

Bringing you the News from Carew in the south to Alford Forest in the north and all places in between.



Charles Ross, Liz McMillan (Deputy Mayor), Barry Austin (wearing Hi Viz vest), Te Wera King, and Alan Totty.

Sharplin Falls Track

I took a friend to the new track early on Sunday morning to try out the newly opened track and felt an immediate public comment had to be made. This track is truely amazing and what Charles Ross and his team have achieved deserve the highest accolades. It took us the exact specified time to walk in despite the stops to admire native plants especially the many Rata trees and seedlings,incredible bridge building,track construction and of course the views. The falls were almost an anticlimax once we reached the lookout!!

Sharplin Falls Track Opening Ceremony

Friday 23rd June @2:00pm

Te Wera King started by doing a blessing:

• For the healing and restoration of the pathway.

Also blessing:

- · The name given for the track.
- · For the people who will walk on it.
- For those who created it.



Charles Ross, Alan Totty, Te Wera King (Te Runanga Arowhena).

There were about 10 others on the walk as well and all raving about it.

Well done to all the volunteers who worked tirelessly on this project (sign says 4500 man hours). A great achievement for everyone to now enjoy. Thankyou We had a well deserved coffee and nibble at Staveley store on our way out.

Pam Annand



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ISSUE SEVENTY SEVEN

THE NOR'WESTER

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Walk Northpark Park Walkway 14 June:

11 ladies enjoyed walking in the frosty sunny morning. Rae's dog Tilley was also enjoyed morning exercise. Followed by the refreshments at the Mill House Cafe.





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"FOR ME, CONSISTENCY IS KEY. I KNOW WE ARE GETTING A MUCH BETTER **PRODUCT IN SPRAYFO...**"

Wendy Williams believes she's reared her best calves, ever. At just 8 months old, one of her Sprayfo-reared Herefords weighed in at 299kgs.

Based in Oxford, Wendy rears 200 calves annually on contract, in a purpose-built shed. She's selective about where she gets her calves from and very particular about rearing the best animals she can.

Wendy switched to Sprayfo on the back of a Dairy Women's Network Calf Expo she attended in 2022.

"I had researched all the big milk powder brands and they all looked similar" she explains. "However, when I learned about Sprayfo Delta being higher in fat and closer to cow's milk, I was interested. (AgriVantage Animal Nutrition Consultant) Natalie Chrystal also spoke about the importance of balance and digestibility.

"The message that calves will excrete what they don't digest really hit home - I liked the fact that Sprayfo milk replacers are formulated specifically for calves and Sprayfo Delta is more than 95 per cent digestible."

She placed her order for Sprayfo there and then. And, based on the performance of her Sprayfo calves, she'll be using Sprayfo again this season

Read more about Wendy's operation and her experience with Sprayfo



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Fabulous to have our AgriKids completing a task from their 'Be Farm Strong' Challenge. They earned points for the Aorangi Region in the FMG National Young Farmer of the Year Competition.

The 'Be Farm Strong' Challenges, encourage our kids to to embrace their well being and the well, being of others in our community. Today Flynn, Georgia and Charlie made 25 meals for members of our community. They loved connecting with everyone and being able to put smiles on people's faces.

Our AgriKids will be in action in Timaru in the Grand Final from 6-8th July, 2023.

FMG

Aorangi Young Farmers

FMG Young Farmer of the Year

Remember - you can still help the kids by voting for Aorangi in the Region Off, by clicking the link and entering your name and email address. ,https://www.fmg.co.nz/campaigns/regionoff/aorangi



Being one of the lucky people who received this delicous dinner I can personally vouch for just how excellent it was. Very tasty and full of different vegetables. Yum! Thank you very much. Editor

Flynn, Charlotte, Charlie and Georgia





FARMER



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ISSUE SEVENTY SEVEN

THE NOR'WESTER 4

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The Old Post Office Library



Firstly, we would like to pass on our deep sympathies to Hilary on the death of her beloved Mother Gwyneth. Gwyneth died very peacefully in her own home on her own couch, with no fuss. Just exactly the way she would have wanted it. I didn't know her very well, but long enough to appreciate her verve for life and sense of honour, not to mention her love of books and libraries. Having worked in libraries she was dying to rearrange our catalogue system, but respected our small community country ways and left well alone. But straight away had her name down to do volunteer duty, and obviously enjoyed her time amongst our books. Take your well earned rest Gwyneth, and thank you so much for your help and commitment, and for being so willing to just slot into our Mt Somers life.

We have a few gaps now, to do library duty so if you feel you could manage a couple of hours a month to be on hand in our cosy book space, please phone or contact Kath Schikker or Pam Annand on 3039150. We need to have some people to call on as this is the time that many of us seem to be escaping to warmer climates and taking holidays. You receive a full training.... very easy, and can tthen look forward to a couple hours of peace and quiet, occasionally interrupted by a local wanting to borrow a book. Our 'local' can cover anyone from Canterbury, as we have borrowers from Ashburton. Christchurch, Methven, Mayfield, the Gorge, and even some from Geraldine area. It doesn't matter, as long as we know how to reach them by phone number or address, and it is up the volunteer to record that.

Books..... just been ordered but not shelved yet.....

'Pet' by Catherine Chidgey. Her latest after the award winning 'Axemans Carnival' which was so good.

'Jerningham' by Christina Sanders. Her previous book before 'Mrs Jewell and the Wreck of the General Grant'. That book was a finalist for the Jann Medlicott Acorn award last year. (more about that later)

The very final book in the Lucinda Riley series about 7 sisters. This book is about the father of the sisters so no doubt ties up a few loose ends.

I will let you know when these books arrive.

But we do have new books in our Library now.....

'The Bell on the Lake' by Lars Mytting. The first book in a series, described as a deeply atmospheric novel, rich in Norway Stave church history and folklore. This book is based on local myths and real people and is well researched.

'The Reindeer People' by the same author, continues the story with the same high praise judging by its reviews. Goodreads give this novel 4.65 out of 5 which is the highest rating I've seen them give any book.

The author, Lars Mytting also wrote '16 Trees of the Somme' which can be found in the library also.

Fredrik Backman has a new book out called 'The Winners'. He wrote a very popular book called 'Beartown', and 'A Man **ISSUE SEVENTY SEVEN**

called Ove', a favourite amongst bookgroup. This is the final book in a trilogy and returns to Beartown once again.

I want to mention a wonderful book I have just finished and can't get out of my head..... it is a new book to the library, 'Mrs Jewell and the Wreck of the General Grant'. Once I really got into this book I couldn't leave it alone, reading into the wee small hours. A fabulous tale, very well written and all based on



fact. Set in 1866 the story is about a three masted sailing ship, General Grant, which set sail from Melbourne, bound for London with its crew and passengers and plenty of gold to start a new life in the home country. However, in the fog and dark, the ship was sucked into the caves of the Auckland Islands between NZ and Antarctica, and went down. Only 14 men survived and one woman, and they were stuck on a freezing cold exposed island, with no supplies or equipment to survive in the best way they could. It really is so worth reading... I thanked my lucky stars every night that I had a warm comfortable bed, a roof over my head, and plenty of nourishing food. It was a lesson in 'gratefulness'! Read it. You won't be disappointed.

We've passed our shortest day, which should mean our days get lighter and maybe warmer??? But we all know it doesn't guite work like that, so I'm suggesting plenty of 'cuddle up to



a book' in a nice warm kitchen or living room, and just let the winter drag past the window. It won't be long before it is August with the promise of spring. Some snowdrops have even got their noses through the ground already. Happy reading Mt Somers!

Anne

Steady As You Go (SAYGO)

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

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6



ISSUE SEVENTY SEVEN



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Mayfield and Districts **Lions Report** June Report

At our June meeting we had the pleasure of Rob Withers updating us on the Staveley Skating ring progress. A great presentation of work carried out by volunteers and contractors. Carew Peel Forest School were our caterers for the evening and kept up the very high standard of meals we enjoy from all the groups that feed us during the year.

This week the Staveley Skating ring and Mt Somers Walkways Society celebrated their openings. Our Lions club congratulates both organisations on completing these two massive projects.

We welcome Hamish Woodhouse as a new member to our club.

Our Lions year comes to and end this month when we celebrate with our changeover. This sees outgoing President Rab McDowell hand over the reigns to incoming President John Rushton and his team

The dominant feature of the year has been the massive firewood project as we took on the job of cutting and selling the humongous amount of firewood donated to us as part of a farm irrigation upgrade. This, and the reinstated golf match, has meant our charitable trust has been able to make grants of over \$73,000 in the past year. That has assisted local organisations such as schools, swimming pools and others and further afield such as flood recovery in the Hawkes Bay. Notable have been grants of \$15,000 to Haven Housing in Ashburton, \$15,000 to St John Mid Canterbury and over the last couple of years, a total of \$28,000 to the Sharplin Falls track re-establishment and \$20,000 to the Staveley Ice rink project.

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ISSUE SEVENTY SEVEN

THE NOR'WESTER 8

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Carew Peel Forest School

New membe Hamish Woodhouse.

You will find a good supply of local swedes and export quality onions at our Mt Somers and Mayfield stalls, all proceeds come back to the district.

In February we entertained the clients of Idea Services at the Mt Somers Domain.

A great day out, and enjoyed by all who attended. Our Lions appreciate the help given by the pupils of Mt Somers –Springburn School, who willingly participated.

Our club assisted with Meals On Wheels in Ashburton, an activity which is enjoyed by all who

take part.

Firewood supplies are limited to pine with all our Bluegum and Oregon sold out. Contact Ron Cross 021347958; Bill Baldwin 027 4838768





Rob Withers.



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MT SOMERS MUSEUM AGM

Friday 21st July at 7.00pm. At the Museum – All welcome. We would welcome new members.

Please support this team to help conserve -

Our History.

Work Wanted

Part or full time work on a farm in the Mayfield -Mt Somers area for semi-retired farm worker. Experience with stock work, sheep and beef mostly, but has reared calves and worked with pigs and deer. Experienced with fencing, water supply and general farm maintenance. Ideal for farm-minding while you take a break. Contact John on 0210 246 1321 or 03 3036 144

Mayfield Reserve Board & Memorial Hall Triennial Meeting was held on 28th March 2023.

Our new committee members are as follows David Greenslade Ann Smith Brent Murdoch Treasurer Aafke Baxter

Chairperson Secretary (A.D.C) Booking Officer (Hall) 0274639728

Committee Members

John Milne Val Fleming John Fleming Helen Saxelby Belinda Waddell

We had three long term committee members resign this year, and will be missed very much and we acknowledge their hard work they have given Mayfield.

These outstanding people are Barry Austin Jill Ludemann Cushla Murdoch

As I write this the new toilet block is being built on the old site of the previous toilets. By the time this goes to print, we hope they should be finished.

Our next project we are looking to do is having new doors in the supper room, for the hall. Also a new mower shed for the Reserve Board, which we hope for this will happen in the next six months.

David Greenslade, Chairperson





ISSUE SEVENTY SEVEN

THE NOR'WESTER 11



Mayfield **Needs more volunteers**

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Introducing Nicole Williams, **Hospice Manager**

Nicole joined Hospice Mid Canterbury a few months ago, taking up the role of Hospice Manager, supporting and leading the hospice team, and overseeing the organisation.

She recently reflected on her first busy months at Hospice. When thinking about Hospice initially, Nicole said: "The first thing that came to my mind was the dying part, but I soon discovered that Hospice Mid Canterbury (HMC) is so much more than that." While many other Hospice services in New Zealand provide inpatient, clinical care, HMC runs a little differently. As a community Hospice, it provides free non-clinical support for people with a terminal illness, as well as their families. This support is available as soon as a terminal diagnosis has been given.

One of the things that has impressed Nicole is the fact that HMC has a strong group of local service providers, who support clients with counselling, massage, reflexology, and bereavement support. In addition, there are a variety of classes and programmes on





offer at the Base at 70 Havelock Street. These include exercise therapy, chair yoga, caregiver support and armchair travel talks. "We also have a fabulous network of volunteers, who are out and about helping our clients with transportation, biography writing, companionship and even pet care."

It was a surprise to Nicole that HMC is 100% self-funded, as it receives no government funding. "Our funding committee, the staff at the Base, volunteers and the Board all work very hard to raise funds for client care. They are always looking for new ways to ensure that the services remain free of charge. We also have a great group of Hospice Heroes, who donate every year and we are truly indebted to them for their generosity."

Nicole says that working for Hospice Mid Canterbury has been very rewarding. "Every day is different, bringing new challenges and opportunities. I work with a fantastic group of ladies, and we all share a common goal of ensuring our clients receive the best, as well as having a little fun and a laugh along the way."

She is keen to emphasise that HMC's holistic approach enhances the quality of life for everyone involved and supports caregivers in keeping their loved ones at home. "We are not just here for the end but to support you from the very beginning."

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.

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







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ISSUE SEVENTY SEVEN

THE NOR'WESTER 12

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ISSUE SEVENTY SEVEN

THE NOR'WESTER 13



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ISSUE SEVENTY SEVEN



Breaking Ground

It all began with student voice from our MtSS school council. The team met with Mr Platt to pitch an idea on improving our school environment which would impact the wellbeing of everyone that steps through our gates. The plan was agreed, the date for our school working bee was set and the call out to our community was sent. The turn out from our community was outstanding and work was on it's way from the get go. Rotten trees were removed, branches trimmed, gutters cleaned, playground fixed, and we even managed to create

new garden beds and a sculpture that is significant to our school and a tribute to the history of our community. We are so extremely grateful for those who were able to give up their Sunday and help out. We even had members of our community donate beautiful roses that will add some cheerful colour to our school. It was such a warm positive vibe seeing everyone get stuck in either getting their hands dirty or doing one of the most important jobs, handing

out the scones and warming the pies. He aha te mea nui o te ao? He tangata! He tangata! He tangata! What is the most important thing in the world? It is people! It is people! It is people!

Morgan Platt Principal













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60th Anniversary adds to Ruralco Instore Day celebrations

There's even more cause for celebration at this year's Ruralco Instore Days as the farming co-operative gears up for its 60^{th} anniversary.

From humble beginnings in 1963 when a group of Mid Canterbury farmers got together to find ways to lower agricultural input costs, the co-operative has grown beyond its original catchment, having a national reach through its online presence and card network.

"The original intent to support farmers has remained unchanged. We've had farmers' backs for 60 years and we will continue to do so for another 60," says Ruralco Group CEO Robert Sharkie. Instore Days is part of that long held tradition and remains a great opportunity for the farming community to come together, to meet with the Ruralco team and other industry players to hear first-hand about products, services, new initiatives and technologies which can assist all farming operations. Recent years have seen around 100 supplier businesses participating onsite and online, with an extensive network of card merchants participating through their own stores, and more than 2,000 members attending the two-day event.

This year's Instore Days will be held on Thursday 6 July and Friday 7 July, and will see suppliers on site in Ashburton to discuss individual farming needs, from farm supplies, seed, fertiliser, fuel, energy and agricultural services. There are also some great prizes up for grabs. Members can accumulate entries for one of three House of Travel vouchers valued at \$15,000, \$10,000 and \$5,000 (terms & conditions apply).

"We look forward to seeing everyone, either at our marquee at Ruralco Ashburton, or at our Methven or Rakaia stores. We'll





INSTORE DAYS 2023 6-7 JULY

Check out the great Instore Days deals at www.ruralco.co.nz/instoredays



ISSUE SEVENTY SEVEN

THE MOR

ISSUE SEVENTY SEVEN

JULY 2023

17

have plenty of refreshments available at all three locations so come on in, have a chat and access the great deals on offer in store," says Robert.

MORE INFORMATION: <u>https://www.ruralco.</u> co.nz/instore-days

CONTACT: ,Izania Downie Group Manager Marketing, Digital & Communications Mobile: 021 124 8407 Email: <u>Izania.Downie@ruralco.co.nz</u>



PO Box 431 PO Box 431 Ashburton 7740 Ph 0800 787 256



Ruralco Board Chair, Sir David Carter, and long-serving Ruralco staff member, Trish Burrowes will be among those taking part in Ruralco Instore Days as the Ashburton based co-operative celebrates its 60th Anniversary. Trish started work for the cooperative in 1982 and continues to work for Ruralco on a casual basis.



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

Safer Mid Canterbury Hakatere Haumaru

As we gear up towards our twelfth road code course it is timely to look back over our achievements from the past six years. We have had 110 people signed up to the programme. They are predominately rural newcomers and are representing 23 different cultures and are dotted all over Mid Canterbury.

We have held Eleven road code courses and achieved 97 learners licenses, 50 restricted and 81 full licenses, which include overseas conversions. Our pass rate has been well over the national average which is an amazing achievement, considering English is a second language for 90% of our participants.

The challenges have always been the isolation of our participants, which was the main driver for starting the programme. Many of our participants are very isolated, with the most isolated lady being up in the Rangitata Gorge. It's a long time to wait to get to town when your husband is on an 11 on 3 off roster.

The benefits of joining the programme is getting the opportunity to come to town to attend class. While there we not only learn the road code, but also meet new friends. Our driving mentors work with their students for a number of months. During this time they build up a wonderful relationship which can continue on long after the license has been attained. We have seen this many times and it brings us a lot of joy to know that we made the connections that allowed this to happen.

With National Volunteer week having been celebrated in June, we would like to acknowledge the amazing contribution of our volunteers. From child minders to taxi drivers to driving mentors, their dedication and unwavering support has just been incredible. There are so many generous people in the Ashburton Community



and we are very lucky that they choose to volunteer with our programme. The difference they make to the lives of their student is immeasurable. Without them, our programme wouldn't be anywhere near as successful as it is.

If you would like to be part of this amazing programme, either as a student, driving mentor or to volunteer in other wavs, we would love to



hear from you. Please Dee Ravuiwai and mentor John Speedy 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

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- and have excellent communication skills

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*Complete phone app and paperwork in a prompt and tidy manner

Applicants for this position must have NZ residency or a valid NZ work visa.

Please email CV with two References to: trucky@mtrans.nz or contact Andrew Carr on 027 470 1067

ISSUE SEVENTY SEVEN

THE NOR'WESTER 19

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What A Ball! By Deb Stanaway

17th June, a cold winter's night, the lights of the Mt Somers Hall drew us in like moths. Not into the burning flame but into the ice-white twinkling world of the Mt Somers Winter Ball.

8pm and people were gathering. The buzz of anticipation palpable, the promise of a long needed party sparkling in the air.

The band started and so did the dancing, Nick and Dan rocking the ball with great covers of great songs. Overdue catchups were had, the odd shennanigan and a rocking good time until the clock struck midnight and we scattered to the wind.

It was a year ago that Kristin Stace said "I feel like a good party, I think I'll organise one" and so the Mt Somers Winter Ball was born. Thanks to the Mayfield Lions for working the bar and the door; Vicki Collins for the beautiful flowers from her garden and Kath Schikker



for driving the courtesy van. This was a tremendous fundraiser for our beloved Staveley Ice Rink raising \$4,500 for the cause.

A big thankyou to Kristin for a great night and book in June 22nd next year when we'll slip on our glad rags and do it all again!





Local Alcohol Policy Review

The Local Alcohol Policy provides our community with a greater say over when, where and how alcohol is sold within the district.

It's designed to reduce alcohol-related harm through reducing the accessibility of alcohol, while still allowing people to enjoy alcohol responsibly.

The current policy contains restrictions around trading hours, the location of licensed premises and includes a one-way door policy.

Council feels the current policy is working well and we're not proposing any changes, but we want to hear what you think. Do you support the current Local Alcohol Policy?

ISSUE SEVENTY SEVEN

We want to hear from YOU!

Visit **ashburtondc.govt.nz/haveyoursay or** scan the QR code to find out more and share your feedback by 5pm, Friday 14 July.







THE NOR'WESTER 21

JULY 2023

THE NOR'WESTER 20





Help us create our new **Reserve Management Plan**

Did you know we have 125 parks and reserves across the Ashburton District?

From small neighbourhood parks to our large domains, they provide spaces for people to relax, play sport and enjoy nature.

We want to know what you love about your parks.

What do you value about our parks? What activities should they cater for? And how should they be protected?

Your feedback will help us create a plan for how our parks and reserves are managed, what they'll be used for and what facilities will be provided.



Have your say

Share your thoughts at ashburtondc.govt.nz/parks



MAYFIELD MT SOMERS ANGLICAN PARISH

We are just past the shortest day. Of course we all know that doesn't mean that the days are suddenly going to get longer and warmer. In fact it usually means that the worst of the Winter weather is still to come and it will be at least another month before we start to notice any improvement

When you are old!!!, you tend to look backwards, and today I have been thinking about my childhood days. Little open fires that gave out little heat, and what heat did come out tended to be lost in the wet clothes that hung on the wooden clothes rack. plonked fair and square in front of the hearth. Many of you will have grown up with very efficient coal ranges, but I didn't, not for long anyway, because once my father started to make some financial headway, after returning from the war, he began to work on our elderly house. The coal range was removed as rooms were used for different purposes, to make the house more family orientated, in the new postwar age. What excitement there was when a kerosene heater was placed in the wide hallway, to heat, if you could call it that, the bedrooms. I'm sure the windows didn't freeze up as much on the inside, after that.

Now today, we have efficient log fires or heat pumps, washing machine spun out clothes dried in clothes' driers, fridges, no need to use the shelf just below the top of the well to set the jelly and of course, many other wonderful appliances, that hadn't even been dreamt of, seventy-five odd years ago. But are we any happier than we were then? Probably warmer, but happier? Maybe not. Because, despite all the consumer goods we have today, I'm not entirely sure that all kids enjoy the carefree childhood that we did. My brothers were not allowed guns. We'd just had a war you know, so don't encourage kids to shoot one another, even with toy guns.

But wooden pegs can easily be made into guns and just as easily dismantled again. And the huts we made from fruit boxes and Dad's old army blanket. Then there were the bird cages; a fruit box propped up with a piece of stick, a long piece of baling twine attached with us at the other end waiting to pull the string when a bird went underneath to feed on the bread crumbs. Believe it or not, we did on the rarest of occasions actually trap a bird under the box, but there were lots of near misses! One time much to our parents horror the box came down on a pigeon's neck and killed it. And,,,, the pigeon had a brass tag around its leg. O dear that homing pigeon didn't make it home.

I wonder how many of today's children actually know how to entertain themselves. Change, I guess, is inevitable, as it always has been, but do kids still have that same homespun fun that we had? Blessings, Annette Eggleston

ANGLICAN SERVICES Priest: Rev Annette Eggleston Holy Communion July 2 10 a.m. St Aidan's, Mt Somers July 16 10 a.m. St Aidan's, Mt Somers July 30 10 a.m. All Saints, Ruapuna

Aug 6 10 a.m. St Aidan's, Mt Somers CHRISTCHURCH CITY MISSION - MEAT &

FOOD DONATIONS (especially meat) Please contact Harvey & Annette Eggleston on 3024 006 if you have donations

PARISH CONTACTS Parish Priest - Rev Annette Eggleston Email: harann000@gmail.com 3024 006 Church Warden - Pauline Hewson 3036 397 Church Warden, Secretary / Treasurer Marion Jacobson 027 3607 180 Email: marion.i.jacobson@gmail.con

Positioning New Zealand's economy for the future Hon Jo Luxton, MP

for Rangitata 22 June 2023 As your local MP for Rangitata, one of the issues I hear about are roads and what is being done to maintain them. The previous government froze road maintenance spending, which is why we've boosted it by nearly 50 per cent to help bring our roads back up to scratch. When we came into Government Waka Kotahi advised that more investment in the maintenance of the state highway network was crucial as despite an almost 10 percentage increase in the size of the network and a 12 percent increase in costs, funding was flatlined from 2009 - 2017. This Government is focused on developing and maintaining a high-quality transport system and that's why in 2022 Waka Kotahi repaired 54,196 potholes. I know things are tough right now for many households, but there's good reason for people in Mid Canterbury to feel optimistic about the future. I wanted to share some of the ways that we're supporting people with the cost of living now, and our plan to grow New Zealand's economy into the future.

To help ease the pressure on Mid Canterbury households, we've delivered practical cost of living support. This includes scrapping the \$5 co-payment for prescription medicines; and making childcare cheaper by extending 20 hours ECE to two-year-olds. We've also worked hard to lift incomes, and earlier this

Liz Depree Ph 021889341

Interim Moderator Rev Eric Mattock

Parish Contacts:

Kevin Taylor ph 303 6392

Kay King ph 303 6033

WORSHIP SERVISES April 2023

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Sunday 2nd July ST JOHNS METHVEN 10.30

Sunday 9th July Methven 10.30 held at

Sunday 16th July Methven 10.30am

Sunday 23rd July At Methven 10.30

leader Paster Paul Eden

All Saints combined with All Saints

Parish Service Leader Rev Laurence Ennor

Combined with Staveley & Mayfield worship

Sunday 30th July St Andrews Rakaia worship

PCANZ Parish Service shared lunch to follow

leader Rev Hamish Galloway Moderator

Ph 307 7024

Parish Clerks, Annette Syme Ph 303 0803

NEWS FROM PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN PARISH

A prayer from the de-consecration service held at Carew 11th June

We give thanks for the word proclaimed in Spirit and in Truth. The prayers prayed, the songs sung, the singers and musicians. The bread and the wine, the water, and the children. Teachers and the preachers, confirmations & affirmations, The marriages and the promises, the funerals, and the comfort, The laughter, the tears, the hopes, and the fears, The presence of your Spirit sustaining us through the years.

These are the things that turn a building into a house of worship. These things make the distance between heaven and earth slight. The Lord loved, a people shaped, the Kingdom life lived.

Bread for the world, light in the darkness, grace to the stranger. Hope for the world. Lord, we give thanks that what has taken place in this house of worship has sent ripples of hope into the community. Things we know of and much hidden from us,

yet signs nevertheless of your love, that has led us out to live in the way of Jesus,

To serve as we have been served, to love as we have been loved, To forgive as we have been forgiven, to trust that God has used us despite our shortcomings.

We, your people, pray for these things in your name. Amen **ISSUE SEVENTY SEVEN**

JULY 2023

year we made changes to give families, seniors, and students - among others - an income boost.

While these measures won't fix everything, and we still have more work to do to bring down the cost of living, they will make a difference for many - and right now, I know every bit counts when making ends meet.

There's no question that our economy has taken a knock following the extreme weather events, but New Zealand is in a good position to get through these challenging times and come out stronger.

Record numbers of people are in work and wages are rising faster than inflation. Tourists are returning in greater numbers, overseas workers are filling job vacancies, we're upskilling more Kiwis, and our debt levels are among the lowest in the world.

We're focused on locking in New Zealand's high value export potential. Just last week we announced that the food and fibre sector is on track to set a new record high, with export earnings to hit \$56.2 billion by 30 June 2023. This is great news for places like Mid Canterbury, and it's a testament to the hard work of famers and growers.

It also reflects our strong record on trade, which has seen us unlock access to some of the world's biggest and most lucrative markets. Since taking office, we've secured four new free trade agreements, including with the United Kingdom - which is expected to boost our GDP by up to \$1 billion, supporting businesses and jobs right across the economy.

Of course, these are just some of the ways that we're working to grow the economy and build a better future.

Hon Jo Luxton, MP for Rangitata

Neighbourhood Support – Protecting Your Tools



THEFT/BURGLARY

Pick up a Flyer from:

Community House
 Ashburton Library

Ashburton District Neighbourhood Support

Ask for a Speaker to talk to your community group

Contact:

Neighbourhood Support 03 308 3558 or 027 296 1006



ISSUE SEVENTY SEVEN

Jo Luxton MP for Rangitata

03 339 1030 RangitataMP@parliament.govt.nz

Office hours: Monday-Friday, 9.30am-2.30pm

75 Harrison Street, Ashburton

.abour

(NZ)

Tools are expensive items and high commodity for thieves. The harder your tools are to get to, the better.

TAKE YOUR STORAGE SERIOUSLY - Vehicles - van vaults, security storage boxes and advanced locks such as dead locks will create a deterrent. If it is too hard to gain access to tools, then it means thieves will look for an easier target.

BE DISCRETE - Help yourself by keeping tools out of clear sight. Some tools are colourful or are a good make, refrain from leaving your tools on show or unsecured.

PARK FOR PREVENTION – When your van is unattended, park smart. Use surroundings as an added protection, parking sliding doors or rear opening doors against walls or thick bushes. Leave your van as close to the house as possible and if you have sensor lights ensure they are pointed at the vehicle. Be the hardest van to break into.

MAKE YOUR MARK – Marking your tools distinctively makes them personal to you and easily identifiable if they are stolen. Mark with your business name and phone number or your driver's licence number. If they are stolen and found, Police know who to give them back to. It also makes tools harder to sell on.

CHECK YOUR INSURANCE – If your tools are stolen, it is best to be prepared. Keep a list of every tool you own complete with photos and serial numbers and ensure they are covered.

Marking kits available from Neighbourhood Support.

Mt Somers Staveley Playcentre

This past month kicked off the beginning of our 2023 graduations! Chloe and Austin both turned 5 in June so off to school they go! We miss you both but know you will be thriving in your new learning environments. The children have been busy with Matariki crafts in preparation for our Matariki celebration that was held at the end of June: a shared meal, stories, fairy lights and toasted marshmallows!

We also had a fun excursion to Chipmunks in Timaru, with another planned for next term for those who couldn't make it.





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ISSUE SEVENTY SEVEN



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IT'S DOGGY

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Mayfield Playcentre

A highlight this month at Mayfield Playcentre was definitely a trip to the Mayfield fire station. The kids absolutely loved having a look inside a fire truck and ambulance, and had the opportunity to learn a bit about the station and volunteers. Having a go at using the fire hose was a highlight that the children are still talking about! Thank you to Mayfield fire station for hosting our visit, and for the great work you do in our community.

Other things the children have been up to include sensory play with bird seed, which we then later turned into pine cone winter feeders and hung up for the birds. The tool table has been popular too, the kids have been brushing up on their carpentry skills and how to safely use the tools. Messy play is always on the agenda at Mayfield Playcentre, and the children have been getting stuck in with powder paint and cornflour, glue and glitter and of course play dough creations of all sorts.

Our very well used sandpit was starting to look a bit empty, but not anymore thanks to a couple of local companies. We would like to say a huge thank you to ACL for donating a truck full of sand, and Sloane Excavation for transporting it to play centre. We are so lucky to have such great community support, the sandpit is a centre favourite and the kids have been stuck in already!

We have sessions Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9-12 throughout the school term and welcome any visitors to come check out what we are up to!



ISSUE SEVENTY SEVEN

ISSUE SEVENTY SEVEN

THE NOR'WESTER 26

JULY 2023





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