



# Ashhurst Village Voice <sup>1</sup>

## *Informing the Ashhurst & Pohangina Communities*

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### Community Comment

I write this as we await the outcome of our seven-day lockdown period. Will New Zealand conquer the odds and be able to step back into its carefree lifestyle? Fingers and toes crossed that we escape the ever-extended closure our cousins across the ditch have had to endure.

We are a little more organised this time, with more supplies, experience of safe practices and previous success to guide our behaviour. The increasing number of vaccinated people should limit the impact of an outbreak on our under-resourced health system. Please respect each other's boundaries, provide support for those in need and be kind to one another.

The recent sunny days and extra family time has enticed 'bubbles' to escape the home and get out and about the streets of Ashhurst. The familiar walk around the block may lose its appeal, but there are other expeditions to mount. Although playgrounds and shared play equipment are off limits, there are various walkways and large to tiny reserves to explore around Ashhurst.

Durham Reserve presents one of the best views of the landscaping on the mountain above us as Te Ahu a Turanga emerges out of farmland and windmills. The Terrace walkway extends along the

edge of Ashhurst and connects a number of reserves with a variety of mountain and valley views along the route. Continue carefully down the steps and visit the Olsson Orchard and McCrae's Bush for a dose of birds, blossom and native bush.

There are quieter, more discreet reserves which exist to provide some green space to escape from the pressures of close family confinement. These local neighbourhood reserves are becoming more important as residential infill and smaller sections limit possibilities in our own households. Venture out and discover the secluded gems of Whitten and Salisbury Reserves for a little spot of contemplation.

Construction work on the new road has ground to a halt under Level 4 restrictions, but the current progress can be easily viewed by eye. Monthly progress, as seen from a drone flying the route, can be viewed online at [www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/te-ahu-a-turanga/](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/te-ahu-a-turanga/). They are working at a number of locations along the route. This includes the work to construct the first of the 300 metre long bridges which will cross the river and railway. See photo of the temporary access bridge in readiness for drilling and construction of the centre pier.

*Harvey Jones*



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**October Issue  
Submission Deadline  
5.00pm Monday, 20th  
September 2021**

## Letter from the Editor

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

As I write this we have just moved into Level 3. This allows us to print and deliver this month's edition, albeit with gloves, masks and sanitiser.

Again we have seen our community react brilliantly to the changes the lockdown brings. We are lucky in this country that we have a good dose of common sense. Quite different to the situation in other countries.

I have been keeping up with the news in America where science has been politicised. The death toll and hospitalisation has been horrific. In one region they have had to ask residents to lower their water use. This is because the liquid oxygen used to treat the water supply is being diverted to hospitals to treat COVID patients. Hospitals have also been forced to order mobile morgues as they are overwhelmed due to COVID.

In the immortal words of Fred Dagg, "We don't know how lucky we are!"

A big thank you to the essential workers in our community. I'll also include a shout-out to parents working from home. It must be challenging to work remotely with children at home as well. I wish everyone well over the next few weeks and months.

**Llyvonne Barber—Editor**

## New Volunteers Wanted

The Village Voice Committee are looking for new volunteers.

### Deliverers

We are looking for new deliverers, particularly in the Napier Road area, as well as back up deliverers for when our regular volunteers are away or unable to deliver for any reason.

We aim to get the Village Voice out in the first week of the month, so volunteers will need to be able to deliver within a few days of receiving them.

### Rainfall Contributor

Margaret Pemberton has been providing rainfall data for many years and is now retiring. We would like to thank Margaret

for her contribution to the Village Voice and wish her well for the future.

We are looking for someone to fill her shoes. Do you have an interest in doing this?

Currently Margaret collects and compiles the data and emails it to us. We create the graph and once a year Mike Shepherd calculates the averages based on data from the current and previous years. So you don't need to worry about computer or maths skills.

If you are interested in either position, please contact us at [ashhurst.voice@gmail.com](mailto:ashhurst.voice@gmail.com).

We look forward to hearing from you.

**Llyvonne Barber**

## Beth's Farewell

It has been wonderful serving the Ashhurst community in my role at our fantastic library, but the time has come to say goodbye as I will be taking up a new role as manager of Best Start Childcare



Photo: Beth with her family

Railway Road. I have worked as a Community Service Guide at our Ashhurst Library for nearly four years, and in that time it has been my privilege to make the acquaintance of so many of you as you have shared your stories, interests, book requests and time with me. My role has given me the chance to see the many skills our young people have during our many holiday programmes, and those who have been practising their general knowledge evident during our family quiz nights!

I have been so lucky to work with the brilliant team at the Ashhurst Library. I have learnt many new skills in my role, but it is the community that has made my time at the library so memorable—your friendliness, energy and positivity has made each day so interesting and I would like to thank you all for the impact you have had in making my role so rewarding. I am going to miss you all very much and will always have fond memories of your company and friendship—thank you for allowing me to be a part of your lives—take care and have a spectacular rest of the year!

**Beth Jones**

## Community Meals @ River Church

A small group of people enjoyed lunch together on Wednesday, 28th July at River@131 Cambridge Avenue. The venue was warm and this time the food was

mostly gluten and dairy free.

The smiles and laughter created a relaxed atmosphere, with the silence during the

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## Community Meals @ River Church *continued*

meal indicating tasty food!

Encouraged by the positive response to these events, we are planning more meals, as follows (COVID Levels permitting):

Wednesday, 29th September  
Wednesday, 24th November

These events are open to anyone who would appreciate a break from cooking, enjoys company or would like to meet others in our community. Numbers for

these events are limited to twenty-four so if you would like to attend, please contact Marianne on 027 627 2054 with numbers attending and any food allergies you may have.

The meal is free but we would appreciate a koha towards our costs, if you are able to.

**Marianne Crawford**

## Ashhurst Memorial R.S.A. Inc.

The R.S.A. has been a fixture in the village for a lot of years but we still find that people are not aware of its function.

Firstly, after the war years you could not belong to the R.S.A. unless you were a returned serviceman. Rules and membership criteria was strict, dress code was strictly enforced. In the latter years, the rules have been somewhat relaxed in that membership is open to all women and men, plus junior memberships are available, a reasonable dress code is required plus a good behavioural code must be upheld.

All that is required is a visit to the R.S.A. fill in a membership application form,

pay the required subscription, obtain a receipt and start enjoying the facilities. Your membership will be confirmed after fourteen days. If you are unsure if you wish to join, visit the club, talk to the bar staff or committee person and be shown what we have to offer. We welcome suggestions from members and prospective members about what we should have and do. All suggestions will be evaluated and if found practical, would be implemented. If not, the reasons will be explained to that person. We are not as our web page states open twenty four hours but rather the hours shown in this paper.

**Don Barrett—Vice President**

## RECAP Update

Kia ora.

We hope this finds you safe, well and able to incorporate some all important self care (whatever that may look like to you) into your new routines.

Getting outside is always excellent for both physical and mental health and now is a great time to sort out your garden for Spring/Summer planting. Once we are safely able to distribute again, we will have seeds and seedlings available to give away to ensure your mara kai is abundant over the warmer months.

Unfortunately at Alert Levels 3 and 4 we are unable to have the Ashhurst Sharing Shelf operating. Please don't drop anything at the shelf until we are at Level 2.

If you are in need of kai, please visit the Ashhurst Foodbank. They will continue

to be open through all alert levels. You can find them at the Ashhurst Methodist Church, 57 Bamfield Street on Thursdays from 2.00pm—3.00pm.

Please ensure you are masked, and line up outside the door keeping two metres between yourself and others. They will then pack a parcel for you. We are working with the foodbank and our friends at Just Zilch to ensure there is plenty for those who need it. We'd like to give a big nga mihi to the wonderful volunteers at the foodbank for all of their important mahi taking care of others. Please be respectful of them and the new protocols around picking up kai.

Our next Crop Swap due to take place on Saturday, 28th August has been cancelled. All of the seeds, seedlings and kai being grown and collected for this will be placed on the sharing shelf as soon as we are at Level 2, and we'd encourage anyone with

## JustOne Please

I would like to thank you all for your donations of coffee for the safe house last month. The Palmerston North Refuge is most appreciative of everyone's support.

The item for this month's Justoneplease is sugar.

Due to COVID Lockdown levels, please contact Louise Bowe for information on pick up/drop off of donations on 020 410 86128.

## Ashhurst Bowling Club

Just a reminder that Opening Day is September 18th at 1.00pm (COVID Levels permitting).

Hoping this will go ahead as planned so looking forward to a bowling catch up.

**Adrianne—Secretary.**

## WE NEED YOUR HELP!



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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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## Pippins, Brownies and Guides

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](mailto:carojray@gmail.com)



## Ashhurst Memorial R.S.A. Inc

74 Cambridge Avenue, Ashhurst. Ph: 326 8296

### Hours (From 6th October)

Sun/Mon: 3.00pm—6.00pm  
 Tuesday: 3.00pm—7.00pm  
 Wed/Thurs: 2.00pm—9.00pm  
 Friday: 2.00pm—11.59pm  
 Saturday: 1.00pm—9.00pm



## Ashhurst Yoga Classes

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

Cost \$7.50 and bring your yoga mat.

Working to your own level, the classes are 45 minutes long and we work on building and maintaining core strength and flexibility—you don't need to have either to start yoga!

Phone Vanessa, 06 359 5386, 027 243 0187, Email: [vlbphotography@inspire.net.nz](mailto:vlbphotography@inspire.net.nz)



## Ashhurst Bowling Club

67 Stanford Street.

Season starts end of September through to mid April.

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

Adrienne Harding 326 8972/027 283 6317  
[ashhurstbowlingclub@gmail.com](mailto:ashhurstbowlingclub@gmail.com)



## RECAP Update *continued*

things to share to do the same.

Unfortunately we had to postpone the Emergency Preparedness Seminar due to take place on Wednesday, 18th August. As this is becoming increasingly important for our community resilience, we will reschedule as soon as we are able.

At present we have two workshops booked for September. Both will only be able to proceed at Level 1. If we are at Level 2 or above we will be rescheduling so please continue to register if you are interested, as these workshops always fill up fast.

Facilitators Kushla Mercer and Toni Bragg will be presenting two practical workshops on fermentation at the Village Valley Centre kitchen. This is a great opportunity to learn more about how to use fermentation in your home kitchen to make delicious and nutritionally beneficial food.

Saturday, 11th September 1.00pm—4.00pm is a practical introduction to making sauerkraut, while discussing its benefits and nutritional properties and tasting different samples.

Saturday, 25th September 1.00pm—4.00pm. You will prepare your own artisan sourdough loaf to bake on the day. Participants will also receive their own

sourdough starter to take home, learn how to take care of it, and discover different ways to use it.

There is a discount for enrolment in both workshops.

1 workshop \$20 or  
 2 workshops \$35 (waged)

1 workshop \$15 or  
 2 workshops \$25 (unwaged)

You can register at [recap.org.nz](http://recap.org.nz)

If you would like to attend but cost is a barrier, please contact us at [info@recap.org.nz](mailto:info@recap.org.nz).

Our September seminar is 'Demystifying Solar Power' with facilitator Phil Stevens at the Ashhurst Community Library on Thursday, 30th September 7.00pm—9:30pm. Curious about solar power? Confused by the jargon and the claims, or not sure it's even a good fit for our conditions? Join energy expert Phil Stevens to learn more about where the technology is at now and what it means for electricity users. This can proceed at alert Level 2, and you can register at [recap.org.nz](http://recap.org.nz). Free entry, but koha is appreciated.

Noho ora mai.

Take care of yourself and others.

**Chris Love—RECAP coordinator**

## A Better Bus Service—Feedback Extended

We hope that you have been safe and well during this latest lockdown. As you may be aware, Horizons was in the middle of engaging with the Palmy and Ashhurst

community on the bus service when all of New Zealand went into lockdown. While the submissions have remained open during this time, it has been difficult for



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## Better Buses for Palmy—Feedback Extended *continued*

some people to engage with the process and for them to have their say. Due to this difficulty, we are extending the feedback period for an additional two weeks. The submission period for the Palmy and Ashhurst review will now close on Friday, 17th September 2021 5.00pm.

To ensure the safety and wellbeing of our staff and others, we will not be running any face-to-face events over this extended period. Staff will still be available to answer queries. Please email us at [transport@horizons.govt.nz](mailto:transport@horizons.govt.nz) or call 0508 800 800 and ask to speak with a member of our transport team. We would really appreciate your support in sharing this update with your wider community.

### Increased Frequency for Ashhurst

The existing route for Ashhurst provides good coverage of the village, and we do not think that it needs to change at this time. However, we are aware that the village is expanding, and the route may need to change in the future. Until then we propose increasing the existing service levels.

Currently, Ashhurst has four return services on weekdays and one return service on Saturdays. We propose increasing weekdays to seven return trips (first trip around 6.30am from Ashhurst, and last trip of the day leaving Palmy around 7.30pm), and four return trips on Saturday.

### Why the Network is Being Reviewed?

In November 2023, Horizons' existing contract for the Palmerston North bus network will expire. Before we re-tender the contract, a review of the existing service is required to assess whether it meets the needs of our community. When reviewing a service we check if it is still fit for purpose, if it could be improved based on its existing structure, or if it needs to be overhauled.

### Where Can You Find Out More?

An information booklet which identifies the proposed routes for each of the options, along with estimated costs, and a feedback form is available on our website via the link [betterbuses.horizons.govt.nz](http://betterbuses.horizons.govt.nz).

Otherwise, please email us at [transport@horizons.govt.nz](mailto:transport@horizons.govt.nz) or call 0508 800 800 and ask to speak with a member of our transport team.

### Providing Feedback

As an interested party, we'd love to hear your thoughts on our proposals and have a number of ways you can provide your feedback.

You can fill out the feedback form online at [betterbuses.horizons.govt.nz](http://betterbuses.horizons.govt.nz).

Alternatively you can pick up a copy of the survey and post it to Horizons via the freepost address included on the form.

Share your thoughts with us by Friday, 17th September 2021 and help us create a better bus network for Palmy.

## Pohangina Catchment Care Group Update

Firstly, a huge *thank you* to the Ashhurst Pohangina Lions Club for sponsoring one of the water testing sites—your support is greatly appreciated.

The Pohangina Catchment Care Group held a very informative Land Owners Field Day on July 13th hosted by Matt and Shane Carroll and Nicola Shadbolt at Westview. There is a lot of new regulation being thrown at farmers currently and the purpose of the Field Day was to provide some insight into what this means going forward.

Ian McNab, a senior rural advisor from Horizons, gave the first presentation. Horizons have found themselves in the unenviable position of being told they have to implement and enforce the new Government Regulations by a given time but the details of what that looks like have not been finalised and are forever changing. Horizons are wanting to work with farmers but farmers will need to be proactive in doing their bit. Ian touched on topics like intensive winter grazing, feed lots and stock holding areas, fish passage, stock exclusion regulations,

freshwater plans and environment plans. These changes affect every land owner with more than 20 hectares. Horizons are currently aerial mapping some intensive winter grazing areas throughout the region so they will be able to monitor how these are being managed in the future. Ian left a supply of folders of information—if anyone would like one of these, please contact Matt or Lynda. Courtney Skou is the local Horizons Land Management Officer and she is also available to be contacted for advice on [Courtney.Skou@horizons.govt.nz](mailto:Courtney.Skou@horizons.govt.nz).

Steph Sloan then did a presentation on Overseer—one of the platforms available to farmers to measure their greenhouse gas emissions (a figure that farmers with a land area 80 hectares or more need to know by the end of 2022) and calculating inputs and outputs. Laura Keenan followed with a presentation of greenhouse gases, carbon footprint and farm environment plans.

The day ended with a presentation from Paul Jansen of DOC on the planned release of kiwi into the Pohangina Valley.

## 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](mailto:info@parishofpohangina.net)  
[www.parishofpohangina.net](http://www.parishofpohangina.net)

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

### St Mary Magdalene Church—Office Hours

(subject to change at short notice):

Monday: closed

Tuesday: 2.00pm—5.00pm

Wednesday: 2.00pm—4.30pm

Thursday: 2.00pm—5.00pm

Friday: 2.00pm—5.00pm



### Little Kiwis Playgroup

Little Kiwis Playgroup is currently on hold.



### Ashhurst Music Club

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

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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](mailto:whizjoy@inspire.net.nz)



## Manawatu Rangitikei Methodist Parish Ashhurst, Bunnythorpe and Pohangina Congregation

**Ashhurst Devonport Worship and Community Centre**

10.00am 1st and 2nd Sundays

**Pohangina Community Church**

10.30am 3rd Sunday

**Contacts:**

Parish Office—323 4127

Heather Fairless—326 8355



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## Pohangina Catchment Care Group Update *continued*

Paul thinks that the valley is the ideal location to reestablish a kiwi population, not up in the hills but down on farmland that is surrounded by bush areas. Kiwi enjoy foraging on farmland that has been grazed by cattle, turning over cowpats to find bugs and grubs as long as there is sheltered areas of bush for them to nest in during the day. The Southern Ruahine Kiwi Habitat Restoration Project has received funding for an extensive trapping project targeting stoats, ferrets, feral cats and possums which will also protect other threatened species in the valley including whio, native snails, long tailed bats and will improve general forest health. The goal is to release kiwi in the area in 2026.

The Pohangina Catchment Care Group would like to hold further workshops for farmers and landowners in the valley and are currently talking with Beef and Lamb about hosting several of their FarmPlan workshops. If you are interested in being involved in one of these, please contact Matt or Lynda.

The Manawatu River Catchments Collective was formed in December 2020 by the leaders of a number of catchment care groups in the Manawatu. As an Incorporated Society, the Manawatu River Catchments Collective aims to secure funding and provide support for the development projects that groups

plan to undertake. The Manawatu River Catchments Collective have just received a grant from the Ministry of Primary Industries to assist in the cost of some water testing and employ a coordinator/facilitator who will work with the ten existing catchment groups in the Manawatu (and any newly formed groups) to prepare operational plans so that further funding can be applied for. The Pohangina Catchment Care Group will benefit from these funds and is currently evaluating the group's goals and objectives in preparation for this plan. We may call on valley locals for a consensus vote of our operational plan soon. For the future of our group please participate. The Manawatu River Catchments Collective is strongly farmer-driven and wants to share the great environmental work that is currently being done throughout the region as well as ensuring economic and social wellbeing with any future projects.

If anyone would like further information about the Pohangina Catchment Care Group or would like one of the Horizons information folders, please contact

Matt Carroll

[matthewescarroll@gmail.com](mailto:matthewescarroll@gmail.com)

027 257 1425 or

Lynda Gray

[kinross575@inspire.net.nz](mailto:kinross575@inspire.net.nz)

027 564 8003

## Book Review: *That Summer* by Jennifer Weiner

At first glance, I thought this novel would be a the typical “Chick Lit” style of light romance, undemanding and without much substance. To a certain extent, it is that genre of book, but it has an unexpected depth to it and poses quite a few moral dilemmas for the reader to ponder. These are questions for our time encompassing the so-called “me-too” platforms and male attitudes to women.

The story itself revolves around two women in their 50s, both named Diana, whose paths cross in a completely unexpected way. The two are quite different personalities, one leading a conventional and seemingly privileged life and the other apparently a single career woman. Both, however, are not

what they seem, and as the story unfolds, we see how the two women have unexpected connections to the past.

That past explores the lives of both Dianas as they grow up and become teenagers, with the usual boyfriend and school/career concerns. However, the pivot of the story concerns a particular summer holiday in the 1980s when an assault on one of the girls changes her whole life. In this part of the novel, the attitudes of teenage boys to girls in general and the issue of “consent” is explored along with teenage male culture and what is the norm and what is acceptable in society.

The reader will ponder on the way



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## Book Review *continued*

attitudes have changed and are still changing in recent times, and it will be apparent that there are many sides to

these issues.

In this story, nobody is a winner (except maybe the reader)!

**Robyn Dare**

## Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency Update

### Building a bridge, piece by piece.

If you've ever wondered how a bridge is built, Parahaki Bridge over the Manawatu River is a fascinating one to watch. Back in February there wasn't much to see except a crane perched patiently at the site compound where the Manawatu gorge carpark used to be.

Today, there is plenty to look at and you can watch it all safely from the viewing platform at the temporary gorge carpark on Napier Road, Ashhurst. Once completed, the bridge will be the largest of its kind in the country.

Piece by piece, temporary staging has been built across the river to create a platform for the permanent works



Photo: Bridge from Parahaki Island

## 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](http://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 11.00—12.00noon.

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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Contact: Greg or Luke  
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.  
Clothing, books, homeware and toys are among the variety of items in store.  
Donations accepted only while the shop is open, when the flags are out.  
Opening hours are:  
Monday—Thursday 12.30am—2.30pm  
Friday 10.00am—1.00pm



### Local Justices of the Peace

**Mrs AK Rutherford**  
Available by appointment—027 404 5881  
**Mr F Saua**  
Pohangina Road RD 14—029 254 3206  
**Mr JC Culling**  
Pohangina Road—3294825  
**Mrs EM Thompson**  
Wyndham Street—326 7434

## Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency Update *continued*

to be built from. A steel box (called a 'cofferdam') sits in the middle of the river, creating a safe space for the construction of the bridge's middle pier. Concrete piles, 2.1m in diameter, will be built within the cofferdam and driven 48m below the river bed.

From the gorge carpark you can see several cranes ranging in size from 100T to 250T. On the bank nearest the carpark, reinforced concrete piles are being drilled for the bridge's first pier.

In engineering terms, the bridge will be a tapered twin box girder, constructed by an in-situ balanced cantilever method. This means it will be built out incrementally, from each side of the three piers.

As well as two lanes of traffic in each direction, it will carry the shared user path for pedestrians and cyclists. It will also have a viewing platform on the upstream side for people to stop and admire the view back up the gorge, more than thirty metres above the river.

While the bridge's foundations are being built, a prototype of a vital part of the structure is being tested at the University of San Diego. Specialist engineers are testing a large lead rubber bearing prototype that weighs 5896kg, to ensure it can withstand the force of a massive earthquake.

Lead rubber bearings form a key part of the Parahaki bridge design. They will be placed at the top of the piers at the bridge abutments, giving the bridge resilience to wind and heat, and—if an earthquake strikes—cushioning the impact by giving the bridge controlled

*Photo: Lead Rubber Bearing Testing—August 2021*

flex. Similar technology has been used at Te Papa and Parliament Buildings.

Parahaki Bridge will be one of only a few bridges in New Zealand with base isolators to protect against large earthquakes. Most bridges don't have lead rubber bearings because of the cost—but not every bridge is located near a mountain range with multiple fault lines. The lead rubber bearings that will be used on Parahaki Bridge incorporate leading base isolation technology that will help ensure the long-term safety and resilience of this iconic part of the highway. The bearings will be tested over several months before being manufactured and shipped to New Zealand later in the year.

For the latest on Te Ahu a Turanga, see [nzta.govt.nz/projects/te-ahu-a-turanga/](http://nzta.govt.nz/projects/te-ahu-a-turanga/)



## A Little Ashhurst History—HMS New Zealand

In 1911, an Indefatigable Class Battle Cruiser was launched, with the name HMS New Zealand. She was a gift from the New Zealand people, paid for by our Government, and given over to the Royal British Navy in 1912.

In 1913, before the advent of World

War One, the battlecruiser came to New Zealand as part of a ten month tour of the Dominion.

The chance to see the ship was offered to all schools who wished to send children to board and view. Initial numbers estimated 50 Ashhurst scholars who were

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Sunday: 8.00am—8.00pm  
Public Holidays: 8.00am—8.00pm

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## A Little Ashhurst History—HMS New Zealand *continued*

willing to go, as well as most teachers and some parent carers. It was expected to be announced that a group from Ashhurst would take the train down to Wellington while the HMS New Zealand was in port there.

So it came with some surprise, when the announcement was made that the Ashhurst contingent would have to take the train to Napier instead. Councillor J H Vincent wrote to the Minister of Railways stating, "Cannot children from here be conveyed with Palmerston children to see battleship instead of being dragged to Napier." The answer was in the negative. The Minister even stating that he expected the trip to Napier to be a quicker option than the Wellington one.

So here is the correspondent of the day's write-up of events, the 26th of April, 1913. It's not often I have to censor something from 1913...

"The school children's excursion to Napier on Friday to view the battleship turned out to be the same h\*\*\*y-headed old bungle as has been the case elsewhere. There was the usual absence of organisation and cohesion. The train pulled up at Napier about an hour late, and the youngsters hung around the Spit

until about 3pm, before the boat was ready to take them off to the battleship. Of course, there was the usual scramble between adults and children. Most of the children were on the battleship for about 15 minutes. Some were more fortunate.

Several teachers and committeemen did not board the battleship at all. Everyone who was lucky enough to get on board speaks highly of the courtesy shown by the crew. The youngsters were well looked after so far as refreshments were concerned by the teachers and committeemen, and apparently thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The children left here at 6:48am on Friday morning, and arrived home at 2am on Saturday morning, the train being three hours late, notwithstanding the Minister's telegram that it would be more convenient and take less time to convey the children to Napier.

Many anxious parents were on the Station to meet their children, and a sigh of relief was given when the youngsters were found in good order and condition. A number of children had to drive nine or ten miles home after their arrival at the Station, and the weather was not too good."

Having in recent memory the epic Curious Cove camp of 2016, earthquake

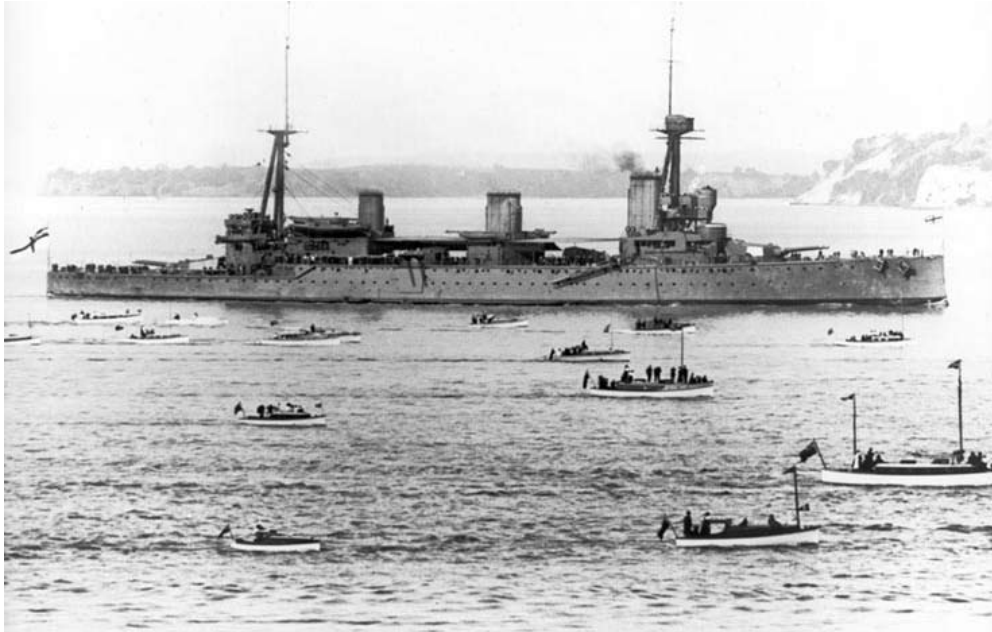


Photo: HMS New Zealand in 1913

## 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 18th 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](mailto:hauorayoga@gmail.com)

or 021 0270 4400, [www.hauorayoga.co.nz](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.3abn.org) Contact Rex 06 356 1141 for Free Bible Studies, Books and DVD's



**A Little Ashhurst History cont.**  
and a not-so-smooth Ferry crossing home, I can sympathise with parents and teachers on this occasion, but sometimes, these are

### Ashhurst Library

Hi everyone, as we are sure you can appreciate, we are submitting this article while currently at Lockdown Level 4. The following events will go ahead on the condition that we will be at the appropriate alert level. Thanks for your understanding.

We have a smaller article than usual with events having to be postponed so just keep an eye on our Facebook page for any updates.

For all information regarding Palmerston North City Council services and updates, please visit their website or Facebook page.

#### Digital Help Sessions—If at appropriate alert level

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

Wednesday, 8th September, 2.00pm—4.00pm

Wednesday, 22nd September, 2.00pm—4.00pm

### Ashhurst Indoor Bowls

As I write this report the country has entered another Level 4 Lockdown, therefore no indoor bowls for the next wee while. As we only have a few weeks left of our 2021 season, we are hoping that this lockdown will be very short.

Results over the past month have seen the Club fours won by Tim Veale, Marion McKenzie, Sue Cowley and ETTY Wells. They now progress to the Champion of Champion hopefully being held on 28th August.

The Champion of Champion Pairs was played on August 1st, with our club winners Alan Cowley and Greg Veale taking the honours over the Manawatu Centre clubs with St Brigids of Feilding runner up. Ashhurst club now has Champion of Champion winners in the Singles and Pairs with the Fours and Triples still to be played.

the moments that create lifetime memories, and great historical articles for the future.

**Kerry Griffiths**

### Ashhurst Jumping Jellybeans—If at appropriate alert level

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

Thursday, 9th September—10.30am

Thursday, 23rd September—10.30am

### Elizabeth Thompson—Justice of the Peace—If at appropriate alert level

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

### 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

*Editors Note—At this stage, our local library will not be open until Level 2 at the earliest according to the Governments COVID guidelines.*

Our club is quite small this year so to have taken out both championships is amazing. Well done everyone!

Ashhurst was again to the fore when the Manawatu Centre Fours was held at the Feilding Civic Centre. Phil Clinch, Darryl Flood and Greg and Jennie Veale defeated a team from Takaro Star in the final.

Gloria Hall was selected for the Manawatu Ladies team to play Taranaki with Manawatu losing 37—35, So close, just one game in it.

The club has The Patron's Trophy and The Mixed and Married Pairs to be finalized in the next few weeks, before our season ends on 30th September.

We will be hoping that the country has managed to snuff out this latest COVID scare. Keep Safe Everyone!

**Margaret Grant—Publicity.**



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## Palmerston North City Council—Services in Level 3

*Editor's Note: Due to current lockdown nothing was provided to us from the City Council. The following was taken from a press release. Alterations were made for brevity.*

Palmerston North's recycling services, some drop-off stations and green waste will resume in Level 3 from 11.00am Wednesday, 1st September, allowing staff time to ensure all the correct safety measures are in place.

Everyone visiting our facilities must use the Covid-19 tracer app to scan the provided QR code, or use our contact register, as the government has made this mandatory. Wearing masks and physical distancing will also be expected. Those not following the rules will be turned away. People should expect queues while we are meeting these measures.

Recycling drop-off points at Awapuni and Ferguson Street will reopen from 11.00am Wednesday, but Ferguson Street will not be accepting e-waste as the office will be closed.

***The recycling drop-off point at Ashhurst will not reopen at Level 3 as a contactless service cannot be guaranteed. The Ashhurst Transfer Station and green waste will remain closed.***

Awapuni green waste reopens 11.00am Wednesday.

Green waste drop-off services will also be available at Awapuni from 11.00am Wednesday. Contactless EFTPOS will be the only payment method available for residents paying to drop off green waste.

The privately owned Matthews Avenue Transfer Station will also be open at Level 3 for people to take any large quantities of rubbish they've gathered during lockdown. Hours will be as normal, seven days a week, however the tip face will be limited to ensure physical distancing and people must wear masks and record their visit. More information is available on the EnviroWaste website.

Council's Building and Planning teams have been processing building and resource consents during Alert Level 4. Under Alert Level 3, they are increasing their capacity to process consents, as well as resuming building site inspections.

Cancelled building inspections are being rescheduled, however we are working through a backlog and ask for your patience with this.

Environmental Protection Services such as animal and noise control will continue

to operate as they have done under Alert Level 4. For noise, we are following up complaints, although officers will have no contact with customers.

Our Animal Management team, including after-hours, will be attending priority jobs only. These include collecting secured dogs, dog attacks, aggressive dogs and stock on roads. Roaming dogs will be attended when more than one complaint has been received for the same dog. Complaints can be made through our contact centre. We will not be attending any property for barking dogs. We will either manage these by phone or follow up at a lower alert level.

Residents may see more of our roading and water crews out working, and we'd like to remind people to not approach them, as they are working in bubbles.

Public toilets remain as they were during Alert Level 4. This allows us to continue the necessary cleaning protocols to protect public health.

Customer service centre, libraries, pools and playgrounds remain closed

Our customer service centre remains closed in Level 3, as do all libraries, pools, playgrounds, and our venues (including Arena fields).

Under Alert Level 3, people can travel a short distance for exercise. However, we've made the tough decision to keep Gordon Kear Forest, Arapuke Mountain Bike Park and the Sledge Track closed under Level 3. Under Covid-19 Alert Level 3 guidelines, people can resume day walks and mountain biking if they are experienced. However, we have no way to restrict inexperienced people using the Sledge Track or Arapuke, so for the safety of users and emergency services, these will remain closed.

Parking services will not be resuming at Alert 3 Level, so people can park for free while getting their click and collect orders. However, we will attend health and safety related callouts, such as people parking over driveways or footpaths.

Residents are urged to take guidelines seriously to keep your whanau safe. Thank you to the essential workers who are continuing to work to look after our community—we are extremely grateful for your help.

Council will continue to provide updates via our website, Facebook page and through media outlets.

### Ashhurst Community Library

326 8646

#### Open Days—Closed during Level 3

Monday: 2.00pm—5.00pm

Tuesday—Friday: 10.00am—5.00pm

Saturday: 10.00am—1.00pm

Sunday: Closed

Access the full range of library digital resources at: [citylibrary.pncc.govt.nz](http://citylibrary.pncc.govt.nz)

### Ashhurst Rubbish and Recycling

Rubbish bag collection Tuesday morning.

Bags out by 7.30am

#### Glass Crate:

7th September

21st September

5th October

#### Recycling Bin

14th September

28th September

12th October

### Mulgrave Transfer Station

The recycling drop-off point at Ashhurst will not reopen at Level 3 as a contactless service cannot be guaranteed.

The Ashhurst Transfer Station and green waste will remain closed.

Published by **The Ashhurst Village Voice Society Inc.**

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PO Box 38, Ashhurst

**Proof-reader:** Kaye Isles

**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 Monday, 20th September 2021.**

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

**Ashhurst Clay Target Club**

After last month's dismal club day, the weather for our July shoot was such a contrast—sunny and no wind! Plenty turned up and there were over 30 shooters participating.

Results were:

Club Shoot:

Top Gun: Paul Keeley after a shoot-off with Alan Ives

Top Handicap: Amanda Hocken

Second round was double-rise and

Top Gun: Alex Hall and Tim Field

Also, Brendon Smith was awarded his 50 long run badge.

**Karen Pawson—Secretary**



**Ashhurst Rainfall**

46mm of rain fell in July 2021, below the monthly average of 111.1mm.

Rain was recorded on 12 days with the highest one-day rainfall of 13mm on the

17th July 2021.

Total rainfall this year is 479.75mm. This is below the annual average of 620.50mm.

**Margaret Pemberton**

