



# Ashhurst Village Voice

## *Informing the communities of Ashhurst & Pohangina*

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**August 2024**

[https://recap.org.nz/village\\_voice](https://recap.org.nz/village_voice)  
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### Community Comment

The various local bodies have signed off their ten year long-term plans. These are updated on a three year cycle, so ratepayers can see what is planned for the future.

Planned rates increases for Horizons Regional Council over the next three years are 11.7%, then 12%, and another 9.0% increase in year 4.

Palmerston North City Council is more complex with a change in the rating system as well as a rating increase. Council have agreed that rating will be proportionally levied 50% on land values and 50% on capital value, along with the standard general rates for delivered services. These changes in rates calculations will be phased in over the next three years. The overall rates increase across the city is 10.1%.

Specific property rates calculations have been updated and are available on council web pages using a simple search by entering an address to view the annual rates bill.

Some other Palmerston North City Council decisions of note. The long awaited Ashhurst to City Riverside Pathway has been kicked along for another wait of four years when the project will be revisited. There are still unresolved problems of access with

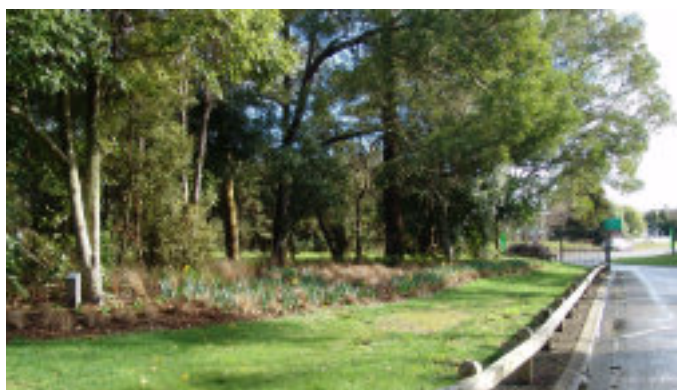
some key landowners. Meanwhile, the city will extend its pathway to connect with the Feilding pathway already in place on their side of the border.

The big ticket item of "Nature Calls" wastewater project had a proposed \$1000 cost per ratepayer per year from year four when work was due to begin. Council is now looking to cut costs of this project by a third to reduce the burden on ratepayers. More planning and design will be required to see if this is viable, and also to keep the auditors happier.

On a brighter note, the Council's gardening team has been busy in the Domain. The low wet area of the campground beside the R.S.A. cemetery plots has been raised and new grass is growing well. The entrance to the Domain has had a makeover with tussock grass and ferns now lining the drive. Hundreds of daffodils have been planted to fill the gaps and are just beginning to parade their flower display. Check it out in the next week or so to lift your spirits from the winter gloom.

The new road over the hill continues to make advances. Asphalt is being laid, bridge spans stretch out over the wide river gap, and the winter planting of natives has recommenced to soften the edges of the extensive landscaping required of this project. Check out the latest video of the drone-based flyover available on the New Zealand Transport Agency web pages to view progress. The new bridges are also quite prominent when viewed from the lookouts at the Domain.

**Harvey Jones**



*The new daffodil plantings at the Domain entrance.—Photo credit H Jones*

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**Deadline for August  
Issue—Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup>  
August 2024**

## Music on the Bus

Horizons Regional Council is inviting people to share if they enjoy the sound of music or silence on Connect public transport services.

The need to create an informed approach for music played on buses has come out of conversations with users and operators.

"Some people love hearing the driver's pick of music when they get on board, while other people believe those wanting music should use headphones," says Mr Read—Horizons Regional Council spokesperson. "This can create difficult situations for drivers. We know some want to play music on board, but are unsure what genres are appropriate."

The survey is aiming to answer three key questions:

- Do people mind music being played on buses?
- If music is played, what genres, playlists and radio stations should be played?
- Should there be different rules for music at different times of the day and/or year?

Those who fill in the survey will have the chance to win a Bee Card with \$20 credit, or to have their already active Bee Card loaded with a bonus \$20 credit.

The survey is open from 19th July until 2nd September and available online at [haveyoursay.horizons.govt.nz/busbeats](http://haveyoursay.horizons.govt.nz/busbeats). People can also get physical surveys on board Connect services, which can be dropped into Horizons service centres or posted to Horizons once completed.

For more information, see [haveyoursay.horizons.govt.nz/busbeats](http://haveyoursay.horizons.govt.nz/busbeats), or follow Connect - Horizons Regional Transport on Instagram and Facebook.

## Village Voice Funding

The Village Voice has a circulation of 1880 and is delivered free to households in Ashhurst and the Pohangina Valley. The newsletter is run by a small volunteer incorporated society and funded solely by our loyal advertisers. Please support these community-minded businesses. If you wish to support this publication in any way, please refer to the back page and contact Grey Smith.

## Emergency First Aid Course—Pohangina

This course is a generalised first aid course covering basic C.P.R., A.E.D., what to do in an emergency when you live rurally and will be an opportunity to ask specific questions. If there is anything in particular that you would like to learn, please let us know, and we will pass that on to the trainer before the day.

County Fayre—976 Finnis Road, Pohangina Village

Thursday, 29th August, 10.00 am - 12.00 pm (light lunch provided)

\$10 koha.

To register:

Email: [mrssincrcw2@gmail.com](mailto:mrssincrcw2@gmail.com); or

Phone/text: Jo - 027 422 3544 or

Aevryl - 021 082 34809.

**Jo Berrington-Hince—Manawatu Rural Support Service Inc.**

## St Bartholomew Church Open Day

To celebrate our birthday and the fact that St Bartholomew Church at Komako has recently been painted, we are having an open day!

There will be a 10.00 am service, open to anyone and everyone to celebrate the fresh new look of the building, followed by lunch and a cuppa.

Come anytime—you don't have to come to the service, but you are most

welcome to.

We would simply like to invite members of the community to join us at anytime between 9.00 am - 3.00 pm.

We might even tell you something about who Bartholomew was and the history of the building.

For more information please contact Rev. Pam Barnett 027 618 3020

## Ashhurst Food Bank

I would like to thank Linda Procter and the team from River Church for putting on another successful Pop-Up Wardrobe, in support of the Ashhurst Food Bank. Donations of non-perishable food items filled five boxes and cash donations totalled \$176.50 - a great boost to our resources! The food will supplement the last of our supplies from the Food Drive 2023, plus regular donations throughout the year from the Anglican Church and individual members of our community. The cash will be used to purchase perishable items, which currently means weekly supplies of milk and eggs.

Our location in the back room of the Methodist Hall in Bamfield Street is about to be updated, so once the alterations are completed, there will also be changes in the way we operate. As you may know, we are a unique Food Bank in that we allow our customers to choose what they need from our supplies, rather than handing out a pre-packed bag of food, and this will continue to happen. Watch this space for further information!

The full impact of the economic downturn may not have reached Ashhurst because while we are experiencing an increase in demand, it is not yet to the anticipated level. However, if you or anyone you know are waiting until circumstances become untenable, please do not wait! Our wonderful community has shown their support by providing food for the Food Bank service for ten years now and we are very happy to be able to help you at a time of need. Our helpers are very approachable and will keep your details/discussions confidential.

Food Bank is open from 2.30 pm - 3.30 pm on Thursdays throughout the year. We will close at Christmas and New Year, on 26th December 2024 and 2 January 2025. We are part of the Christmas Hamper community group so this initiative will help those in need over this period.

Once again, thank you to those of you who supported the Food Bank through participation in the Pop-Up Wardrobe—your generosity is much appreciated.

**Marianne Crawford**

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Thursday 8.30am - 5.00pm

Saturday 9.00am - 12 noon

Wednesday & Friday evenings by appointment

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## Ashhurst Playcentre

This term at Ashhurst Playcentre we have been very busy learning, exploring, growing and having so much fun!

We learnt more about Matariki—the stars, kite making, making soup and rain water. We have loved face painting and becoming a new character or animal. Our Tamariki like to dance and sing so we had Anne Marie visit with her guitar and instruments for a fun music session. This term we have also been making connections with Woodville Playcentre

and had a visit from them and we visited them too. Of course, there has been a lot of art, messy play, building, sandpit exploring, jumping and climbing as well.

It is Playcentre Messy Play week on the week of 19th - 23rd August, so bring your child down, with a change of clothes, and get messy with us. We would love to see you. Our sessions are: Monday 10.30am - 2.30 pm, Tuesday and Thursday 9.00 am - 1.30 pm.

**Kristina Richard**

## Ashhurst Senior Citizens Association

Well, July was a time of huge celebration with an awesome party on the 4th. Over 100 guests were there to share in the milestone 50 years of this great association. Speeches were entertaining and informative, the spread was just amazing, entertainment was thoroughly enjoyed by all and the opportunity to catch up with others was well and truly taken up. The hum, or should I say very loud buzz of people having a wonderful time talking was heard even before coming into the room. A very huge thank you to all the organisations who helped make this a success—the food, the lovely ladies at the servery and those who set up and cleared away everything. The cake was a masterpiece and thank you to both Colleen and Terry Carr for it, and all their work. To everyone else on the Committee who helped a huge thank you too.

We need to also take this opportunity

to again say a huge thank you to Colleen for all her years as President and to Terry as Secretary. What a huge commitment from these two who have worked unfailingly to make everything a success. Now is your time to relax and enjoy a time for yourselves.

Many people, myself included, have the perception that this association is only for the very mature person. This is so wrong and when I asked for a definition of "required age" there were chuckles and I was told all are welcome. The monthly meetings are held on the first Thursday at the Methodist Church Hall in Bamfield Street at 2.00 pm. Meetings include a speaker, afternoon tea, raffles and are a great social occasion. If you are free, do come along and join in. It really is a lovely afternoon and everyone is made so welcome. Like me, you may well find that your previous perceptions are not correct at all.

**Adrienne Harding—Secretary.**

## Ashhurst Volunteer Fire Brigade

Kia Ora Ashhurst,

Did you know that one in four house fires start in the kitchen? Neither did I until I started researching this month's article! So here are some simple things you can do to reduce the risk of a fire starting in the kitchen:

**Don't drink and fry!** Booze is involved in half of all fatal fires. Heat something up in the microwave or ring for takeaways.

**Don't leave cooking unattended.** Unattended cooking is the leading cause of house fires in New Zealand.

Also, keep flammable items away from the cooking area too. Keep your kitchen clean to limit the build up of fats and other combustibles.

Ideally, have an extinguisher or fire blanket handy and know how to use them.

*Continued on next page*

## JustOne Please

Super kia ora Ashhurst and beyond. Thank you for your generous donations for the Safe House for July. Much appreciated. August's JustOne Please item is **coffee**. Donations can be dropped off at the Ashhurst Library. Contact Louise Bowe on 020 410 86128 for more information.

## Ashhurst Ladies Coffee Group

10.00 am—11.30 am at The Village Coffee & Co, 62 Cambridge Avenue, Ashhurst.

A regular Thursday weekly coffee group, for ladies of all ages in Ashhurst for some social time, a few laughs and new friendships.

Mums are welcome to bring young children as there is a great play area for them right by where we sit, in the back part of the café.

## WE NEED YOUR HELP!



Calling all residents...

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

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[www.pnccitysupport.com](http://www.pnccitysupport.com)



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CAFE - GARDENS - SHOP - WORKSHOPS & EVENTS - FUNCTIONS

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*We are a community based project run by volunteers*

**Awahou Pohangina Playgroup**

'A lovely country playgroup' est. 1967.  
Meet every Wednesday during term  
time 9.30am-12.00pm.

Location: Awahou School Hall, 518  
Pohangina East Valley Road.

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

**Ashhurst Memorial R.S.A. Inc**

74 Cambridge Avenue, Ashhurst.  
Phone: 326 8296

Sunday: 2.00pm-6.00pm

Monday 3.00pm-6.00pm

Tuesday: 3.00pm-7.00pm

Wednesday 3.00pm-9.00pm

Thursday: 2.00pm-9.00pm

Friday: 2.00pm-Midnight

Saturday: 1.00pm-9.00 pm

**Manawatū Rangitikei Methodist Parish—Ashhurst, Bunnythorpe and Pohangina Congregation**

Ashhurst Devonport Worship and  
Community Centre

10.30 am 1st Sunday each month

Pohangina Community Church

10.30 am 3rd Sunday

Contacts: Parish Office—323 4127  
Selina Brightwell—022 184 2337 or  
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](mailto:ashhurstbowlingclub@gmail.com)

**Ashhurst Volunteer Fire Brigade**

If your frypan or pot does catch fire,  
place the lid or another large flat  
object (like a chopping board) over the  
pan to starve the fire of oxygen. If you  
have a fire in your oven, try to turn off  
the power or gas either at the stove or  
at the mains.

**Never** throw water onto a frypan or  
pot that's on fire and never attempt to  
carry a burning frypan or pot outside.  
Call 111 if you're not sure it's safe.

**Matthew Clark—Community Fire Risk  
Management Office**

**Ashhurst Memorial R.S.A.**

The Ashhurst Memorial R.S.A. is  
proud to be a non-profit organisation  
dedicated to supporting veterans and  
fostering a strong sense of community  
spirit. We offer a welcoming space for  
veterans to connect, share  
experiences, and access essential  
support services.

Our reach extends far beyond  
veterans. We host a variety of events  
open to the public, fostering a sense of  
belonging and connection within  
Ashhurst and surrounding area. Here  
are just a few highlights:

**Tuesday Night Bingo**

Every Tuesday evening, join us for a  
lively game of Bingo starting at 7.00 pm.  
It's a fun and social night out for all  
ages, with great prizes to be won.

**Ashhurst Crafters Unite**

Calling all crafty Ashhurst residents!  
The Ashhurst Crafting Community  
meets every Thursday afternoon at  
1.00 pm. Come knit, crochet, and chat

with fellow crafters. Recently, our  
talented group donated a beautiful  
collection of knitted and crocheted  
garments to flood victims in Wairoa.  
Wool, needles and hooks are provided  
for those who want to learn. Thanks to  
all those who have donated supplies.  
Follow them on Facebook.

**Darts Anyone?**

Calling all dart enthusiasts! Whether  
you're a seasoned competitor or a  
friendly beginner, our "Spear Throwing  
Group" (also known as Darts!)  
welcomes you with open arms. We  
have fiercely competitive (yet always  
friendly!) rounds on Wednesday and  
Friday evenings.

The Ashhurst Memorial R.S.A. is  
more than just a club—it's a hub for  
connection, support, and community  
spirit. We encourage everyone to  
come along, participate in our events,  
and experience the R.S.A. difference!

**Peter Knight**

**Meditation Class Starting**

Thinking about trying out  
meditation? A meditation class with  
Kadam Birgit Saunders is starting in  
Ashhurst on Thursday, 22nd August.  
The class, Overcoming Stress and

Anxiety will be held every Thursday  
from 10.00 am - 11.00 am, followed by  
morning tea. Suggested donation: \$7.

Meditation makes us happy and

*Continued on next page*



**B**

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# Meditation Class Starting

positive. The purpose of meditation is to make our mind calm and peaceful. Thus it follows that if our mind is calm and peaceful we will feel happy and positive.

If we have peace of mind, we will be free from worries and mental discomfort, and so we will experience true happiness; but if our mind is not peaceful, we will find it very difficult to be happy, even if we are living in the very best conditions.

If we train in meditation, our mind will gradually become more and more calm and we will be able to stay positive,

even in the most difficult circumstances.

We learn to create an inner space and clarity that enables us to control our mind regardless of the external circumstances.

Would you like to come and try it out? Join us in the lounge of the Village Valley Centre. No special clothing is required, most people sit on chairs. Everyone is welcome. Hope to see you there.

For more information, go to [www.meditateinpalmerstonnorth.org](http://www.meditateinpalmerstonnorth.org).

## RECAP Update

Kia ora koutou from RECAP

For the next few months we will be focusing on the RECAP Permaculture Garden Tour which is coming up later in the year—this is our main fundraising activity, and an inspiring day out that contributes funds to keep our community projects and services running. Keep your eye out for more details as they are confirmed.

We also have a fundraising stall with a variety of plants for sale at the upcoming Village Valley Fair on September 22nd. Ngā mihi to Aryane Palmeiro for organising this event for our community.

The Ashhurst School Garden Club is going great. We've created a new in-bed worm farm, planted peas and garlic in the new greenhouse, learnt how to build compost, sorted out strawberries for planting and have harvested cabbages, romanesco broccoli, spinach, herbs and spring onions. Apologies for sending some of your tamariki home with muddy uniforms!

Community Kai has been running low on food of late. We'd like to politely request that you only come through if in real need for the time being. Ngā mihi maioha.

Volunteer Library Gardening happens most weeks led by our wonderful deputy chairperson Suzanne. She updates Facebook/ Ashhurst Chat each week, so if you're keen to get involved you can get in touch there or email: [scheliuss@hotmail.com](mailto:scheliuss@hotmail.com). Everyone—all levels of experience and ability—welcome. Come along as a one-off or as a regular.

### The RECAP Crop Swap.

This happens on the first Saturday of every month, 11am-1pm at the Ashhurst Library. This is a sharing event where people can give and take freely with no cost. It's always a friendly group that gathers, with helpful kōrero on a variety of gardening related topics.

Noho ora mai

**Chris Love—RECAP coordinator**

## Cockroaches Part Two

In the previous article I discussed several cockroach species that have been introduced to New Zealand. Although introduced cockroaches make up only a minority of the 30 or so species here, they are largely responsible for giving cockroaches a bad name. This is because some are

rather large and scary looking, and also because they prefer to live in or near buildings occupied by people.

Native cockroaches, on the other hand, are mostly quite small (8-15 mm in length), are rarely found inside homes, and are totally harmless to

*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.

### St. Columba's Catholic Church

St. Columba's Catholic Church would like to welcome you to join us for Vigil Mass, celebrated every Saturday at 5.00 pm.

### Ashhurst Scouting

Keas (Mon 5.30 pm-6.30 pm), Cubs (Wed 6.00 pm-7.30 pm) and Scouts (Mon 6.45 pm-8.15 pm), during school terms.

Contact Julie (Group Leader) on [ashhurst@group.scouts.nz](mailto:ashhurst@group.scouts.nz) for more info.

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|                      | Brow Tint & Shape |

**Ashhurst Plunket**

Tuesdays and Wednesdays by appointment only.

Contact [www.plunket.org.nz](http://www.plunket.org.nz), or 027 276 8145.

**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

**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, 9.45am-10.45am.  
Cost: \$10 per class.

Enquiries: Maria—phone 329 4166

**Ashhurst Budgeting Service**

Thursday 9.30am-1.00pm.

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

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

**River Church**

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

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

[www.riverchurch.nz](http://www.riverchurch.nz)

**Ashhurst Foodbank**

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

Contact: Marianne 027 627 2054

**Ashhurst Red Cross**

Secondhand Shop, Cambridge Avenue. Lots of warm clothing all ages and sizes, books and household items. Watch out for bag sales advertised. Donations accepted when shop is open.

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

## Cockroaches Part Two

humans. Few of them have common names. Perhaps the most abundant of the native cockroaches are members of the genus *Celatoblatta* (see photo), of which we have about 14 species. All are flightless and most live in native forest. A few species, however, prefer to live above the tree line, and one of these has been much studied on account of its ability to survive freezing.



Not quite so common as *Celatoblatta* species are native cockroaches belonging to the genus *Parellipsidion* (see photo), of which there are three species. Although these cockroaches sometimes have wings, they rarely fly. Like most of our other native species, they like to live in dark, damp habitats in logs and leaf litter or under loose bark.



There are also a few other, less common, native cockroach genera. One of these is *Maoriblatta*, which has two species, both black in colour but differing in size. The larger species is called the Large Black Kēkerengū (see photo), measuring up to 25 mm in length. It is our largest native cockroach and is quite common amongst driftwood on North Island beaches and sand dunes.



Cockroaches lay their eggs in capsules called oothecae which, in the case of our smaller native species, are not hard to find under loose bark on trees. Each ootheca typically contains 10-14 eggs which develop into colourless nymphs. The nymphs emerge from the ootheca (see photo) and undergo a series of moults as they grow and eventually mature.

**Grey Smith**

**Photos:** Top left—*Celatoblatta* (Grey Smith); Bottom left—*Parellipsidion*; Top right—*Maoriblatta* Large Black Kēkerengū; Bottom right—Cockroach nymphs hatching.

## Are You Prepared?

Are you prepared for an emergency? This is a topic that many do not want to consider for many reasons, but it is something that should not be put off. Thinking about, and planning for an emergency can give you peace of

mind and will help you to act when the event does happen. According to the Horizons Civil Defense Emergency Management Group Plan 2016-2021 only 17% of the Manawatu population are fully prepared and only 31% are

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## Are You Prepared?

prepared at home. 47% have a plan, but encouragingly, 82% have survival items. The more prepared communities are, the more they will cope, and later recover, from the emergency event.

In the Ashhurst/Pohangina area flooding and storms will be the most common type of emergency we face. If you live in an area that is likely to flood, a go-bag will be important to prepare. A go-bag will make evacuation a lot easier if you have to quickly leave your home. Make sure you can carry your bag if you have to leave on foot. Remember to include any pets or animals you might have. New members of our community may wish to talk to long term residents about potential flooding areas.

The Hikurangi Subduction Zone off the East Coast of New Zealand poses an earthquake risk that could potentially be a widespread disaster affecting many regions in the lower North Island. In this case, we need to prepare for a long term disaster recovery. We will be in a better position than many other communities and we should be prepared to be on our own for at least a week—if not longer, as emergency crews may be diverted to areas with greater need.

During the actual earthquake the best action to take is **Drop, Cover and Hold**. If you are unable to do this, (because of physical or location difficulties) stop moving and brace yourself against a wall or furniture. If you are driving, pull over as soon as it

is safe to do so. Remain in the car. Once the shaking has finished, do not drive over any bridges.

In a large earthquake, after the shaking has stopped those in lower lying areas might need to evacuate in case a tsunami causes streams and rivers to rise causing inland flooding.

In the immediate aftermath of a strong earthquake, we should expect wastewater contamination, so the minimum we should do to prepare is to store food and water away for emergency use. A lesson I learned from the Christchurch quakes is to have two separate stores in case one is rendered inaccessible. Remember to include water not only for drinking, but also for cooking and hygiene. While you can survive on cold tins of baked beans, never underestimate the value of a hot cuppa in times like these. A small stove makes a good addition to the disaster kit. Power outages could be extensive, and some parts of our community could be cut off for an extended period of time.

A makeshift toilet with lids, are also important to have available. If you can set up a system to separate liquid and solid waste, that can minimise the odour and prevent disease—diarrhea is really not what you want in an emergency.

For more information and resources on what to do to prepare for a disaster, small or large, check out [https://www.horizons.govt.nz/civil-defence-in-our-region/get-ready-to-get-thru-\(1\)](https://www.horizons.govt.nz/civil-defence-in-our-region/get-ready-to-get-thru-(1))

**Llyvonne Barber**

## Ashhurst Yoga Classes

Gentle beginner to intermediate yoga classes are running fortnightly on Wednesdays, 9.15am-10.00am at the Village Valley Centre.

Cost is \$10.00. Please 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!

Phone or Text Vanessa: 027 243 0187 or email [vlbphotography@inspire.net.nz](mailto:vlbphotography@inspire.net.nz), or visit [www.vlbphotography.co.nz](http://www.vlbphotography.co.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 2.00 pm. 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 pm-3.00 pm and Wednesday mornings 9.30 am-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

**Matwork Pilates Sessions**

Tuesdays at 6.00 pm—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

**Book Review: You Are Here**

*You Are Here—David Nicholls*

From the author of "One Day", the wildly successful Netflix drama, we have an amazing new novel with the Yorkshire coast to coast walk as a backdrop. Complete with local maps of the walk as it progresses (on and off) we follow the five walkers, who learn more about each other every day. Not all good!

Marnie and Michael are at the centre of the story, each with their own private worries and insecurities. Brought together by mutual friends, they are unwittingly the victims of well-meaning matchmaking, most of which appears to be very misplaced.

Very English weather, however, conspires to bring the two together as they suddenly find themselves alone and on the brink of friendship. Marnie, the Londoner, even starts to appreciate the Yorkshire countryside at its muddiest.

What distinguishes this book from an ordinary romantic novel is the honesty of the characters and the sense of the ridiculous side of life. It's literally Laugh Out Loud in parts and the various walkers in the story are very well drawn.

The subject of loneliness comes up frequently but the distinction is made between choosing solitude and having it forced on a person due to circumstances beyond their control. Both leading characters are newly single but not looking for new partners.

Marnie is a proof-reader of new novels, which of necessity demands quiet and solitude. Her previous partner was demanding and controlling, so she is wary of any repeats of this type of behaviour. She is ok living alone with no demands on her time and lifestyle. Her friends think she should get out more.

Michael is a geography teacher whose marriage has recently broken up, he's depressed and heartbroken as his wife left him for another man. He's not interested in meeting anyone else, he just wants Natalie back.

Doesn't sound very romantic does it? But life moves in strange ways, sometimes helped along by well-meaning friends and bad weather!

Thoroughly recommended, both for its humour and its astute insights into human behaviour.

**Robyn Dare**

**Te Ahu a Turanga Highway Update**

Winter can be a challenging time for road construction due to wet weather, but it's the best time for planting.

Our landscaping teams are out in force, taking advantage of the wet ground conditions, which provide the ideal start for new plants.

Since the fourth landscaping season began in April, the team has put 285,000 plants in the ground, out of an expected total of 404,000 for the year.

Most of this year's planting is focused on areas next to the highway, with the bulk of this type of landscaping due to be completed this year.

In previous years planting was focused on areas away from the highway due to earthworks being in progress, which is known as offset planting as it represents the project's

ecological mitigation efforts. The teams are returning to some of these areas this year to conduct infill planting, which fills any gaps to ensure maximum canopy coverage.

One landscaping event that's generating some interest on site is the upcoming re-planting of a tī kōuka, or cabbage tree.

Before construction began there were several tī kōuka on the site, which needed to be removed to make way for the highway.

Most were felled, but two trees were carefully removed and sent to a nearby nursery, where they've been awaiting re-planting.

Tī kōuka hold special significance to iwi, who planted the trees as wayfinding points. They were also



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# Te Ahu a Turanga Highway Update

commonly used as sites for planting whenua (placenta).

One of the two trees did not survive and will be placed near where it was taken from, while the surviving tree – which is estimated to be up to 100 years old – will be replanted in the coming weeks.

The planting site is in Zone 2 near Cut 13, near where it was taken from and very close to the shared use path. This means people walking or cycling Te Ahu a Turanga will be able to view this impressive 10-metre-high tree.

## Construction update

Construction of the pavements – the layers of aggregate that make up the road – is progressing well, with 80% of the highway now covered with aggregate.

The teams are busy putting down layers of asphalt, which now covers three kilometres of the road.

To help with production of the 110,000 tonnes of asphalt needed for the entire project, an asphalt plant has

been set up on site and will be operational in the coming weeks.

This will support the supply of asphalt coming from the plant in Bulls, which has been supplying the asphalt so far.

The structures teams also continue to make good progress, with 38 of 54 segments of the bridge deck on Parahaki Bridge now completed.

Over the river at Eco-Viaduct, all bridge deck panels are in place and the team is busy completing the remaining concrete deck pours. This bridge is on track to be completed by the end of 2024.

## More information

For more information about the project, head to [www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/te-ahu-a-turanga/](http://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—New Zealand Transport Agency**

## Ashhurst Library

Hi everyone, can we say a big thank you for all the support and attendances during the July holiday programme, we had a great time. And a very special thank you to all those who helped and coordinated events, it is greatly appreciated.

## Popular Titles

Looking at our non-fiction collections, we can share what some of our most popular titles are in different genres.

## Cooking

*Everyday Delicious* by Chelsea Winter

## Healthy Living

*The Energy Guide* by Libby Weaver

## Gardening

*The Tui New Zealand Vegetable Garden* by Sally Cameron

In terms of **adult fiction**:

*Ugly Love* by Colleen Hoover

*61 Days* by Lee Child

*18th Abduction* by James Patterson

*The Seven Sisters: Maia's Story* by Lucinda Riley

*See You In September* by Charity Norman

## Ashhurst Elevenses – Every Friday at 11.00 am during term time

Come along every Friday during term time for a cuppa and a friendly chat. Everybody is welcome! There will be tea, coffee and the odd biscuit provided, but if you want to bring along some home baking, you are very welcome.

## Ashhurst Mighty Kids

Ashhurst Mighty Kids is our preschool programme of stories, songs and crafts. There is always a theme and we finish off with yummy cheese toasties.

Wednesday, 7th August, 10.30 am

Wednesday, 21st August, 10.30 am

Wednesday, 4th September, 10.30 am

## Moneywise Manawatū

We are thrilled to be in partnership

*Continued on next page*

## 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.

Priest—Rev Pam Barnett. Contact the Parish office for further information:

Phone 326 8543 or

Email: [info@parishofpohangina.net](mailto:info@parishofpohangina.net)

[www.parishofpohangina.net](http://www.parishofpohangina.net)

St Mary Magdalene Church—Office Hours (subject to change at short notice):

Monday: closed,

Tuesday: closed

Wednesday: 9.30am-3.30pm

Thursday: closed

Friday: 1.00pm-3.00pm

## 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](mailto: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 6.30 pm. This established and friendly Lions Club is community oriented.

## Contacts:

Jack Zwart (President) 326 8958

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

Brent Besley (Secretary) 329 4891

[brent.liz@inspire.net.nz](mailto:brent.liz@inspire.net.nz)

Mike Forlong (Memberships) 329 4741

[forlong@inspire.net.nz](mailto: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](mailto:kiwifieldcrew@inspire.net.nz) or phone Grant 027 432 7648

## Pohangina Rubbish Collection

Rubbish is collected every Monday.

Bags out by 7.30am



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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 9.45am-11.15am 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 6.00pm-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), 021 0270 4400, [www.hauorayoga.co.nz](http://www.hauorayoga.co.nz), Facebook: Hauora Yoga

### 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.

### Ashhurst Indoor Bowling Club

Our season starts Thursday, 21st March and runs through to 26th September 2024.

We play in the VVC with games starting 7.30pm & play every Thursday.

Do come along and if you've never played before, we have members to help.

All members welcome.



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## Ashhurst Library

with Moneywise Manawatū who are conducting budget sessions in our library on Thursday. If you would like to talk to their wonderful staff or need some excellent budgetary advice and guidance, just let us know or give them a call on freephone 0800 228 343.

### 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

## Ashhurst Clay Target Club

Reasonable turnout for the shoot keeping in mind some club members would have been busy elsewhere because it was the last weekend of duckshooting.

Tony and Jenny Bucknell were sharing the same gun and obviously it worked better for Jenny who won the Handicap shoot!

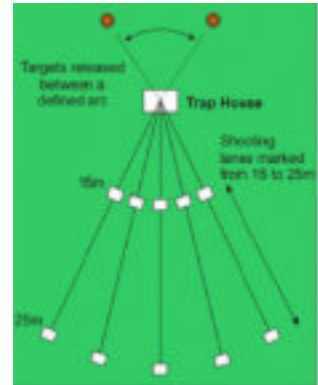
**Club shoot 25 DTL:** Joby Stella

**Handicap winner:** Jenny Bucknell

**Triples 30 DTL:** Alan Ives

DTL (Down The Line) simply means clay target shooting that has five stands in a crescent shape, 15 metres from a traphouse. Upon the shooter's command an oscillating trap machine throws the target at a random angle

either side of the centre—set to land 48 metres from the traphouse. The average speed of the clay leaving the traphouse is 70 kms per hour.



**Karen Pawson—Secretary**

## Ashhurst Bowling Club

Things are ticking along with less than two months until we open again for the new season.

The Green has been undergoing its Winter Maintenance Programme and now it is hoped the weather stays fine enough for all the rest of the work to be completed ready for mid-September.

At our A.G.M. we welcomed new Committee members Wendy Wackildene, Lee Slack and Jacqui Poppleton. The Match Committee of Jen Brown, Kynn Harris and Moggy Jensen have already started working on what the programme will look like

so things are underway.

Club Days will continue to be each Thursday at 1.00 pm and new members are very welcome. If you are interested, or even trying to decide whether bowls sounds like a maybe, come along once the season opens and have a go. There are bowls available to use and plenty of supporters to help you.

More info next month with dates etc. Until then keep smiling and if you want any info give me a ring on 027 283 6317 or email the club at [ashhurstbowlingclub@gmail.com](mailto:ashhurstbowlingclub@gmail.com).

**Adrianne Harding—Secretary.**

## Ashhurst Rainfall

91.5 mm of rain fell in June 2024, above the monthly average of 106.3 mm.

Rain was recorded on 13 days with the highest one-day rainfall of 20 mm

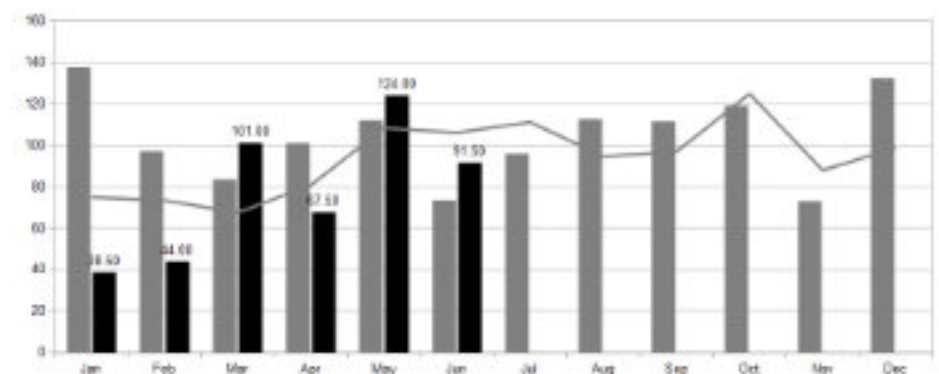
on the 25th of June 2024.

The total annual rainfall is 466.5 mm. This is below the annual average of 512 mm.

**Quang Mai**

Ashhurst Rainfall 2024

2023 2024 AVERAGE





# GLIMPSE

Mayor Grant Smith

## Kia ora tātou

Council for elected members has been in recess during July. Following the intensive public consultation, and subsequent adoption of the coming decade's Long Term Plan and setting of rates for the 2024-25 year, the month off provides councillors and council officers - who present reports to the chamber - with a bit of a breather.

The first full meeting for this new council year takes place on Wednesday August 7, with the Chamber open to the public and also streamed live on-line. Check the [pncc.govt.nz](http://pncc.govt.nz) website for access.

### Age-Friendly

Looking back to last month, my congratulations to the Ashhurst Senior Citizens Association for 50 years of providing Village elders with good company, friendship, support and entertainment opportunities.

Celebrated on July 4, this was a significant anniversary, with Colleen Carr standing down after serving as president for the past 25 years – a remarkable achievement. My best wishes to the association and to newly elected president Trish Beattie.

Senior Citizens sessions take place at 2pm on the first Thursday of each month in the Methodist Hall on Bamfield St.

This segues neatly into the city's plans to join the Age Friendly Aotearoa New Zealand Network. I've talked about this in earlier columns, and with elected members behind the concept, council's Age-Friendly Action Plan should get full Council Community Committee approval in October.

### Village Rugby

The Ashhurst-Pohangina Rugby Football Club based at PNCC owned and managed Lincoln Park, flies the flag locally for our national game. I want to thank club administrators for ensuring an outlet for local players while encouraging participation.

A social as well as a sporting hub, its top team, the Ashhurst Stags plays in Manawātū Rugby's senior third grade. The club also has five junior teams, with non-contact ripper rugby for under-6s and 7s, while introducing more skills-based tackling, passing and lineouts at under-8 level. These drills, along with player fitness, are further developed in two additional pre-high school age playing grades.

The junior teams don't finish their season until the end of this month.

Season's over for the Stags though. With a number of new players, the team was in rebuild mode this year and just missed out on making the semis. However, I'm sure everyone brought along their team spirit and best smiles for club photo day at the Lincoln Park clubrooms on Friday August 2.

### Village Recreational Venues

Alongside our principal sportsgrounds at Lincoln Park and Ashhurst Domain, Council maintains seven other reserves, parks and playgrounds dotted around Ashhurst. There's the Whitten Reserve, Village Triangle and Works Pit Park on Cambridge Ave, the Salisbury St Reserve and gardens, the Campbell Avenue play area, as well as the Durham Street Reserve which is linked by walkway to McCrae's Bush on River Rd.

The well-used and recently upgraded Village Valley Centre accommodates basketball, netball, indoor bowls and wet weather football training, and is also handy for commercial, community and social functions. Bookings are through the Community Library.

With the Ashhurst Community Trust skatepark a popular part of the precinct, the neighbouring Squash Courts are home to the Ashhurst Pohangina Squash Club. Congratulations on the men's C-Grade team for defending their Central Squash Superchamps (Tararua, Whanganui-Manawātū) title in June, and all the best as they prepare for the September Nationals in Hamilton.

### School Holidays

Our dedicated Ashhurst Community Library team deserve special commendations for again supervising the popular school holiday programme during July, while the Splashhurst Community Pool celebrated its 5th birthday on the first day of the holidays with a special aqua event.

### Civic Awards

A reminder to community groups that nominations for the 2024 Palmerston North Civic Awards close on Monday September 2. It's an opportunity to elevate your valuable, committed and long-serving members and also profile your community organisation and the benefits it provides. Information about the requirements and process is on the [pncc.govt.nz](http://pncc.govt.nz) webpage.

### Meet the Mayor

I will front the next Meet the Mayor session on Monday, August 26 between 5 – 6pm at the Community Library, with any changes to this notified on the Council website and Facebook page.

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](http://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

Splashhurst! online:  
[clmnz.co.nz/splashhurst](http://clmnz.co.nz/splashhurst)

## ASHHURST RUBBISH + RECYCLING

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

Recycling Bin	Glass Crate
13 August	6 August
27 August	20 August
10 September	3 September

## MULGRAVE ST TRANSFER STATION

Recycling, green waste and general rubbish disposal.

### Open Days

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

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

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## Published by The Ashhurst Village Voice Society Inc.

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### Letters to the Editor

Letters under 200 words are preferred.

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

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

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

### Advertising Rates & Information

Articles and community notices are free.

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 Tuesday, 20th August.**

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

# Ashhurst Indoor Bowling Club

In a month of absolute highlights, it would be hard to top the achievement of Tim Veale, not just being selected for the North Island team to play the South Island in August, but also nabbing the coveted Singles spot. Tim has gained selection over the past few years but to be chosen to play the Singles is the pinnacle! Huge "congratulations" to Tim!

Another highlight was the Composite team including Kelvin Hills and Jeanette Cotton finishing Runner-up in the Masters Fours at the NZ Nationals. Along with A.J. Bond they just missed reaching the Quarter-finals in the Masters Triples, qualifying in three out of four of the Open events. This very small team from Ashhurst did so, so well.

Ashhurst has hosted the Zone Finals weekend at the Village Valley Centre with bowlers representing Manawatu, Bush Ruahine, Wairarapa and Hawkes

Bay.

Bruce Meyer won the Zone Final in the Henselite Singles and now progresses to the National Final. We wish him the best of luck.

AJ Bond, Tim Veale, Phil Clinch, Jennie Veale, Anne-Marie Redmond and Cameron McKay have been selected for Manawatu Centre Rep teams with wins over Wairarapa and also winning the Queenie Convery Shield. Congratulations to all these bowlers.

The Manawatu Centre Triples have been played with Tim, Phil and Kosha Abbott taking the honours, AJ runner-up in a composite team and Cameron 3rd in a family team. The Centre Singles has also been run with another win to Bruce and members are suggesting that he could take out the Trifecta of Henselite, Centre and Champion of Champion Singles. More on this next newsletter.

The Ashhurst Club Championship Pairs has been won by a last bowl miracle played by Gloria Hall with AJ as her lead. A really great final with Marion McKenzie and Etty Wells runners-up. The Club Championship Fours has just been won by Bruce, Jeanette, Sue Cowley and AJ. These winners will now go on to the Champion of Champions to be held over the next few weeks.

We look forward to hosting the Takaro Star Club on our next club night. It is always a pleasure to host other clubs for friendly competition.

**Margaret Grant—Publicity**



**Photos:** Tim Veale—Selected for North Island Team - Singles



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