



Mayfield and Districts Lions Report

Mayfield and Districts Lions club are looking for participants to go on an outdoor experience for 8 days at Berwick outdoor experience near Mosgiel, run by the Taieri Lions club. The course is open to both male and females over the age of 18 to 80 years of age. This is a proven course with over 28 years of history. It involves Abseiling, confidence course Kayaking, Tramping, Mountain biking, Bush craft, First Aid, Mental and Physical challenges, Limited to 40 participants.

The successful applicant's will be sponsored by our Lions club. The course runs from the 9th of May until the 17th of May. Please contact Athel Price on 0210619459 or Ron Cross on 021347958 if you are interested in attending and improving your self confidence. Entries close soon so get your application in ASAP.

Busy Days at Wood Chop Afternoons!



Our recent wood chop afternoons were a fantastic success! We had a great turnout of members armed with chainsaws and log splitters, all working together to get the job done. A huge thank you to everyone who pitched in — your hard work and teamwork were truly impressive. Whether you were cutting, splitting, or stacking, every effort made a big difference.



Mayfield and Districts ANZAC Parade and Service

25 April 2025

- 9.30am Assemble at Mayfield – Panthers Rock carpark
- 9.45am Parade leaves for the Memorial Hall
- 10.00am Service commences in Mayfield Memorial Hall
Service taken by Wendy Millichamp (Celebrant)
Guest Speaker – Ben Morrow
Ashburton Silver Band in attendance
Pictorial Roll of Honour for our fallen
Collection for Ronald McDonald House
- 11.00am Artillery Gun Salute in Mayfield Domain
- 11.30am Morning Tea to follow in the Hall, a plate is appreciated
- 12.30pm Anzac Day Golf match at Mayfield Golf Club – 1.00pm start
- 1.00pm Panthers Rock open for refreshments Onwards

VICTORY LIME

NOT ALL LIME IS CREATED EQUAL

Talk to us today about your requirements
Contact us on:

- ☎ 0800 303 980
- ✉ admin@palmerresources.co.nz
- 📍 Peaches Rd, Mt Somers, RD 1, Ashburton 7771
- www.vlime.co.nz

The Old Post Office Library



I'm not sure if the locals have noticed how quickly our outside shelves are being depleted. This is wonderful news but does keep us busy replenishing the shelves every few days. It might just be the time of the year as I notice many campervans on our roads which can only mean one thing.... people are making the most of this glorious autumn weather to be out and about.

So if you're having an autumn clean out of books you would like to pass on, please think of the library: we can always use more books to pass on to those popular shelves or keep the books for the inside shelves if we don't already have a copy.

A reminder to please return your borrowed books as quickly as possible, you can always return books in the slot in the library verandah. (the former post slot). I'm aware that numerous readers are waiting on books to be returned especially some of our newer editions.

Another interesting collection of new books have arrived and will be on the shelves in April although some are already shelved.

'The Booklover's Library' by Madeline Martin

Although set in the war years, this is a gentle book with quite a romantic feel to it. It is the story of a war widow and her little girl struggling to survive in London where the promise of war is ever present but doesn't seem to be happening, until it does. The devoted mother is so worried about her little girl, she sends her off to be billeted in the country where it is deemed to be safer.

So the book covers evacuees, hardship for the women left to keep the country running, conscientious objectors, wartime romances (both appropriate and inappropriate) and overall the caring for your neighbours both known and unknown. An easy read and held my attention.

'Memorial Days' by Geraldine Brooks.

This is an autobiography of the author recovering from her husband's death. She was writing the very popular book 'Horse' (already in the library) when her beloved husband died very suddenly. He literally dropped dead.

She was so shocked! And then tried desperately to meet her deadlines for the completion of 'Horse'.

Later on, she realised she hadn't grieved properly and decided to take herself off to a quiet island and be alone with her grief and associated thoughts so she could start to reclaim her life and heal. An excellent read as one would expect from such an acclaimed author.

'Mrs March' by Virginia Fritos

Mrs Marsh (always referred to in the book as such) is the wife of a successful novelist George March, who has just launched his new novel much to Mrs March's pride. She is very much a 'snob' in the mid 20th century era, the days of long gloves, cigarette smoking inside, and unstockinged legs a scandal. She is complimented on her husband's success but is appalled to discover that the general opinion of his readers is that the protagonist (a whore no-one wants to sleep with) is based on her!!!!

Needless to say she hadn't read the book. This is a black humour at its best.

Mrs March becomes increasingly paranoid and lives in her head which is a very dark place indeed.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book!

'The Scent of Oranges' by Kathy George.

If you are a Dickens fan, this is a book for you. It is about the character Nancy who has had a questionable past. She was one of Fagin's child pickpockets and became Bill Sikes' lady friend. However

she becomes friends with gentleman Mr Rufus and all of a sudden she finds emotions she has never felt before. And there is a promise of better things ahead.

Oliver Twist features too with some surprises in store for both him and Nancy. A very pleasant read.

'Nesting' by Roisin O'Donnell.

Another Irish tale by an Irish author.

Set in Ireland in 2018, it is the story of a woman with two children plus another on the way, leaving a marriage of emotional and physical abuse. This situation coincides with a serious housing crisis in Ireland so this distraught mother becomes homeless with soon to be 3 children to look after. And her ex husband promising her the world if only she will come back.

What will she choose???

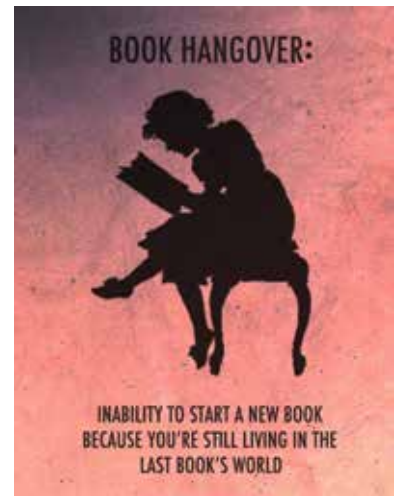
The reader really feels her desperation and indecision. The sad part is that this situation is being repeated over and over world wide. Will there ever be easy answers??

I think not.

Lots to read and learn from the library shelves.....take a trip down to the village on the opening days... Thursday and Sunday from 2-4pm or other days by arrangement. Phone Annie 0274363736, Pam 021 1264310.

Volunteers may open the library at other times too..... many thanks if you do, it is great for the visitors to the district to be able to wander through the library space and maybe sit for a while and catch up with the local history.

Volunteers.... There are always small jobs to do to help keep our area clean and tidy.... watering the geraniums, sweeping the porch, tidying book shelves, moving on the collection of dead flies which seem to like the library area very much, and fresh flowers on the counter are always such a welcome. It is a space for everyone to be proud of and responsible for. After all Mt Somers Library is becoming quite well known!



Steady As You Go (SAYGO)

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

SAYGO improves:

- Balance & leg strength • Flexibility • General fitness & well-being
- Falls are the most common cause of injury in older people
- One third of people over 65 fall each year
- Half of people over 80 fall each year
- Designed for men and women
- Falls are not a natural part of ageing and are almost always associated with weakened leg muscles and poor balance

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

Living Well with a Terminal Diagnosis

- Part 2

As the shock of a terminal diagnosis wears off, the challenge is to live a full and satisfying life in the present.

Look after yourself

Try to take some time to do things that you enjoy. Schedule activities to look forward to - they really can lift your mood. Energy levels will dictate what you can do and it's important to learn to manage these. Building in rest times during the day may help.

Complementary therapies, such as massage and relaxation therapy, may help you feel better. These are available free for Hospice Mid Canterbury clients.

If friends and family offer help, try to accept this and give specific examples of support you need and would like. For example, someone might be able to help by taking you shopping, bringing you some meals to put in the freezer, mowing your lawns or driving you to appointments.

Living Well

Remember that memorable moments of our lives don't just happen on exotic holidays or during highly anticipated events. They happen all around us, every day, whether we see them or not. Sometimes it is the simple pleasures that give us the most satisfaction.

In the weeks or months ahead, if you find yourself overwhelmed, tell yourself it's all right to just stop and take time for yourself. Watch the sunset. Hold your spouse's hand or that of your child. Spend quality time with your pet. Listen to the birds sing. Do

whatever you need to do to find a simple moment of joy. You might not have the gift of time, but you certainly can make the most of the time that you have.

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.



ANAMA RURAL WOMEN

For our March meeting we had a very enjoyable session with Robyn teaching us exercises we can do at home. It is important to exercise as we age as this improves balance, prevents falls and also prevents osteoporosis. Adding some weight training is also important. All the exercise she took us through can be done at home without expensive equipment or having to travel to a gym. By using cans of food or milk bottles as weights and a chair for other exercises involving balance. Most of us even managed the plank.

We are looking forward to celebrating Rural Women 100 years with an afternoon tea in September. Originally called Woman's Division it was founded by a group of women who wanted to address the hardships and isolation faced by Rural Women. Today the need is not the same in the Rural community but we are there if anyone needs to connect with other women for fellowship and friendship.

Contact Kay on 027 3339 513 if you are interested in joining us.



Good Property Management doesn't cost, it pays!

RayWhite

Call our Property Management team today or drop into our office for a no obligation chat about current demand, values, legislation changes, or a general 'investment health check' on your rental portfolio.

Let Ashburtons only REINZ accredited Property Management team take care of your investment property.

Professional Property Management

Janene McDowell and Carey Von Lubke

Janene McDowell
027 287 3388
rentals2.ashburton@raywhite.com

Carey Von Lubke
027 697 6948
rentals.ashburton@raywhite.com

REINZ
REINZ ACCREDITED RESIDENTIAL
PROPERTY MANAGER MEMBER



Mayfield Playcentre

Crafty Creations, Bubbly Fun, and Big Wins at the Mayfield A&P Show!

The tamariki have been busy getting creative, exploring textures, and making all sorts of fun crafts! Our recent Mayfield A&P Show was a fantastic success, with families flocking to our tent to enjoy seed play, coloring activities, and—of course—bubbles, which were an absolute crowd favorite.

Over in the produce shed, many of our young artists and bakers proudly took home certificates for their incredible crafts and homemade treats. Their hard work and creativity truly shone!

We recently joined Playcentres across the country in celebrating Messy Play Week—and let's just say, we took it to the next level! While most of our sessions already involve a good dose of mess, this week was all about going bigger, better, and messier than ever. As Easter approaches, we're back in craft mode, making special keepsakes for families to cherish. And with the sunny days rolling



in, the outdoors has been the perfect playground—our sandpit has seen plenty of rivers and castles, while on rainy days, our indoor veranda transforms into an exciting obstacle course.

No matter the weather, there's always something fun happening here! Come along and join us Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9:15-12:15pm.



JACKO

CONTRACTING & CONSULTING LTD



- Tracks & Lanes
- Dairy Lane Capping
- Tree Removal
- Logging/Forestry Work
- Farm Conversions
- Water Storage
- Dairy Shed Foundations
- Underpasses
- Irrigation Mainline Installation
- Project Management
- Commercial/Domestic Building Foundations
- Driveways

Free Quotes and Great Advice. Call Today!

0275 099 710

info@jackocontracting.co.nz

Find us on Facebook 

Love Agricultural Contracting



CULTIVATION

- Cultivation
- Reversible ploughing
- Sumo trio
- Heva discs & rollers
- 8.5m Sunflower cultivator
- 6m leveller
- 6m Allen Drill, direct & conventional, seed & fert
- 6m Vaderstad Tempo fodder beet & Maize drill, fert
- 6m Horsch Pronto DC drill - seed & insecticide boxes for cultivated ground.

FORAGE HARVESTING

Complete forage harvesting service. Mow, rake, chop, cart, stack & weighbridge

MAIZE

Talk to us about buying/selling maize

WINDROWING

MacDon tractor units
Variety of Mower, Auger & Draper fronts

BALING

- 4x3, 3x3 square bales
- Round bales
- Mow, mow-condition
- Tedder, rake, bale, tube & individually wrap & cart

STRAW & BALEAGE SUPPLY

Contact us for Customised Deals for straw delivered at harvest time so you can get the best quality straw at very competitive prices



email office@loveag.nz



Dan Collins

Baling & Silage
Ph **021 069 9926**



Robert Love

Cultivation, Windrowing
& Feed Trading
Ph **027 304 8837**

Mount Somers - The village that was on everybody's lips!!

No, not the name but the domestic ware that had its origins in Mt Somers was "on everybody's lips" – think of New Zealand's glassware made by Crown Crystal in Christchurch, china and crockery made by Crown Lynn in Auckland, while locally, pottery and tableware were made by Temuka Potteries.



All these contained minerals from our district, an important part of the blends that were required. There would hardly be a household in NZ last century that didn't have one or several pieces in their cupboards or fridges or on their mantle pieces. If your food or drinks were not served or cooked in something that owes its origins to Mt Somers, then, in Mid Canterbury it was probably cooked in a stove fuelled by the local coal!

Even more importantly, throughout the country, the power and phone lines that carried the nation's electricity and conversations would have relied on the brown ceramic insulators (constructed from china clay sourced near the Stour River) and made in Tinwald. When the power arrived at your house a small white fuse holder, locally made, ensured your safety.



If that is not enough, then consider the large number of public buildings in New Zealand and in Australia that chose our local limestone for their most important components – both decorative and weight bearing. Add also, the profound contribution of agricultural lime to our regional economy. Today many of these mineral uses have changed – all the Hamilton jet boat propulsion units in Christchurch and sold



through out the world are cast on a bed of our silica sand, many golf bunkers use it as well.

Our gemstones, agates, petrified wood and fossils are keenly sought. Our limestone is prized by sculptors for its fine texture. Hogland glass still use our silica sand while coal is no longer considered an appropriate energy source.

Throughout the years, however farming has remained the backbone, the long term constant that binds the district



together and links the past with the future, contributing employment, children to the school, memberships of its sporting and voluntary organisations and livelihoods to local businesses

At the same time a transition has occurred, the village is busier, more vibrant than ever before and supports more families, new faces, a bigger school and numerous new houses. Increasingly Mount Somers is a gateway – not so much for minerals that leave the district but for the thousands of people that arrive to see its stunning unspoilt beauty – to walk, ride and swim or just be captivated by its vast and incomparably varied landscapes. It has new priorities, new opportunities but it still remains a tiny village in a big district that punches away above its weight. We hope you will see the stories of our past documented, and the transition to our future reflected in the brand new Information Station - a chance to say we are proud of where we live.



What's next for our water?

There are big changes coming for how our drinking water, wastewater and stormwater services are delivered.

Have your
Say!

Under the Government's Local Water Done Well legislation, every council must consult with their community to decide who will manage and deliver water services in the future.

We're proposing to continue delivering water services inhouse as a stand-alone business unit (SABU), but we want to hear what you think.

Find out more and
have your say!

ItsOurPlace.nz



Look out for more information in your mailbox or visit [itsourplace.nz](https://www.itsourplace.nz)

 **Ashburton**
DISTRICT COUNCIL

"Do it Once, Do it Right"

Over 30 years experience servicing and supporting the local community

Earthworks

- Any type of Earthmoving



Laneways

- Lime capping



Ploughing

- Cable + Waterpipe Installation



Directional Drilling

- Trenchless Technology



Utility Detection Services

- Find it first



Demolition

- Residential and Commercial



Call us today for an obligation free quote.

GDC

Greg Donaldson Contracting Ltd



Office 308 8479 Mob 027 433 8003

Free Phone 0800 432 583 (GDC LTD)

Web www.gdc.net.nz Email office@gdcgroup.nz

2 Fords Road, Ashburton • 106 Hilton Highway, Timaru

To the Foothills Editor

Hello and welcome to further news from Neighbourhood Support around what is happening in the safety and prevention area.

Crimes in and around the foothills include Thompsons Track, Holmes Road, Barkers Road and Methven Highway. These incidents include, burglary and a stolen vehicle. Total burglary and thefts reported around the District were 51 for the month.

Latest scams reported were Lotto Scam, phone or txt message requesting you contact them. The link is targeted to a well constructed page advertising Lotto tickets at discount prices asking for your credit card details. **DO NO** participate or purchase. Investment scams include too many to list, however please note that if you are contacted by someone trying to sell you investment or encouraging investment either online or by phone, it is **ILLEGAL** for investment companies to contact you selling you their products. **DO NOT** engage. The banks are contacting clients at the moment encouraging you to set up 2 factor authentication. Do not be afraid to decline on the phone, instead contacting your bank direct to check it is for real.

Please continue to stay safe - your awareness and community spirit play a vital role in keeping our neighbourhood safe

Sue Abel

Ashburton District Neighbourhood Support

Mt Somers Rifle Club



Mt Somers Rifle Club. The 2025 season is underway at the rifle range located in the Domain beside Rugby Club rooms, We are affiliated to Target Shooting New Zealand.

We shoot on Monday evenings starting at 7.00pm. All gear supplied and it is a great sport to develop concentration and determination. Families welcome, all can shoot.

Contacts

Julian Evans 021 2957 676 or

Dave Millichamp 027 4345 882

Quality Hoof Trimming for Dairy Cows

 Over 25,000 cows through our crushes last season.

 Three mobile hydraulic crushes.


BEST PRICES FOR:


Top quality knives

Claw blocks

Hoof rasps and cutters

Hoof trimming crushes

 Lamé cows treated rapidly & effectively

 Hoof trimming to PREVENT lameness


 Training in hoof care techniques




0800 4 COWCARE

0800 4 26922

office@cowcare.co.nz

Stockists of quality  **PEDROLLO** waterpumps



Pedrollo pumps are designed to lift water from wells, tanks or waterways to supply anything requiring a reliable pressurised water system.

Typical uses include homes, gardens, stock troughs, K-line and tank filling.

Available as 3/4hp, 1hp, 1 1/2hp, 2hp and 3hp sizes.

We have the water pump to suit your situation, call in today for more information

///ACL
ARTHUR CATES LTD

26 McNally Street, Ashburton 7700. Phone (03) 308 5397

MAYFIELD HALL & DOMAIN UPDATE MARCH 2025

The domain has been a hive of activity over the summer months, with campers and visitors all enjoying what's on offer. As a community, we should feel proud of our domain, as visitors are always full of praise about their time here and it continues to be a favourite stop for many.

In a gesture of recognition, two trees were donated and planted along the Inland Scenic Route domain boundary, in memory of two past long-serving Mayfield Reserve Board members – Ian (Copper) Murdoch and John Fleming. Their contributions will be remembered for years to come.

We are also very grateful for the donation of 100 plants from the Morrow family (Lushingtons), which were planted along the northern boundary following the A&P Show. These plants will continue to enhance the area, especially as we prepare for the 100th A&P Show happening next March.

A generous offer from the family of past hall committee chairman, Rex Hewson, saw the board purchase a tractor at a very reasonable price. This new tractor has been put to use with the new mower, and it will be known as 'Rex's Tractor', which we felt was a fitting tribute.

In recent times, we've been pleased to see the hall and domain being used for a variety of events. Wellbeing Opuke has returned for their school holiday programs, and we've had the pleasure of hosting a large group of Rockwood campervan owners, who gathered here using both the domain and hall. It's great to see that our venue is an attractive and versatile location for many different activities.

The hall and domain are run by a small, dedicated group of volunteers, and we're always looking for more helping hands! If you're interested, please contact David Greenslade (chairman) 027 333 6835.

For Mayfield hall bookings, contact Aafke Baxter 027 463 9728.

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

**COMPUTERS
FIXED
FAST
FIRST TIME**



Rural 

03 308 3400
www.mypc.nz
144 Moore Street, Ashburton

**Computing
Solutions**



Rockwood caravan owners gather in Mayfield, enjoying the hall and domain over the weekend of 21-23 March.



Looking to buy, sell, or invest in real estate 2025?

Forward planning is key to maximizing your properties value. Partner with an agent who puts your best interests front and centre.

JEFF DONALDSON

Your rural and lifestyle specialist

Specializing in lifestyle and rural properties, Contact me today for hands on guidance with every step of your real estate journey.

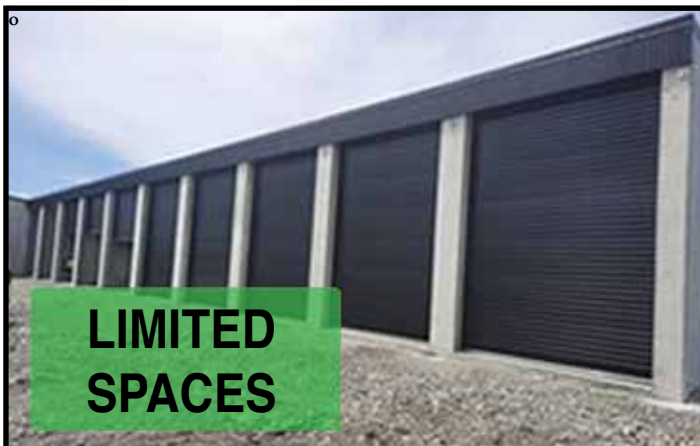
CALL TODAY

Jeff Donaldson | Rural & Lifestyle Sales Consultant

M 027 265 1290 **E** jeff.donaldson@pggwrightson.co.nz

pggwre.co.nz

PGG Wrightson Real Estate Limited, licensed under the REAA 2008.



LIMITED SPACES

Ashburton Forks Storage Units

9 and 6 metre deep units with **Extra Height** to accommodate Boats, Motorhomes, Caravans etc.
24/7 monitored security. Power and lights in each unit.

To check availability contact

Daisy on 03 3030 802

or message 021 212 3181

Check out our webpage

storage-ashforks.co.nz/home/

**1807 Ashburton Staveley Rd
(AshForksEngineering)**



**Mid Canterbury Choir
presents a concert of
“Tribute” to Easter and Anzac
Sunday 6th April 2025 at 2pm
Baring Square Church, Ashburton
Tickets at the door \$20**

A concert of variety music celebrating Easter and remembering Anzac Day.

The choir will sing a range of songs from Hallelujah! Chorus (Messiah) and God So Loved the World, through to In Flander’s Field, E Pari Ra and We’ll Meet Again.

We welcome Sarah-Jane Rennie, who has performed with the choir before as soprano soloist in Messiah 2021. She will also sing two Anzac songs, including A Nightingale Sang In Barclay Square. We are also thrilled to have Stephen Diedricks on the refurbished digital organ in Baring Square Church. (His photo and bio are attached). Starting the Anzac Tribute will be brothers Hamish and Liam Sloper on bagpipes. This tribute section will also feature solos from two choir members, Elizabeth Small and David Cullimore.

Leading the choir is Kathy McKimmie who has put together an interesting and varied programme. Deb Sloper will accompany the choir and soloists.

So do join us for an enjoyable afternoon of variety music.

Carol Gunn

Mid Canterbury Choir Manager

027 287 2468



Sarah-Jane Rennie



Stephen Diedricks

HEYBROOK BUILDING LTD

New Zealand Certified Builders Association

New builds Renovations

Farm Buildings Concrete

Roofing Decks

Servicing the Mid Canterbury foothills for over 10 years, phone Thamis for all your building needs

022 354 6524

heybrookbuilding@gmail.com



MAYFIELD SCOUT GROUP

We are hoping to start a keas group next month at the Mayfield Scout den.

Keas is the youngest group in scouting, and is for boys and girls aged 5-7 years.

It is planned to start on Monday 28 April 2025.

If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Sarah Cudmore on 027 4282 511

A. Fleming, Group Secretary

Cross Contracting Ltd

Experienced operators with over 45 years local knowledge



For all your digging requirements

- Stock water race cleaning
- Irrigation race cleaning
- Disposable pits
- Soak Pit • Trenches
- Gorse fence & shelter belt removal
- Irrigation mainline trenching
- Shingle screening bucket
- Tip truck hire
- Tree stump removal & root raking
- Operating three diggers
- On farm shingling – laneways, stockyards, water troughs
- Pipe line installation & repairs
- Cow lane cleaning

Grader and 20 ton digger available on request

Phone Ron

021 347 958 or 303 6067

2003069



agstaff®

Good Buggers You Can Trust

Job Vacancies Available Now:

- Field Staff
- Factory Workers (days, nights, w/e or weekday shifts)
- Labourers
- Truck Drivers
- Farm Assistants
- and more...

Full-time | Part-time | Contract

Apply Online: agstaff.co.nz | Phone: 0800 247 8233

Rifleman Pest Control

FARMS WANTED!!!!!!!!!!!!

Providing a **free service** from Mayfield to Methven that's carried out by a local farmer. References available.

All carcasses utilised.

I collect all animals shot and also provide other services like possum trapping and larger game animal control.

Text/Call Laurie Aitken
027 3143 491
riflemannz@gmail.com



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

Mount Somers Staveley Playcentre

Messy play week has come and gone and the kids had a blast! Although, here at Mount Somers Staveley Playcentre, we love doing messy play every week!

We had a fantastic outing to Chipmunks in Timaru and then home via the Caroline Bay playground - great for children and parents alike. The Mayfield Show was a big event this month and we had fun making our display for it. Thank you for all the hard work the organisers put in for such a cracking day.

Some of the mothers at Playcentre got together to make and serve at the Mayfield Lions' dinner and we had a busy but lovely time! We hope they enjoyed it as much as us! We're hoping to put these funds towards an improved carpentry area as this is a favourite for our tamariki.

With winter just around the corner we are hoping to do plenty more outings as well as enjoying what we have already at our wonderful playcentre.

If you would like to join us please come along! Every Tuesday and Thursday 9am-12pm.



MAYFIELD SPRAYING LTD

Family owned & operated



For all your agricultural spraying and liquid fertiliser needs with competitive rates phone Tony today.



MAYFIELD SPRAYING LTD

Tony 027 248 7045
mayfieldspraying@gmail.com





Creativity Blooms at the Mayfield A&P Show

The lead-up to the annual Mayfield A&P Show brought a buzz of excitement to our school, as students embraced the challenge of turning flowers and vegetables into works of art.

From whimsical flower arrangements in gumboots to delicate stems sprouting from watering cans, the creativity on display was nothing short of impressive. Among the standout entries were whales sculpted from courgettes and cauliflower, alongside the ever-popular sand saucers, carefully decorated with blooms picked from Grandma's favourite roses.

This event was a fantastic opportunity to ignite artistic expression



and bring the arts to life within our school and the wider community. Congratulations to all the students who placed in the competition—their incredible creations were truly a testament to their talent and imagination.

A heartfelt thank you to Mrs. Heaven and Mrs. R. Huggins for their dedication in organizing this event and for all the hard work behind the scenes that made it such a success!



Mt Somers Excavation Ltd



- GENERAL FARM MAINTENANCE
- ALKATHENE PIPE LAYING
- IRRIGATION MAINLINE TRENCHING
- 8, 14 & 20 TONNE DIGGERS
- TIP TRUCK & TRAILER
- GRADER
- SCREEN SHINGLE SUPPLIES
- TREE REMOVAL

Alistair Parris Owner / Operator - 20 Hinds Gorge Rd RD 8 Ashburton 7778
Ph: 027 434 7278 | E: mtsomersexcavation@xtra.co.nz | www.mtsomersexcavation.co.nz

Painter Available



Spruce up and protect your property with a coat of paint!

Interiors, exteriors, roofs and weatherboards.

Pressure washing, airless spraying, and a first-rate finish.

Friendly, professional service, good rates, excellent local references.

Call Wolffie for a free quote.

Distance no problem.

Ph 0279 624 841 or 03 693 9803

Walk Methven Walkway 19th March

19 ladies enjoyed walking in the Methven Walkway then brunch at the Opuke Pool Cafe

Photos supplied by Sanae Hydes



Walk Mystery Lake 12 March

Our walk to Mystery Lake cut short as the rain started pouring down.



Photos supplied by Sanae Hydes



Fertiliser Spreading Specialists

- Liquid
- Granule
- Lime



RICKY TAYLOR

027 648 6856

ricky@fertsolutions.co.nz

www.fertsolutions.co.nz

STOP BIRDS

hail, leaves, snow & vermin from blocking & damaging your spouting

Quality materials: BHP Colorbond steel mesh with unique patented louvre will even keep out pine needles. Will not rust or sag with age or load. 10 year warranty, range of colours Proven in Australia & New Zealand over the last 15 years.

FOR SAFE, PURE DRINKING WATER FROM YOUR ROOF.

NOW AVAILABLE : STAINLESS STEEL MICRO MESH

Call Rohan anytime Mon-Sat for a no-obligation assessment & quote

0800 486532



www.gumleaf.co.nz



24 HOUR ON-CALL EMERGENCY SERVICES
Phone: (03) 693 9060

Servicing Mayfield, Mt Somers, Hinds and South Canterbury.

Independent and locally owned.
Large and small animals.
Delivery service for all farm supplies.

Cnr Woodbury / Main North Rds, GERALDINE

Phone: 03 693 9060

Email: clinic@gatewayvets.co.nz

A Comment:

It is that time of the month once more; in other words my time to sit at the computer and attempt to write something on some subject that just may happen to be of interest or use to perhaps some of the readers of the monthly Nor'wester.

My subject for a start: "When bad things happen to good people." This small book was published in 1981 the author Harold S Kushner an American Jewish Rabbi.

Harold wrote this book in memory of their son Aaron, He states that quote 'My wife and I had been concerned about Aaron's health from the time he stopped gaining weight at the age of eight months, and from that time his hair started falling out after he turned one year old. A little later they moved to a suburb of Boston where he became the rabbi of the local congregation. There they came upon a local paediatrician doing research in problems of children's growth, they introduced Aaron to this man. Two months later he visited them and told them their son's condition was called progeria, in common terms "rapid ageing." They were informed their son would never grow much beyond three feet in height, would have no hair on his head or body, and would look like a little old man while still a child, and would die in his early teens.

Harold Kushner was taken by surprise -shock, he had in his work as a rabbi visited folk where there was tragedy in the family, but never thought this may happen to his family, he considered he had led a good life, and these types of things happened to other people. "How could it be happening to me, to my son, if what I believed about the world was true?

He then tells us "I read recently of an Israeli mother who, every year on her son's birthday party, would go into the privacy of her bedroom, and cry, because her son was one year closer to military service, one year closer to putting his life in danger, possibly one year closer to making her one of the thousands of Israeli parents who have to stand at the grave of a child fallen in battle. Harold wrote 'I know exactly how she felt. Every year, on Aaron's birthday they would celebrate. He states we would rejoice in his growing up and growing in skill. But we would be gripped by the cold foreknowledge that another year's

passing brought us closer to the day when he would be taken from us. Aaron died soon after his fourteenth birthday.

This small book (155 pages) does not exactly solve the issue, but it does let us know that we are all equally vulnerable. This book although first published 1981 my understanding is that it continues to be in print, and I guess available in lending libraries should you be interested.

One may well suffer from some type of serious illness, in that respect and in this time, there is treatment while not comfortable is often successful in extending life and the quality of life, in many cases leading to complete remission, we are indeed fortunate in that respect we live in good times.

New Zealand Listener March 8-14 The profile - 'The Hewitson Profile' I have no criticism but read this with interest and admiration for the subject Dan Buckingham. I thought this a great profile about a man who was unfortunate enough to become a tetraplegic following an unfortunate mishap during a game of rugby at the age of eighteen, now twenty five years ago, handicap yes and capable innovative, bright and intelligent also yes, Dan has not allowed his handicap to hold him back, sure he has issues, married with two children, and he won gold at 2004 Athens Paralympic, he was part of the Wheel Blacks team. This man has been successful in business happily married with two children. He once said in a speech, that in every interview he was asked the same question: if he could take back that moment in time, would he? His words "How is that for an idiotic question? He's a tetraplegic. As an advocate for the disabled is he meant to say that no, of course he wouldn't?

What would your answer be? There are moments in every life where if you could, you would take back a moment! There are so many moments in life. If you take them all away, what would you be left with?

He found himself on the bottom of a scrum, during a friendly game of rugby, broke his neck and ended in a hospital bed at Burwood Spinal Unit. His real short answer is: "it would have been fantastic if it didn't happen." But then it did happen Dan is a good man a clever man, as the writer put it, 'disability might have changed his life. It hasn't changed who he is.'

Cheers Denis

RURAL NATIVES

www.ruralnatives.com

Mid Canterbury based company specialising in the establishment and ongoing maintenance of native shelterbelts and riparian strips. From plant selection and design consultation right through to planting the last plant.



FREE
CONSULTATION



PLANTING



ONGOING
MAINTENANCE

We will help you achieve your vision on your land.

Contact ■ 027 204 2022
Mike McKenzie ■ ruralnatives@gmail.com



There is a link to access issues in colour of the Nor'Wester on Ashburton District Council's website, it is:

<https://www.ashburtondc.govt.nz/community-facilities/ashburton-community-directory/nor-west-newsletter>

GORSE SPRAYING



ROSS BROWN CONTRACTING LTD

Registered Chemical Applicator
with 30 years experience

0274819190

www.gorsespraying.co.nz

email: gorseman@hotmail.com



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

Rural Driver Licensing

Well, Autumn is here with the trees changing colour and snow on the mountain. Looks like we are in for a long winter.

So the usual driving challenges will be starting to appear, such as low sun angles, greasy roads and changeable weather.

As we enter our eight year of the programme, our fifteenth road code course has begun with full numbers. Not everyone likes to have their photo shared, so we respect their privacy and only share photos of those who are happy to be photographed. Once again our wonderful ladies are living in different parts of the Ashburton District, meaning our two fantastic volunteers and I get the opportunity to travel all over the district picking them up for road code class. It's always a pleasure to do this as we get to know them while we travel into town. Sometimes we do a quick trip to the supermarket before returning home, because it just makes sense.

We have quite a few ladies on a waiting list for mentors, particularly for those living in the foothills. So if you, or someone you know is interested in becoming a driving mentor in the Mayfield, Staveley / Mt Somers or Methven / Mt Hutt area, we would be keen to meet you. Driver mentoring is a great way to get to know someone from another culture, and knowing that you are making a huge difference to their lives. All you need is a full NZ license (which you've held for

New Zealand
Dairy Careers

Need Staff For Your Farm?

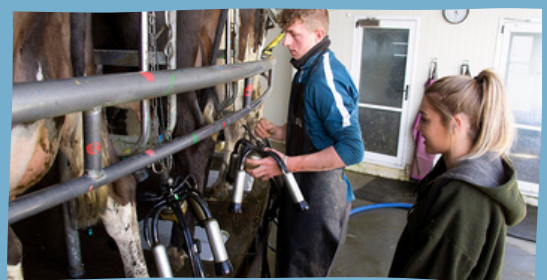
Talk to Kathryn today!

We have a pool of candidates including career changers, trainees, experienced dairy assistants, herd managers etc. from New Zealand and overseas

Call: 021 502 646

Visit: www.nzdairy careers.co.nz

Email: kathryn.haddow@nzdairy careers.co.nz





ROAD CODE GROUP 15 - MARCH 25

2 years and are over 25 years old), remain clam under pressure and have a sense of humour.

If you would like to be part of this amazing programme, as a student, driving mentor or to volunteer in other ways, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Wendy Hewitt on 027 611 3301 or wendy.hewitt@safer.org.nz

We are also on Facebook, just search for the Mid Canterbury Rural Driver Licensing Scheme.

The Mid Canterbury Rural Driver Licensing Scheme is a partnership with the Mid Canterbury Rural Support Trust and is proudly sponsored by Waka Kotahi, Advance Ashburton Community Foundation, Ashburton District Council, The Lion Foundation, COGs and Community Trust Mid & South Canterbury.

Wendy Hewitt
Rural Licensing Co-Ordinator
Safer Mid Canterbury
255 Moore Street, Ashburton 7700
Ph: 027 611 3301
wendy.hewitt@safer.org.nz

Office hours - Monday to Friday
8.30 am to 4.30 pm

"The older you get, the more fragile you understand life to be. I think that's good motivation for getting out of bed joyfully each day." — Julia Roberts



Joseph Builders Ltd
Canterbury

new builds - renovations
restorations - design
rural - residential
commercial - compliance



03 303 9830 0800 500 564
josephbuilders@xtra.co.nz



www.josephbuilders.co.nz

Ashburton Crane Hire Ltd.

24hr Service

0274 192 554

ashburtoncranes2015@gmail.com

"Reaching New Heights"



For a first Rate job call us

Rates

PLUMBING & DRAINLAYING
CRAFTSMAN PLUMBER / REGISTERED DRAINLAYER

Phone: 03 693-8512 • Mobile: 0274 373 158
33 South Terrace, Geraldine

- NEW HOUSING
- REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE
- ROOF REPAIRS
- RENOVATIONS



- DRAIN CLEANING
- LOGFIRE INSTALLATIONS
- CONCRETE CORING
- BACKFLOW TESTING



Victory Lime Site Open Day & BBQ

When: Thursday 24 April 11.00am - 4.30pm

RSVP by Friday 28 March to go into the draw to win a **FREE** unit load of lime with spreading included by your preferred spreading company

Get in touch with our team to RSVP
jenna@palmerresources.co.nz | 0800 303 980



Book of the Month – Mt Somers Library

Title: 'The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie'

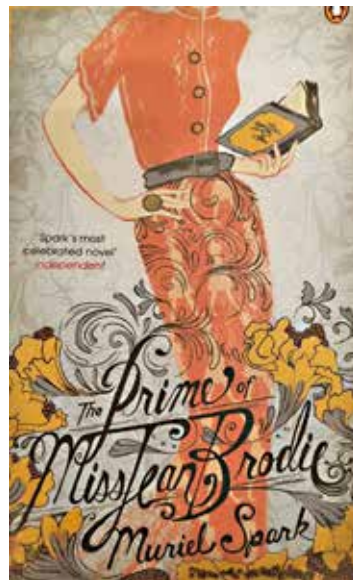
Author: Muriel Spark

Publication year: 2012 (First published in 1961)

A review by Elles Smallegoor

I was browsing the shelves in the library while on volunteer duty and suddenly spotted Muriel Spark's 1961 classic novel "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie". I have it somewhere in my own house, but hadn't touched the book for many years. I could hardly remember all the details of the plot but only had a strong memory of being delighted with the writing when I first read it in my late teens – time for a reread.

The book is set in Edinburgh in the 1930s, when the ravages of the First World War left their mark on society and the growing ideological power of Franco, Mussolini and Hitler seeped into the daily lives of many. Touched by them but also fairly isolated from these socio-economic and political realities, six young girls who are students at the Marcia Blaine School for Girls are growing up under the forceful and spirited guidance of their formidable teacher, Miss Jean Brodie. Brodie is one of the many women in Scotland who were either widowed by the war or remained spinsters from a sheer lack of available men (who all perished in the Great War), as the narrator explains: "There were legions of her kind during the nineteen-thirties, women from the age of thirty and upward, who crowded their war-bereaved spinsterhood with voyages of discovery into new ideas and energetic practices in art or social welfare, education or religion" (p. 42). "New ideas", "energetic practices".... this description, and Brodie's insistence on being "in her prime", her wit, sensuality, cultural taste and refusal to conform to the traditional teachings of the school set the reader up to become enthralled with her, especially because the reader gets to know her mainly through the eyes (and extensive dialogue) of her little group of favourites, aka "the Brodie set": Mary, Eunice, Rose, Shandy, Jenny and Monica. However, as the story of the teenage girls growing up unfolds and the narrative jumps



back and forth in time, Miss Brodie turns out to be a rather unpleasant and highly manipulative figure.

There is not enough room in this review to discuss the various skillful ways in which Muriel Spark uses character portrayal, lively dialogue and narrative technique to both evoke the daily lives of teenage girls and reveal how charismatic but deeply questionable people can gradually make their mark upon people. But Spark's handling of the subject is phenomenal. Brodie's mark, while ultimately morally questionable, is never really purely all wrong. For

instance, the girls have disturbing experiences as a result of their teacher's free-thinking and intellectually snobbish behaviour but her lessons on the importance of individualism and culture prevents them from being gullible and ignorant in many other circumstances. As Spark builds Brodie's contradictory character she confuses the reader in the same way as the girls would be confused. The latter, as they age, gradually learn to form their own ideas and make up their own minds. It is Sandy, eventually, who ensures Miss Brodie's downfall, or, "betrayal" at the school (p. 127). The adult reader, under the guidance of the narrator, is gradually enlightened as well. And yet, when closing the book one cannot help but notice that this narrator was, in many ways, not unlike Miss Jean Brodie: energetic, cultured, non-conformist, witty, manipulative and charismatic....

Mmmm....this short novel gets under your skin very easily. Perhaps time for another re-read!

We will be in the area soon and are taking bookings.

Contact Rob Palmer

Telephone 027 217 5577



New Hato Hone St John AED locations for Mayfield area

Due to ongoing upgrades and maintenance, Hato Hone St John's (HHStJ) publicly accessible automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in Mayfield have been relocated around the district to ensure adequate access to the community. You can find the new locations below:

Location	Town/Area	Address	Notes
Mayfield Squash Club	Mayfield	Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road	N/A
Mt Somers Domain	Mt Somers	67 Hoods Road, Mt Somers	Camping ground toilet block
Clucas Farm	Lismore	1221 Lismore Mayfield Road, RD 5, Ashburton 7775	South facing wall inside carport
Ruapuna Hall	Ruapuna	429 Shepherds Bush Road, Ruapuna 777	External AED cabinet
Clarks	Valetta	1222 Valetta Westerfield Road, Valetta 7771	Outside break room
Hinds Domain – Southern Rugby Club Rooms	Hinds	25 Isleworth Road, Hinds 7773	External AED cabinet
Ex-Montalto School Site (private address)	Montalto	20 Hinds Gorge Road, RD8	West facing wall of old school building by east entrance

It is important to know where your nearest AED is so you can potentially make a lifesaving difference in a cardiac event. You should also call 111 and ask for an ambulance.

Calling 111, starting cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and using an AED, make up HHStJ's '3 Steps for Life', the three key things you should apply when someone nearby suffers a cardiac arrest.

Community groups and schools can sign-up for the '3 Steps for Life' educative programme by visiting: <https://www.stjohn.org.nz/what-we-do/community-programmes/3-steps-for-life/>

HHStJ also offer a range of first aid courses from First Aid Level 1 right through to advanced resuscitation training for health professionals and have a range of first aid essentials, including AEDs and accessories, for purchase.

MAYFIELD MT SOMERS ANGLICAN PARISH

As I write this message, we are also preparing for the biggest day on the Christian calendar. Easter is the most sacred time of year for the Christian community. For many, Easter also has cultural, historical, or family significance (I listened to a podcast recently where even Richard Dawkins suggested people celebrate Easter etc. as culturally and historically meaningful occasions).

Many ways of celebrating Easter have developed over time: sharing easter eggs, families BBQs, or a last opportunity for a summer holiday, and of course there are special church services.

Regardless of your own traditions, I would like to encourage everyone to consider the meaning of Easter: love, grace, and reconciliation. The story of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is a declaration that no matter how difficult or broken things may be, there is hope.

We have several Easter services across our Mid-Canterbury churches: a traditional Easter service (with bonfire) at St. John's Barrhill 6pm on Saturday 19 April, on Easter Sunday a contemporary Holy Communion service 9.30am at All Saints' Methven, and a contemplative easter communion service 4.30pm at St. Aidan's Mt. Somers. You are welcome at any and all of these services.

If you've ever wondered why churches do the things we do, on April 6 we are holding a narrated service where a narrator takes us through the meaning and purpose of the different parts of the church service.

I would particularly like to invite you to our family easter celebration at St. Aidan's in Mt. Somers on Monday 14th of April, at 2pm there will be a children's easter service, and at 2.30pm a Community Easter Egg Hunt, everyone is welcome.

Rev. Sage Burke

CHURCH SERVICES	
St Aidan's, Mt Somers	
April 6	4.30pm Narrated Service
April 14	2pm Children's Easter Service. 2.30pm Community Easter Egg Hunt
April 20	4.30pm Easter Communion

PARISH CONTACTS	
Phone:	302 8254
Email:	midcanterburyanglican@gmail.com
Web:	www.midcanterbury.org
Social:	facebook.com/MidCanterburyAnglican

YOU'RE INVITED

Celebrate Easter with us

Join us on

Monday April 14th

2pm:
Children's Easter Service

2.30pm:
Community Easter Egg Hunt

St. Aidan's Church
123 Hoods Rd, Mt. Somers

Mid Canterbury Anglican



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

Mayfield A&P Show: A Celebration of Rural Community and Learning

The Mayfield A&P Show is a much-anticipated event in our school calendar, bringing together our school whānau, and the wider Mid Canterbury community to celebrate the rural way of life. I was so delighted to see our students and whānau actively participating in this wonderful tradition, knowing how much time and dedication it takes to pull a show like this together.

A&P shows are a cornerstone of rural New Zealand, and for our students, it is more than just a fun day out—it is an invaluable learning experience that connects them to their community and its rich farming heritage. This year, many of our students were involved in various activities and crafts ranging from sand saucers, to novelty flower arrangements, to presenting art projects. We have an amazing group of families on our Home and School committee. Members offered their time and resources to support students to make these amazing creations, donated lollies for prizes and a trailer load of firewood for the raffle. On the day Mayfield School had a tent set up with raffles, scavenger hunt, and selling bottled water as we raised funds for our students' year 6/7/8 camp to Stewart Island. There were a number of families that made this possible on the day, be it selling water or raffle tickets, driving the train or manning the tent, we thank you.

The A&P Show is also a fantastic opportunity to strengthen relationships between our school and our local families. Many of our Mayfield School families are involved in the agricultural sector, and this event allows us to celebrate their contributions while reinforcing the connection between classroom learning and our community. There are several companies and people we need to extend our gratitude to for making this event a success for Mayfield School in particular - Honda Country Ashburton, East Coast Powersports Ashburton, Ian Ludeman and Mayfield Lions. Their dedication

ensures that our tamariki and community continue to enjoy this cherished tradition. Thank you to everyone who participated and supported our school—it is this community spirit that makes Mayfield such a special place to learn and grow.

Mayfield School would also like to thank Marnco and Fert Solutions who have come onboard as new sponsors for our school. We value the contribution these companies make towards our amazing school and acknowledge sponsors who continue to support us - Ashburton Long Run Iron, Gallagher Insurance, Honda Country Ashburton, EuroAgri, D and E, FMG, Placemakers, Hydraulink, Catalyst, Tarbotton, Stradbrook Farms, Cross Contracting and Love Agricultural Contracting.

Mayfield School has recently received donations from PGG Wrightson and Ballance Agri-Nutrients support the charities and organisations performing vital services in rural areas through Cash for Communities. Thank you to those suppliers and customers that help support our school through our Cash for Communities programme.

Our school was nominated by a local business/farms that receives bulk fuel deliveries from Fern. For every 100 litres of bulk fuel they purchase, 50 cents was donated to their nominated school- which is US! We had several packages to select from Music, Vegepod, Sport, Book and Technology. We have selected 5 Apple Ipad Bundles to support our learning support programmes.

We would like to take the time to mention those members of the community that have contributed and nominated our school, they are listed as follows: Peel Vista Holdings Ltd, McEwan Farming Limited, RC & TS Cockburn - Anama, DR & KD Love, Proformance Farming Ltd, Stationview Farm Ltd | 761 Mt Nissing Rd, Laggan Farms Limited, J A Power Holdings Limited, Mount Rivers Limited, DR & KD Love - 138 Mayfield Valetta Road, Winnhill Ltd, RC & TS Cockburn (Ridge Farm), Stationview Farm Ltd, Wavell Dairies Ltd and Stationview Farm Ltd | 310 McDougalls Rd.

Ngā mihi

Emma Hewett (Tumuaki/Principal)



Walk Gowler Downs 5 March

We walked the length of the Davies's farm track



Photos supplied by Sanae Hydes

Some thoughts on the Stockwater Exit Plan

Jono Poff (BSc, PGDipSci)

We've heard that it's both economic and practical to shut down the Canterbury stock water network.

- Races and their margins need fencing, bridging, culverting, cleaning, weed control and other management that can complicate farm operations and be a drag on productivity.
- Land owners have to pay for this service, even when they don't need it.
- Finally, there's demand for the water itself.

It may be necessary or more efficient to pipe stock water directly to troughs, but from where? Commercial and private irrigation projects compete with the stock water network for existing consents to take water from streams and groundwater, and maintenance of guaranteed minimum flow rates in rivers effectively limits the allowable take from these sources.

According to these arguments, the stock race network is a redundant, expensive anachronism, wasting a precious resource that can be better used by other means.

However, an ecological perspective and a view to heritage reveals a different picture.

The words 'ecology' and 'economy' have a common root in the Greek word (oikos), which means a house or dwelling place. Ecology is about understanding the place we live in, while economy is about managing whatever benefits that place provides. The two concepts are interdependent.

When Europeans first arrived, the Canterbury Plains weren't a barren wasteland, they were teeming with life. There was dry grassland, covered with tussock and scrub and prickly with matagouri and speargrass. There were clumps of cabbage trees, forests of kanuka, kowhai and totara and extensive wetlands linked by clear flowing streams. There were birds and fish and insects everywhere, all depending on a complex web of relationships. Over hundreds, thousands, even millions of years, they'd adapted to life here, in this specific location.

No part of that community remains. It's all been replaced by farmland. There's not a single corner of the Canterbury Plains that hasn't been modified. Even the unruly braided rivers are choked with introduced plants and populated with trout and other introduced animals.

While it took millennia for the original inhabitants to adapt to their home here, it took less than a decade for many of them to disappear—some forever. Those that only lived on the plains, and nowhere else, are now extinct. That means they'll never be seen again, ever.

It's easy to argue for the preservation of charismatic animals like panda bears and Bengal tigers, but a tiny, slimy algae or a little brown fish that sleeps in mud is a harder sell. However, loss of any of these organisms, even those that aren't particularly threatened today, is cumulative—the death by a thousand cuts. An ecosystem is a web of relationships. When any part of it is damaged, the whole is weakened. It can sustain only so much damage before it collapses, and then every part of it is lost. New Zealand has a particularly valuable and fragile biological heritage, with global significance, and we have a responsibility to care for it.

The stock race network is an important part of this picture. It is an extensive, if modified and somewhat degraded, remnant of the fresh water ecosystem that existed on the Canterbury Plains before it was developed into farmland. As such, it has functioned as a refuge for many of the plants and animals that once populated the original fresh water habitats.

It's misleading to discount the value of these races by reference to their not being "natural" features in the landscape. The value of the stock water network isn't limited to its appeal to our aesthetic sensibilities. It's greatest value is in the habitat it provides to indigenous and especially endemic fresh water plants and animals that have nowhere else to go. They seem insignificant but the more they're cherished and cared for, the more visible they'll be.

The stock water exit plan has not fully acknowledged these ecological values. While it has sought to ameliorate* some of the negative environmental impacts that would occur 'downstream' of the

primary goal of closing the races, the plan is completely back to front. The order of business should be as follows:

1. Acknowledge that the network, as a whole, as it exists now, is an important (if degraded) fresh water habitat.
 2. Introduce more equitable funding to maintain the network.
 3. Introduce transparency around commercial interests competing for stock water consents.
 4. Transfer existing stock water consents to environmental or amenity use.
 5. Begin a negotiation whereby closure of some races is balanced by enhanced protection and rehabilitation of others.
- The existence of a plan does not nullify objections to its implementation. Countervailing arguments need to be evaluated and, if necessary, compromises made. Enough of the network should be retained to allow it to function as a widely dispersed but interconnected fresh water habitat.

The next meeting of the Stockwater Transition Group is May 22nd at 1.30pm, in the public gallery of the Council Chamber in Ashburton.

Any comments or requests related to this article can be directed to stock-water-exit@hakatere.nz

* Relocating species with a high conservation value (like the Canterbury mudfish) to a new habitat does not preserve the mana and mauri of a long self-established, complex ecosystem.



Braemars-Rd & Thompsons-Track
(Photos Courtesy of Colin Meurk)

*"In the end, we will remember
not the words of our enemies,
but the silence of our friends."*

**Local vets,
Nationwide support**

We have everything you need at
VetEnt Mayfield.

Pop in and see Chantel
for all your farm and
animal health supplies.

VetEnt Mayfield
1984 Arundel Rakaia Gorge Rd,
Mayfield
P: (03) 303 6042
VET-ENT