

A COMMENT:

The world at war! Just what do we make of it? We are so fortunate tucked away in the South Pacific, a wonderful place to be at the present time, well out of sight of the present turmoil that exists in far away lands. But is it so far away, news travels so very fast in this modern world. The moment President Donald Trump comes out with yet another outlandish statement we get told of it, other world leaders take second place. We do have the odd local politician that attempts to make the odd way-out statement, I guess it is a way of drawing attention to oneself.

There are matters available to us, that are far more interesting and meaning-full than world politics. We can but hope and pray that these bombs and missiles that we hear of remain well away from our shores. The arsenals held in the bunkers of the larger and powerful nations doesn't bare thinking of. What a waste of the world's resources, weapons of mass destruction, weapons designed to kill and destroy, just when will mankind learn a better way?

On a world scale the investment on methods of mass destruction must be enormous, should perhaps only a fraction of that investment be put to humanitarian purposes, suffering in the less developed countries could soon be eliminated with people being fed and clothed well, with education being applied to helping people to help themselves. You will respond with the words that it is not an easy thing to correct but was it ever easy to develop highly sophisticated and so-called accurate weapons of war.

Ways of fighting wars have evolved over time, there was a time when only men and their horses went to war, they fought hand in hand, they developed tactics to outwit each other, then mankind developed weapons of mass destruction! And that is where the world is today. Are some of these so-called world leaders itching for the opportunity to demonstrate their military might.

As history tells us the one- and only-time atomic power was

Stockwater Meeting Tuesday 17 June

Mt Somers community had the opportunity to meet with the Stockwater Exit Transition group.

Richard Wilson, Carolyn Cameron, Neil McCann and Chrissie Drummond were appointed by Ashburton District Council to gather all relevant information and eventually present the best course of action to enable ADC to exit their management of stockwater races by 30 June 2027.

The group sought to help us understand the process and how we can best present our needs, observations and suggestions to Council.

Our stockwater races are a complex issue as they cross over into stormwater as well as ecological and cultural significance. For Mt Somers there is also the matter of the stockwater race being our main water source for fire-fighting.

The Transition group certainly have a mind-boggling task on their hands.

What can we do?

Individual submissions to Council. Be sure to make yours.

Deb Stanaway

used was in 1945. When atomic bombs were detonated over Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

On the 6th of August 1945 the first ever atomic bomb was put to use in warfare being detonated high over Hiroshima causing 120,000 civilian deaths.

On the 9th of August 1945 a second bomb was detonated over Nagasaki a smaller city surrounded by hills with the result of 73,000 deaths.

continued on page 7

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A Jubilant June at Mayfield Playcentre!

June has been a vibrant and full month at Mayfield Playcentre, filled with creativity, celebration, and connection. With the dairy season shift bringing new families into the area and the addition of Thursday sessions to our regular Tuesday and Wednesday rhythm, it's been fantastic to see our sessions so well supported by both new and existing families.

The clear standout this month was our Matariki Evening, which once again delivered a truly magical experience. With a crisp, calm night as our backdrop, tamariki and their whānau enjoyed fish and chips under the stars, lantern-making, sparklers, and marshmallow roasting. It was a beautiful chance to come together, reflect on the year past, and look ahead with hope—wrapped in the warmth of community. We also had the pleasure of hosting a Pacific Island-focused session, led by one of our amazing Playcentre Aotearoa educators. This vibrant session gave tamariki the opportunity to cook traditional Cook Island kai, weave skirts for their dolls, and make colourful flower crowns. It was a fun and hands-on way to celebrate and learn about Pacific cultures, and the centre was alive with colour, laughter, and pride.

A fine-weather Open Day also gave us the chance to show off our centre—inside and out—and connect with a few curious families. It's always special being able to open our doors and invite others in to see what makes Playcentre such a unique and supportive community.



With the school holidays and calving season nearly upon us, we're squeezing in one more adventure—a holiday trip to Chipmunks. We're calling it a "strength in numbers" mission, and we wish all the parents plenty of strong coffee and even stronger nerves!

As always, our doors are open to new faces. If you're curious about Playcentre or looking to connect with other local families, come along and see what we're all about—we'd love to welcome you.



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The Old Post Office Library



We have good news and bad news this issue.....

Firstly the good news. We have had a most welcome notification from the Ashburton District Council that we have once again qualified for their Library Grant effective from July. This is wonderful, enabling us to purchase approximately 100 new books for our library. These will be a mixture of fiction, historical fiction, crime, non fiction and New Zealand books. We will try and let you know through this newsletter when the various books arrive on our shelves.

Now for the bad news.

Until now Electricity Ashburton has been most generous in helping us with our power account for the library. But we no longer fit their criteria for sponsorship so their assistance has ended. This will take effect from the end of the year.

So..... we are looking for new sponsorship from a local business or individual to help us out here. Presently we do not charge for our borrowed books even the very latest that we often have in stock before our district library has.

We are looking at different ways to address our 'problem', but frankly, the simplest would be for some generous locals to take on our sponsorship. It isn't a huge amount..... just enough to cover line charges of approx \$500 annually would be such a help and the library will try to cover actual power usage.

Of course our donation boxes are dotted around the library, and we would love it if they were filled regularly. We want to keep the library free for everyone.

New books this month:

We now have all four of John Boyne's latest set of books; a 'tetralogy' I'm told! These are a series of 4 short books that are all connected in some way. The first book 'Earth' is about a rape trial of 2 footballers, the second book 'Water' is about a woman who moves to an island and changes her name, the third is called 'Fire' about a female surgeon, and finally 'Air' also about a doctor, who appears in 'Fire'. I can't recommend these books highly enough. Each one

stands on its own and they could all be read separately without the sequel, but for me it just heightened the suspense with the continuation of the previous story. This 'tetralogy' gets 5/5 stars from me. Fabulous !

'Let Me Go Mad in my Own Way' by Elaine Feeney

The title of this book intrigued me! It is an Irish tale and I have found it hard to put down. There are two stories running through the book..... a love story of Tom and Claire. And then the story of Claire's parents and siblings and where they grew up. Incidentally Claire now lives where she and her siblings grew up. I'm loving this book. It brings back my memories of where I grew up, the writing is clever and interesting.

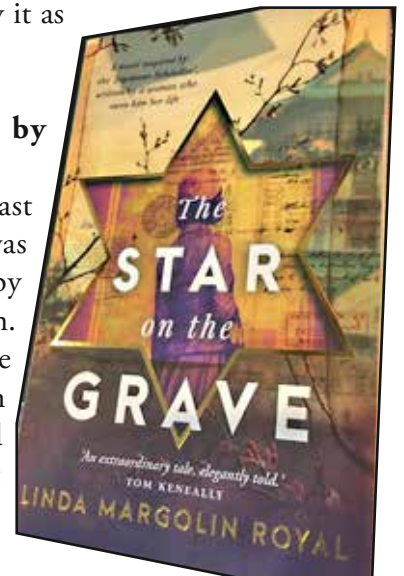
'A Beautiful Family' by Jennifer Trevelyn.

This story is set in 1980s New Zealand, in the summertime on the Kapiti Coast. A 10 year old girl is on holiday with her family and gets caught up with the confusions and frustrations of childhood, the bonds of family, and then an ongoing mystery that she doesn't quite understand. Well worth the read, and has already been marked for a film to follow.

'The Book of Guilt' by Catherine Chidgey. One of my favourite authors (The Axeman's Carnival, Pet). It totally lived up to my expectations, I hope other readers enjoy it as much as I did.

'The Butterfly Man' by Heather Rose.

In 1974 in London's East End, a young nanny was supposedly murdered by her employer Lord Lucan. He disappeared that same night and was never seen again. There were reputed sightings in Australia but nothing was ever proved.



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The book picks up the story and we find Henry Kennedy living in Tasmania. It soon becomes clear he is not who he says he is. This part historical fiction, part mystery and part crime book was well worth the read and should appeal to a wide audience.

We have been busy sorting books in the library and having a change around! We have incorporated our crime books into the fiction area but they have a silver dot on the spine so can be easily spotted. That has freed up the shelves behind the desk where we will have that fabulous section of fiction, but based on fact. It is such an easy way to learn some history, as invariably I find I 'google' the event and learn even more. This section used to be at the far end of the library by the couch.

Good winter reading everyone, and keep warm. And please consider our plea re the library power account. I believe this building and contents are very much a part of our village and we want to keep it that way.



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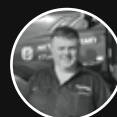


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continued from page 1

On the 10th of August 1945 the Japanese Government indicated their readiness to accept defeat and proceeded with an unconditional surrender, bringing the second world war to an end.

No atomic power has been used in warfare since and long may it remain that way. Hiroshima and Nagasaki raised the spectre of Mutual Assured Destruction (MAD) that has haunted the world into our present times.

Over the past month Mid Canterbury lost a well-known citizen. Ken Cookson departed this life on the 14th of June at the great age of one hundred years.

Ken had spent his entire life in the Ashburton area, worked as a stock agent, worked on local stations and farms, and then farmed on his own account.

I met Ken and his wife Rhonda about twenty years ago while drinking coffee at the Staveley Store. They enjoyed the outback, the high country, the bush the birds and the streams. They would have made their way to the Sharplin Falls many times.

Ken had many stories to tell I found him to be very good company. He told us of the early starts he had on Addington sale days, when they would round up the sheep from the holding paddock which happened to be at Hagley Park. There was the time when he was about 12 years of age and he rode his bike to Lake Herron area to go hunting taking his rifle

with him, and there was the time his brother took him for a ride in their fathers Model T Ford car, they got the car going but then didn't know how to stop it and crashed into a train! Ken was thrown from the car into a stream and went through a culvert pipe under East Street, Mr Horrell pulled him from the stream, he went to hospital with a broken leg, the car was a write off. I understood Ken was five years old at the time.

Ken enjoyed a long and active life; he is survived by his wife Rhonda and daughter Diana and son in law Tobi and several grandchildren, a good friend to many, a notable man has been laid to rest.

Cheers Denis

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Anne Marie Allan.0272 843 013.

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Wendy Millichamp.027 459 1277.

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Robert Withers.0273 030 138.



Contact Rob Palmer
Telephone 027 217 5577



Walk Ashburton Town 28 May

On a cold and foggy day, we walked around the town and the north end river track. After the walk, we joined a fundraising lunch for breast cancer society at the EA Network Centre.



Photos supplied by Sanae Hydes

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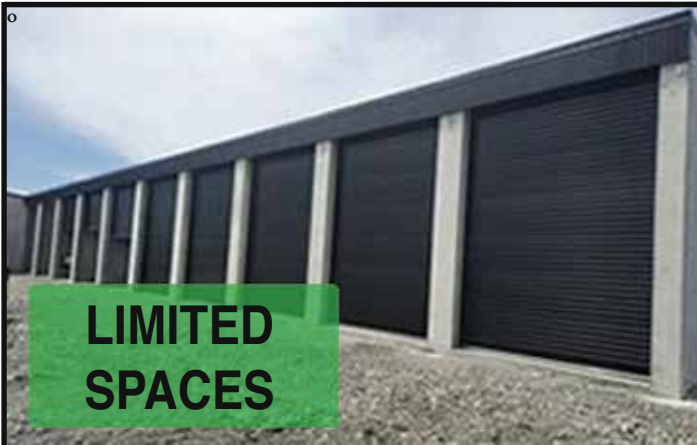


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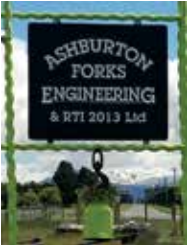
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Survival Tips for Grief

Hospice Mid Canterbury deals with the grief on a daily basis, from the diagnosis of a life-limiting illness to the loss of a loved one.

It can be difficult to see how to go on when you are struggling with grief. The journey may seem like a mountain that is too difficult to climb. Here are some steps you can take that may help ease that journey.

Allow your grief

Accept, and allow your grief as a natural response to loss. Suppressed grief doesn't go away. Grief is a mix of many uncomfortable feelings. You may feel sad, angry or filled with regret or longing. All these feelings are natural.

Express your grief

Cry when you need to cry. Be angry when you feel angry. Don't suppress your feelings or pretend to be stoic. The more you acknowledge your pain, the less hold it will have on you. If this is difficult for you, writing in a diary or journal can be useful.

Be patient with yourself

Grief is a process that takes time. Moving forward is not necessarily quick and easy, but it is possible. Trust that you can and will cope with your loss. Just try to manage, moment to moment, day to day. Things will change.

Keep occupied

Initially, you may struggle to manage your feelings of grief. However, keeping yourself occupied with regular routines and activities, often with the help of friends and family, makes this easier.

Exercise daily

Move your body. Walking, gardening, swimming, dancing or whatever activity pleases you, can help you feel better. Through

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exercise, you build your physical strength, release tension, enliven yourself, and keep yourself well. Exercise releases endorphins that will lift your mood.

Be willing to change things

It is natural to wish things could stay the way they were. However, being flexible and making small changes can help us accept our loss. What interested us before may not interest us now. We may make different choices of activities and people. We need to notice what supports us and what doesn't. Change is inevitable and we need to remember that we can go on with our lives.

Connect with others

If we become isolated in our grief, we accentuate it. We need support from others. Share time with friends and family, and talk to someone you trust about how you are feeling. Hospice Mid Canterbury has trained counsellors who can help and also offers the recently established Good Grief café for those dealing with bereavement.

Appreciate what you have

When times are tough, recognising what is good in our lives can change our perspective. In these moments of feeling grateful, we realise there is more than loss in our life.

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ANAMA RURAL WOMEN

This month we celebrated 90 years of our club with a light lunch, lots of reminiscing and viewing old photos. Anama Rural Women has been a very active club over the years providing lots of activity's for the community. We were entertained by Pauline reading us of happenings in the world back in 1935.

The world was in a depression and times were tough, reports out of Europe were unsettling. On a lighter note Elvis Presley was born and some of the popular songs were Blue Moon, Red Sails in the Sunset.

The NZ government doubled its defence spending and Michael Savage became the first Labour Prime Minister.

Women were working hard on farms and a lot didn't drive so not a lot of social contact.

A meeting was held at Hopelands to decide to form a WDFE, the first official meeting being held at Quantock's Farm.

At our meeting Jackie Ryan was presented with a Badge of Honour for her services to Rural Women and the wider community. Jackie has been very active on the local A&P in the shed and encouraging children's exhibits at the show. Also May Greenslade who has been very involved with Rural Women and the wider community was made a life member of our club.

We are still open for new members,
just contact me Kay 027 3339 513.



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Jackie Ryan



Natalie Quantock



Pauline Hewson on right
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Mayfield Hall & Domain Update June 2025

With winter now upon us, the grass growth has finally let up giving the mowing team a break. It was a wet start to June resulting in some areas around the domain being taped off to prevent vehicle access and parking—thank you for your understanding.

The hall has seen some welcome additions recently. Most notably, a brand new 900mm-wide oven has been installed in the kitchen; great news especially for the caterers and event hosts! We've also added a nappy changing table in the ladies' cloakroom, a useful amenity for all the young families who attend events in the hall. And lastly, a special addition is the stained glass window gifted by the Harrison family. Originally donated to the Anglican Church in 1965, then passed to the Presbyterian Church upon its closure, the window has now found a new home in the hall following the church going up for sale. It has been carefully installed and wired with lighting above the main entry and exit doors at the back of the hall. With the flick of a switch, the vibrant colours of this beautiful piece in all their glory, can now be admired for years to come. The official unveiling will take place during the Lions Changeover Dinner on July 1st.

The hall and domain has continued to be a hub of community activity in recent months. Since ANZAC Day, several rugby games have been hosted and on the eve of Matariki the hall came alive for an evening of Bingo and live auctions, in what was another successful fundraiser hosted by the Mayfield Home and School committee.

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Looking ahead, we have the Wellbeing Opuke school holiday program returning to the hall on July 8th. Later in the month, we are looking forward to a group from the New Zealand Motor Caravan Association gathering for a long weekend, making full use of our hall and domain facilities. A highlight of their visit will be a meal catered by the parents of Mayfield School students, who are fundraising for their Stewart Island camp.

The hall and domain consistently proves it's versatility, making it the perfect venue for your next meeting, gathering or event needs. With this in mind, here is some of our most common local hire pricing information.

Whole hall full day \$120

Whole hall half day \$60

Kitchen charge additional \$30

Tables \$10 each

For all hall booking enquiries, please contact
Aafke Baxter 027 463 9728

For any other correspondence or if you are keen
to get involved, please contact David Greenslade
(chairman) 027 333 6835.

*By Aafke Baxter, on behalf of
the Mayfield Hall and Domain Committee*



Mayfield and Districts Lions Report



Changeover night coming up on the Tuesday the 1st July, when the old committee hands over the running of the club to the incoming committee.
Di and other exchangee Niko Holgate spoke to members about their recent week long adventure at Berwick.

Youth Activities Director Athel Price with Di Chilton Berwick Exchange participant.

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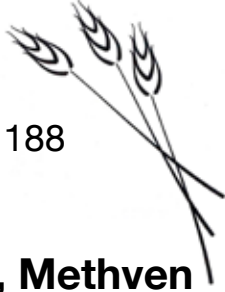
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Walk Woolshed Creek Hut 18th June:

8 ladies had a fun walk to Woolshed Hut. Snow was deep and very slippery with ice. The other two groups walked Peel Forest and Lake Hood.



Photos supplied by Sanae Hydes



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DEADLINE DATE FOR AUGUST ISSUE 2025

ISSUE	DEADLINE	DELIVERY
August 2025	25 July	27 July



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As we move towards the end of Term 2, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the many wonderful things happening here at Mayfield School and to thank our wider community for your ongoing support.

Mayfield School is a small but mighty learning community, rich in diversity and powered by strong relationships. This term, we've welcomed several new students, including families from a range of cultural backgrounds. It has been heartening to see how quickly these learners have settled in, supported by our dedicated staff, caring students, and inclusive environment. We are proud of the way our tamariki show manaakitanga (care and respect) in everything they do.

Our students have been involved in a number of exciting learning opportunities recently. Swimming lessons at the EA Networks Centre were a real highlight, as were our visits to

the Ashburton Library and Domain. These trips not only support learning but build confidence and independence in our students. A special thank you to our staff who make these experiences possible.

We are also continuing to focus on strengthening the refreshed curriculum, with a spotlight on Literacy and rich mathematical tasks. Our teachers continue to engage in professional development to ensure we deliver a curriculum that meets the needs of all learners—whether they are just beginning their journey or are ready for greater challenges.

Bingo Night Success A huge thank you to everyone who joined us on Thursday, June 19th for an unforgettable night with Ethel and Bethel, the Bingo Babes! The Mayfield Hall was packed with laughter, serious bingo faces, and incredible community spirit. Thanks to your support, and the generosity of our sponsors, especially Jeff Donaldson from PGG Wrightson Property, we raised an amazing \$15,000 for Mayfield School. These funds will go towards camps, Education Outside the Classroom experiences, and all the little extras like sausage sizzles, bus vests and school entry stationary packs, and sports uniforms. Mayfield Home and School is all about bringing our community together – and what a night it was. Thanks for making it such a success. All for the kids!

I'd like to acknowledge our hardworking Home and School committee, Board of Trustees, and volunteers who give so much of their time and energy. Whether it's fundraising, helping with events, or supporting our learning spaces, your contributions do not go unnoticed and are deeply appreciated. Mayfield School are currently looking for 2025 sponsors and thank those who have already come on board. Keep an eye

out as we take time to thank each sponsor in the near future. If you would like to know more please contact Victoria Clarke via sponsorship@mayfieldschool.nz.

As always, our doors are open. We encourage whānau and community members to stay connected, whether it's through a classroom visit, a school assembly, or a quick chat at the gate.

Ngā mihi Emma Hewett

(Tumuaki/Principal)





Safer Mid Canterbury Hakatere Haumaru

Together we're safer • Me uru kahikatea

Already we are past the shortest day, so spring is around the corner. Farmers are starting to get busy and we can see lambs in the paddock and even some early calves.

So, busy farmers mean more isolation for their non driving partners. That's why we target the partners of farm staff, especially those new to the district. It can be a lonely life out on the farm when everyone is working long hours, and rosters are often pared back to get the work done.

For eight years we have been helping newcomers to get a driver's license, and over the years we have seen more and more cultural diversity and heard of the amazing backgrounds of the women who have joined us on the programme. In their home country they have worked in lots of different professions. We have had qualified and experienced vets, accountants, doctors, nurses, pharmacists, physiotherapists and lawyers among other highly qualified women. They have come here to build a better life for their families and to support their partners in their farming careers.

By getting a drivers license, these women have been able to get off the farm and into the work force. Often they aren't working in their profession yet, but by starting out in the workforce gives them options to pursue a career in their chosen profession further down the track.

This is a busy time of year for funding and we are delighted to say a big thank you to NZTA Waka Kotahi, Ashburton District Council and Advance Ashburton Community Foundation (Tindall and Johnson Brothers fund) for supporting our programme for another year. We really appreciate our funders contribution no matter how big or small it may be. These are tough times for community organisations and there is great competition for the limited funds available. We are grateful for the support and the acknowledgment that our programme is worthy of funding.

We are about to start on our sixteenth road code group who will be working towards a learners license. It is exciting to see the ladies coming together, meeting new friends and learning a new skill. It's a time filled with anticipation, excitement for the journey ahead, and some nervousness for the testing process. Lucky we have lovely testing officers here in Ashburton and very efficient staff at the AA helping us with bookings etc. We live in an amazing community. We are very lucky.

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 NZTA Waka Kotahi, Advance

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Rural Licensing Co-Ordinator
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Mt Somers Staveley Playcentre

These frosty mornings are providing plenty of fun here at Mount Somers Staveley Playcentre. Our tamariki love to explore around the play area to find ice to admire and shatter. We are still managing to enjoy outside play in the sandpit and biking around on the concrete. We are doing plenty of fun inside play also with playdough (or clay) and crafts, as well as the play kitchen and dress ups! So much joy to be had!

As parents we are also noticing some beautiful relationships developing between the children in their play as well which is great to see.

We had a lovely evening celebrating Matariki with our playcentre whanau. This involved shared kai, marshmallow toasting, making wishes for the year ahead, and lots of



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glow sticks and fairy lights. It was magical for the children and parents alike.

We are hoping to have a trip away ice skating next term and are planning a few other outings also.

If you have preschool children and want to encourage play and meet other parents, please get in touch or pop in anytime between 9am-12pm every Tuesday and Thursday (excluding school holidays).



"I won't tell you that the world matters nothing, or the world's voice, or the voice of society. They matter a good deal. They matter far too much. But there are moments when one has to choose between living one's own life, fully, entirely, completely—or dragging out some false, shallow, degrading existence that the world in its hypocrisy demands. You have that moment now. Choose!"

Oscar Wilde

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Mayfield Scout Group

Mayfield Scout Group is back in business with a new keas group up and running at the Mayfield Scout den. Keas is the youngest group in scouting, catering for boys and girls aged 5 to 8 years. Earlier this year, there was strong interest from a group of Mayfield Playcentre parents in re-starting the keas group as an afterschool activity, and the first step in joining the Scouting movement.

The idea was initiated by Sarah Cudmore who was a scout in Mayfield "a few years ago," says Sarah. Her mother, Anne Taylor, was a well-known Mayfield scout leader. Sarah, along with Mel Sloan and Tash Hird, have completed their leader training, and are brimming with ideas for the new group.

This was great news for the Mayfield Scout Group, and the Mania-o-roto (Ashburton) District of Scouting. "All we need are some keen parents, and enthusiastic children to get back up and running" said Group Secretary Alison Fleming. Mania-o-roto Zone leader Dave Strong endorsed these comments "We totally support all levels of scouting in the district, and support all parents in their training to be scout leaders" said Zone Leader Dave Strong. "Hopefully we will be able to offer cubs and scouts groups to these youngsters, and to recruit parents or grandparents as group leaders."

Last week 10 children were invested into keas by Dave Strong, and another 4-6 are completing the requirements so they can join. The group meet on Mondays after school, and there is room for more youngsters in the group. Contact Sarah Cudmore 0274282511 for joining details.



Cooper Hird from Mayfield Keas gets some firefighting advice from his dad Matt Hird.



Matt Hird and Alex Quigley from Mayfield FENZ with their new recruits from Mayfield keas.

This week the keas visited the Mayfield Fire and Emergency, where they learnt about fire safety, and first aid. Sitting in the fire engine, and learning how the hoses work capped off a great outing to our emergency services.

Thanks to the Mayfield Fire and Emergency Services volunteers, especially Alex Quigley, Matt Hird, Connor Crowley and Tim Rowe.

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Production 2025

The laughter nearly blew the roof off! Our tamariki delivered a sensational performance, telling the tale of mysterious pirates and one very unhinged admiral. What followed was pure mayhem, packed with one-liners that brought the house down!



There's a question that it's hard to escape as an Anglican minister: 'more tea vicar?,' in fact you're probably not a real minister until you've been asked that at least a dozen times. Today it's a bit of a joke, but it originates in the custom of the vicar (or minister) of a parish visiting their parishioners which in British tradition was done over a cup of tea. Since we've hit the winter season we thought it might be time to do something different. Instead of our usual services at St. Aidan's Church this month there is going to be special combined service for mid-Canterbury at St. Mark's Rakaia on July 6th at 10am, then on 20th of July instead of more tea Vicar how about a 'Pint with a Priest'? Rather than the usual church service I'll be at the Mt. Somers' Tavern from 3pm come along if you want to have a chat or ask a question. You can choose if you want tea or a pint.

Rev. Sage Burke

ISSUE NINETY NINE

MAYFIELD MT SOMERS ANGLICAN PARISH

CHURCH SERVICES

St Aidan's, Mt Somers

July 6	10am Special combined service at St. Mark's Rakaia
July 20	3pm Pint with a Priest, Mt. Somers Tavern

PARISH CONTACTS

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