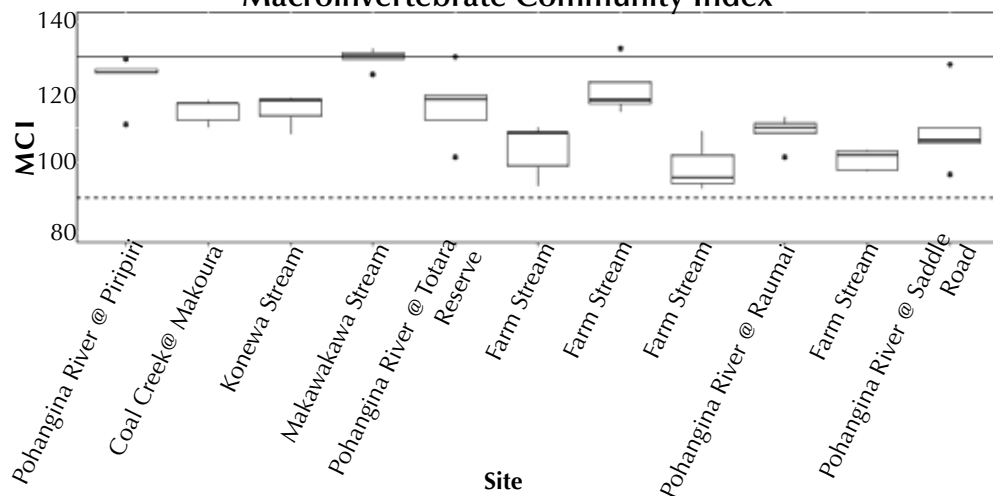
How Healthy is the Pohangina River Ecology? *continued*

the whiskers are called "outlying" points and are plotted individually. Specifically, they are points that are more than 1.5 times the interquartile range.

If you would like more information about

the Pohangina Catchment Care Group or want to contribute to our work please contact Matt Carroll matthewescarroll@gmail.com 027 257 1425 or Lynda Gray kinross575@inspire.net.nz 027 564 8003.

Macroinvertebrate Community Index



Ashhurst School

Kia ora e te whanau. It is great to see the weather is continuing to allow our students to spend plenty of time outside. I have enjoyed watching the students participate in the funded swimming lessons this term and our sports programme. I know this is a highlight for many of our children.

We really do appreciate all of the children coming to school each day wearing their facemask. It is really important that children remember to bring their masks each day. Only in the last few weeks we received masks

from the ministry to cover staff. Through the mandate we are required to wear a mask of a certain quality. This does not apply to students. These are on very limited supply and we have already been told there will be further delays in getting supplies. This means that we have a dwindling supply at school and will not be able to supply masks for children.

This term is very exciting for our school. This term we are running T.E.C.H (Technology, Engineering, Creative, Hands on). This is a programme designed for Year 7/8 students at Ashhurst School. Children will experience

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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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 5881

Mr F Saua

Pohangina Road RD 14—029 254 3206

Mr JC Culling

Pohangina Road—3294825

Mrs EM Thompson

Wyndham Street—326 7434

Ashhurst School

T.E.C.H programme once a week for four continuous weeks. Children will then rotate to a different subject.

Children will have the opportunity to participate in the following

- Digital Design—Children are designing bluetooth speaker systems using hard materials and laser cutting technology.
- Spike Prime Robotics—Children will learn about coding that will involve light and motion sensors. Children will design and create sumo robots and battle it out in the sumo ring.
- Food Tech—Children will be provided an opportunity to prepare meals for all times of the day. From cooking a breakfast, lunch and dinner, children will develop the ability to begin their own cooking journey.
- E-Pro 8—Children will learn the basics of engineering by completing a variety of activities using the E-Pro 8 kits. This is a very hands on activity where children will use the kits to build with materials and also learn about electrical circuits, and gears.

We are fortunate to have a multi-talented staff here at Ashhurst School. Here are the following teachers for the programme

- Digital Design—Mrs Lauren Chappell (Rooms 1 and 2), Mr Reece Brosnan (Rooms 3 and 4).
- E-Pro 8—Miss Katelyn Herbert (Rooms 1 and 2), Miss Sarah Ashcroft (Rooms 3 and 4).

- Food Tech—Mrs Catherine Chittenden.
- Robotics—Mrs Felicity Marsh.

If you have been paying close attention to some of our school signage, you will notice that there have been some changes to the school graphics. Last year, we carried out an extensive survey with the school community and gathered the community's voice about our school strengths and next steps. As well as this, it gave us an excellent opportunity to reflect on what defines our school and what direction we want our school to take.

Some of the strongest feedback we received was about the school values. The notion of Whai Ngakau (Respect), Manawaroa (Resilience) and Tu Tangata (Responsibility). We feel that these values capture the essence of the students we are trying to create at our school. Because of this, we have altered the school logo and have put these values on.

We have also changed the vision statement of 'Together We Learn' to Eke Taumata (Reach for Your Highest Peak). The translation is Eke (reach) Taumata (top of a hill). Ashhurst School is very lucky to sit at the footsteps of four recognised peaks Ruahine, Turanga, Tararua and Wharite. As our students progress through the school, they climb to the next highest peak before they reach Wharite (Can be seen on a fine day with the radio tower at its peak). This is where the students end their journey by reaching the highest peak in Ashhurst and then moving on to secondary school. Our school's vision is for students to reach their full potential, and we feel this vision statement captures this.

Heath Chittenden—Principal


Book Review: The Power of The Dog by Thomas Savage

Currently an award winning movie for director Jane Campion, this is a book and author I had previously never heard of, but, after being captivated by the visual beauty of the movie, had to read the book.

It was written in 1967, but the western-style story is set in the 1920's and is basically the classic sibling rivalry story (Abel/Cain) but with a psychological twist, that apparently shocked when it was first published. It is also a story of retribution.

The two brothers are Phil and George, who

share an inherited ranch. They are close but totally different in character—one harsh but charismatic, the other chubby and soft but a decent man. Trouble arrives in the form of Rose, a widow with a young and vulnerable teenaged son. George and Rose marry and he brings mother and son to live on the ranch. Phil does not move out and he does not make life easy for Rose and the boy, he is determined to make their lives as miserable as possible, he ridicules and undermines them both.



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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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Book Review: The Power of The Dog by Thomas Savage

All this happens in a beautifully described Montana landscape—the author's account of life on the ranch is both colourful and informative as we witness day to day life; the farming and care of the animals and the hard work involved.

Although I enjoyed reading the story, there were certain aspects I found hard to pick up on—so was really pleased to see an 'Afterword' by author Annie Proulx (Brokeback Mountain) which explained some of the aspects of the story which were ambiguous or had been glossed over in a way that wouldn't occur today.

This is a long-ago story very much set in a

man's world of cattle, sheep, horses, guns, fences and property. There are confrontations with Indians and a rural life that is now largely extinct in America in the 21st century. The people were hard-working, tough; often with a subtle wealth on the ranches that was not spoken about.

The character of Phil is both repellent and fascinating. He follows the code of the west of the manly, homophobic rancher who no-one could mistake for a "Sissy" but this is just the outer layer of a complex man.

The ending is devastating, haunting and completely unexpected.

Robyn Dare

Pseudoscorpions: Our Scorpion Lookalikes

This month I thought I would write about another little-known critter that is widespread in New Zealand, though not particularly abundant. Pseudoscorpions, also known as False Scorpions, are small scorpion-like arachnids which, like their spider relatives, have eight legs. They are quite small, mostly no more than 5mm long. They are also shy and retiring, so it is not surprising that few people are aware of them.

What gives them their scorpion-like appearance are their pincer-like claws which they use to capture prey. Exactly what they eat is not well documented but it is thought they prey on a variety of small soil arthropods. Unlike scorpions, however, they do not have stinging tails. They are, in fact, totally harmless to humans. Once you are aware of them, you are likely to find them in all sorts of places: under stones and other objects on the ground, under bark on dead trees, under leaf litter on the forest floor, etc.

There are about 70 species of pseudoscorpion in New Zealand. Most are native, and about half of those are found only in New Zealand. We do have several introduced species, including the 'Book Pseudoscorpion' which occurs throughout the world and is sometimes even found inside homes.

One interesting fact about pseudoscorpions is that some species are 'phoretic'; that is, they will attach themselves to another, larger organism solely for the purpose of travel. As a result, they are able to move to new places much quicker, allowing them to explore new habitats. A good example that I came across recently was a Tree Weta with a pseudoscorpion holding on to its rear leg. It was quite difficult to photograph as the weta wouldn't stay still; but wherever the weta went, the pseudoscorpion went too.

Grey Smith



Photos: Left—Pseudoscorpion; Right—Pseudoscorpion on a Weta leg.

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 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!



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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 Library

Hi everyone, we hope you are all well. As of writing, we have had our support positions advertised and interviews are taking place, we hope to have news on our new staff in next month's article.

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.

RECAP Rescued Food Distribution

We would like to acknowledge the wonderful work that Chris and her volunteers do to help families with the pre-packed food bags. And can we also say how grateful we are to everyone who uses this service that they are following the regulations currently in place. The cooperation and appreciation on display during this time is very welcome.

Ashhurst Village Valley Centre

The new roof will be installed over the months of April and May. The centre will be closed weekdays. We apologise for any inconvenience and appreciate your patience. The centre has been approved to

Ashhurst Rainfall

November Rainfall

18.6mm of rain fell in January, below the monthly average of 74.6mm.

Rain was recorded on six days with the

be open for Anzac Day services.

Community Garden

We are very proud and very grateful to all the work that goes into our gardens, they are looking fantastic. If ever you would like to help, you would be most welcome. Come in anytime and talk to staff and they will put you in touch with our volunteers.

Events and Programmes

Thank you to everyone who has enquired about when our programmes and events will resume. As of writing, we still are unable to commence with these and if there is any change, we will be sure to let you know.

Talk with Mayor Grant Smith

Tuesday 29th March 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.

Ashhurst Library Facebook

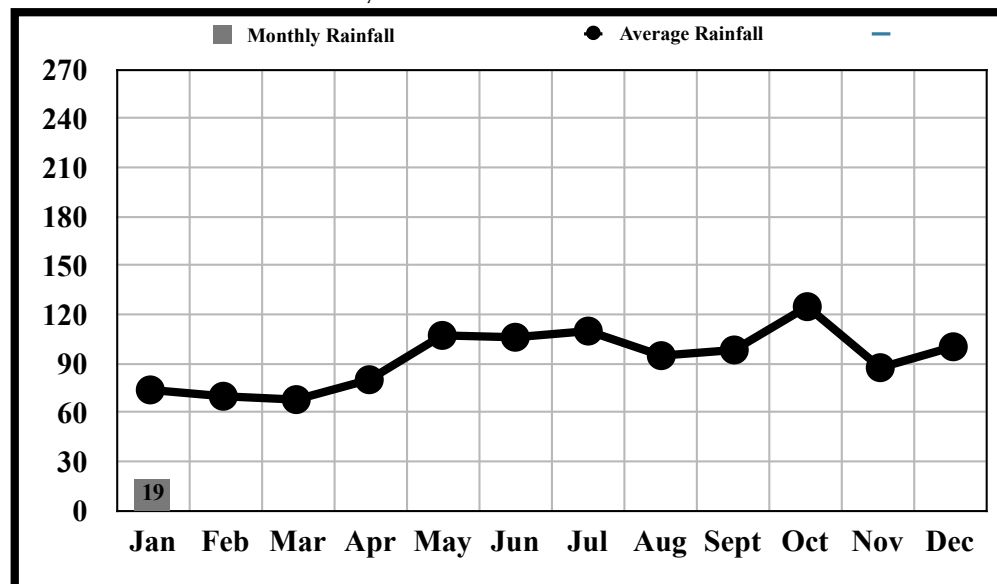
Just a reminder that if you want to keep up to date with all our latest news, events or announcements, just visit us at <https://www.facebook.com/AshhurstLibrary> and click "Like".

Ross Meads—Ashhurst Librarian

highest one day rainfall of 6mm on the 26th January, 2022.

Total annual rain fall is 18.6mm. This is below the annual average of 74.6mm.

Quang Mai



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GLIMPSE

Deputy Mayor Aleisha Rutherford

Kia ora tātou

My belated but heartfelt greetings and best wishes to everyone for the year to come.

I hope you were able to make the most of the holiday break.

2022 has not got off to the greatest of starts, but we are a resilient and resourceful community with a well-honed tradition of self-reliance.

That kind of character will continue to stand Ashhurst in good stead as the year unfolds around us.

New medical centre

One-one-one Cambridge Ave is an address that has a certain ring to it, and 'one' that is about to take on a whole extra significance for the Ashhurst community.

If the work stays on track, there's less than a month to go before the new Ashhurst Community Trust medical centre opens in the art deco style house opposite the school.

The Community Trust is to be commended for securing a partnership with Feilding Health Care to operate and staff the facility with a GP and nurse practitioner.

After 15 years without a local GP this is such welcome news.

Within walking distance for most people, the centre is going to save Village residents the time, costs and inconvenience associated with having to travel to Palmy or to Feilding for medical check-ups, consultations and prescriptions.

As work on the Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatū Tararua Highway picks up pace, the Ashhurst population increases, and with plans for further growth involving the construction of up to 400 new houses, the timing couldn't be better.

Omicron situation

Unfortunately, Omicron continues to impact on local events, and I reiterate that the best defence against the virus is to be double-vaxxed and boosted.

You should also be prepared for the likelihood of having to isolate at home by planning to have food and medical supplies on hand, and arrangements for childcare in place.

The Ministry of Health recommends you 'buddy up' with friends, whānau or neighbours to cover these exigencies.

For easy access to the latest Covid information and updates, go to the Council or MidCentral Health Facebook pages.

You can also visit [Healthpoint.co.nz](https://healthpoint.co.nz) or <https://bit.ly/MDHBvax> or call the 0800 358 5453 Covid-19 Healthline.

Village Valley Centre

The reroof of the Village Valley Centre is due to commence at the end of April and could see the facility out of action for up to two months.

For further details and information on how this will affect centre bookings, please contact the Ashhurst Community Library.

Council services

While in 'red' our staff are doing what they can to keep our community safe and Council services functioning.

This means until further notice, Council's customer service centre on Te Marae o Hine/The Square will operate from 9am-2pm Monday to Friday.

This ensures our staff can work in 'teams' and provide continuity of service.

You can continue to call us 24/7 on 06 356 8199, but the best approach for getting a 'fixit' response from Council staff?

Use the Snap Send Solve app.

Changes to services will be posted on our social media channels and the PNCC website.

Meet the Mayor

This month's Meet the Mayor session is scheduled for Tuesday March 29 between 5 – 6pm in the Ashhurst Community Library.

However, as with everything else under our Covid red light settings and with the outbreak of Omicron in the community, this could change.

Please keep an eye on the Council website pncc.govt.nz and our Facebook page for further information.

—
Deputy Mayor/
Kahika Tuarua
Aleisha



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
6am – 7pm during school holidays	
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

8 March
22 March
5 April

Recycling Bin

15 March
29 March
12 April



Mulgrave St Transfer Station

Recycling, green waste and general rubbish disposal.

Open Days

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

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Published by The Ashhurst Village Voice Society Inc.

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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 Sunday, 20th March 2022.

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

Ashhurst Clay Target Club

Normally a quiet holiday type shoot, well wham bam, there were eight squads and forty shooters, including several returnees and some visitors.

Also on the shooting agenda was an annual three-way shoot between Ashhurst, Feilding and Tangimoana between three clubs that have close associations. Ashhurst won this and as Alan Ives jokingly said: "They came, they saw and we conquered".

1st Ashhurst = 231

Mike Romley, Alan Ives, Alex Hall, Ken Simonsen, Brad Turner

2nd Tangimoana = 223

Dave Rigby, Brendon Smith, Grant McDowell, Ken McDonald, Joby Stella

3rd Feilding = 218

Chris Higgle, Peter Bidlake, Andre James, Joe McQuarters, Paul Keeley

Club Shoot/part of Three Way Shoot:

Ashhurst Bowling Club

I cannot believe that in my last report I said the weather is usually settled for the Property Brokers Two-day event—the whole weekend was atrocious with gale force winds and never-ending rain!! So that event did not happen sadly. I shall not make such rash statements again as it surely means the weather gods are tempted to teach me a lesson.

Skogs and Elizabeth Walker competitions will be finished before this is published, but with only one game needing to be won on February 22nd, the women of the Ashhurst Bowling Club will have won the Elizabeth Walker for this season. That is an absolutely fantastic achievement and well and truly puts the club on the map. Skogs has been a competition of ups and downs and great participation by the men. Looking forward to continuing successes and challenges next season.

Twilight continues each Wednesday so turn up for a 6.00pm start and you will be made very welcome.

The school students are back on Fridays at 2.00pm. Plenty of club members are there to teach and encourage while having fun. The students are a great bunch who get involved and plenty of competition happens. Come and watch if you can.

The Grinlington Cup is a Four Club Challenge and this year was won by the

High Gun

First: Brad Turner—after a shoot-off with Brendon Smith & Joby Stella

Handicap:

First: Ben Ash—after a shoot-off with Dave Rigby

Second part of the three way shoot

First: Alex Hall—scored a possible

Karen Pawson—Secretary



Photo: Three Way Shoot Team

Ashhurst Junior Team of Wayne, Jacqui, Margie, Jen and Hugh. Well done to all who played in this in any of the three rounds.

One tournament that did go ahead was the Nissan Triples. Again, a full green with outside teams coming to join the social and competitive time always to be had at Ashhurst. The weather was kind and the results were close with the eventual winners being an Ashhurst team of Kevin, Max and Margaret. A great day enjoyed by everyone.

Some of the other championships were: Womens Fours which was taken out by Jacqui, Barbara P, Jen and Kylie. This was again a hotly contested championship with teams being knocked out on the last end. Well done to all players.

The Year 1—8 Singles was won by Wayne after a battle with Max and the Senior Mens Singles won by Rick after a battle with Tony. The Senior Womens Singles came down to a battle between sisters Jen and Fay, with Fay being the victor this season.

March sees the Ashhurst R.S.A. Triples on the 6th, the Club Over 65 Singles on the 7th and the Over 65 Pairs on the 14th.

It also is the month of our last open tournament which is the Cotton Triples on the 16th. Always a great time at this one.

So, stay smiling, keep safe and may Covid stay away from Ashhurst, all of us and all our whanau.

Adrienne Harding—Secretary