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Methven & Foothills Newspaper - owned by Mount Hutt College

Rāpare 21 Poutūterangi 2024
Thursday 21st March 2024

Putanga 10
Issue 10



Photo by Kim Berquist Photography



Snowfed photo



Photo by Kim Berquist Photography



Snowfed photo

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Methven 138 Mount Hutt Station Road

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Deadline Sale (unless sold prior)

12pm, Tue 9 Apr 2024

View Sun 2-2.30pm or by appointment

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OPEN HOME



SOLD



Methven 13 Allen Street

Timeless charm with renovation potential

Built in 1925 and nestled in the centre of Mt Hutt Village, this spacious family home radiates warmth and is brimming with memories of a wonderful family home. Step inside and be greeted by an updated entertainer's kitchen which seamlessly flows into a private and sheltered patio area.

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5 1 2 2

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View Sun 10-10.30am

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WHALAN AND PARTNERS LTD, BAYLEYS,
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Methven 19 Wayne Place

Leisure in a slice of paradise

Indulge in the epitome of tranquility and luxury with this enchanting 308sqm (more or less) home, nestled on a sprawling 1,622sqm (more or less) property within the serene confines of Methven. Surrounded by manicured gardens and grounds, this residence seamlessly integrates refined interior design with outdoor leisure.

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4 2 2 3

Price by Negotiation

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PUKA RATAKA Daily Diary

This space is available for events that are advertised in Snowfed - to advertise, see below.

MARCH

- 28 Art Exhibition, MHMH
- 22 Gold Card Lunch at the Brown \$20
- 23 Leeston Fete 10am-3pm
National Rodeo Finals, 11am
Barrhill Public Meeting, 3pm
- 24 End of Harvest Party, Lauriston 12pm
- 26 U3A Ashb. Dickens Early Works 10am
Beef + Lamb Field Day, 1-4.30pm
Normalising Depression, 7pm
- 28 Mar-2 Apr Methven Walking Festival
- 31 ADC Grant Funding Applications close

UPCOMING

- 8 April Theatre Co. AGM, 7.30pm
- 14 April ECAN consultation close
- 23 April U3A Ashb. Our Electric Future
- 25 April ANZAC Day Services
- 7 June Golf Club Centennial

COMMUNITY

SCRAP METAL DROP OFF opposite the Police Station

TUESDAY

- Methven Toy Library** 9-10.30am
- Methven Public Library** 2pm-4pm
- Methven Museum** 2pm-4pm

WEDNESDAY

- Methven Green Waste** drop off,
Vaughans Rd, 12.30pm-2.30pm

FRIDAY

- Methven Public Library** 2pm-4pm
- Methven Museum** 2pm-4pm

SATURDAY

- Methven Toy Library** 9-10.30am
- Methven Public Library** 10-11am
- AA Meeting** All Saints Church, 6pm

SUNDAY

- Methven Green Waste** drop off,
Vaughans Rd, 12pm-4pm

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Ever wanted to know more about Dickens?

U3A's guest speaker this month is Judith Coullie who will speak on the topic of Dickens' Early Works.

At the tender age of 21, Charles Dickens began contributing stories and descriptive essays to magazines and newspapers. A collection of these, Sketches by "Boz," was published in February 1836, the month in which Dickens turned 24. In this lecture, we explore key events in Dickens' childhood and youth, we sample selections from some of Dickens' stories in his first solo publication, Sketches by "Boz."

Recently retired, Judith worked as a learning advisor at the University of Canterbury from 2014-2023. This involved helping students at all levels (first year through to PhD), in all Colleges and disciplines.

Judith obtained her MA in English literature from Syracuse University (USA) and PhD from the University of Natal (South Africa). For her doctorate, she studied the autobiographies of South Africans across racial, class and gender categories published during the apartheid period (1948-1994).

Before immigrating to New Zealand, she was Professor of English at the University of



KwaZulu-Natal. (Art History to Physics, for instance), with their academic writing.

She has published several chapters in books, and articles in academic journals. Her book publications include a compilation of South African women's life writing and more.

U3A Hakatere/Ashburton

for LifeLong Learning

Tuesday 26th March at 10.15am (doors open at 9.30am) at the Ashburton Event Centre on Wills Street. Casual visitors \$10 cash at the door.

Hakatere/Ashburton



End of Harvest Party

Sunday 24th March, 12pm-5pm
Lauriston Cricket Oval

Come celebrate the end of harvest with a fun afternoon of cricket, bouncy castle, sausage sizzle, lolly scramble, music by the talented Amelia Luxton & more!
BYO picnic & drinks

This is a free event thanks to our kind sponsors

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Please RSVP to Steph Sim 0274270014



Top team Winners



Photo supplied

Senior Winners: Hand Sanitisers - Cameron McCaw, Adam Walker, Jasper Keenan, Roy Greybe.

Junior Winners: Greater Girls - Layla Hickman, Makenzie Bryant, Elisia Fitzsimons, Jeanne Foisie.t

We had a total of 52 children taking part with about 10 Lions helping. A big shoutout to the teachers for getting the kids there - a great if not chaotic event at times.

Thank you everyone for a fun time.

Francis Royston



Snowfed photo

Left: Hamish Marr, Iain Inglis, Gary Green with Grace and Manaia



Farrah Wilson 1st with Diamond Art



Photo by Kim Berquist Photography

Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund



We love seeing young people involved with local sport, however in rural areas, the cost of travel can become a barrier to participation.

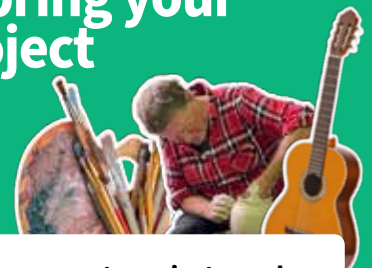
The Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund is designed to help subsidise travel expenses for rural sports clubs and rural school teams for travel to sporting competitions.

If your club or school team has young people aged between 5 and 19 years, we encourage you to apply.



Looking to bring your creative project to life?

We can help!



Whatever your planning, your arts project may be eligible for Creative Communities Scheme funding.

We're seeking applications for projects that:

- ✓ Increase opportunities for local participation in the arts
- ✓ Support the diverse artistic expressions of our local communities
- ✓ Enable young people to engage with the arts

Apply today and make a difference through the arts.



Applications open until 31 March.



CLOSING SOON

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Methven Community Board in brief

- Mary Kermode from Methven Red Cross: no road marking outside Red Cross shop, recently had camper van park across entrance. Mobility park should be outside of shop, however accessible markings have faded. Green Parrot patrons also using parking. Parking outside the building is the main issue - tree there also and 50km zone, they are concerned an accident may be caused. Second issue is dumping of rubbish - in past its been emptied once a month at \$380 a time, at the moment it's once a week. Someone dropped a fridge off last week, a dirty mattress and furniture. Red Cross has covered in the shed area available to drop off items. Cameras are being monitored. People are hopping over the fence. 15 bags of clothes were stolen.
- Speed restrictions coming into Methven: Mayor has written to government to try and progress the issue.
- Methven Fire Fighters Support Group Building: \$3,000 granted for their Centennial project roof repaint.
- Mt Hutt College Curtains for Hall grant request: Centennial project. Motion tabled. ADC (Ashburton District Council) does not fund school projects - schools are the government's responsibility to fund.
- Mt Hutt College Climbing Rock Wall - has a givealittle page. Another very worthy cause. While it is at the school it will be for the community. Questions around how much the PTA are fundraising for projects such as this. \$3,000 granted.
- Methven Walking Festival Request for funding of \$550: granted.
- Town Lighting: Richie questioned why it has been pushed out twice? Garden Of Harmony (GOH) needs to be in Long Term Plan (LTP). Swimming Pool have asked can \$15k be increased as more people using pool? Community Board and Reserve Boards should be both putting in submissions.
- Wednesday 10th April - pop up community evening event and LTP Roadshow on Saturday 20th April.
- Year One of the LTP funding of the hub
- GOH next steps - 24th March for MCB (Methven Community Board) and ADC staff to discuss how to get process going.
- Street lighting for the future - maybe needed down Dolma St, Forest Dr. Methven Chertsey Rd lighting needs to be improved.
- CRM's (Customer Request Management) are very labour intensive - need to be reported differently.
- Building Services consents issued: March 2024 - 6, 2023 - 6, Value of Work March 2024 \$3,434,700, 2023 \$6,586,027.
- Roading: kerb and channeling on Dolma and Line Road - lots of people walk around there so the footpaths will be well used. Once finished, the carpark at the domain will be started.
- Kelvin has noticed a lot of footpaths are overgrown on Methven Chertsey Road but occurs all over the place.
- Town Seats: one has been repaired, another five approved for CBD.
- Reserves: Chambers Park - the raised beds have gone and the horse is back to play on and the tractor is back too.
- Garden Of Harmony paths have been reshingled by Methven Lions.
- A little path will be built off from the Enchanted Forest to the toilets at the Racecourse.
- Biodiversity: a free community workshop on pest control was completed on 25 January in collaboration with the Dept of Conservation, ECAN, Methven Lions and Kanuka Trust.



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ASHBURTON U-HIRE

Busting The Stereotypes with lots of socks

There are two dates that are very important for the Down Syndrome Community.

The 21st March (chosen because Down Syndrome is a genetic abnormality where a person has three copies of the 21st Chromosome instead of two), is World Down Syndrome Day and in October is Down Syndrome Awareness Month.

This year's theme is "Busting The Stereotypes."

As Methven is blessed to have at least two families raising little ones with Down Syndrome this is something we could all learn together.

Many people with Down syndrome are proving stereotypes wrong about what it means to have Down Syndrome.

People who have Down Syndrome can and do achieve great things in life. There are those who have earned qualifications, got married, hold down great jobs, contribute to the arts, are award-winning athletes and simply just make their communities better; just like anyone of us can do.

When people are surprised by their achievements it can be insulting and serves to reinforce untrue disbelief in the abilities of

others who also have Down Syndrome. We all thrive under positive expectations and those with Down Syndrome are no different.

So how about providing an opportunity for or encouraging someone who has Down Syndrome to step out and do something they have always dreamed of doing and maybe give them some help to get there. Or get involved with donating to or fundraising for the Canterbury Down Syndrome Association (CDSA), who do amazing work at supporting families and individuals with Down

Syndrome to reach their full potential, just like Methven Primary School did with their Odd Sock Day back in October for Down Syndrome Awareness Month.

So Happy Down Syndrome Day everyone and feel free to rock your odd socks to celebrate and show support for our community members who have Down Syndrome.

21st March is celebrating Down syndrome (World Down syndrome Day) - the Canterbury Association are running a "Lots of Sock"s campaign (socks - because the chromosomes

look like socks under a microscope). Methven Primary School are holding a "Lots of Socks" Day on 21st March in support, where everyone is encouraged to wear their brightest and boldest socks.




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Single and looking to meet new people?

Here is an event for all of the singles in Mid Canterbury that will get you out meeting new people.

Annie Jacobs

Dating can be tricky whatever your age and Instadate is coming to Ashburton and holding a speed dating event, helping people to meet others.

The event will be held at Smoke in Ashburton (tickets required) and organisers limit the numbers to 20-25 females and 20-25 males so that the event is not rushed or disproportionate. This way, you meet a lot of people in a very short time. Participants should allow about three hours for the evening which starts off with an opening introduction by Instadate owner Beaulieu (pronounced Bo-lee) Matthews.

"The idea of speed dating is to meet someone, perhaps see if you want to see that person again, even as a friend - see if there is a spark or a connection," said Beaulieu. In today's world, it can be really difficult to meet someone and online dating sites don't work for everyone. Beaulieu has a 15 year background in marketing and decided to start the company when she discovered how hard it was to meet genuine people.

While it can be a big step out of your comfort zone, Beaulieu says it's important to just try speed dating and view it as a fun experience.

"Throw away the tick box that you might subconsciously have and come along and

try Smoke's smoked meats, have a drink, meet some people and try not to view it as a date, which can be scary. Leave the judgment at home and have an open mind - make it easy for someone to connect with you," she suggests.

"Ask questions such as; 'How was your day?' 'What did you do today?' You can learn about people by what they did that day - it is a great conversation starter," Beaulieu says.

Spending 3-4 minutes with each person means that you get a little bit of time to learn about each person.

"Steer clear of the relationship questions - leave that for going out for a coffee or catching up down the track where there are no time constraints," said Beaulieu.

Each person is given a pager which will go off after three or four minutes, then it is straight into speed dating. After 30 minutes is the first break for food and drink, for ten minutes. Speed dating continues for a further 30 minutes, followed by another break. This continues until everyone has met everyone.

When the evening is complete, participants let the organisers know who they want to reconnect with and by what format (with whatever information you have agreed

to share). Then Instadate makes those connections only if both singles have indicated that they want to connect, so your contact information remains with Instadate and does not go out to all of the participants.

"There have been occasions where people have met and within three minutes they 'just knew' that they were right for each other and have gone off to have dinner together. For others they have come back later as it may not have worked out, but they enjoyed their time together," said Beaulieu.

If you are single, you are not going to be "found" in your house or maybe not in a coffee shop but perhaps in a random place, outside of your comfort zone, so this kind of evening might be just what you are looking for.

"Come and eat, drink and be merry with us and have a fun night out with a unique experience," said Beaulieu.

For more information and tickets see the advertisement in next week's issue of Snowfed or go to:

Facebook: instadate Speed Dating

Website: www.instadate.co.nz

Instagram: Instadatenz

Not being prepared What's the cost?

We're preparing our work plan and budget for the next 10 years. What can we afford? What's the cost to our region if we do less? We need your input, so check out the options we're proposing in the draft Long-Term Plan.

Tell us what you think:

ecan.govt.nz/whatsthecost



Consultation closes 14 April 2024

 **Environment
Canterbury
Regional Council**
Kaunihera Taiao ki Waitaha



OPEN HOME

METHVEN 3 Lochhead Crescent
Your Private Oasis in the Heart of Methven

This impressive mid-90s family home, sitting on a spacious 1,175sqm rear section, promises an exceptional lifestyle. The well-appointed kitchen, leads to the dining area and separate lounge, beautifully manicured gardens, and entertaining patios. Two double bedrooms and an office on the main floor add versatility, while the second storey boasts three spacious bedrooms, one of which can serve as a second lounge with a balcony alongside a second family bathroom. Internal access garage integrates the laundry, and a standalone garage with a workshop adds versatility. The fully fenced outdoor space makes this home a unique opportunity. Call today to view!

PRICE BY NEGOTIATION

VIEW
11.00 - 11.30am, Sunday 24 March

Sam Gregory
M 021 0283 8791



www.pggwre.co.nz/ASH38788

OPEN HOME

LAURISTON 1477 Line Road
Idyllic Country Retreat!

Escape to your sanctuary! This immaculate five bedroom, two bathroom home on a 2,023sqm section offers tranquil living. Renovated to perfection, it blends modern luxury with timeless charm. French country-style kitchen, cosy lounge with log burner, and versatile spaces await. Master with ensuite, HRV, heat transfer and double glazing, it ensures year-round comfort. Outside, enjoy sun-drenched patios, mature gardens, large workshop, and garage. Located in Lauriston, enjoy rural tranquillity with urban convenience. Don't miss out - schedule a viewing today and embrace relaxation and luxury in your own paradise.

DEADLINE PRIVATE TREATY
(unless sold prior)
Closes 2.00pm, Thurs 28 March

VIEW
1.00 - 1.30pm, Sunday 24 March

Sam Gregory
M 021 0283 8791



www.pggwre.co.nz/ASH38788


METHVEN 265 Methven Chertsey Rd
Premium Living on the Edge of Methven

40 ha approx. of prime arable land in the highly desirable Methven area. Executive 5/6-bedroom home, office, dual bathrooms, multiple living areas with modern kitchen. Double glazed, gas fire, two heat pumps and diesel underfloor heating. Immaculate gardens, in-ground, solar heated swimming pool, covered deck and grass tennis court. Double carport, adjacent 4 bay shed/garage with power and 3 phase power. Fully enclosed, 4 bay high stud shed concrete floor, one lined and could be used as offices. Further 4 bay high stud shed, with concrete walls and floor in two bays for grain storage. Fenced into 4 main paddocks, excellent arable soils, high annual rainfall and spectacular views.

OFFERS OVER \$2.395M
Plus GST (if any)

VIEW
By Appointment

Dan van der Salm
M 021 918 233



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METHVEN Westward Way

Exclusive Methven Golf Course Sections

Lot 4, the exclusive section nestled alongside the Methven Golf Course, where you are able to walk straight from your deck onto the course! Lot 19, boasting established neighbouring shelter belts and unparalleled views to Mt Hutt, this section is nestled on a quiet and private section. Your dream section is waiting!

ENQUIRIES OVER \$395,000

VIEW
By Appointment

Sam Gregory
M 021 0283 8791
Dan van der Salm
M 021 918 233

www.pggwre.co.nz/ASH35754


BEN OHAU 5098 Tekapo-Twizel Rd

Paradise in Mackenzie - Alps to Awesome

Seldom does the opportunity come along to purchase such a perfectly located parcel of land, and this property offers a fantastic opportunity to become landowners in the tightly held and iconic Mackenzie Basin! Approx 200ha with resource consent to build already been approved and plans have been submitted for an extensive executive home.

PRICE BY NEGOTIATION

VIEW
By Appointment

Dan van der Salm
M 021 918 233



www.pggwre.co.nz/ASH38182

Ivan - the lucky winner!

There was a lucky winner in Methven last week who was pretty surprised by an unexpected score.

Brent McDonald from Methven Motors said, "Auto Shoppe was running a competition and Methven Motors was one of the 120 Auto Shoppe associated businesses from around New Zealand that were eligible in the prize pool."

They were the recipients of a 65" JVC TV (television) and decided to run a draw from all of their clients that had had work done at their business in February to win the giant sized television.

Staveley resident, Ivan Syme was the lucky winner of the draw, scoring the large Smart TV.



On seeing the size of the TV, he was asked what he thought of the win.

"Yeah, bloody huge!" he laughed.

The television was so large that it could not be brought to Methven on a standard courier.

Brent congratulated Ivan on his win last Thursday, handing the large TV over to the lucky winner.

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Methven Collie Club 127th Annual Dog Trials

Wednesday 20th and
Thursday 21st March 2024
Starts 8am both days.

Held on the Lucas & Koopmans Property.

Enquiries: R Copland 027 221 0509

Cat and Julie are retiring!

Julie and Granny Cat sounds like the name of a children's book - it isn't...yet easily could be. These two, synonymous with Methven Pre School are set to retire having given many years of service to our early childhood community.

Their friendship started back in 1986 when Julie was pregnant and Catherine had daughter, Tammy. Granny Cat (as she is known by), is in her 29th year of teaching at the Pre School having begun in July 1995, having previously completed her Playcentre Supervisor's Certificate. It was Cat (now 68) who was instrumental in getting Julie Cunneen and Trish Powell into relieving.

Julie (64) is in her 27th year of working at the Pre School, starting in September 1997 as an Education Support Worker. She too had previously completed her Playcentre Supervisor's Certificate.

Further study ensued which was thoroughly enjoyed so they went on to do a degree by distance through University of Canterbury.

"We saw it as an opportunity, but there was a bit of a threat that we might lose work in early childhood if we didn't have a degree," they said.

The Diploma had taken 18 months and the degree, three years.

"We were working full time and still had family at home," Julie recalls.

"It was the best thing we ever did. It was terribly stressful," remembers Cath.

Both ladies tries to minimise the impact their study time would have on family. Julie studied late at night while Cath preferred to get up early to study.

"The washing would pile up," Julie laughed.

Both ladies have enjoyed working with younger people on their team, enjoying the great camaraderie amongst the staff. Out of work hijinks involved a for sale sign being put outside Granny Cat's house, much to the consternation of friends!

Teacher Sharon Kermode has worked closely with Julie, "She's like an associate Aunty. Granny is just Granny - the Pre School is losing really precious people. People so entrust their kids to them. They are beautiful humans," she

said.

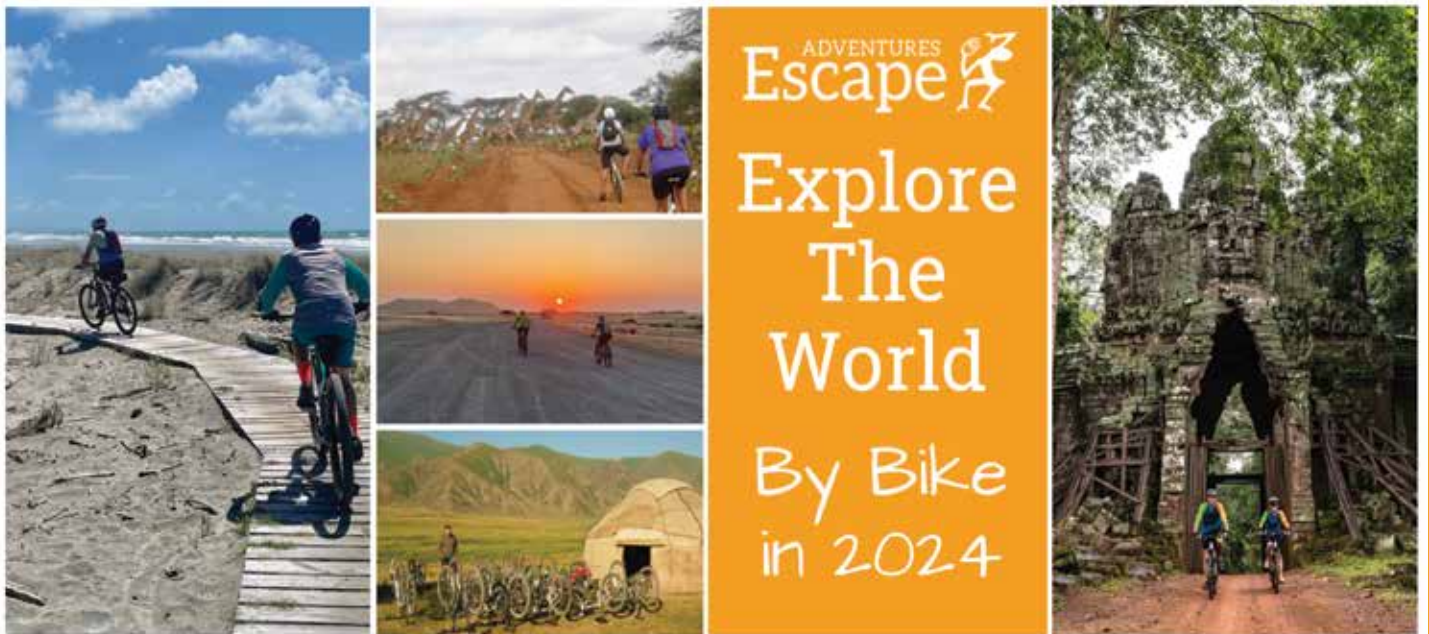
Cat recalls early involvement with the establishment of the creche as it was then known.

"I used to play out the front with the kids. Judy Lyttle (Squid's (Warren) wife), invited me to a meeting - the initial stages of opening a creche which is what it started as. We were on the committee and the building got registered for 25 kids. In those days, creche was a bad word. Jenny Shipley was in education and it grew from there."

"I'd be down here sanding and polyurethaning windowsills," said Julie

At one stage, the Pre School moved into the Playcentre while the building was extended.

Changes in processes have occurred during



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their time at the Pre School.

"We used to take turns in the babies, but we followed the theorists and they felt that continuity of staff was important so we adjusted and did that," said Julie.

Te Whāriki (NZ Early Childhood Curriculum Guideline) was adopted and they have rolled with the changes. That document is so successful that Primary Schools are now following it and its copied and shared to others.

"Everything goes back to what we always did in Playcentre - Learning through Play," the pair say. "We've seen a full cycle in curriculum change. We've done lots of training in Te Reo and have things in Sign Language."

Both ladies are intending to do relieving with Julie hoping to spend more time with her elderly Mum, golf, Justice of the Peace work, and other voluntary interests.

Cat is looking forward to want to spending more time with her grandson and volunteering.

Julie said, "It's been an absolute pleasure and it will be like leaving family. I'm sure we're welcome here if we bring baking," she smiled tearfully.

Cat said, "My head's still got it but my body hasn't."

"Our mental health will go as well - it'll leave all by itself," joked Julie.

March 28th is the big retirement day and Julie's husband Chris will be retiring on the same day!

In retiring, the ladies offer this advice to Parents: slow down, enjoy your children, it all goes so quickly. It takes a village or community to raise a child - keep looking out for the other person.

Council set to adopt draft Long Term Plan

Ashburton District Council is poised to adopt its draft Long Term Plan and budget for consultation this week, with a proposed 9.9% rates increase for 2024-25.

The Council plans to invest \$1.07 billion into running the district over the next 10 years and pay off \$152 million of debt. A 36-page consultation document "Five for our Future," will be considered by Councillors at their meeting on Wednesday and if adopted, will be out for public feedback on 27 March. Mayor Neil Brown said the draft Long Term Plan for 2024-34 set out what Council planned to deliver and how it would pay for it.

"Rates will vary across the district, depending on where you live, but the average rise in year one is 9.9%. While many other places in the country are a lot higher than this, we know it's still a large increase at a time when many will be feeling the pinch, but it is what is necessary to maintain services and facilities that the community expects." The average rate rise for councils across New Zealand for 2024-25 is sitting at 15.3%. Mayor Brown said one reason for this rise across the country is that the cost of essential infrastructure has skyrocketed over the past three years.

"Civil construction costs have risen 27% over the last three years, so roads and three waters infrastructure are where we want to focus our investment. We've also planned to have lower debt levels at the end of this Long Term Plan than when we started." The draft Long Term Plan will ask residents for their views on five other decisions, and related policies, although feedback is welcomed on any part of the plan. There will be a month for people to make their submissions, with Councillors hosting a wide range of meetings and pop-up events to talk to the community about what is proposed.

continues on page 13



12 Wayne Place, Methven

4 2 2 2 211m² 824m²

TRANQUIL OASIS AT 12 WAYNE PLACE

Nestled at 12 Wayne Place, this inviting residence boasts four bedrooms and two bathrooms, one being an ensuite. Its open-plan layout includes an additional living area, complemented by a well-maintained garden hosting multiple vegetable/herb patches and beautiful trees. The property features a double garage with internal access, offering convenience, along with a small attic space ideal for supplementary storage.

FOR SALE

Price by Negotiation

VIEW Request a viewing



remaxtowncountry.co.nz/TWN10011

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29 Allen Street, Methven

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ROBBIE'S MIND MATRIX

- Managing mending minds

Robbie Gooserooter Shefford

Well after six weeks on the road in the lower South Island attending Agricultural and Pastoral (A and P) Shows, talking with heaps of people, Lions, Young Farmers, Truckies, companies and random strangers along the way, it's easy to get caught up in the chaos - forgetting to pause and reflect on the essence of our existence.

Yet, amid the trials and triumphs, I found myself stopping for a break at the Cardrona Bra Fence, just randomly thinking that life is like a bra - one size doesn't fit all.

In the pursuit of happiness and fulfilment, we often overlook the importance of mental health. Just as a well-fitted bra provides support and comfort, nurturing our mental well-being is crucial for navigating life's twists and turns. Yet, the stigma surrounding mental health often casts a shadow over open discussions.

So picture this: a woman struggling to find the perfect bra. She tries on countless sizes and styles, each one either too tight, too loose, or simply uncomfortable. Similarly, in our journey through life, we encounter various challenges that may not always align with our expectations. It's during these moments of adversity that our mental resilience is put to the test.

But what if, instead of fixating on the discomfort, we shift our focus to positive thinking? Just as finding the right bra size requires patience and perseverance, embracing a positive mindset takes time and effort. By reframing our thoughts and focusing on gratitude, we can find solace in the midst of chaos.

Imagine the woman finally finding the perfect bra - one that fits like a second skin, offering both support and freedom. Likewise, when we prioritise our mental health and cultivate a positive outlook, we discover a sense of inner peace and contentment.

However, the journey towards mental well-being is not linear. Just as bras come in different

shapes and sizes, our paths to happiness are unique. What works for one person may not necessarily work for another. It's essential to acknowledge and respect these differences, fostering a supportive environment where individuals can seek help without fear of judgment.

In embracing the metaphorical bra of life, we must also recognise the power of self-care. Just as a bra requires regular maintenance to retain its shape and functionality, self-care practices such as mindfulness, exercise, and seeking professional help are essential for preserving our mental health.

Let's not forget the importance of community support. Much like a well-fitted bra provides uplift and confidence, surrounding ourselves with supportive friends and family can uplift our spirits during challenging times.

So, the next time life throws you a curveball, remember: life is like a bra, one size doesn't fit all. Embrace the journey, prioritise your mental health, and cultivate a positive mindset.

In the end, it's not about the size of the bra, but the comfort and confidence it brings.



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Mount Hutt College Careers Department Help Wanted

Mount Hutt College Careers Department aims to prepare students for their next step in life either into the workforce or independent living at tertiary level.

As part of this plan we are running a careers seminar with our Year 12 students to be followed by a formal practice interview. This is taking place at Methven Resort on Wednesday 8th May with the practice interview held on Thursday 9th May at Mount Hutt College.

We would like to invite expressions of interest to present to our students on the following topics:

- Successful interview techniques
- Skills needed in the workplace
- Rights and responsibilities in the workplace
- Managing conflict and difficult relationships

- University life
- Apprenticeships
- Other topics (that you think might be important)

Presentations could take the form of presenting to the whole group (69 students) in one time slot or to smaller groups as workshops rotated throughout the day.

If you are willing to present a topic, run a workshop, help out with interviewing students or know of someone we could approach please contact Stephen Millichamp **careers@mthutt.school.nz**

Council set to adopt draft Long Term Plan

continued from page 11

The five decisions are:

- What should our kerbside green waste collection look like?
- If we invest in water-based leisure, where should it be?
- What should we do with Balmoral Hall and old Polytech land?
- Should we get out of providing stockwater?
- Should we extend the EA Networks Centre stadium?

Mayor Brown said the community had already been talking about some of the topics.

"That's great, and we hope to see those conversations come through in submissions on the plan. All councils are struggling with rates rises due to inflation, interest and other factors, so knowing what our residents view as a priority is essential."

Rates on an average Ashburton residential property worth \$441,000 will rise by an extra \$5 a week for 2024-25, under the proposed Long Term Plan, the average annual rate rise over 10 years is 6.47%.

More information about the draft Long Term Plan will be on the Council's public engagement website: **itsourplace.nz** and printed copies of the consultation document will also be available.





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THE ALPINE GRIND

Weekly Community Hero

Winner

Pete Rollinson

Pop into The Alpine Grind to receive your free coffee

If you know a local hero, head in to The Alpine Grind to nominate them.

National Rodeo Finals in Methven this weekend

Methven Rodeo Committee are gearing up to host the Rodeo National Finals this coming weekend.

Annie Jacobs

The last time the event was held in Methven was in 1990 - 34 years ago and rodeo stalwarts Warwick Bell, Bill Den Bears, and Richard Lee who are on the 2024 committee were involved in running the 1990 event!

The Methven Rodeo Committee were required to apply to the New Zealand Rodeo Cowboys Association for permission to run the finals.

"They want to see your budget, checking that you can afford to do it. We have had huge support from all of our sponsors," said Gemma Oliver who is on the organising team and a Barrel Racer.

"Southern Cross Lodge have even given us the use of their function room for our meetings each month for free."

"All of the sponsors from our October Rodeo stepped up for this one also. R and R Spreading are again the naming sponsors for the second time in a matter of months," she said.

Gemma said that the community support has been enormous with help getting concrete blocks to extend the bank from Ravensdown and Ballance, free earthmoving from Shane Stockdill, fundraising committees from other community groups helping with rubbish, cleaning, bar and assisting with running the night function.

"It takes a community to run this event."

On Friday night, there will be a parade and RiRa Events have organised food and beer trucks. There will be live music and a Back Number



Ceremony where the National Finalists will be introduced to the Methven community. Trophy Saddles will be on display for the public to look at which will be a great opportunity for the public to meet the cowgirls and cowboys.

On Saturday, gates open at 10am with a 11am start with National MP James Meager opening the event and two rounds of rodeo - featuring the top eight contestants in the country for each event. This year will be the first year ever that Breakaway Roping will feature in the National Finals and is new to New Zealand and is the female equivalent of Rope

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and Tie where the cowgirl and horse pursue the cattle beast and rope it. The cattle beast is not stopped as the end of the lasso is attached to the saddle horn by a piece of cotton string, which breaks away when tension is on it. It is fast and exciting.

Lunchtime entertainment with a sulky barrel race with people pulling the sulky and trying to get around the barrels. Lincoln University have entered a team - this will be entertaining in itself.

The second round starts after lunch with the National champions being awarded after the completion of that.

The National Champion of the Barrel Racing Lani Jackson of Rotorua who was competing in 1990 is going to be a competitor in the inaugural Rope and Tie Competition along with Rex Church, amongst others, who is at 53 years of age is in high contention to win the All Round Cowboy Event - he was also in the 1990 National Finals, having come back out of retirement. He will compete against his great nephew, Johnson Davis.

"There will be trade vendors and food trucks, a bar, bouncy castle and an exciting family, fun day out," Gemma said.

Cave's Elizabeth Hampton will be crowned All Round Rookie Champ and will be the second female in history to win that title in NZ. Geraldine's Kate Haugh may be making an appearance.

We have the highest standards for Animal Welfare for any sport in NZ which was recently audited by Ministry of Primary Industry as well as independent vets on the day.

Nationally, the statistics for animal injury at a rodeo and including to and from over the last five years has been less than 0.5% according to Gemma.

Last October's rodeo saw Animal Right's defenders at the entrance to the event. They said they were not opposed to sport happening, but not when it caused unnecessary extreme pain and suffering to animals, where humans were supposed to be responsible for their care, nurture and wellbeing.

Gates open 10am with 11am start


No alcohol, glass, dogs, or glass bottles

There will be gate sales.

Normalising Depression

METHVEN

Tuesday March 26, 7pm



FREE Workshop
Supper provided + Spot prizes
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Period 5 on Wednesdays is dedicated to MHC (Mount Hutt College) Active.

Previously called Wednesday Sport, the name has been updated to Active Wednesday to refer to the wide range of activities our students are participating in during this time.

Each term students can choose from a range of activities. For Term One, students have a range of sporting activities to choose from, including croquet, golf and mountain biking, art, community service, sewing club, and card games. We are also very lucky to have several outside facilitators including Garage Gym and Mount Hutt Performing Arts leading groups. This term there are 19 different options available.

One activity that has proved popular is swimming lessons with teachers Kirsty Saxon and Sarah Parker. They have been taking lessons for our migrant students new to New Zealand and brand new to swimming. It has been wonderful being able to utilise the improved facilities at the Methven Community Pool.

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Green Fingers at MtSS

Our Kowhai class was brimming with excitement as they eagerly prepared to embark on our new Eco Project: crafting our very own self-sustainable eating garden.

Alongside them stood our caretaker, who has been an invaluable asset, working alongside Mrs Ashton to impart vital safety skills to the children. They learned how to handle soil, operate electrical equipment safely, and how to exercise resourcefulness by repurposing materials found around the school to construct our garden boxes.

None of this would have been possible without the incredible support of our community. Mt. Somers Sand provided us with top-grade compost mix, while Victory Lime generously donated lime chips to ensure stable footing. Mrs Oliver also played a crucial role, rolling up her sleeves and wielding her paintbrushes to stain everything, thereby enhancing durability and longevity of our Eco Garden.

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The children could choose to take part in a competitive or non-competitive triathlon. It started in the Methven Community Pool, followed by a transition on the court where we grabbed bikes to head around the high school field before dropping them off to start our run.

Our junior students and those who wanted to, took part in the Funathlon. It was great to see all the children give it a go and have fun!

Ka pai to all of our students. Thank you to all the parent volunteer marshals. A special thanks to Rachel Brown for her organisation of another great triathlon!

Congratulations to our competitive athletes who received their certificates in our previous assembly.

Yr 4 Girls 1st **Annabelle Marr**. 2nd **Katie Sol**. 3rd **Charlotte Loten**.

Yr 4 Boys 1st **Pierce McGrath**. 2nd **Angus Mawle**. 2nd **JT Koen**.

Yr 5 Girls 1st **Penelope Adams**. 2nd **Katelyn Lill**. 3rd **Florence Marr**.

Yr 5 Boys 1st **Henry Barlass**. 2nd **Jade Taylor**. 3rd **Wyatt Hende**.

Yr 6 Girls 1st **Rykie Greybe**. 2nd **Farrah Wilson**. 3rd **Emily Glass**.

Yr 6 Boys 1st **Teddy Marr**. 2nd **Flint Gill**. 3rd **Zavier Saxon**.



In a burst of energy and enthusiasm, our students dove into the OLS Tryathlon with full force! From swimming laps in the pool to pedalling through bike routes and speeding through in the final run they showcased remarkable determination and sportsmanship. It was a morning filled with laughter, cheers, and the thrill of crossing the finish line.

Huge congratulations to all participants for their incredible efforts! Your resilience and dedication truly shone bright, making this year's Tryathlon an unforgettable success.



OLS Students' Acrostic poems are on page 20



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Tuesday 26th March | 1.00pm – 4.30pm

Tui Estate 619 Zig Zag Road, Windwhistle

Kindly hosted by Braided Waters Farming David & Millie Harper

Field day is focused on understanding our options during this dry period.

Hear from Mark Everest MacFarlane Rural Business on key processes to undertake across your business during this period. From feed budgeting to financial scenarios key information to support decisions and to figure out the impending winter.

Guest Speakers:

- Kerry Harmer Castle Ridge Station: Building flexibility into breeding systems
- David Harper & Angus Lang Braided Waters Farming: Critical proactive decision making across intensive finishing systems.
- Richard & Anna Hill Flock Hill Station: Working as a team to support critical decision making processes.

Afterwards Hazlett have sponsored a BBQ and refreshments.

For further information please contact megan.dawson@beeflambnz.com

To register please visit and search for your event beeflambnz.com/events

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FROM MY DESK – Mai i Taku Teepu Stuck In Reverse

Labour
Jo Luxton



When Labour came into government, our 100 day plan was ambitious.

It focused on taking New Zealand forward with a plan to help Kiwis get ahead and tackle the big challenges facing our country. The National Government has taken a different approach. It's spent the last 100 days stopping, reversing, and cutting. Scrapping stuff for the sake of it, without putting up any solutions of their own.

In our first 100 days, we put more money in people's pockets with the Families Package and a boost to the minimum wage. In the first year alone, more than 300,000 families were better off by \$55 each week and over 160,000 workers, including here in Canterbury, benefited from a wage increase.

While we got serious about tackling child poverty so kids could have a better start in life, National has made it harder for households to get by. Cutting the minimum wage in real terms, putting thousands more kids in poverty with benefit changes and introducing extra costs for Kiwis.

In the middle of a cost-of-living crisis, National hasn't stepped up to support people in Canterbury like they promised they would before the election. Instead of helping families with costs like early childhood education or public transport fares, we've seen them prioritise tax cuts for mega landlords and introduce extra costs.

National said they weren't going to introduce any new taxes or increase fuel taxes – and yet they're doing both. They promised frontline services wouldn't be cut as they search for money for tax cuts, but they've gone too far.

More than 100 days in, National haven't delivered cost of living relief. Instead, they've made questionable choices, like reversing the country's smokefree laws – a win for the tobacco lobby at the expense of lives and billions in healthcare costs.



It's clear that their priorities are wrong. But with a leader that doesn't see the problem with taking a \$52,000 allowance, which equates to \$1,000 a week, while telling others to make cuts and save money – it's clear these decisions are coming from the top.

As a country, we need to keep tackling the big issues, like climate change, housing, and infrastructure, but National's plan so far has been to kick the can down the road. They've scrapped successful climate programmes, reversed work to upgrade water infrastructure and the Resource Management Act, and won't commit to continue building social housing.

The first 100 days are supposed to show vision for New Zealand. Instead of "back on track," it feels like we're stuck in reverse.

Please feel free to contact me anytime:

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Georgia Gibbs 7

Sarah Reeve 16

Jonty Guild 10

Fred Bell 3

Robert Lavery

Jackie Brown 50

Florence Ridge 3

Selina Wilkins 31

CONGRATULATIONS

Haven Cooksley

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Apart from learning academically here. Food is another aspect of cultural differences.

This Friday, our students learnt how to make one of our kiwi classic baking items; scones. They did it successfully and deliciously as approved by their homestay families.



NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT

Sue Abel

There were five reported crimes over February for burglary and theft around Methven. This included theft from a commercial outlet, tampering with a vehicle, theft from a vehicle, theft from a sports facility and arson on a farm property.

Police in Methven have signs to put in your vehicle letting anyone who may be unseemingly interested, that you don't have valuables in your vehicle. Don't leave anything to chance and ensure that you remove your valuables and possessions.

Scams are sadly a by-product of our digital age. They are divisive, manipulative and designed to persuade you into decisions that you otherwise wouldn't have made. Prevention and safety is the best path to deal with a scam. When using your phone, ensure your contact list is as up to date as possible. That way when your phone rings it prepares you for how you take the call. If you don't know the number then answer without using your name. It puts you one step ahead of the caller until you know who you are speaking to.

In the meantime stay safe!



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Methven Show

A huge congratulations must go to the Methven A & P committee for running another amazing show. The volunteers who give up most of the week to set up the grounds and sheds, each pulling all the threads of a rural show and weaving it together on the day. The day before was miserable for setting up but the show must go on and they were there the day after cleaning up again.

Thank you for making Methven such a great place to live.

Sandy Redmond

Local Hero

After picking up our international students from Christchurch airport on Friday afternoon, we arrived back at school to find that three lots of luggage were missing. We were panicking! The students were puzzled, confused, and sad!

Turned out, the door of the trailer opened and the luggage fell out without our driver noticing it!

A short while later, our local hero posted on Methven Notice board Facebook group a photo of the three bags asking if anyone knew if it belonged to any overseas guests. Someone, spotted it and alerted us within a short space of time. The bags were dropped off to our Dean and reunited with their owner promptly.

We would like to thank Pete Rollinson. You are our local hero, and show our international guests true kiwi hospitality. Thank you so much.

Olé Wallis International Director, Mount Hutt College

Editor note: Pete, you have won a free cup of coffee courtesy of The Alpine Grind - see their Weekly Superhero advertisement in this issue.

Letters to the Editor are welcome. Letters may be abridged, and are published at the Editor's discretion. Noms de plume may be published, but a full name must be given at time of writing.

Email:

letterbox@snowfed.co.nz

OLS Acrostic Poems

Try your best

Run as fast as you can

Yawning at the end

At the gate I saw my friends

The ice blocks were yum

He was running fast

Leaping through the air

Oh no, someone fell

Nice work

By Jaxon

Tried my best

Ran as fast as I could

Yummy ice blocks

At the gate I saw Mrs Naidoo

Tryathlon is fun

Have a little more to go

Lucy was at the end

Oh no, someone tripped

No one lost!

By Fynn

Try my best!

Run as fast as I can

Yummy ice blocks at the finish!

As we get close to the end I am puffed!

Trying my hardest to keep going.

Having fun!

Loving it!

On I will go!

No wait! I have finished...

By Tristan

Tried my best!

Ran as fast as I could!

I was exhausted!

Amazing work!

Tried not to trip.

Happy it was over now.

Looking out for friends.

On the field cheering.

Not giving up.

By Liam

EMPLOYMENT

Methven Golf Club Golf Manager position available

As our current manager is retiring, we are looking for another talented individual to promote the Methven Golf Club moving forward.

This position reporting to the President is permanent part time with minimum hours set, which will increase over the busy summer season in line with Daylight Saving.

A professional disposition is essential when organising tournaments, special events, promoting the club as a venue for functions and supporting green fee players with cart and club hire.

Responsibilities also include office administration with the loading of accounts and subscriptions into Xero. A knowledge of golf would be preferable but not essential.

Applicants for this position must have New Zealand residency. If required a full position description is available from the address below.

Please email your cover letter and CV with at least two work related referees to: ross.keown@gmail.com

Applications close 20th March 2024



GROW YOUR OWN

Mary Ralston



Congratulations to the growers of the lovely produce at the show!

There was an impressive line up of home-grown goodness despite the challenges of the season – early hail, cold weather, hot and dry midsummer, etc.

Autumn is here and with it some nice rain last week. There's time (just!) to plant seedlings of things that don't mind the cold – lettuce and brassicas (cauli, cabbage, broccoli, bok choy) and seeds of the quickly growing leafy brassicas such as rocket, mustard, mesclun and mizuna mixes.

It's also time to harvest main crop potatoes (preferably on a dry day) and in those empty spots, scatter some seeds of the leafy brassicas. Store the spuds in a dry cool place out of direct sun.

Autumn is also a good time to take cuttings. Many plants grow easily by this method and as the cutting is a clone of the parent, the new plant should have the same characteristics.

Rosemary, hebes, lavender, hydrangeas, geraniums and hardy roses are just some to try: cut off the soft leafy growth at the top of a branch or cane, then cut lengths of about 10 cm and place in a small plant pot of sand or well-drained potting mix, with about 3 cm buried. Make sure you put them in the right way up!

Water well to make sure there is good contact between the bottom of the cutting and the mix, then don't water too much, but don't let them dry out – without roots there won't be much water uptake, but equally they can't manage without any.

Geraniums are prone to rotting so after taking the cuttings, leave to dry for a day or so before putting in the mix. Rooting hormone can increase the success rate of cuttings but is not essential. It's more important to take care not to over-water or to let them dry out. Placing



the pot inside a plastic bag can improve the humidity and helps them to stop drying out.

It's also a good time to divide plants such as oregano, raspberries and other clumping plants such as daisies. Water well first then cut a chunk off with a sharp spade.

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Never over-promise or under-deliver. Promises are like babies: fun to make, but sometimes difficult to deliver.

John Fenton

CLASSIFIEDS

INDOOR Bowls every Tuesday, starting 2nd April, 7pm, Presbyterian Church hall, Jackson Street, Methven.

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METHVEN Acupuncture Clinic opens Monday to Saturday. To book Junco, contact Fred 03 302 8888/ 021 434 603.

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CHIM Chim Chimney Sweeps-We'll sweep your logburner's flue, check firebricks, baffles, airtubes & controls. We're experts on coal-ranges, and can sweep any sized open fire. We quote & undertake repairs, flue extensions & install bird netting. 0800 224 464 www.chimchim.nz

METHVEN GOLF CLUB

16 March 2024

Round 1 Mt Harding Stableford

The Dubliner Best Stableford 39 *Craig J Middleton* by lot. Methven Four Square Supermarket 2nd 39 *Frank Sandys*. Competition: 39 Stableford points *Craig J Middleton, Frank Sandys*.

Other good scores: 37 *Keith Middleton*, 33 *Ian Lucas, John McGettigan*, 32 *Max Ferris, Dayle Lucas*.

Eagles: *Graham Gunn* No 10, *Frank Sandys* No 7.

Twos: *Peter Harper* x 2. Nearest the Pins: No 4 Blue Pub *Peter Harper*, No 6 Charterhouse Farm *Dayle Lucas*, No 13 Hunter's Wines *Ian Lucas*, No 14 2nd shot Aqua Japanese *Keith Middleton*, No 17 Frydays *Max Ferris*.

Next week: 2nd Round Callaghan Trophy



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Methven and Surrounds

BAYLEYS

FINAL NOTICE



Methven 10 Tactician Lane

Harness the view

Trot along to view this recently constructed home nestled in the sought-after Equus Park. Offering a front-row seat to the breath-taking vistas of the Methven Racecourse and the Southern Alps, this property embodies the essence of rural tranquillity coupled with modern residential comfort.

bayleys.co.nz/5523357

4 2 2 2

Auction (unless sold prior)
12pm, Thu 21 Mar 2024
3 Deans Avenue, Chch
View by appointment
Rosa Dekker 0274 655 387
rosa.dekker@bayleys.co.nz
WHALAN AND PARTNERS LTD, BAYLEYS,
LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008

Methven 51A Memorial Crescent

Stress free, contemporary living

Presenting an exceptional opportunity within Camrose Estate, this under construction architecturally designed home is perfectly attuned to modern living. Well thought out and inviting, you'll appreciate the spacious single-level layout. The entrance foyer seamlessly flows into an open plan kitchen, dining and living area.

bayleys.co.nz/5522503

4 1 2 2

Price by Negotiation
View by appointment
Rosa Dekker 0274 655 387
rosa.dekker@bayleys.co.nz
WHALAN AND PARTNERS LTD, BAYLEYS,
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Ashburton Surrounds 1301 Hakatere Heron Road

Unveiling the past, welcoming the future

Once the central homestead of Clent Hills Station, this 10.09ha (more or less) property, with its vast array of accommodation options, stands as a rare find in the region, offering extraordinary potential in a naturally magnificent landscape.

bayleys.co.nz/5522772

7 1 2 2

Asking Price
\$1,195,000 + GST (if any)
View by appointment
Simon Sharpin 027 631 8087
simon.sharpin@bayleys.co.nz
Rosa Dekker 0274 655 387
rosa.dekker@bayleys.co.nz
WHALAN AND PARTNERS LTD, BAYLEYS,
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Staveley 137 Sawmill Road

Staveley lifestyle

Nestled in the tranquil embrace of rural Staveley, this exceptional property has fantastic mountain views and was constructed in 2016, harmoniously combines contemporary living with rustic allure. Encompassing approximately 3.7 hectares of unspoiled countryside, this two-level home invites you into a world of charm and modernity.

bayleys.co.nz/5521636

4 2 2 2

Price by Negotiation
View by appointment
Fee Ensor 021 705 014
fee.ensor@bayleys.co.nz
WHALAN AND PARTNERS LTD, BAYLEYS,
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RayWhite

New Listing/Open Home

14 Wayne Place, **Methven**

3 1 2

- Three bedrooms, two bathrooms
- 677m2 corner section
- Close to town centre
- Double garage with internal access
- Two private outdoor living areas
- Established flower and vegetable gardens

Deadline Sale
closing 2pm
Wed 10 Apr 2024
(unless sold prior)

View
Sat 11:00-11:30am
Wed 27 Mar 5 - 5:30pm

Shirley Fitzgerald
027 220 1528

rwashburton.co.nz/MVN30091
Real Estate Mid Canterbury Property Ltd Licensed (REAA 2008)



RayWhite

43 Morgan Street, **Methven**

3 1 1

- This three bedroom home will embrace you
- Garden rich in colour and beauty
- Kitchen has been updated, open plan dining, separate lounge
- Bathroom has bath & shower, separate toilet & laundry
- Single garage with great shed
- Views straight to Mt Hutt in rear of property

Deadline Sale
closing 2pm
Wed 27 Mar 2024
(unless sold prior)

View
by appointment

Shirley Fitzgerald
027 220 1528

rwashburton.co.nz/MVN30090
Real Estate Mid Canterbury Property Ltd Licensed (REAA 2008)



RayWhite

119 Forest Drive, **Methven**

4 3 2

- Elegant residence on a 6969m2 landscaped section
- 374m2 home designed by Bob Burnett
- Modern kitchen & dining, family area, TV room
- 4 bedrooms, music room + den, 3 bathrooms
- Underfloor heating throughout, solar heating plus heat pump & feature gas fireplace
- Two bay enclosed shed

By Negotiation

View
by appointment only

Shirley Fitzgerald
027 220 1528

rwashburton.co.nz/MVN30088
Real Estate Mid Canterbury Property Ltd Licensed (REAA 2008)



RayWhite

6 Westward Way, **Methven**

- Top of the line lifestyle section
- Looking right to No. 6 Hole on the Methven Golf Course
- 4003m2
- Power, water, fibre to boundary
- Waste water system required
- Only a few minutes drive to Methven's town centre with many cafes and restaurants

For Sale
\$470,000

View
by appointment

Shirley Fitzgerald
027 220 1528

rwashburton.co.nz/MVN30060
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Business Owner:
Kim Miller
027 236 8627



Margaret Feiss
Licensee Salesperson
021 751 009



Shirley Fitzgerald
Licensee Salesperson
0272 201 528



Trevor The Bald One
Licensee Salesperson
027 225 5669



Tracey Frost
Licensee Salesperson
021 279 1972

36 McMillan Street, Methven 03 303 3032
rwashburton.co.nz