

## A COMMENT

I have had a busy month, although it takes very little to keep me busy these days.

I hosted visitors from the far away country of Morocco, I knew very little of Morocco except that a lot of our phosphate rock we use in the production of super phosphate is shipped from there. It is situated on the West coast of Africa with the Atlantic Ocean on one side and the Mediterranean Sea on the other side. There is a land area of 716,550 Sq KM, the land is mountainous and much of the population live at high altitudes. There is a considerable area of farmed land producing a variety of products including live-stock with an increasing dairy industry, other products are wheat, barley and vegetable crops plus a wine industry. The population 36,459,000 basically 36 million. The main language is Arabic, and their foreign languages are English and Spanish.

My guests the man was Hatim family name Zitouni and had spent the past thirteen years in France, he is an engineer by trade. His partner was Zineb family name Ait Hamadi, she had spent the past seven years in France as a consultant. They were very pleasant folk, very friendly and took a liking to my dog Leo while they made no comment re the cat Nick. I gathered she wasn't acceptable and may have been given that message as she remained outside for most of their visit!

Morocco is very much a Muslim country, I had thought I would take them up the Ashburton gorge and to Sharplin Falls but they requested to visit Christchurch, their only opportunity, they had



driven from further south to here and from here they had arranged to travel to Hokitika. They expressed a strong desire to visit the Mosque Al Noor, Deans Avenue where the shooting had taken place. This appeared to be a real priority, I agreed to take them there for the 12.30 gathering or whatever it is called. I imagined I would go for a walk or read a book in the car, but no, they urged me to accompany them.

This proved to be an interesting experience for me. We arrived just a few moments early. Hatim went to open the large solid wooden door to enter only to find it was securely locked. We stood back for a moment when next a sturdy looking man appears and in a very pleasant manner tells us it's his duty that day to check

the would-be worshipers out ensuring that we carried no guns or weapons of any kind. He looked at me I guess having noted that I didn't appear to be a muslim. I reassured him that I carried no firearms or bombs and certainly meant no harm. After discussing the shooting with my guests which they appeared to be interested in, he felt in his trouser pocket and the door latch gave a click and we were ushered in. I guess the door locked firmly behind us. We removed our shoes and proceeded. Zineb being female turned to a room designated for females. Hatim showed me into the central chamber under the huge dome and indicated that I could sit on a form at the rear, this I did and Hatim excused himself as he had to wash to prepare for worship. In time he returned all washed I imagine. Shortly, others trickled in going to the front of this large meeting place, in time the leader appeared, well robed up and led the worship. All males, many I would call roughly dressed but I would be sure they were clean as that appeared to be an important issue. They stood, they kneeled at times very low with their faces on the well carpeted floor. The important man-made loud guttural-type noises none of which I could understand. After some time, we were ushered into a much smaller room where similar things took place, I was ignored or thought I was, the big man did stare very directly at me at one point, it may have been the first time he had become aware of me presence. Children were in another part, they disappeared as these prayers got under way, Towards the end of our time there a youngish man appeared, walked past me then turned and came back and shook my hand in a very warm manner, no words were spoken.

For me it was indeed an experience, I asked for a toilet and was shown to an impressive row, on entering I found it was not just a toilet but a well-equipped wash shower room with a slated floor a bit like a woolshed.

We left the Mosque for the Art Centre. I was looking forward to a coffee and some lunch. This I got as well as a look around an interesting shop. I noted that my guests chose to eat nothing Hatim did have a coffee I wondered if that was just to keep me company, Zineb had nothing although she may have had a small glass on water. We drove through the city Centre around the cathedral and then to the Riccarton Mall as they had requested to go to 'Pack & Save.' They appeared to have quite a complex shopping list. I returned to the car and relaxed there. They reappeared with bags of food items. I then learnt that they intended to cook my dinner which was wonderful. The first course was a Moroccan meal, chicken and many olives which I did eat but not my favorite. Desert was a rhubarb pie served with a number of candles as the day was my birthday. I was eating rhubarb pie for several days, and I enjoyed the treat, the rhubarb was from my garden.

I must end there, as this story is getting beyond my limit.

Cheers Denis

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**Walk Peel Forest Walk** 9 August

Sixteen ladies walked in the Peel Forest. Acland Falls first, morning tea at the Clarks Flat Shelter then to Big Tree.



Photos supplied by Sanae Hydes



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## Mayfield and Districts Lions Report August Meeting

At the August meeting of the Mayfield and Districts Lions we had two guest speakers.

Phil Everest who is part of a working group collating the communities" vision of the future" in relation to fresh water management in the region.

The working group held 29 meetings throughout the district, 622 people contributed to the information which will be presented and considered by Ecan, hopefully influencing the Regional Policy Statement.

The second speaker was Peter Reynolds aka "Razor" who runs a charity called Moral Compass.

Razor had a colourful upbringing in South East London. Faced with jail or the British Army he chose the army where he excelled and became a paratrooper. After 10 tours to Afghanistan and a stint in the NZ Defence Force he retired to become a partner in a Christchurch business.

Stepping back from his business a little he also runs Moral Compass for youth who have lost their way. Moral Compass is a mentoring program developing essential life skills using outdoor education to deal with life challenges. Razor takes youth referred to him by the courts and social services, mentoring them to become productive members in the community. He seeks places to take his charges in the Canterbury region and can be contacted through his website Moral Compass.

*Chris Olley,  
Publicity and Community Concern,  
Mayfield and Districts Lions.*



*Peter Reynolds "Razor"*

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# The Old Post Office Library



Daffodil Day is here so that means spring is too. Perhaps not quite yet, but seeing those beautiful bright yellow flowers popping up everywhere brings hope that the season is changing. Many of us see spring as a frenzy of gardening but hopefully time for reading too, to rest those weary gardening muscles. Of the new books for this month, I have read three. And all of them absolutely held my interest from start to finish.

**'A Better Place' by a NZ author Stephen Daisley.** This is a set during World War 2 and is the story of twin boys who have grown up on a farm in the North Island. The author himself has worked on sheep and cattle stations as well as on oil and gas construction sites and as a truck driver, which all provides background experience enabling him to write authentically. In the 1940s, both twins sign up for war and leave NZ for all the excitement of fighting for their country. This book is incredibly moving and describes the war from the eyes of a humble shepherd, brilliantly. One of the best war books I have read and with a NZ flavour.

**'A Rip in Heaven' by Jeanine Cummins.** Some of you will recognise this author from her book 'American Dirt' and more recently 'The Outside Boy', both of which are already in the library.

This new book is true crime. And it happened within the author's family; her brother and cousins. It is chilling. Unputdownable. And as I kept reminding myself, it all actually happened in real life, not just between the pages. Highly recommended.

**'The Woman With a Cure' by Lynn Cullen.** Set in the 1950's when the polio virus was rife in the world and scientists were racing to find a vaccine, notably Jonas Salk and Albert Sabin, there was a third in the race, Dorothy Horstmann. She was a key player in the drive to end polio, yet who has heard of her? She was also a major contributor to the rubella vaccine. She died at 89 in 2001 from Alzheimer's Disease. This is a well written novel based on fact. In this day and age we accept female scientists but it was a fight to be recognised back in 1940s and '50s, and this book is a reminder of how far we have come. It is another great read.

**'Not Set in Stone' by David Vass.**

Before 2015, David was one of NZ's leading mountaineers in the Southern Alps and particularly in Fiordland. However that part of his life ended abruptly with a life-altering accident in Fiordland's Darren Mountains which left him with a broken neck and incomplete tetraplegia. This book is mostly about the passion of a life in the mountains, and how David might form a new relationship with them while coming to terms with a very different world. The book has a stunning cover of 'Darkening Sky' (Tekapo) by artist Diana Adams. It is easy to spot in our non-fiction area.

**'The Power of Trees' by Peter Wohlleben.** This is a companion book of 'The Hidden Lives of Trees' by the same author which is also in the library. This book reminds us (quote) 'that trees are not the slow learners when it

comes to climate change—we are'. The author shares astonishing discoveries about how trees pass knowledge to succeeding generations, helping them to survive climate change. A very readable book full of fascinating facts about trees and forests. This could sound boring, but the book is written in such a way that it truly isn't.

**'One of Those Mothers' by Megan Nicol Read.** I was asked to buy this book by one of our readers who had heard it reviewed on the radio.... or maybe it was TV.

It doesn't matter, we now have it on the shelves and it looks a great read ... a local father is convicted of the possession and distribution of child pornography. He is granted name suppression and it doesn't take long for suspicion and hysteria to rage amongst friends and neighbours. Who is it? And the wives? Whose husband has committed such a abominable offence and were they complicit? This sounds so good!

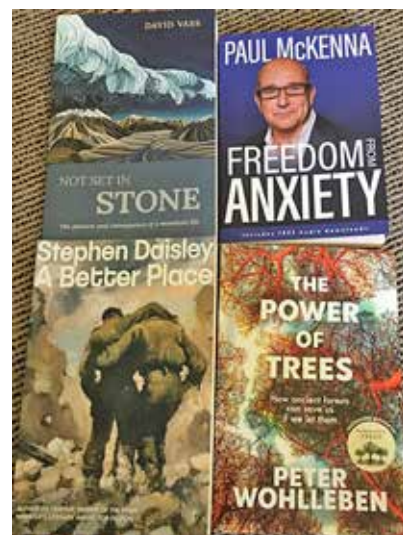
**'Freedom from Anxiety' by Paul McKenna.**

There must be plenty of worry and anxiety circulating just now, particularly amongst our farming community. And the old saying 'don't worry, be happy' just doesn't cut it anymore. This book is reputed to help train your mind to learn techniques of controlling those unpleasant feelings of anxiety, worry and stress.

It is not a textbook, it is simply written and easy to follow and makes sense. And it is interesting too. Published in 2023 so a modern book for modern times.

We are still hoping someone will volunteer to open the library an extra day or two. It's not hard..... just unlock, put the sign out, and then sit and read in the sun or on the couch for a couple of hours. As the days get warmer, more people visit our area or drive through Mt Somers and an open library is much more welcoming than a closed one! If you are new to the area it's a great way to meet people. The scrapbooks of the area conscientiously kept by Joyce Grieve are great reading to learn about this our district and are available for all to look at. Thank you to the Grieve family for donating these precious pictorial records to the library.

**Keep reading, it helps keep our brains alive and well! AC.**



DEADLINE DATE FOR OCTOBER ISSUE		
ISSUE	DEADLINE	DELIVERY
October 2023	25 September	29 September

**Nor'Wester Newsletter is published by the Mt Somers District Citizens Association.**

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# Festival and Event Funding

Each year, Ashburton District Council provides funding to community groups and projects that help make Mid Canterbury a great place to live and visit.

We're seeking applications for the September funding round, so if your festival or event would benefit, apply now!

## Mid Canterbury Regional Event Fund

Planning an event that will bring visitors to our district? We can help!

The Regional Event Fund supports new and existing events that help attract visitors to Mid Canterbury and contribute to the local economy.

**Apply now!**



## Creative Communities Scheme (CCS) Festival Fund

The CCS Festival Fund is a one-off funding boost from Government, to support established festivals that celebrate the life experiences, stories, cultures and regional identities of New Zealanders.

The fund is intended to help the sector adapt and thrive as we move away from the effects of COVID-19.

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# Mt Somers District Citizens Association AGM

Thursday 28th  
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## Rural Licensing - Safer Mid Canterbury

As a driving programme we have a huge focus on road safety, so it's always a pleasure to have Sgt Burgerhout in class to talk safety and how to keep ourselves and other road users safe, and how not to come to the attention of the police.

He talked about what the police call RIDS – Restraints, Impairment, Distraction and Speed.

Restraints include seatbelts, child safety seats and airbags. Make sure you and your passengers are buckled in every time. Impairment includes alcohol, drugs and prescription drugs. Don't drink and drive, and make sure you check any prescription medicines in case they cause drowsiness.

Distractions include cell phones, your passengers and even adjusting the heater or radio station. Put down that cell phone and keep your eyes on the road.

Speed – keep to the speed limit and be especially careful around road works, schools and school buses. The speed limit has dropped to 30kph around schools and when passing a stationary school bus its 20kph.

Other issues that come up is mistakes and lapses in concentration. We all make mistakes from time to time and driving over familiar roads all the time can cause lapses in concentration. So keep up to date with the road rules and keep your mind on the job. Mistakes can be deadly and things can go wrong very quickly.

So drive to the conditions, keep your vehicle well maintained and follow the road rules and we will all get home safely.

If you would like to be part of this amazing programme, either 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](mailto: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 proudly sponsored by Waka Kotahi, The Lotteries Commission, Advance Ashburton Community Foundation, Ashburton District Council, The Lion Foundation, COGs, Community Trust Mid & South Canterbury and The Mid Canterbury Rural Support Trust.

Wendy Hewitt  
Rural Licensing Co-Ordinator  
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## Neighbourhood Support



Hard to believe we are nearly approaching Spring. The longer days are significant and helpful.

Crime Reports for July saw 0 **reported** crimes in and around the area. Just being aware of the people around you and alert to strangers can help protect yourselves and the community. If you see drones in the area please be sure to alert Police.

Online scams continue to affect our community.

Just some things to remember

- If buying anything on trade sites do not pay for it until you see it
- Before responding or paying for anything online think about whether or not you would do the same thing to a stranger who knocked on your door. Would you readily hand over money because they told you to?
- Don't be afraid to say no or ring the company on a reputable one that you know
- Call your bank immediately if you think you have been scammed and report it with Netsafe 0508 638 723
- Check emails carefully. It may look like an email you would normally receive but it may have one letter that is different or end differently eg. ".nz" might be ".aus"
- If you aren't sure – stop and block until you are

Enjoy Spring and hopefully some better weather  
Sue Abel Neighbourhood Support

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## Book of the Month – Mt Somers Library

**Title: 'Foster'**

**Author: Claire Keegan**

**Publication year: 2010**

**(revised paperback version: 2022)**

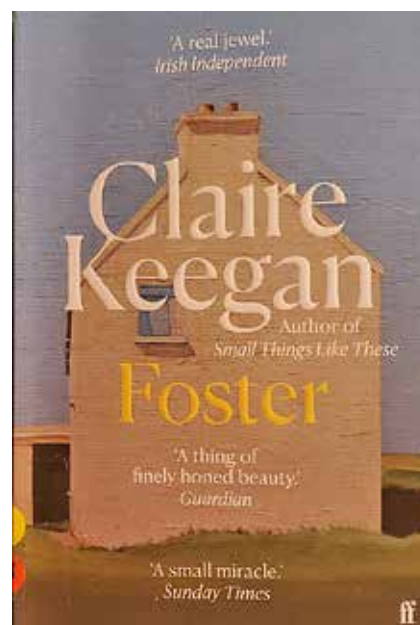
**A review by Elles Smallegoor**

Over a decade ago, Irish author Claire Keegan wrote a novella called 'Foster' and last year this small literary gem was published in a revised paperback version, which has been obtained by the library. The 88-page work is set in 1980s rural Ireland and takes us into the head of a young, sensitive and somewhat unfortunate girl whose father is unloving and irresponsible and whose mother is burdened and down-trodden by a string of pregnancies and a money-poor, messy household. When the latter is due to have another baby during the summer period, the girl gets sent to relatives on the coast not knowing if or when she'll return.

Mr. and Mrs. Kinsella open up a whole new world to her; on their farm, there is love, cleanliness, work ethic, relaxation and laughter. The girl blossoms, but stays a bit tense: "And so the days pass. I keep waiting for something to happen, for the ease I feel to end" (p. 37). And the reader feels the anxiety with her. Keegan upholds this tension throughout the story through mystery and ambivalent dialogue. The girl senses there is something unsaid in the Kinsella household, but what is it? She sleeps in a boy's room and wears a boy's clothes (her father did not even think to give her any), but "there is no sign anywhere of a child" (p. 8). Mr Kinsella one

day looks at her and suggests she needs fine girl's clothes; Mrs. Kinsella runs upstairs for a cry – what does it all mean? The reader can guess more than the girl, but Keegan leaves gaps for conjecture and thereby creates a feeling of unease. The reader, like to girl, is constantly bracing for something bad to happen. What eventually unfolds will affect the reader profoundly.

'Foster' is tender, poignant and poetic, like the little girl. It also does a fine job at creating a sense of place. Most of the dialogue is in the Irish vernacular ("How's your mammy?", "Did ye get sorted?") and there are both lyrical and down-to-earth descriptions of the countryside and the beach. The local community comes alive in conversations about the practicalities of farming (butter mountains, lost heifers and the price of hay) as well as in a chapter about a Catholic wake where there is grieving but also drinking and gossiping. Keegan is masterful with language and ambience and has deservedly won the Davy Byrnes Award for this piece of writing. If you have a moment to spare, go read it. It will touch your heart.



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The successful trustee will be joining the trust at a critical time as it undergoes a development of a strategic plan and an increase in employee hours.

Wellbeing Ōpuke is seeking a trustee to provide context and perspective on challenges and opportunities for furthering wellbeing. The trust is seeking representatives for rural males and migrant communities but welcomes anyone with a passion for community development.

Monthly commitment of 8 to 10 hours. Meetings are a mixture of virtual and face-to-face, with the majority done virtually.

If you are passionate about wellbeing in Ōpuke, please contact Trust Chair, Michelle Ormsby-Brett on 0278012944 or email your CV and expression of interest to [mabrett42@gmail.com](mailto:mabrett42@gmail.com)

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# Kia ora, Talofa, Mālō e lelei, Namaste, °Ni Hao, Bula, Hola, and Namaste - greetings everyone.

This term our curriculum focus is 'The Arts' and earlier this month we entered a Junior and Senior Team into the local Dance Competition in Ashburton. Our Junior Team won a trophy for Best Costume and the Seniors won the Bravery trophy!! Billy Connolly and Indi Chard both received Star Awards for Best Dancers and Saskia Blake achieved a well deserved Leadership Award. Tino pai tō mahi - we are very proud of our tamariki!! A special mention to Alana McConnell and school mums Donna-Marie and Eden for organising the costumes, and for all their support, encouragement and hard work.

On Friday the 11th of August our Kaitiaki Group and Social Leaders organised and ran the school disco. The children chose an 'under the sea' theme and decorated the local community hall to suit. A lot of planning and preparation went into it with a trip into Ashburton to buy chips, drinks, glo sticks and spot prizes! We were super lucky to have Ethan McWilliams from Christchurch Party Hire supply us with lighting, sound and a smoke machine!! All the children dressed according to the theme and a fun night was had by all with dance games and a limbo challenge for parents and the children!

Earlier that same day our senior students performed at the Hakatere Festival at the Events Centre in Ashburton and my goodness, did they make us proud!! For many, it was their first time performing and despite the nerves they smiled, sang with volume and danced in unison. Our tamariki have been tutored all year by Nerina Hawkins, an amazing teacher who travels to Mayfield from Rolleston each Monday to teach te reo and kapa haka. They have learned so much from her already and are looking forward to once again hitting the stage at the Opuke Cultural Festival (at Rakaia School on the 7th of September) where they will share their amazing talents.

Last week our Year 5-8 students competed in the Winter Tournament in Ashburton. The different year groups were spread out between 3 different venues where they took part in netball and soccer games against other schools from the Ashburton district. I spent the day with the Year 5-6 girls and thoroughly enjoyed the vibe, camaraderie and competition and am already making plans for how we will tackle this competition next year!

Yesterday we had our school speeches in front of our whanau and friends. All students have been involved in speech writing and presenting these over the past few weeks. Year 1-4 children delivered a speech on a topic of choice or recited a poem or nursery rhyme whilst Year 5-8 students selected a topic which they spoke on for up to 3 minutes. We were lucky enough to have members of the Mayfield Lions come to our school to judge the speeches. Today, the winners of our Year 5-6 and Year 7-8 speeches will compete against Mt Somers, after which, the winners of both categories will compete in the Rotary Speeches in Ashburton which are being held later next month.

To stand up and speak publicly is no mean feat! We already know that our kids are awesome, but seeing so many of them push themselves out of their comfort zones to do this, makes us incredibly proud of them. I congratulate each and everyone of our tamariki!

With only 5 weeks of the term left, we are busy preparing for our Variety Concert which will be held on Thursday 21st September. Each class will showcase their learning of a particular culture through song and dance. At the moment it is all 'secret squirrel' so that it is a big surprise for our school community and whanau. Our staff, board and Home and School group are also invited to perform - something that is greatly anticipated by our tamariki!

In Term 4 we are opening up a 5th classroom to cater for our growing number of students. This allows us to continue having low student to teacher ratios which is always beneficial for our learners.



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## New Enrolments

Here at Mayfield School we welcome all visitors and anyone wishing to enrol their children. We also welcome children of any age to be pre-enrolled. If you would like your child to attend our wonderful school please pop in to see me or email me at [principal@mayfieldschool.nz](mailto:principal@mayfieldschool.nz) or phone 03 3036214

We would love to welcome you here. Nga mihi mahana kia koutou - warm greetings.

Aroha Stewart  
(Tumuaki/Principal)



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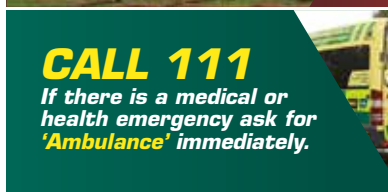
24/08/17

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An Operator Will Ask Whether You Need FIRE, AMBULANCE OR POLICE.



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If you see smoke or fire and believe there is a risk to people or property ask for 'Fire' immediately.



**CALL 111**  
If there is a medical or health emergency ask for 'Ambulance' immediately.



**CALL 111**  
If you are afraid for your safety or others, ask for 'Police' immediately.

**CALL 105 - NON EMERGENCY**  
About theft, damage or threatening behaviour

**IN AN EARTHQUAKE, DROP, COVER, HOLD.**



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My Language Spoken:.....  
Emergency Contact name:.....  
Phone Number:.....



If you need to talk or get information, free call or text any time for support from a trained counsellor. **1737**

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For a mental health or suicide emergency, CALL **111**

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www.1737.org.nz

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www.healthline.govt.nz

**RuralSupport**  
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www.rural-support.org.nz

**Family Works**  
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26 North Street, Timaru  
www.pssc.org.nz/family-works

**enliven**  
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26 North Street, Timaru

**Refugee Settlement**  
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or 0800 007 750  
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Email: office@scwr.co.nz  
www.womensrefuge.org.nz

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info@multiculturalaoraki.co.nz  
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**Arowhenua Whānau Services**  
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94 King Street, Temuka  
www.aws.health.nz

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www.englishlanguage.org.nz

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Email: southcanterbury@cab.org.nz

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50 Bridge Street, Timaru

**Fale Pasifika**  
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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.

## Hospice Mid Canterbury – Don't Put off Asking For Help

Sarah MacAvoy is the support co-ordinator at Hospice Mid Canterbury (HMC) and her key focus is helping clients and their families at a very difficult time in their lives. She acknowledges that at times her job is a sad one. However, she is



quick to point out that it is also one where there are lots of smiles and laughs with clients who come into the base for various activities or just pop in to say hello.

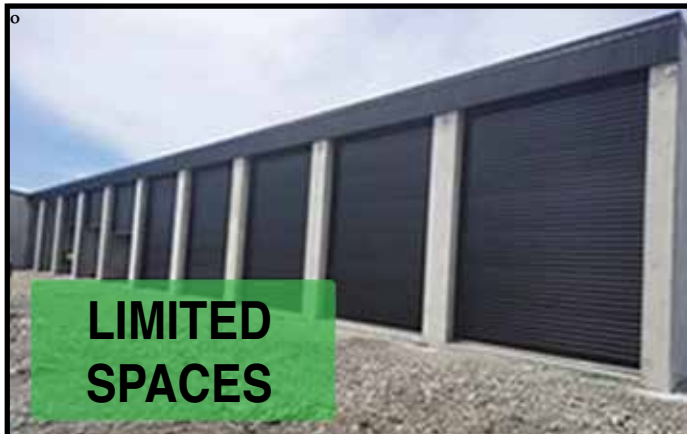
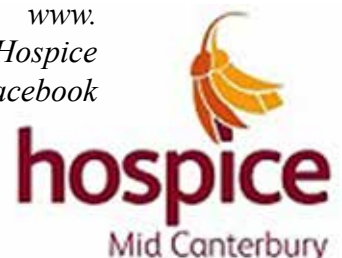
Something that she does find heartbreaking is when HMC receives referrals in the final weeks and days of a person's illness. When this happens, Sarah thinks of all the things that could have been offered to the client to improve their quality of life on a day-to-day basis. She is determined to challenge the idea that HMC is only for very late-stage illness when in fact it can provide life-enhancing support for those with a life-limiting illness from the time of diagnosis. From first referral to end-of-life, Sarah walks alongside the client and the caregivers, working hard to match what the person needs with the services HMC can offer.

And she knows what a difference it can make. "Every day, I am reminded by our clients that all the 'stuff' that we think is so important in our everyday lives, really isn't. I see how it is often the little things in life such as social connection that can bring so much joy to people - a simple 'Hello' and 'How are you?' The smile on someone's face when we have been able to make their day a little better, makes it all worthwhile."

Sarah is passionate about what Hospice can teach us. She says, "It reminds me on a daily basis what life is really about – some very difficult times mixed with love and laughter, and everything in between."

*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](mailto:manager@hospicemc.nz).*

*See also our website [www.hospicemc.nz](http://www.hospicemc.nz) and look for Hospice Mid-Canterbury on our facebook and instagram pages.*



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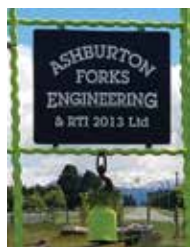
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**Walk Ashburton South Bank Trail** 2 August  
 17 ladies enjoyed walking in the Ashburton South Bank Trail first time. Discovered another great walk within Ashburton.



*It looks to me these ladies were waiting for the bus to arrive.  
 Editor*



*Photos supplied by Sanae Hydes*

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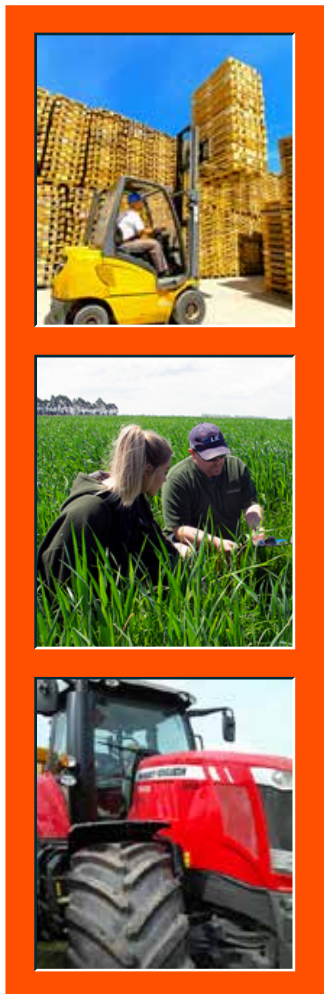
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# Ruralco Celebrates 60 years supporting farmers for a brighter future

Today marked Ruralco's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and this significant milestone was celebrated at the co-operative's three stores with cake-cutting and stories of days gone by.

An enthusiastic group of early shareholders and former staff members joined the Ruralco team, with Group CEO Robert Sharkie, and Ruralco Chairman, Sir David Carter both acknowledging the foresight of the farmers behind the establishment of the co-operative back in 1963.

Those Mid Canterbury farmers got together to find ways to lower agricultural input costs, and since then the co-operative has grown beyond its original catchment, now having a national reach through its online presence and card network.

Today the co-operative is still held dear by its loyal members and has a proud history of supporting farmers and the agriculture sector through all the usual ups and downs farming faces.

"We will continue to support our farmers. That was the original intent of our founding shareholders, and it has remained unchanged. We've had farmers' backs for 60 years and we will continue to do so for another 60," says Sir David.



Ruralco Chairman, Sir David Carter, and Ruralco Group CEO, Robert Sharkie, cut the cake to mark Ruralco's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



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## Mt Somers Staveley Playcentre

This past month has been a busy one for us here at Playcentre! Busy but fun!

We had a wonderful visit to the Mt Somers Fire Station, getting to look in the fire engines and even dress up in fire fighting gear! Thank you very much for having us!

The Staveley Ice Rink was another great highlight, we were so lucky to be able to have our own private session! The ice rink is an absolutely fabulous asset to our community.

The Playcentre mums had a fun social evening learning how to paint with none other than Susie Millichamp, thank you Susie, it was such a great night.





We've had birthdays and graduations, Messy Play Week, productive meetings, Chipmunks visits and even had a Wacky Wig day to coincide with MtSS school raising money for Child Cancer. We have our AGM coming up in September and are even planning a Christmas Market for early December (check our Facebook page for more info on both). It's all go here at Mt Somers Staveley Playcentre and we wouldn't have it any other way!



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## MAYFIELD MT SOMERS ANGLICAN PARISH

Are we really two thirds of the way through this year? It has been a big year for the extended family on my side. Following my parents' youngest grandchild's wedding, we had the tragic and untimely death of my youngest brother. About the time you will be reading this, we will be in Havelock North for the wedding of my parents fourth to youngest grandchild; the two bridegrooms, our two youngest nephews. This one and his fiancée, both in their forties, met on a Christian dating website, earlier this year, so hopefully they will enjoy many years together. In his second letter to the Corinthians, Paul tells Christians, not to be yoked together with un-believers, because it might cause their faith to weaken. Many Christians in this day and age take that to be a warning to those getting married. If indeed Paul did mean this, then it bodes well for these two and their future life together.

You will be well into calving and lambing now. We just hope that our wee flock of ewes will have obliged and got on quickly with their lambing, so that they can take a break for the

two days, while we are in the North Island! But there will be a lot of tiredness out there, so take care.

Blessings,  
Annette Eggleston

### ANGLICAN SERVICES

**Priest:** Rev Annette Eggleston

#### Holy Communion

Sept 3 10 a.m. St Aidan's, Mt Somers  
Sept 17 10 a.m. St Aidan's, Mt Somers  
Oct 1 10 a.m. St Aidan's, Mt Somers

### CHRISTCHURCH CITY MISSION - MEAT & FOOD DONATIONS (especially meat)

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### PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest - Rev Annette Eggleston  
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Church Warden – Pauline Hewson 3036 397  
Church Warden, Secretary / Treasurer  
- Marion Jacobson 027 3607 180  
Email: [marion.i.jacobson@gmail.com](mailto:marion.i.jacobson@gmail.com)

## NEWS FROM PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN PARISH

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He says in a sermon the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm: 'In the hours of my humiliation, if anyone had said to me that "God's goodness and mercy" were following hard on my heels, I would have considered them an imbecile. *But they did!* How differently I might have responded if I had believed then, as I believe now, that His goodness and mercy are my constant companions.' How differently indeed!

*An excerpt from notes on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm*

Interim Moderator Rev Eric Mattock

Ph 307 7024

Parish Clerks, Annette Syme Ph 303 0803

Liz Depree Ph 021889341

Parish Contacts:

Kevin Taylor ph 303 6392

Kay King ph 303 6033

Website [plainspresbyterian.co.nz](http://plainspresbyterian.co.nz)

[Facebook.com/ PlainsPresbyterianParish](https://www.facebook.com/PlainsPresbyterianParish)

### WORSHIP SERVICES September 2023

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept St Johns Methven 10.30 am

Communion Rev Laurence Ennor

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Sept Methven 10.30 Worship Team

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September St Johns Methven  
10.30am

**Sunday 24th Sept Staveley 10.00 am worship  
leader Paster Paul Eden**

Sunday 1st October Methven 10.30 am.



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**Woolshed Creek Hut** 26 July

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