

SNOWFED

SINCE
1986

METHVEN'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER - Operated by Mount Hutt College Thursday 10 October 2019 PUTANGA 38



Simon makes Golf Club History!

Bruce Dickson

Amazing Match Play Success at the Methven Golf Club!

Simon Wareing has achieved the unique result of being unbeaten in all match play events this season at the Methven Golf Club.

The total of 13 unbeaten matches has resulted in him winning the Duff Trophy with James Anderson, the Intermediate Championship (he defeated Anderson in the final), the Senior Knockout, the Bush Cup (with Dayle Lucas), who he beat in the Senior Knockout final.

To complete; the unbeaten Simon won his match on the last hole in the annual Gun Club/Golf Club challenge.

History suggests it is probably the first time it has even been achieved in 95 years of the Methven Golf Club.

Simon received his winning trophies at Presentation Day at the Methven Golf Club on Saturday afternoon.

Congratulations Simon!



It's all about community...

Snowfed is proudly printed locally by Heartland Design & Print.

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design & print

Methven and Surrounds

BAYLEYS



Methven 11 Alford Street

Ultimate investment

'Pinedale' is nestled in a prime location within Methven Village. The property features two stand-alone self-contained homes and a 20sqm (approximate) storage shed, used for tuning ski's and bike storage. Extensive chattels included. Very well maintained to the highest standard.

bayleys.co.nz/559533

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For Sale offers invited over
\$468,000 + GST (if any)

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fee.ensor@bayleys.co.nz

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Methven 1/3016 Methven Highway

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White Stone Cottage - a fantastic, private holiday home or holiday rental. Use it as a ski retreat or let it out and make an income. One of four cottages clad in Oamaru stone set in landscaped park-like grounds. The cottage flows from open plan kitchen/dining area to the large, cosy lounge, with a gas fire, which opens to the front deck.

bayleys.co.nz/559827

2 1 2 1

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NEW LISTING



Methven 104a Spaxton Street

Mountain views, space, location, value

- Generous four bedroom family home with a sunny, sheltered outdoor entertaining area
- 1,419sqm with family-friendly lawns, established shrubs, easy care garden, mountain views and a pastoral vista to the west
- Large workshop in addition to a double car garage

bayleys.co.nz/5510973

4 1 2 2

Deadline Sale (unless sold prior)
2pm, Fri 8 Nov 2019

View Sun 11am-12pm

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BAYLEYS

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PUKA RATAKA (Diary)

WEEKLY

MONDAY

Housie at Methven House 1.30pm.
All members of the community welcome
Tai Chi - Mount Hutt Memorial Hall, 10.30am

TUESDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

Busy Bees 9am-11am at Elim Church
Toy Library 9.30am-12pm at Roads Board Building, 59 Main St

THURSDAY

Weight Watchers 6-7pm Mt Hutt Memorial Hall

FRIDAY

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

SECOND AND FOURTH FRIDAY EACH MONTH:

Plunket Coffee and Chat 10am-12pm
Plunket Rooms, Main Street

SATURDAY

AA Meetings 6pm Methven Primary School
Toy Library 9.30am-12pm at Roads Board Building, 59 Main St
Methven Public Library 10am-12pm

DAILY

Mt Hutt Memorial Hall Art Gallery (Lam)
Sonsri Gorman and Bertie Holmes

OCTOBER

12-13 Methven Mud & Steel 4WD Winch Challenge, Carney's Rd, Alford Forest
13 Hakatere HopeWalk 1pm West St Car Park, Ashburton
13 Methven Cup Meeting at the Racecourse
19 The Salmon Run, Rakaia
20 Dig Day Mt Hutt Bike Park
26 Shuttle Day Mt Hutt Bike Park
27 Methven Rodeo 50th Anniversary
27 Methven Rodeo After Party
31 Halloween

Snowfed contact details:

Ph. 302 8437 ext 3
www.snowfed.co.nz
letterbox@snowfed.co.nz

Methven Community Website
www.methvenmthutt.co.nz

Disclaimer: The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by the various authors of Snowfed do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs and viewpoints of Snowfed and Mount Hutt College.

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NOVEMBER

1 Nov Gary McCormick and Sir Tim Shadbolt, Methven Golf Club, from 6pm

1 Nov Methven Races Twilight Meeting

2 Nov Mission Mt Somers 2019 Staveley

3 Nov Diwali

5 Nov Guy Fawkes

7 Nov Geraldine Summer Fete

9 Nov Methven Care Trust Garden Tour

9 Nov Fascinating Ladies & MSA Mens Choir, Mt Hutt Memorial Hall, 7pm

17 Nov Dig Day, Mt Hutt Bike Park

21 Nov High Country Fete, Methven Racecourse 10am-4pm

25 Nov White Ribbon Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

30 Nov Shuttle day, Mt Hutt Bike Park

DECEMBER

1 Dec AIDS Foundation Red Ribbon Day

3 Dec International Day of Disabled Persons

5 Dec World Volunteers Day

7 Dec Ashburton Mitre 10 Mega Christmas in the Park, Ashburton Domain Oval.

8 Dec Methven Races – Christmas Meeting Methven Racecourse

10 Dec Human Rights Day

14 Dec Shuttle Day, Mt Hutt Bike Park

20 Dec Methven Community Pool Christmas Pool party

29 Dec Methven Hot Rod & Classic Car Show, 10-3pm Methven Town Centre

VILLAGE TAKEAWAYS AND PIZZAS

We are taking a short end of season break and will be closed from Sunday 13 October to Friday 18 October.

Phone 03 302 8192

www.village-takeaways.co.nz



*Mount Hutt College
wish to advise that
we are preparing for
Prizegiving 2019*

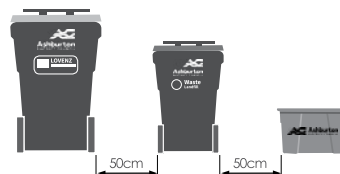
Any Groups/Businesses wishing to donate, please contact the School Office on 302 8437 or office@mthutt.school.nz

Rubbish and Recycling – Kerbside Collection

Kerbside Collection Reminder

Residents who receive the kerbside collection service, please ensure all rubbish and recycling is placed at the kerbside by 7.30am on collection day.

7:30 AM



Neil McCann
Group Manager Service Delivery

ashburtondc.govt.nz

Ashburton
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Celebrities coming to town!

Annie Jacobs

Methven Golf Club is going from strength to strength, and have a major fundraiser on Friday 1 November.

Gary McCormick and Sir Tim Shadbolt are coming for a night of stand up comedy in Methven.

The Golf Club are excited to be hosting the talented duo who have entertained locals on a number of occasions before.

Their shows are known for audience participation, and light-hearted banter. I recall a previous show where Methven was dubbed "Methsville," by Gary as he attempted to make our town's name more "inviting."

Funds raised will go towards one of the club's focuses; upgrading the Clubhouse.

Tickets are limited and need to be purchased beforehand.

For tickets; phone the Isite 302 8955 or Bruce 021 0227 2093.

Voting finishes this Saturday

Ashburton District electors who are yet to cast their vote in the local body elections are being encouraged to complete their voting papers and get them into the Council Office before voting officially closes at 12 noon on Saturday 12 October.

Council Chief Executive Hamish Riach is urging people to get in early and ensure their vote makes it to the Council office in time.

"We are now well into the election period, and voters should have received their papers in the mail in the last two weeks. With only a few days left to make your voice count on who will represent our community, now is the time to complete your papers and take them in."

"Local body elections are the community's chance to have their say about the future of their district and choose who will make local decisions that will affect them for the next three years. Make the most of this opportunity and exercise your democratic right these elections," Mr Riach adds.

People who have not received their voting papers can still take part in the elections by casting a special vote. They can do this by visiting the Council office or contacting their local electoral officer.

Elections are being held for the mayoralty; Ashburton, Western and Eastern Wards; and the Ashburton Licensing Trust. A by-election will be called for the Methven Community Board later this year.

To learn more about the local body elections, visit ashburtondc.govt.nz/elections.



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47 Line Road, Methven
Email: Methvenp.p@Xtra.co.nz





GARY McCORMICK & MAYOR TIM SHADBOLT

STAND-UP COMEDY AT ITS BEST!



ARISE SIR TIM

....and BALDMcC
a new Knight for a new day!

METHVEN GOLF CLUB

FRIDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2019

\$55.00 (Supper and show)
Venue and Bar open at 6.00pm, Guests to be seated at 7.00pm.
Show commences at 7.30pm.
Tickets available from:
I-site 160 Main St, Methven. Phone: 03 302 8955.
Or contact Methven Golf Club.

Methven Mud and Steel

Mac McElwain

Methven's Mud and Steel winch challenge event is this weekend, October 12th and 13th.

It will be held at Carneys Road, Alford Forest and promises to be a lot of fun. The course is set up and some of the challenges the competitors will face, look hair-raising!

I'd be hard put to climb up most of them, let alone drive a vehicle up! We think the recovery crews will have a busy day!

It remains to be seen who will win. Will it be Methven's notoriously sticky and slippery mud, or will a competitor's steel overcome it?

The Lions will be out in force to manage the spectators, keep them fed and watered, and show people the best places to see the action.

Proceeds will be distributed to Kidzmethven and other local projects via Lions.

Tickets are limited due to capacity and on sale now at:

<https://www.methvenmudandsteel.co.nz/>



The 50+ Connexion Showcase

Embracing Life Over 50



Come and collect information about social, sports, recreational, arts, special interest and travel opportunities in the Ashburton District!

Enjoy free refreshments, raffles & giveaways!

**October 16th 2019
4-8 PM**

Ashburton Event Centre
211 Wills st Ashburton

- **Have a chat**
Discover and chat to local community groups
- **Have a look**
Live demonstrations
- **Have a go**
Free beginners classes
- **Have a listen**
Entertaining speakers



THE BLUE PUB

What's Happening THIS WEEKEND

Saturday 12th

- | | |
|---------|--------------------------|
| 5.45pm | RWC. All Blacks vs Italy |
| 7.15pm | DSuss2 Duo |
| 9.15pm | RWC. England vs France |
| 10.45pm | DSuss2 Duo |
| 11.45pm | RWC. Ireland vs Samoa |



DSUSS2 DUO

Amazing ex lead singer of live band 6 Left Standing back this weekend performing as a duo between RWC games!

Sunday 13th

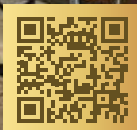
- | | |
|--------|-----------------------------|
| 7.00pm | Last Quiz Night for October |
|--------|-----------------------------|



send us your holiday pics

email to : letterbox@snowfed.co.nz
We will publish a selection of photos next week.

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Wonderful Choirs to Perform



Annie Jacobs

We are so fortunate in Mid Canterbury to have so much on offer, and coming soon is a show of talent from the foothills very own Fascinating Ladies Choir led by the lovely Kate Lambarth.

These lovely ladies are going to be joined by the MSA Mens Choir, led by Angela Cresswell, and will be putting on an exciting night of entertainment in the Mount Hutt Memorial Hall on Saturday 9 November.

Recently, I caught up with them for a joint practice. The harmonies from each choir sound so pure and beautiful, and meld seamlessly together. Later the ladies sang "Let there be peace on earth" which was gorgeous, and the men gave a rousing rendition of "Mamba Italiano."

For the show, they will be singing a variety of numbers with the choirs singing together and separately.

Tickets can be purchased from the Methven Isite, cash only, (from Thursday), and include supper. This is amazing value for money!

Get in early and purchase yours - could be given as an early Christmas gift!



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Tai Chi Stepping Stones

Tai Chi involves slow, gentle movements that help focus and balance the mind and body.

Learning Tai Chi can be daunting as there are many details to be aware of. Simply start and allow yourself to learn at your own pace. Treat each movement like "stepping stones" to allow your movements to flow. Challenges can be stepping stones or stumbling blocks. It's just a matter of how you view them.

As we move confidently together through the flow of practice, understanding the physical alignment concepts and our transference of weight to expand awareness in balance and movement, we bring each movement together to the present moment.

This helps us to stay relaxed. Tai Chi is fun.

I hear inspiring and positive stories and feedback after both classes on a Monday and Thursday.

Tai Chi offers many personal properties that apply to each of us, helping us with our health and wellbeing.

The classes have positive energy. You meet new friends and catch up with "old" friends.

We work in an ideal environment to learn or develop our Tai Chi in an interactive and positive setting.

Thank you to all that attend classes. You are such a wonderful team and so dedicated with your learning.

Thursday's class is my "Stepping Stone" class. Everyone is welcome. It's never too late to join us. Both classes will be continuing in 2020.

Already we have an exciting line up ahead.

Contact: Margaret 027 516 7549



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Photo courtesy of Bruce Dickson

Spring weather in Methven

Interesting fact: the only month there hasn't been snow on the ground in Methven in the last 100 years; is February.

the brown pub



WATCH THE RUGBY WITH US!

Friday 11th October
AUSTRALIA v GEORGIA
11:15PM

Saturday 12th October
NZ v ITALY
5:45PM

ENGLAND v FRANCE
9:15PM

KARAOKE THIS FRIDAY FROM 9:30PM
Bring your singing voice or just be support
crew for a fun Friday night!

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www.brownpub.co.nz 03 302 9045

What Do You Think?



Should Medicinal Cannabis be Legalised?

While nursing a terminally ill family member, I got an up close look at pain relief (and the lack of it). What I have written comes about from a number of conversations with people in the community.

I think that some of the palliative care drugs and medicines are not always sufficient, and that medicinal cannabis should be legalised.

We have such a serious drug abuse problem in our country, and that seems to sometimes mean that those who really need them don't get them. Not all drugs are bad. Medicinal cannabis under correct control and legislative law would work for those who need it.

It's time to change the perception and help relieve the pain of those suffering.

Ready for Change

"What Do You Think?" is a column where you are invited to air an issue or have your say. Responses are welcome.

Please include your name and phone number (these will not be published).

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Person and Whanau-centred Care

This week's in-service training was about how to best work with our clients as individuals and use core values to build an exchange that will deliver what they need while honouring our profession.

Sounds a tad dry! But we are increasingly required to be able to define both our professional values, our behaviour and work within the limits of the great machines that are ACC, the Physiotherapy Board, the DHB

and Pegasus!

The care is centred on the following values:

- Dignity / Rangatira, Rangatiratanga
- Respect / Aroha, Arohatia, Manāki, Manākitanga
- Empowerment / Manamotuhake
- Collaboration / Rangapū, Tō Rangapū

We will strive to provide you with:

- A trusting relationship with you and your whanau
- Valuing you as a whole person inclusive of your whanau
- Arranging care around you and your whanau meeting your values
- Communicating well with you and your whanau
- Sharing information and checking for understanding
- Assist in your understanding and access to information and health care
- Support you all in building strengths and abilities

- Support you in making the right choices for you about your health care
- Working in partnership to achieve the best outcomes
- Working with you and your whanau to set goals that matter to you and working with you to achieve them

These goals work best if you share with us what you need and how we are doing about meeting those needs. So when you come to physio please don't think it is just about strapping your ankle. If you need to be mobile so you can go help your granny move into the nursing home for example let us know - it's important!

We also invite you to share your thoughts on how we are doing - feel free to call 302 8205, drop us an email to:

kristin@contactphysio.co.nz or express your thoughts during a visit.

Your satisfaction matters to us!



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2020 Calendar

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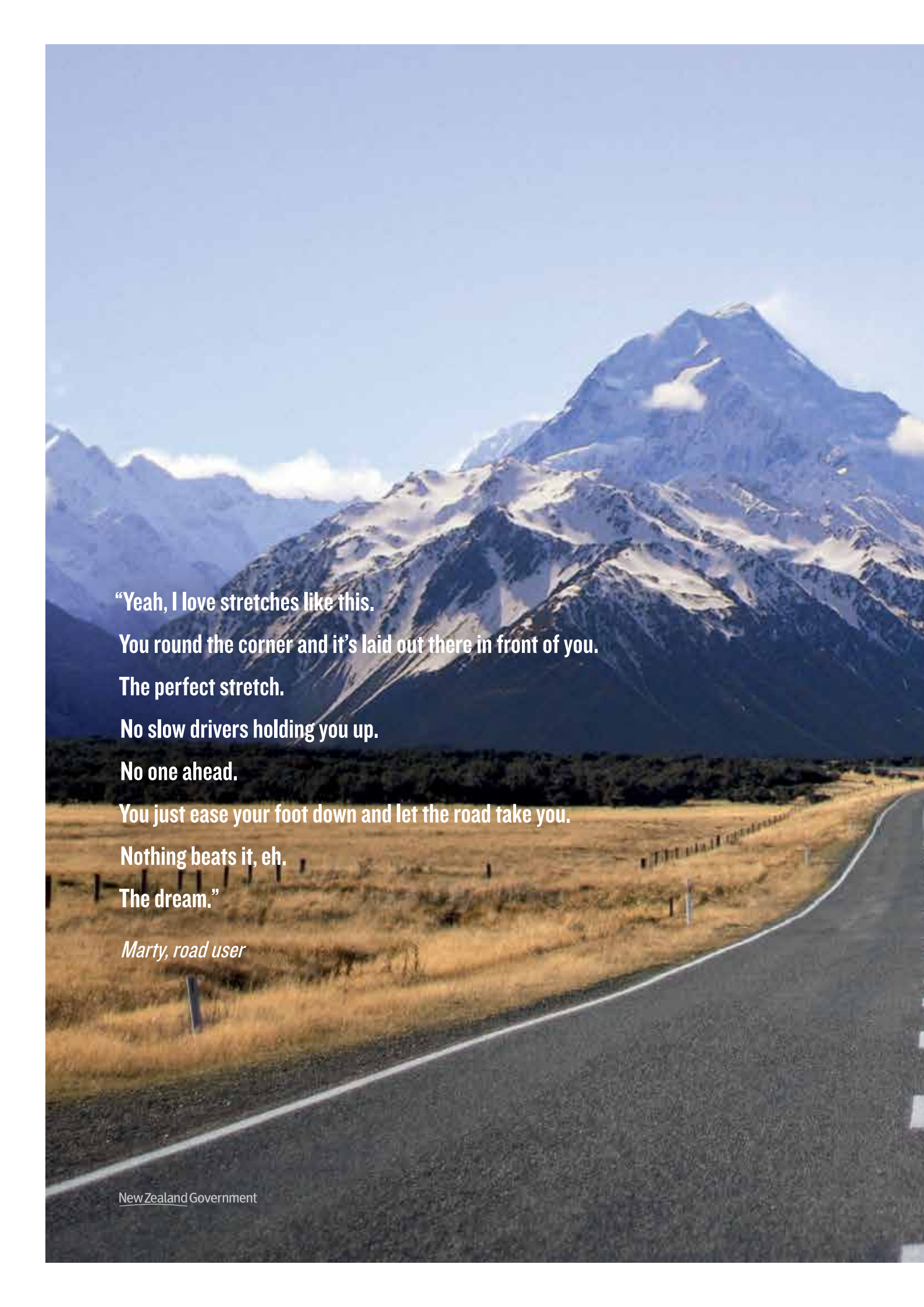
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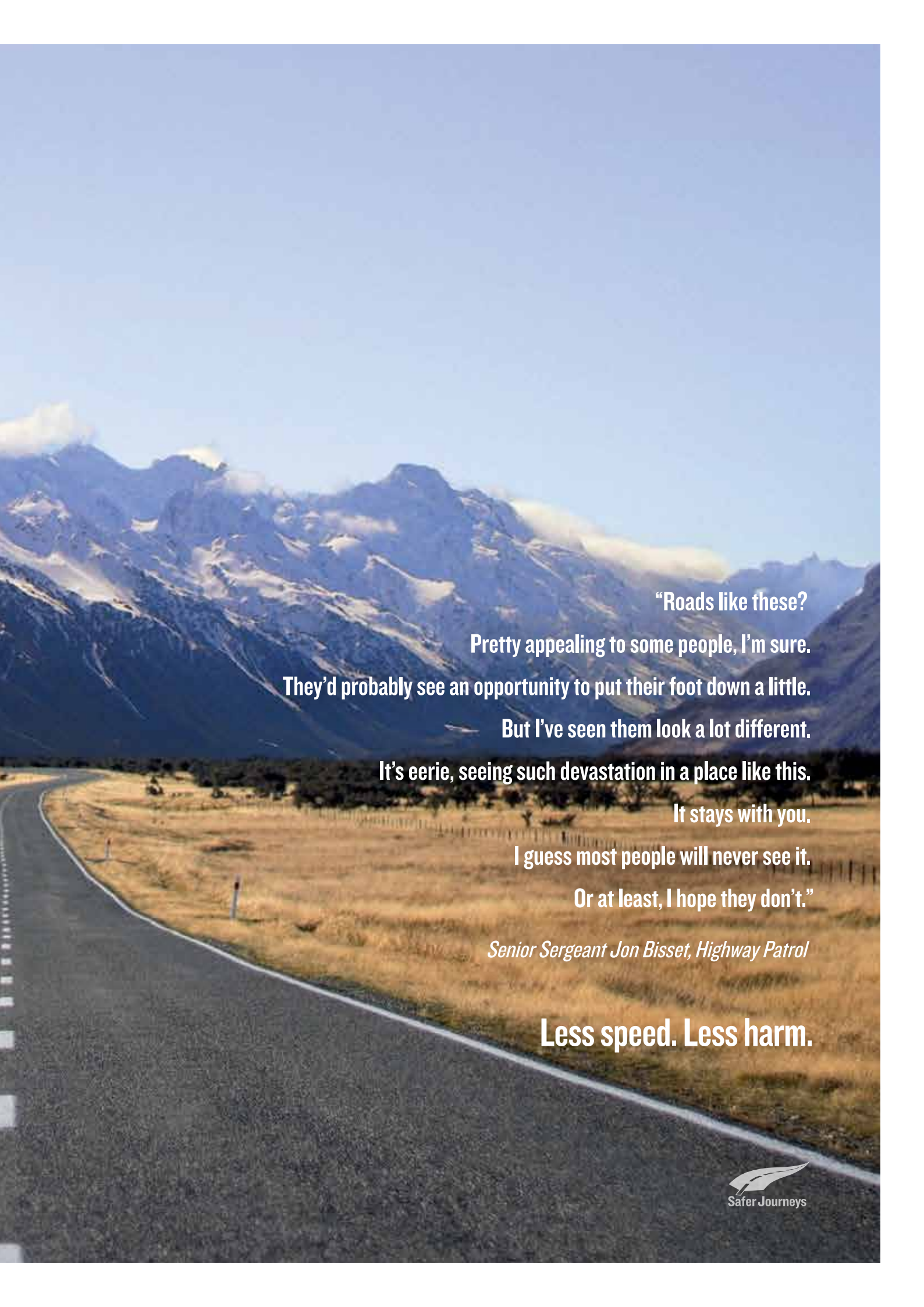
Our shop hours are Tuesday to Friday 1-5pm.

**140 Forest Drive
ph: 302 8062**



**“Yeah, I love stretches like this.
You round the corner and it’s laid out there in front of you.
The perfect stretch.
No slow drivers holding you up.
No one ahead.
You just ease your foot down and let the road take you.
Nothing beats it, eh.
The dream.”**

Marty, road user



**“Roads like these?
Pretty appealing to some people, I’m sure.
They’d probably see an opportunity to put their foot down a little.
But I’ve seen them look a lot different.
It’s eerie, seeing such devastation in a place like this.
It stays with you.
I guess most people will never see it.
Or at least, I hope they don’t.”**

Senior Sergeant Jon Bisset, Highway Patrol

Less speed. Less harm.



METHUEN



JUST LISTED

FIRST HOME OR INVESTMENT...YOU DECIDE!

This four bedroom, two bathroom home has proven to be a fantastic rental investment for the current owner but it is now time for someone else to reap the benefits of this great opportunity. Sitting on a 491sqm easy care section, this large home of 160sqm captures great sun. The home has a fireplace and heat pump, along with insulation which meets the new insulation standards. An ideal first home that you can add your touches to or leave the tenants in and continuing achieving \$320 per week in rent.

\$299,000

Open Home Saturday 12th October 1.30-2.00pm 16 Jackson Street

METHUEN



OPEN HOME

EXECUTIVE LIVING, RURAL VIEWS

Situated in a quiet, desired location this quality Damaru Stone home built is now on offer for another family to enjoy. This property is tastefully modern and pleasantly homely. Attentive care has been taken to ensure spacious and easy family living with open plan living kitchen dining and the separate lounge. The gas fire and further heat pump are thoughtfully placed to provide maximum comfort. Four double bedrooms, with the master having an ensuite as well as a walk in wardrobe and outdoor access. Being shared by the rest of the family is a contemporary bathroom offering a spacious shower, separate bath and separate toilet with hand basin. **\$649,000**

Open Home Saturday 12th October 12.00-12.30pm 100a Spaxton Street

METHUEN



JUST LISTED

A PLACE TO CALL YOUR OWN

This solid 3 bedroom home is located on a private established 809 sqm corner section. The kitchen flows nicely into the open plan living dining area and out onto the sunny deck area complete with views of the mountains. Other features include a nice functional kitchen, large separate laundry, family size bathroom and good sized log burner. Outside you are greeted with a well-established garden boasting loads of colour in the Spring, a double garage, a woodshed and raised vegetable beds. Having just had an internal paint job completed, this home is looking fresh and ready for new owners to call their own.

Enquiries Over \$398,000

Open Home Saturday 12th October 12.45-1.15pm 29 Blackford Street

METHUEN

NEW LISTING COMING!!!

- * Three bedroom, one bathroom
 - * 809sqm secure back section
 - * 70 sqm home with carport
 - * Currently rented for \$320 per week
- \$316,000**

**O/H Sat 12th Oct 2.15-2.45pm
29 Colcord Place**

METHUEN OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE!



Located in the heart of Methuen Village, the alpine region's ultimate commercial precinct, Methuen Business Hub is a collaborative space purpose built for professional services. Providing a fully serviced and contemporary work space, Methuen Business Hub is the perfect location to base your business or remote office without the need to invest in a commercial office lease. Closely aligned with Methuen's sense of community spirit, the space is to encourage a supportive and collaborative approach for businesses looking for a commercial office in Methuen.

METHUEN



DOWNSIZING OR ENTERING THE PROPERTY LADDER?

If you are looking to downsize, taking your first step onto the property ladder, or looking to invest; this is the property for you. This large 1980's unit, built of summerhill stone has 2 double bedrooms with built in wardrobes. The generous living area, kitchen/dining is open plan and heated by a floor heatpump.

Offers over \$293,000

31B Colcord Place

RAKAIA



OPEN HOME

MOTIVATED VENDORS SAY SELL

This charming character home is appealing from the moment you walk through the front gate, beautiful woodwork can be found throughout this light and airy home. The three bedrooms are generous in size, with a fourth room a fantastic office or nursery room. The spacious lounge and kitchen area has a heat pump, wood burner and HRU. **Enquiries over \$349,990**

O/H Sat 12th Oct 11.00-11.30am 33 Bridge St

METHUEN



Artist Impression

THE PERFECT PACKAGE

This is a classic home been thoughtfully designed to maximise space and comfortable living. With four double bedrooms, a family bathroom and an ensuite, the home is well appointed and suited to a range of lifestyles. Features include a separate lounge, open plan living, kitchen with butlers pantry and a master suite (walk in wardrobe and ensuite). **Price guide: \$600,000's Deadline Sale closes 21 February 2020 at 3:00pm unless sold prior 29 Camrose Avenue**

ASHBURTON



OPEN HOME

IDEAL FIRST HOME OR INVESTMENT

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Free Child Car Seat Recycling now in Ashburton District

Ashburton residents can now recycle their expired, damaged or unwanted child car seats, for free, through the SeatSmart programme, with collection sites in Ashburton, Rakaia and Methven.

This comes after the Ashburton District Council partnered with the national child car seat recycling programme to offer the service. Ashburton is the only district where it is free to recycle a seat, thanks to support from the council.

Service Delivery Group Manager Neil McCann says the initiative supports the council's goal of reducing waste ending up in landfill, which is a great outcome for the community.

"We are proud to be partnering with the SeatSmart programme to provide this free service. A variety of common household goods are already accepted free of charge

for recycling at our Resource Recovery Parks and drop-off sites, and we are pleased to expand this list to include child car seats. It gives residents even more opportunity to reduce their waste and engage with more sustainable solutions."

Seats can be dropped off at the Methven recycling yard (corner of Methven Chertsey Road and Line Road), Rakaia Resource Recovery Park (West Town Belt), and Ashburton Resource Recovery Park.

SeatSmart was created by Hastings-based recycling specialist 3R Group and has seen strong growth since launching in April 2016. The three new sites in the Ashburton District bring the number of collection sites in the South Island to 20, and the total number nationwide to 37.

Programme manager Toni Bye says she's pleased to be able to bridge the gap between SeatSmart collection sites in

Christchurch and Geraldine, increasing access to the programme. "We're delighted to have the council's backing for a programme that not only diverts waste from landfill but also raises awareness of expiry dates on car seats," she says.

Seats collected by the programme are dismantled by offenders in Department of Correction community work programmes as well as by social enterprises which employ people who have a disability or are disadvantaged or marginalised, Toni says. "This means recycling a seat not only recovers useful resources that would otherwise go to landfill but also provides meaningful work – it's a real win-win all round."

Up to 70% of a seat's material (by weight) is recyclable. "Key materials such as plastic, metal and harnesses can be recycled or reused. The harnesses, for example, are made into bags, while the metal is easily recycled," Toni says.

SeatSmart also promotes road safety by encouraging parents and care-givers to check seats for expiry dates. "People don't always know that child car seats have expiry dates. The extremes of temperature in cars, stress on plastic parts, all takes a toll on seats. It's therefore important to know when seats are due to expire and get them out of circulation, ideally by recycling them," Toni says

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Retrospective Travel Reflections - JAPAN TOP TIPS

After visiting Japan several times I learned that there are some very exciting bits that help make the holiday easier and more enjoyable. There are also many tips, many I learnt from my friend, Yuki, and some I wished I had known earlier!

Japan is a cash society - meaning you need to carry plenty of cash with you at all times and to save all the coins you receive in change as they will be needed (refer to further down). Cards are accepted in hotels etc. but not readily used in machines to buy tickets, food or to go shopping with. The rate of the Yen fluctuates a lot so keep an eye out on the exchange rate once you know your travel dates and change money before leaving New Zealand if it is good value.

Vending machines are used for just about everything and can be found on nearly every street corner and lined up within supermarket entrances. They sell drinks and food which both come in hot and cold versions, (often from the same machine which had me totally intrigued). I especially loved the short shots of cold caffeine and the doughnut choices. There is a lot of decision making to be done but it is all part of the fun! Toys, makeup, you name it, it can come out of a machine and I collected quite a selection

of little Pokemon gifts as souvenirs. Change is needed and most use 100Y and smaller denominations of coins. Many restaurants also use this concept for ordering food, where you select your meal and put in coins, take a ticket and present at the counter. This means



the service staff are not dealing with cash. Cheap delicious meals are readily available. We used these food chains for breakfasts and if not, the local Seven 11 had excellent fast food choices, all for \$5-\$10 NZ for a big meal.

Daiso shops (or 100 Y shops) are a cheap place to pick up little gifts and cute stuff to bring home. A little like our \$2 shop, but the products are mostly all made in Japan. Another few hours can easily be spent in the larger stores and a few extra kilos easily added to the luggage. I was a sucker for the stickers and cute stationery items, but could have easily brought home the toast smiley cutters and the cat decorated gardening gloves!

Toilets. Well what an experience. They are usually exceptionally clean public conveniences and very small and low in hotel facilities. They play music so your, usually public noises, are covered somewhat (or to make you go, as often water trickling with birds singing, never was quite sure). They have buttons.

Many, many buttons with features, which if you can work out the small diagrams, you can use. Beware...do not over push these buttons! On a school Japan trip I was challenged by the students to try out the functions as I had been (quite rightly so) reluctant to use. Stupidly I

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accepted and tried the bidet water function, not realising that it would be so powerful. I quickly learned that frantically pushing the button to stop it only increased the pressure and the amount of water being gushed! I had to leap out of the way only to find myself drenched and requiring a quick change before boarding our flight to NZ. The kids thought it was hilarious, me, not so much.

Hint- take time to figure out the functions before sitting down!

Train travel is exceptional in Japan. Local trains, underground systems and bullet trains all run efficiently and are all accessible. It is a cost effective way to get around, especially if you pre-purchase train passes before heading over. The lines and systems are somewhat mind blowing and even the process of purchasing trip tickets from machines can be daunting (see again the need for change). However, I found that there are always Official "Help" officers available and local people are always keen to have a chance to practice their English and help you out. You just need to smile and ask for assistance. Bullet trains are like flying on planes and I read recently that luggage size is now restricted to smaller bags, larger ones needing to be pre-booked and checked in prior to travel. I will need to investigate this before my next visit.

Subways are busy and avoid peak morning and evening travel if you do not wish to experience the "push in" method of getting passengers on board. Staying out of the centre of cities like Tokyo is cheaper and using the subway to reach tourist spots is a very worthwhile idea, plus another Japanese experience you must do.

Local trains above ground are wonderful - cheap, and you get a view. I used these a lot to travel out of Kyoto to surrounding towns like Nara on day trips. Buses also work well but are a little longer as there are numerous stops, but you can purchase multi stop tickets that also include scenic routes. It is worth Googling

Lonely Planet for suggestions on these.

Hiring a car is possible and driving out in the country is easy, but parking is a nightmare and city driving is slow going with the traffic.

Washing machines- staying in Air BnB's (which I recommend), I came across the amazing Japanese washing machine. It is a washer and dryer in one! Again, the button issue took some figuring out, but so many impressive choices! I am sure we had these around in the 70's but not sure why they never took off? This machine saves space and completes the chore efficiently. Other hostel accommodation all had laundry facilities, again coin operated. I did not see laundromats, but I did use hotel services. Be prepared to pay quite a high cost for this in comparison to other Asian destinations.

Umbrellas- they are everywhere. Used for shade and intermittent rain showers they are the must carry item. The humidity, except in winter made raincoats too hot. There is a real etiquette involved in negotiating your way around others on the pavement when everyone has one. Many a polite, but obvious oath, was uttered in my direction until I figured it out. Umbrellas are tricky to pack and I always purchased one over in Japan. Cheap ones are readily available that you can donate as you leave. Most restaurants in smaller villages provide them at their door to be returned later and umbrella stands can be found at the doors of shops etc. to leave yours in while shopping or eating. Amazing honesty system! The more expensive umbrellas I saw were glorious, traditional and modern versions decorated as only the Japanese can do so tastefully and one is definitely on my hit list for the next shopping excursion.

Hint- do not buy a Samurai style, sword umbrella and expect to carry it on to the plane as one student attempted to do! I actually think, even as packed luggage it could cause a stir as they are very authentic looking.

Pillows - unless staying in high end

accommodation pillows are very different than the ones we use at home, very small flat squares or there is only a small roll provided. I tended to create my own pillow using a rolled up travel towel with my softer clothes tucked inside it or my travel pillow. Sleeping flat on the traditional roll out bedding is great for some and I personally loved it but check when booking that you have a European style bed if that is a priority for you. I loved the whole process of clearing the room of the tea table and cushions to create a bedroom, unrolling the bedding and futon onto the tatami (traditional woven grass flooring tiles) matting each evening. It was a bit of a mission getting up and down from the floor, but I slept brilliantly and my back thanked me, plus the wonderful smell of the matting was a real sleep remedy. Try it out!



Chopsticks - important etiquette is involved. There are many rules in the use of chopsticks, too many to list here, but I highly recommend Googling these as it is important to be seen as respectful of a culture and its practices when in the host country. The most important ones to me were not sticking your chopsticks into the rice upright as this is how rice is served in funeral practices, not to wave them around and not to share food across to someone using them. The thing is to give it a go, and again, ask for assistance or clarification. The people I met loved the fact that I wanted to learn and try new things and that I wanted to do the right thing.

After all, isn't that what we all would like from our visitors?



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Many Hands Make Light Work



The rewards of volunteering are well known, and being part of the talented Trott's Garden team is particularly beneficial, according to those who have rolled up their sleeves and got digging.

For two years now, these wonderful people have played an essential part in ensuring that Ashburton locals and visitors alike can continue to enjoy these internationally acclaimed gardens. "It inspires me to go home and make my own space better!" says regular volunteer, Lois Muir.

With the gardens now open for the spring and summer season, the volunteers have been hard at work.

Volunteers see themselves as caretakers of Alan Trott's legacy, and love getting out among the birds and the stunning scenery. They also love the camaraderie and friendships that have developed here – they count themselves lucky to be involved behind the scenes in such a positive community project, to enjoy the laughs and to work alongside like-minded people.

The first two years of the Trott's Garden Charitable Trust has seen the development of an army of green-fingered volunteers who have become essential to the Garden's operation. Volunteers make up almost all of the garden's workforce with the Trust only employing a garden supervisor and more recently an administrator/marketing person. These days, over 80 people volunteer at the gardens, working in the stunning formal gardens and herbaceous borders, keeping the lawns and hedges pristine, organising the catering, and meeting and greeting visitors to the garden.

Many of those who give up their time for this beautiful place do so because they passionately believe that the gardens must not fall into private hands and be lost to the public. They see themselves as caretakers and are rightfully proud of a garden that is earmarked to become a garden for the community.

The Trott's Garden Charitable Trust is always looking for more people to become involved and it is a wonderful way to meet new people and give back to your community.

Anyone wishing to join one of their teams of dedicated volunteers, please email:

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Fashion off the Farm a Sell Out!

Ruralco's annual Ladies Night – "Fashion off the Farm," was an absolute hit with female members. Tickets sold out quickly and a queue of ladies were waiting for the doors to open at the flagship Ashburton Gift & Homeware store recently.

Laughter and bubbles were aplenty amongst the over 130 women in attendance on Wednesday 2 October. Ruralco Ladies Night, now in its fourth year, was a fantastic opportunity for rural women to enjoy a night of fashion and to find out how best to dress.

Izania Downie, Ruralco's GM Marketing and Communications said, "Ladies Night has become a staple in our members diaries. For us and our partners it is hugely successful event, it is great to see so many ladies here connecting with each other and getting some time off farm after what I'm sure has been a busy calving and lambing season. It's lovely to celebrate the feminine side of our business, to see everyone enjoying themselves and to be a part of building and supporting our rural community."

The event kicked off in style with drinks and platters of nibbles served by the Ruralco team. Sarah Green, Ruralco's GM People and Capability welcomed guests and thanked the plethora of local suppliers who supported the evening with a variety of goodies such as boutique clothing, stylish footwear, beauty treatments, beautiful art pieces, inspiring books and a range of gorgeous accessories from the Ruralco Gift & Homeware store.

The Master of Ceremonies was Ashburton local and retired long-time fashion retailer, Christine Todd. Throughout the night there were spot prizes and draws with each ticket holder receiving an amazing goodie bag.

The highlight of the evening was Guest Speaker

Bibi Maber, a Christchurch based Personal Stylist. Earlier in the week one lucky ticket holder, Sarah Wyllie, won a styling with Bibi and makeover courtesy of Tanglez Hair Studio, clothing retailer Mode Boutique with accessories from the Ruralco Gift and Homeware store and photos by Emmily Harmer Photography. Commenting on the night Sarah said that she felt stylish, confident and very natural with her new look.

Bibi remarked "changing your clothes and your relationship with your wardrobe can be positive both physically and emotionally. This doesn't mean you have to follow fashion trends, once you understand what your body shape is and your natural style, then you can dress to suit and flatter your natural assets. Working with a professional makes this process simpler and can give you the confidence to take control of your wardrobe and feel empowered every day when you step out the door."

Bibi's story is certainly one that many can relate to. Bibi struggled with her weight through her early life and at 24 years old she hit her heaviest at 130kg. "This was breaking point for me. I felt like so many people were disappointed in me, so I made a decision to take control of my life and lose the weight." Over the next four years Bibi shed the pounds and reached her goal weight. "After I lost the weight there was an assumption that somehow weight loss had made me a happier or a better person, but it hadn't. Maintaining the weight loss was hard work, I was constantly watching what I ate, would sometimes be going to the gym twice a day and I realised this wasn't bringing joy to my life. The self-love I was searching for wasn't



there," she confessed.

Since then, she has changed how she thinks about herself and her value and now has a passion for helping women embrace a positive body image, find their personal style and feel confident every day in who they are. Bibi shared plenty of practical tips for how to discover your shape and how to find clothing and accessories to suit your natural style. One lucky guest won a Colour Shape & Style workshop with Bibi following the event.

Studio Bibi is based at The Tannery in Christchurch and Bibi runs workshops and styling in conjunction with the local fashion boutiques.

In the lead up to the event, three Ruralco staff were given a consultation with Bibi and makeovers from Tanglez Hair Studio and Mode. Their transformations were shared by Bibi as examples of how to approach different body shapes and styles. Izania was one of the



models "I've never seen a stylist before, so this was an exciting opportunity. I realise I hide my figure and play it safe, this experience challenged my thinking and it feels good!"

Specials galore were available throughout the evening. Sarah Green extended a huge thanks to members and suppliers for coming together to create a fabulous event.

The suppliers included; Tanglez Hair Studio, Emmily Harmer Photography, Mode Boutique, Bellissimo Day Spa, Allenton Pharmacy, Latitude Magazine, Samantha Rose Flowers, Style Footwear, Paper Plus and Talbot Silver.

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New Exhibition at Methven Art Gallery

The latest exhibition at the Mount Hutt Memorial Hall includes our very own Lam Gorman, and Ashburton artist, Bertie Holmes. Their artwork will be on display until November 8th.

(Lam) Songsri Gorman

I was born in North East Thailand where at a young age I started drawing and winning art competitions or the prize money by entering for myself but also all my friends. When I graduated school, I received a scholarship to study art and teaching at Mahasarakhan University.

In Thailand I had many varied jobs working as a house keeper, teacher, school milk supplier, aerobics instructor and radio DJ, before starting my own internet café which expanded into a computer repair shop.

15 years ago I married a 'Kiwi' and moved to

Methven where I opened an internet café and computer repair shop the "PC House" before opening the "Thai Chilli Restaurant". While I was running the PC House, I continued painting and I sold my paintings all over New Zealand through Trade Me. However the restaurant business and the recently added Asian grocery store are allowing me only a little time for painting. I still enjoy it and am thrilled to be able to teach my 12 year old daughter and share one of my great passions with her.

Bertie Holmes

I have been painting all my life. I trained as a primary teacher in the 1960's.

Creating art has involved a large part of my life. Teaching and forever learning myself. In 2002 I attended the Aoraki Polytechnic and completed the Diploma of painting in pictorial development and abstraction.

The other love has been gardening. This is a common pursuit of artists. Art, gardens, colour, shape, texture and arrangement are so intertwined. Both of these activities involve much dreaming and planning. Especially

when one is supposed to be sleeping. Then with much urgency the following day putting dreams into place! I spent over 30 years creating a country garden.

My husband Mike learnt much patience over the years executing my creative ideas. Now we are enjoying a smaller town garden, but changes keep happening here too.

I have one other passion and that is spending time with my delightful grandchildren Hillary and James.

I have belonged to the Ashburton Society of arts for many years. I held many positions on the committee, all were fun and rewarding. I have been privileged to be awarded a Life Membership.

There are gorgeous paintings on display, and are available for purchase.



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Having chooks is great for your garden!

It's been a tumultuous couple of weeks of spring weather, but that's normal for this time of year.

The garden feels behind compared to how it usually is at the beginning of October. Tomato seedlings are growing slowly because of the cold nights we've had, and I've only just transplanted pepper seedlings, partly because I'm behind with jobs and partly due to the cold. But the peas are up, I've finished two new strawberry beds, one with weed mat and one mulched with pine needles. My broad beans are flowering, garlic is growing and we've eaten six heads of broccoli that were all ready at once.

The old chooks have started laying again and we have bought some new ones. Chooks are an important part of my gardening regime because their manure is such a good fertiliser. It's rich in nitrogen and phosphorus especially. The floor of the chook house has wood shavings and when a lot of droppings has accumulated, I bag it up then give a handful to each seedling as I plant – it's fantastic food for tomatoes, corn, peppers, zucchinis or brassicas. I don't use it when planting seeds or for potatoes (too much nitrogen will give lots of green tops but not as many potatoes underneath).

When planting seeds I use Vegemin fertiliser (a natural fertiliser available from Essential Nutrition in Tinwald), drizzled along the row and gently worked in with a hand fork before planting the seed.

Nitrogen is the one of the most important nutrients for plant growth and lack of it is often the limiting factor when growing veges. Most veges need lots of it (but not potatoes). The wood shavings are high in carbon so it is important to make sure the ratio of droppings to shavings is high or you will be applying too much carbon to the soil, which will deplete the soil of nitrogen.

The carbon/nitrogen idea is an important one to know when you're gardening – many things that are used to mulch are high in carbon such as wood chips, cardboard, straw (but not pea straw). These are broken down by bacteria and other soil micro-organisms that need nitrogen for their food, so they use up available nitrogen in the soil as they break down carbon. So, whenever you add things that are high in carbon, you also need a high nitrogen source such as manure, blood and bone or fish fertiliser.

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New Zealanders who need it most. We've raised the minimum wage to \$17.70, we've brought in the Families Package, which will lift around 64,000 children out of poverty. We've extended paid parental leave.

92,000 new jobs have been created under this Government.

We're also cleaning up our environment, making rivers swimmable again, and

progressing real action on climate change. We're building schools, hospitals, and thousands of state houses, and investing record amounts in road safety and public transport.

Because of the magnitude of the challenges we're facing – like climate change, and the legacies of the housing crisis and child poverty, it can sometimes be easy to forget how far we've come in the last two years.

But two years on, I want to take this opportunity to take stock. In 2017 New Zealanders gave us the chance to form a Government that does things differently. I continue to feel honoured to be a Member of Parliament based right here in Rangitata, and I don't take this privilege for granted. There's still so much to do, but I'm deeply proud of the progress we are making.

SNAPSHOTS OF TIMES PAST

with the Methven Historical Society

Methven Museum open 2-4 Tuesday & Friday



Floral Festival Float

Methven, 1970's

METHVEN TYRE & HIRE



Passenger Tyres • Truck Tyres
Agricultural Tyres • Punctures and
Repairs • Wheels • Tyre Vulcanising

Hireage of equipment for Firewood,
Gardening, Transporting, Moving
House, Entertainment and
Functions!

FULL RANGE OF ASHBURTON
U-HIRE EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE
THROUGH METHVEN TYRE & HIRE

24 CALL OUT
SERVICE
HOUR AVAILABLE

03 302 8411
24 Methven
Chertsey Rd
METHVEN

NEUMANN TYRES

ASHBURTON
U-HIRE

Word of the Week

zootrophic



relating to the care of animals

Methven
NEW ZEALAND



14 Cameron Street, **Methven**

2 1 1

- This 2 bedroom bungalow has a tenant in place until May 2020
- Kiwi quarter acre with subdividing potential very close to town
- This home still has original wooden panels in lounge room

For Sale
\$329,000

View
by appointment



Shirley Fitzgerald
0272 201 528

rwashburton.co.nz/AHB22534

Mid Canterbury Real Estate Limited Licensed (REAA 2008)



19 Chapman Street, **Methven**

4 2 2

Modern 4 bedroom home on family size 1012m2 section. New kitchen that flows to living area plus separate family lounge with log burner. 2 bathrooms, master ensuite & WIR. Large laundry. Plenty of sheds & well fenced. This house has something for everyone.

For Sale
by negotiation

View
by appointment



Margaret Feiss
021 751 009

rwashburton.co.nz/AHB22382

Mid Canterbury Real Estate Limited Licensed (REAA 2008)



4 Shearer Place, **Methven**

4 2 2

- 4 bed suntrap home
- Quiet cul-de-sac
- Kitchen with breakfast booth
- Formal lounge with street view
- Excellent heating & cooling, gas fire & 2 heat pumps
- Well planted grounds
- Double garage

For Sale
by negotiation

View
by appointment



Shirley Fitzgerald
0272 201 528

rwashburton.co.nz/AHB22399

Mid Canterbury Real Estate Limited Licensed (REAA 2008)



Lots 2, 3 & 4 149 Forest Drive, **Methven**

- Three 4000m2 plus sections
- Located down a private driveway
- Easy 10 minute stroll along footpath to village centre
- Town water, power, fibre & fully fenced
- These sections combine pristine views, privacy & tranquility

For Sale
'Ranelagh'
3 Boutique Lifestyle Sections

View
by appointment only



Margaret Feiss
021 751 009

rwashburton.co.nz/AHB22536

Mid Canterbury Real Estate Limited Licensed (REAA 2008)



80 Mt Hutt Station Road, **Methven**

8 Ha freehold block of bare land just outside of the town boundary. Proposed Opuke Thermal Pools & Spa is just 500 metres away. Fully fenced with 3 entrance ways & stock water 2 sides. Already in place at the boundary town water supply, power & phone line.

For Sale
\$875,000 + GST (if any)

View
by appointment



Shirley Fitzgerald
0272 201 528

rwashburton.co.nz/AHB22424

Mid Canterbury Real Estate Limited Licensed (REAA 2008)



20 Dolma Street, **Methven**

- 4226m2 section with title
- This is where town meets country
- Fully fenced
- Close to all schools
- Walking distance to town centre

For Sale
\$350,000

View
by appointment



Shirley Fitzgerald
0272 201 528

rwashburton.co.nz/AHB22450

Mid Canterbury Real Estate Limited Licensed (REAA 2008)



Thymestream, Mt Harding Road, **Methven**

- 1st release SOLD
- 2nd release lot 5
- 3rd release lots 9 & 10

www.Thymestream.co.nz

For Sale
Price On Application

View
by appointment

Margaret Feiss
021 751 009

rwashburton.co.nz/AHB22028

Mid Canterbury Real Estate Limited Licensed (REAA 2008)



0 Barkers Road, **Methven**

Camrose Estates
Stage 1 - 2 sections available
Stage 2 - SOLD
Stage 3 - now selling (subject to title)

For Sale
Price On Application

View
by appointment

Margaret Feiss
021 751 009
Shirley Fitzgerald
0272 201 528

rwashburton.co.nz/AHB22363

Mid Canterbury Real Estate Limited Licensed (REAA 2008)



10 Lakeside Drive, Terrace Downs, Windwhistle, **Selwyn**

- 670m2 sunny north facing section with views straight to Southern Alps
- Fully serviced
- Shelter belt of trees on adjacent land to the south

For Sale
\$149,000

View
by appointment

Margaret Feiss
021 751 009

rwashburton.co.nz/AHB22519

Mid Canterbury Real Estate Limited Licensed (REAA 2008)



Principal: Jill Quaid
0274 376 755



Margaret Feiss
021 751 009



Shirley Fitzgerald
0272 201 528



Robyn Lilley
03 303 3032

36 McMillan Street, Methven 03 303 3032

rwashburton.co.nz