



Ashhurst Village Voice

*Informing the communities of
Ashhurst & Pohangina*

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Cyclone Gabrielle



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**Deadline for April Issue
Monday, 20th March**

Photos (top to bottom): Churchill Bridge; Top of the hill north of Awahou School; Looking through the bush into Kaikatea campground from the bridge entrance.—Photo credit: Joanne Kynoch.

From the Editor

Welcome to the March issue of the Village Voice.

Since the last issue we, as a country and community, have seen the natural disaster of Cyclone Gabrielle. It is a strong reminder that we should never underestimate the power of nature and also to be educated about the risks and history of our local environment. Our thoughts and concern go out to those who were affected by Cyclone Gabrielle, both locally and further north in the Tararua, Hawkes Bay, Auckland and Northland. The recovery for some will be long.

Locally, the flooding from Cyclone Gabrielle has been compared to the flooding of 2004. For those who have moved here since that time, I recommend reading Community Comment by Harvey Jones and also checking out Ashhurst Geographic on Facebook for comparison photos.

Changing subject.

In my garden I am now looking at planting winter vegetables—beetroot, alliums, carrots—as I love the sweetness of roasted root vegetable salad. It is also time to plant winter brassicas.

It is also time for buying spring bulbs. So many to choose from, but my favourite are freesias. The scent is stunning. I also love daffodils and jonquils. For me, the focus has always been scent. However, my wishlist always exceeds my budget, so I am having to whittle down my choices.

Llyvonne Barber—Editor

Ashhurst-Pohangina Junior Rugby

Ashhurst-Pohangina Junior Rugby Football Club are on the hunt for some superstars to join our family-friendly rugby club. 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 6s and 7s Ripper through to Unders 8s first year tackle right up to Under 13 grades. If this sounds like you then head down to our last Registration Day on the 12th March

2.00 pm—3.00 pm at the Club rooms, 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 Tiffany Rogers Club Convener at ashhurstjuniorrugby@gmail.com

Tiffany Rogers—Club Convener

Ashhurst Senior Citizens' Association

Because we have been exempted from the most of the extremes in the weather, thankfully, we were able to enjoy a very pleasant afternoon at the Esplanade on the 2nd February. We did enjoy a great afternoon tea in the Esplanade Cafe.

Sure, we have had rain up the valley and bridges have fallen and farmland flooded but not to the extent that they have been up in the Gisborne and Hawkes Bay areas. Any devastation, no matter how minor, is always upsetting and is hard to recover from. However, as we know, the human spirit does rise again and recoveries take time and we bounce back again, don't

we? Our hearts go out to those who have had a rough time with the weather here and we wish them every assistance that we, as a town, can offer them.

Our March meeting is on the 2nd and this time the Ashhurst Drama Group are the hosts. Past productions by the group have always been well received and we are sure that they will bring us a great afternoon's entertainment. Come along and enjoy—you are guaranteed it. What time? 2.00 pm at the Methodist Church Hall in Bamfield Street.

Terry Garr—Secretary

Manawatū Rural Support Services

We are out and about in the northern Manawatū region beyond Ashhurst so if you know of anyone in that area who would appreciate a visit or has a need, great or small, please do not hesitate to contact us. Our service is free and

confidential.

Our office number is: 06 323 2429, Email: mrssincrcw1@gmail.com

Aevryl and Jo—Rural Community Workers.

Ashhurst Foodbank

The increased need for food that began a few months ago continues this year and we are now seeing 50% more customers than last year's average. While the numbers are not as large as at other food distribution centres, there is still a significant

impact on our resources so we are having to manage that carefully. That being said, please do not let this put you off if you are in need or you know someone else who could benefit from our service. No one is turned away and

Continued on next page

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Thursday 8.30am - 5.00pm Saturday 9.00am - 12 noon
Wednesday & Friday evenings by appointment
141 Cambridge Avenue

Ashhurst Foodbank

each family has different needs so, apart from perishables, not everyone goes away with the same goods.

We have a very generous, caring community who are continuing to do what they can to support the Food Bank and I would like to thank those people who give regularly. We have a new supplier of fresh veges, which our customers really appreciate, so if you would like to donate some of your excess produce to the Food Bank, please give me a call. Everything helps and fresh, seasonal fruit and veges are very valuable in a nutritious diet.

The trial of a change in hours has been successful so we are now open from 2.30 pm—3.30 pm on Thursdays. We are always in need of egg cartons, 12s and 6s, and shopping bags, if you have any to spare. These can be dropped off during opening hours or contact me if this isn't convenient.

Thank you again for your support and if you or anyone you know needs a helping hand with groceries, please come and check us out.

Marianne Crawford—Co-ordinator

RECAP Update

Kia ora from RECAP (the Society for the Resilience and Engagement of the Community of Ashhurst & Pohangina, Inc.)

It's been incredibly heartening watching the community response to the damage caused by Cyclone Gabrielle across the motu. The saying 'look for the helpers' really resonates at a time where things can feel quite overwhelming. It's very impressive to watch so many in our own village mobilise to assist those in need. We have a strong and connected community, with many here willing to help others which we should all feel very proud of.

I'd also like to acknowledge the work of the Palmerston North City Council (especially Community Development Advisor, Amy Viles) for the empathy and kindness shown while helping those in our area whose properties and homes were badly affected.

you have to create raised beds, keeping it as low cost as possible. We have been creating these on berms throughout Ashhurst, utilising unused areas and encouraging people to host gardens that their neighbours can also access.

Our first Beginner's Gardening Workshop for the year is on Saturday March 25th, 10am-1pm. You can register for this workshop at recap.org.nz and the cost is \$5.

RECAP Community Kai

Like many other food rescue services, RECAP Community Kai (previously named RECAP Rescued Food Distribution) is seeing some uncertainty in the amount of donations that we are receiving.

We will continue to communicate to the community through our dedicated Facebook page (**Facebook RECAP Community Kai**) each Tuesday on how we are looking donation-wise for the week. It's likely that some weeks we will have an abundance with enough for everyone, while other weeks will be only for those in real need.

This will continue to be a no-questions-asked service, with no criteria for collection of a bag. We will

Continued on next page

JustOne Please

Thank you everyone, yet again for your generous donations of Coffee for the Safe House. March's item is Shampoo and Conditioner.

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

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We are a community based project run by volunteers

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Monday 3.00 pm—6.00 pm
Tuesday: 3.00 pm—7.00 pm
Wednesday 3.00 pm—9.00 pm
Thursday: 2.00 pm—9.00 pm
Friday: 2.00 pm—11.59 pm
Saturday: 1.00 pm—9.00 pm

Manawatu Rangitikei Methodist Parish—Ashhurst, Bunnythorpe and Pohangina Congregation

Ashhurst Devonport Worship and Community Centre

10.00 am 1st and 2nd Sundays

Pohangina Community Church
10.30 am 3rd Sunday

Contacts: Parish Office—323 4127
Heather Fairless—326 8355

Ashhurst Bowling Club

67 Stanford Street.

Season starts end of September through to mid April.

If you would like more information on lawn bowling, please call or email: Adrienne Harding 326 8972/027 283 6317 ashhurstbowlingclub@gmail.com

Pohangina Rubbish Collection

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

RECAP Update

be exploring other avenues for donations, but as mentioned, this is a country-wide issue.

Thank you to Just Zilch, Mission for Men, Bonnie and Neal Rider and all the volunteers who make this possible each week.

RECAP Seed Library

And finally: the RECAP Seed Library is after donations, so if you save seed you can drop off at the library for

distribution. We particularly appreciate seeds saved in our area, as they are generally acclimated to grow well here.

Look after yourselves and others.

chris@recap.org.nz; www.recap.org.nz.

Chris Love—RECAP Coordinator

Community Comment

The flash flood that tore through farms and houses on River Road last month was devastating to those in its path. Most of us only experienced the sights or photos and don't have to endure the stench and reminders of damage and silt seen on a daily basis. The height of the flood water was

staggering. As dog walkers will be aware, the debris line in McCrae's Bush reveals that it reached shoulder height on the pathway and head high on the foot bridge there.

Once the news cycle has passed by, only time and hard work will reclaim homes and return farmland to top production. Our thoughts are with those who were affected. We were delighted to hear that the Emergency Management team from the city were able



Continued on next page



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Community Comment

to contact affected residents and provide support and compassion when needed. Facebook's Ashhurst Chat was also a useful resource for updates and support.

In many respects, Ashhurst and the Pohangina Valley got off lightly when compared to the devastation of the east coast and Hawkes Bay. The damaging rain was concentrated on the Ruahine Ranges side of the Pohangina Valley, but still managed to demolish the bridge by Camp Rangī Woods which connects the two sides of the valley. The Raumai Bridge and road held together by a slim margin.

The comparative floods of February 2004 involved a wet summer, full rivers from the East, and then another six inches of rain in the Pohangina Valley.



Photo Left: Flooding on Saddle Road; Top: Olsson Orchard; Bottom Saddle Road Bridge. Photo credit —Harvey Jones

This all resulted in a very high Pohangina River and loss of the Saddle Bridge, with slips up to 60% of farmland up the Valley. The Ashhurst Stream, which is fed from the Zig Zag Road catchment area, broke its banks near North Street. It then flooded a dozen houses as it detoured down Oxford Street, Winchester Street and Napier Road on its path to join the river at the bottom of Hacketts Road.

The effects of Mother Nature and climate change are with us. We will need to learn how to live within its boundaries.

Scheduled power outages have been experienced in various parts of Ashhurst in past months as power poles are replaced and transformers are brought down to earth. Recent

experience in earthquakes has convinced PowerCo that ground-based transformers are a more secure option than heavy lumps of iron swinging around on poles. Hopefully out of flood zones in their new locations.

I have also spotted some council activity around the Village Valley Centre.

Overgrown vegetation has been removed from the side of the changing rooms. Some

good news for ball players too, with

Continued on next page

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 10.00 am—11.00 am.

Contact Age Concern phone 355 2832.

Ashhurst Red Cross

Secondhand Shop, Cambridge Avenue.

We have reopened for 2023.

Lots of clothing, footwear, some school uniform, household goods, books and toys for the kids.

Thanks to our customers and the community for donations which are gratefully accepted when the shop is open.

Monday—Thursday 12.30 am—2.30 pm
Friday 10.00am—1.00pm or when the flags are out.

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*Bookings can be done via my Facebook Page

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

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The B4 School Check is the final Well Child check.

Free for all four year old children. It includes a distance vision screening test, audiometry hearing test, height, weight, dental health and child development.

Contact 0800 692 445

Strength and Balance Ashhurst

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

Village Valley Centre, Monday mornings, 9.45 am—10.45 am.

Cost: \$8 per class.

Enquiries: Maria—phone 329 4166

Ashhurst Budgeting Service

Thursday 9.30 am—1.00 pm.

Operating from St Mary Magdalene Anglican Church, 67 Cambridge Street, Ashhurst.

For Appointments contact: Manawatu Home Budgeting Service. Phone: 358 2279; Cell: 0800-228 343.

River Church

We meet at 131 Cambridge Avenue each Sunday at 10.00 am. All welcome.

Pastors Dave and Kellie Ross. Phone 027 247 2179 or 328 4864 (evening)

www.riverchurch.nz

Ashhurst Foodbank

Open 2.30 pm—3.30 pm every Thursday. Methodist Church, Bamfield Street, Ashhurst.

Contact: Marianne 027 627 2054

Community Comment

new hoops for netball and basketball on the half court beside the schools' bus stop. Adjustable heights for both

sets of hoops and new regulation lines to match.

Harvey Jones

Ashhurst School

Welcome back to Term 1 2023. I hope everyone enjoyed their long Christmas and New Years break. I am so excited to be back at school after my time away in Term 4. I would like to thank Kaz and Kyle for stepping into the roles to lead the school in my absence.

A warm welcome to Mr Gerber, Miss Olsen, Miss Lanceley and Miss Lampo to the teaching team. It is great to have them as part of the team. Congratulations also to Pam Perkins, who, over the Summer break, completed her Level 2 Teacher Aide training course.

I would like to acknowledge some of the families in our school community who have had flood damage to their property during the recent floods. We hope that you and your family are all OK and if there is anything you are needing from the school, please contact us.

We have had quite extensive work happening at the school over the holidays. We are looking forward to our T.E.C.H programme getting underway in either week four or five (depending on construction) in our new purpose-built areas. We have also had renovations being completed in Rooms 1—4, our court has a new surface, preparation for a new 3v3 basketball court out the back is underway, a new fence beside the R.S.A. and upgraded concrete areas.

Our field has had trees trimmed and removed and fitness areas removed in preparation for the new fence that is going around the field.

On Friday, March 3rd, we will be running our senior triathlon (Year 5—6 and Year 7—8). On this day our students will be biking several laps along Stanford Street. This is from Splashhurst to the very top of Stanford street before it turns into the cul-de-sac. The Triathlon will run from 9.00 am—12.30 pm. Teachers, the police, and parents will be stationed along the road.

We thank you for your patience and care around our children.

I have a real passion for golf. In my spare time I am also a member and board member of the Feilding Golf Club. I would like to inform all of our community that Feilding Golf club now provides free—*yes free*—membership to all players under the age of 19. They also provide free coaching to all members on a Sunday morning.

Parents can pay \$100 for a full year subscription to play themselves, as long as they are playing with their child. The Club also supplies equipment for players to use at no charge. If you want anymore details please contact either the golf course or come in and see me.

Heath Chittenden—Principal

Te Ahu a Turanga: Highway Update

Construction teams on Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatū Tararua Highway are busy repairing and cleaning the site after the recent storm and flooding events.

While most of the site was spared the worst of the wind and rain that battered the country this month, the heavy rain in the ranges impacted the

Continued on next page



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Te Ahu a Turanga: Highway Update

Parahaki Bridge construction site over the Manawatū River.

In the early hours of 15th February, the water levels reached their highest since construction began in January 2021, spilling over the coffer dam of Pier Two in the middle of the river.

The raging waters left a large amount of debris behind the coffer dam and temporary bridge staging. This caused some minor damage to the staging, including some scour under one of the auxiliary access points that allows people and vehicles to get onto it. However, the main temporary bridge staging is intact.

Our teams are repairing this, while also assessing the entire structure to ensure it's safe. They are also clearing the logs and branches from the staging, and cleaning any dirt and silt that's built up at the pier sites.

The project also had flooding at the site access off the Saddle Road, near Ashhurst, with earthworks needed to repair the damage and provide safe access to the site.

Apart from these areas, the site has held up well, thanks to the preparations put in place by the earthworks and environmental teams prior to the cyclone hitting. As is the case with all big rain events, the site will need some maintenance before construction can resume.

Construction progress

At Parahaki Bridge, temporary works are in place on top of Pier One, which will support the first section of the superstructure (the part of the bridge that the road will be built on).

Pier Two is on track to be completed next month, with the pile cap on Pier Three progressing well.

Over the river at the Eco-Viaduct bridge, the team is preparing to receive the first delivery of beams, which are being made in Napier. The first beam is 47-metres-long and 4.8-metres wide and is due to arrive in late February.

At the Woodville end of the project, work has started on ground improvements at the Mangamanaia Stream Bridge. This process creates a series of in-ground concrete columns that protect the bridge abutments from scour in major flood events.

On the earthworks front, we are sitting at a total of 4.9 million cubic metres moved so far, with just over one million left to go. This is on track to be completed this year, but this final stretch will also be difficult due to soggy ground conditions through Zone 3.

The landscaping teams are busy preparing new sites for planting this year, while also conducting pest

Continued on next page

Ashhurst Yoga Classes

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

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 Genealogy

If you require assistance with Ashhurst History or Genealogy research.

Phone Heather Smith on 326 9989 or email whizjoy@inspire.net.nz



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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 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

Local Justices of the Peace

Mrs AK Rutherford—Available by appointment—027 404 8551

Mr F Saua

Pohangina Road RD 14—029 254 3206

Mr JC Culling

Pohangina Road—329 4825

Ashhurst Music Club

Live original music in your back yard

Our club is open to all ages and skill levels. Monthly meetings are about to start so keep watch on the Facebook page and in the Village Voice.

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

Te Ahu a Turanga: Highway Update

control at various sites around the project.

For more information about the project, head to or visit the Ashhurst Library or the Visitor's Centre at our

Project Office for the latest flyover, project updates and the Drive the Highway simulator.

Grant Kauri—Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency

County Fayre Update

Happy New Year everyone, I hope you got the opportunity to have a peaceful and restful time over the festive break. We reopened on the 15th January, and were very busy, it was great to see lots of visitors on our first day back checking out the art and craft created by local residents and the local history of Pohangina, while enjoying a delicious Devonshire tea. Can you make a pot of tea, a plunger of coffee, wash a dish or two and enjoy speaking and being social with people, then you would make a perfect volunteer at County Fayre. We would love for you to join us. Once a month is the most asked but whatever you can managed would always be welcome. If you're interested, call in on a Sunday afternoon between 1.00 pm—4.00 pm and chat with the volunteers on that day or send us an email to countyfayre@inspire.net.nz so we can make contact with you.

Our A.G.M. was held on 31st January, where the election of officers was filled by myself as President, Amy Lennard as Secretary and Kim

Archibald as Treasurer. If you would like to become a part of our committee there is no need to wait for the next A.G.M.—make contact with us via countyfayre@inspire.net.nz to discuss.

During February we hosted the Levin Caravan Club, who were camping at the Old Pohangina School, providing them with a delicious light lunch. Thank you to our volunteers who prepared and served them. If you belong to a group or club and are looking for a place to have a gathering, whether it be mid-week or the weekend, get in touch and we may be able to accommodate you. We also celebrated Valentine's day, providing delicious homemade Belgium biscuits to our visitors to take away with them.

If you are an individual, sports or social group in need of funding for any particular activity or equipment, or know of a family whose child would love to join a group but cannot afford the fees, you may be the perfect candidate for our support. Write to us at countyfayre@inspire.net.nz.

Continued on next page



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Ashhurst Medicine Depot

Hours

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Saturday: 7.30am—8.00pm

Sunday: 8.00am—8.00pm

Public Holidays: 8.00am—8.00pm

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PH 06-326 7479

County Fayre Update

Don't forget the public library located in County Fayre. Your own personal key can be made available so you can have access to the library when County Fayre is closed. The books are updated every quarter and come from the Feilding Library. You will also find a great selection of books in our 'Swap a Book' shelves too. If you would like to purchase a key, the cost is \$10. Please contact us at countyfayre@inspire.net.nz.

Over the past years we have held B.Y.O. Drinks and Nibbles at County Fayre on the 3rd Friday of each month to encourage social gatherings within our community. This past year we have seen less participation and would love to know your thoughts as to whether

these should continue or not.

Looking for a local outing, then come and visit us in the Pohangina Village. We are open Sundays, from 1.00 pm—4.00 pm, however we always close on public holiday weekends to ensure our volunteers get to enjoy those long weekends too. We provide a venue for artisans to display and sell their work as well as displaying local history of days gone by. We serve Devonshire teas or coffee (scones with jam and cream), Cheese scones, Muffins, Milkshakes and Ice Cream Sundaes, and bags of sweets too. Come and visit, we would love to see you.

Joanne Morris-Kynoch—County Fayre President

Ashhurst Library

Hi everyone, it's Ross here. I am going to be away for a few weeks so Jill is in charge of the ship. Drop in anytime to see her, she is going to love having full run of the place.

Ashhurst Library 30th Anniversary

We are in our 30th year being your library located in our wonderful building and we are planning some very special celebrations. If you have any photos of our library over this time, please feel free to bring them in. We will acknowledge all those who have been involved in our library and our community which has supported us so much. Keep an eye out for more details to come.

Ashhurst Mighty Kids

Ashhurst Mighty Kids is our preschool programme of stories, songs and crafts. Jill is looking forward to taking the sessions for the first time and has some very fun treats in store.

Wednesday, 8th March—10.30am.
Dress-Up session.

Wednesday, 22nd March—10.30am.
Froggy Frolics.

Wednesday, 29th March—10.30am.
Easter Kids Party and Easter Egg Hunt.

RECAP Community Kai

Can we just acknowledge the efforts of Chris, RECAP and all the amazing volunteers who are involved in making up the food bags every Tuesday. It is a huge effort and we know they love meeting and helping everyone. Thank you to everyone who has respected our neighbour's driveway and parking space, it has been a huge improvement.

Sharing Shelf

Our sharing shelf is very popular, and we absolutely appreciate all the food produce from people in our community. There is always a variety so please feel free to drop in and check the shelf at any time.

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

Anglican Parish of Pohangina
St Mary Magdalene's Church, Ashhurst
8.00 am First Sunday of the Month
10.00 am every Sunday
Good Friday service—10.00 am
Friday, 7th April 2023
Easter Sunday service—10.00 am
Sunday, 9th April 2023
St Bartholomew's Church, Komako
10.00 am 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays.
Easter Sunday service—10.00 am
Sunday, 9th April 2023
Priests—Rev Michael Russell, Rev Pam Barnett. Contact the Parish office for further information:
Phone 326 8543 or
Email: info@parishofpohangina.net
www.parishofpohangina.net

St Mary Magdalene Church—Office Hours (subject to change at short notice): Monday: closed,
Tuesday: 2.00 pm—5.00 pm
Wednesday: 2.00 pm—4.30 pm
Thursday: 2.00 pm—5.00 pm
Friday: 2.00 pm—5.00 pm

Ashhurst Pohangina Squash Club
Club night is Monday, from 6.00 pm. 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
Brent Besley (Secretary) 329 4891
brent.liz@inspire.net.nz
Mike Forlong (Memberships) 329 4741
forlong@inspire.net.nz



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Kids 'n Motion

Now in its 21st year of providing music and movement for 0—5year olds within Ashhurst and the surrounding community.

Every Friday 9.45 am—11.15 am during school terms at the 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!

Pohangina Yoga Classes

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

Contact Catherine: hauorayoga@gmail.com, 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 9.00 am—1.00 pm. 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.

Ashhurst Clay Target Club

Here we were for the first turnout for 2023 (traditionally a quiet shoot) but nine squads turned up! The cold rain later would have been rather refreshing during the actual shoot.

Our three way shoot between Ashhurst, Tangimoana and Feilding has now become a four-way shoot with the addition of Pongaroa Club now joining as several of their members regularly shoot with us.

Results of the 4-way shoot:

Ashhurst (A)—227
(Simo, Alan D, Alex, Brad, Ben)

Feilding—215
(Bryan, Aaron, Chris, Tony, BJ)

Tangi—215

Pongoroa—214

Ashhurst (B)—201

There were a few 25's shot and some impressive scores. Well done to Joby for shooting a double possible.

Club results as follows:

Club 25:
Top gun—Donald
Handicap—Tony

Second round:
Top Gun—Joby

Karen Pawson—Secretary



Photos (Left): Four Way Shoot winners; (Right): January winner Joby

Ashhurst Rainfall

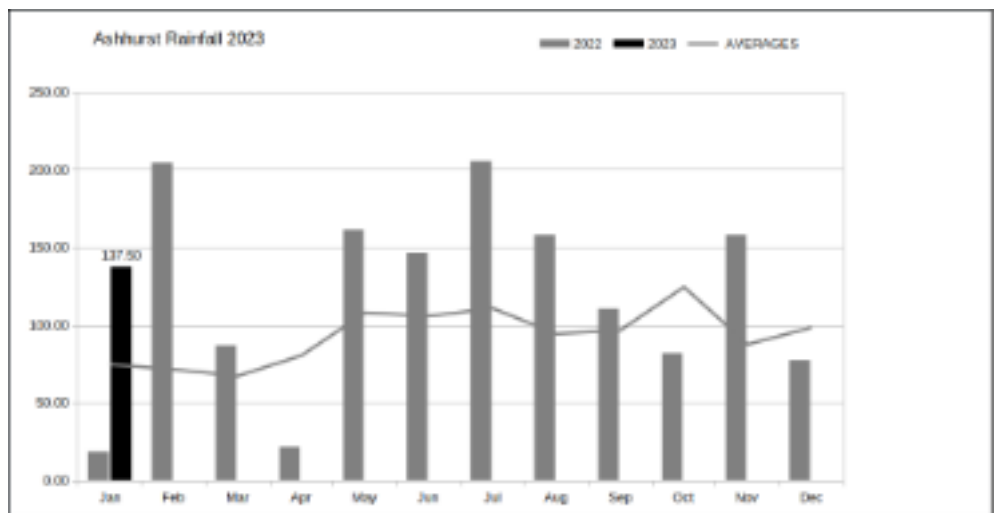
137.5 mm of rain fell in January 2023, above the monthly average of 74.9 mm.

mm on the 27th of January 2023.

The total annual rainfall is 137.5 mm.

This is above the annual average of 74.9 mm.

Mai Quang





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GLIMPSE

Mayor Grant Smith

Kia ora tātou

Stormy weather with shades of 2004 had everyone on edge last month.

Not all of us escaped the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle either.

My deep sympathies go to those Ashhurst families on River Rd who were forced to evacuate, and who lost homes and possessions when the Pohangina River breached its banks.

Rescue operations

My thanks to Council and Emergency Management staff who were at the Ashhurst Community Library to receive the shell-shocked and soggy members of evacuated families and their companion animals, with offers of support; financial, welfare and insurance assistance, and accommodation options.

The Village Valley Centre was pressed into service the following day for additional follow-up consultations with those who needed it.

Council staff were also out quickly to evaluate the damage to homes, private and public property.

Thanks also to NZ Army personnel from Linton who committed to the rescue, clean-up and restoration operations in Tararua, Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti.

Local contractors working on Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatū Tararua Highway have also been diverted to help.

I was able to visit our immediate Tararua and Hawkes Bay neighbours last month and saw for myself some of the carnage Cyclone Gabrielle unleashed.

I offered those mayors our city's practical support as they and their residents come to terms with the extensive devastation and the long-term recovery.

Cyclone Gabrielle giving

There are Mayoral Relief Funds set up to provide ongoing help and support for those traumatised communities, iwi, farmers, community organisations, whānau, and individuals.

To give to the fund of your choice, contact those respective councils' Mayoral Relief Funds online, while Red Cross donations can be made at: <https://www.redcross.org.nz/support-us/about-donating/donating-during-emergencies/>

Emergency Preparedness

Bearing in mind that we did not cop the full brunt of the cyclone, Council facilities and services stood up well during the storm.

Throw a thumping earthquake into the mix, and we were given a timely reminder about having 'Go Bags' and emergency resource kits handy, with family drills in place for

when the unexpected comes hammering on your door.

See civildefence.govt.nz for further details.

Parks and Recreation

Ashhurst Domain, its sheltered camping ground, and other Village parks weathered the cyclone in good shape and weren't too badly affected by the wind and rain.

The new groyne built below the carpark on the Village side of the Manawatū River bridge performed well, though low-lying farmland below the Domain was affected by flooding, which deposited silt and debris and damaged farm fences.

Crop Swap

Ashhurst Community library was the venue last month for the first RECAP Crop Swap of the year.

This provides an opportunity for residents to bring their excess home-grown produce as well as baking and home preserves, and share them with others in the community.

Four more Crop Swaps are planned at the library in 2023 with the next taking place on April 29.

The Herb Farm

Happy 30th birthday to iconic Ashhurst business, the Herb Farm.

Founded by Lynn Kirkland in 1993, The Herb Farm on Grove Rd has grown into a well-loved destination for functions, food and retail, as well as a thriving export business for its home-grown organic and manufactured products.

The anniversary was celebrated at the end of last month with a family fun day featuring live music and activities in the gardens.

Kia kaha.

Meet the Mayor

Due to travel circumstances, there will be no Ashhurst Meet the Mayor session this month.

The next opportunity will be on Tuesday, April 18 between 5 - 6pm in the Ashhurst Community Library.

The Council website and Facebook page will post any changes.

Council's 24/7 contacts are 06 356 8199, the Council Facebook page, and the **Snap Send Solve** app to quickly report anything that needs attention or fixing.

Ngā mihi nui

Mayor Grant Smith JP



ASHHURST COMMUNITY LIBRARY

06 326 8646

Open days

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

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

SPLASHHURST COMMUNITY POOL

06 350 0849

Normal hours

Tuesday - Friday	6am - 9.30am + 1pm - 7pm during school term
	6am - 7pm during school holidays

Saturday 8am - 6pm

Sunday - Monday closed

Contact tracing at the pool and online: clmnz.co.nz/splashhurst

ASHHURST RUBBISH + RECYCLING

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

Recycling Bin	Glass Crate
14 March	7 March
28 March	21 March
11 April	4 April

MULGRAVE ST TRANSFER STATION

Recycling, green waste and general rubbish disposal.

Open Days

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



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

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Letters to the Editor

Letters under 200 words are preferred.

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

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

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

Advertising Rates & Information

Articles and community notices are free.

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

The cost varies proportionally for smaller and larger sized adverts.

For further information on advertising costs and payments please contact Grey Smith.

For technical details please contact the Editor. Contact details above.

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

Village Voice Deadline

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

5.00pm Monday, 20th March.

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

Ashhurst Bowling Club

How quickly things change and who could have predicted the terrible events that have caused so many lives to be impacted and completely shattered. It makes the complaints about the weather and its impact on our bowling seem so trivial and almost petty. As we have had no major cancellations or postponements of things this season we can only be thankful but also keep aware that not everyone in our sphere has escaped disaster in one way or another.

To happier things.

We had our Property Brokers Tournament on the 11th and 12th February and this was a huge success. The green played magnificently, the players were competitive and happy to be having such a great time, brilliant hot weather on Saturday and cooler on Sunday, and the organisation was flawless. Emma Hopkins—now Tankersley—congratulations—was there to hand out the prizes and trophy. The winning team was one which travelled from Taradale and they also took out mention for being the farthest travellers. The prize for the most popular/friendliest team went to a wonderfully cheerful and totally cool group from Woodville. A fabulous weekend and again a huge thank you to our wonderful sponsors.

Twilight continues on Wednesday evenings. Roll up for a fun time of bowls followed by a barbecue sausage and a social drink at the R.S.A. Names in by 5.45pm and all gear supplied. The final night for this will be March 8th so don't miss out.

Mixed results from both Elizabeth Walker and Skogs competitions and so the battle continues.

The school students are back on a Friday afternoon for fun while learning a range of skills.

There has been plenty of Championship Bowling to watch with some nail biting games and totally enjoyable times for the audience. Winners of the Mens 1—8 Pairs were

Wayne Poppleton and Moggy Jensen and in the Women's section it was Margaret Grant and Margie Rogers. The Women's Championship Singles was taken out by Fay Jones and the Men by Tony Garnett. The Drawn Pairs was won by Lawrie Jones and Dave Wright.

Big events in March include the Ashhurst Cotton Triples on the 22nd and this is our last Open Tournament for the season. Always a full green and a day of fun, laughter, competition and prizes.

Before that is the Ashhurst R.S.A. Triples which is always superbly run by Wayne and his team. This is on the 12th and again is a well sought after tournament. Meeting in the R.S.A. for the Ode before play starts at 9.00am is the tradition.

We also have the Over 65 Pairs and Singles Championships in March to complete these major events for another season.

The mornings are so much darker now and by the time you read this we will be into Autumn and much cooler but hopefully settled days. Keep well and enjoy each day. Greet others with a smile.

Adrienne Harding—Secretary



Photos (Top to Bottom): Emma presents the Property Brokers Fours Winners with their trophy; The Woodville team—most popular—in the Property Brokers Fours Tournament