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# SNOWFED

Methven & Foothills Newspaper - owned by Mount Hutt College

Rāpare 29 Akuhata 2024 Putanga 33  
Thursday 29th August 2024 Issue 33

## Mid Canterbury in escalating feline epidemic

Annie Jacobs

Funding in  
desperate need  
for Puss N Boots  
Kitty Rescue

*The dumping of cats in Mid Canterbury is now a major problem according to Puss N Boots Kitty Rescue.*

The Rescue charity has been swamped in the last year with unwanted cats and kittens for rehoming.

Relying on donations and the kindness and dedication of volunteers, the Charity is desperate for funds to continue the work they do in the Foothills. Funds were so tight a few weeks ago that the charity nearly had to close its doors.

"We have rescued over 300 for this season which have been fostered, (in the period Sept 2023-August 2024). Usually it slows down, over winter but this year it hasn't," said Salena, Manager at the charity. "We're estimating we'll deal with 400-450 animals this year." When the public bring kittens to the charity, they're asked to surrender the whole litter and in exchange, the mother cat is desexed for free. Puss N Boots then negotiate with the person to have any other cats in their care desexed.

"Colonies of cats are on the increase. When people dump in a rural community, breeding escalates extremely fast. A recent colony of 30 cats was handed to Puss N Boots and there are a whole lot more in the area," Salena said. "People are even dumping them at our home or front gate and not letting us know."

The Charity has each animal vaccinated, wormed, microchipped, desexed and socialised ready for adoption to their forever home.

*Foster carer Liz Kofoed who volunteers for Puss N Boots Kitty Rescue with Poh who was rescued from Tekapo/Takapo*

Story continues on page 2



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# PUKA RATAKA Daily Diary

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

## AUGUST

30 Daffodil Day

30 Methv. Squash Club Quiz Night, 7pm

## SEPTEMBER

3 U3A Plastic Pollution in our Oceans

5-7 Footrot Flats, 7.30pm, MHMH

10 U3A Seabed Exploitation

## UPCOMING

8 Oct Pink Ribbon Day

## COMMUNITY

**SCRAP METAL DROP OFF** opposite the  
Police Station

### ON DEMAND

**Mid Canterbury Connector** from Methven  
/ Mt Somers to Ashburton and return.  
Book 2 days ahead 03 928 8164

### 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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consent from Annie Jacobs, Editor.

Adoption fees are \$220 for a kitten/cat  
from Puss N Boots, (it would cost more to  
do all of those things if you did it out of  
your own pocket).

"Local vets Paddock Vets have been  
incredible," Salena said, "as have  
Methven Hammer Hardware who  
discount kitty litter for us."

Puss N Boots estimate their vet bill for  
the year will be around \$175,000. There  
are other animal welfare charities, but  
Puss N Boots are the ones on the ground  
here, addressing the issues here and the  
issue is huge!

Currently the Charity has 50 foster carers  
but are desperate for more short and  
long term carers. Local lady Liz Kofoed  
is a foster carer and has Poh (who came  
from Tekapo/Takapo), having had her  
for five weeks. She has been spayed,  
microchipped, vaccinated and is ready  
for adoption to her forever home.

"Poh will make a fantastic pet for  
someone, she's so lovely," said Liz. This is  
Liz's fourth adoption.

"There is only one way to stop this  
escalating pandemic and that is  
desexing and education," Salena said.  
She is available with little kitten Miss  
Ally Mae, to visit schools and other  
places for education around cat care.

The overriding message is to desex and  
microchip your kitty. "99% of intakes  
people have rung and said they're feral,  
but given a short amount of time, they're  
definitely sociable. A lot of the cats that  
Puss N Boots get have been mistreated.  
One of the 70 cats in care at the moment,  
has had it's ears cut off"

"Fostering is about giving time. Puss N  
Boots supply most of the food and litter  
then all it takes is time interspersed  
with your usual daily activities. Mid  
Canterbury Puss N Boots operates in  
Methven and Ashburton. If someone  
could buy a packet of cat food each week  
with their groceries and donate it or give  
\$10 towards a spaying would be a great  
help. Or perhaps donate some money  
towards the vet bills," Liz said. "The  
feeding costs are escalating. There are so  
many feral cats in Methven - it is a major  
problem."

The Charity try their hardest to foster  
and rehome cats wherever possible, but  
do euthanise those that need it.

Facebook page: PussN Boots Kitty  
Rescue - bank account details are on  
there and its a registered charity.

[Givealittle.co.nz/org/pussn-boots-kitty-rescue](http://Givealittle.co.nz/org/pussn-boots-kitty-rescue)

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# FreshChoice expands with Methven opening

FreshChoice has launched its newest supermarket, located in Methven, and owned and operated by local retailers Kelly and Don McDonald.

The supermarket has rebranded from SuperValue and locals marked the occasion with a community celebration including kapa haka by Methven Primary School.

Kelly and Don are well-respected figures in the Methven community and have long been champions of local business. They employ 12 locals, source from local suppliers like Canterbury Quinoa, Southern Alps Honey and Sunny B Sunflower Butter, and contribute generously to community initiatives. Their commitment to Methven is evident in the warm welcome the store has already received from residents.

Kelly says the pair are thrilled to bring FreshChoice to Methven, a community they know and love.



"Our focus has always been on providing the best for our customers, and this new store allows us to offer an enhanced range of fresh foods, produce, and meats, tailored to meet the unique needs of our area. FreshChoice Methven is more than just a supermarket; it's a community hub where people can find the best fresh foods, all while supporting local producers and the local economy," says Kelly.

The new FreshChoice Methven has been designed with a focus on value and fresh, high-quality products. There is an expanded range of produce and meats so customers can access the best regional products, making it a destination for residents and visitors alike.

FreshChoice Executive General Manager, Tim Cartwright, says the opening of FreshChoice Methven represents the supermarket's ongoing commitment to bringing quality, fresh, and locally sourced products to communities across New Zealand.

"Kelly and Don embody FreshChoice's values, and their dedication to Methven is what makes this store so special. We're excited to keep growing and to bring FreshChoice to more New Zealanders," adds Tim.

FreshChoice Methven is located at 30 McMillan Street, Methven and is open 8am - 7pm, seven days a week.

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Prices apply from Monday 26th<sup>th</sup> August - Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024, or while stocks last at FreshChoice Methven only. Limits may apply.

**OWNER'S SPECIALS**

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\$1.27/L



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# Footrot Flats on stage next week!

Janine Holland

*Footrot Flats opens next Thursday and runs for three nights only in Methven (see advertisement opposite).*

Don't miss seeing this classic Kiwi show as it is genuinely laugh-out-loud funny. Ticket sales have been stronger at an earlier stage than for several years which is positive. We're hoping to sell out which would be awesome for the coffers of our little theatre company. We're still hurting from the COVID years when audience numbers and shows were restricted.

If you're not following Methven Theatre Company's Facebook page jump onboard and have a look. All cast and most of the crew have been profiled in recent weeks and you can find out who's involved. We're running a competition for a free double pass for Thursday 5 September, which will be drawn Friday 30 August. Visit our Facebook page, comment and be in to win tickets to opening night!

Remember, Footrot Flats tickets can be purchased at Cafe 45 in Methven (\$40 Cash only) or by booking online or in person at the Ashburton Trust Event Centre. Groups of ten or more can consider purchasing a corporate package including food and drinks by emailing: [methventheatreco@gmail.com](mailto:methventheatreco@gmail.com)



*Pongo (played by Shyan Hughes) was one of three cast members who headed out to her grandparents' farm in depths of winter for a photo shoot. Despite spirited attempts, Shyan put the boys to shame with her sheep wrangling!*

Thanks Heather from Heather Mack Photography for donating time to promote Footrot Flats. Check out Methven Theatre's Facebook page for more of her photos.

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**Based on original characters created by Murray Ball**

**Directed by Matt Markham**



## 5th, 6th, 7th September

**Doors open 7.00pm  
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# Station Coffee celebrates

Annie Jacobs

A coffee shop (not a cafe), Station Coffee was abuzz as it celebrated it's 2nd birthday on Saturday.

The venture started with the coffee cart with the name stemming from the fact that the Elliot family live on Mt Hutt Station Road.

"We loved the cart," said Donna (Mum). "When the opportunity presented itself to move in here, we thought long and hard about it. It pushed us out of our comfort zone. We're a big family and community is an extension of that. We wanted to create a space for a broad age range - from little people right through." They have made thousands of coffees since being in business and wanted a space to bring together all of the crafts and talents of their lovely family.

"Rosie is the hospo expert. She has great fore-thinking and keeps the wheels turning. Georgia is the queen of customer service."

"Mum is the brains and motivates us all - she is the entrepreneur," quips Georgia. Samuel does the branding and is a barista, as is JJ (Jason Junior-he was born on Fathers Day). Jesse is a mechanic and



helps with everything mechanical. Dad Jase, does the building and fixing - everything from a toaster to a tow bar.

All of the family help out in some way with Station Coffee. Another invaluable member of the team is Emma Breach.

"We've adopted her into our family too," laughed Donna. "She's an incredible part of the team! It



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*John Concannon, Adeline Bailey, Bridget Concannon and Elsie Burgess*

could've been tricky coming to work with a whole family, but Emma fits in perfectly."

Crowds of people came along on Saturday with lines of little people patiently waiting for the very talented and popular Carmen to paint their faces - unicorns and tigers were later bouncing around the shop.

Valuing each family member for the skills they have and bring is very important to the Elliots and an enormous part of the success of Station Coffee, along with processes and effective communication.

"Accepting each family member for who they are and having fun as a family is really important to us," said Donna.

At the coffee shop on Saturday was Jane Rangiwhia. Jane is the Food Producer for "Eat Well for Less" and she and her brother Paul have written a beautiful book which is for sale at Station Coffee. It combines delicious recipes and down to earth great advice for life. Jane is a part time resident of Methven and was able to personally sign the books on sale. At \$55, it is a lovely gift for that someone special in your life. Be sure to pop in to purchase your copy.



*Jane Rangiwhia with her book*



*Bliss Design artist Carmen Lye at work*

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# She loves Adventure!

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Ms South Pacific Seeds (SPS), is quite the character around the yard and out in the field. She confidently controls the 2144 combine harvester or picks radish and cabbage flowers, enjoying their sweet scent while roguing in the fields.

Ms SPS's love for adventure, like her preference for a strong rum and coke, often leaves her feeling seedy.

You might spot her lingering in the dark corners of the seed cleaning shed and on those extra cold days, she's warming up by the gas fire in Jimmy's workshop, before hopping into Phil's truck—because it's got more grunt and horsepower than Geoff's.

The office team admires her confident and vibrant personality - she seems to get what she wants with ease. The office girls are intimidated by her, probably due to her confident allure and mischievous smile. Meanwhile, the agronomy guys can't help but be drawn to her charm,

secretly wishing they could spend a little more time in her captivating company in the boardroom after a heavy meeting.

Ms South Pacific Seeds's charm and daring spirit have their limits, and she knows she's pushed too far when a private conversation with Sue in the HR office is inevitable!

Ms Methven is returning to our district. Snowfed will feature one of the gorgeous ladies each week, leading up to the event on Saturday 19th October. This is a fundraiser for Methven Pre School so keep an eye out for ticket sales and get in quick - this event sells out fast!



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# Birdsong on it's way

**Barry Maister**

*Two significant breakthroughs this week on the Methven Birdsong initiative.*

We have received Ashburton District Council (ADC) approval of all our paperwork and protections necessary to start trapping on public land, starting with the Methven Walkway. This will be a staggered process as we first put some trail traps out, and warning signs up in the Thyme Stream area. Bingo! On day one we caught a possum and a mouse in a very short space of time, with surely many more to follow. If anyone has some unused, unwanted pest traps lying around, we would love to receive them.

We've received a project brief from ADC, outlining the broad scope and expected deliverables relating to the Garden of Harmony extension project. Next steps are the development of a Landscape concept plan and planting plan. Our Birdsong committee will have a significant local input into both. This will all take time and nothing will be visible on the ground until probably mid 2025. Cooperation and support from both the ADC and our Methven Community Board is fully appreciated. The community will be fully consulted when we have a concept plan to share and consult on.

We have a Facebook page (Methven & Foothills Birdsong Initiative) and will keep everyone informed through that medium also. It's a bit bare at this time but will soon be populated by our news as it happens. Check it out! Encouragement is always welcomed!

We have had a very positive first meeting with the schools and will be working on an ongoing way to involve students in our activity just across the road!

Exciting to know we are truly underway and with an enthusiastic group of community volunteers leading the way.



# Change for St Johns

**Abi Trevathan**

Plains Presbyterian Parish previously incorporated churches in the Methven (St Johns), Rakaia, Mayfield and Staveley region. This has been disestablished and a new venture began on 1st July 2024.

In a small community such as ours, word gets around with misconceptions and rumours abounding. Over the next weeks, we want to right any misconceptions and share with the Methven community the new pathway that we are embarking on.

Responsibility for buildings and ongoing ministry in the region has shifted to Alpine Presbytery, with a small sub-committee of the Presbytery overseeing worship, pastoral care and spiritual oversight of members of the former parish. The subcommittee currently comprises two members of Presbytery staff (myself included) and three local representatives one of which will be Elsa Hydes from the Methven Church.

We wish to reassure members of Methven community that nothing major will change in the immediate future. Sunday worship services will continue in Methven, Rakaia, Mayfield and Staveley and community groups that use the buildings will still be able to do so. Some processes may change as we tie up loose ends and centralise systems.

We invite input around the ongoing place of a faith community in Methven. If you are the praying kind of person, we would appreciate and value your prayers as we navigate through this transition.

Our goal is to be as transparent as possible as this progresses. Please get in touch with me via email if you have questions: [resourcing@alpinepresbytery.org](mailto:resourcing@alpinepresbytery.org)



**Abi Trevathan, Convenor Presbytery Development Unit**

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Hugo Mulligan will be based in Methven every Tuesday afternoon from 2pm.

Please contact him to make an appointment.

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## NATIONAL MP

### Fast-track one step closer to reality *James Meager*

*The government's recent updates to the Fast-track Approvals Bill bring good news for our communities in Mid Canterbury.*

These changes aim to streamline development processes while maintaining environmental safeguards, potentially bringing significant benefits to our region. Within the ECan area, we have submitted over 60 projects, the highest number across the country. The fast-track process could accelerate much-needed housing projects. With 40% of applications related to housing and urban development, we may see quicker progress on addressing our local housing needs. This could mean more affordable homes for our families and opportunities for first-time buyers.

Infrastructure projects, making up 24% of applications, could also receive a boost. Improved roads, water systems, and other vital infrastructure could enhance our daily lives and support our growing communities. For our farmers and agricultural businesses, the inclusion of primary industry projects (8% of applications) in the fast-track process could lead to quicker approvals for initiatives that support our region's economic backbone. Renewable energy projects comprising 18% of applications, such as the Lauriston solar farm, align well with our region's potential for clean energy development. This could bring new jobs and contribute to New Zealand's climate goals while potentially lowering energy costs.

The government has made changes to the bill's original form. Ministers will no longer have the final say on project approvals. Instead, expert panels, including environmental specialists, will make these decisions. This change aims to ensure a fair and balanced approach to development, and is similar to the previous Government's fast-track process. While the fast-track bill promises to cut through red tape, it's important to note that environmental protections remain a priority. The inclusion of environmental expertise on decision-making panels should help maintain this balance.

Mid Canterbury residents stand to benefit from faster, more efficient development processes that could bring new homes, improved infrastructure, and economic opportunities to our region. By staying engaged with these changes, we can help ensure they work for the betterment of our community.

To contact James:

☎ 03 307 1729 • 📧 JamesMeagerMP  
✉ james.meagerMP@parliament.govt.nz

James Meager MP for Rangitata

Funded by the Parliamentary Service. Authorised by J Meager, 161 Burnett Street, Ashburton.



## GROW YOUR

*The weather seems to have turned a corner and the hard frosts of mid-winter have been replaced by a spring westerly pattern, often followed by a cooler southerly.*

The days are longer and warmer and without as many frosts, plant growth is getting underway. Hardy vege seedlings such as cabbages can be planted if the soil isn't too wet and, if you didn't get plant them in autumn, garlic and broad beans. Peas can be planted from now on too – regular peas (like the frozen ones, except better), snow peas and sugar snap peas.

Tomatoes, basil, peppers and other types planted on heated beds will need "pricking out" once they have germinated and grown a bit. My tomatoes got a bit leggy (I mean the stem has got a bit long – due to low light conditions) but fortunately tomatoes are quite forgiving and can be planted deeply when being transplanted. The stem won't rot if the seedling is planted to just below the first set of leaves, and roots will grow from this stem.

When pricking out, carefully extract seedlings from the tray with a sturdy plant label or knife (or very carefully tip the tray upside down) and separate them into single plants. Re-plant each one into individual pots (or a bigger tray) with fresh potting mix. Firstly, if



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OWN

Mary Ralston



the roots are long and straggly, nip off the end with your fingernail so that about 3 cm of root is left. Make an indent in the potting mix and, holding onto the stem, carefully place the seedling so that the root isn't scrunched up. Push mix around the root and firm down the top. Water gently but thoroughly. Keep in a warm sunny position, and don't over-water – too much watering may encourage "dampening off" disease – a sort of fungal infection.

The next round of seeds to plant indoors on my heated seed table are zucchinis and cucumbers. These are both in the family of Cucurbits (melons are in this family too) and are similar in that they germinate quickly and don't like to have their growth stopped and started too many times. It may be too early to plant these seeds if you intend to put them in the outside garden; best to wait a month or so. I will hopefully get away with it because I will plant them in the greenhouse.

# Tweet, Tweet, Tweet

Trapping progress in the Rakaia Gorge

**Robbie Koller**  
The Fantail Trust

*Long time no tweet! But things have been happening.*

The fantails are all over the place. so are the bellbirds, the grey warblers, the waxeyes, kereru and even a few tomtits are about. And there will shortly be many more once the breeding season starts in a few weeks.

Yes, we have been eliminating predators in large numbers and the reason for this tweet is that we have reached a magic number of 1,000 possums. Not sure why it is magic, but it sure has got to make a difference. No more nest raiding by possums, no more stealing the kowhai flowers and no more clearing the forest floor of seedlings. Poor possies.

Then we have had loads of rats. In fact, almost 1,500 rats have gone into our traps and have been eliminated for the benefit of the birds and for a whole lot of other creatures living down there in the forest. A better chance for the birds to survive, a better chance for the birds to breed and a better chance for the birds to tweet! Lucky birdies!

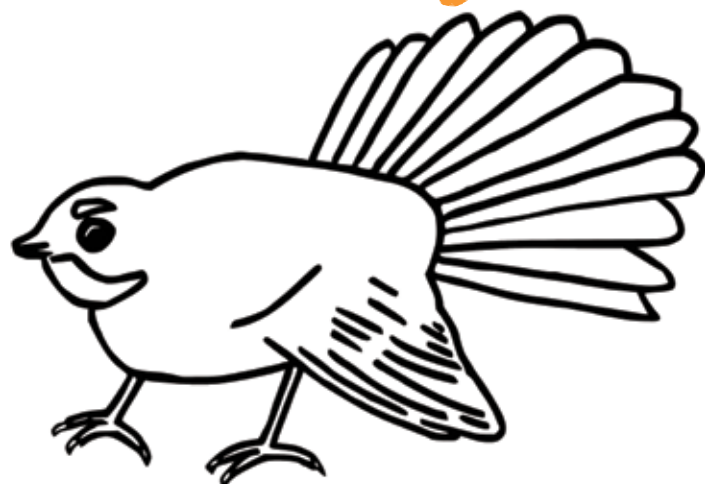
We have removed stoats, weasels and hedgehogs and others, all adding up to nearly 3,000 predators gone. How ever anything survived in the bush is amazing. But everything is now slowly coming back. The next breeding season is our third, giving hope to a real improvement in birdsong. The forest itself is recovering as well. New seedlings sprouting all over regenerating the plant life.

It started all so slow with a few traps just to see what would happen and then more traps and more traps and now there are over 500 traps installed and ready to pounce. They need looking after, checking, re-setting, cleaning, re-luring. It is a big job and for that purpose, to make it easier, the traps are along traplines with names like Piccadilly, Waterloo or Circle Line. Do not ask me why I chose the London Tube to name these lines. Maybe it is because when I enter the forest it is a bit like going underground. If you like to see the whole network go to [www.trap.nz](http://www.trap.nz) and request to become a member or send me an email.

To make it even more interesting for the walkers we will soon have a visitors book down on the walkway near the coal mine and the fantail shop will soon open too. It is a self-service shop where painted stones will be sold, painted by the local school plus other kind of fantail memorabilia. All funds going to the trust. I let you know when it is all open.

I have to thank you again for supporting the trust with donations. Especially I would like to mention a few volunteers who help with trapping: Marcel and Mel, Jon and Sue, Paul and Jo, sometimes Lindsay and Anthony too. A big thank you from us, Christine and Robbie of The Fantail Trust and from the fantails too.

## Kids colouring in






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# Schools News

## Mount Hutt College

### Students to perform with CSRO

by Seb Booth

This year, hosted by Hagley College, four of our very own Mt Hutt College (MHC) students are participating in the Christchurch Schools Regional Orchestra.

This exciting opportunity gives our students a chance to enhance their musical skills in a larger orchestral setting with challenging pieces and the guidance of a variety of locally well-known and respected conductors alongside a diverse team of fellow musicians.

This is the second year in which Seb Booth is participating in CSRO while it is a first for Quinn Bessai, Emma Armour and Lucas Plimmer. As a group, they have expressed feelings in awe of the orchestra's dynamics and new, unfamiliar music. Seb is the only bass clarinetist, Emma is one of only two alto saxophone players, Lucas is one of many clarinetists and Quinn is one of four double bassists, which is all quite different to what the students are used to in their own MHC Concert Band.

Coming from a smaller school, our students are thrilled to be meeting more musicians and getting out there in the world of music and cannot wait to share what they have learnt and worked hard on. CSRO will be performing at three different venues as follows:

**Friday 13th September:** 5:30 pm at Te Puna Wai o Waipapa Hagley College

**Friday 20th September:** 10:20 am at Mount Hutt College, and 12:40 pm at Ashburton College



## Homestay & Yumeogaka Junior High School - the 12th instalment of our Japan trip

One group of students from the Japan trip went to Yumeogaka Junior High School. This is the school that MHC has traditionally visited over the past 15 years. We made udon noodles, played volleyball and we did two English classes. At lunch we played basketball. School started at 7:30 am and ended at 6:40 pm. We went to school by bus. It was a very small town, it had around 10,000 people in the town. The homestay was very nice and they gave me a present at the end of the stay. My homestay had a Grandma, a Dad, a Mum, and three boys. At school you had to wear slippers. In the school, they did not allow any outside shoes to be worn inside the school. It was very fun and different. It was cool to go to a school that only had 100 students and I really enjoyed it. Thank you for the opportunity. *By Brock Leitis*

## A Favourite Event for 7HM

As we walked down the crowded street (McDonald's Street), we were thrilled to imagine that we were going to visit the most educational and historical place you could go for Methven history. Its name was the Methven Museum (In the Methven Library). Once we were all in, we were greeted by two lovely ladies who told us about Methven's interesting history. After they had finished we were allowed to ask questions, as the ladies could tell we were bursting with them. When they had answered the questions, we had a little look around. There were old, aged knives, sewing kits that also came with a kids kit, chairs and couches, and old footwear. After we had left, our brains were full of history and information. *By Oskar Holmes*



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# Schools News



## Our Lady of the Snows School

We are delighted to celebrate the success and creativity showcased at our annual OLS Poetry and Speech Competition! The event was a vibrant display of talent, passion, and eloquence as our students took to the stage to share their original works and engage with the power of words.

Throughout the competition, students captivated the audience with their heartfelt poems, captivating stories, and powerful

speeches. They embraced the opportunity to express themselves, share their unique perspectives, and connect with their peers through the art of language.

From whimsical rhymes to thought-provoking speeches, our students demonstrated a remarkable level of creativity and articulation in their performances. They explored a wide range of themes, from friendship and nature to dreams and aspirations, showcasing

their diverse interests and insights.

Beyond the thrill of competition, the event provided a platform for our students to build confidence, develop public speaking skills, and cultivate a love for literature and performance.

They learned the importance of voice projection, expression, and connecting with the audience, skills that will serve them well in their academic and personal endeavours. Congratulations to our winners Kelsey (Year 1 and Year 2 Poetry) Tristan (Year 3 and Year 4 Speeches) Aviel Jachin (Year 5 and Year 6 Speeches) and Marivelle (Year 7 and Year 8 Speeches). These competitors will go on to compete against the other Small Schools in our district – we wish them all the best!

## Methven Primary School



On Friday, August 23rd, MPS celebrated Purple Day to raise awareness for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA). It was wonderful to see both students and staff embracing the day with their fantastic purple outfits. Mrs. Furndorfler



even got into the spirit by dressing up as a superhero complete with a cape! Super Sue!

Throughout the day, we enjoyed music during playtimes and house leaders offered purple face painting for those who wanted it. By



coming together for Purple Day, we aimed to support those affected by SMA and spread awareness about this important cause.






## The Brown Pub

### Special

# Gold Card Lunch

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# TALKING EVERYTHING PROPERTY

## The Power of Staging A Property

*In the current market the presentation of a property is more important than ever before.*

There are more enquires and viewings for our perfectly presented properties than those that require a little more work. I have started to recommend staging to vendors and have been seeing excellent results from those that take this advice or work with what they have got. Firstly, you want to make the decision to call in a professional or gather up the resources you have to do it yourself. If you go down the professional path, they will come and assess the space and give you a quote to stage your whole house or selected rooms. This can be money well spent and a huge time saver especially if you are time poor with busy kids or work commitments. We are lucky enough to have a few local businesses that can provide this service, especially with Donna from Farmhouse Boutique right here in Methven being so amazing to work with.

Staging can allow potential buyers to easily visualise themselves living in the house. The overall cost of staging can vary depending on how many rooms there are and length of time you need to hire the items. It can be money well spent, as it can attract more potential buyers, sell faster and fetch higher offers than non-staged properties.

Before staging, one of the most important things to do is thoroughly clean the space and make sure anything in the room that needs fixing is done, eg: painting window sills or fixing curtain rails. Declutter as much as possible, this allows you to see the potential of the room for the layout planning phase to begin. Selecting the right furniture is key, items too big can make a room feel small and mixing old furniture with modern furniture can distract the eye from the flow of the space.

Think about lighting as well and if you have a view, make sure you can see it when sitting on the couch and gain as much natural light as possible. If your budget is tight, I recommend the lounge and main bedroom as the main areas to target. Once you have decluttered and have the right furniture in place you can start to think about lamps, throws, ornaments, plants, flower arrangements, magazines or books. A suitable rug can really unify a space. Artwork and mirrors are a good way to make a house feel homely, I recommend removing personal family portraits as you want people to get excited about being in every room without the personal aspects.

The number of people who I have spoken to that have used staging often say they wish they had done it sooner to live in. Getting a

professional eye on layout can increase natural flow of a house and function of those living there. This spring, even if you are not planning to sell, have a look at each room and have a think about the layout - is it working for you? Does this room need decluttering? Are there photos on your phone you have been meaning to develop for a while to go up on the wall?

*Let's make those spaces really work.*



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## Rakaia Gorge Musterers Fundraising Game

The Rakaia Gorge Musterers Fundraising  
Rugby Game will be held on Friday 30th  
August at 6.30pm with auction to follow.

Organisers are looking forward to seeing  
everyone there and hope to raise lots of  
money for Hato Hone St John.

*All welcome.*

## Crime Prevention Cameras for Methven Area Meeting

**Tuesday 10th September, 7pm**

Mt Hutt Memorial Hall Supper  
Room

Main Street, Methven

## NETBALL CLUB

**Netball Results week ending  
25th August**

**Seniors: - Semifinals** Methven Wareings vs  
Hampstead A lost 32-30 POD **Whole Team**  
(play off for 3rd). Methven EuroAgri vs College  
Yr10A won 42-32 POD **Nikita Cavanagh** (into  
the final). Methven Shearmac vs United A lost  
31-24 POD **Whole Team** (play off for 3rd).

Methven Paddock Vets vs College Yr10B lost  
28-20 POD **Whole Team** (2nd place). Methven  
Southern Cross vs College Red won 15-7 POD  
**May McCaw** (5th place).

**Juniors: Finals Yr 7/8** Methven R&R vs Rakaia  
A won 32-12 POD **Anna Costello** (3rd place).  
Methven Panel & Paint vs Allenton B lost 11-7  
POD **Tahya Varvoda** (2nd place). Methven  
Martin Seed Dressing vs United lost 18-14  
POD **Rykie Greybe** (4th place).

## METHVEN BRIDGE CLUB

### North / South:

John Barwell	Murray Hawkes	60.00%
Flora Lowe	Mary Stone	40.00%

### East / West:

Colin Clemens	Janet Cuttle	60.00%
Willie Ensor	Bob Todhunter	40.00%

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Start date by negotiation



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Flexibility is required due to work placement visits and programme management, with 30 hours of work per week during term-time (40 weeks per year). If you are passionate about helping students achieve their vocational goals and are ready to take on a diverse and rewarding role, we encourage you to apply.

A Job Description and Application form are available on our website:

<https://mounthuttcollege.co.nz/contact-us> or by emailing:  
[college@mthutt.school.nz](mailto:college@mthutt.school.nz)

The Application Form, Cover Letter and CV should be sent to: [college@mthutt.school.nz](mailto:college@mthutt.school.nz)

**Applications close at 12:00pm on Friday, 6 September 2024.**



**22 - 28 August**

Jo Thompson  
Noa Grace 19  
Ollie Keeble 4  
Kaleb Yeo 18  
Charlotte Yeo 18  
Emma Keane  
Elliot Russell 11  
Nutmeg Fitzgerald 2  
Joi Barangay 17  
Daisy Russell 3  
Charlie Brown 21

**Belated**

Rachel Clark  
Steve Williams  
Stephanie Lill 12  
Lana Schiphorst 39  
Lia Moodie 22

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**Deadline Sale:** 12th September 2024 at 2.00pm (unless sold prior)

**Sam Gregory** | 021 0283 8791 | [sam.g@arizto.co.nz](mailto:sam.g@arizto.co.nz)

**Open Home:** 11am - 11:30am Saturday 31st August

# ALL OVER METHVEN



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[bayleys.co.nz/5524867](http://bayleys.co.nz/5524867)

4 1 1 1

**Deadline Sale (unless sold prior)**

2pm, Wed 11 Sep 2024

**View** Sat 1-1.30pm

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**Rosa Dekker** 0274 655 387

[rosa.dekker@bayleys.co.nz](mailto:rosa.dekker@bayleys.co.nz)

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### Methven 52 South Belt

#### Something special on South Belt

A spacious and functional home, perfect for comfortable living with significant renovation having taken place. An open plan living kitchen and dining space with updated benchtops and flooring, the living area is a great private space with sliding doors out to the fully fenced section.

[bayleys.co.nz/5523963](http://bayleys.co.nz/5523963)

3 1 2 1

**Asking Price** \$570,000

**View** by appointment

**Simon Sharpin** 027 631 8087

[simon.sharpin@bayleys.co.nz](mailto:simon.sharpin@bayleys.co.nz)

**Rosa Dekker** 0274 655 387

[rosa.dekker@bayleys.co.nz](mailto:rosa.dekker@bayleys.co.nz)

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### Methven 13 Allen Street

#### Timeless charm

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, complete with a large storage space for all your outdoor essentials.

[bayleys.co.nz/5523227](http://bayleys.co.nz/5523227)

5 1 2 2

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### Methven 15 Carr Street

#### Calling all developers and first home buyers

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[bayleys.co.nz/5524018](http://bayleys.co.nz/5524018)

3 1 1 4

**Asking Price** \$420,000

**View** by appointment

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# Methven and Surrounds

**BAYLEYS**


Artist's impression



Artist's impression



Boundary lines are indicative only

## Methven 7 Methven Chertsey Road

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Introducing your dream retirement haven at Methven Central, Methven's first Retirement Village, comprising of six two-bedroom beautiful, modern, high-quality apartments. All six apartments boast lovely open plan kitchen, living and dining areas.

bayleys.co.nz/5523803

2 1 1

**For Sale offers invited over \$560,000**

**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 12 Arrowsmith Drive

### The journey to your dream home starts here!

Introducing a magnificent opportunity to own a custom-designed house and land package in the desirable Camrose Estates. With construction ready to commence as soon as title is issued and the plans approved by council.

bayleys.co.nz/5521463

3 2 2 2

**For Sale offers invited over \$889,000**

**View** by appointment

**Liv Gorman** 027 856 4416

liv.gorman@bayleys.co.nz

**WHALAN AND PARTNERS LTD, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008**



## Staveley 137 Sawmill Road

### Superb Staveley lifestyle

Hidden in the peaceful embrace of the rural Staveley area, this property has fantastic panoramic mountain views. Constructed in 2016, it combines contemporary living with rustic allure. Situated on approximately 3.7 hectares of countryside, this two-storey home offers modern comforts and a quiet serene location.

bayleys.co.nz/5524171

4 2 2 2

**Asking Price \$1,450,000**

**View** by appointment

**Simon Sharpin** 027 631 8087

simon.sharpin@bayleys.co.nz

**Mike Preston** 027 430 7041

mike.preston@bayleys.co.nz

**WHALAN AND PARTNERS LTD, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008**

## Geraldine 52 Rae Road

### Sundrum - Nestled in nature

This superb Historic homestead has stunning mountain views from a setting of exotic specimen trees and extensive native bush. The property has been used as a family home by the present owners for over forty years. The home is made up of five bedrooms, two bathrooms, an office and three living areas.

bayleys.co.nz/5523964

5 2 2 3

**Asking Price \$2,800,000**

**View** by appointment

**Simon Sharpin** 027 631 8087

simon.sharpin@bayleys.co.nz

**WHALAN AND PARTNERS LTD, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008**



10 Dolma Street, Methven

4 3 2

- Designed in two wings
- Four bedrooms & three bathrooms
- Kitchen is the hub of this home
- Lounge off kitchen
- Separate media room & laundry
- Large double garage with loft
- All on a 4001sqm section

**For Sale**  
Enquiries over \$1,699,000  
  
**View**  
by appointment

**Margaret Feiss**  
021 751 009  
**Shirley Fitzgerald**  
027 220 1528

[rwashburton.co.nz/MVN30092](http://rwashburton.co.nz/MVN30092)  
Real Estate Mid Canterbury Property Ltd Licensed (REAA 2008)



58 Main Street, Methven

3 1 2

- Don't miss this amazing chance to own your own home
- 3 bedroom Summerhill Stone property
- So close to schools & town centre
- Good sized garage with loads of storage space
- Plenty of rooms, separate lounge, dining room & kitchen

**For Sale**  
Offers over \$599,000  
  
**View**  
by appointment

**Shirley Fitzgerald**  
027 220 1528

[rwashburton.co.nz/MVN30103](http://rwashburton.co.nz/MVN30103)  
Real Estate Mid Canterbury Property Ltd Licensed (REAA 2008)



1 Arrowsmith Drive, Methven

- \* 1222m2 desirable residential section
- \* Fully fenced apart from laneway
- \* Ideal building site
- \* Town water supply, power & fibre to section boundary
- \* Stunning mountain views

**For Sale**  
Price Upon Application  
  
**View**  
by appointment

**Margaret Feiss**  
021 751 009

[rwashburton.co.nz/MVN30102](http://rwashburton.co.nz/MVN30102)  
Real Estate Mid Canterbury Property Ltd Licensed (REAA 2008)



Lots 2 & 3 Hobbs Road, Methven

- Located just off Hobbs Road right on Methven township boundary
- Two attractive one hectare blocks located down a private laneway
- Town water & power
- Waste water system required
- This is your chance to find your piece of country but so close to town

**For Sale**  
Price Upon Application  
  
**View**  
by appointment

**Margaret Feiss**  
021 751 009

[rwashburton.co.nz/MVN30037](http://rwashburton.co.nz/MVN30037)  
Real Estate Mid Canterbury Property Ltd Licensed (REAA 2008)



**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

36 McMillan Street, Methven 03 303 3032  
[rwashburton.co.nz](http://rwashburton.co.nz)