



Ashhurst Village Voice

*Informing the communities of
Ashhurst & Pohangina*

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November 2023

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Community Comment

The reseal of various streets in Ashhurst is yet to occur, but the preparation work to properly repair pot holes and damaged roads in the village is well advanced. Do take note of the restricted speed limits and road cones at various locations, which warn of loose gravel and its associated loss of traction.

The underground infrastructure for stormwater and water main upgrades has begun in Wyndham Street. More road cones and traffic diversions when men are at work. Custom Street is closed to all but resident's vehicles while the services and road construction there is underway. There has been a long sequence of workmen installing stormwater, water and wastewater services. Telecommunication channels are being laid at present before the footpath and road paving is laid down.

The Durham Street Park now has some extra fencing and new trees planted. The fencing and bollards were installed to stop the cars from using the grass area as a skid track. The new avenue of trees will provide some much needed shelter from wind and sun in this weather exposed area of Ashhurst.

We get regular reports about the progress of the new Te Ahu a Turanga highway over the hill. With much of the extensive earthworks completed, the focus of work has moved to the road foundation and pavement construction. However, words don't properly describe the scale of the project and associated construction of the bridges required. A site visit and closer view from the Gorge walking track and car park provides a better idea of the work underway for the main bridge over the river and railway. The complex jigsaw puzzle of the "form traveller" reveals how the bridge will grow out alternately in sections each side of each pier until it joins its counterpart in the middle of the span. A completed portion of the bridge on the near side presents a final view of the bridge's cross section.

The natural world of spring and trees in blossom has advanced to the later flowering fruit trees. The birds and bees have been enjoying their diet of cherry and kowhai. We are also able to enjoy the spectacle of colour and scents in the air which brighten our days, as we emerge out from our indoor days of winter cold.

Harvey Jones



Photo: Construction progress of new bridge at Manawatū Gorge

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Deadline for November Issue—Monday, 20th November

Book Review: Our Journey

Our Journey—A History of the Vertelman Family—As told by Miep Vertelman

At a recent memorial gathering in honour of local identity, Maria Vertelman, I was kindly lent this book written by Maria and other family members telling of her family history.

Maria passed away recently and will be greatly missed in Ashhurst, both by the many locals who met her while walking her beloved dogs, and many others. (Her own dogs were at the centre of her world).

The book tells of her family's history and was written about ten years ago. Her own story starts when the family emigrated from Holland after World War II and follows on to her early childhood growing up in New Zealand in the 50s and 60s with lots of interesting family photos included.

Many family members are written about with both funny and sad moments recorded. Its a fascinating account of a full and adventurous life, honest and open. Never one to mince words, she does not shy away from describing her own mistakes and faults—it is not a "self-serving autobiography" (Warts and all are always present!)

A wonderful quote from Maria—"As history aids our understanding of the present, I hope you will enjoy learning about our genetic family, why we came to NZ and perhaps gain a greater understanding of how we made our choices. Life is a journey and the joy of love is what makes our journey worthwhile".

Robyn Dare

Village Voice Deadlines

December is the last issue of the Village Voice until February 2024. Notices for any events in January and early February should be put in the December issue, the deadline of which is 24th November

Ashhurst Food Drive

On Saturday, 25th November, the Lions Club and local Fire Brigade will be collecting donations for the Ashhurst Food Bank. To help in your planning for this event, the following suggestions are from the shopping list I use to top up supplies in the latter half of the year.

- Baking—White, wholemeal and self raising flour; white and brown sugar; dried fruit.
- Biscuits—family packs and crackers. Snack bars.
- Cereals—Weetbix, cornflakes, rice bubbles and rolled oats.
- Cleaners—dishwash liquid, multipurpose cleaner, toilet cleaner, washing powder.
- Desserts—tins of fruit, jellies and custard powder.
- Dried soups, peas.
- Drinks—tea, coffee, hot chocolate, powdered sachets.
- Hygiene—soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo.
- Tins—pasta sauces, soups, beans, peas, corn, baked beans, spaghetti, fish, chickpeas and

lentils.

- Toilet paper.

Our focus at the Ashhurst Food Bank is to provide our customers with pantry staples that form the basis of a nutritious diet and part of this is freeing up funds for food by also providing other household basics. We truly appreciate your help in working towards this goal and grateful thanks go to our regular supporters from the Anglican and River Churches, RECAP, the Ladies' Night Out and Ric Foxley's Ashhurst Calendar. This year we have seen an average of nine families per week, which is 50% more than last year's average, and have impacted approximately 32 different families over the last nine months.

If you would like to contribute to our work financially, please contact me, Marianne on 027 627 2054.

Finally, if you would like to contribute homemade jams, pickles, etc. please include a label with the name of the condiment, a list of ingredients and the date it was made.

Thank you for making a difference in our community.

Marianne Crawford

Ashhurst Volunteer Fire Brigade

Kia ora Ashhurst. Today I'll be talking about lithium-ion batteries. These days, lithium-ion batteries are everywhere. In phones, laptops, power tools, and electric cars. They are light, compact, and long-lasting, but can be a fire hazard if they are damaged, mishandled, or improperly disposed of.

If damaged, incorrectly charged or exposed to extreme heat they can undergo thermal runaway. This is when the cells rupture, giving off toxic, explosive gas and can lead to the creation of an intense, self-sufficient fire which can be very hard to extinguish.

But doing some simple things will reduce the risk of fire: only using the manufacturers charger, unplugging after charging, charging away from

combustible materials and checking the condition of the battery all minimise the risk of fire.

If there is a fire though, remember to get out and stay out and call 111. Remember you can visit <https://www.fireandemergency.nz/hfsv/> or ring 0800 693 473 to arrange a home fire safety visit.

Also, earlier this month we managed to properly farewell long-standing Firefighter Dave "Bridgey" Bridge who has served the Ashhurst community on and off for a staggering 50 years! His experience and knowledge are already missed.

Matt Clark—Community Liaison Officer, Ashhurst Volunteer Fire Brigade

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Thursday 8.30am - 5.00pm

Saturday 9.00am - 12 noon

Wednesday & Friday evenings by appointment

141 Cambridge Avenue

Ashhurst Senior Citizens Association

"Now that beam above your head is 400 years old, you know!" Those of us who have been to the country of our forebears have no doubt found out about the antiquity of Gt Britain. Here in Ashhurst there's probably nothing much older than 80 to 100 years. Last month we had a delightful resume of Neroli Sharp's recent trip to Britain and Ireland. Neroli regaled us of the trials of the transport system, the fun of historical castles and joy of visiting

famous places with her son. We did enjoy her repartee.

These afternoons are always enjoyable and everyone comes back again each month to enjoy the entertainment and the afternoon tea. Come and join us and see for yourself. November's meeting—Thursday, 2nd November at 2.00 pm in the Methodist Hall, Bamfield Street.

Terry Carr—Secretary

Ashhurst Images Calendar 2024

Sadly, due to a variety of personal and family circumstances, I have made the decision not to produce an Ashhurst Images Calendar for 2024. I simply do not have the time or the energy to put into it on top of my existing commitments.

I would hope to be able to get back to producing one for 2025.

If there is someone out there who would like to take over this project, then by all means contact me, and I would be happy to help you get it under way.

In the meantime, my sincere thanks to all the local businesses who have sponsored the calendar over the past couple of years, and also to the photographers who have been happy to have their images included.

Just in case anyone is concerned

Village Voice Vacancies

The Village Voice is looking for a proofreader to check our content before printing. We also have a need for delivery agents to replace those who retire or depart. If you have an eye

about my health or anything like that, I am perfectly well. But the Ethiopian project that I have been involved with for the past 14 years (and have written about in the Village Voice on numerous occasions) is in deep trouble with a second civil war having broken out in August, significantly affecting both the people and the village where we have been working. I had planned a farewell visit to the project during September and October, but this had to be cancelled because of the fighting. We also have our UK-based daughter and her partner arriving mid-November for a month, so will be otherwise engaged at a time when I would normally be focusing on getting the calendar produced and out for people to purchase.

Ric Foxley—Mob 029 777 2368.

Ashhurst Christmas Parade and Market

Get ready to light up your holiday spirit at the Ashhurst Christmas Parade and Markets on Saturday, December 2nd, 2023 from 9.00 am—12.00 pm!

We've got an incredible lineup of activities this year! The parade, led by our community constable Phil, will kick off at 10.00 am sharp, promising an array of dazzling floats competing for

the ultimate prize, the coveted Best Float trophy!

Exciting news for the little ones! The Village Valley Centre is all set to host a dedicated kids zone that can be explored after visiting all the wonderful stalls, which are conveniently also located in the Village Valley Centre. Food trucks will be right outside, ready

Continued on next page

JustOne Please

Super Kia ora, everyone. Thank you for the generous donations of Milo in October for Women's Refuge Safe House.

November's item for the Safe House is a packet of biscuits.

I will not be asking for donations for December or January as I feel your homes have greater needs at this time of the year.

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

Firewood For Sale

Poplar \$50, pine \$100, shed-dried pine \$120 per cu m.

Phone Ken Pratt 027 498 3718.

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time 9.30 am—12.00 pm.

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Pohangina East Valley Road.

Drop in for a visit, enjoy a cuppa,
morning tea and chat. Contact: Arna
Taylor—samnarna@outlook.com

Ashhurst Memorial R.S.A. Inc

74 Cambridge Avenue, Ashhurst.
Phone: 326 8296

Sunday: 2.00 pm—6.00 pm

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—Midnight

Saturday: 1.00 pm—9.00 pm

Manawatu Rangitikei Methodist Parish—Ashhurst, Bunnythorpe and Pohangina Congregation

Ashhurst Devonport Worship and
Community Centre

10.30 am 2nd Sunday

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.

Ashhurst Christmas Parade and Market

to refuel hungry tummies.

But that's not all! Get your creative
hats on for our reindeer decorating
competition which is open to
everyone! Show off your artistic flair
and craft your very own reindeer
masterpiece. Prizes await the top
three entries, so don't miss the chance
to showcase your skills. Bring your
handmade reindeer down to the
Village Valley Centre by 11.00 am, and

our judges will select the winners at
12.00 pm.

If you'd like to enter a float or stall in
the markets please head over to our
Facebook page for registration details.
Or contact us at:
ashhurstchristmas2023@gmail.com

**Angela Heald—Ashhurst
Christmas Parade and Market
Coordinator**

County Fayre Update

County Fayre, the creative, social,
and historical heart of the Pohangina
Valley. Open Sundays from 1.00 pm—
4.00 pm.

Get your tickets for the Pohangina
Downhill Walk, 11th November: Take a
ride on a shuttle bus up Finnis Road
and to the top of Ridge Road to the
beginning of the walk, descend down
the Branch Road Walkway through
native bush and farmland back to the
Pohangina Village and County Fayre,
where you will be treated to
homemade soup and other delicious
delights. Tickets cost—adults \$30,
child \$15 and a family ticket \$100 (two
adults and four children). To book your
ticket contact countyfayre@inspire.net.nz.

A Community Spring Gathering was
held in September and was a great
success with live entertainment from
Bullfrog Rata and his friend Geoff as
well as Jeff and Sheree. We also were
entertained by Cole on the bagpipes.
There were lots of art activities for the

kids and face painting too.
Scooptruck Ice Creams came along
and provided subsidised delicious ice
creams for all. This event was
sponsored by County Fayre.

The Manawatu Art Trail was once
again held at County Fayre with work
on display by Barbara Hyde, Jayne
Ryrie, Catherine Russ and the children
of Awahou school whose work is
inspired by Friedensreich
Hundertwasser's artwork. These
works continue to be available to view
and purchase. Call in on a Sunday
afternoon.

County Fayre's most recent
upgrades are the sprucing up of our
signs with a lick of paint, and the
replacement of the louvre windows in
the front of the building. New double-
glazed windows have been installed
which will make the building more
secure and warmer in the winter
months. Our next endeavour is to
upgrade the kitchen from its current

Continued on next page

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County Fayre Update

homely state to a more professional kitchen with plans and ideas starting to come together.

Have you ventured into the Pohangina Public Library, located in County Fayre. It's a satellite of the Manawatu District Library, with books updated every quarter. Access to the library outside of County Fayre hours can be done with the purchase of your own key. These cost \$10 to cover the cost of key cutting. Contact us at countyfayre@inspire.net.nz. You will also find a great selection of books in our 'Swap a Book' shelves.

Become a Volunteer. Want to get involved in your community? Come and be a volunteer at County Fayre. Anyone is welcome and there will always be a need for more. If you are interested, then 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. See below for

contact details.

B.Y.O. Drinks and Nibbles next held on 18th November and 15th December from 5:30 pm—7:30 pm. A social community gathering held at County Fayre. Bring along your favourite beverage and nibbles to share, bring a friend and a neighbour. Tea and coffee will be available too.

Festive Closing/Opening Dates: The festive session is fast approaching and our last Sunday open to the public is Sunday, 17th December, 2023 and will reopen in the new year on Sunday, 14th January 2024.

If you want to get in contact then write to us at countyfayre@inspire.net.nz or send a message via our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/CountyFayre/>.

Looking forward to seeing you here.

Jo Morris-Kynoch—County Fayre President

Business Profile—Ashhurst Deer & Duck Inn

The Ashhurst Deer and Duck Inn is the latest resurrection of a local watering hole located in York Street. Although ownership of the Inn has migrated to Percy Burlace, Jody is the welcoming face as bar manager and Ashhurst resident. Five part-time staff keep the bar and food menu ticking over.

The restaurant has reopened with a new chef with 30 years' experience to guide its operation. The inn has been redecorated with a 'deer' theme. It also

has accommodation available of five double rooms, each with an en suite.

The inn and restaurant currently operate from Wednesday to Sunday from 11am and day dependent closing times up to midnight on Fridays and Saturdays.

Bookings are recommended for meals by phone or Facebook, with Sunday roast a regular feature.

Pop in and check it out.

Harvey Jones

Continued on next page

Steady As You Go

Steady As You Go—A falls prevention programme. One hour of slow purposeful exercises for Seniors. Aimed at strengthening weakened leg muscles and helping to improve balance. \$2 per session. Otangaki Lodge, 69 Oxford Street, Ashhurst

Contact Age Concern phone 355 2832 for more details.

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Ashhurst Plunket

Every Monday and Tuesday.

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

B4 School Check

The B4 School Check is the final Well Child check.

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

Contact 0800 692 445

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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

Ashhurst Red Cross

Secondhand Shop, Cambridge Avenue.

Summer clothing is available + lots of other household items and treasures.

Donations accepted when shop is open.

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

A Te Ahu a Turanga Poem

High on the hill where the air is never still, there's a tale of a road and its birth,

Where giant yellow cats, with riders on their backs, tear shreds from the hide of the earth.

Where the screech of the tracks and the roar of the stacks can be heard from way down below

And the trucks raid and plunder of the ground ripped asunder and from cut to fill they must go.

Of diesel and oil and mountains of soil being pushed by the bulldozer blade and concrete and steel and mud stuck to the heel as headwalls and culverts are laid

Of drilling for piles and filling for miles with the planting of grasses and trees

Of sediment ponds in the back of beyond protecting the rivers and seas

On the path of a God, where warriors once trod, and the spirits are standing steadfast

As they gaze on these lands as the workers' rough hands are careful to honour the past

Now it's orange battle suits with hard hats and boots armed with laptops and lasers and lights

and shovels and spades and of ute cavalcades traveling between the work sites

And right in the middle is team Gateway Civil, bending our backs as we strive

To build up the walls through gales and squalls, on the structure known as Bridge 5

From the dawn's early light to the onset of night, you'll find us there grafting alone

With the laying of blocks and compaction of rocks as we bring life to our fortress of stone

With Jimmy on the Skid and Nick on the grid and Tim overseeing the build "Move faster" is the call as we build up the wall, go quickly or you'll risk getting chilled

There's Ropes on the digger with backfill to configure and there's Ryan and Noah hefting the blocks

We've a schedule to meet (but we're looking beat) as the hours drift by on the clocks

But cowboys we're not and the values we've got ensure that we keep ourselves safe

And be sure and be swift and be quick with the gift of a smile for a fellow work mate

Our standards are high and we've got a good eye, for anything gone a bit stray

We'll fix it on sight and make sure that it's right, for that is the GC Way

So in some future day when you're traveling this way, take your time and look out the side,

For the route that you're on can sing its own song, that of passion and care and of pride

Where a new die is cast 'tween the present and past as the future can clearly be seen

And the GC's were there, doing our share, look carefully, you'll see where we've been

Jeremy Cotter

Te Ahu a Turanga Highway Update

Construction of the bridge deck on Parahaki Bridge is underway following the installation of the form traveller in September.

The 300-metre-long bridge over the Manawatū River—and the largest structure on Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatū Tararua Highway—now has all three of its piers completed.

The next major phase of construction is building the superstructure, or the part of the bridge that the road goes on. This is also known as the bridge deck.

Parahaki Bridge is being built using a balanced cantilever construction method, which involves constructing

Continued on next page

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Te Ahu a Turanga Highway Update

the superstructure in segments, section by section.

The segments are made up of concrete that is poured in situ, or in place, rather than being precast and then lifted into position. This is because the segments would be too heavy to be lifted by crane.

The concrete is poured into frames, which are supported by the form traveller. These frames form the shape of the box girder.

After one segment is completed, the form traveller moves along and the next segment is poured. This is then repeated on the opposite site of the pier, resulting in the superstructure being 'balanced'.

The segments are reinforced with steel to give them extra strength.

Eventually, segments radiating out from one pier will be connected with those from the next pier.

In total, 54 segments will be constructed, using a total of 6,000 cubic metres of concrete.

Each segment takes up to ten days to complete, and the team aims to have about six completed by the end of 2023.

Early in 2024, a second form traveller will be installed on pier 2, enabling more segments to be constructed at the same time.

Project staff transform Bunnythorpe School grounds

Staff working on Te Ahu a Turanga have given the grounds at

Bunnythorpe School a much-needed makeover.

The school's principal, Nina Booth, asked for some support to improve the grounds and remove parts of the old playground as part of the project's social outcomes programme.

Staff working on Te Ahu a Turanga, including landscapers from Evergreen Landcare and the S.H. Contractors team, did a range of work at the school, including laying mulch, planting, creating two pathways, trimming existing fence planting, removing concrete and tyres, creating two new gardens and building a chicken run.

Members of the community also worked with the project team to remove, repurpose and dispose of the old playground equipment.

The trees and shrubs planted at the school were all donated by Kauri Park, which is the main plant supplier for Te Ahu a Turanga.

A huge thank you must go to everyone involved for putting in their time and resources to help the school.

For more information about the project, head to www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/te-ahu-a-turanga/ 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

261 Fearless Club NZ—Ashhurst

Women's only running group. Non-competitive, non-judgemental, no woman is left behind!

Every Monday during term time, 6.00 pm—7.00 pm

Meet at the Ashhurst Squash Club

Email: 261clubnzashhurst@gmail.com or phone Sarah on 027 460 6729

Ashhurst Yoga Classes

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

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!

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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.

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To register contact Narrelle 021 2673676



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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

J Wakeford
Hiwinui—022 319 0434

Craft on Cambridge

At the Chapman Hall, Anglican Church, Cambridge Avenue, on Monday afternoons 1.00—3.00 pm and Wednesday mornings 9.30—11.30 am. B.Y.O. craft and the cost is \$2 each time.

A friendly, relaxed group who can help with your UFOs!

Contact: Marianne Crawford 027 627 2054

Ashhurst School

Class Placements 2024.

We currently have our out-of-zone placements available for the 2024 school year. So if you know of families trying to get into our school for 2024, now is the time to apply. We will be having limited spaces due to the roll growth we have had in recent years. A reminder to all new families who live inside the zone, there is no process for you except to just fill in the enrolment forms.

School Turf Project

We have some really exciting news. Our school astro turf is going to be revamped around the 13th November. We have awarded TigerTurf the project. They will be replacing the old turf with a brand new one. This is going to be a fantastic upgrade as our existing turf is very worn from all of the use. I will keep you updated on the finalised timeline. We are expecting this to take two weeks, weather permitting.

School Fence.

I unfortunately read some of the comments about the school fence on our local Facebook page. Thank you to the parents who took the time to respond supporting the school. To ensure all information is correct, the Ministry of Education and their team completed a risk analysis of the school to ensure all children are safe. This is an independent review. From that review they deemed the necessary design around the school. This was then sent to a project manager and the Ministry of Education to sort. The school does not have control over the design, height

requirements etc. The funding for the fences comes from another source in Wellington and has no impact on the school finances whatsoever. I have fed back some issues with the fence particularly about the opening of the gates etc and are awaiting actions from the project manager on these. My role in this process is to ensure the children are safe during this process and that the company completing the project is acting in a safe manner.

Lamb and Calf Day

What a wonderful day we had on Tuesday, and how lucky were we with the weather! Lamb and Calf day is such a special day at our kura, alongside the crafts that happen throughout the school. Congratulations to those students that competed with their pet. The commitment to rearing an animal is massive and the children all did super well! We look forward to some of our students heading off to Championship Day in Rongotea. Walking around the rooms is always a highlight and the creativity of our tamariki was amazing, and the rooms smelt extra amazing as well. Special thanks to the judges from the Manawatu Oroua Boys and Girls Ag Club, Andre and Tracey for setting up the rings this morning, and Heath and Theo for helping in the rings. A big thank you to Whaea Kaz for all of the organisation with this. A really successful day that provides another opportunity for our tamariki to shine!

School Events

We are almost at the end of week two

Continued on next page



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

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Ashhurst School

and things are getting very busy. In week three we have the senior athletics day on Tuesday and junior athletics on Wednesday. There is also the Year 5—6 Super 6 competition on Friday which is

held in Pahiataua. We have a number of sports activities, camps, and other extracurricular activities happening throughout the term.

Heath Chittenden—Principal

Ashhurst Library

Hi everyone, we are heading into the warmer months and our gardens are starting to look incredible again after an incredibly wet winter. Just a reminder that you can come on down any time to help yourself to a variety of herbs, vegetables and fruit when in season. The plum tree should be out in full force by Christmas. Speaking of Christmas, no doubt due to a certain staff member's insistence, Christmas decorations will be adorning the library very soon, no matter how early it is.

Summer Reading 2023—24

The Summer Reading Programme is a free and fun programme that supports and encourages the enjoyment of reading, and there has been a great history of kids doing the programme in Ashhurst. It is for children 4—10 years and is great fun for both keen and reluctant readers. Kids earn prizes along the way and we finish with a big celebration party.

There is also the iRead intermediate reading programme for 11—13 years. This involves a series of events over the summer mixed with sharing book reviews.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for registration details and please feel free to come in and talk to us about the programme.

Our Bird Feeder in the Garden

Our bird feeder in our garden has attracted a mass of Tui. We hope you are enjoying seeing them all gathered around the sugar water. We have been told that they are the 'bullies' of the bird garden but they just look and sound so awesome so they are forgiven.

Ashhurst Bowling Club

Next month I am hoping to write about how fantastic the weather has been and how all the planned bowling events happened!

Ashhurst Mighty Kids

Ashhurst Mighty Kids is our preschool programme of stories, songs and crafts. We have one more session for 2023 and it's our Christmas party, see you there.

Wednesday, 6th December,—10.30am
Christmas Party

Karu Kanakana

We are very happy to have Karu Kanakana sessions taken by our great friend Billie Jean who will bring storytelling, games, waiata and fun for all the whānau. This is a bilingual session for preschoolers and their kaitiaki (caregivers).

Nau mai, haere mai, whakatau mai rā!

Proudly supported by Pascal Street Community Trust.

Tuesday, 14th November—10.30 am

Tuesday, 28th November—10.30 am
Last session for 2023

Ashhurst Elevenses—Every Friday at 11.00 am during term time

We are thrilled with the response to our new morning tea sessions, thank you to everyone who has attended. Come along every Friday during term time for a cuppa and a friendly chat. Everybody is welcome! There will even be tea, coffee and the odd biscuit provided, but if you want to bring along some home baking, you are very 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 Library

Anglican Parish of Pohangina

St Mary Magdalene's Church, Ashhurst
8.00 am First Sunday of the Month
10.00 am every Sunday

St Bartholomew's Church, Komako

10.00 am 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays.
Priests—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: closed
Wednesday: 9.30 am—3.30 pm
Thursday: closed
Friday: 1.00 pm—3.00 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

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

Continued on next page



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Kids 'n Motion

Now in its 21st year of providing music and movement for 0—5 year 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 Bowling Club

Kynn with Wayne, Dave, Margie and Rod the runner up team. Well done to everyone who played.

The Drawn Triples was also played in shocking weather and it came down to two games with Tony, Moggy and Kevin beating Jen, Barbara and Hugh by only one point—well done to all players.

Skogs and Elizabeth Walker competitions are underway with women having wins and men mixed results. Many of the games are being played on our green so 1.30 pm on a Tuesday is a good time to pop down to the club and watch the quality play happening.

We played the second round of the Tararua Quad (round one cancelled due to the weather) and Ashhurst is in second place at the moment. Special mention must be made of Wayne and Jacqui who were the Pairs Players and won every game and did so really convincingly—well done.

Four of our ladies played in the Wimsett Cup winning three games out of four. They did well but were unplaced this year. This is a challenge run through the Centre and attracts players from many clubs.

Twilight Bowls starts again on 8th November, 6.00 pm start and names in by 5.45 pm. You only need flat soled shoes as there are bowls in the

clubroom for anyone to use. A fun, social hour or so, maybe a barbecue sausage and a drink at the R.S.A. to round out the evening. Everyone very welcome.

We have our Ladies Gala on 15th November and this is always a fantastic get together with ladies from a huge range of clubs. We always have great raffles, a sales table where bargains can be found and the bowling itself is highly competitive. Our major sponsor is the R.S.A. Ladies and we thank them hugely. Many prizes, especially in the raffles, are donations from businesses in our community and again we say a huge thank you.

Plenty of bowling happening in November with Club Championships, Club Day which is every Thursday, Twilight and events where we compete against other clubs.

If you want to find out more, please contact anyone from the club or Adrienne 027 283 6317 and Margaret, our treasurer on 027 239 7096 can tell you about fees. Remember the Non-Championship fee is very reasonable and there is also a reduced fee for First Year Players at our club.

Stay safe, keep smiling and may the sun shine.

Adrienne Harding—Secretary.

Ashhurst Rainfall

111.5 mm of rain fell in September 2023, above the monthly average of 98.7 mm.

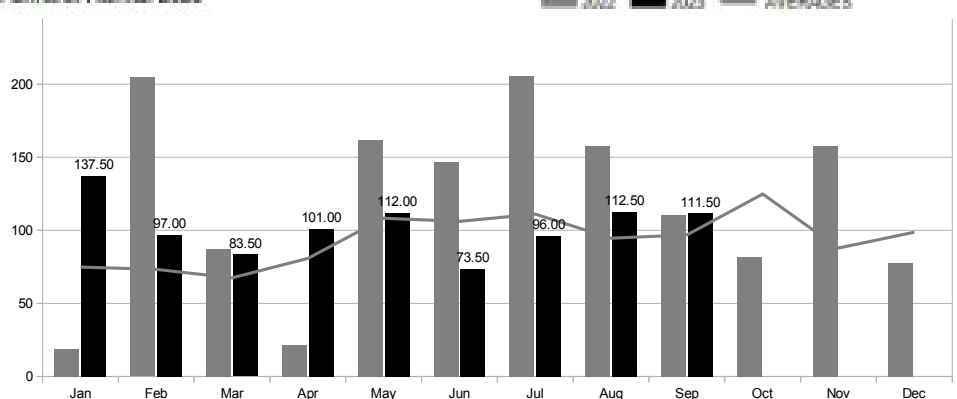
Rain was recorded on nine days with the highest one-day rainfall of 40 mm on

the 24th of September 2023.

The total annual rainfall is 924.5 mm. This is above the annual average of 818.2 mm.

Mai Quang

Ashhurst Rainfall 2023



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GLIMPSE

Mayor Grant Smith

Kia ora tātou

With the General Election done and dusted, we can now look forward to making the most of 2023's last stanza.

Spring is still playing tag with us weather-wise, but hopefully things will settle down as Council contractors get stuck into the 'road works season'.

Fine weather and drier conditions provide the best and most lasting bang for Council's road-working buck, with Ashhurst in for its fair share of infrastructural upgrades.

Submissions on the Cambridge Ave motorhome dump station proposal have now closed and are under consideration.

On the Black Stuff

Residents should have received information about the road resealing programme that is already affecting a number of streets around the Village.

Davis Rd, around Lincoln Park, Oak Cres, Petes Way, and Pohangina Rd along with Wyndham St and Custom St are undergoing reconstruction. To save travel time, it may be best to avoid these streets during weekdays – unless of course you live or have business there.

While contractors hope to keep the works on schedule, be aware that any untoward weather-related events could disrupt the timetable. Details of the full roadworks programme are on the pncc.govt.nz website.

The Pipes are Calling

Comprehensive stormwater and water mains renewal work has commenced on Wyndham St. It's a big job that's not expected to be completed before the end of January 2024.

Between 6.30am and 7pm during the week, the road will be closed to through traffic and down to one lane with 30kph speed restrictions. Contractors also ask residents not to park vehicles on Wyndham St to optimise the available workspace and to minimise congestion.

At this stage of the project water connections won't be affected, but householders will be notified in advance if the supply needs to be turned off temporarily.

There will be a break in the work over the Christmas-New Year holiday period.

Customising Custom St

You may have noticed that the long-awaited upgrade to Custom St is underway.

The drainage trench work that closed the street's southern end and affected the rail crossing was the first part of a project that will see concrete footpaths, driveway access, curbing and channelling completed.

Zoned residential, contractors are aware that Custom St businesses may have specific access requirements, and if there are any concerns, they can be contacted directly on 027 541 6452 or 06 357 1026.

Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day November 11 previously known as Armistice Day, will have a civic service to commemorate 11/11/1918 and the end of WWI at the central city cenotaph on Te Marae o Hine/The Square at 11am. All veterans and their families are welcome to attend.

It's Nearly Christmas

The Ashhurst Community Library is the focal point for distributing Food Drive bags in the week or so leading up to the Ashhurst Volunteer Fire Brigade and Ashhurst Pohangina Lions Food Drive Day on Saturday November 25.

This collection to restock the Ashhurst Food Bank in Bamfield St went with a rip and a roar last year, and volunteers for bag delivery and food pick-up duties can find out more at the library.

The library is also the drop-off for donations to the RECAP and Ashhurst Memorial RSA annual Christmas hamper - contact Marianne on 027 627 2054 or Chris on 021 755 314.

Christmas officially comes to Ashhurst on Saturday December 2 with the Christmas Parade and Market. Registrations for floats are at <https://forms.gle/Tdi31eTfEWxRoTbs5>, with stalls and food trucks at <https://forms.gle/E24FPGbVvmyHzjn27>.

Meet the Mayor

November's Meet the Mayor will be the final session for the year and is from 5 – 6pm at the Ashhurst Community Library on Tuesday November 28.

The Council website and Facebook page will notify any changes.

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
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Saturday 8am - 6pm

Sunday - Monday closed

Splashhurst! online:
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ASHHURST RUBBISH + RECYCLING

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

Recycling Bin	Glass Crate
7 November	14 November
21 November	28 November
5 December	12 December

MULGRAVE ST TRANSFER STATION

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

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



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

Published by The Ashhurst Village Voice Society Inc.

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rgcasmith@inspire.net.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:

5.00 pm Monday, 20th November.

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

Ashhurst Clay Target Club

What a September shoot—having our A.G.M. slotted between the two shoots didn't deter anyone. Question: how many A.G.M.'s start at 11.50 am and finish 20 minutes later, including election of officers?

Huge congrats to Blacky Shannon who took home the President's Award and an acknowledgement made to all the club members who provide so much support in many ways and make the club so friendly and successful.

We had our first "go" with the new wad sweeper and it works a treat!

Thanks to Jordy who volunteered to drive it and be the first to test it out.

Congratulations to the Bucknells, Jenny and Tony, who took out the Club 25. I had caught up with the Bucknells socially the previous night so perhaps their secret success factor is a social night before each gun club!

Club 25 DTL

Top Gun: Tony Bucknell after a five way shoot

Handicap: Jenny Bucknell

Points Score: Brad Turner

Karen Pawson—Secretary

Ashhurst Indoor Bowls

Our season has now closed for the 2023 year.

The Ashhurst Club has enjoyed a very successful year—be it at Club, Manawatu Centre, Zone and National events.

We are extremely lucky to have such talented Indoor Bowlers at our Club and it certainly brings out the best in all members to lift their game when playing with, or against our National Champions. And it is not always competition as our non-competition club nights are a lot of fun. The Club holds a trophy night once a month with all trying their very best to win the 'lotto ticket'. Nobody has admitted winning any huge amount of dollars though.

We have held our final night when all trophies were presented to the Winners and Runners-up.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of Life Membership to Ewen Morrison. Ewen has been a very valuable and active member of the Committee, as well as Vice Captain and Points recorder for most of the many years that he has been a member. He also sets out the mats and bowls each club night and then puts it all away at the end of the evening. We give a him huge vote of thanks. Congratulations Ewen, well deserved.

We have our A.G.M. shortly and look forward to March 2024.

Margaret Grant—Publicity

A new and improved bus network is coming soon to Palmy and Ashhurst

This includes buses running more often and for longer hours each day, more direct routes and a fully electric fleet from **February 2024** - now that's pretty cool!



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