

# Heathcote Community Magazine

## Autumn 2023



# An Autumn Message from the Community Coordinator

It's been an eventful few months since the last news magazine with the wonderful Heathcote Christmas Market doing its thing. As it rained down, they creatively moved into and around the Community Centre with the Sumner brass band playing vibrantly under the cricket club veranda, creating a welcoming Christmas vibe. There was also the bi-annual Christmas carol singing attended by many at the outside venue of the Heathcote Valley Inn. Then in the early hours of the 25th December Father Christmas with all his pomp and ceremony followed by summer holidays, a time to chill out and relax.



Jocelyn de Kort

During these holidays on January 22nd, my NZ family and I received some exciting and surprising news from my family in Sweden. The early arrival of a new little grandson, born three weeks early, within 40 minutes of arriving at the local hospital, after speeding through the forest in heavy snow with minus 16 degrees outside he popped into the world at 3am. Nature has its own magical rhythm with little no regard for human 'time'.

Summer is on the wane with a crispness in the early morning air and dew on the gardens. There is an abundance of fruit and vegetables being harvested with excess going to the share table on Station Road. The Heathcote community fruit harvesting project also collects local excess produce to donate to less fortunate communities.

With autumn on the way, daylight saving reverts to normal time and Easter celebrations begin. Delicious hot cross buns, decorating and painting eggs for an Easter egg hunt are a favourite of mine.

It's been wonderful to see so many new articles, stories, pictures and poems coming in from the wider community. Thank you so much to all the contributors for this Heathcote quarterly magazine. It's always exciting to hear and read new and regular stories about

happenings, events, history and life's adventures in and around Heathcote.

I am aiming to streamline the timing of incoming articles, making it easier and more predictable for the Heathcote quarterly magazine to be completed and delivered to you all in a timely manner. To make this happen future articles can be sent to [heathcotevillageproject@gmail.com](mailto:heathcotevillageproject@gmail.com)

by 12th of May for the June winter magazine, 12th of August for the September spring magazine, 12th of November for the December summer magazine and the 12th of February for the March autumn magazine. I'll aim to send out a reminder via the Heathcote email and possibly also the Heathcote Facebook site.

I would also like to welcome all the newcomers to Heathcote and surrounding valleys. With the support of a team of local school students and their parents we have made some gorgeous bags as welcome packs for all newcomers to the valley. If you have a new neighbour email me on [heathcotevillageprojet@gmail.com](mailto:heathcotevillageprojet@gmail.com) to receive one of these welcome pack bags along with some local information, newsletters and a welcome Heathcote card to write in and give to your new neighbours. These bags could be added to by you, with some home baking, preserves, flowers, local produce or an invite for a cuppa. The intention is to create an opportunity to welcome new residents into the community.

It would be awesome to have a few more people who are interested in getting together with their buddies to sew more bags and add to this venture. I look forward to hearing from you.

Enjoy the change of season with its autumn colours, foraging and preparing for the cooler mornings. Keep in touch with each other sharing support and creative ideas. Remember to spare a thought with love for all those affected by the serious weather events around the country.

Keep sending in your news articles and life's adventures to share in the next magazine.

**Kia hari te panui, happy reading**

Jocelyn



# Te Tihi o Kahukura

## Heathcote Valley School

Kia Ora,

I am Lauren your new Community Liaison for 2023. During this year I will be sharing with you all of the events and activities happening at school.

Before school started we had the Hauora interviews and barista trials. The Hauora Interviews are where the teachers meet up with the students in their class and discuss what the student's goals are for the year.

The barista trials were on the 30th and the 31st of January when our new baristas learnt new and important skills for their role as barista. The coffee cart is open on Mondays and Thursdays for parents and other locals. If you ever see the signs out, try and stop by and taste some delicious coffee made by our talented students!

We started school on the 1st of February kicking it off in the morning with a mihi whakataua, giving our new students a warm welcome.

The seniors started technology on the first Friday. We all took the bus to the old Avonside campus to learn activities like cooking, sewing, and digital tech.

We also have had some fun inquiry activities, in the senior room we have been doing zentangle portraits and the juniors even went on a trip to the art gallery!

Kapa Haka has started for years 4 to 8, every week. Whaea Cath comes in to teach all of the students Maori songs and haka.

On Monday the 20th all of the PALs (physical activity leaders) went out for their training session at school where they learned games and activities to teach other children back at school.

Some of our senior students really enjoyed going up to the Heathcote Valley Community Centre with local



Lauren McCauley



HVS students at the PALs training session

valley members for a delicious morning tea and chat. They got to share what they have been up to at school and learn more about what has been happening outside of school life too.

I look forward to sharing with you soon all about our swimming sports results which we have coming up soon.

Thanks, Lauren



## HEATHCOTE VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC.

Ngā mihi nui koutou Heathcote whānau. (Greetings to the big wide family of Heathcote Community)

How have you found these last few weeks watching from afar as our fellow folk of Aotearoa suffer at the hands of storms, cyclones, and huge amounts of rain?



Sooze Harris  
Co-chair HVCA

Like many others I've talked to I've found myself far more affected by their suffering than I have when I've heard of other communities suffering in the past – a much more tangible empathy and agony on behalf of so many. It's seemed to me that there has been something about this past three weeks that has reminded many of us of our own difficult times through the earthquakes and other events here in Ōtautahi (Christchurch). It's brought up memories of the uncertainty, the loss, the confusion and frustration, but also memories of connection, of companionship, of creativity, and even fun at times. I've been recalling fondly memories of the BYO pub days, and of The Eastern playing out the back of St Mary's amongst many others.

I've also found myself reflecting on some of the ways our community of Heathcote responded to the earthquakes especially, and some of the things we learnt through this time. A reflection from the introduction of the book 'Heathcote: The Upside' sums some of this up.

*Individually and communally, we experienced – and continue to experience – much adversity because of these earthquakes. We expected and braced ourselves for these challenges, and many of us*

*wondered whether our lives would ever feel safe and certain again.*

*What many of us didn't expect were the silver linings that would also flood the experience: the upsides. As a community, Heathcote has responded to adversity with positivity and courage: neighbours and strangers have become friends, and the future is being faced with creativity and a strong value on relationships and belonging. We have seen an emergence of creativity, innovation, and initiative.*

*Pg.12 (2016)*

While we couldn't change many of our circumstances, we learnt to work within what we could influence, to take action together, to look for solutions, and to do this with kindness and hope. At the time a group of residents aimed to articulate these values that we were seeing outworked again and again in this community. We identified the following five values:

1. Relationships are at the core
2. Everyone has value
3. Shared power
4. We own our own solutions
5. Positive action

As the HVCA committee, we see one of our roles as working to protect these values and support each other and our community to respond to ongoing challenges and opportunities by leaning into these values. What does it look like to respond to security and safety concerns in the valley through these values? How do responses to climate or transportation or housing look when explored through these values.

*Continued on next page...*

... from previous page

With this in mind, we are planning to run two monthly community wide hui (meetings) focussed on a specific issue or opportunity, where those interested in working together as a community to explore what positive action and owning our solutions might look like. We hold the space for connections to be made, voices to be heard, and collective responses to be created. We are currently planning our first hui which will be in the middle of March and focussed on safety and security concerns. More information will follow through our communication methods – Google Group, Facebook, and/or noticeboards. Look out for more details if you'd like to be part of this conversation.

Ngā mihi,  
Sooze Harris (Co-Chair on behalf of HVCA committee)

# The Baristas of Heathcote Valley School

*By Isaac Russel*

Hi, my name is Isaac. I have been lucky enough to be a full-time barista at Heathcote Valley School. The coffee cart is open at Heathcote Valley School behind the office, on Monday and Thursday mornings between 8:30 and 9:30 am. We make drinks such



Isaac Russel

as hot chocolates for just \$3.50, as well as long blacks and short blacks for only \$3.00. We also make lattes, chais, flat whites and more!



The Coffee Cart baristas

From left to right. Zeke Faulks, Seth Mortimer, Isaac Russel, Zara Rooney (tall at back), Isla Liken

The coffee beans we use are supplied from Lyttelton. At the coffee cart we have great customer service and you will be welcomed when you come for a delicious coffee. We have blankets if you are cold, or we will move the table inside. Everyone sits around the table and chats about what's going on. The coffee cart has such a chill and relaxed atmosphere. I look forward to being of service to you all.

# UPCYCLE

## Freecycle Day

**Mark your diary now!**

**The autumn Freecycle day will be on**

**Saturday 22nd April**

Freecycle day is a great opportunity to pass on good but unwanted items to a new home. Simply place them at your gate in the morning for people to pick up. Anything left at the end of the day you need to please remove.

If you are looking for the ultimate bargain (i.e. great stuff for free) then check out the Heathcote streets on the 22nd.

# Community Awareness

*By Vicki Russell*

As someone who has recently moved into this beautiful community I've been overwhelmed by the sense of community spirit that is alive and well here, it truly is an incredible thing. However, I have been concerned reading of all the vehicle crimes that have and continue to happen here, it seems like every other day.

I'm hoping that as a community we can make a collective effort to try and detract these people from even wanting to come here. Let's put it this way, would you go to a store if you knew they didn't have what you wanted or that it was going to be difficult to purchase it? Or would you shop elsewhere? Just ponder that for a moment...

So, let's make it difficult for them to 'shop' by doing a few small things together as a group so we can all take care of each other, because as we know teams can generally achieve more than individuals.

- Do not leave any valuables in your vehicle. But if you MUST(!!!), then please make sure you have hidden it from plain sight. Cost - free.
- Lock your vehicle regardless of where you park it, or for how long. Create a habit. Cost - free.
- Park your vehicles and trailers in a locked garage, up driveways or behind closed gates if you have that ability (I hear you have great free-cycle days here if you need to clear out the garage). Cost - free.
- If you have a vehicle that you know is desirable or easy to steal then an alarm or a steering wheel lock is a great deterrent. Cost - from \$35.
- If you have a trailer of any description, a trailer coupling or wheel lock are also great deterrents (preferably the latter). Cost - less than \$100.

It would be amazing if we could all work together because the cost of not taking some small steps could result in inconvenience, frustration, loss and our community continuing to be targeted.

Although I have solely related to vehicles, think about your homes too... we don't want them moving onto an easier alternative product. I appreciate that we shouldn't have to think this way but the sad fact of the matter is that we do.

So let's as a community encourage them to shop elsewhere... or even better, not to shop at all.

And remember, if it's happening now call 111 and if it's already happened call 105 or make an online report.

# Staying Mobile

*By Allie McMillan*

There's a movement abroad, and this will involve movement aboard, according to the Greater Christchurch Partnership. Transport is in dire need of change in Christchurch, as is obvious in the ever-increasing long queues of private cars and often near empty buses on our roads. Overarching is the national environmental goal of halving our emissions by 2030. With a rapidly increasing population the need for change is obvious. There is ongoing discussion of the possibilities for light rail from the west of into the centre of the city. Feeder rapid buses would link in to this.

How will the communities around the city be served? Fortunately, a pilot scheme called My Way has been trialled by ECan in Timaru, with great success. It has now been implemented across the city, replacing the usual big buses. "Unlike traditional public transport which has set routes and timetables that people must fit in around, users can book MyWay by Metro to pick them up and drop them off at convenient locations (across Timaru)". Small buses with ramps, space for bicycles, wheelchairs and prams cross the city. Please refer to <https://www.mywaybymetro.co.nz>

With MyWay on my mind, I recently invited Vicky Southworth, an Ecan Councillor on the Regional Council, to talk to the Maltworks residents, of which I am one, about transport issues eg bus stops and MyWay. It certainly seems the most logical system for the people of Maltworks and indeed the whole Heathcote Valley community. The cost of travel is, in Timaru, similar to that of today's buses. Since that meeting, I briefed the local Community Committee, and have met with an Age Friendly sub committee member of the Cashmere Spreydon Heathcote Community Board, and amazingly that group is also focused on MyWay and the transport needs of an ageing community, including Heathcote. I will attend their next open meeting at South Library at 3.00pm on Tuesday 14 March. Anyone from Heathcote is welcome to attend.

Eventually, MyWay will feed into the integrated transport system for Christchurch. How might it be if we can submit our ideas to the Greater Christchurch Partnership?

# Heathcote Community Sports Club



Although the day started cool and grey, the sun came out right on time for the Heathcote Community Sports Club Open Day at the end of January. Visitors from around Christchurch joined our regular members for a great day of games and a barbecue lunch.

A few games of petanque introduced visitors to the rules and let them try their hand. These were followed by some fun competitions which challenged both newcomers and seasoned players alike.

Having worked up an appetite, players retired to the club rooms to enjoy a delicious lunch where numbers grew with those joining us for the afternoon bowls. Again, novices had the opportunity to play a few games with some coaching and everyone had the opportunity to show their skills with some more competitions.

Special thanks go to our sponsors and donors – Dalman Architects for printing the flyers, Premier Beehive for donating the barbecue meats, and CCC Summer with your Neighbours for donating towards the salads. Special thanks, too, to Carey Brown and her team of flyer distributors, and to our President, Steph Green, for cooking all that food!

We are pleased to have welcomed a number of new members – and we are always open to more.

Current playing times are:

Petanque – Sunday and Thursday mornings 10am to 12 noon all year (weather permitting)

Lawn Bowls – Sunday 2pm to 4pm; Tuesday Twilight Bowls 7pm to 9pm until Easter

Following Easter, bowls moves indoors and will be held Sunday 2-4pm and Tuesday 7-9pm. There will be no bowls on Tuesday 4 April.

From January the new member fee has been reduced – now just \$45 for full membership through to the end of September; social membership is \$20; or Pay and Play for only \$5.00 per session. All equipment is supplied.

For any inquiries, please contact me at [heathcotecommunitysportclub@gmail.com](mailto:heathcotecommunitysportclub@gmail.com)

Zella Askew  
Secretary

## Twinkle Tots



Twinkle Tots meet each Friday morning, during school term.

Song and dance activity for pre-school children, up to 4 years.

St Mary's Anglican Church Hall, Corner of Martindales Road and Truscotts Road.

Children must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

We meet 10.30am to 11.15am and then have a relaxed break for morning tea/coffee or water and something to eat – children can play safely.

Free to all, regardless of faith or creed. Gold coin donation.

For more information contact:  
Suzanne Stewart **027 285 1843**

# Heathcote Community Garden Update



Since the last newsletter was published, the Heathcote Community Garden volunteers have made the decision to relocate the garden. The main reason behind this was due to the flooding problems in the current location behind St Marys Church.

Several locations were considered and researched and finally we approached the Heathcote Valley School with the possibility of relocating to their site. The headmaster, Bruce, and teacher, Karen, visited us at our garden to discuss the possibility. The outcome was a favourable, yes. Further meetings were arranged at the school with possible sites viewed. We all decided that the move could now be planned to go ahead. The Parish Warden, Allan was notified, and he said that he had no problem with the idea and offered best wishes for the move.

During January, the planning began with measurements and scaled drawings as to where the existing raised beds could be moved to, and some minor work was carried out with the watering system.

Another meeting has been held with the volunteers, school representatives, parents of existing pupils and the Capacity Builder, Rachel, from the Canterbury Community Gardens Association. This meeting was for the purpose of setting the outline for the new format of the garden on school property encompassing the roles of the school, pupils and the community. These ideas will become the official guidelines as to how the garden will operate as a joint venture and be known as in the future.

Notifications on progress will be posted on the Heathcote Community Garden Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1220815585088673> . In the meantime, there will not be any new planting in the existing garden as the beds are prepared for moving.

John Marks, [Coordinator]

# Waterslide Fun!

*By Emily Brooks*

Heathcote Valley is one of those special places where the community connects through a variety of unique social gatherings. All it takes is for a group of neat people to come together and make it happen and that's exactly what Callum Templeton did! From an idea and a bit of rallying to sourcing the right equipment and a group of people to lend a hand, Callum started the 'Ministry of Fun'. Much needed in the valley after the devastating effects of the Canterbury earthquakes.

Fun is the key to bringing a community together and making people feel connected. The waterslide has been one of those great community activities to bring smiles to the faces of those young and old. Callum was the drive behind making this happen for many years. Multiple lockdowns and the spread of Covid meant that social events like the waterslide could not take place over the three years. However as the dust settles and we are able to connect again the waterslide has made its return!



On 5th February at the Heathcote Valley domain the waterslide was set up and the word was spread - *slip slop slap* and pop on down to enjoy an awesome watersliding session! Children needed to be supervised by an adult but all were welcome to jump on the slide and join in the fun AND that's exactly what happened! Shrieks of laughter, giggles and screams filled the air once again.

A huge thank you to Callum Templeton and his team of awesome helpers for bringing back this much loved community activity!!

# What's on at Your Community Centre?



Summer is drawing to a close but I feel like we have been very blessed with plenty of traditional hot Canterbury days over the past few months and the community centre has been abuzz with all sorts of wonderful events and celebrations. It is the perfect warm-weather venue with wide sliding doors that open onto a lovely big deck and the domain.

While appreciating our own Summer, of course we have all been thinking of our fellow kiwis who have been dealing with the awful devastation caused by Cyclone Gabrielle. Those of us who were here for our 2011 earthquake have an increased appreciation of the hardships they are facing. With that in mind we are working on some support options for the affected communities, and will communicate these as they develop.

We are coming up to week five of term one and many of our favourite regular groups and classes are underway at the community centre. We also have some wonderful new additions this term including fortnightly Te Reo classes and a weekly Yoga for Teens session. There are plenty of great opportunities to connect, learn and stay healthy and we are lucky to have such a brilliant community space available.

In between our regular activities the community centre is, of course, available for private hire. So if you have something to celebrate or need a versatile space to meet in then don't hesitate to contact me (Jen) any time with enquiries – [hvcc.bookings@gmail.com](mailto:hvcc.bookings@gmail.com).

This is our current weekly schedule:

## **Craft Group**

Mondays 10am-12pm: Enjoy knitting, crocheting or sewing with a wonderful group of people each Monday. \$3 per session and morning tea and great company provided. Please contact Wendy ([chamberskw26@gmail.com](mailto:chamberskw26@gmail.com)) with any questions

## **Tradie Yoga**

Mondays 6pm-7pm: Keep your body and mind healthy with this great yoga class designed for tradespeople (and anyone else interested!).

Contact Michele ([mlaingphysio@gmail.com](mailto:mlaingphysio@gmail.com))

## **Te Reo Class**

Fortnightly on Tuesdays 3.30pm – 5pm

Contact Ali Bare ([yogawithbreeze@gmail.com](mailto:yogawithbreeze@gmail.com))

## **Santosh Yoga with Breeze**

Tuesdays 6pm – 7.30pm: Small group yoga designed for all ages and stages. Connect with your body, de-stress and get stronger and more flexible.

Contact Breeze ([yogawithbreeze@gmail.com](mailto:yogawithbreeze@gmail.com))

## **Community Morning Tea**

Wednesdays 10am – 12pm: Come and join us for a cuppa, some home baking and plenty of good company. Everyone is welcome, come alone or bring a friend. No charge.

Contact Jen ([hvcc.bookings@gmail.com](mailto:hvcc.bookings@gmail.com))

## **Yoga for Teens**

Wednesdays 4.30pm – 5.15pm: This nurturing class will support both the mental and physical well-being of teens, building self-awareness, autonomy and confidence.

Contact Lucy ([lucydolankang@gmail.com](mailto:lucydolankang@gmail.com))

## **Yoga with Lucy**

Wednesdays 6pm – 7pm AND Fridays 9.15am-10.15am:

These classes are suitable for all levels of experience, and a wide range of ages. The focus is on linking the breath with our practise, flowing and stretching through a mostly simple range of asana (poses) the

outcome of which brings you into a good alignment with your centre.

Contact Lucy ([lucydolankang@gmail.com](mailto:lucydolankang@gmail.com))

### **Heathcote Valley Community Association Meetings**

Held on the last Wednesday of each month from 6.30pm. If you would like to hear about what is happening in our community, then come along to one of our meetings held at the Heathcote Valley Community Centre.

The Committee meets at 6.30pm to address Association business, and from 8pm we discuss wider community ideas, issues and actions.

Everyone is welcome to attend from either 6.30pm or 8pm. We ask that if you have something you'd like to specifically speak about from 8pm, that you email Jen [hvcc.bookings@gmail.com](mailto:hvcc.bookings@gmail.com) or Jos [jos.dkj@gmail.com](mailto:jos.dkj@gmail.com) prior to ensure we can reserve a speaking slot.

### **Movement Rewired with Nicky**

Fridays 11am – 12.30pm: These are gentle floor-based lessons that will help you to improve your overall well-being. They utilise gentle movement, mindfulness and breathing approaches which are suitable for all age groups and all levels.

Contact Nicky ([nickywoodwardnz@gmail.com](mailto:nickywoodwardnz@gmail.com))

### **Puppy / Dog Training with Sit Happens**

Friday evenings and Saturday mornings by appointment: The Sit Happens team are passionate about dogs so if you are looking for some awesome and effective training strategies then head over to <https://www.sithappens.co.nz/> or contact Vicki ([admin@sithappens.co.nz](mailto:admin@sithappens.co.nz))

### **Celebration Day for Girls:**

Alice Tabak runs these amazing one-day workshops that educate and empower girls about their menstrual cycle, body literacy, health, self-care and well-being. At this stage the next workshop at the Heathcote Valley Community Centre will be on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May. Groups are kept small so be sure to book your daughter in soon.

Contact Alice ([cdg.alicetabak@gmail.com](mailto:cdg.alicetabak@gmail.com))

**WE'RE HARVESTING!**

COMMUNITY FRUIT HARVESTING

HEATHCOTE VALLEY COMMUNITY FRUIT HARVESTING

Have excess fruit you'd like donated to those in need? Get in touch!

[pickfruitheathcote@gmail.com](mailto:pickfruitheathcote@gmail.com)

Call/text 021 02330407

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

**Christchurch City Council**

We would like to extend our thanks to the Christchurch City Council for their support in printing this magazine. This has helped us continue to support Heathcote, strengthen our relationships, remain a strong connected and engaged community.

# Heathcote Valley Christmas Market

*By Jayne Fortune-Ayers*

For the second year running, we pulled off a very successful 'Heathcote Valley Christmas market' at the Heathcote Domain. The forecast had us a tad concerned but a swift change in plans and a little bit of rearranging and we managed to squeeze ourselves into the community centre! All the vendors, including myself, were a tad sceptical but I knew that our incredible community, friends and family, would support us. And what a successful day it was!



Jayne Fortune-Ayres and Kati Ridley

Hundreds of adults, kids, families wandered around the 25 stalls. Stopped to sample some smokey smokey cheese from the Ridley Bros. Smelt the goodness from Te Kainga kawakawa balms. Tried on the jewellery from Chandra and Zhoosh. Were enticed by the ever tempting wafts of bacon from the bbq run by HVS and the much needed caffeine from our incredible school coffee cart. These are merely a sample of the amazing stall holders' products and stall holders themselves. The plan was always to have an outdoor market with a 'cafe picnic' type space to idle away some time while listening to the incredible melodies coming from the Sumner brass band, chomping a bacon buttie and sipping a coffee. It didn't quite pan out that way but MAN!! Was I overwhelmed by the turn out, the support and the camaraderie from everyone!

Thank you Heathcote! You guys are choice!

I reckon I might even do it again this Christmas.

But first, I have a few people to thank...

Firstly to the incredible vendors and their patience and understanding with last minute changes.

Jenni from HVCC for your help and support

HVS-Liz and Sooze and their band of helpers for the coffee cart and bacon butties.

So many components came together to make an awesome day! So thank you.

Jayne Fortune-Ayers

I have a concept plan for a kids' market upcoming as well. In April but date yet to be confirmed

Kids' crafts made by kids, items for children etc. If anyone is interested please email me:

Jayne, [vjfortune@gmail.com](mailto:vjfortune@gmail.com).

Heathcote  
Valley Kids  
Market!

Its the kids turn!

we are taking interest from kids and adults for  
this HV kids market!  
this will be held in April-date TBA

Contact-Jayne-vjfortune@gmail.com

# 10 TOP EASTER TIPS



## 1 HAVE AN EASTER EGG HUNT IN THE GARDEN

Turning your backyard into a treasure garden—with straw baskets, painted eggs and autumn treats—is a wonderful way to entertain both adults and children. Have it at brunch time and incorporate finger food and cocktails (both tipsy and non-alcoholic) followed by a light lunch outside with lots of flowers and autumnal place settings.

## 2 PERSONALISE EASTER EGGS

These make great gifts or could be used as place cards on your Easter table. Using a piping bag or plastic squeeze bottle filled with a contrasting shade of melted chocolate, write an Easter message on a hollow chocolate egg. Further decorate the egg with lollies if you wish. Great fun for all ages!

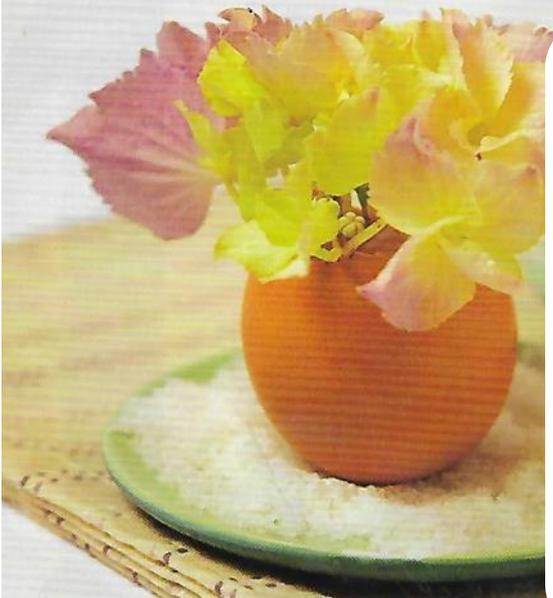
## 3 PAINT REAL EGGS

Dye the eggs using a mixture of 1/2 to 1 Tbsp of food colouring with 2 Tbsps of vinegar in a cup that is deep enough for the hard boiled eggs. Add water to about the half way point and place the eggs into the cup. The longer they are left in the cup the darker the colour shade. Experiment with different combinations of colours. Once dyed you can further decorate the eggs with felts or paints.

# 4

## MAKE TINY EGGSHELL FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

Break an egg at the top of its shell, drain the contents, and carefully rinse out the inside. Fill the empty shell with room temperature water and place it in an eggcup for stability. Next, insert small cuttings of your favourite blossoms. So cute!



# 5

## MAKE PASSIONFRUIT MIMOSAS

Perfect for the adults whilst the Easter egg hunt is on. Always choose the ripest, wrinkliest passionfruit for these delicious drinks. Simply squeeze the pulp of one passionfruit into each champagne glass and fill with chilled champagne!



# 6

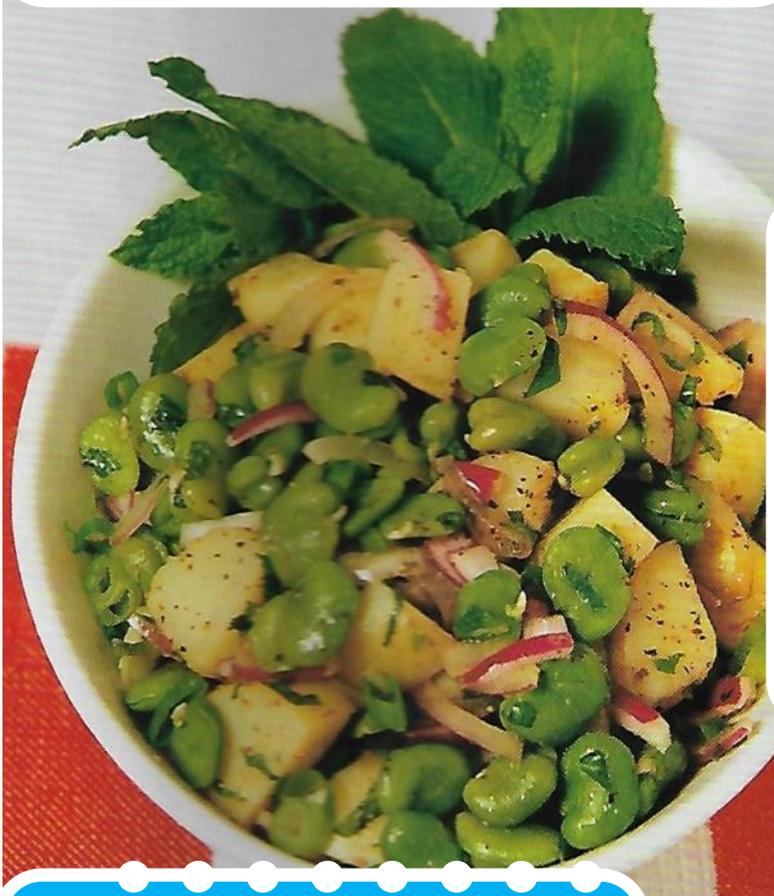
## USE BOXES OF WHEATGRASS AS A TABLE CENTREPIECE

These cute boxes of lush grass are available at good health food stores and look great wrapped in ribbon and stuffed with small eggs, fluffy bunnies or chicks, or with fresh flowers 'growing' out of them.

7

## MAKE EGGSHELL VOTIVES

It's simple to make these tiny candles that will light up your table at Easter. The light glows through the eggshells. Make lots of them for a stunning effect. Simply clean out the eggshells, trim birthday candles to fit just inside the egg, melt a little wax in the bottom of the egg to stick the candle into. Then half fill the eggs with chopped up wax candle. Place the eggshell candles in a bowl of stones or marbles, or in individual egg cups. Light at dusk.



8

## BROAD BEAN, MINT AND POTATO SALAD

Remove broad beans from the pod and blanch. Lightly cook salad potatoes, drain, then toss in a vinaigrette whilst still warm. Add the broad beans, some chopped mint and some finely sliced red onion. Season and serve.

9

## MAKE AN EASY EASTER FRUIT SALAD

Squeeze an orange and a lime into a glass bowl and sweeten the juice with icing sugar. Add in a combination of chopped kiwifruit, peeled feijoas, or other seasonal fruit, plus fresh passionfruit pulp, and peeled and diced banana. Serve with lightly whipped cream.



# 10

## EASTER LAMB SALAD

Lamb is very traditional at Easter and this light and tasty recipe makes a great main course. BBQ four lamb fillets for about 7-10 minutes depending on the size, then immediately wrap in foil and leave in a warm spot while you assemble the salad.

*Serves 4*

4 cups mixed salad leaves  
Your favourite combination of: sliced cucumber, red onion, sliced nashi pears, bean sprouts  
Chopped fresh mint

*Whisk together:*

4 Tbsps fish sauce  
4 Tbsps rice vinegar  
4 Tbsps red currant jelly  
2 tsps soy sauce|  
1 small, fresh hot chilli pepper, seeded & minced  
1 spring onion, finely sliced

Slice the lamb crosswise as thinly as possible. Add the lamb to the sauce mix and toss well.

Divide the salad leaves among four plates, at this point you can add the sliced cucumber, etc.

Arrange equal portions of lamb on the greens and drizzle sauce over. Sprinkle with chopped mint and serve.



# Heathcote Valley to Avoca Valley

## Adventures with Nature

### Green Projects— Autumn 2023 Update



#### Autumn Ramble

Just in case you have seen these little beasts about and were wondering, the one on the left is the passion vine hopper... the one on the right is too but in the nymph stage of its life cycle. I have only noticed them in the heat of summer last year and again this year, smothering various garden plants...lots of them, sucking the sap from trees and shrubs. They come from Australia originally, and until recently were most commonly found north of Nelson. They can ultimately kill their host plants, and are thought to be one of the insects that spreads Phytoplasma, a tiny organism that is the cause of “Sudden Decline Disease” in cabbage trees.

I wonder if the appearance of these further south is something to do with the changing weather pattern? And speaking of weather...

The impact of the recent cyclones and flooding in the North Island has been absolutely devastating. The sudden change in the Hawkes Bay landscape from thriving rural communities of vineyards, citrus groves and orchards to something resembling the apocalypse has highlighted just how fragile human habitation is in the face of the elements. It’s hard to imagine how such an intensive deluge of rain might have been contained if hillsides further inland had been kept in permanent native forest cover rather than used for pasture or production forestry. It does seem however that the historic pattern of using land solely for economic gain at the expense of biodiversity values is a major factor in it all.

One wonders how our valleys here on the northern slopes of the Lyttelton volcano might fare if we ever had such a concentrated downpour.

In October 2000 a “weather bomb” occurred that impacted widespread areas of the country. Records show that over a day we had 75mm of rain and extreme southerly winds in Christchurch. Water courses in Morgan’s, Heathcote, Horotane and Avoca Valleys all burst their banks causing flooding to one degree or another. Old gum and oak trees in the domain and plantations of pine in Duncan Park and Avoca Valley were flattened. I remember the combination of torrents of rain running off the cliff sides above Morgan’s Valley and the severe southerly gale creating plumes of spray blown vertically into the air like blowholes. There were slips on the steep pastures in the upper valleys with silt being washed into the Heathcote-Opawaho River and floodplain. This was considered a 40 year storm.

In July 2022 Christchurch had 100mm of rain in a 48 hour period. The month of July was the heaviest rain on record for that period, with 300mm recorded. Half our “normal” annual average. Flooding and slips were experienced all around Banks Peninsula and many slips were evident above Heathcote with silt being stripped off the slopes and washed into the streams.

We are fortunate that we don’t expect cyclones of the intensity seen up north this far south, and the catchment area of our valleys is far less than that in the Esk Valley in Hawkes Bay. We just don’t know however what could happen with the weather in the future. The

changes we are witnessing can't be ignored. We are told by Prof. James Renwick and many other leading climate scientists that we should continue to expect more severe and more frequent extreme weather.

Maybe we have some time on our hands here to make our local neighbourhood more resilient to weather events?

The volunteer community projects to restore the indigenous forest and bush cover in our valleys in the last six to seven years are a modest start with this issue in mind. They are just a fraction of what could be done but there is a limit to what volunteers can do.

The Summit Road Society's (SRS) project in **Avoca Valley** is a substantial and significant planting effort that will see 47000 trees planted by July this year. This is significantly funded by DoC.

The CCC have also been planting on the east facing slopes of Montgomery Spur in Avoca Valley.

The SRS also intends starting a revegetation project in **Horotane Valley** this winter, funded by a generous resident and volunteer labour. This will see 3000 kanuka planted.

The Christchurch City Council has been planting areas along the Port Hills for many years. In **Heathcote Valley** there is now established bush in some of the gullies below Castle Rock and above Tunnel Road. Council Parks Rangers are planning to plant a further 18000 kanuka on these slopes this winter. This is really exciting.

**Morgan's Valley** has been in the focus of community planting groups for a few years now and young native seedlings are emerging from the long grass and weeds. The City Council has also been active planting kanuka higher up the slopes.

This is all good news and very encouraging to the many volunteers who spend time planting and weeding their fledgling forests. There is still a lot of hillside left to restore though and more volunteers are always welcome. The benefits are many:

- Restoration of native bush cover and extending areas of wildlife habitat.
- Bush cover reduces run off during rain events and waterways and streams may be restored to

more permanent but gentle flows, enriching wildlife opportunities.

- Reduction of erosion and silt run off from the slopes into the streams.
- Protecting the neighbouring urban area by increasing the capacity of the land to store moisture and so reducing severity of floods. This is the "sponge" effect we have read about lately.
- Providing new recreation opportunities on our doorstep.
- Carbon sequestration from the atmosphere.
- There is also a great social benefit for those taking part, enjoying the company of others who know the therapeutic value of spending time with nature.

If you would like to get involved with one of the projects, above or below just get in touch with the contact persons to see how you can best fit in. There is always something to do, and most of them are flexible in the times you can join in.

**John Marsh**

~~~~

### **Bridle Path Reveg Planting Heathcote Community and CCC**

The last two years' plantings at the Bridle Path site have survived the dry summer pretty well. Without regular, organised watering this season, some of the trees were beginning to show some signs of stress a couple of weeks ago, before we got a bit of rain. I'm hopeful we'll continue to get some regular rain through the autumn, but if the forecast starts to dry up again, we may need to kick in the watering roster.

Thanks so much to the amazing regular weeders up at this site, especially for your work with the ever-sprouting thistles, and the gorse.

I'll look to maybe organise an autumn releasing session or two, so we can set these trees up for the winter. But please, if you've been involved in planting these trees, you know where they are, and any releasing/weeding and/or watering up there is ALWAYS helpful... make it a regular weekly thing to go up for an hour.

We have more plants ordered for planting this winter, and planting day dates will be advised in the coming months.

If you would like to get involved in helping with watering, weeding/mulching, planting prep and/or planting at this site, please get in touch with Tamsin Page ([tamsin.page@gmail.com](mailto:tamsin.page@gmail.com) or 0276423555).

**Tamsin Page**

~~~

### **Birdsey Reserve Planting**

#### **Heathcote Valley School, Sumner Girl Guides and CCC.**

A recent check on last winter's plantings at Birdsey has found that most trees have survived the summer so far. A few losses due to the dry, and definitely some showing some signs of stress, so some regular autumn rain will be welcome here.

We are continuing to work with the City Council on resolving some of the access challenges to Birdsey Reserve for the school, so that we can remove as many barriers as possible to the reserve being more regularly used as an 'outdoor classroom', and to more regular maintenance visits for the newer native plantings.

We have more trees ordered for planting this winter and will organise planting dates with the school in due course.

If you would like to get involved in helping with native regeneration at Birdsey Reserve, whether watering in the summer, weeding/mulching in the spring and autumn, planting prep and/or planting in the autumn/winter, or all of the above, please get in touch with Tamsin Page ([tamsin.page@gmail.com](mailto:tamsin.page@gmail.com) or 0276423555).

**Tamsin Page**

~~~

### **"Field of Dreams" - Morgan's Valley**

The last three months have been busy on the "Field of Dreams". Releasing and watering plants has taken up most of the time. Finding plants in extremely tall grass has been a bit of a mission in some places. The original bamboo stakes have been replaced with taller orange tipped timber ones to make it easier to locate the plants.

The tall grass had smothered a few plants but once they were released, they have recovered and are continuing to grow, a few of the donated transplanted plants have died and have been replaced with other plants.

Most of the plants planted on our first planting day in March 2022 have doubled in size, these have had new cardboard weed suppressors put around them with more mulch to inhibit the grass from smothering them and allow the moisture to be retained.

The weather has been kind with a mix of hot and rainy days which has allowed the plants to thrive but also the weeds. It seems that within a week of releasing plants the weeds are back even stronger especially the fennel.

We will be looking to have a working bee soon to release some more plants, add cardboard suppressors and mulch.

Its great to see the plants peeking up amongst the grass and to see the piwakawaka flitting from tree to tree

If you are interested in helping at Morgans Valley then please contact Callum Templeton by email - [mngcallum@hotmail.com](mailto:mngcallum@hotmail.com) or cell phone 021 024 19742.

**Callum Templeton**

~~~

### **Duncan Park**

#### *On the slopes*

The regular team of Friday afternoon volunteers in Duncan Park tends to become more spasmodic over the summer months, and spontaneous weeding sessions happen whenever individuals have the time. Despite this, much weeding and releasing has been going on and the track, opened last year along the Horotane side of the spur, now winds its way beneath young trees for quite a distance. Trimming branches to keep them clear of the track has become a regular task in some areas.

The rains in mid-February were very timely as it had been dry since Christmas and things were looking very parched. That rain should be enough to push smaller plantings on for a few more weeks and encourage an autumn flush of growth. There are a lot of paper wasps about that are being dealt with as we find them, as well as those traditional wasps that live in holes in the

ground. We also intend dealing with them but they are a bit more aggressive.



Planting of kanuka, lancewood, toe toe, harakeke, hebe and totara along the track heading up the Horotane side.



Cheerful strollers walking along the new fence line on the west boundary.

#### *Along the Stream Boundary*

On the western Avoca Stream boundary The Ferrymeade Pony Club and CCC have installed a new fence between pony club paddocks and public walking track making a more clearly defined walking circuit. Two to three year old plantings are beginning to thicken up and controlling the weeds is becoming easier in these areas. Last year's plantings will still need looking after for a few years but are looking healthy. There are additional areas to be planted here this winter and we are attempting to get on top of the convolvulus, ivy, old man's beard, blackberry and hemlock before the planting season.

Planting season will get underway in May, once soil moisture is at a good level, and regular Friday afternoon working bees will start up again.

Anyone happy to spend a couple of hours on a Friday afternoon planting or weeding around our new plants, please contact John at [jmarshtree@gmail.com](mailto:jmarshtree@gmail.com) .

**John Marsh**

~~~~

#### **Linda Woods Reserve (Avoca Valley) Volunteer Work Party**

##### **Summit Road Society**

If you are keen to have a go at some local conservation volunteer work and are free on Wednesday mornings, this group is one of the teams working under the umbrella of the Summit Road Society, one of Christchurch's oldest conservation groups.



Fixing guards around harakeke in Avoca Valley.



Morning tea amongst new waterway plantings in Avoca.

They meet between 9.00am and 12.00 noon, generally in Avoca Valley and work on several revegetation sites up the Valley. There is lots of fresh air, as much exercise as you think you need and a friendlier bunch of greenies won't be found anywhere. These include retired surveyors, microbiologists, accountants, active caregivers, nerdish types, aspiring rock stars and students. There is no pressure to turn up every week, just when you have some spare time.

The group meets weekly on a Wednesday morning. Work includes weed control, track maintenance, planting and general reserve maintenance. If you are keen to join, please contact Graeme Paltridge on [graeme\\_sue@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:graeme_sue@slingshot.co.nz).

**John Marsh**

~~~~

## Lizard Sanctuary Project

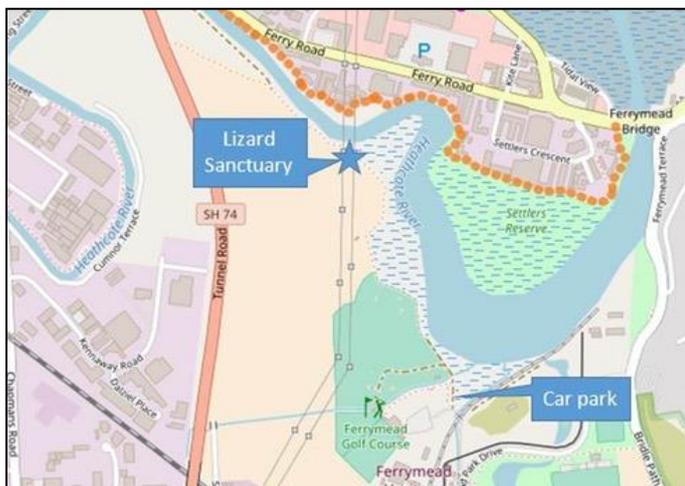
Hello to all the 'Friends of the Lizard Sanctuary Project' opposite the Calder Green Reserve. We are looking to do two site maintenance days late summer /autumn Mostly mulching with bark chips, trimming grass around plants, releasing plants as required, etc.

The Stage 1 area is looking good as the plants are growing well. The more recent and larger planting Stage 2 area plants are getting established too.

**26th March 2023 Sunday 9:30 to 11:45am &  
30th April 2023 Sunday 9:30 to 11:45am**

Location: Lizard Sanctuary Area opposite F&B Calder Green Reserve. Best approach is from the carpark as marked. Looking to to seeing you at one or both days.

Contact: Mick Ingram Ph. 021 816633



## Autumn's Foliage

*An autumn reflection by Beverley Martin*

As I rounded the corner, my eyes focused on the beauty of Autumn's foliage.

An avenue of enormous trees lined the road ahead on both sides, while steadfastly basking in their own radiant opulence.

Vivid hues of orange, brown, red and golden leaves made me believe I was part of a canvas never listed in the museums or art galleries of the world.

Beyond the trees, green paddocks recaptured treasured memories of country life, and of a solitude unspoken amid the city's chaos.

To my right a large fenced off area displayed a hillock supporting an old wagon wheel. This was accompanied by a tired looking scarecrow, taking a rest after dispatching crows and other unwelcome aliens.

At the end of the thoroughfare, a quaint little cottage beckoned like a forbidden house from a child's fairy-tale.

Even the babbling brook there remained silent, as if it felt my intensity in the peace and quiet of the occasion.

When looking back over the road travelled, the kaleidoscope of colours seemed even more picturesque. The trees framed an archway surely fit for the royalest of weddings.

Before exiting this paradise, I noticed three young children from a far-away land, frolicking in a carpet of Autumn leaves. Unwittingly, their sounds of joy also filled my heart with joy, and an appreciation of the nature that surrounds us.

An unusually angled street sign then reappeared which must remain nameless.

Have you been there?

# Bring Native Birdsong to Our Community by Trapping

Trapping predators – possums, rats and mice, stoats, and ferrets - and planting natives are two steps we can all take to encourage native birdsong back to our communities. “Now is the time to set your traps,” said Paul Cragg from Predator Free Sumner Bays. “This is the prime breeding time as the weather is warm and there is plenty of food in your garden and compost heap. This means we have a lot of “naive” youngsters out there who will be curious about the traps, unlike the more mature trap-shy rats. If we all become backyard trappers we can make a difference to the number of predators. Besides protecting native birds, rats and mice will be less likely to live in your walls and ceilings in winter, and eat your garden produce in summer!”



Cute but deadly to our native birds: a ferret caught in Redcliffs

Predator Free Sumner Bays is one of several community groups under the auspices of Predator Free Port Hills. And, Predator Free Port Hills is part of the Summit Road Society; as the name suggests, it takes a leadership role in eliminating predators on the Port Hills. Founded by the late Jeremy Agar, the focus is backyard trapping in the urban fringe surrounding the Port Hills and Lyttelton harbour. They aim to have a trap in one of every five households. Marie Gray, coordinator of Predator Free Port Hills says it is such a simple concept, so it’s very easy for everyone to get involved. “We are at the Mt Pleasant markets on the second Saturday of

the month providing advice and selling traps; we would love to welcome you to our stall, and to explain how you can help us achieve more birdsong in our community. We also have community days where kids and their parents can come and make traps for their own gardens. Sign up online via [www.predatorfreeporthills.org.nz](http://www.predatorfreeporthills.org.nz)”

Cragg has been a keen backyard trapper for many years. “Close to 10 years ago Redcliffs resident John Cook held a meeting in Sumner to discuss trapping in the Upper Mahoe-nui and Jollies Bush areas, and it sparked my interest. Then Gabe Ross started up Predator Free Sumner Bays in 2017. And the rest is history, as they say.” His tips for those new to trapping are:

- Set your trap along the fence-line, in areas with bush, or beside the compost;
- Set up the trap as a rat café for a few days i.e., bait but do not set the trap. If it is being cleared then the rats and mice are happy to feed there so it’s time to set the bait;
- Trapped rodents can be buried in the garden, or placed in the red bin; and
- If you have any questions, come and talk to us at the Mt Pleasant markets.

“Whilst we don’t have accurate monitoring data, we know we are making a difference,” Cragg said. “Some



Building traps at a Predator Free workshop

years ago, Phil Loughnan set rat traps along the Esplanade and caught dozens of rats. We still get a few but the numbers are well down. Similarly, Mike Ryan, Dave Evans and friends have significantly reduced the number of possums that invade Sumner from above the Captain Thomas track. So far, over 300 households have signed up, and well over 1,000 rats have been trapped between Taylors Mistake and Balmoral Hill.”

Korimako, piwakawaka, ruru, kereru and the odd tui can now be heard in some parts of the Port Hills, although introduced bird species dominate the airwaves. If we all become backyard trappers, and plant native trees and shrubs, we can help bring about change. Other communities have done it, so we can too!

Contacts for further information

Paul Cragg Predator Free Sumner  
sumner@predatorfree.porthills.org.nz

Marie Gray Predator Free Port Hills  
027 470 2020  
marie@predatorfree.porthills.org.nz

## Composting Tips



- Choose a site with care. It should be warm and sheltered. Consider your neighbours as decomposing material can cause odours.
- Start with a layer of coarsely chopped twiggy material on bare ground.
- Add alternate layers of green material (nitrogen rich) and brown material (carbon rich).
- Avoid cat/dog/human faeces, meat, fish, bones, oil and invasive weeds.
- Smaller pieces will break down faster.
- When adding food scraps, place an equal quantity of brown material on top to reduce odours.
- Use a lid or cover to keep in heat to aid the breakdown of materials.



### Autumn Night Market

01 Apr 2023 | 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM



April Summer Night Market \$2 entry per person. Our amazing heritage park open to the public. Come and ride the tram and the steam train. International food vendors in the park, craft beer and cider, craft stall holders, twisted balloon animals for the kids, live music and Strawberry Fairy will be face painting. We now have a barber onsite! Cash required for tram, steam train, some stalls and face painting. Look forward to seeing you there!

### The Great NZ Easter Egg Hunt - Easter Weekend

09 Apr 2023 | 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM



Bring your children and join in the fun at our annual Easter event. We have a bunny bouncy castle, face painter, pony rides, petting zoo and, of course, the Great NZ Easter Egg Hunt with treats awarded at the end. There will also be live music, tram rides, steam train rides, food vendors and the whole Park for everyone to enjoy and explore! This is an all-inclusive ticketed event. Tickets available through Eventfinda [www.eventfinda.co.nz](http://www.eventfinda.co.nz) or at the door on the day.

# News from the Church of St Mary

*By The Reverend Mark Sullivan, Vicar*

I was intrigued to walk into our local supermarket in early January to see Easter eggs on sale. Ironically, we were still in Christmas and yet overnight all the focus had changed to Easter!



*Mark Sullivan, Vicar*

Perhaps even more intriguing was that in a society that regards anything even remotely associated with organised religion suspiciously, we find ourselves focusing upon what are generally regarded as the two most important festivals of the 'organized' Christian Church. The question in my mind is why a seemingly secular New Zealand might jealously guard festivals that are distinctly spiritual?

A friend of mine suggested to me (while discussing the matter) that Christmas just happens to fall at the beginning of our summer. I challenged this argument by saying that in New Zealand the best months with the most settled weather are February and March. If we were concerned about our holidays, why not shift the break 30 days? This would save the distress of our tents getting blown over in camping grounds and the distraction for young people who find their festivals rained out as my children did while attending Rhythm and Alps one year. Surely repositioning our holidays might indeed be a better option.

As to Easter, I'm not so sure why we hold onto our four-day break so jealously. Why don't we just add another day to ANZAC Day? Many New Zealanders recognise this as a day of national significance and as both Easter and ANZAC Day appear at about the same time each year, nothing would be lost.

Easter eggs represent new life, celebrating the new life in Christ that we find through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Day. Furthermore, we all go mad searching the shops for Christmas presents in early December (or unless you are like me, it's a mad

scramble on Christmas Eve). Christmas presents mark the visit of the Three Wise Men who brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to the Holy Stable on Christmas morning. It seems that in our haste to disassociate ourselves from anything that is at all Christian, we have forgotten that we are taking breaks and sharing in festivals that these two events acknowledge.

Last year in New Zealand there were more births to Indian families than there were to New Zealanders. Yet although we might have heard of Diwali, we don't give the country a four-day break for us to acknowledge our Hindu New Zealanders. Few New Zealanders find time to fast with our Muslim partners during Ramadan. Yet I still see the joined hands on the bumper stickers of cars identifying that, "They R Us!"

I am further intrigued that the secular world spends much time practising old carols and Christmas music for community events as are held locally, yet a carol is a sung prayer. In its haste to remove anything spiritual from personal curriculums, we find ourselves wading in deeply at Christmas.

Surprisingly, the local Church in the Valley held its annual carol service singing the same songs, with little community involvement. We received several replies from local organisations that were invited to this Christmas event and it seems perhaps they did not want to associate themselves with the organisation that "owns" the very reason for the festivities which they are vicariously celebrating. Even though those same organisations were present and heartily joined in for the same event at another venue.

It is a funny old world!!

It is appropriate that I acknowledge the generosity and energy of those who dedicate themselves to bringing the valley community together to celebrate big occasions such as Christmas and Easter. I know all of them and admire and appreciate their hard work and passion. And I congratulate them for organising such

successful events that I hope will continue into the foreseeable future. But I do regret the fact that we are moving into a new generation of young New Zealanders who are ignorant of the very aspects of what has formed our society for the past 2000 years. And for anyone who might deny this, one only has to look at our year; 2023 years since the birth of Jesus Christ. The very laws upon which govern our society can be traced back to the very teachings of Jesus Christ himself.

“Ahhhhh,” I hear one say, “The church has a great deal to own when it comes to oppression over the centuries.” And that person might be right. But society has changed and the various norms that seemed appropriate for that particular time, can often be criticised in the cool light of today. After all, I see we are rewriting the James Bond novels and only by the thinnest of margins did Roald Dahl have his “Stomping Dance” saved in “Where the Wild Things Are!” The Bible tells stories and provides accounts of life dating back 5000 years. Yet preachers expound virtues of God’s hope for humanity today, not of traditions and lifestyles that might take us back to the days when Pharaoh ruled Egypt.

At worship every Sunday morning, we offer prayers for the local community and its inhabitants. And that includes you. We do this not because we want you to come to Church, (although that would be a nice result) but because the Christian community in this valley sees purpose and hope in praying that kind of unconditional love and respect which was and is the hallmark of Christ’s life and ministry. Our prayerful hope is that such love, care and compassion might find its home amongst us all. I once again am intrigued (it seems as though I spend my whole life in a state of intrigue) that so many are challenged by the very values and teachings of the church, yet these values, hopefully reflect the goodness and greatness of society upon which we build our lives and families.

The 40 days (excluding Sundays) that lead up to Easter are known as the Season of Lent. For Christians, this is a time of self-evaluation and consideration. It is a time when we take a few moments each day away from the busy-ness of life and stresses to consider the very moment that defined the Church of Jesus Christ on that Easter morning. This special Lenten Season encourages

one to take a step away from the stresses, strains, pressures and time-keeping of our frantic lives and to engage with those around us in a closer and more intimate way. In the Christian Church, Lent calls us all back to a life of ease and consideration, a life of hope and encouragement and a life that all of us who are tied up in this world of intrigue, long to find once again.

You are welcome to join us for our Holy Week and Easter services.

#### **Maundy Thursday**

7:00pm, 6 April at the Church of the Ascension, 39 Major Hornbrook Road.

#### **Good Friday**

10am, 7 April at the Church of Church of the Ascension, 39 Major Hornbrook Road.

#### **Easter Day**

9 April, 10 am at the Church of St Mary, Martindales Road.

### **Kea Spotted by a Local in the Heathcote Valley**



While planting native seedlings on Tuesday the 7th March, Andrew Youngson spotted a kea high up on a pine tree branch, above Aromaunga flower gardens on Bridle Path Road, Heathcote Valley.

The kea is a native species of large parrot found in the forested and alpine regions of the South Island. They are about 48cm long, mostly olive - green, with a brilliant orange under its wings and have a large , narrow curved beak.

With fewer than 7000 individuals remaining in the wild, kea are now listed as Threatened - Nationally endangered species. The second - highest threat level in New Zealand.

There was also a sighting of a Kea in Mt Pleasant a few weeks ago. Sightings have been reported to the Kea Conservation Trust.

# Memories of the Wetherall Family and the old Bidsey Valley Inn

*By Lyn Benfell*

After crossing the Ferry Road Bridge and turning into Bridle Path Road with the scene of the hills and Castle Rock before us I have to think how lucky we are to live in Heathcote Valley. My name is Lyn Benfell nee Wetherall and have lived in the Valley since 1984 when we purchased 112 Bridle Path Road.

My great-grandparents the Wetheralls Robert, Robina and their family occupied the Birdsey Valley Inn from the 1880s until 1930. The hotel was situated on the east side of Bridle Path Road not far from the Junction of Bridle Path and Port Hills Road. Mr John Birdsey was unable to renew his licence and sold to Mr Fitzmaurise who obtained a licence and ran the hotel until 1877 when he transferred to our present Valley Inn in Flavell Street.

had a great memory. It was a lovely time for me with her.



The Wetherall Family taken in the Recreation Grounds, Heathcote Valley around 1909  
Back Row – William, Annie, James, Rosina, George, Jane  
Middle Row – Hector, John, Robert, John (Father), Jessie (on his knee), Robina (Mother), Frank  
Front Row – Olive, Adeline



Robina and daughter outside the Wetherall family home, the old Birdsey Hotel.

They were a fun loving family and dancing occurred in what they referred to as the ballroom. I can imagine them doing the Gay Gordons and the likes. Burberrys owned the property next door and joined the fun. Rosina married Ted Burberry. I nursed Rosina when she was in Princess Margaret Hospital aged 98, she

The Wetherall boys worked at the Maltworks including my grandfather James. James married my grandmother Lillian Bushell and my Dad was born in August 1914. My Dad Frank Wetherall recalled sitting on his grandmother's knee in the old hotel in front of this huge coal range which took up the entire wall. His recollection was that it had several ovens and was big and black. I always wondered as he was only four that the coal range might not have been as big as described. A few years ago while holidaying in Naseby we stayed in an old hotel and there in the kitchen was this huge coal range which indeed took up the whole wall just as Dad had described it.

The Wetherall family spent many happy years in the old hotel and it appears so did the grandchildren. A few



Malting Company staff, c1906

Back, from left: Jack Evans , Gibbons, Freeman, Marker, Perkins  
 Middle: Shackleton, Bill Evans, G. Evans , Mullan, J Wetherall, Smith, Hewlett  
 Front: Hedgeman, Barker, G. Wetherall, J Wetherall

years ago Ted Burberry visited us with his older brother who was then in his 80s. His memories of staying with his grandmother were filled with happy adventures, of climbing up the hill behind the hotel to the cliffs and their caves. These caves were used by Rapaki Maori when they went to their pipi beds in Sumner and Brighton. He said there were all sorts of things left in the caves. I understand the artefacts were recovered. I look up at those cliffs and their dark looking caves and imagine times gone by.

My Dad also had happy memories of the old hotel. He would pile us children into the old Rugby car and head up the valley. I remember the old barn still standing. The hotel had been demolished in 1938. We would peer over the fence to the railway tracks and watch the trains popping out of the tunnel. There was no road tunnel in those day. Both passengers and goods were transported by rail or had to be taken over the hill.

The Wetherall boys like many other young men from the Valley served in the 1<sup>st</sup> World War. John left NZ 5<sup>th</sup> December 1916 and was killed in Palestine 19<sup>th</sup> November 1917. His brother Robert George lost his life 13<sup>th</sup> September 1918 in France. Frank Alan left NZ on 16<sup>th</sup> October 1914 and was wounded in Egypt in 1916. I cannot begin to imagine what heartache that must have brought to the family. More sorrow as just around the corner—the flu epidemic of 1918 took the lives of Robina, Hector and Jane.

We the descendants of Robina and Robert have regular reunions such is the interest in the family. We are always drawn to Heathcote Valley. Our last one was in 2021 in the new community centre. It is great to meet with our cousins and seem always to learn a bit more about the family. I was given a photo of Frank in uniform on his horse Rata. Something more to add to my collection. I feel I belong in this beautiful valley. We are so lucky.



Frank Wetherall on his horse Rata

## Do you have a story to tell?

Articles are invited for the next issue of the Heathcote community magazine, which will be the winter edition.

We are looking for stories about happenings, people, environment, or local history. Poems and photographs are welcome. In fact anything with a local connection and that you think your neighbours will enjoy, but please, no politics or contentious issues—there are other forums for that. Please note the editor decides what gets published and some articles may not be suitable. Please ask if you would like more info.

Deadline for articles is **Friday 12 May**.

Enquiries and contributions should be sent to:  
[heathcotevillageproject@gmail.com](mailto:heathcotevillageproject@gmail.com)

# Heathcote's Lovely Lanes

By Barrie Woods

*Have you ever wondered how your street got its name? There are actually quite good records of the origins of the names of public streets and roads in New Zealand, and they often tell a story about people who lived there in the past, various activities in the area, or local landforms of significance. Heathcote is no exception, and some of our street names go back to the first settlement of the area. For some reason Heathcote seems to have a disproportionate number of 'lanes'. The names of some streets have changed over the years, and others follow a different route to the early maps, and there is a rich history to explore.*

*Here are the origins of most of the names of our local streets. There are a couple for which records are not available, particularly private right of ways which don't feature in the council records. Maybe you can fill in any gaps, or expand on the stories?*

## **Ardtree Lane**

On Wednesday 2 July 1997 a meeting of the Hagley-Ferrymead Community Board agreed "that the right-of-way at 136 Port Hills Road be named Ardtree Lane". Ardtree is a parish in County Tyrone in Northern Ireland from which the lane takes its name.

## **Avoca Valley Road**

Avoca Valley is named after The Vale of Avoca, a poem by Thomas Moore (1780-1852). The land was originally owned by William Robinson and named by him. The farm was subdivided from 1918 and the road formed. Avoca Valley Road was first mentioned in 'The Press' in 1921 and appears in street directories from the same year.

## **Bridle Path Road**

Bridle Path Road was formerly known as Heathcote Valley Road. It is referred to by this name in 'The Lyttelton Times' between 1860 and 1904. The name Bridle Path Road first appears in street directories



in 1903, and was described as running from Sumner Road to Hills Road (Port Hills Road).

## **Butts Valley Road**

In 1871 the Canterbury Rifle Association opened a rifle range in Horotane Valley. The range became known as 'The Butts' in reference to the butts and targets located there. Butts Valley Road was developed by John Flinders Scott (1876-1941) and is first mentioned in 'The Sun' in 1915. In 1815 Mr J. F. Scott wrote to the Heathcote County Council stating that, should the council approve the Butts Valley road extension, he would "grade and form a half chain wide road, put on nine yards of scoria to the chain, and plant English trees every half chain on both sides". The offer was accepted. The wonderful avenue of trees planted by Mr Scott endures to this day.

## **Carinya Lane**

Named after the historic orchard from which the subdivision was developed. The name is aboriginal for "habitat". Named in 1997.

## **Castleview Lane**

Named because the street has a view of Castle Rock. Developed at 162 Port Hills Road. Named in 1999.

## **Clonbracken Lane**

The name first appears in street directories in 1987. The name appears to be of Irish origin and possibly comes from an estate in Ireland of that name.

### **Cooks Lane**

Formerly called Cook Street, Cooks Lane is named after William Cook, a timber merchant, who built the first homes on Cooks Lane. He is listed as living there in 1907, the year Cook Street first appears in street directories. The name was changed to Cooks Lane in 1936. Though one of the early Heathcote streets, Cooks Lane has been redeveloped as a semi-rural housing estate in modern times.

### **Cordelia Lane**

Named after the ketch, Cordelia. The Cordelia was a ketch sailed by Captain James Hines (1836? -1920). The Shipping News in 'The Lyttelton Times' in 1868-1869 refers to voyages made by the Cordelia, with Hines at the wheel, bringing firewood from Pigeon Bay to Lyttelton. Developed as a subdivision at 132 Port Hills Road, the lane was named in 2009.

### **Deavoll Place**

Named after Daniel Deavoll (1858?-1929). Deavoll was a carpenter who lived at 123 Bridle Path Road. He named his son, Daniel Stanley Heathcote Deavoll (1898-1974). The family's fourth generation was still resident in Heathcote Valley at the time the street was named in 2003.

### **Flavell Street**

Flavell Street was formerly called Lee Street and was named after Alfred Lee Smith (1838- 1917). In 1873 Smith developed three streets in Heathcote Valley, naming them Lee Street, Smith Street and Vogel Street. Smith operated the original malt house in the valley. Lee Street was re-named Flavell Street in 1933 by the Public Utilities Committee of the Heathcote County Council at the request of the Post and Telegraph Department. This was to avoid confusion with Lees Road in Christchurch City. The new name, Flavell Street, honours Charles Flavell (1871? - 1955). who was an original member of the Heathcote County Council which was formed in 1911.

### **Flinders Road**

Named after John Flinders Scott (1876-1941), a pastoral farmer of Opawa, who was a member of the Heathcote County Council for twelve years. The name appears in street directories in 1955.

### **Fredrika Lane**

Named after the daughter of the landowner where the

subdivision was developed at 140-144 Port Hills Road. Named in 2008.

### **Gilders Grove**

Named after Digby Te'Ohia Leslie Gilders (1896-1980). Gilders was a private surveyor practising in Christchurch 1930s-1970s. He surveyed the subdivision which created the allotment subdivided at 19 Avoca Valley Road by W. J. Mauger. Gilders Grove was named in 1999.

### **Hammerton Lane**

Hammerton Lane takes its name from the 150 acre Heathcote Valley estate owned by early pioneer Isaac Cookson. The estate was named after 'Green Hammerton' a village in North Yorkshire, England. The name Hammerton was also given to the first 'township' in Heathcote Valley, which was located around the area where the Valley Inn is now located. This was part of the original Hammerton Estate and allotments were sold from about 1863. The name 'Hammerton' did not endure for the settlement, which eventually became known as Heathcote. Today it is remembered as Hammerton Lane.

### **Hamlet Lane**

Origin unknown though it possibly relates to Pawaho Hamlet (see Pawaho Place).

### **Heathvale Place**

Origin unknown though the name could be derived from a contraction of Heathcote Valley.

### **Highlight Lane**

Named after Highlight, the Heathcote Valley Riding School's first pony. Named in 2003

### **Horotane Valley Road**

Horotane Valley was named by John Flinders Scott (1876-1941), a pastoral farmer, who subdivided land in this area. The name was first mentioned in 'The Press' in 1933. Horotane was apparently never known as such by local Maori, so while the name was first used by JF Scott, its origins are otherwise obscure.



### **Kairūri Lane**

Kairūri is the Maori word for surveyor. There appears to be a link to the Kairūri Community Charitable Trust which was established by the NZ Institute of Surveyors to promote surveying, education, diversity of the profession. The trust was established around the time the lane was being developed and may have inspired the naming.

### **Laing Crescent**

Named after William Baillie Laing (1899-1971). Laing was a Heathcote County Councillor for over 20 years. The name first appears in street directories in 1972. Prior to that, older properties in Laing Crescent held Port Hills Road addresses.

### **Malthouse Lane**

Named because the street is adjacent to the old Malting Company site. It was named in 1997.

### **Marsden Street**

Marsden Street was formerly called Vogel Street. It was probably named after Sir Julius Vogel (1835-1899) who was the Prime Minister of New Zealand, 1873-1875 and 1876. The name was given by Alfred Lee Smith (1838-1917) who operated a malt house in the valley. In 1873 Smith developed three streets in Heathcote Valley, naming them Lee Street, Smith Street and Vogel Street. Vogel Street was re-named Marsden Street in 1933 by the Public Utilities Committee of the Heathcote County Council at the request of the Post and Telegraph Department. This was to avoid confusion with Vogel Street in Richmond. Joseph Marsden (1832- 1888), a butcher, was one of the earliest proprietors of the Valley Hotel in Heathcote and a member of the Heathcote Road Board. He drowned at Petone in 1888.

### **Martindales Road**

Martindales Road was named after Robert Wilkinson Martindale (1831- 1892) who arrived in Canterbury about 1863 and lived in Heathcote Valley. He was foreman to George Holmes, a railway contractor who built the Lyttelton railway tunnel. Information about the naming of this road was given in a letter to 'The Press' written by a descendant



of Martindale in 1954. The name first appears in street directories in 1917.

### **Mauger Drive**

Named after Warner Mauger (1934 - 2020). Mauger was a builder and property developer responsible for the subdivision of properties in the area. He was the father of Philip Mauger, the current mayor of Christchurch. The name, Mauger Drive, first appears in street directories in 1980.

### **Morgans Valley**

Morgans Valley was named after Captain William Morgan. Morgan was one of the pioneer settlers. His home was still there in 1920 at the head of the valley. The house was built of Baltic pine and large slabs of Welsh slate brought from England. Morgans Valley has also previously been known as Scott's Valley as it backed onto the JS Scott homestead in Bridle Path Road. Today Scotts Valley Reserve is to the south of Morgans Valley, above Birdsey Reserve.

### **Pawaho Place**

Pawaho is another form of the Māori name for the Heathcote River. The Pawaho Hamlet or Settlement (1898) was a government village settlement of 50 acres designed for workmen with jobs in Lyttelton, on land previously owned by Charles Menzies. The settlement covered the area around Railway Terrace through to the railway line by Marindales Road. In the early days the lower parts of the land were notorious for flooding. Pawaho Place is located towards the east of this block and first appears in street directories in 1978.

### **Port Hills Road**

Formerly called Hills Road, Port Hills Road follows the lower slopes of Murray Aynsley and was once used to avoid ferry fees. Hills Road, Opawa, was renamed Port Hills Road by the Heathcote Road Board in 1909 to avoid confusion with Hills Road in Shirley/Mairehau. Port Hills Road first appears in street directories in 1914.

### **Railway Terrace**

Actually a private right of way, Railway Terrace was named because it follows a terrace above the railway line. Original properties in this area were part of the Pawaho settlement, which was a government village settlement designed for workmen with jobs in Lyttelton.

### **Rollin Street**

Rollin Street was formerly named Smith Street after Alfred Lee Smith (1838- 1917). In 1873 Smith developed three streets in Heathcote Valley, naming them Lee Street, Smith Street and Vogel Street. He operated a malt house in the valley. Smith Street was renamed Rollin Street in 1933 by the Public Utilities Committee of the Heathcote County Council at the request of the Post and Telegraph Department to avoid confusion with Smith Street in Woolston. It was named after Samuel Rollin Webb (1848-1933) who was mayor of Lyttelton 1883-1884, 1888-1889 and 1904- 1908.

### **Romar Lane**

Named after the developer's wife's parents, Ron and Margaret. A small private right-ofway serving 10 properties. Developed at 110 Port Hills Road by Texco Developments Ltd in 2006.

### **Scruttons Road**

Named after George Scrutton (d. 1874). Scrutton farmed at Ashby Farm on Scrutton's Road where he ran a dairy herd and a slaughterhouse. Scrutton's Road first appears in 'The Star' in 1877 in a report of a meeting of the Heathcote Road Board and in 1879 tenders were called for forming of the road. The name first appears in street directories in 1892.

### **Station Road**

Part of Station Road was originally named Short Road/ Short Street. Short Road first appears in street directories in 1902 and becomes Short Street in 1924. It was incorporated into Station Road in 1950. Station Road is first mentioned in 'The Star' in 1873 in a report of a meeting of the Heathcote Road Board. It first appears in street directories in 1903. It was named because it led to the Heathcote Railway Station.

### **Stead Lane**

Thought be named after George Gattonby Stead, one of the original owners of the malt works (1875). Stead was also notable for his interest in horse racing and breeding. He served on the boards of many early Christchurch businesses and in 1890 he purchased 'The Press' newspaper, saving it from bankruptcy.

### **Stedley Place**

Named after Stedley Scott. Scott was a draughtsman employed by the Heathcote County Council. First appears in street directories in 1980.

### **The Tors**

Named after the cluster of high rocks behind Castle Rock. The subdivision was developed at 118 Port Hills Road by Horncastle Homes in 2006.

### **Truscotts Road**

Formerly called Albert Street, it may have been named Albert Street after Albert Charles Truscott (1838?- 1910). In 1933 it was renamed Truscotts Road after Frederick Truscott (1874- 1945) and his wife, Selina Truscott, (1875?- 1961). Frederick Truscott, a saddler, was a resident of Pawaho Hamlet in Heathcote in 1905. From about 1913, he farmed Truscott's Farm on Moncks Spur. His brother, William John Truscott (1870-1941), a farmer, was a resident of the street in 1933 when it was renamed.

### **Vega Place**

First appears in street directories in 1987. The origin of the name is not known.

### **Warner Place**

Named after Warner Mauger (1934-2020). Mauger was a builder and developer of properties in the area. The name first appears in street directories in 1987.

### **Wendy Place**

Named after the sister of Warner Mauger, Wendy Cockram (nee Mauger). Warner Mauger was a builder and developer of properties in the area.

### *Sources for this article:*

Papers Past  
Christchurch City Libraries  
Christchurch Community Board minutes  
Te Ara—The Encyclopaedia of New Zealand  
The Post Hills of Christchurch, Gordon Ogilvie



# Heathcote Valley Library

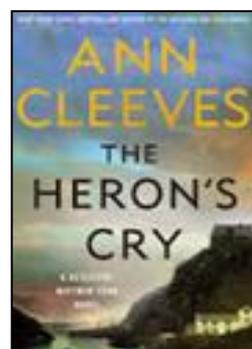
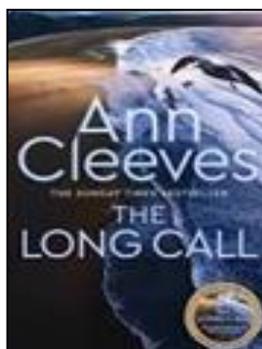
Located at the Community Centre, Bridle Path Road

## Librarian's Choice . . . **Author Anne Cleeves**

Hugely popular mysteries by this award-winning author include the Vera Stanhope series set in Northumberland (on TV as "Vera" immortalised by the wonderful Brenda Blethyn), books set on the Shetland Islands with detective Jimmy Perez ("Shetland" on TV) and her new Two Rivers detective series set in Devon with Matthew Venn (recently shown on TV1 - "The Long Call"). The author has first-hand knowledge of these fascinating areas of the UK and the books are atmospheric and beautifully written.



Brenda Blethyn as Vera



Both of the most recent "Two Rivers" books are at the library

If popular books are out on loan, you can order them.

Just call in to the library

Does your child read? *"There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate's loot on Treasure Island"* (Walt Disney)

The library has a large collection of children's fiction and non-fiction. Bring the kids in, join them up if they're not currently members. Membership and book loans are **free!!** We'd love to see them and bring the magic of books to your family.

---

### Library Hours

|                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri | 2.00pm - 4.00pm  |
| Wed                | 11.00am - 12noon |
| Sat                | 10.30am - 12noon |

Outside these hours, books can be returned via the green dropbox at the Community Centre carpark

## Support Your Community Association

Currently the Heathcote Valley Community Association (HVCA) depends on grants and residents' donations to fund its activities, including the creation and distribution of our printed newsletters, support of community events and the maintenance of community facilities such as the community centre and noticeboards.

We would love it if you could show your support and ensure our work continues by making a donation to the association.

Any financial support is welcome, however our suggested donation is \$15 per household per year.

You can donate by direct credit (details below). We will not send a receipt unless you specifically request one.

### Internet Banking:

The Heathcote Valley Community Association's bank account number is: 03-1369-0182187-00

Please use the following codes:

Particulars: Donation

Code: Your family name

Reference: Your address

Queries: [Heathcotevillageproject@gmail.com](mailto:Heathcotevillageproject@gmail.com)

### COMMUNITY MORNING TEA

ENJOY TEA OR COFFEE, HOME BAKING AND GREAT COMPANY AT  
THE HEATHCOTE VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE

Each Wednesday 10am - 12pm during school term time

Everyone welcome, come alone or bring a friend

No charge



## In Case of Emergency...

### Local Defibrillators



Although we hope you never need one—it's good to know there are some about.

- Lyttelton Road Tunnel Control Room  
10 Bridle Path Rd. Access 24/7
- At the top of the Gondola
- The Valley Inn—open every day 10am to 11pm
- See <https://aedlocations.co.nz> for more locations around Christchurch.

## Heathcote Valley Online

Keep an eye on these Facebook pages for updates and local events:

Heathcote Valley Community

Heathcote Village Project

Support Local—Heathcote Valley

## Snap Send Solve

*Snap Send Solve* is the Christchurch City Council's smartphone app to help make reporting issues easy.

It works by identifying the location the photo is taken using the phone's GPS data. It sends an email to the Council from your email address, including the incident type, notes, address of incident, photo, and contact details. The report is then allocated to the relevant Council department.

The more information provided, the better they can help isolate and investigate the issue.

You can download the app to your Apple (Apps Store) or Android (Play Store) phone and have it ready to use at any time.

You can still report issues online, at a service centre or by phoning 03 941 8999. Urgent issues should be reported by phone.