

Mayfield Anzac Day service

Around two hundred people gathered in the Mid Canterbury district of Mayfield for the Anzac Day service.

Crowds, including children from Mayfield School and local MP and South Island Minister James Meager, marched from Panther's Rock to the hall for the service run by Wendy Millichamp.

Local Airforce Medic Phillippa Fleming was the flag bearer and read the Ode to those gathered.

Guest speaker Ben Morrow spoke of his family connection to today's commemorations, before veterans were honoured with The Last Post and an Artillery Gun Salute in the domain.

All photos and text courtesy of Donna-Marie Lever



A COMMENT:

Now that we are more than halfway through autumn it seems timely to talk once more of the shore birds, we have inhabiting our intertidal Flats or perhaps more commonly known as mudflats. In a recent NZ Listener article, the writer tells of the 'Shorebird salesman' Keith Woodley. This very interesting man has lived and worked right next door to the centre doing bird related things for the past 32 years. This is the Ferth of Thames where there is 800 ha of intertidal flats where he has thousands of neighbours when bar-tailed godwits, red knots and other migratory birds return from Artic breeding-grounds, that is somewhere between September and March each year. It is March each year that these amazing birds start their flight returning to their Artic breeding grounds, (mainly Alaska).

These birds are not only migrating to the firth of Thames, but I gather all about our coast where there are mud flats and estuaries, and are well known in the New Brighton area. They also visit areas of Australia. And I guess other countries of the Pacific basin. I note also that their breeding grounds are not only Alaska but Siberia and possibly Northern China.

The Godwit's flight is the most fascinating thing about these birds; in 2007 a naturalist trust near the Firth of Thames tracked a female godwit, known as E7, with a satellite transmitter. E7 departed on March 17, and flew 10,200km from Firth of Thames to Yalu Jiang, on the boarder of China and North Korea, from where she departed on May 1st to her breeding site in Western Alaska, a further journey of 7500km.

continued on page 7

VICTORY LIME
NOT ALL LIME IS CREATED EQUAL

Talk to us today about your requirements
Contact us on:

0800 303 980

admin@palmerresources.co.nz

Peaches Rd, Mt Somers, RD 1, Ashburton 7771

www.vlime.co.nz

The Old Post Office Library



I'm writing this just after Easter and it has been the most glorious day weatherwise after a very dismal Easter. So good to feel the sun again. It's a reminder that winter is not all that far away, next week it is May!

I spent some time in the library over Easter and was amazed by the number of people browsing the outside shelves. They really are very popular. Thankfully I had just finished replenishing the shelves as the books were in high demand. So a reminder if you have any spare books around your house that are in tidy condition and preferably less than twenty years old, we would certainly appreciate them being dropped off at the library. Thank you very much. Magazines are popular too, especially current ones.

I've been book shopping again, and have some interesting titles which will appear on the shelves (or the library's coffee table) in the next few weeks.

'The Snow Child' by Eowyn Ivey.

A very gentle magical book, set in Alaska, about an older couple who are childless. They long for a child and are devastated when a miscarriage occurs not long before the due date. It is a huge sadness to them, so when a little girl appears out of the snow amongst the trees, they cannot believe it. Who is she and where has she come from??

This book is an adults' fairytale.... or so it seemed to me. Each day I looked forward to reading it and often just kept reading much longer than I should have. It is an enchanting read and I'm sure will appeal to many. An easy magical read.

'The Safe Keep' by Yael Van Der Wouden. This book is on the short list for the Booker prize, along with five others. I'm reading it at the moment and really enjoying it; another book I just want to keep reading to see what happens. Reviews are excellent: "a beautiful book...", "tense, shocking and heartbreaking in equal measures"....."part silent scream. part breathless love story, I was utterly blown away"..... these are only some of the comments from other reviewing authors. It is not for the faint hearted, quite graphic in parts. So be prepared!

'Three Days in June' by Anne Tyler.

Another pleasant undemanding read which many of our readers will enjoy. Quite charming in fact!

The story of Gail trying to prepare for her daughter's wedding in a days time, when her ex-husband appears at her door expecting to stay for the festivities. And he has brought his cat along as well and Gail detests cats.

This tale revolves around the day before the wedding when ex Max arrives and then the following two days with all the associated dramas.

A quote "a joy to read in a single relaxing afternoon" which sums it up. A quick read and fun as well.

'Songbirds of Florence' by Olivia Spooner.

This book has been around for a couple of months and finally I couldn't resist it after seeing some good reviews. It is based on fact and set during the Second World War. I had never heard of

the 'Tuis' a band of WRACS who were sent overseas to entertain and help our troops. Sounds a bit suspect but keep reading and you'll find out just how important these young women were to the troops and what their duties actually entailed. Not the usual war story, more a tale of bravery, kindness, and heroism in a different way.

'Wild Dark Shore' by Charlotte McConaghy.

I love the title of this book and on the cover is an endorsement from Hannah Kent of 'Burial Rites' fame....."a triumph, breathtaking". And that is enough to entice me to research this new book for our library. It is set on the tiny fictional island of Shearwater between Tasmania and Antarctica, where it is home to the world's largest seed bank. The only inhabitants are Dominic Salt and his three children. During a ferocious storm a woman is washed ashore, who the family cares for and nurses her back to health. Described as a gripping mystery, an exquisitely written ode to the natural world, and a taut psychological thriller, I imagine this book will be in great demand and you may have to reserve it if you want to read it



'Sea Change' by Jenny Patrick, of 'Denniston Rose' fame and 'Heart of Coal'. This time she has chosen to write about the Kapiti Coast and a tsunami. Jenny is now 88 and it is incredible she is still writing popular New Zealand stories from which we can all learn something.

I recently explored the Denniston plateau on the west coast for the first time, and it all felt so familiar to me. I kept thinking of her book about those early coal mining days, it all just fell into place and I seemed to know the old town of long ago. And plenty of spirits were lurking in the hills.....

'Three Wee Bookshops at the End of the World' by Ruth Shaw. The end of the world is of course Manapouri for this author. Her third book promises to be as entertaining as her other two, and is an extension of her autobiography. Easy reading and very entertaining. She recently appeared on 'Seven Sharp' TV programme.

Plenty to choose from and I hope you can always find a gem or two amongst our shelves. And any autumn clean out of books... please deliver them to us so other people may enjoy them.

Keep warm...it is now a day later and fresh snow is on the tops as I write this beside a glowing fire. Winter is coming today!! AC.

Steady As You Go (SAYGO)

You could save yourself from a fall by attending SAYGO classes.

SAYGO improves:

- Balance & leg strength • Flexibility • General fitness & well-being
- Falls are the most common cause of injury in older people
- One third of people over 65 fall each year
- Half of people over 80 fall each year
- Designed for men and women
- Falls are not a natural part of ageing and are almost always associated with weakened leg muscles and poor balance

So come and join us for an hour. Classes every Wednesday, Staveley Hall 1.30pm. For enquiries, phone Annette Syme 3030 803

Is Ashburton District age friendly? If you are aged 55+, have your say!!!

Scan the QR code with your phone camera or QR code reader app to access an online survey

OR

Fill in a paper survey and drop it in the box at:

- Ashburton, Methven or Mt Somers Library
- Ashburton Community House
- Age Concern / Senior Citizens
- Presbyterian Support
- Tangata Atumotu
- Ashburton Club & MSA
- some retirement villages

OR

Visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Age-friendlyAsh>

Text 021 288 4334 for more info or return post address



Safer Mid Canterbury
Hakatere Haumarū
Together we're safer • Me uru kaitiātea

"Do it Once, Do it Right"

Over 30 years experience servicing and supporting the local community

Earthworks

- Any type of Earthmoving



Laneways

- Lime capping



Ploughing

- Cable + Waterpipe Installation



Directional Drilling

- Trenchless Technology



Utility Detection Services

- Find it first



Demolition

- Residential and Commercial



Call us today for an obligation free quote.

GDC

Greg Donaldson Contracting Ltd



Office 308 8479 Mob 027 433 8003

Free Phone 0800 432 583 (GDC LTD)

Web www.gdc.net.nz Email office@gdcgroup.nz

2 Fords Road, Ashburton • 106 Hilton Highway, Timaru

**This is an acknowledgement to
all the people who generously
donated lambs for the
Mayfield Show.
Rabobank for donating \$20 a lamb
and Silver Fern Farms for killing them.**

**1st place was Jimmy Carr
2nd place Ryan Carr and
3rd place was Harvey Eggleston.**

Name	Weight	Price	
Hamish Fieldher	28.9	228.31	
	18	142.2	
Mike Carr	20.6	162.74	
Ryan Carr	23.7	187.23	2nd place
Craig Clucas	19.8	156.42	
Kev Clucas	20.4	161.16	
Jimmy Carr	23.9	188.81	1st place
Martin Busch	16.1	127.19	
Norm Carr	21.1	166.69	
Barry Daly	17	134.3	
John Blair	18.8	148.52	
Simon Roy	22.4	176.96	
	20.9	165.11	
Johnny Bell	18.7	147.73	
Harvey Eggleston	23.2	183.28	3rd place
Mt Somer station	17.4	137.46	
Bert Oliver	16.6	131.14	
Arthur Grigg	16.4	129.56	
Gawler Downs	23	181.7	
Johnny Harrison	16.9	133.51	
	21.5	169.85	
James Wright	17.4	137.46	
James Mcckormick	17.7	139.83	
Okawa farms	17.5	138.25	
Hamish Gallagher	19.4	153.26	
Johnny Mcdougal	21.8	172.22	
Robbie Harper	19	150.1	
Duncan King	19.6	154.84	
Dogal Reith	18.3	144.57	
	19	150.1	
Dave Neeson	19.3	152.47	
Jon Dampney	19.6	154.84	
Patrick Stack	21.3	168.27	
Ben Mclaughlan	20.2	159.58	
	19	150.1	
Dave Thatcher	20.6	162.74	
Mike Salvesson	18	142.2	
Glen Tait	18	142.2	
Ryan Hussey	19.2	151.68	
Dave Greenslade	15	118.5	
Boxer Mcdowell	18.6	146.94	
Eric Duff	21.7	171.43	
Maree Quin	212	1674.8	
Dean Gallagher	18.1	142.99	
	18.8	148.52	

Mount Somers Staveley Playcentre

The warmth of summer is leaving but we are keeping busy here at Mount Somers Staveley Playcentre.

We're very excited that a former Mum and president of our playcentre, Gemma, is returning to work in a new role as Kaimahi. She will be covering different Playcentres in the area providing support in administration duties. We are very proud of Gemma and can't wait to work together again!

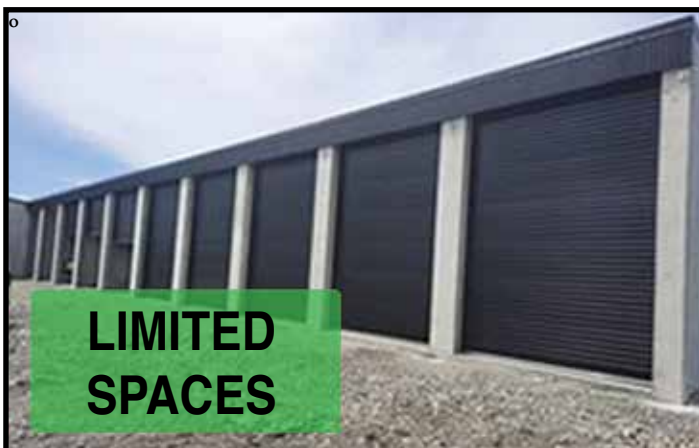
We had a visit from Karen at PLD (Professional Learning and Development) and had a fun Pacifica morning making coconut buns, dressing up with flower headdresses ('ei katu) and making tie dye sheets for the play area. We were very grateful for this learning opportunity.

Mayfield Playcentre organised a First Aid course day and it was a good way to ensure we are trained in first aid as well as meeting other parents in the area. Thank you particularly to Sarah for organising and the rest of Mayfield Playcentre for making us so welcome for the day.

During the last week of Term 1 the kids had a great time making Easter baskets to then use on an Easter egg hunt. Many laughs and chocolatey faces were found!

Term 2 is underway this week and if you want to come and join in at Mount Somers Staveley Playcentre we are open every Tuesday and Thursday, 9am-12pm. Anyone welcome!





Ashburton Forks Storage Units

9 and 6 metre deep units with **Extra Height**
to accommodate Boats, Motorhomes, Caravans etc.
24/7 monitored security. Power and lights in each unit.

To check availability contact

Daisy on 03 3030 802

or message 021 212 3181

Check out our webpage

storage-ashforks.co.nz/home/

**1807 Ashburton Staveley Rd
(AshForksEngineering)**



continued from page 1

Then on August 30th, she left Alaska for New Zealand and, flew 11,680km direct in eight days, landing at the exact same site she had left from in March. And as Keith Woodley puts it "if that doesn't astound you, you are clearly incapable of being astounded. Also, when they fly, the sight of thousands upon thousands of godwits in the air is truly spectacular."

I have not as yet seen these godwits, I must try next spring or summer I will take my binoculars to south New Brighton beach, and I will leave the dog at home. The best I can boast is the duck which appeared on my front lawn in heavy rain recently, (Photo included) I was keeping Leo the dog under control but then he escaped, the duck was gone, I reprimanded Leo he looked very sorry did he assure me it would never happen again! My duck had gone; however later I was at the back lawn and to my delight the duck was there, I opened the gate and after careful consideration by the duck it casually waddled across the bridge I guess in search of its mates.

I'll now change the subject just yesterday Thursday last week I took time out and with the company of a companion Keith we drove to Staveley Store for lunch, a busy place that day. After a very pleasant lunch accompanied with coffee, we travelled to the Sharplin Fall car park. The car park was full, and we observed young folk loading their packs in preparation for an overnight tramp, they informed us they were heading to the Pinnacles hut for the night, I envied them. Many years ago, I may have been seen with a well loaded pack at Lake Rotoiti

New Zealand
Dairy Careers

Multiple Dairy Assistant Vacancies Across NZ

Apply Online: www.nzdairycareers.co.nz

Email: kathryn.haddow@nzdairycareers.co.nz



*A Prayer of Godwits -
the more colourful males
are at the rear.
Viewed on line in colour
would look best.*

for an evening tramp along the side of the lake in preparation for a weekend of tramping and climbing in the Nelson Lakes National Park. I had a large backpack made by a Christchurch man whose name I can't recall, a heavy pair of boots a carbide lamp to see my way in the dark, (worked well if there was only little or no wind) crampons, ice axe and other essentials. They were good days, my friend Derek from the Golden Downs forestry camp would join me, as I was a dairy farmer much of my mountaineering was winter climbing, often good although the days were short.

Yesterday as we drove about the foothills at Staveley and Mt Somers we discussed possibilities; Would one day! Perhaps at some future time could a railway be built to carry tourists such

as us to the summit of Mt Somers? If this was Switzerland this would have been done years ago and tourists come holiday makers would flock to it in their thousands. I don't suggest from the Staveley side, the easy spur from Woolshed Creek car park would surely lend to that possibility. On traveling in Wales some years ago I travelled by rail to the summit of Mt Snowden, a very memorable day on the top in the cloud enjoying the comfort of coffee at the summit café. The views were great but could have been better if fog hadn't been at the summit. Mt Snowden is the highest peak in the British Isles outside Scotland at just 1,085 metres, not very impressive by New Zealand standards.

And that will be me for this month, cheers Denis

PGG Wrightson Real Estate

JEFF DONALDSON

Your local rural and lifestyle sales consultant

Looking to buy, sell, or invest in real estate in 2025?

Forward planning is key to maximizing your properties value. Partner with an agent who puts your best interests front and centre.

Jeff Donaldson - specializing in lifestyle and rural properties.

Contact Jeff today for hands on guidance with every step of your real estate journey.

CALL TODAY

JEFF DONALDSON

M 027 265 1290

E jeff.donaldson@pggwrightson.co.nz

pggwre.co.nz

PGG Wrightson Real Estate Limited, licensed under the REAA 2008.



28TH JUNE 2025

R18

Mt Somers WINTER BALL



Tickets on sale 1st May at Mt Somers General Store
and Mt Somers Bar and Cafe.

DOORS OPEN 8PM

Theme
SPARKLES

Band
**NICK
& DAN**

Tickets
\$70

NO BYO - CASH BAR & SUPPER PROVIDED

**ALL PROFITS GO TO MT SOMERS MUSEUM AND
THE VILLAGE GREEN INFORMATION STATION**

64 HOODS RD - MT SOMERS MEMORIAL HALL

Mt Somers Foothills Museum AGM

All Welcome – Wednesday 7th May
at 7.00pm at the Museum

All Offices positions within the museum are open for renewal during the AGM.

Call for Volunteers: The museum is actively seeking enthusiastic individuals to join our team of volunteers.

Volunteering at the museum offers an exciting opportunity to contribute to the preservation of our local history and culture.

Looking forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Margaret Cook

Secretary

Wendy Grigg

President

Mt Somers School 150 year Celebration

In 2026 Mt Somers school will celebrate 150 years of education in our wonderful part of the world.

We are starting a Jubilee committee the first meeting will be held on 14th May 7pm at the Mt Somers School Multi purpose room.

We would love to have an enthusiastic group of people to help organise this celebration. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Any Questions or queries or apologies to Hayden Reveley 021 2094 210 or Haydenreveley@outlook.com

Quality Hoof Trimming for Dairy Cows



Over 25,000 cows through our crushes last season.

Three mobile hydraulic crushes.

BEST PRICES FOR:

Top quality knives

Claw blocks

Hoof rasps and cutters

Hoof trimming crushes

Lame cows treated rapidly & effectively

Hoof trimming to PREVENT lameness

Training in hoof care techniques



0800 4 COWCARE

0800 4 26922

office@cowcare.co.nz

Love Agricultural Contracting



CULTIVATION

- Cultivation
- Reversible ploughing
- Sumo trio
- Heva discs & rollers
- 8.5m Sunflower cultivator
- 6m leveller
- 6m Allen Drill, direct & conventional, seed & fert
- 6m Vaderstad Tempo fodder beet & Maize drill, fert
- 6m Horsch Pronto DC drill - seed & insecticide boxes for cultivated ground.

FORAGE HARVESTING

Complete forage harvesting service. Mow, rake, chop, cart, stack & weighbridge

MAIZE

Talk to us about buying/selling maize

WINDROWING

MacDon tractor units
Variety of Mower, Auger & Draper fronts

BALING

- 4x3, 3x3 square bales
- Round bales
- Mow, mow-condition
- Tedder, rake, bale, tube & individually wrap & cart

STRAW & BALEAGE SUPPLY

Contact us for Customised Deals for straw delivered at harvest time so you can get the best quality straw at very competitive prices



email office@loveag.nz



Dan Collins

Baling & Silage
Ph **021 069 9926**



Robert Love

Cultivation, Windrowing & Feed Trading
Ph **027 304 8837**

Locals Helping Locals

It's hard to imagine an organisation more local than Hospice Mid Canterbury (HMC) – staffed by locals, supported by locals and funded by locals, its key focus is to help local people dealing with life-limiting conditions.

Our unique community hospice was the brainchild of a group of locals who recognised the need for additional non-clinical support for those going through a terminal illness. Its aim is to complement existing clinical palliative services in the Ashburton District, ensuring that not only clients, but also their families, are supported.

Right from inception, HMC staff have been supported by a large team of local volunteers, including health professionals. Every volunteer uses their individual skills to support hospice clients, doing everything from assessing client needs and writing life stories to sitting and companionship.

One of HMC's strengths is that it can tailor its support to the individual needs of each client, and adapt that support as needs change. Wherever a client calls home in the Ashburton District, HMC can provide support.

Despite receiving no government funding, HMC still manages to provide services and supports free of charge, largely due to the generosity of locals. The local hospice shop provides a valuable income stream for HMC, with Janis and the volunteer team blown away by the range of quality goods donated by locals. An active fundraising team also works hard to regularly come up with events and fundraisers, from the popular Christmas Houses to concerts and raffles.

HMC is also supported by generous local sponsors from all walks of life who provide regular donations to the organisation.

In addition, HMC is the grateful recipient of other fundraising efforts, including the recent "Shear for Life" and the annual Farmers Christmas campaign. The success of all these fundraising endeavours relies on the generosity of the local community and every cent stays local.

Ten years on, HMC is still going strong, thanks to the big heart of Ashburton District locals.

If you or someone you care about has a life-limiting illness and would like our support, contact us on 307 8387, or 027 227 8387 or email manager@hospicemc.nz. We welcome new referrals.

See also our website www.hospicemc.nz and look for Hospice Mid Canterbury on our facebook and Instagram pages.



**24 HOUR ON-CALL
EMERGENCY SERVICES
Phone: (03) 693 9060**

Servicing Mayfield, Mt Somers, Hinds and South Canterbury.

Independent and locally owned.
Large and small animals.
Delivery service for all farm supplies.

**Cnr Woodbury / Main North Rds, GERALDINE
Phone: 03 693 9060
Email: clinic@gatewayvets.co.nz**

We will be in the area soon and are taking bookings.

**Contact Rob Palmer
Telephone 027 217 5577**



Your farm, first.

VetEnt Mayfield is now Farmfirst Mayfield.

But, while the name has changed, Chantel and the team are still here at Farmfirst Mayfield to look after all of your farm and animal health product needs.

Farmfirst Mayfield
1984 Arundel Rakaia Gorge Rd
Mayfield 7778
Ph 03 303 6042
mayfield@myfarmfirst.co.nz




Joseph Builders Ltd
Canterbury

new builds - renovations
restorations - design
rural - residential
commercial - compliance



03 303 9830 0800 500 564
josephbuilders@xtra.co.nz



www.josephbuilders.co.nz

BOOK OF THE MONTH – MT SOMERS LIBRARY

Title: 'Outdoor Survival'

Author: Garth Hattingh

Publication year: 2003

A review by Elles Smallegoor

The library aims to cater to a variety of reading interests and therefore also holds a small section of reference material to do with outdoor activities such as hiking, cycling or mountaineering. Garth Hattingh's 'Outdoor Survival: the Essential Guide to Equipment and Techniques' is a good practical read for those who often find themselves in New Zealand's natural environment and would like to learn a bit more about what to do in case of emergencies. Divided into seven chapters illuminated by photographs and illustrations, the book explains in easy steps how to be as ready as you can be in case of accidents, environmental disasters, medical emergencies and more. Reading the book is like adjusting the brain before you head out – as Hattingh writes: "Your mind is your greatest survival tool. Those who have survived against the odds have not necessarily been the toughest, physically, or had the ideal equipment. The essence of true survivors has been mental readiness to handle unexpected challenges" (p. 11).

The first two chapters discuss the basics about preparing your trip: deciding on a route, communicating to friends and family where you are going and when you plan to return, as well as the necessary gear to buy for kids and adults before going outdoors, be it at sea, in the mountains, in the desert or in the jungle. The subsequent three chapters assume that a disaster has happened (for instance, you are lost) and map out the various decisions that need to be made before taking action. Key here is the acronym STOP: Sit-Think-Observe-Plan. Is it smart, for instance, to stay put and why? Or is it better to move? In addition, Hattingh goes through all the actions that may be involved when the decision has been made to move. He explains how to construct makeshift backpacks and sleds, how to safely cross rivers, how to move in a group, how to navigate using maps, compasses, the suns and stars or even nature. One striking lesson is to look for moss on older trees, as "they grow in greatest profusion on the shaded side of trees – in the Southern Hemisphere, the south side, and the north side in the Northern Hemisphere" (p. 41). In a chapter called "Communication and Rescue", he discusses signalling with mirrors and fires, while in "Survival Priorities" he illustrates how to obtain safe drinking water and food, how to make fire, how to prepare food and how to tie certain knots.

The last two chapters dive deeper into emergency situations whereby first-aid skills or knowledge of the environment may be the difference between life and death. One section, for instance, offers a number of things you can do when caught in an avalanche (p. 90).



For a first Rate job call us

Rates

PLUMBING & DRAINLAYING

CRAFTSMAN PLUMBER / REGISTERED DRAINLAYER

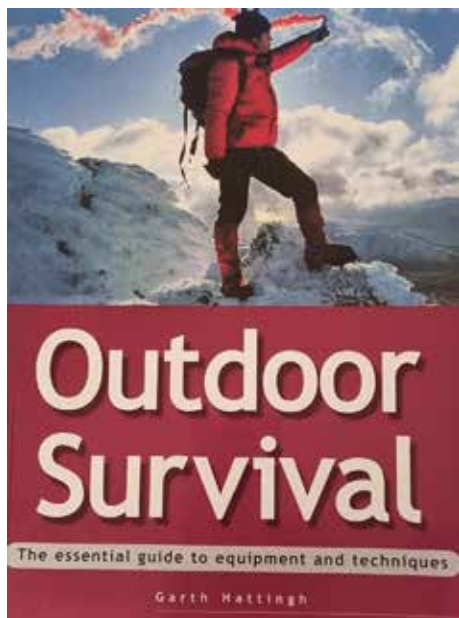
Phone: 03 693-8512 • Mobile: 0274 373 158

33 South Terrace, Geraldine



- NEW HOUSING
- REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE
- ROOF REPAIRS
- RENOVATIONS

- DRAIN CLEANING
- LOGFIRE INSTALLATIONS
- CONCRETE CORING
- BACKFLOW TESTING



The book ends with a useful index and a “survival chart” (p. 96), offering the basics in morse code, ground-to-air code and body signalling, amongst others.

Garth Hattingh's 'Outdoor Survival' can be read in a day, but is best absorbed by slowly going over all the chapters, rereading them, jotting a few things down, and then taking action: checking your

cupboards and wardrobes and garage to see what gear you actually have, perhaps practising a few basic things when on a safe hiking trip. And then reflect: am I fully prepared? Hattingh notes in the introduction that “the vast majority of survival situations are a result of human fallibility – largely due to the tendency of people to enter into outdoor activities without thorough preparation” (p. 8). Better safe than sorry. Preparation is key. His book is an excellent start.

“To love oneself is the beginning of a lifelong romance.”

Oscar Wilde, An Ideal Husband

GORSE SPRAYING



ROSS BROWN CONTRACTING LTD

Registered Chemical Applicator
with 30 years experience

0274819190

www.gorsespraying.co.nz

email: gorseman@hotmail.com



JACKO

CONTRACTING & CONSULTING LTD



- Tracks & Lanes
- Dairy Lane Capping
- Tree Removal
- Logging/Forestry Work
- Farm Conversions
- Water Storage
- Dairy Shed Foundations
- Underpasses
- Irrigation Mainline Installation
- Project Management
- Commercial/Domestic Building Foundations
- Driveways

Free Quotes and Great Advice. Call Today!

0275 099 710

info@jackocontracting.co.nz

Find us on Facebook



STOP BIRDS

hail, leaves, snow & vermin from
blocking & damaging your spouting

Quality materials: BHP Colorbond steel mesh with unique
patented louver will even keep out pine needles. Will not
rust or sag with age or load. 10 year warranty, range of colours

Proven in Australia & New Zealand over the last 15 years.

**FOR SAFE, PURE DRINKING WATER
FROM YOUR ROOF.**

NOW AVAILABLE : STAINLESS STEEL MICRO MESH

Call Rohan anytime Mon-Sat for
a no-obligation assessment & quote

0800 486532

GumLeaf
www.gumleaf.co.nz



Mayfield and Districts Lions Report

Local man Duncan Humm spoke at last months tea meeting. He was explaining a new venture he is implementing on his farm at Mt Somers. Erecting solar panels on 3.5 hectares of his property to produce electricity, but also able to graze sheep under the structures at the same time. A very interesting concept.

We also have two applicants attending the Berwick outdoor experience in early May. They are Di Chilton from Montalto and Niko Holgate from Mt Somers. We wish them well in their adventure, and the club looks forward to hearing about their experience when they return home.

We continue to have regular wood
chops, preparing for next winters fires.

Ashburton Crane Hire Ltd.

24hr Service

0274 192 554

ashburtoncranes2015@gmail.com

"Reaching
New Heights"



OUTDOOR
EXPERIENCE

TAKE UP THE
CHALLENGE NOW!

8 DAY ADVENTURE OUTDOOR
AND PHYSICAL PURSUITS COURSE

An unforgettable challenge and personal development opportunity!

This is a proven course over 30 years and has helped 1300 people
from all walks of life to push their boundaries, test their limits
and achieve personal and professional goals.

Abseiling | Canoe/Kayak | Climbing | Trenching | Mountain Biking
Bush Craft | First Aid | Medical Awareness
Mental and Physical Challenges | Limited to 40 Participants

Mt Somers Excavation Ltd



- GENERAL FARM MAINTENANCE
- ALKATHENE PIPE LAYING
- IRRIGATION MAINLINE TRENCHING
- 8, 14 & 20 TONNE DIGGERS
- TIP TRUCK & TRAILER
- GRADER
- SCREEN SHINGLE SUPPLIES
- TREE REMOVAL

Alistair Parris Owner / Operator - 20 Hinds Gorge Rd RD 8 Ashburton 7778
Ph: 027 434 7278 | E: mtsomersexcavation@xtra.co.nz | www.mtsomersexcavation.co.nz

Dog Tuckers on the Hill

We sat on a knob on the north side of Flockhill,
A gang of old dog tuckers, chasing the thrill.
Brought together by Bill, our loyal old mate,
Sharing yarns and beer - a bloody good state.

Surrounded by stations with stories to show:
Mount White, Craigieburn and Avoca.
Back country once buzzing, now quiet and bare,
With ghosts of the past still hanging in air.

We gazed at the rivers, all gravel and grey,
Feeding the Waimak in their own rough way
The Broken, the Poulter, the old Esk too,
Waters that whisper of the hard men they knew.

We thought of the workers, tough blokes in the heads,
With hobnails on their boots and dogs with tender pads.
And the women in cookshops, tough as the rest,
Flipping eggs, chops, and bacon no less.

A drone flew above, catching the view,
While we sat in the silence where the nor'wester blew.
And why Cass? Who knows - but it always feels right,
To be dog tuckers roaming, 'til stars fill the night.

When the billy boiled dry and the yarns had been spun,
We packed up our bags and reckoned we were done.
Back to the world with a beer and a yawn,
But those days on the Hill? They'll never be gone

Dog Tuckers on the Hill

(The Slightly Hairier Version)

We were parked on a knob on the north side of Flockhill,
A bunch of old codgers, chasing one last thrill.
Dog tuckers united - grey whiskers and knees,
Brought together by Bill. ... and half a block of cheese.

Surrounded by legends - Mount White in the haze,
Craigieburn staring with its usual side-eye gaze.
Avoca was snoozing, she'd clearly clocked off,
And Broken River was muttering something daft in a trough.

The rivers all glared like they'd swallowed a lemon -
The Waimak's wild cousins, each one a gremlin.
The Poulter grumbled, the Esk gave a sigh,
And the stream tried to trip Lew (he still claims it was sly).

We yarned about blokes with more grit than their dogs,
In hobnail boots that stomped through the bogs.
And the women? Legends - with frypans ablaze,
Serving chops with a glare that could set sheep ablaze.

A drone buzzed over, trying to catch the scene,
Nearly lost to the nor'wester (a real drama queen).
And Cass? Still confusing. Just standing out there
Doing bugger-all, like it hasn't a care.

When the billy boiled dry and the jokes got too old,
And someone (probably Don) had started to scold,
We packed up our stories, our crumbs and our aches,
And hobbled off laughing with knees that were fakes.

Now we're back to the cities, the couches and spam,
But the Hill's in our bones - and so is the jam.
Those tuckered-out dog days, up high in the chill,
Still howl in our hearts from the top of Flockhill.

Courtesy of Robert Schikker

HEYBROOK BUILDING LTD



New builds

Farm Buildings

Roofing

Renovations

Concrete

Decks

**Servicing the Mid Canterbury foothills for over
10 years, phone Thamis for all your building needs**

022 354 6524

heybrookbuilding@gmail.com



**Fertiliser
Spreading
Specialists**

- Liquid
- Granule
- Lime

RICKY TAYLOR
027 648 6856
ricky@fertsolutions.co.nz
www.fertsolutions.co.nz

Cross Contracting Ltd

Experienced operators with over
45 years local knowledge



For all your digging requirements

- Stock water race cleaning
- Irrigation race cleaning
- Disposable pits
- Soak Pit • Trenches
- Gorse fence & shelter belt removal
- Irrigation mainline trenching
- Shingle screening bucket
- Tip truck hire
- Tree stump removal & root raking
- Operating three diggers
- On farm shingling – laneways, stockyards, water troughs
- Pipe line installation & repairs
- Cow lane cleaning

Grader and 20 ton digger available on request

Phone Ron
021 347 958 or 303 6067

2003069



**Safer Mid Canterbury
Hakatere Haumaru**

Together we're safer • Me uru kahikatea

A big focus of our programme is road safety, and we enjoy having Sargent Burgerhout from the Ashburton Police in class to talk us through how to keep safe on the roads.

It's always an interesting talk and our ladies enjoy the opportunity to meet our police in an educational setting.

He talks about Restraints, Impairment, Distraction and Speed. The four main things that bring you to the attention of the police while out on the roads. He also told us a few interesting statistics.

Did you know there is over 3000 intersections in the Ashburton district?

Did you know that an airbag deploys at a speed of 400kms an hour in a crash?

Intersections are a high-risk area for accidents, and we have a lot of intersections in the district.

We teach our students to slow down on the approach to an intersection and to double check each way



Professional Property Management

Janene McDowell and Carey Von Lubke

Janene McDowell
027 287 3388
rentals2.ashburton@raywhite.com

Carey Von Lubke
027 697 6948
rentals.ashburton@raywhite.com

Good Property Management doesn't cost, it pays!

RayWhite

Call our Property Management team today or drop into our office for a no obligation chat about current demand, values, legislation changes, or a general 'investment health check' on your rental portfolio.

Let Ashburtons only REINZ accredited
Property Management team take care of
your investment property.

REINZ
REINZ ACCREDITED RESIDENTIAL
PROPERTY MANAGER MEMBER



96 Tancred Street, Ashburton • rwashburton.co.nz • 03 307 8317

Real Estate Mid Canterbury Property Management Limited Licensed (REAA 2008)



before continuing through the intersection. Safety is more important than getting there quickly.

Children should travel in the back seat always, especially young children in car seats. If the airbag deploys a child in the front seat can be seriously hurt or worse. So, while it's nice to have them close to you, it's not safe.

We are coming to the end of the road code course and will soon be sitting the learner's license test. Then the students will be out on the road with driving mentors. If you have some spare time and would enjoy helping someone learn to drive, we'd love to hear from you.

We will be running another road code course in July and are open for registrations now. This is to get a learner's license or the first step in an overseas conversion. This is where the programme starts. We have a waiting list for people who already have completed the learner's license or begun the overseas conversion.

If you would like to be part of this amazing programme, as a student, driving mentor or to volunteer in other ways, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Wendy Hewitt on 027 611 3301 or wendy.hewitt@safer.org.nz

We are also on Facebook, just search for the Mid Canterbury Rural Driver Licensing Scheme.

The Mid Canterbury Rural Driver Licensing Scheme is a partnership with the Mid Canterbury Rural Support Trust and is proudly sponsored by Waka Kotahi, Advance Ashburton Community Foundation, Ashburton District Council, The Lion Foundation, COGs and Community Trust Mid & South Canterbury

Wendy Hewitt
Rural Licensing Co-Ordinator
Safer Mid Canterbury
255 Moore Street, Ashburton 7700
Ph: 027 611 3301
wendy.hewitt@safer.org.nz

Office hours - Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 4.30 pm

Stockists of quality **PEDROLLO** waterpumps

Pedrollo pumps are designed to lift water from wells, tanks or waterways to supply anything requiring a reliable pressurised water system.

Typical uses include homes, gardens, stock troughs, K-line and tank filling.

Available as 3/4hp, 1hp, 1 1/2hp, 2hp and 3hp sizes.

We have the water pump to suit your situation, call in today for more information

///ACL
ARTHUR CATES LTD

26 McNally Street, Ashburton 7700. Phone (03) 308 5397

Rifleman Pest Control

FARMS WANTED!!!!!!!!!!!!

Providing a **free service** from Mayfield to Methven that's carried out by a local farmer. References available.

All carcasses utilised.

I collect all animals shot and also provide other services like possum trapping and larger game animal control.

Text/Call Laurie Aitken
027 3143 491
riflemannz@gmail.com



2-3 hares eat the equivalent of 1 stock unit and reproduce up to 10 young each year. Night shooting is the most effective method of control.

Walk Hanmer Springs

9 ladies had a trip to Hanmer Springs

First day: Conical Hill

Second day: Waterfall Track

Third day: Mt Isobel

Fourth day: Fowlers Track



Walk Awa Awa Rata Reserve 2nd April

Enthusiastic and happy ladies were out for walking in the rain.



Painter Available

Spruce up and protect your property with a coat of paint!

Interiors, exteriors, roofs and weatherboards.

Pressure washing, airless spraying, and a first-rate finish.

Friendly, professional service, good rates, excellent local references.

Call Wolfie for a free quote.

Distance no problem.

Ph 0279 624 841 or 03 693 9803



MAYFIELD MT SOMERS ANGLICAN PARISH

Pretty much everywhere you go you will find three things: a pub, a school, and a church. These have historically been the heart of our communities.

Generation after generation have passed through their doors and many milestones good and not so good have happened within their walls. This year is the 125th anniversary of St. Aidan's Church in Mt. Somers, this is something worth celebrating. St. Aidan's day is the 31st of August and we would like to invite everyone to join the celebrations that will take place around that time as we remember the past and look to the future. For now, we would like to invite everyone who has memories and stories to share and photos of St. Aidan's church and the Mayfield-Mt. Somers parish to share these so an historic display can be created. Every memory is important, please contact rev.sageburke@outlook.com if you have stories, photos, or memorabilia we could borrow for the anniversary celebrations.

Rev. Sage Burke

ISSUE NINETY SEVEN

CHURCH SERVICES

St Aidan's, Mt Somers

May 4 4.30pm (visiting minister)
May 18 4.30pm (beginning with refreshments)

PARISH CONTACTS

Phone: 302 8254
Email: midcanterburyanglican@gmail.com
Web: www.midcanterbury.org
Social: facebook.com/MidCanterburyAnglican

Kanuka Trust

Mayfield School has an amazing opportunity to work with Kanuka Trust, as part of the Hekeo Hinds river inquiry. During the team, with an Educator from Kanuka Trust tamariki/children has the experience to strengthen their curiosity of "what's living in our awa/river?" This will continue to be a focus for our school throughout the year as each year group delves deeper into the ecosystems, birds, bugs, and other biodiversity living alongside our waterways. Recently our Y5-8 tamariki/children had an experience day at the river and were encouraged to think about the habitat in and around the river, the impact of weather on the river, how we as human influence our waterways and hear stories of cultural history. We look forward to sharing with the community our findings as we celebrate our learning with you.

Walk Woolshed Creek Hut Rhyolite Ridge 26th March

8 ladies walked in via Old Coal Miners and 12 ladies did via Rhyolite Ridge to the hut



Walk Timaru Coastal Walk 16th April

We walked to two lighthouses Timaru Lighthouse and Jacks Point Lighthouse.



All Walk photos supplied by Sanae Hydes

Memorial for Trucky

Mayfield School were honoured on the last day of term 1 to celebrate a special man, Trucky Carr. Along with family and friends, our Tamariki/children sang a couple of waitata, planted a memorial tree and also a park bench as a way of remembrance. It was an incredibly special memorial which Mayfield School were proud to be part of.



Whanagatanga Fridays

Each Friday morning prospective families to Mayfield School are invited to join us in our NE classroom. During the morning children who are soon to start school, can connect with other learners in the class, families to meet other families and they can all learn about the fantastic programme we offer our NE/Y1 students. If you or someone you know is interested, please feel free



to contact the school office for more details. We look forward to connecting with you all.

Ngā mihi
Emma Hewett (Tumuaki/
Principal)

COMPUTERS FIXED *FAST* FIRST TIME



03 308 3400
www.mypc.nz
144 Moore Street, Ashburton



Computing Solutions

MAYFIELD SPRAYING LTD

**Family
owned &
operated**



For all your agricultural spraying and liquid fertiliser needs with competitive rates phone Tony today.



MAYFIELD SPRAYING LTD

Tony 027 248 7045
mayfieldspraying@gmail.com



ANAMA RURAL WOMEN

This month we delivered meals on wheels along with help from some of The Dinner Club members. This is quite rewarding as people appreciate a hot meal being delivered to their homes. Seven drivers and seven runners are required and each car delivers from 10 to 22 meals .

For our monthly get together we discussed books we had read and viewed a members collection of bridesmaid dresses and 21st dress over 60 years old and in perfect condition.

ON 15th MAY PROVINCIAL RURAL WOMEN ARE HAVING A MOVIE NIGHT TO RAISE FUNDS FOR LEPTOSPIROSIS RESEARCH. IT IS IN ASHBURTON AT 6.00PM AND TICKETS ARE \$22. THE MOVIE IS "THE SALT PATH" BASED ON A TRUE STORY. IF YOU WOULD LIKE A TICKET CONTACT KAY KING 027 3339 513.



agstaff®

Good Buggers You Can Trust

Permanent & Temporary Staff Solutions

- Factory Workers
- Rouging Gangs
- Farm Assistants
- Tractor Drivers
- Labourers
- Truck Drivers
- Farm Assistants
- and more...

IF YOU NEED STAFF, WE CAN HELP

Email: donna@agstaff.co.nz | **Phone:** 021 502 484

