

POHANGINA VALLEY NEWSLETTER

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LIFESTYLE BLOCK OWNERS EVENT

Saturday November 5th (2-5pm)
At the Pohangina hall

The Pohangina Catchment Care Group would like to invite all lifestyle block owners to an afternoon of speakers and information.

The topics covered will be:

- basic animal health, husbandry, and feeding
- land management and options for planting
- Jenna Fisher from Living the simple life will be speaking
- as well as other local businesses and useful information.

This event is open to anyone who wants to learn something new and is looking for options for their block of land. The event will be followed by a sausage sizzle courtesy of the Pohangina Catchment Care

COUNTY FAYRE INCORPORATED

Pohangina Downhill Walk 12th November 2022

Tickets available thru
countyfayre@inspire.net.nz

Find us on 

County Fayre at Pohangina



DATES TO DIARY

This is a summary of the dates mentioned in this news letter.
Please refer to relevant articles for details

Art Trail	15th & 16th Oct
Apiti Services Hub	21st Oct
Foraging Workshop	22nd Oct
Permaculture Tour	29th Oct
Lifestyle block event	5th Nov
Downhill Walk	12th Nov
Beginner Gardeners Workshop	12th Nov
Nibbles and Drinks	18th Nov
Social Solutions for more Sustainable Living	19th Nov
Crop Swap	26th Nov
PVCC Meeting	1st Dec
Newsletter deadline	4th Dec

HAIKU COMPETITION

Have your words immortalised in the Domain!

The community are invited to take part in creating a haiku for the Domain. It will be displayed by the bench donated by ADP Design.

Please email your ideas to fay@adpdesign.co.nz by the end of October and Fay will be honoured to select one from the heart of our community. It will be etched into the plaque prior to concreting and insertion into the platform.

Great Progress at Domain

Saturday 20th August dawned overcast and showery but turned in to a 20-degree spring day when 40 passionate planters and helpers gathered at the Domain for a working bee that ran like clockwork.



Helpers included 5 pre and primary aged children whose parents and grandparents demonstrated what it means to be part of a community project, and to volunteer by donating time and effort without expecting financial gain. It was heartening to witness such inspirational

role models and the engagement and enthusiasm of the young ones.

Leading up to the working bee David Sapsford mowed the pathway edges and Brent & Liz Besley coned their Aussi sister and brother-in-law, over here on holiday, to wheelbarrow loads of lime to create ramps on & off the board walks! Sal also sawed and piled up the dead tree debris ready for carting away. MDC's James Adamson organised for the trees to be collected from Leafland and delivered on the Friday morning when labels were attached and trees ferried in to position.

The day began at 8.30 (though there was a particular 8.00am 'early bird!'). Everyone was briefed with a map of where their sponsored tree or trees were positioned if they had one and if not, they ferried their wheelbarrows, spades & shovels to the new pathway & planting area & simply got stuck in.

Rob Partington came with his latest birthday present from wife Fay.....a



hand-held auger. This machine, made quick work of digging holes to 40cm though it was clear that a fair amount of strength and skill was involved, especially in the rocky 'picnic spot' up the hill.

A truck load of mulch arrived when planting was underway which is when the two quad trailers came in to their own carting it to various points for distribution.



Rabbits are a pest in the village and Chris and Christine Pullar addressed this by donating 100 protective surrounds for all the trees. They demonstrated how to put them in place- some of the low branched plants with wider girths requiring two joined together.

As has been mentioned in previous newsletters Leafland supplied the high-quality trees some of which were in 90L containers and up to 3m tall. They sponsored 50% of the cost and the other 50% was sponsored by residents of the Pohangina Valley and its wider community. However, we had a surprise donor of 32 Kowhai seedlings propagated from seed and nurtured by Damien Campbell & his family who live in Ashhurst.

Most of these were planted in a glade that will not be on the walkway but will provide food for birds and a beautiful backdrop for both the neighbours



and Domain users. We have also received a generous \$300 donation from local valley resident Donna Craft towards future planting and a number of commitments have been received from future sponsors for the next stage of pathway planting.

By smoko most of the planting and mulching was done and some attendees



had moved on to further weekend commitments but for those remaining the pavilion and picnic tables were put to good use. Thanks again Ashhurst Pohangina Lions. The final job was staking and securing trees with webbing and scattering a slow-release fertiliser- everyone had departed by 1.30pm.

Thanks everyone for a brilliant day's team work and making new and rekindling old friendships.



An exciting idea was conceived at the working bee- Fay & Rob Partington have offered for ADP Design to sponsor a macrocarpa seat to be located in the picnic area. It will be concreted in giving stability and security. A special feature will be a bronze plaque of a haiku. The community are invited to take part in creating the haiku. Please email your ideas to fay@adpdesign.co.nz by the end of October and she will be honoured to select one from the heart of our community. It will be etched into the plaque prior to concreting and insertion into the platform.



Looking ahead to future maintenance, we are very lucky to have David Sapsford offer to mow both the newly planted area and the hill area. He has begun this and it is coming up well.

The small kowhai seedlings will need regular releasing using roundup or manual weeding to prevent from grass encroachment while they are young. Damien and his children have begun this.

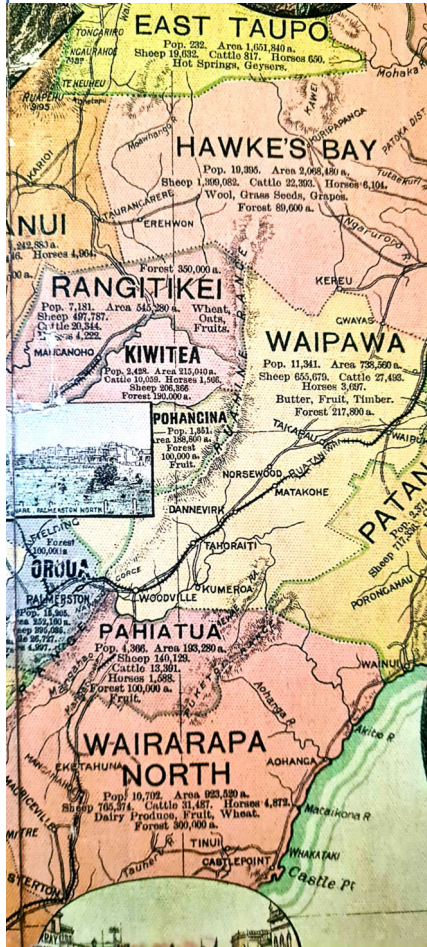
There is sufficient mulch remaining to reapply to the trees planted in the oval at the first working bee 2 years ago. The ones in the picket surrounds will need some pickets unscrewed to access for weeding and mulching. Those without surrounds on the lower level by Domain Road can be weeded then mulched as is.

Watering the new trees may be necessary depending on the season and will take a bit of thought and coordination to achieve especially if it is a dry summer. James Adamson suggested MDC could lend a water tank which could be put on a trailer. If anyone is keen to assist in any of the maintenance jobs or has any suggestions, please contact me on 3294891 or 0274157139

Liz Besley

ORCHARDS FROM POHANGINA PAST

Many of us know how well citrus trees grow in the Valley, but did you know that by the late 1890s the Pohangina Valley was well known for its orchards?



On 21 December 1898, the New Zealand Graphic published a pictorial map of New Zealand as a supplement to its Christmas issue. Pohangina featured clearly with a population of 1,851, a total land area of 188,800 acres, 100,000 acres of forest, and fruit noted as a main land use. Looking back through the National Library's Papers Past digital newspaper collection, most properties for sale in Pohangina in the 1890s to 1920s mentioned a 'good orchard'.

Mr J.M. Durling's farm on Valley Road near the Raumai Post Office was hailed as one of the best in the

country with six acres of every known variety of fruit tree specially selected to meet the peculiarities of the climate. Despite taking the precautionary measure of erecting props, his crop of apples was so abundant in January 1890 the branches were breaking with the weight of the fruit.

A forty-five-acre dairy farm that included a one-and-a-half-acre orchard containing 140 trees was up for sale in 1896 for £800. Fronting onto the main road, the property, which boasted a good nine-roomed house

with every modern convenience, was ideally situated one mile from the cheese factory, two miles from the creamery, and two and a half miles from the Ashhurst township and railway. By 1901, about ten acres of Fredrick Richards' 628-acre farm on the rich river-bed flats and level terraces at the junction of Coal Creek and the Pohangina River, six miles from the Pohangina township, were laid out as orchard.

In the spring of 1903, the cherry trees in Mr Reteymeyer's fourteen-acre orchard on the western side of the river at Awahou South were heavily laden with fruit. Reteymeyer had a reputation as a successful orchardist, notably with his experiments for dealing with pests. But not all orchard pests were of the insect variety. A highly respected unnamed Valley resident was reported to have been so annoyed that his orchard was being robbed, he set up a careful watch to discover the identity of the marauder, only to find it was his favourite old milking cow. Another anonymous settler known for the quality of his apples, had a grievance against certain local lads. He did not mind them sneaking his apples but objected to his trees being ruined in the process.

In February 1913, the well-known property in Komako belonging to Hugh Fraser came up for lease. Considered one of the best grazing farms in the Valley at the time, Fraser's 1323-acres was an attractive proposition with all the necessary outbuildings and farm accessories including a woolshed, concrete dipping yards, stables, cowshed and two cottages at the lower end of the property. As well as an eleven-room homestead fitted with acetylene lighting, hot and cold water, and telephone, Fraser's property boasted an eleven-and-a-half-acre apple tree orchard.



A strange fruit resembling a large pear was reported in February 1933 to be growing in an old orchard in the Pohangina district. Enquiries from the Department of Agriculture's fruit inspector revealed the fruit was a Botton's plum, originating from Californian fruit experimenter Luther Burbank, whose products were so unusual he was accused of faking nature. Shunned by dealers, shippers, canners, and dryers alike when first introduced in the early 1890s, within a couple of decades the "Burbank plum" was grown more widely than any other variety of plum. Described as a large round dark red fruit with sweet juicy aromatic yellow flesh, the "Burbank plum" is still readily available in nurseries around New Zealand. There may even be one in your back yard!

by Jenny Coleman

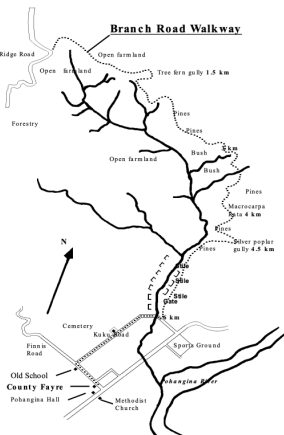




COUNTY FAYRE - August 2022

"County Fayre is the creative, social and historical heart of the Pohangina Valley"

Open Sundays 1:00pm to 4:00pm



"The Pohangina Downhill Walk" is a fund-raising event run by County Fayre that takes you on a spectacular journey through 6kms of farmland and native bush on the old Branch Road. History says the Branch Road follows the ancient Māori route, the Ahimaramara Track, which ran from Hawkes Bay into the Rangitikei Valley. Before the settlers came to the valley, wild cattle roamed the hills, farmers often hunted these cattle on horseback, and sold the meat and skins in Ashhurst. Later those living on the edge of the bush captured the wild cattle and sold them in the yards in Pohangina. The settlers formed the Branch Road on the old track, which linked Kiwitea via Coulter's Line with the Pohangina township. In the 1920's the Finnis Bridle Track (now Finnis Road) was widened to provide an alternative main route, replacing the Branch Road, which was eventually closed to vehicles in the 1960's following a series of large slips, leaving us today with the Branch Road Walkway.



Here is your opportunity to walk the track of the pioneers and take in spectacular scenery of the surrounding region and beautiful native bush, tickets cost \$30 Adults, \$15 Children (5-15yrs) and \$100 a Family, under 5's are free. Included in your ticket is a shuttle bus ride to the top of the track, where your walk will commence, and a nutritious lunch, that will be waiting for you once you arrive back at County Fayre. To book your tickets email countyfayre@inspire.net.nz.



County Fayre is once again hosting participants in the Art Trail Manawatu. This is being held on 15th & 16th October. Artists displaying their work at County Fayre are Rosie

Barclay, Scott Oliver, Suzanne Chelius and Jill Walcroft. Doors are open from 10:00am to 4:00pm to view and purchase the artists' work.

County Fayre recently hosted a Readers & Writers Mini-Fest, a very successful gathering of local authors, who provided interesting insights into their writings as well as provided a workshop for budding writers. See the writeup by Jill Walcroft also in this newsletter.

County Fayre is in the process of developing a Scholarship Award. As a charitable organisation we donate funds back into our community. Are you an individual, sports or social group in need of funds for any particular activity or equipment, or know of a family whose child would love to join a group but cannot afford the fees, you may be the perfect candidate for this award. Write to us at countyfayre@inspire.net.nz for an application form.

Drinks & Nibbles is usually held on the 3rd Friday of each month. The October gathering has been cancelled as it is Labour weekend. Come along on the 18th November. Doors open from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. This is an opportunity and venue for you,

your friends and neighbours to get together in a social environment. Bring along something to drink and nibbles to share. Tea and coffee will be provided. We are hoping the December event will be held at the Old School and Pool for an end of year Christmas gathering. Keep an eye on our facebook page for updates.



Are you an artist, craft maker or producer of individual creations and looking for an alternative place to display and sell your work. County Fayre can provide you with that place, we proudly display and sell work produced by local artisans. Your work would be displayed alongside NZ award winning cheeses, honey producers, authors, artworks, skin care products and many different crafts all produced by locals. If this is you, please contact us by emailing countyfayre@inspire.net.nz.

The heat pumps are in and it is a delight to feel the warmth of these in our Library and Tearoom areas, many thanks to Central Energy Trust for your support of 75% of the funds. The proceeds of previous fundraising events will cover the remaining 25%. Thanks to Linc Electrical for installing these for us.

Looking forward to seeing you at County Fayre sometime in the near future.

Joanne Morris-Kynoch - County Fayre President

Local Library

Did you know there is a lovely little library available for you to visit in Pohangina? We have a selection of books available in partnership with Fielding Library, as well as many books in the book-swap zone. Located beside County Fayre - drop in and check it out while it is open on Sunday, or contact countyfayre@inspire.net.nz for a key to buy.

GUNNERA

By Jack Keast

Contractors find a new infestation on a farm just out of Pahiātua. Source site over 2.5km away.



Senior Biosecurity Officer Jack Keast with a plant found at Raumai. Note the large orange seed heads.

Chilean Rhubarb, also known as gunnera, is a large ornamental garden plant that, unfortunately, doesn't stay in the garden. It has large rhubarb-shaped leaves which can be as big as a car's bonnet, tall flower spikes which can have thousands of seeds, and large, fleshy root-like structures called root structures rhizomes. It loves damp, boggy areas in gardens such as on the edges of ornamental ponds, unfortunately, it can spread rapidly from these areas. Birds love the bright orange seeds and can transport them in any direction. When seeds are deposited on a suitable surface the plant will flourish. Infestations occur

on river and stream banks, papa cliffs, bogs and wetlands, and often in roadside drains. Gunnera can drastically alter the species composition of these areas, crowding out native species, collecting sediment and blocking small waterways or drains. It also has been seen invading pasture in wet paddocks, outcompeting desirable plants and reducing grazing.

The Pohangina Valley has a few sites of this plant, mostly around Raumai, but it has escaped from a number of gardens in the valley over the past few decades. Horizons staff have found and controlled

a lot of these sites, but there still may be some sites out there that we don't know of yet. As Gunnera is classified as an eradication plant under Horizons' pest management plan, staff directly undertake the control in both gardens and wilding sites. The leaves die off over winter, but regrowth is well underway for this season. Horizons staff are urging anyone who has seen this plant either wilding or in a garden to get in contact with them so that they can control the plant. Contact Horizons on freephone 0508 800 800.

Kia Ora from Awahou School

Well we have had a whirlwind Term 3, full of adventures now that COVID-19 restrictions have eased. We decided to get about and about as often as we could and also invited some experts to share their knowledge with us.

Our Trips

First we went on a trip to Feilding to learn about and practice Road Safety with Constable Sarah Cree. We learnt about the different pedestrian crossings, as well as how to cross roads safely without a pedestrian crossing. Our second trip involved our Year 8 students heading off to a maths competition called Mathex. They had practised and represented Awahou School with pride! Ka rawe team! Later in the term we went to the Globe Theatre to watch a Ballet, produced by the Michelle Robinson Dance Company. After the show we popped over to Te Manawa Museum to learn about some NZ History. Our Kainui Kapa Haka event was also a highlight this term, as well as the Kainui Junior Dance! Our final trip this term was to Totara Reserve as part of Conservation Week. We explored our native bush, hunted for fungi and checked on the trees we planted earlier this year.

Our Visitors

This term Sarah Williams from Horizons Regional Council came back to visit to teach us some more about tracking and trapping the pests in our school environment. She also gave us five traps to use to catch some of these pests. We also had a visit from Michelle and Charlie from KiwiBots. The students had a great time building and playing with robots. We now have two of these robots at school for students to explore and use.

Donations, Fundraising and Events

A very successful pie fundraiser organised by Judy Swanney, raised \$905 to pay for some of our bus trips this term. Thanks Judy! We also extended a big THANK YOU to the Ashhurst RSA Womens' Section for donating \$200 towards some new library books. The biggest highlight of the term was our school DISCO! We danced and had a great time! Thanks to everyone who helped with the organisation. Funds raised from the disco will also go towards the new library books purchased.

Special Events/News

This term we celebrated Te Wiki o te Reo Māori, with art, activities, kapa haka and lots of language learning! We welcomed our new Board of Trustees members, Arna Taylor, Jenna Fisher, as well as welcomed back Nicole Stuart and Scooter Geange. Alistair Beveridge and Monique Ekdahl-Rodgers were both farewelled from the BoT. We are extremely thankful to both Alistair and Monique for all the dedication and support they and their families have provided the school over the past few years. Our old school sign was restored by both Alistair and Bettina and now sits pride of place outside the school office.

We can't wait for our Summer term, when the school pool is up and running and the sun is shining!

Ngā mihi,
Trudi Rei - Principal
0272420079

principal@awahou.school.nz

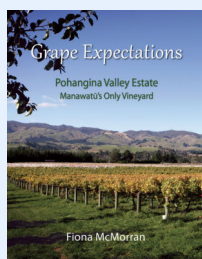


Buy a Book for Christmas!

Christmas is just around the corner!! Need a special gift for someone? Why not give them Grape Expectations the story of Pohangina Valley Estate, Manawatu's only vineyard.

The book is 124 pages and has over 135 colour photos. It covers the original decision to set up the vineyard, the initial sprouting of the vines and the development of the first wines. It takes the reader through the growth of the business to the point where major events were being hosted on the property, and some of the trials and tribulations of hosting these events. It is an entertaining and interesting memoir of a unique part of the Manawatu's history.

Available at County Fayre or you can email the author at mcmorranfe@actrix.co.nz



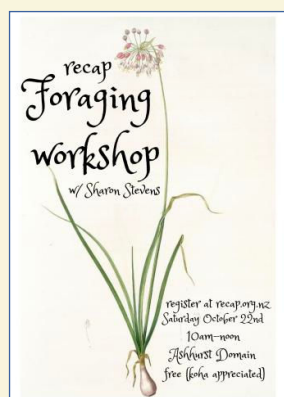
RECAP WORKSHOPS AND NEWS *By Chris Love*

Kia ora, from the team at RECAP.

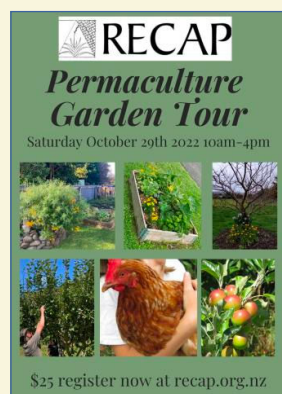
We have our last workshops and events scheduled for the year. Here are some of the highlights, but there is much more on our website recap.org.nz including the crop swap, the seed library, rescued food distribution, gardening in the community garden and specialty pest traps. Thanks to some very generous local businesses, we also have an epic raffle prize up for grabs! Tickets are \$2 each and you can purchased by email (info@recap.org.nz). The winner will be drawn at the Ashhurst Health Care open day (date tbc).

Noho ora mai

chris@recap



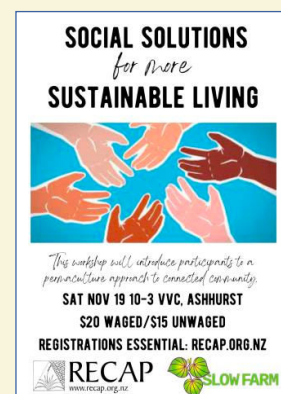
Join us for a gentle walk around the Ashhurst Domain as we identify plants and their uses while discussing foraging as a way to connect with nature, have fun and get a little extra nutrition. We will address safe foraging, foraging ethics, and other guidelines with the goal of participants being able to confidently identify up to 10 plants for safe foraging. 10am-12pm at the Ashhurst Domain



Saturday October 29th. Enjoy a self guided tour around locations in Ashhurst and the Pohangina valley, while gaining knowledge and insight into permaculture principles. The cost is \$25 per person, with free entry for those under 12. Registration is essential and can be made here. All registrations go in the draw to win a \$50 Edible Garden voucher!



If you want to grow your own but don't know how to start this one's for you. We'll be covering: general site analysis, the benefits of a no-dig garden bed/raised bed, soil health/building soil, seasonal planting/companion planting, best practice on berm gardening with a focus on edibles. This is \$5 and you can register [HERE](http://here)



Introduction to a permaculture approach to connected community: from small place-making interventions within existing neighbourhoods to design for intentional eco-communities, savings pools, tool-sharing and other relationship-based responses to financial challenges, social technologies for facilitating group process and making shared decisions. Registrations are essential and can be made [HERE](http://here)

Apiti Community Services Hub



The Glob

We will be at the Apiti Tavern from 9:30am - 3:00pm on the 21st of October

Visit The Glob for a Free Health Check. While you're with us, talk to our Digits representative about any digital needs, this could be low-cost internet modem or a Chromebook for your child's online learning.

The Massey University Smart Health Research team will be also be at the Apiti Tavern from 11.00am – 1.00pm to discuss the Rural Smart Health project – all welcome.

The Glob is proudly supported by the Manawatū Rural Support Service and St John Feilding.

Please contact MRSS:
Aevryl - 021 082 34809
Jo - 027 422 3544
for more information about this event.
Or contact The Glob GP:
Warren Nicholls - 06 323 8110

This event is supported by Te Tari Taiwhenua, Internal Affairs



**Hato Hone
St John**



**Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs**



Pohangina Hall

There are some exciting events in the works at the hall - watch this space! We are working on organising a Flower and Craft fair; a puppet show in April; and later in the year, a cabaret and a quiz night. If you have any other ideas or would like to be involved send us an email.

The hall is also available for hire at a very reasonable price for your own events. Please contact pohanginahall@outlook.co.nz

Stitch and Bitch

Stitch and Bitch evenings are now running from 7pm Tuesdays in the Old School Building, Pohangina Village. Coffee and tea will be available or bring your own preferred drink. Bring your knitting, crochet, cross stitch... whatever you are into or just come and have a chat and meet new people. Gold coin donation please. Enquiries to Nancy 021933220. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Protecting Trees from Rabbits



The very effective rabbit protectors donated by the Pullars to the domain project are called Emguards. They can be purchased on line from FuturEcology

No Drinks and Nibbles this month

Next nibbles and drinks on the 18th November. Doors open from 5:30pm to 7:30pm.

Conventional Hay Bales

Dave Blenkiron of Rangeview Farms does conventional haymaking, topping, harrowing, spraying and fertiliser. 0272464060 rangeview@inspire.net.nz



Ashhurst Health Care is now Open!

Access to local healthcare services is now a reality for the Ashhurst and Pohangina communities as Ashhurst Health Care is now open!

Ashhurst and Feilding Health Care Chief Executive Officer Nicky Hart says "people who live in the Ashhurst and Pohangina areas can now enrol to be a patient at the new Ashhurst Health Care facility".

Owned and operated by Feilding Health Care Partners, Hart says the new clinic will be a welcome addition to the community.

"Having a health clinic right here in Ashhurst means no more travelling to Feilding or Palmerston North to see a GP or nurse for people who live in Pohangina or Ashhurst - something that has been necessary since the last clinic closed in 2006."

"We want to provide healthcare services designed by our community, for our community. We're so proud to see Ashhurst Health Care finally come to life and we are excited to welcome you all to our new clinic."

You can enrol:

- Online now at www.ashhursthealthcare.nz
- Phone the clinic between Monday and Friday from 8.30am to 5pm on 06 888 7483
- Pop in and see us in-person at our clinic on 111 Cambridge Avenue, Ashhurst.
- By scanning the QR code.



For more information about Ashhurst Health Care and to stay up to date with our news visit [@ashhursthealthcare](https://www.facebook.com/ashhursthealthcare) on Facebook.



NEW SIGNS AT RAUMAI

By Bobbi Eades

Central Economic Development Agency (CEDA) has been working with the Pohangina community committee to update and refresh the two signs located at Raumai over the past few months.

Updating these signs included consultation on the direction of the new signs, which features the new look and feel of Manawatū's new regional brand, and updated information to ensure longevity of the signs. The new signs were installed end of September, which includes a community notice board which the Pohangina Valley community is encouraged to use. New brochure holders will follow which will house a refreshed The Country Road Guide and a new Walking & Cycling Guide.



Articles for the newsletter are very welcome and are accepted at any time. Email Julie Ann at: newsletter@valleynews.nz

Subscribe to our newsletter by going to www.valleynews.nz

Don't forget to check out our [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/valleynews) page.

Thanks to Mary Nettle for the snow photo and John Brock for the cover image and to everyone who put some of their precious time into the articles you see here.



READERS AND WRITERS MINI-FEST

By Jill Walcroft

The inaugural County Fayre Readers and Writers Mini-Fest was held on the 25th of September. All parts of the festival came together with ease. We had a great line-up of published writers from Pohangina Valley and the Ashhurst area. It was exciting to see people from Palmerston North, Fielding and the Valley seated snugly in the Art Gallery space. Everyone present was well looked after by the County Fayre volunteers who served Devonshire teas throughout the festival.

Together the writers presented an impressive range of ideas and stories as well as giving the audience some insight into their writing practice and publishing journeys. Catherine Knight opened the afternoon with a compelling overview of

the connection between experiencing nature and wellbeing. Lynn Kirkland took us inside her memoirs; "My Italian Destiny" and "My Italian Legacy" with beautiful and historic photos. She revealed that it all started with a tragic war time story that set her family on a path that links her to Italy forever. Fiona McMorran gave us a well-crafted overview of her involvement with the Pohangina Valley Wine Estate and how her desire to document the experience led to her publishing the story. During the programme break Thom Conroy facilitated a short workshop in the library. The group were led through a writing exercise and within a few short magical minutes they had piece of writing right there on the page. Others

had time to read Jenny Coleman's poster series displayed in the hallway called "The Case of the Woman Bridegroom" based on Jenny's book Mad or Bad? The life and exploits of Amy Bock. In the second half of the programme, Jane Evans spoke with infectious enthusiasm about her children's natural learning outside the normal boundaries of schools. Thom Conroy brought the festival to a close by drawing together lots of the ideas discussed throughout the afternoon and delighting us with readings from two of his books.

Some of us went home with newly purchased and signed books to read. Hopefully everyone went home happy.

POHANGINA HALL STORY



Many years ago, in the days when horses were the main form of transport and cows were milked by hand, the original Pohangina Hall was built. Not very well, apparently, as it had to be rebuilt 36 years later. It was home to dances and celebrations, meetings and clubs. Halls like this sprang up all around the country, enriching the lives of the people in the local community.

As people move back to thinking "local", these halls are again becoming a feature. The Pohangina Hall has been reasonably quiet since the advent of Covid, but it has still been used for weddings, birthday parties and meetings. The quiz night last year was sold out and music sessions have recently started. However, to ensure the continued

survival of this hall it needs to be used. If you are planning a celebration or a community event, consider the Pohangina Hall. It can hold up to 150 people, although the warm, woody interior makes it suitable for smaller groups too. The cost of hiring the hall is reasonable and we only ask that you leave it clean and tidy – ready for the next person.

As you drive around the country you will see many community halls in various stages of disrepair – some have been demolished; some have been sold and lost to the community. We are very lucky to have this piece of living history in our midst, still loved and cared for. Enjoy! Email: pohanginahall@outlook.co.nz

PVCC UPDATE

The latest meeting of the Pohangina Valley Community Committee was held in the Library at County Fayre on Thursday 6th October. New residents to the valley may not realise that we have a small library in the village that is located in the eastern end of the County Fayre building. You can buy a key for \$10 and it is a self service system.

The October meeting covered several important topics. It was Councillor Phil Marsh last meeting as our MDC council representative as he is not re-standing for election and Liz acknowledged his advocacy on our behalf and the wealth of knowledge he has been in his time as a councillor. Local elections have now been completed and we will update you as to who will be our new councillor rep from MDC. There has been some training undertaken by the Emergency management team from MDC with the committee and other interested people in the village to upskill us to running a EM Centre from County Fayre, Highland Home Christian Camp and Awahou School in the event of a civil emergency. Some dangerous roads in our valley needs extra signs. We have new signage at Raumai layby which is fantastic thanks to CEDA and Bobbi Eades. The following issues are still 'on the radar' for the committee - the charge for usage of the Ashhurst Library by valley residents plus No.4 Line residents battle with MDC over the current state of their road and the constant dust problem that it is causing.

Everyone is welcome to the PVCC meetings and we are always looking for new members. Our next meeting of the PVCC will be 7.00pm Thursday December 1st at County Fayre.

CONTACTS

Pohangina Valley Community Library

The library is in the County Fayre building in Pohangina Village. Open during County Fayre hours, key available to buy.

Hauora Yoga Studio

Weekly classes in the Yoga Barn. Contact Catherine on 021 0270 4400 or email hauorayoga@gmail.com website: www.hauorayoga.co.nz

Gumboots and Coffee

We meet on the last Wednesday of the month. If you are interested in joining please contact:

Liz Besley on 329 4891 or Raewyn Moar on 329 4745

Pohangina Valley Community Hall

Available for hire for all functions
Email: pohanginahall@outlook.co.nz

Pohangina Old Schoool Reserve

For information on bookings contact Kim on 329 4150. For swimming pool key contact Ade on 329 4789

County Fayre

Open Sundays 1pm -4pm
Contact County Fayre at countyfayre@inspire.net.nz

Awahou Playgroup

We meet every Wednesday at Awahou School Hall 9.30am-12noon. All welcome. Contact: amielmelody13@gmail.com

Manawatu Rural Support Services

St Bartholomew's Church in Komako on the last Tuesday of each month between 10.30am – 1.00pm. Home visits available.

Aevryl Jestin
06 323 7191
021 0823 4809
mrssincrcw2@gmail.com

RECAP

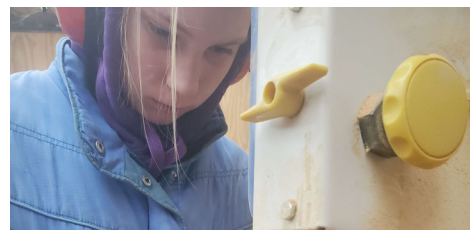
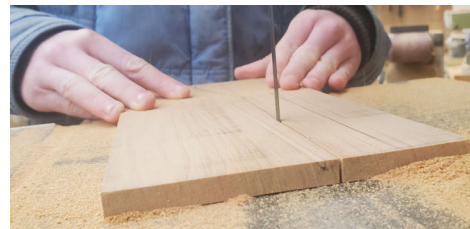
Contact Chris Love
RECAP coordinator
chris@recap.org.nz
www.recap.org.nz
facebook ResilienceAshhurstPohangina

Alyssa's Enterprise

Hi, my name is Alyssa Smartt and I have been lucky enough to gain a place on one of the cheerleading teams travelling to Hawaii in May. To help me get there I am fundraising by making and selling wooden crafts, including spatulas, yoyos, and little folding tables. Many of the things I do myself but some of the more difficult things like the tables Mum helps me with the construction. The big saw scares me, so mum helps with that, but I like the sanding and finishing everything because the oil smells really nice!

The most popular items are the spatulas and the tables because they make really good gifts. You can see some photos of the things I make on Mum's Facebook page ([Kim Couper-Smartt](#)) . I post these when I have finished things. You can also email me for orders at alyssa@spiderfan.org. Cheerleading is a team sport that involves tumble, stunting and dance. My favourite part is tumble but I am not so confident in dance. I am working on my dance though and I am getting better.

The club that I belong to is Zero Gravity Cheer, based in Palmerston North. The best thing about cheer is how fun, bubbly and energetic everyone is. They are all really friendly and encourage you to try your best with everything. I think that it is a sport that everyone should try. Check out the [Zero Gravity](#) website for more information and they are also on Facebook.



Whio Calendar 2023

The Ruahine Whio Protection Trust have produced another beautiful "Wild Ruahine" calendar for 2023.

These make great xmas presents – and help support a local conservation project.

All of the lovely photos are taken in the our beautiful Ruahine Ranges, many by photographers who are also volunteers who spend their spare time out there in the hills and rivers.

The design is by volunteer Whio Protector and designer Anthony Behrens (Swampthing). All photos are donated and it is even printed in NZ. .

All proceeds go to support the volunteer trapping effort helping to protect the Whio or Whistling Blue Duck. These endangered ducks are present in the Oroua and Pohangina Rivers in low numbers and

in greater numbers in the more northern Ruahine rivers.

Cost in once again \$20 + PP

If you live in or near the Pohangina township I am happy to deliver – they are also available at Bivouac Palmerston North and at County Fayre for the same price \$20.00.

Contact JanetWilson
jwilson@inspire.net.nz

