

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

ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS

A wonderful Anzac ceremony was held in the Mayfield hall and grounds on Thursday. A huge crowd was present with many children. The hall stage surrounds were decorated with colourful paper poppies created by three of our local school's pupils. Mayfield school choir sang us an Anzac song beautifully. All our singing helped along by the fantastic singing voice of Hayley Tait. Master of ceremonies was another ex local lad, Josh Ruston who along with Reon Blake and another speaker gave us an interesting service. Thankyou Reon for your amazing photo video line up of our 110 fallen foothills soldiers. Once outside the Last Post never fails to make you feel emotional and played well by the Salvation Army silver band. Then we were given a 6 round gun salute by a big army field gun. Very special for the Lismore Austin family having son, grandsons all participating loading and firing it with grandad overseeing. (See attached photo from Donna Marie Lever) On leaving the hall grounds I stood in the howling wind and reflected on this great effort from all involved, in front of the white crosses.

Pam Annand



St Aidan Church Cleaning Roster

2024	
March	Robbie Martin
April	Margaret Cook & Wendy Grigg
May	Hillary Arnold
June	Rhonda Reveley
July	Marian Bellamy
August	Robbie Martin
September	Margaret Cook & Wendy Grigg
October	Hillary Arnold
November	Rhonda Reveley
December	Marian Bellamy
2025	
January	Hillary Arnold
February	Margaret Cook & Wendy Grigg
March	Robbie Martin

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Mayfield Playcentre

And just like that term one is at an end; we've all had a great holiday and now ready to get into Term Two! The end of last term saw the Tamariki enjoy the last of the warm sessions with obstacle courses, swinging, rivers in the sand pit and an all-time favourite of jumping in and throwing the falling leaves. Here at Playcentre we use both artificial and natural resources to encourage our Tamariki to explore their limits and the world around them in a safe environment. We were also lucky to have a trip to the big smoke "aka Ashburton" and visit their new library, the children thoroughly enjoyed this new resource in our wider community.

This term we are starting to put a plan in motion for changes to our outdoor area, we are looking keep some of our old favourites and also add in some new exciting equipment. Being able to continue updating our centre is made possible by all those who support

our ongoing fundraising efforts, we are based in an amazing supportive community - so Thank You everyone! Our recent fundraising of the firewood raffle and train rides at the A & P Show were well supported and these profits will be put towards our outdoor upgrade. If you purchased raffles or had a train ride, thank you. Also, an extended thank you to our local Lions club for their generous support; the donation of the firewood prize and the use of the train is greatly appreciated.

With the change to cooler weather more indoor play will be happening, the arts and crafts area is always well used with many of our youngest Tamariki enjoying the paint station! Baking, reading, block building, dress ups and the covered wood work area will all be busy in the coming months I'm sure.

If you've been thinking of coming along to see what Playcentre is all about, then make sure you visit one of our sessions: Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9:15am -12:15pm we would love to see you!

Sarah Everist



A COMMENT:

I appear to have developed an interest in tea, that is the drink we know as tea. Tea has a fascinating history, and not to say the least a very long history. What sparked my interest was from an Upfront article in the NZ Listener about a fortnight back. Tea arrived in Europe in the year 1606 and in London in 1657, it had been a popular drink in China since 780 and before.

The discovery of tea as a drink or tonic has been traced to some time around 2,700 B.C.E. the then Chinese Emperor Shen Nung was apparently a bit of a clean freak and was boiling water for drinking when some tea leaves wafted over on the breeze and landed in his kettle. Shen Nung took a sip and wowie zowie.... It was teatime for the world. Shen had possibly created a legend; humans may well have been drinking tea for about half a million years.

I was for a very long time a tea drinker, I would drink black tea with no milk and no sugar, the black tea was slow cooling to a temperature suitable for drinking so I would add a measure of cold water, we had tea making facilities in the cow shed and later in the wool shed, the thermos flask was frequently with us when out on the farm, cold tea in a beer bottle was also a good drink.

The writer in the Listener tells of the Commutation Act of 1784 in England ("the tea and windows act.") which reduced the tax on tea from 119% to 12.5%, the popularity of the drink exploded. In an age of terrible water-borne pathogens, boiling water for tea reduced mortality significantly, that was in the slums after the Industrial Revolution. The world changed and by 1800 even the poorest peasant drank two cups a day. The writer claims that infant mortality declined, and mothers lived longer.

The Thermette was the other well used device in tea making when picnicking or camping out, I still own a thermette as far as I know it is stored at the farm shed to this day, it was used to heat water for softening alkathene pipes to get the joints together, all done with cold fittings these days. I do remember this thermette being used to make tea.

The Listener writer tells how the thermette was used in WW II in the desert in the campaign against Rommel, the NZ thermette probably fueled with petrol, boiled water for tea, a lifeblood for the Long-Range Desert Group. The resulting charred circles in the dust puzzled German Reconnaissance. From the trenches of the Somme to the jungles of Southeast Asia, the Anzacs marched on their tea. Along with cigarettes, tea arguably won the war.

There are a variety of books written on the subject of tea, one I came across titled "The Drink That Changed the World" by Laura C Martin. I haven't read this book but did read a review.

The review informed me that tea will cure lumbago and strengthen your frail and nervous constitution. It will enhance your virility and cause your you-know-what-to-grow. It prevents hangnails (whatever they are) and may even aid in cases of boanthropy! That is the bizarre and often mistaken belief that one is a cow! It surely must be great stuff – grossly under-estimated.

Perhaps tea is worthy of some further research: I have been a coffee drinker for about 20 years and for now will remain that way, although I consider 'Black Tea' to be a good refreshing drink. I will study the book mentioned, that is when I locate a copy.

For now, enjoy whatever you drink - Cheers Denis



The NZ Thermette left its mark during World War II.

Funding available for Foothills' projects

Advance Ashburton Community Foundation has a grant round open from 1st – 31st May and Executive Officer, Carolyn Clough, would be delighted to see applications from groups in the Foothills.

"Advance Ashburton has funding available to support worthy causes and organisations throughout all of Mid Canterbury. Any not-for-profit group from anywhere in our District can apply to us for a grant for a charitable purpose," Carolyn said.

Advance Ashburton is a unique funder in that their grant making is driven by the wishes of generous local donors who have entrusted the Foundation to manage their donation to meet specified wishes. "We have funds from donors who want their donations to support causes related to health, and others who want to support children, or the Arts, or even heritage."

For grant applications to be successful, there needs to be sufficient funds available that are designated for purposes in line with that of the applicant's purpose.

However, there is also a general fund which can grant to any charitable purpose.

Application forms are available on the Advance Ashburton website (www.advanceashburton.org.nz) and questions can be answered by the friendly team in the office.

"There are guidelines on the website and a checklist of requirements for the application. However, we are happy to sit down with an applicant and help them with an application or answer any questions they may have about applying for a grant," said Carolyn.

"Our donors have created these funds for the benefit of the people of Mid Canterbury, forever. We want to honour them by carrying out their wishes."





**Kanuka Mid Canterbury
Regeneration Trust**



Methven Toy Library



**Methven & Foothills Walking
Festival**

Searching for Funds?

If you belong to a community group or a charitable organisation that is looking for funding to support your latest project, we may be able to help.

Our next grants round opens on Wednesday 1st May 2024. Application forms are available on our website - www.advanceashburton.org.nz.

We welcome your questions and can assist you with completing an application. Please contact us on 03 307 5902 or talk to Carolyn, our Executive Officer, on 021 886 087.

The Old Post Office Library



The deadline date for this newsletter is Anzac Day 25 th April. And brings to mind the celebration and remembrance of all the New Zealanders who fought for our country all those years ago, leaving our shores full of excitement, hope, determination, comradeship.... And so many not returning alive, or badly damaged mentally or physically or both. And so we remember them.

We have many books in the library about this period: one of the best is by Stephen Daisley called 'A Better Place' about twin farming sons going off to fight the war. It is stark and beautiful writing and is shortlisted for the Ockham Book Award. Another war book which created a huge impression on me is Jim Henderson's 'Gunner Inglorious'. Both these books are in the library.

There are plenty about NZ women fighting the war too, both overseas and here at home in NZ, keeping the home fires and farms going with the Womens Land Army movement.

The library was open on Anzac Day and I was kept busy with people calling in: mostly from out of town and I suspect had been to the store but noticed our 'open' sign, and popped in. All were amazed at our variety of books and that such a good little volunteer library would be flourishing in the foothills.

New books.

For the Deborah Challenor fans ('Kitty' 'The Jacaranda House' 'The Silk Thief') we have her latest called '**Black Silk and Sympathy**'. It is set in Sydney 1865 where a young Londoner woman works as an undertaker's assistant. Eventually she has her own business and is Sydney's first female undertaker. But trouble lies ahead when she herself is accused of a murder.....

Blending fact with fiction, this is the first book of a new series from this popular author.

'Earth' by John Boyne. Another very popular author (of 'Boy in Striped Pyjamas' fame) has just released his new novel. I made the mistake of opening the first page and now have to

be extremely disciplined to put the book down to get anything done. This book has come hot on the heels of his last book 'Water': there seems to be a bit of a theme here.

'Water' is about a middle aged woman who changes her name and appearance and flees Dublin to an island off the coast of Ireland, after her husband is convicted of a shameful crime. It is an excellent tale.

So far in his new book 'Earth' I can tell you that there is also a crime involved and the two perpetrators are up before the courts for rape. I just want to sit and read and read to discover the outcome. He is such a good writer in being able to hook his readers right in. It will be on the shelves as soon as I've finished it and had it plastic covered to preserve its newness. It is a hardcover.

Next is 'Nailed Boots and Crinoline Gowns' by Robert Peden. A very attractive nonfiction book and an easily read history of women on the rural frontier of nineteenth century New Zealand.. many histories of Pakeha settlement in NZ have tended to ignore the role of women or devalued their contribution to mere adjuncts to the work of men. In this book Robert Peden puts this matter to rights! Readers will recognise many family names and farms as a fair portion of the book relates to the settlement of Canterbury. I found this book utterly fascinating and a compelling read. Our library copy has been kindly donated by the Chilton family, many thanks to them.

The Berrypickers' by Amanda Peters. Another easy read where a four year old Mi'kmaq child goes missing from the berry fields of Maine, America, sparking a tragic mystery that haunts the survivors and community and remains unsolved for nearly fifty years. A great read.

'Clear' by Carys Davies. Another Scottish read which many of our readers really enjoy. This one is set on a small island off the northern coast of Scotland in 1843. A beautifully written drama unfolds as the island's sole occupant comes across an unconscious man lying on the beach below the cliffs. Who is this stranger and why has he arrived on this island. Read this small book to find out.

We had our village morning tea but it was a disappointing turnout. Possibly our fault for not issuing personal invitations or maybe a hangover from Covid days. We used to put on a library morning tea twice a year and the whole village would turn up, including any truck drivers around at the time or tourists to the area. We thought it might be a chance for the newcomers to the village to meet and greet. We will try it again nearer Christmas and see if we can get a better response.

Finally, a huge thank you for the cartons of books delivered to the library for our shelves or for the outside shelves. We really appreciate it, and everyone benefits.

See you at the library soon! AC.

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



29TH JUNE 2024

Mt Somers
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Staveley Store, and Methven Motors.
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Kia ora, Talofa, Mālō e lelei, Namaste, Ni Hao, Bula, Hola, and Namaste - greetings everyone.

As the holiday break draws to a close, staff and students are preparing to reunite for another term of learning and growth. Monday, the 29th of April, marks the return of our tamariki to school bringing with them the vibrancy and enthusiasm that lights up our rural community. Reflecting on the recent ANZAC Day commemoration, our community came together in a poignant display of remembrance and gratitude. The day began at 9:30 am as we gathered at the Panthers Rock carpark, uniting in procession behind the Ashburton pipe band. Maddison Taylor and Andrea Williams proudly carried our school's ANZAC wreath, symbolising our enduring respect for those who have served. At the community hall we were welcomed by Reon Blake, president of the Mayfield & Districts Red Poppy Society, who paid homage to the brave souls who hailed from our very own area. Mr. Josh Rushton officiated the remainder of the service, guiding us through moments of reflection and tribute. Contributions of our students added a profound depth to the ceremony. Andrea Williams, a Year 8 student, led us in an opening prayer, while Saskia Blake, a Year 7 student, shared the profile of Donald Campbell, one of the Foothills fallen. Our school children sang the song 'Lest We Forget' which stirred many hearts and brought a tear to the eye. Dave Pikethley, was the guest speaker, and delivered a stirring address, reminding us that ANZAC Day is not merely about war, but about honouring the indomitable spirit and character of those who served and those who supported them on the home front. His tribute to the Land Girls, whose contributions sustained our nation during times of strife, struck a chord of appreciation with us all. A heart-rendering moment came as Reon Blake shared a pictorial roll of honour from his book, "The Foothills Fallen," honouring the memory of the 110 soldiers who gave

their lives in service. The ceremony concluded with the thunderous boom of artillery, a symbolic salute to those who have gone before us. Looking ahead to the upcoming term, we are excited to announce the opening of a satellite shop for Tots to Teens here at Mayfield School. This gives whanau a convenient source for all uniform requirements, including shoes. Uniforms can be purchased through 'click and collect' services in the school office from Monday to Thursday, streamlining the process for all involved. Our calendar is brimming with events designed to engage and enrich our tamariki. The Foothills Cross Country, set to take place on the 14th of May at Mt. Somers, which promises to challenge and inspire as our students embrace the spirit of competition and camaraderie. Week 5 we have swimming lessons in Ashburton for the entire school, offering valuable opportunities for skill development and water safety education. As we bid farewell to the leisurely days of the school break, we eagerly anticipate the return of our students, ready to embark on another term of discovery, growth, and community spirit. With ANZAC Day's poignant reminder of sacrifice fresh in our hearts, we stand united in our commitment to honour the past, cherish the present, and embrace the future.

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 or phone 03 3036214

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

Aroha Stewart (Tumuaki/Principal)



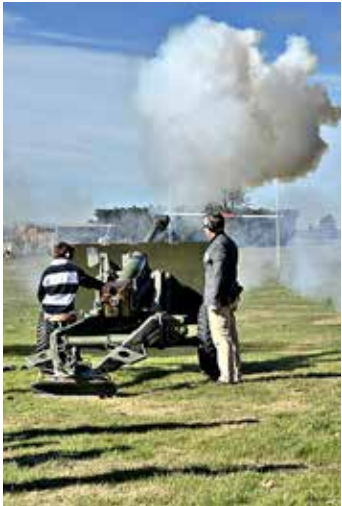
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Walk Manuka Hut 28 February

A huge turnout. Nice to see ladies from Timaru.



Walk Pinnacle Hut and Hooky Knob

8 ladies walked to Sharplin Falls and went up to Hooky Knob.
9 ladies walked to Pinnacle Hut. It was a big day for all of us.



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Hospice Mid Canterbury

- Support at Home

Hospice Mid Canterbury (HMC) provides non-clinical support for those with a life-limiting condition, as well as the caregivers who are looking after them. All services are free and available throughout the Ashburton District.

To access this support, a person with a terminal diagnosis or a family member can make a referral via the Hospice website (www.hospicemc.nz). Medical professionals and support agencies may also refer a person to HMC.

Following the referral, one of the assessment team will visit to talk to the client and caregiver about the services available and what HMC might be able to do to help support them.

HMC offers support both at the Base and at home. At home, our team of volunteers is available to provide a range of support including companionship, sitting with clients to provide a break for caregivers, outings, shopping, pet care, and transport to appointments. This can make a real difference to the everyday life of clients and families.

A regular visit from a volunteer can provide a welcome break from everyday routine and make a genuine difference to clients as well as carers. HMC finds that clients, caregivers and volunteers often develop a real bond as time goes on. As well as this, when the carer gets to know the volunteer, they feel more comfortable taking time out for themselves - perhaps to go to appointments, to take a walk, catch up with friends or just have some quiet time.

HMC works hard to improve their clients' quality of life on a day-to-day basis and the support offered in the home is an important part of this.

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

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



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Neighbourhood Support



I hope everyone is enjoying the lovely weather we have had over April.

I can confirm there has been 5 reported crimes in and around the Foothills area over March. This includes burglary, theft, wilful damage. Sporting venues – if you can provide security cameras that are out of reach and trained on target areas. Around the home - secure doors and windows. Neighbourhood Support can provide security signs warning that cameras are in operation. Rural residential properties, ensure all doors and windows are locked when you are out. You work hard to achieve assets - make it hard for thieves to get hold of them. Again a security camera to monitor entry and access points. Prevention goes a long way to ensuring safety.

Scams continue to plague us driven by technology and its ability to lure us into trust. Always think before you push a button. If you are not familiar with technology and find it difficult to use, “keep it silly simple” (KISS). If you only use a phone for texting or phone calls,

buy the simplest phone you can. Those without internet access, do not leave a digital footprint and therefore you are less likely to be scammed by receiving messages from people you don't know. Update your “contact” list, that way you will know who is calling. We have a roadshow coming up shortly around scams. Neighbourhood Support, ASB and Digital Waitaha will be talking about how to stay safe. Come along and listen, entry is free and afternoon tea will be supplied. Methven Hall on Monday 8 July at 2.00 pm or Hinds on the 6 May at 2.00 pm at the Community Hall.

Stay Safe.

Sue Abel Ashburton District Neighbourhood Support Manager

Walk Woolshed Creek Hut & Lake Heron 24th April

9 walked to Woolshed Creek Hut and 4 walked to Lake Heron/ Mellish Stream



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Mayfield and Districts Women's Dinner Club

Welcome all

We'd like to see some new faces at the Mayfield and Districts Women's Dinner Club. Please join us for dinner, a guest speaker, a catchup with friends, neighbours and the opportunity to meet new some new people.

Our membership is varied, we have mums with young children, mothers of teenagers, farming women, career women, retired women. What we all have in common is our community and we like to meet people.

We host five meetings a year, our next one is Tuesday, June 18 at the Mayfield Golf Club from 6.30pm, for \$30. Our remaining dates are: August 20 and October 15.

We've had two speakers this year: Tommi Gregory-Hunt, a female stock agent who grew up on the Chatham Islands, managed farms and ran a shearing gang; and Kate Acland who told us about how she came to Mt Somers and has landed the chair's job at Beef and Lamb NZ.

Our caterers are local groups who are fundraising for a range of projects and organisations, so joining us for an evening is good for you and the community, too. This year's caterers have been: a Mt Hutt College netball team fundraising for an Australia trip and a Southern Netball senior team.

If you're interested, contact one of our committee members and we will get you on a ringing list. There is an annual sub, \$30, but you don't have to commit straight away. We're also on Facebook under Mayfield and District's Women's Dinner Club.

Committee:
 Sonya Spencer (027 477-5997)
 Cate Hogan-Wright (021 555-629)
 Sharon Wallace (027 222-9066)
 Wendy Grigg (027 428-8084)
 Cathryn McDowell (021 102-6701)
 Dianne Lake (022 082-9813)
 Victoria Bell (027 450-6751)
 Lara Lewthwaite (027 245-2953)

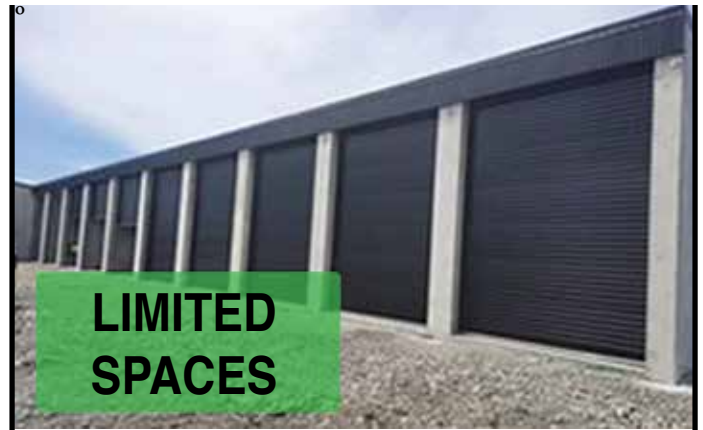
Walk Wanaka Trip 7th-12th April

13 ladies (incl 3 from Timaru, 1 from Hawaii) had a wonderful trip to Wanaka. All of us made Roys Peak (1578 m) successfully. We were totally drenched walking both Diamond Lake and Rocky Mountain track, town to lake & river outlet and Sticky Forest track. We had a day off because of rain to enjoy op shopping.

ALL WALK PHOTOS SUPPLIED BY SANAE HYDES



ISSUE EIGHTY SIX



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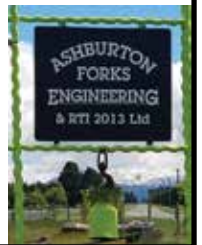
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**Safer Mid Canterbury
Hakatere Haumaru**
Together we're safer • Me uru kahikatea

There has been a lot in the media lately about licence test pass rates throughout the country. Pass rates vary throughout the country with Canterbury average being the middle of the rod at 57.8% for a restricted and 68.9% for the full license. Over the past 12 months our pass rate has been 92% for the restricted and 72% for the full test. We are really proud of that, considering English is a second language for most of our students and they are socially isolated in rural Ashburton District. It shows the determination of our students and the amazing work of the mentors and driving instructors. Driving in Ashburton can be equally as challenging as in a city. We have a state highway and the main trunk line running through the middle of town. This means lots of traffic, big trucks on the road and trains which until recently had shunting yards in the centre of town which effectively cut the town in half. We also have some pinch points which cause huge bottlenecks on our roads. These are all challenging for a learner driver and they can show up during a driving test. Our learner drivers learn cope with these situations because they learn under these conditions. City drivers have different situations arise, which if they are fully prepared for their test, they should know how to handle the situation. The testing officers in Ashburton are very professional and very fair. If a driver makes an error, they are marked accordingly. So it is not any easier to pass the test in Ashburton, you just have to be fully prepared.



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If you would like to be part of this amazing programme, as a student, driving mentor or to volunteer in other ways, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Wendy Hewitt on 027 611 3301 or wendy.hewitt@safer.org.nz
 We are also on Facebook, just search for the Mid Canterbury Rural Driver Licensing Scheme.

The Mid Canterbury Rural Driver Licensing Scheme is proudly sponsored by Waka Kotahi, 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
 Safer Mid Canterbury
 255 Moore Street, Ashburton 7700
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wendy.hewitt@safer.org.nz

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Book of the Month – Mt Somers Library

Title: 'A Waiter in Paris: Adventures in the Dark Heart of the City'

Author: Edward Chisholm

Publication year: 2022

A review by Elles Smallegoor

Book covers and book titles can give important clues about content. When picking up Edward Chisholm's memoir about his work experience in a Parisian restaurant I noticed that his face was not on the cover and that the main title of the work – 'A Waiter in Paris' – was unusually neutral and said little about him. After reading the book I realised that the cover was intentionally general and the title a true reflection of the writer's focus. They deliberately draw attention away from the individual Chisholm, because, as he writes himself in the concluding chapter: "This book was never meant to be about me" (p. 369). Instead, it is about the profession of the Parisian waiter, a person who is a central actor on the stage of France's capital city but yet often ignored or taken for granted. Chisholm gives a unique insider-outsider view of the job which he portrays as deeply ambivalent: waiting in Paris is exciting and respectable, honourable even. And yet its daily grind is gruelling and thankless.

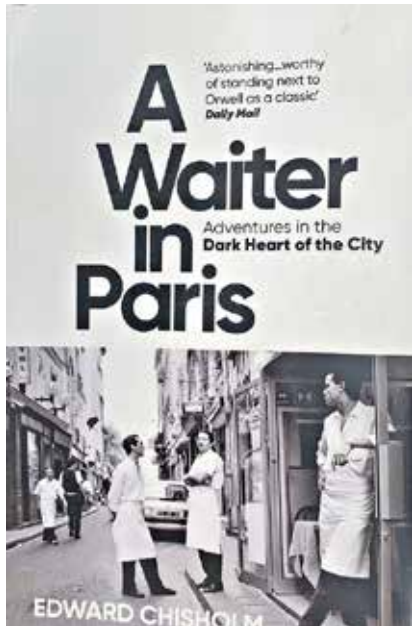
The first few chapters reveal how English graduate Edward ends up in France: he falls in love with French girl Alice and, having just finished his studies and no idea what to do with his life, decides to follow her to Paris. After a few months Alice realises that he is not really committed to her nor to his dreams of becoming a writer: 'Your lack of confidence in yourself, it's crazy' (p. 17). When she leaves him, Edward finds himself at a crossroads: either he is going back to England with nothing to show for it or he is going to apply himself. After some unsuccessful attempts at finding a job at university level, he ends up desperate for money and accommodation and manages to find a position as a runner in a popular bistro in the centre of Paris. Having initially no idea what a runner is, Edward soon learns he is to rush all day between two spots: get drinks and food from a small room hidden deep into the restaurant where three men gather orders together and place them onto a surface in a small opening in the wall that is heated by red lights, and deliver these orders to the waiters who take them on big silver trays to the designated tables. The job is an eye-opener for him and, by extension, the reader:

"Right at the centre of this giant wheel that is Paris is the Bistrot de la Seine. A microcosm of the city, of the country as it is today. Replete with a defined social hierarchy cemented neatly in place by the physical layout of the restaurant. On the surface all is light, but the deeper one travels, the darker things become" (p. 206).

It is this darkness that lies at the heart of Chisholm's book, as he delves into the ins and outs of Parisian restaurant life in which work breaks are rare, leave pay non-existent, competition for tips intense, anxieties about money and status real and power struggles ever-present. It is a world apart from the actual dining areas and terraces where attention-grabbing celebrity guests, relaxed tourists, romantic couples and rich locals enjoy their beverages and meals amidst laughter and conversation.

By writing down his experiences, Chisholm wishes to reveal "the hidden faces of Paris. The people whose job is to toil away in the shadows so that you can have your meal at a decent price" (p. 7). The reader gets to know them all: the manager, a.k.a. The Rat; Pauline, head of the hostesses and gatekeeper of the bistro; drug-

dealing head-waiter Adrien; waiters Salvatore, De Souza, Piotr and Lucien (amongst others); sommelier Franjo; the three Tamil Tigers, Freedom Fighters and Femi the cook. There is a certain loyalty and camaraderie amongst many of them, but the hardship in their lives



and their jobs often compel them to behave in less than ideal ways. Chisholm himself, having finally applied himself, eventually gets promoted to waiter. Not a small feat as his colleagues regard the job as inherently French and he is, after all, only 'the Englishman' (they continue to call him 'l'Anglais').

While the subject matter of 'A Waiter in Paris' is dark, the book is highly entertaining: the dialogue is rough and vibrant, the characters

are colourful and vivid and the neatly organised chapters contain a lot of drama and tension. Moreover, France's capital city and its hospitality sector may come to have less of a glamorous glow in this work, but Chisholm's writing is never without an underlying feeling of affection for this crazy, dirty, buzzy, beautiful city and its inhabitants. One thing is guaranteed: you'll never get bored in Paris.



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NEWS FROM PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN PARISH

'Devote yourself to prayer, being watchful and thankful.'

Paul's letter to the Colossians 4: verse 2

Sunday the 5th of May a congregational meeting is being called where those members and associate members present will be invited to vote on the proposed motion – being.

“That Alpine Presbytery be asked to close the Parish of Plains Presbyterian in order to pursue new ventures in the region.”

The new ventures may be a little vague. Firstly, should we be asking for these so-called new ventures to be clearly spelt out, to this point what we have been told sounds much like here-say. This huge issue surely is worthy of considerable scrutiny and very careful, thoughtful and prayer full consideration and debate. A major move should never be rushed, changes generally have to be left to evolve to lead to a new way forward. A hurried decision could well be a recipe that may lead to the wrong road.

In any change there is a need for caution, once a decision is sign and sealed it is difficult to redirect and change.

It must be a requirement of any proposal that the matter be put in writing, made available to all involved, and possibly examined by a qualified independent body. This may have been done, but if so, I am unaware of any independent scrutinizing. You are cordially invited to attend this meeting, **Sunday 5th May to follow the service to be held at 10.30 am**

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

Facebook.com/ PlainsPresbyterianParish

WORSHIP SERVICES MAY 2024

Sunday 5th May St Johns Methven 10.30

Parish service followed by a congregational meeting re the future direction of the Parish

Sunday 12th May at All Saints 10.30

Sunday 19th May St Johns Methven 10.30 am

Rev John Titlow

Sunday 26th May Staveley 10.00 am

Paster Paul Eden

MAYFIELD MT SOMERS ANGLICAN PARISH

By the time you get to my age, you will have many memories to look back on and tales told to you when you were young by grandparents. As I write this, Anzac Day is close, and I have been thinking quite a bit about that and members of our families who fought in the two World Wars. My maternal Grandfather went to the 1st War, along with his two younger brothers. One didn't return. My maternal grandmother lost a brother-in-law which left her sister to bring up two daughters. One of those daughters married on her husband's final leave in the 2nd WW and he didn't return. My paternal grandfather lost a brother in WW 1 and then his three sons were called up for the next war, the eldest of whom was my father. They all survived, but I was only 21 months old when he left New Zealand, and my mother was two months pregnant with my eldest sibling. By the time he returned that child was nearly two and he had been out of my life for two and half years, not counting the time he spent training in the Nth Island.

Harvey's father went to WW1 along with his two brothers, although they all returned the youngest, who had been badly treated in a Prisoner of War Camp, suffered from bad health for the rest of his life. We have a photo of those three brothers, taken in England, where the youngest one had just arrived to start his war experience, and the two older ones were recuperating from injuries. Harvey's English mum, also lost a brother in WW1, and then her parents lost a daughter

when she married a recuperating N.Z. soldier and sailed back to New Zealand. My mother also had a brother who went to war, and one of her sisters married a returned soldier.

Many of you will have similar stories to tell. Have we learnt anything, from all that heartbreak and suffering? I sometimes wonder. But better perhaps not to focus too much on the bad things of the past, but try and think of the good and positive things happening at the moment. For us at this time, it is a wee great granddaughter, born only two days ago, to our eldest Granddaughter. Wars go on, but thank goodness so do happy events like the births of precious wee souls.

Blessings, Annette Eggleston

ANGLICAN SERVICES

Priest: Rev Annette Eggleston

Holy Communion

May 5 10 a.m. St Aidan's, Mt Somers

May 19 10 a.m. St Aidan's, Mt Somers

June 2 10 a.m. St Aidan's, Mt Somers

CRISTCHURCH CITY MISSION - MEAT & FOOD DONATIONS (especially meat)

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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.com

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At the April Tea Meeting we had a presentation by Deputy Mayor Liz McMillan and Councillor Richard Wilson in regard to the draft long term plan (LTP)
Covering over the five key points

- 1 Green Waste .
- 2 Water based Leisure
- 3 Balmoral Hall and Poly Tech Land
- 4 Stock water
- 5 EA network Centre Stadium

We inducted a new member – Mark Morrow



*Standing left to right Hamish Woodhouse,
Mark Morrow, Neil Blake
Looking on Chris Allen (left) and
President John Rushton (right)*

Cheers Chris Olley (publicity and community concern)



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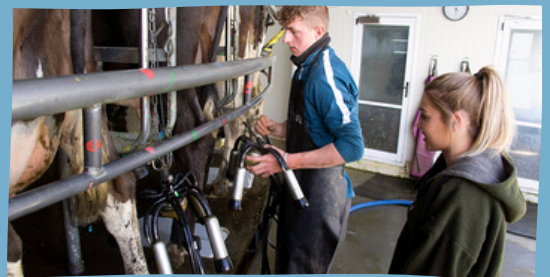
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Mt Somers Rugby Club



Our Snr B team have played 3 games and had 3 wins so far. Well done to all involved.

Our next game is on Thursday night 2nd May at Hinds 7.30pm kick off.

Saturday 11th May we are home to Methven. Thursday 18th away to Hampstead and away to Celtic on Thursday 30th May.

The Club still has bales of hay for sale.

For all inquiries contact Hayden 021 2094 210.

We have put another order in for Club Jerseys.

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Mt Somers Staveley Playcentre

Hello Term 2 and hello May! Not much to report this month as half of April we were closed for the school holidays. Hopefully everyone has had a nice break.

Mothers Day isn't far away and to raise some funds for upgrades, we're selling tickets for a big Mother's Day hamper, full of goodies including vouchers, skincare, candles, chocolate and more! See a Playcentre member for tickets or pop into the Mt Somers Store.

The days are now getting shorter and cooler, but that doesn't mean the fun stops! Come along to a session on Tuesday or Thursday morning to see what Playcentre is all about! 50 Pattons Road in Mt Somers Village.



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