

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

My name is Aroha Stewart, I am the new principal at Mayfield School and I must say I am very happy to be here. I have come from St Joseph's Pleasant Point School where I was the principal for 4 years. Prior to that I taught at Winchester Rural School for 13 years, 9 of which I was the Deputy Principal. I also taught on the Chatham Islands for a number of years and previous to that I taught in South Otago.

I was raised on Pitt Island, a small island off the Chatham Islands so feel most at home in a rural setting, as this is where my heart is. My father was also a tumuaki/principal and in fact he taught me from primer one (new entrant) through to form 2 (year 8). I have a sister who is an early childhood teacher, and two nieces who are teachers - so it's in the blood! I am married to Ronnie Stewart and between us we have 2 sons. Both boys are grown up and left home a few years ago. Luckily for us they don't live too far away so we still get to see them from time to time. We live in Geraldine on a few acres of land which keeps us very busy, every weekend.

Growing up I loved both primary and high school. I loved the challenges of learning, the projects, the interactions with other students and my teachers. I remember wanting the long summer holidays to be over so I could be back at school with my friends and to continue learning. It always saddens me when I hear parents tell me about their negative experiences of both primary and secondary school. Its these stories that

*continued on page 3*



## Staveley Ice Rink Update

We have had a massive week at the rink over the last few weeks! By the time you get this in your mailbox the Concrete should be down!



We shed a tear last week when the trucks came up the road with the container with the refrigeration gear in it!! Thanks [Davidson Refrigeration & Electrical Ltd](#) One for the history books Staveley Museum!! It has been a massive undertaking with a lot of volunteer hours and help from our local business to get this far. We have no doubt a few of us will be pretty emotional to see the first concrete truck driving through the Ford.

Last week the Guys & Girls from [Rural Transport Ltd](#) and [Philip Wareing Ltd](#) gave up their time to help with this pretty big milestone. Again we were so very humbled by the support we have been given for this project.

*continued on page 3*



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— *Mt Somers* —  
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*Band*  
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& DAN**

*Tickets*  
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**Tickets available now from Staveley Store, Mt Somers Store, Methven Motors, Stronchrubie, Panthers Rock, Peak Design South Street Ashburton and from Kristin Stace in Mt Somers.**

continued from page 1

drive me as a leader in education. As a kaiako/teacher I strived to make my classroom a place where my tamariki wanted to be, a place where they felt happy and safe, engaged in an environment that was exciting, challenging and fun. As a tumuaki/principal, this goal is the same but I'm also committed to making our school a place where kaiako/teachers are passionate and provide children with a way to find their passions, talents and interests whether it be in sporting, cultural, service or academic pathways. A place where teachers recognise that all tamariki learn in different ways, all tamariki are capable of more than they think because it's our job to uncover every child's personal best.

I am honoured to be leading Mayfield School as the principal with the help of everyone surrounding me, the wonderful staff, the parents and families of our tamariki. I have great aspirations for the tamariki and the school so that it continues to prosper into the future and beyond. Everyone here at Mayfield has been amazing - they've all been welcoming, kind and are always willing to lend a hand or to show me around and where to find things. I'm already learning about the school, its place in the community and the hopes and dreams of all stakeholders. I'm looking forward to meeting my colleagues from the surrounding schools and working within our Kahui Ako so together we continue to develop and support their learning pathways, and work together to help our tamariki achieve their full potential. For now, my primary focus is making connections and getting to know the kaiako, tamariki, and their whānau.

**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)*

continued from page 1

Over the last few weeks the Piping has been installed, welded together and pressure tested over 17km of piping and hundreds of joins done and dusted. A massive thanks to Thorsten and the team from [The Klemptner - Certifying Plumber & Gasfitter](#), Andrew Wright & Grant Molloy for the countless hours they have volunteered 1f44a.png ↪

We have spent the second half of the week laying the mesh for the concrete pour that might just be all wrapped up by the time you are reading this. Yep that's right!!!

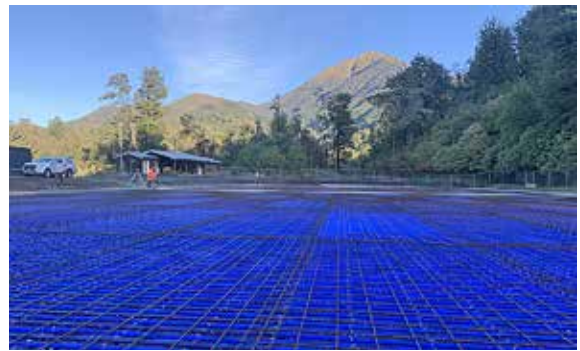
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26f8.png ↪

So the \$1,300 load of concrete that we have had so many people sponsor is not far away!

We are still on track for the opening at the start of June so keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates. <https://www.facebook.com/SteveleyIceRink>

We now have just under \$180,000 to raise so we can open without debt, so please if you have a spare \$20 lying around pop over to our give a little page <https://givealittle.co.nz/.../staveley-ice-rink...> or email us at [staveleyicerink@gmail.com](mailto:staveleyicerink@gmail.com) we are able to invoice for donations and you can get 33% tax back!



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## Mayfield A&P Winter Feed competition

This will be held on the 11th May.  
To enter please type in this link: <https://form.jotform.com/mayfieldshowtreasurer/WinterFeedComp> and it will take you directly to your entry form.  
If you have any problems please either call Andrew on 0212299755 or email [mayfieldshowtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:mayfieldshowtreasurer@gmail.com)



## Mayfield and Districts Lions Report April Meeting

Our speaker for the April meeting was Dr Annette Beautrais from Canterbury University.

She is New Zealand's most experienced suicidologist. Annette has been studying suicide research and prevention, and runs training programmes in suicide prevention throughout the country.



*President Andrew MacKenzie*

Our April caterers were from Mt Somers Springburn School. At our monthly meetings, we have a tea meal provided, and served, by a local group or organisation. This a good fund raising opportunity for local groups. Interested parties should contact Andrew McDonald 0274171261 or Alistair Morrison 027 6024927 for further details.

## 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

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*Dr Annette Beauvais.*

As part of Wheels Week on the 14th May our club is holding a Trail Bike Ride around five properties on Surrey Hills foothills. Entry is off 40 Hinds Gorge Road Montalto.

Entry fees are  
 16yrs and over \$60  
 11-15yrs \$40  
 10yrs and under \$20

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We still have a good supply of dry firewood for sale;

Pine \$325/cord,  
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 Oregon \$350/cord.

**Contact Ron Cross 021347958**

Our ever popular Swede Stalls will soon be open for business. Keep an eye out for the newly refurbished stall in Mayfield. Swedes will be picked shortly, just waiting for a frost or two, to sweeten them up. Onions will also be available. Mt Somers folk can purchase from the stall outside the Mt Somers store.

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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:**

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# The Old Post Office Library



Our autumn newsletter. Plenty of new books have arrived and I will list a few here. But keep checking the library as well as there are other new books being donated regularly. I tend to list the books the library has bought with our Ashburton District Council Grant.

Firstly some housekeeping matters: someone, or some people are persisting in 'posting' the outside shelves books through the 'returns' slot. Frankly, it is annoying! It creates work for the volunteers who then have to spend time checking through our records to see who has returned the books and then finding the books haven't even been borrowed!! Maybe it is some children having some fun, not realising what a nuisance it is....

We have had two books returned recently in poor condition..... we don't have many rules at our library but one of them is the understanding that if a book is damaged in any way, it must be replaced. This includes if the book has got wet as eventually the paper becomes stained and mouldy. Accidents do happen, but please tell us and replace the book concerned.

## **Now , onto our new books:**

**'The Governess' by Wendy Holden.** This is based on fact and tells the story of the two princesses, Elizabeth and Margaret and their governess 'Crawfie' who became a treasured friend and confidante of the royal family. I loved it, well written and full of history and very easy reading.

And now her next book **'The Duchess'** ..... every bit as good as her first book, but this time tells the story of Wallis Simpson. As an American divorcee, her relationship with King Edward VIII caused the abdication of the crown. She was blamed and hated for that part of history, it was the biggest scandal. But after reading this fascinating book, I had some sympathy for her and don't believe she was totally to blame. The author presents

another side to the tale after much research. It is a very easy way to learn the history of this hugely upsetting 'hiccup' in the Royal family and one can see the similarities between another American divorcee currently upsetting the Royal plans.

## **'The Bookbinder of Jericho' by Pip Williams.**

Another fabulous read by the author of 'The Dictionary of Lost Words', a very popular book last year. And this book does not disappoint. There is much to learn about the ancient art of bookbinding which may sound boring but it surely isn't. It is set during the First World War in a part of Oxford, England, called Jericho which seems to be what we would call a suburb. It is where the Oxford University and the Oxford University Press can be found, the latter where twin sisters work. The story centres around these two vastly different women and their various friends and haunts. Maude is extraordinary but sister Peggy realises how vulnerable she really is, and feels very responsible for her. Peggy meanwhile is intelligent, ambitious, and dreams of going to Oxford University, but has been told her job in life is to bind books. Meanwhile the war rages on and Belgium refugees appear in the town which causes many a ripple in the community. An excellent read, I did not want it to end.

## **'Sam Neill..Did I Ever Tell You This???'**

A memoir from one of our famous actors. I have only dipped into this memoir, and it seems to live up to the comments... "fabulously entertaining, insanely readable"(Stephen Fry)... "...tender, funny and emotional, modest and generous, unbearably sad and deliciously companionable"(Jane Campion). As Sam Neill faces the final chapter of his life after a diagnosis of Stage III cancer, he had written his life story, and if you think you know the man.....well, there are a few surprises. He writes in a self deprecating manner which is mostly entertaining. It is on the shelves now.

Another non-fiction book with a beautiful cover... **'A History of Gardening in New Zealand' by Bee Dawson (née Clarke)** who was brought up in the Staveley area. This book was first published in 2010, and she has donated us this signed copy. It is fascinating.....another book to dip into, and then find you have been reading for an hour or so. It surprised me how very

## **ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH, RUAPUNA**

### **A COMMUNITY MEETING**

will be held on the  
11<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00 p.m.  
at the Ruapuna Hall, Supper Room  
to discuss the future ownership / sale  
of the Church building.

Enquiries to the Church Wardens,  
Pauline Hewson 3036 397  
Marion Jacobson 027 3607 180

We are a small, unique community preschool and we currently have limited spaces available for children aged 2-5 Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Sessions are 8.30am - 3.30pm during school terms. Please contact Abbey at Peel Forest Preschool on 03 6963 740 to get in touch to arrange a time to come and look around our wonderful preschool.





readable it is and not like a history book at all. Bee has quite a knack of making history read more like a chatty and very real story. Great illustrations are a bonus. We now have several of Bee's books on our shelves, so if you enjoy this one, look for the others she has donated to us.

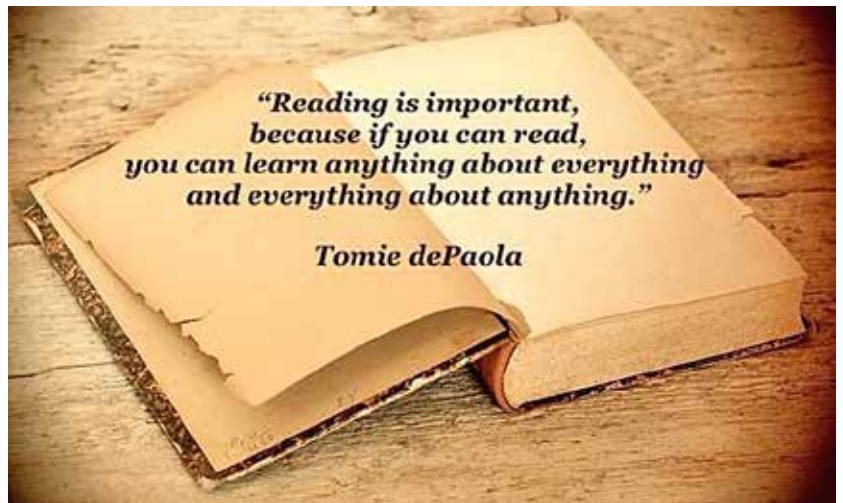
**'Giving Up the Ghost' by Hilary Mantel.**

This is her memoir written in 2003, she had tremendous success with her books 'Wolf Hall' and 'Bring up the Bodies'. Both these books were awarded the prestigious Booker Prize. I am looking forward to reading about her early life and how she became a prize-winning author.

**'Birnam Wood' by Eleanor Catton.** I have been reassured by several people that this is nothing like 'The Luminaries' which I confess to never finishing. My mantra is 'if you are not enjoying a book by Page 100, give up!' And needless to say this sentiment was definitely applied to 'The Luminaries'. Her new book looks completely different, it seems to be a thriller? I've asked

plenty of people who have read it if they enjoyed it, and the answers are all positive. So it is on my lengthening list of books to read,

I hope there is something that appeals to everyone, next month there will be more added, so read the newsletter to find out what they are. Or just go the library and have a browse, it's a nice place to be for some r and r. Cheers AC.



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# Mt Somers Rugby Club



Our Snr B team are halfway through the 1st round with 2 wins, 1 loss and a draw so far. Well done team. We take on Southern at Hinds on Thursday 4th at 7pm.

This season our Junior teams are Under 11, under 9 and under 6. Thanks to the people who have offered to coach these players, it is very much appreciated. They are holding a Boot Exchange so all the kids can get boots and keep the costs down, if anyone in the community has boots they no longer need we would be very grateful if you could drop them off to us or contact Hayden 0212094210. Thanks.

This year is the Clubs 70th Jubilee and we are planning on celebrating this early September. More information to come.

We are looking for expression of interest from Groups or individuals who would be keen to cater 2 suppers and/ or work in the Bar over the weekend. If interested please contact Colleen 0274 975868.

Our first Golden Oldies game is against Tinwald at Tinwald on Sunday May 28th. A get --together of interested players is to be held at the clubrooms on Thursday 11th May at 7pm. If you are keen to have a run but cant attend on the night please contact Dale 021 508294.



## DUCK SHOOTING

On Sunday 7th May at 12pm we will be running a duck shooting event with PRIZES for:  
 Biggest duck  
 Ugliest duck  
 Duck plucking competition

We are open all weekend and have a courtesy van ready to go for groups who want to come and dine.

## MOTHERS DAY

Make your booking now to join us on mothers day - 14th May.

We will have a special menu for the day to make your mum feel special!



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## QUIZ NIGHT

As always, quiz night is the last thursday of each month - 25th may.

Prizes to be won!  
 Free entry





## More action to tackle climate change

Jo Luxton, MP for Rangitata  
26 April 2023

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges facing Mid Canterbury, and recent extreme weather events up and down the country have only emphasised the importance of taking action now.

Meeting the climate challenge has always been a priority for our Government and we've taken a range of steps to reduce New Zealand's greenhouse gas emissions – and it's making a real difference.

The most recent data, released earlier this month, shows that the country's emissions are starting to decline. While it's encouraging to see that our actions are paying off, we need to keep going.

We need meaningful action to increase renewable energy, such as wind and solar generation. That's why we're making changes to RMA decision-making to expand New Zealand's renewable electricity infrastructure more rapidly, by cutting red tape.

We also need to back Kiwi businesses to run on, and make products with, renewable sources of energy. Moving away from fossil fuels is good for our environment and helps local businesses maintain their competitive advantage in a world that's increasingly demanding higher levels of sustainability in the products they buy.

That's why our Government has stepped up with funding to help businesses reduce their reliance on fossil fuels and slash emissions faster. The latest round of projects we're supporting will reduce carbon emissions by 38,354 tonnes each year, which is equal to taking 14,200 cars off the road – that's more than the total number of cars in Wanaka.



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# Activities at the Hospice Base

## From Armchair Travel to Yoga

The activities programme at Hospice Mid Canterbury (HMC) is designed to provide a range of activities to enhance clients' wellbeing and to help them get the most out of each day.

Activities Co-ordinator, Bronie McMurtrie, organises a wide-ranging monthly programme, offering arts, crafts, exercise, entertainment, education, music and pamper sessions. She works hard to tailor activities to suit the interests of clients and caregivers. "Whatever a client wants to try, we can arrange the materials."

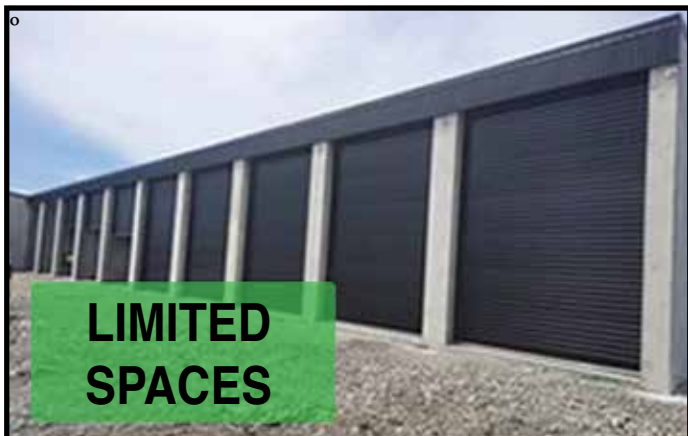
One of the key benefits of the activities is the social contact it provides. Pam, who takes part in a number of HMC activities, says: "It's very easy to sit down and say I don't want to do anything today ... You can get into a bad place... but HMC makes you want to get up and go." The warm welcome and a varied Hospice activity programme encourage her to make the effort.

Thomas, who attends the Friday exercise class, says: "When you're unwell, it's harder to go out to events and take part in group activities, because people don't always understand, and it can be embarrassing." He enjoys being part of a safe, inclusive group.

Fiona Giles, Outreach Coordinator, sums it up by saying: "It's a great way to socialise with other like-minded people and have fun at the same time."

*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 [support@hospicemc.nz](mailto:support@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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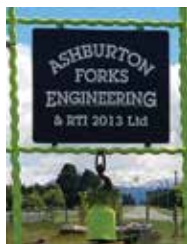
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24/05/17

## A COMMENT :

I find autumn to be a wonderful season and time of the year, the leaves are falling I sucked up a pile of leaves from in front of my garage door yesterday there must have been wind overnight. It was something of a novelty as I had purchased a blower sucker in preparation for the big leaf drop, which is still to come as my large and beautiful Liquidambar is yet to shed its leaves, it's a large and elegant tree, I got it heavily pruned about two years back being situated beside Millstream it does very well, If I'm lucky a solid southerly at the right moment will carry many of the leaves well away onto and beyond Hanrahan street, Charlesworth drive may get a few also. The blower sucker is cordless with a 36-volt battery, under heavy work sucking the battery is flat in twenty minutes, I have discovered that at that point it must be left for about an hour to cool down then on the charger something like overnight. That tends to be ok as once flat the bag is ready to empty, the well chopped up leaves go into the compost or perhaps better added to the garden as mulch. I have got a little lazy on the lawn mowing, having put the grass

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catcher away and set the mower into mulching mode, the difference being I have no rotting piles of grass clippings and I don't have to empty the catcher. I do have to mow more frequently and, in some ways, more carefully. I now go anticlock-wise as the mower tends to spray some clippings to the left side, not good when that's onto a path. The mulching uses more power I expect a slight increase in petrol consumption, it is a ride on mower 26 inch cut, has a very comfortable seat and electric start, basically very good. I am a bit in arrears with weeding and in the heavy pruning area but my feijoa hedge along the front of the section is doing very well, I will gather feijoa's tomorrow again and will need at least a 10 litre bucket with me. I get more than I can consume they are very easy to grow here in Ashburton and they are easy to give away, feijoas appear to have no predators therefore no spraying or trapping of pests is required.

Today Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April has been a busy day for me, starting with breakfast a quick look at the daily paper, a half hour walk with my dog Leo, morning coffee computer work mainly writing for our Norwester, out to lunch, well fed with a pensioner meal good value at \$22 for a 2 course meal, home to the computer, leave home about 4.30 to hear The leader of the National party Chris Luxon address a large gathering at the Event Centre, home for a small quick meal and then back to the computer. Me and the computer aren't entirely compatible we get

along reasonably well on most occasions, but we do have our moments. The technology is great, I have to a limited degree mastered the thing and used it to my benefit. Then at other times I have thought how great it would be if they never had arrived. The number of times I switch it on only to be told to wait while new upgrades get downloaded, or when I finish and start to turn off only to get a message to not turn off while new upgrades happen. Why it thinks I need upgrades when I haven't requested these things. Should I try to view these upgrades they just make no sense to me, I don't understand what they are, and I doubt that they are of any help to me or ever will be. Never mind computers do have their uses and have revolutionised the way we write and do accounts, a big improvement on the old multiple column cash book and the old type writer, In real fact the development of the computer has led us into a new world as has many other things.

And I think I should end there, I have a workman, I guess I should describe him as a plumber fitting gutter guard to my house which means I should scarcely have to clean the spouting ever again, that is what I hope for anyway. The last cleaning was a big job with a great deal of growth in spouting, I had very much appreciated help from others in getting it all cleaned.

Until next time Denis.

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# Mayfield Playcentre

Its lovely to be back at Playcentre after the school holiday break, and the tamariki enjoyed an anzac theme this week. This included making anzac biscuits, poppies out of play dough, reading anzac stories and talking about the memorial service (and the big guns!) Its great to see the children so interested in learning about our history and the importance of anzac day.

Our playcentre parents have been working hard over the holidays, selling and bagging mushroom compost, and have received great support from our community. Thank you all so much! Another important thank you needs to go to Carrfields NZ who have generously supplied the compost for us to sell, thank you! The funds raised help keep our playcentre operating, as well as being able to provide exciting new resources for the children.



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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!

## **12 April: Awa Awa / Scotts Saddle**

Some ladies did Awa Awa Rata circuit track and others walked in the Scotts Saddle but only to the lookout area due to drizzling weather. Still lots of fun walking in the rain.



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## 5 Apr: Packhorse Hut

12 ladies walked Gebbies Pass to the hut.  
We had a great views of Lyttelton Harbour. One way is approx 6km and takes 2 hours.



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# Jo Luxton

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Monday–Friday, 9.30am–2.30pm

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Authorised by Jo Luxton MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington



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# Book of the Month – Mt Somers Library

Title: 'Black Swan Green'

Author: David Mitchell

Publication year: 2006

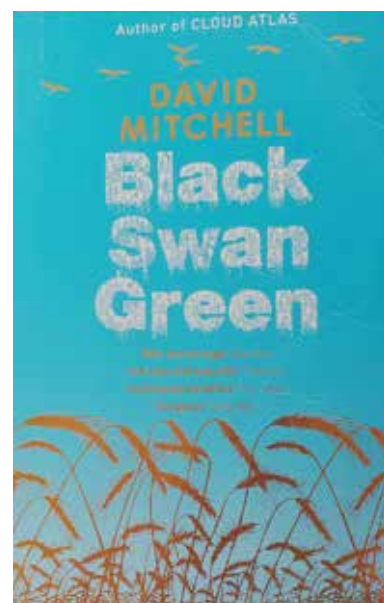
A review by Elles Smallegoor

Jason Taylor is a thirteen-year-old boy growing up fast in an ordinary village called Black Swan Green, Worcestershire, England. It's 1982, the year of Thatcher and the Falkland Islands War. For thirteen months, he shares his life with us. There's Mum and Dad, who are drifting apart, but he's not noticing it fully – not yet. There's his eighteen-year-old sister Julia who, fiercely intelligent and bored with village life, is sarcastic and impatient and calls him 'Thing'. There's high school, full of written and unwritten rules. From one day to the next you can't say 'ace' or 'epic' anymore and you end up being the school loser and the favourite victim of village bully Ross Wilcox. It's not easy being thirteen. Especially not when you have a stutter, you like writing poetry and you are in love with Ross Wilcox's 'lush' girlfriend. Like Jason. David Mitchell's coming-of-age story 'Black Swan Green' touches upon many of the general teenage tribulations but its writing style and portrayal of character are unique and give the novel an extra dimension. It's a highly enjoyable, imaginative tragic-comedy that makes you laugh out loud and almost shed a tear by the time you close the book.

Throughout the book, Mitchell deftly employs dramatic irony (whereby the audience knows more than the character) so we adult readers have things to smile about or sympathise with. When Jason goes to his speech therapist he tells us: "Then Mrs de Roo got out her Metro Gnome. Metro Gnomes're upside-down pendulums without the clock part. They tock rhythms. They're small, which could be why they're called gnomes."

(p. 37). When his father takes him on summer holidays in a beach hotel without Mum because apparently she cannot get time off her new job, Jason writes about his (drunken) father: "Dad's snorey skonks and flobberglubbers're impossible to sleep through. No wonder my parents don't sleep in the same bedroom." (p. 228).

Mitchell also employs poetic language throughout the novel. Jason may be innocent and at times naive, but he is also a precocious kid. He has a highly developed imagination, is a skilled wordsmith for his age and displays a sensitivity to the



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hefty subjects of life: death, suffering, happiness, morality. The book is full of moments in which Jason turns the mundane stuff in his life into profound realisations. When Squelch, an intellectually challenged child, pretends to pet a cute kitten but then laughingly throws a cold, stiff, dead cat in Jason's arms, the latter is horrified but then studies the diseased animal: "Using two sticks, I lifted the kitten into a clump of nervy snowdrops. So still, so dignified. Died in the frost last night, I s'pose. Dead things show you what you'll be too one day." (p. 19). Here Mitchell switches from activity and animated dialogue to stillness and contemplative language. He turns from prose to poetry ("sticks"-"lifted"-"kitten"; "a clump of nervy snowdrops"). The passage touches the reader while it also gives Jason his distinct voice.

After more than 300 pages of narrative and linguistic play, Mitchell achieves the reader's complete emotional investment in the young man; Jason becomes a totally loveable character. This is no mean feat. There is so much more to say about this novel. There are plenty of passages that I re-read just for the fun of it and discovering how Mitchell uses language to create a sense of place. One of my favourite pages is towards the end of the book, when Jason and his friends go on a fairground ride called The Great Silvestro's Flying Teacups which "swung into motion" in "an orchestra of screams" (p. 324). Whoever has been on similar rides as a kid and had a sensory overload while laughing hysterically with friends will really appreciate how Mitchell brings the experience to life. It's epic.

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# 19 April: Inverary Station

19 ladies and a young boy walked approx 18km to the hut. All of us enjoyed walking in the beautiful autumn day.



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## MAYFIELD MT SOMERS ANGLICAN PARISH

Last month, I told you about the wedding we attended in Southland, the wedding of the son and youngest child of my youngest sibling. This week we have been to Dunedin, for the funeral of the father of the bridegroom, my youngest brother, born when I was nearly twelve, the first in our family to die. He would have been seventy at the beginning May.

Prior to his death, he lay in an induced coma for nearly two weeks. Sepsis, his death certificate said, but with lots of complications, until when he was finally taken off the sedatives, he didn't wake, so the medical staff realized there was something serious happening and after tests it was apparent that he had also suffered strokes which had damaged his brain. When we went for a day or two without an update from my sister-in-law, we were trying to convince ourselves that no news was good news. But his poor body had had just too much to cope with.

All his nieces and nephews were born before he married. In those days sons and daughters didn't usually leave home until they married, so that generation saw him every time they visited their grand-parents and they all had a great deal to do with him. All but 4 of them travelled from Australia and the length and breadth of New Zealand to attend the funeral. There were also 4 grand - nieces there too. Of the 3 nephews and 1 niece, who were unable to be there, 2 were overseas. A wonderful tribute to a loved uncle.

At the crematorium, the Baptist Pastor quoted from Ecclesiastes, "A time to be born, a time to die", but by golly it is hard when it is your youngest sibling who is the first to die. He had many lots of surgery over the years including a double knee replacement and had

suffered greatly from bungled surgery away back.

We are lucky that we have Christian faith to help us through. We know in our hearts that he is in a better place, free now from pain he has suffered for years. But it is hard. Carpe Diem, live for the day. He did that and he seldom complained.

Many people do recover from blood poisoning, although they are often very sick and at death's door before the recovery starts. So please be careful. It only takes the smallest of cuts or scratches, for those sneaky wee bugs to enter your body. If you are feeling out of sorts, a bit mouldy then be aware. It might be worth a doctor's appointment. We are so grateful for all the wonderful support we have received from our neighbours, our parishioners and our friends. Lots of lovely hugs!

Blessings, Annette Eggleston

### ANGLICAN SERVICES

**Priest:** Rev Annette Eggleston

#### Holy Communion

May 7 10 a.m. St Aidan's, Mt Somers  
May 21 10 a.m. St Aidan's, Mt Somers  
June 4 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  
Email: [harann000@gmail.com](mailto: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.com](mailto:marion.i.jacobson@gmail.com)

## NEWS FROM PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN PARISH

Currently in the area which was in the past the Mayfield Presbyterian Parish we have three Church buildings. There is Staveley, Trinity Church at Mayfield on Mayfield Klondike Road and Carew on the corner of Trevors Road and Ealing Montalto Road. Numbers attending worship have been dwindling over time, congregation attendance is of the present time 10 to 12 and at times less than 10. The Parish Governance Council is left with the task of assessing the current situation and working on a way forward.

For some time there has been just one service a month alternating between Mayfield and Staveley. There are a number of reasons as to why people no longer see a need to attend worship or are attracted to other activities on Sundays, I won't go into that now or look to reasons. In the past Sunday was a day for church and Sunday school attendance and often during the week there were Bible classes for the older children where games were played and a short lesson was delivered, for several years these activities were very popular, and I believe served a very real purpose.

I may write of other buildings in a future issue, for the moment the Carew building is the one under consideration. The local community have concluded that this building has served its purpose. The intention now is to deconsecrate this very sound building, with the thought of placing the building on the market for removal. The sight is considered not suitable for a residence (section undersize).

It is a sign of the times, after WW2 it was a very active church, at one time congregations reached the point of overflowing and the building was enlarged by one third. It is a very sound building, I guess modern transport and changes in lifestyles has brought about its demise.

I will discuss our other buildings in a future issue.

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

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Facebook.com/ PlainsPresbyterianParish

### WORSHIP SERVICES April 2023

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May ST JOHNS METHVEN 10.30

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May St Johns Methven 10.30 am

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May Methven 10.30am

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May Staveley 10.00am**

Combined with Methven at Staveley



**Safer Mid Canterbury**  
**Hakatere Haumarū**  
 Together we're safer + Me uru kahikatea

## Did you hear the news of the changes to the cost of getting a driver's license?

From 1 October this year the learners license test fee increases by \$2.29, restricted license increases by \$32.77 but the full license decreases by \$10.54. However the resit fee for all licenses has been wiped, meaning no matter how many times you sit the test, it will only cost you the initial fee.

Is this helpful? Will it make our roads safer and our drivers better? How many people who aren't quite ready will sit the test knowing it won't cost them any more to keep sitting it until they pass?

We would rather have our students fully ready so they pass first time. This makes for safer drivers because they have safe habits which are well entrenched into their driving behaviour. So for us, licensing costs will go up significantly. Meaning we need to find more money to fund our programme.

We are proud of our first time pass rate, which is well above national average for all three stages of the licenses, so free resits don't really benefit us.

Each of our students are offered four lessons with a professional driving instructor. We have a road safety talk by the police as part of our road code course, along with road craft training with a professional driving instructor before they even hit the roads. We have experienced driving mentors with very high standards, which they pass on to their students. This all makes for much safer drivers and we are so proud of each and every one of our students, and love to see them out on the road enjoying their independence and the opportunities a driver's license gives them.

Many thanks again to Advance Ashburton Community Foundation - Johnston Brothers and The Tindall Foundation Fund for supporting us for another year with a very generous grant. They have been loyal funders or ours since the beginning. We are now in the sixth year of the programme and it's great that our efforts are supported by our generous sponsors. We are truly grateful.



Group Eleven Road Safety presentation.

We are nearly at the end of our first road code course for this year. Our next course will begin in July. We already have good numbers for this course so we look forward to getting started. There are a few spaces available so please get in touch if you are living outside of Ashburton and are an adult newcomer to the district.

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 MPI, Waka Kotahi, The Lotteries Commission, Advance Ashburton Community Foundation, The Ashburton District Council, Braided Rivers Community Trust, The Lion Foundation, COGs, Community Trust Mid & South Canterbury and The Mid Canterbury Rural Support Trust.

Wendy Hewitt  
 Rural Licensing Co-Ordinator  
 Safer Mid Canterbury  
 44 Cass Street, Ashburton 7700  
 Ph: 027 611 3301  
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# Vintage Fords on parade

Early in March the Hakatere Heritage precinct up the Ashburton gorge hosted 110 model A vehicles. We were lucky enough to be chosen as somewhere worthwhile to visit before they all headed into the threatening NW clouds for lunch up Lake Heron way. The cars were amazing and the people with them very interested in what we have achieved at Hakatere. The rain held off and everyone had a good look around after a brief talk from David Howden. Our donation box benefited hugely from their visit and a big thanks goes out for their generosity. A fantastic experience for everyone.

Pam Annand. (Photos by Leonie Austin)



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Most burglaries happen between 10am – 3pm, when people tend to be out. There are three important things that you can focus on to protect your home and property:

#### LOCKS:

- Secure locks and fastenings on windows/doors.
- All windows and doors shut and secured when you are out.
- Sheds and garages have secure locks.
- Spare keys kept in a safe place inside.

#### LIGHTS:

- Entrance ways well lit.
- Sensor lights installed and turned on.

#### LINES OF SIGHT:

- Entrance ways not obscured, so that it is easy to see who is coming and going.
- Trees and hedges trimmed.
- Fences and gates secure.
- Valuables out of sight from windows and doors.
- Security camera's are an added protection and record movement around the property

#### Going Away?

Mail and deliveries put on hold, or a neighbour arranged to collect them.

Someone arranged to mow your lawns.

In the event of a Burglary please call Police on 105 or 111.




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**2023 On-Farm Heifer Competition Results**

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**R1 Dairy Heifers – Sponsored by Evolution Vets**  
1<sup>st</sup> James McDonald  
2<sup>nd</sup> Matt Sinton  
3<sup>rd</sup> Matt Wakelin

**R2 Dairy Heifers – Sponsored by Gill Ag Services**  
1<sup>st</sup> Grant Early  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vince Reveley  
3<sup>rd</sup> Kevin Smith

**R1 and R2 Beef Heifers – Sponsored by Mayfield Spraying**  
1<sup>st</sup> Harley Davies  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bert Oliver  
3<sup>rd</sup> James Wright

# JPs in the Foothills Area

## Mayfield

Jannet Cross 0274 347 958  
Pauline Hewson.03 3036 397.  
Grant Early.0215 141 56  
Alistair Morrison. 0276 024 927

## Mt Somers

Robert Schikker.0211 866 107.  
Anne Marie Allan.0272 843 013.  
Anne Parnham. 0277 676 056.  
Wendy Millichamp.027 459 1277.

## Springburn


Robert Withers.0273 030 138.

<b>DEADLINE DATE FOR MARCH ISSUE</b>		
ISSUE	DEADLINE	DELIVERY
May 2023	25 April	1 May



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

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*An invitation to celebrate the coronation of King Charles 3rd and Queen Consort Camilla with community planting days*


**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023** 9am-12noon  
Planting of local natives at  
The Harris Scientific Reserve  
409 Lovetts Road, Maronan, Ashburton  
Morning tea and speeches at 10.30am  
On wet or fine

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023** 9.45am  
The unveiling of a commemorative plaque at the  
Ashburton Domain Royal Lawn by  
Mayor Neil Brown

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May** 1-4pm  
**Hakaterere Marae State Highway 1**  
Welcome and speeches at 1pm  
Bring your own native tree or bush, or plant one that is provided, vege and herb plants can be added to the planter boxes if you want to bring these along to be planted.  
Afternoon to conclude the event  
Cancelled if adverse weather.

Bring: Sturdy footwear, gardening gloves, drink bottle and a spade if you have it

Registrations required for plantings -- to register email [vmscevents.midc@gmail.com](mailto:vmscevents.midc@gmail.com)  
by Tuesday 2nd May 2023 please specify which planting you are attending  
If you would like a certificate to show you took part in the event please supply the name to go on the certificate to [vmscevents.midc@gmail.com](mailto:vmscevents.midc@gmail.com)




**Volunteering Mid & South Canterbury need Volunteers to knit peggy squares for World Knitting in Public Day - 10 June**

Peggy Squares need to be 15x15cm. Cast on 30 stitches wide, knit 60 rows garter stitch, (knit every row) cast off 30 stitches, knit in double knit wool, on size 8 needles. We would like, if possible strips of squares- 8 squares long

Join other knitters at the Ashburton Public Library on  
Wednesdays from 10am-12 &  
Saturday 9th April, 14 May & 10 June  
from 10.30am-2.30pm

The rugs will be given to community organisations to give to clients

Completed squares/strips can be dropped off to  
Community House, 44 Cass Street by 29th May

Contact Dellwyn - Manager Mid Canterbury  
Volunteering Mid & South Canterbury  
ph 3081237 ext 240 , email [manager-midc@vmsc.org.nz](mailto:manager-midc@vmsc.org.nz)

# Draft Revenue and Financing Policy Drinking Water

## How should we fund drinking water for Methven-Springfield?

We are reviewing our Revenue and Financing policy for drinking water, with a focus on the Methven-Springfield Supply.

Methven's new \$7.1M membrane filtration water treatment plant will improve drinking water quality for people in the area, but it needs to be funded in a way that's affordable and fair for everyone.

We're proposing to bring Methven-Springfield into the District Water Group with similar charges to other areas of our district. We'd like to hear your thoughts!

Feedback by 5pm, Sunday 7 May.



More information at [ashburton.govt.nz/haveyoursay](https://ashburton.govt.nz/haveyoursay)

# Draft Transportation and Parking Bylaw

Council is reviewing this bylaw and looking for feedback from the community on proposed changes, which help ensure the controls on roads and footpaths meet the needs of residents, road users and businesses.

The bylaw covers a range of issues related to our roads, like parking restrictions, one-way roads, and where heavy vehicles including stock trucks can drive and park. It was last reviewed in 2015 and a lot has changed since.

Feedback by 5pm, Sunday 14 May.



**We want to hear from YOU!**

Visit [ashburton.govt.nz/haveyoursay](https://ashburton.govt.nz/haveyoursay) or scan the QR code to view the consultation documents.



# Mt Somers Staveley Playcentre

Autumn us now in full swing and we have returned to Playcentre for Term 2! Some wonderful news to start the new term: we have a new Session Facilitator! After running without a permanent one since October last year, we are so pleased to welcome Kelly Newson to our Playcentre whanau. Come along and say hi!

The children had a fun Easter egg hunt before the holidays, our beautiful village green always provides a great spot for this activity.

Speaking of Easter, we had an overwhelming response to our Easter raffle, thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket and congratulations to prize winners, Sue Braham, Zoe McEwing and Bénédicte Rebotton! Also a big thank you to local JP and friend of Playcentre, Wendy Millichamp for coming along to session to read us a story and draw the winners.

Another fundraiser we've had running has been our Fairlie Bakehouse fundraiser. Fairlie pies are always delicious and we're grateful to all of you who have ordered some - they'll be arriving on the 10th of May so we will be in touch soon!

As always, if you've ever been curious as to what Playcentre is all about, feel free to come along to one of our sessions on Tuesday or Thursday mornings, 9am - 12pm. You get



three visits before enrolment and our sessions are free! It's the perfect place to come and chat to other local parents while your children play and learn in a relaxed and friendly environment.

