



Community Magazine

Spring 2023



Pittosporum eugenioides (Lemonwood, Tarata) in flower

A Spring Message from our Community Coordinator

Spring into spring with all the wonderful fresh new life and energy that this season offers.

For me, I've just spent a wonderful couple of months in the long daylight hours of Sweden's summer, with family and a brand new grandson and awesomely, fearless, strong willed and energetic three year old granddaughter. Needless to say that my time over there was an absolute joy spent with family and in the beautiful forests, archipelagos and nature of Sweden.

On my return early August I hit the ground running. Connecting with buddies, getting started on the spring magazine and entering into a ten month community leadership course. Adjusting to the time difference, between polar opposite countries was tiring for a couple of weeks but the crisp blue skies, freshness in the air and noticing the days obviously becoming warmer and longer has helped with settling comfortably back into Heathcote life.

At my home in Heathcote, Honeysuckle Cottage, the birds are beginning to sing and chirp in the early morning with excited chatter around 4.30am, which is super early, but makes me feel grounded and prepared for the new day.

Spring has always been a time of new life, longer daylight hours and fresh new energy. Lulled into a sense of blue skies, warmer days and surprised by cold wild wintery snaps in the weather. Daylight saving has kicked in.

It's time to clear the cobwebs away, inside and outside and pass forward things and stuff we no longer use, with love. As such there will be another Freecycle Day offering an opportunity to declutter and move on no longer needed and productive stuff, with love. The details are outlined on page 25 in this magazine.



Jocelyn de Kort

Mark your diary now! The spring Freecycle day will be on Saturday 14th October 2023.

It's also time to dig over the vegetable garden. Observe all the new greenery, sprouting from the berry patch and notice the fruit trees blossom in their own time with style. Buy in loads of pea straw and spread the freshly turned compost onto the garden in preparation for planting out all the things that give you joy. Which in my case are beans, cherry tomatoes, bok-choy, celery, spinach, cabbage, parsley and heaps of herbs to use. Many years ago during the times I lived in apartments I would grow the plants I loved in huge pots in which I still have three huge lemon bushes, still happily growing and producing delicious juicy bright yellow lemons.

During the spring months, let's remember to grow friendships and kindness within the community. Maybe try starting up new opportunities such as the community library book club, craft groups, joining the Heathcote Valley Community Association events, and community coffee mornings with Jen's famous cheese scones. Meeting up at a local café, sports and cricket clubs, our wonderful local St Mary's Church, Ferrymead Park, Gondola, local bike park and many more community catch ups and connections.

I would love to see some more local music, kids' connections and social gathering events. If you have any ideas or inspirations, get in touch with either Jen Saunders at hvcc.bookings@gmail.com or Jocelyn de Kort at heathcotevillageproject@gmail.com and we'll aim to make it happen.

Keep in touch. If you would like to join the Heathcote email list and get all the local community events and news. Contact me on heathcotevillageproject@gmail.com

We will aim to have the next Heathcote summer magazine out early in December, so all articles will need to be in to me by the 12th of November 2023. Local stories, poems, points of interest, new start-ups, pictures, events and more are all welcomed.

Kia hari te panui, happy reading

Jocelyn

HEATHCOTE

COMMUNITY VALLEY ASSOCIATION

Another year in the life of HVCA has ticked over. By the time you will be reading this we will have had our AGM and confirmed our new committee members for the 2023/24 term. And so, this feels like a good time to reflect back over this last year and share what has been happening.



Sooze Harris
Co-chair HVCA

One of the absolute best parts of the 2022/23 term has been working with such a diverse, positive, and talented bunch of people.

It has been wonderful to get to know each other through the year, and to learn so much from one another. We have to admit that our monthly meetings have been rather fun! Yes you can get work done and have fun at the same time!!

One of the mantras we keep close on hand is that 'things take time', a reality of organisations that are made up primarily of volunteers. But we have been slowly making progress and are proud of what we have achieved this past term.

Contractors and Community Centre

One of the core parts of our role is providing governance support of our contractors, Jen Saunders and Jos de Kort. We are delighted with the work both of these amazing wāhine are doing to bring to life our vision of an engaged, connected, and empowered community being important for our wellbeing and our resilience as a community. Some of you new to the Valley may have received one of the wonderful welcome bags sewn by some local school students, and filled with some info, a 'Heathcote: The

Upside' book, and some produce. This brainchild of Jos communicates care and manaakitanga and has been delightfully received.

Alongside this, we are really proud of the way our community centre is being utilised. It is one of the best used centers in the city, and Jen works hard to balance the vision of an accessible community space for people to gather over shared interests and activities, with hireage to commercial and/or private groups to generate income.

We are also supporting Jos and Jen to attend a year long leadership development programme called LinC Incubator. This programme, run by Leadership Lab NZ, is designed to create a space for community leaders to connect meaningfully with others working in communities, develop their own style of leading and impacting the world around them, and broadens understandings about how to view leadership. We're really stoked that Jos and Jen are able to take this opportunity to support the amazing work they both do.

Community meetings

One of the intentions for this year was to develop a community meeting schedule that could be a space for information sharing, connecting, gathering around topics of concern etc. Our vision is to proactively create spaces for us as a community to discuss, learn about, and address issues as they arise or in anticipation of them arriving. Early this year we ran a safety meeting inviting a number of services involved in overseeing our community to attend, and together look at how we are and can respond to some of the safety and security concerns that people have experienced over this last year. We have a follow on series of meetings related to



safety concerns in the pipeline so watch this space. We also are keen to explore other areas that are important to our community and/or are topical and important. Some examples include understanding Te Tiriti, elections and how to decide etc.

Branding

One of our outgoing committee members, Jimirah Baliza, has provided us with a brand story for the Community Association, and our wider assets including the community centre and our online platforms. This allows us to move forward with a cohesive visual identity, and means we can work on telling our story well - that we are much more than a building available for hire, but a meeting place, a gathering spot, a connected community who look out for one another.

Bicultural Journey

Led by another of our wonderful committee members, Ali Bare, we have been exploring what it means to be a bicultural community group, and embarking on a journey together to understand our world and our place in it from a Maori perspective. We have been sharing resources from books to TV shows and places to visit and engage with, and we'll be keeping the community up to date with the ways that we can share this journey and our learning. Te reo classes have been running this past year in the valley, and we will be looking for other ways to invite others along on this journey and learn from each other.

Money matters

Streamlining our financial processes and solidifying funding to keep our wonderful Jen Saunders, and Jos de Kort working as Centre Activator, and Community Connector respectively, was on the agenda after last AGM. As we said above, 'things take time', but we're pleased to be able to confirm that funding for our two contractors has been shored up, and with the amazing expertise, wisdom, and patience of wonderful Jan Marks, our financial systems are slowly being streamlined. This is critical as it will allow us to develop and extend roles in the coming next year or so, with a hope that we can increase our Community Connector roles, as well as consider the potential of a youth worker.

Small acts...

There are many other small actions that we as a committee and as contractors, are making that are contributing to our vision. One that we will mention is the 'thank you's'. This past year and a half we have been aiming to quietly thank one or two of you each month, who beaver away on various projects and make amazing contributions to the life of our community. Recent recipients have been lucky enough to receive a home crafted cake made by committee member Nicholas McCauley, who has a cake making business.

We are excited about the direction we are heading as a committee, and we are all passionate about this amazing community we live in. While the AGM and a chance to be a committee member has come and gone now, we welcome you to get in touch if you are interested in getting involved in the committee (governance) side of things - we'll definitely find a way for you to connect and share your strengths and passions.

Finally, one year ago, I wrote an article in the Autumn newsletter entitled 'A potted history of the HVCA'. Refer back to this if you want more understanding of the history of HVCA and how we have got to where we are today.





Te Tihi o Kahukura

Heathcote Valley School

Kia Ora Heathcote,

In Term 2 the student leadership team ran three discos, one for year 1-3, one for year 4-5 and one for year 6-8. We ran lots of party games such as lolly scrambles, best dancer, musical statues and conga lines. We also served juice and popcorn throughout the evening. Everybody had a great time singing and dancing to the suggested songs.

For this term's inquiry we have been learning about living landscapes and in the year 7/8 space we have been testing dirt samples. We were also learning about photosynthesis and how plants can feed themselves, they only need sunlight and water to do so.



Lauren McCauley



Exploring living landscapes

Last term we had the last day of winter sports and we are now moving on to playing a volleyball and handball tournament with the other schools in the Aupaki cluster such as Sumner, Redcliffs and Lyttleton. For this tournament we choose to do competitive,

semi-competitive or non-competitive. In each of those selections we get into teams with kids from the other schools and play against other teams of kids that selected the same option as the team you're in.

But winter sport wasn't completely done for the year on the 22nd of August. The year 5-8 students went and competed with the other Aupaki schools in a winter sports tournament at Hagley Park. We all had a great time playing sport and a huge congratulations to the year 7/8 netball A team for getting into Canterburys!



Netball at Hagley Park

On the evening of Thursday the 27th of July we had our Matariki Celebration. Lots of families showed up to participate in Matariki activities. Each classroom represented a different star and had a different activity inside. In the hall a few parents worked away to make a divine vegetable soup and at the end of the evening we all jammed to the Matariki macarena.



Matariki activities

On Wednesday the 23rd of August a year 7 Cantamath team and a year 8 Cantamath team headed off to Wolfbrook Arena to compete against other schools in Christchurch in a Cantamath tournament.



Cantamath

In week 5 the Year 8 student leaders and head leadership team hosted Conservation Week where we ran lots of lunch time activities such as painting rocks, blowing massive bubbles and a treasure hunt. We also took each class up to Birdsey Reserve to do an orienteering course where you had to unscramble letters. On the Friday we asked all of the students to bring in a gold coin donation to fundraise for the NZ Nature Fund and a sprig of nature that our leaders made a beautiful bird out of on the court.

On Monday the 28th of August we had school photos, a day that lots of children get stressed out about, but in the end we all looked lovely in our photos (although some of us might not think so).

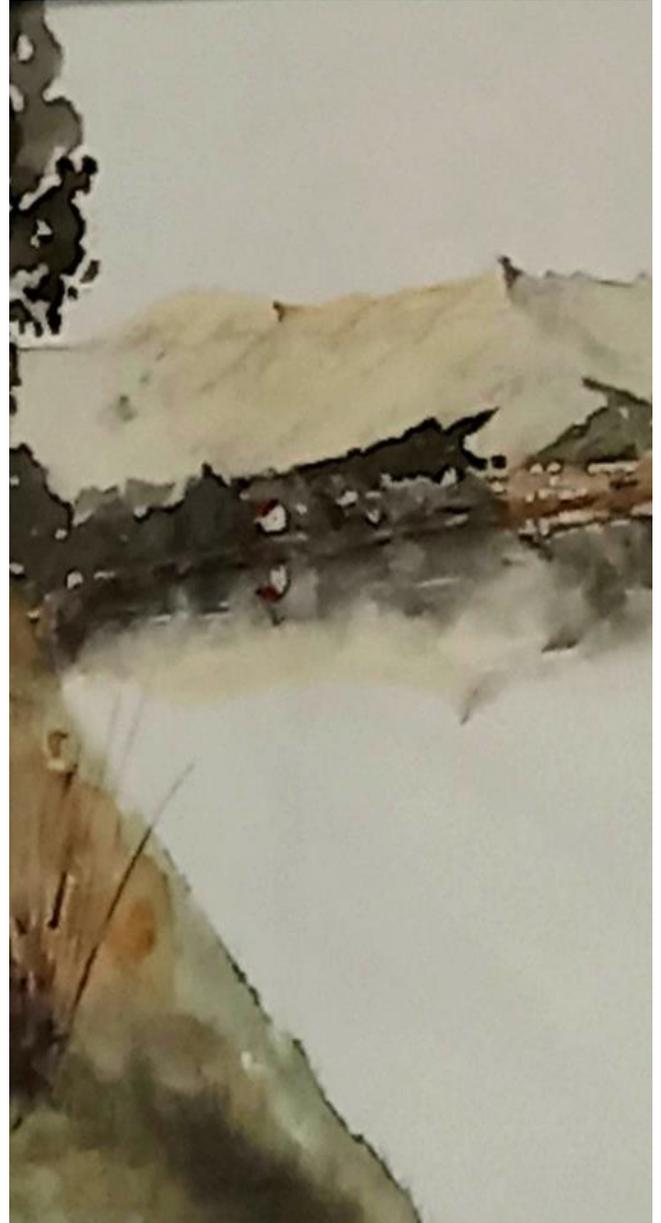
I hope you have all rugged up warm this winter and enjoyed the brief snowfall that sadly only settled in the hills.

Lauren McCauley



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

Thankyou Drina & Ian



On a recent visit to the valley, former residents Drina Sisarich and Ian McLeod presented this lovely watercolour print of Heathcote Valley, viewed from the lower end of Bridle Path Road. It was painted by Maurice Hunt, a long time resident of St Andrews Hill. It was a very generous gift of Drina and Ian and will remind us of the great contribution they made to the valley, including as Chairs of the Community Association. The picture can be viewed in the Heathcote community library.

What's on at Your Community Centre?



Yippee it's Spring! The lighter mornings, longer evenings and warmer temperatures are energising and it's wonderful to smell the blossom and see the new growth on trees.

Spring is a great time to get motivated and try something new. Why not pop along to your community centre and try one of the fabulous wellness classes, register for a workshop or come to craft group or community morning tea.

The craft group on Monday is a very friendly bunch and anyone is welcome to attend. There are all sorts of clever people working on interesting projects including knitting and crocheting, along with a ready cuppa and great conversation.

Likewise, community morning tea on Wednesday is relaxed and friendly. There is nothing better than a hot cheese scone or gran's fruit loaf, good coffee and great company. Anyone is welcome – come alone or bring a friend – and there is no charge. The library, also in the community centre, is open from 11am – 12pm on Wednesdays too so you can pop in and borrow some great books at the same time.

And if you have something to celebrate in the coming months then don't forget that you can hire the community centre for private events. We have a full kitchen, a ceiling-mounted projector, and tables, chairs, beanbags and a whiteboard for you to use. If you are interested in using the centre just pop me (Jen) an e-mail - hvcc.bookings@gmail.com

For the latest happenings at the community centre and updates keep an eye out on Facebook, our website,

your local noticeboards and the e-mails from Jos.

Our regular schedule includes:

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) 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)

Te Reo Classes

Tuesdays 3.30pm – 5pm. Contact Ali Bare for more information and an up-to-date schedule (alison.bare@gmail.com)

Santosha 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)

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)

Yoga for Teens

Wednesdays 5pm – 5.45pm: 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)

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)

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 or

Jos heathcotevillageproject@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)

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)

New Bus Routes

Two new bus routes in our area will begin operating from Monday 4th September 2023

Route 8: Port to Port/Airport to Lyttelton; and
Route 27: Northwood to Huntsbury.

These will replace the Bryndwr to Huntsbury (Route 17) and Casebrook to Lyttelton (Route 28) routes.

Need help? Give us a call on (03)366 88 55 or visit: metro.co.nz

Sara's Message

I'm sitting writing this as snow falls on the hills around the valley, it's been a few years since we've had this much settle, and spring seems a long way off.

It's not though and I'm already picking jonquils in the garden. Spring is also going to bring with it the opening of the Heathcote Expressway major

cycle route – a safe way to bike to town that the community has been asking for since before the earthquakes. It's a shared path for most of the route and will connect Martindales Road by St Mary's to The Tannery and city centre in time for warmer weather.

Warmer weather will also see the return of the cruise ships to Lyttelton and I attended a community meeting there a couple of nights ago to listen to residents and business owners discuss the impacts, both good and bad. We also heard about possible solutions being worked on for the overcrowding on the #28 bus route including separate express buses for cruise passengers to allow space for residents. I'll update you when I know more.

Spring will also see the #28 switch sections with the #17 and become the Port to Port (Lyttelton to Airport) route. It will also increase in frequency and, I'm told, have new electric buses – which I'm looking forward to!

As always, please get in contact with any issues by emailing me at sara.templeton@ccc.govt.nz

Ngā Mihi,

Sara

Sara Templeton
Councillor for Heathcote



Sara Templeton
City Councillor

Heathcote Valley Food Forest

The Heathcote Valley Food Forest, found in Birdsey Reserve on Bridle Path Road, is continuing to establish an area full of fruiting trees and shrubs, along with companion plants, herbs, bee-loving flowers and a few vegetables. Our hardy team has been meeting through winter at the earlier time of 2:30 pm, stopping only for rain and when we lose the sun behind the hills. As you can see from our photos, the children have been as busy as the adults, exploring, building and gathering.

Winter is always a busy time for planting, pruning and planning, and this year has been no exception. Through our park ranger, the City Council has provided us with funds to purchase fruit trees, fruiting shrubs, walnut, almond and hazelnut trees, and allowed us to plan for a pergola for training vines. Council also provided us with mulch to expand and replenish planting beds, and our own fundraising paid for other plants and trees. Some of the new planting is now extending into the paddocks alongside Bridle Path Road where we eventually hope to have a walking track that will run the length of the reserve.

Other projects include a need to focus on security within the reserve. Soon enough we will be installing a bollard to stop vehicles driving within the area beyond the hedge. In the past, cars have caused damage to the lawn area and trees, and have transported rubbish into

the reserve. We are also planning to build a noticeboard, and any help with sourcing materials and building this would be much appreciated! Please feel free to drop by and say hello on Wednesday afternoons. Email ameliaknightbare@gmail.com if you'd like to go on our email list.





HEATHCOTE COMMUNITY SPORTS CLUB INC



Aren't we all hoping for some better weather? The bowling green looks more like a lake as I write this article in mid-August, but nevertheless at the Heathcote Community Sports Club we are looking forward to the beginning of a new season in a few months' time.

Following a well-attended Club AGM in June there was a number of changes on the committee. Thanks are due to retiring committee members for what they have contributed to the Club, some over many years. Here's the new line-up.

President Nicole Randall
Secretary Zella Askew
Treasurer Kathy Randall
Committee Carey Brown
Diane Noble
Matt Ryley
Pat Tetlow
Yay Saunders

With a range of expertise and interests amongst committee members, we have been hard at work planning and organising activities for both members and non-members during the coming months and keeping the Club on track for another successful year.

A primary goal is to grow the Club by offering a wider range of sports and activities which you, the community, want to participate in. Whilst we can't commit to acting on every suggestion, we are always open to considering new ideas.

Those of you who read the Heathcote Village Facebook page will have seen some discussion about playing table tennis and we are keen to introduce this for the new Club year (starts October). Watch out for a meeting date to kick this off, or email the Secretary to register your interest. We will also soon be launching our own Facebook page.

Weather permitting, lawn bowls will start up again in October, with an open day on 12 November. The open day will be well publicised – look out for a flyer in your letterbox and the notices around the village (date may be subject to change). All are welcome to come, share some lunch and try out our sports.

In the meantime, indoor bowls continue on Tuesdays 7-9pm and also can be played on Sunday mornings 10am-12pm. Petanque is played every Sunday and Thursday morning 10am-12pm, barring heavy rain or snow! If you are not a member, that's fine. You can come and play for \$5 a session, all equipment supplied – plus tea and biscuits afterwards!

Please email the Secretary, Zella Askew, at heathcotecommunitysportclub@gmail.com with any inquiries, or telephone 021 521 707 (evenings).

Heathcote Community Sports Club, entrance off Bridle Path Road next to the Community Centre.

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 Valley to Avoca Valley Adventures with Nature

Rewilding in Morgans, Heathcote, Horotane and Avoca Valleys Spring 2023 Update

Spring Ramble, By John Marsh



I see that the garlic is moving in the vege patch, significantly more advanced than the neighbours I am pleased to note, the putaputaweta and toro seedlings in the glasshouse are a millimetre taller than last week and the kowhai on the boundary is flowering prolifically.....it's officially spring.

Today I'm talking about.... divaricating plants. These are relatively unique to New Zealand, with many species populating the Port Hills. I always used to think what scruffy unattractive things they were..... until I spent some time with them...often the case with people too. They are all those little (sometimes big) tangled, wiry and twiggy coprosma species, many with slight, hard to discern variations that are often lumped together and

known as miki miki. Also included in the group are prostrate kowhai, corokia, muehlenbeckia, porcupine shrub, some pittosporums and more.

Clambering around the dry rocky crags above Heathcote and Avoca Valley you will find there are lots of these remnant plant communities hanging on up there, accompanied by NZ broom, lawyer, clematis, and matagouri. It is these plants that will probably still be there when many of the leafier less drought tolerant species struggle as the climate warms.

In nature they are often found in exposed arid situations where they can tolerate extremes of temperature and wind, or on the edge of bush where they provide a protective zone allowing more sensitive plants to grow within. In other words, these are tough little buggers.

Looking closely you will find that the berries on them are quite prolific, varying in colour from one species to the other including red, scarlet, purple, bluish, white and translucent. A great source of food for birds. The interlacing foliage provides habitat for all sorts of invertebrates and lizards.

They are playing an important part in the revegetation projects around our valleys, but are also not a bad choice for the small garden as many are modest in size, from ground covers to 3.0 metre high shrubs, and are easily managed with a bit of trimming. Very little watering required too. I was encouraged by an



Miki miki grouping centre with prostrate kowhai to the left and scrambling clematis lower right in Avoca Valley.

impressive collection of these at the entrance to Wellington zoo a few years ago.....all trimmed into a continuous bouncy freeform cushion. When my hebe hedge started to die I began a gradual replacement with mikimiki. Its taking a while to get established....it looks a real mess..... scruffy and unattractive you might say, but it'll get better.

Below are progress reports on the rewilding of our neighbourhood. If you want to get involved with any of these please get in touch with the co-ordinators.

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## Heathcote Valley

### Castle Rock Reserve

By John Marsh

Di Carter is the CCC ranger tasked with revegetation projects in the Port Hills reserves. This winter Heathcote Valley has seen the benefit of her activities with contractors planting 17,250 kanuka on the north east slopes of Castle Rock –Te Tihi o Kahukura. This is targeting areas prone to erosion, and will infill between other pockets of bush above Tunnel Road and spread up into the upper gullies. Kanuka are being used here as the site will still be grazed, and sheep and other smaller animals find them unpalatable. The kanuka canopy, once established provides a sheltered microclimate for birds (or winds) to bring in other seed to enrich the bush vegetation diversity. A gradual change in the landscape should appear here over the next three to 10 years.

Di Carter has also been very supportive of our community planting project at the beginning of the Bridle Path track, providing the site and supplying plants over the last three seasons. More on this below.

### Bridle Path Native Re-vegetation site

By Tasmin Page

Wow! Three years in and we've nearly completed the planting at this site – just 50 or so trees needed next winter to fill the last corner. Thanks to a solid effort from a solid group of committed friends of this site, we got this year's 300 plants planted over one morning – ka mau te wehi – awesome stuff!

The trees at this site are really flourishing, but so are the weeds and grass, and with the arrival of spring, the



Action on Bridle Path project June 2023

growth will take off. Achieving successful revegetation at a site like this requires some committed ongoing maintenance for several years – planting the trees is just one of many steps! If we don't control the weeds and grass, we risk the plants being smothered and dying, wasting all the effort and resources that have been put in to getting the plants in the ground. So, it would be just amazing to get some more people committed to giving an hour or two per week to ongoing 'maintenance' up at this site, 'releasing' the trees – clearing the grass and weeds from around the planted trees and laying this around the tree's base as a mulch. This reduces competition from the weeds/grass and helps retain moisture to the trees' roots. Although there are quite a few of the first years' plantings now well above the weeds and grass, there are hundreds that aren't yet that tall, or that are small shrubs, so will take some time before they are shading out the weeds and grass around them. You just need a small pruning saw, or a flax cutter/traditional Japanese garden cutter, to cut the grass/weeds at ground level. If you've been involved in planting these trees, you know where they are. If not, please get in touch and I can give you directions.

With this site almost fully planted, we have initiated discussion with CCC about some additional revegetation planting on the opposite side of the Bridle Path track at the deluge site and the feeder streams. This has received a positive response, so we'll look to do some planting there next winter – watch this space!

If you can help with the work up at this site, and/or would like to be involved in the planting, please get in touch with Tamsin Page: [tamsin.page@gmail.com](mailto:tamsin.page@gmail.com) or Ph. 0276423555.

## Birdsey Reserve Native Re-generation

By Tasmin Page

This winter, tamariki from Heathcote Valley School and from the local Girl Guides have once again planted around 300 plants at Birdsey Reserve, continuing the on-going work to revegetate this area with native trees and shrubs. This has included some kanuka plantings in the upper sections of the grass paddocks of the Reserve, which enables both the initial phase of revegetation as well as ongoing grazing of these sections, as the kanuka are unpalatable to sheep.



Heathcote School Enviro Group at Birdsey Reserve July 2023.

Like many other plantings in areas that have previously been in grass, one of the biggest challenges in the first few years is managing the grass and weeds around the native plants, to ensure they do not get smothered by the lush growth. This is definitely a big and ongoing job at Birdsey, given that there have been a LOT of natives planted across this site over the past 5+ years.

It would be awesome to get some more people involved in this maintenance work. Maybe some local families, whose children have been involved in planting the trees, would be keen to commit to an hour or two per week, looking after the new plantings in this awesome public space in our valley? Or if you have a rangatahi doing their Duke of Edinburgh or William Pike awards, an hour per week of releasing native plantings is a perfect way to fulfil the community service component of these awards. Please get in touch if you could help in this way – local people investing in their local spaces is a successful formula!

If you can help with the work at Birdsey Reserve, and/or would like to be involved in the planting, please get



Planting tuition at Birdsey Reserve with Tasmin Page.

in touch with Tamsin Page ([tamsin.page@gmail.com](mailto:tamsin.page@gmail.com) or Ph. 0276423555.

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Morgans Valley

Over the autumn and winter the Morgans Valley Bush + Bird Regeneration Group have focused on planting in two areas of the large red zone land in the Valley. Below is an overview of the 2023 planting projects.

Special thanks to supporters who have donated plants this year: Tui Corridor (Christchurch Foundation), Te Kakahu Kahukura (TKK – Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust), Christchurch City Council and Trees for Canterbury.

Johnson Block

This is the large 4ha block of land you see straight ahead when entering the valley. This land was owned by the Johnson family who had started the regeneration of this land and planted 4,000 native trees prior to the earthquake and these trees now well established. We plan to finish what they started. Led



Action in Morgan's Valley showing some of the established fifteen year old planting and newest additions, July 2023

by Mat Sharp and Jude McLean, and our thanks to our tireless volunteers, we have planted the lower section with approximately 800 trees this season. Great work everyone.

South Eastern Area

This area covers the sections in the south east head of the valley, stretching north towards the water tank. The planting of this area is led by Callum Templeton and below is Callum's winter update on progress:

The trees and shrubs planted last year in Section 64 and the upper level of Section 62 are thriving. A large percentage of these have grown taller than the grass surrounding them, and this has been achieved by regular weeding and releasing.

Last year this task fell to a very small group of volunteers - thank you so much for all your help and time. This year we will be looking at having a couple of releasing days during the year to enable the plants to receive enough sunlight to not get smothered.

The "Field of Dreams Track" runs from the top of what was section 58 following the fence line to Section 87 by the treeline, and connects to the "Beer Bum Track". The plan is to plant 400 plants per year and stitch the new plantings to the existing established plantings.

This will increase the biodiversity, restoring and regenerating the red zone land back into Port Hills native forest and creating a welcoming space for birds and invertebrates and giving the track users a bush experience rather than a paddock experience.

With the increase in extreme weather caused by climate change we will be looking to plant out the

gullies with plants that will slow the water rate, reduce the downstream sediment effects and slow erosion. Reforestation of the gullies will create ecological spaces for native fauna and flora.

This year we had two very successful planting days on the 16th and 30th July - 400 plants were planted between section 62 and section 60. Ka pai to all the Heathcote and Morgan's Valley residents who turned out on these days to help plant these trees.

Another 200 plants were donated by Trees for Canterbury and we will be looking to have another planting day in either late August or early September.

Indicators point to NZ having an extremely hot summer. There are staging posts with 2 and 3lt water bottles along the track. If you see a plant over summer that looks stressed or if you have a favourite plant on the track (maybe one that you planted) please give it a drink. It's wet and muddy on the track over winter but it gets extremely dry over summer.

If you can help with the ongoing work up at this site, and/or would like to be involved in the planting please get in touch with. Callum Templeton.

mngcallum@hotmail.com or Ph. 021 024 19742

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## Horotane Valley and Avoca Valley

### Linda Woods Reserve.

By John Marsh

The hard working volunteer work party continue their good work on the reserve, including planting, releasing



Mahi on the two year old Avoca Stream margin planting - June 2023. Tim Mundy overseeing one of the Friday afternoon planting teams.

and weed control. They are also building a walking track up through the mid-section to the top of Avoca Valley and recently had the source of the stream, a spring below Summit Road, fenced and planted.

Our Jobs for Nature restoration programme has been transformational. If you are keen to see the progress, walk along the closed section of the Summit Road. You will see plants as far as the eye can see. We have planted 52,000 plants in Avoca Valley! We have one more year of Jobs for Nature funding left, which will largely be used for maintaining the plantings.

Our predator control programme is getting underway, with support from Boffa Miskell and local residents. We hope to have three trap lines in place by the end of this year. We also encourage all residents in Heathcote to get a trap through Predator Free Port Hills, our backyard and community trapping programme [www.predatorfreeporthills.org.nz](http://www.predatorfreeporthills.org.nz)

We are also working with the University of Canterbury to set up a citizen science monitoring programme of Avoca Stream to monitor improvements in water flow, water quality and biodiversity.

In Horotane Valley, volunteers planted 3000 kānuka (known as the Mundy 3000) around the gorse and on the slips thanks to a generous donation from the Mundys.

We are continuing our work to remove weeds from the reserve, with a focus on boxthorn, broom, gorse, briar rose and blackberry.

Signage will be installed later this year and we will be engaging a contractor to improve drainage along the

4WD tracks. Further track signage will be installed in 2024.

A huge thank you to the volunteers and Wai-ora staff who work tirelessly at Linda Woods Reserve. Thanks as well to the generous funders who provide the much needed funding for a restoration programme of this scale.

**Marie Gray** *Linda Woods Reserve is a 230 hectare reserve including most of Horotane and Avoca Valley. It is owned by the Summit Road Society and can be accessed by the public for recreation through the top gate in Duncan Park off Port Hills Road.*

**Duncan Park.** After eight years of reveg planting Duncan Park is now getting full and planting activity can relax a bit while trees gradually overshadow the gorse scrub. The stream margin plantings are looking well advanced. All areas will still benefit from ongoing releasing and control of invasive weeds though.

The Friday team has planted another 600 trees and stream margin plants over the autumn and winter. Most of its time however has been spent over the south boundary on the Linda Woods Reserve preparing planting sites and co-ordinating corporate groups planting 3000 kanuka in Horotane Valley.

The prospect of replacing NZ's fascination with ball sports with a tree planting culture is a tall order in Rugby World Cup year, not to mention the

Women's Football World Cup, Cricket WC and Warriors having an exceptional season. However there is a growing competitive edge to the corporate planting teams we have had passing through the changing rooms at Duncan Park Stadium. The Mundy 3000 Planting

League 2023 was launched in May and the stats are now out for the seasons planting which show creditable showings with in excess of 10 trees per hour from the **Shovellers, Spaderunners, Drillers, Stubbies and Huggers.**

| <b>MUNDY 3000 HOROTANE 2023 PRELIM RESULTS</b>                 | <b>Game Time</b>           | <b>Team size</b> | <b>Field</b> | <b>Total Trees planted on day</b> | <b>Trees planted per person on day</b> | <b>Trees planted per person per hour</b> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| STONEWORKS<br>"SHOVELLERS"<br>26 <sup>th</sup> May             | 1.30 - 4.00<br>2.5 hrs     | 9.5+2=11.5       | Area 6       | 364                               | 31.65                                  | 12.66 (1*)                               |
| FLETCHER LIVING<br>"FLAMINGOS"<br>16 <sup>th</sup> June        | 2.30 – 4.30<br>2hrs        | 21+2=23          | Area 6       | 410                               | 17.83                                  | 8.91 (2*)                                |
| KAMO MARSH<br>"SPADERUNNERS"<br>23 <sup>rd</sup> June          | 1.30 – 3.30<br>2hrs        | 15+2=17          | Area 7       | 430                               | 25.29                                  | 12.65 (3*)                               |
| MUNDY TOMATO GROUP-<br>"GRUBBERS"<br>11 <sup>th</sup> June     | 2.30 – 5.00<br>2.5hrs      | ?? TBC           | Area 9       | 507                               | TBC?                                   | TBC? (4*)                                |
| LINDA WOODS<br>RESERVE FIELD<br>CHOIR -9 <sup>th</sup> July    | 9.30 – 12.00noon<br>2.5hrs | 7                | Area 8/11    | 140                               | 20                                     | 8.00 (5**)                               |
| ENGEO<br>"DRILLERS"<br>7 <sup>th</sup> July                    | 3.30-5.00pm<br>1.5hrs      | 7 +4=11          | Area 7       | 307                               | 27.9                                   | 18.6 (6*)                                |
| DATA NEST I.T.<br>GROUP<br>"STUBBIES"<br>21 <sup>st</sup> July | 3.00 – 4.30pm<br>1.5hrs    | 6 + 4.5 = 10.5   | Area 10      | 220                               | 20.95                                  | 14                                       |
| HUGHES DEV.<br>"HUGGERS"<br>28 <sup>th</sup> July              | 2.30 – 3.45pm<br>1.25hrs   | 7 + 5 = 12       | Area 7       | 188                               | 12.5                                   | 10                                       |

There have been a few grumbles and banter from some of the teams and appeals to the judging panel including reviews of the third umpire type may still be lodged with regard to the **Flamingoes, Grubbers and Field Choir** results. This due to extenuating circumstances of weather, extreme slope to playing fields, mud, gorse and poor delivery of mulching mats on the day.

All teams are winners in this league however.

At the risk of being sued by the publishers....I had thought to mention Sam Neill's book "*Did I Ever Tell You This?*" as a worthwhile read....more a ramble actually, (it's in the Heathcote library). Especially page 34 where he suddenly, in the middle of talking of his grandmother says...."*Back in NZ, on my land, I've been assiduously (a nice word) planting trees for decades now.....Planting trees is about as important a thing as you can do in these times.*"

Nothing like a bit of encouragement....thanks Sam.

# Heathcote Community Garden Update

By John Marks

Since the last update for the Autumn magazine a lot has happened with the relocation of the community garden from St Marys Church grounds to the new location at the Heathcote Valley School.

Following a few meetings with school and advisers from the Community Gardens Association and Orchards for Schools, we finalised a layout plan to relocate the existing raised beds.

Unfortunately, things did not go entirely to plan due to major roadworks starting in Truscotts Road. This effectively blocked our access to the garden site for a trailer for the removal of soil from the existing beds.

We had a small window of opportunity as the new fence was to be installed along the boundary of the church with a neighbouring driveway. With the permission from the neighbour, Steve, we were able to remove our garden shed and transport it to the school. We also had enough time to move the soil from one garden bed. Once the new fence was built, we were once again at the mercy of the road works.

The only work we could undertake during this time was to relocate a water supply at the school to suit our needs and to permanently locate the garden shed.

After about three months of delays with the roadworks, we could at last have access to the Truscotts Road gate. In between weather issues, we were able to move soil from a couple of beds by shovel and wheelbarrow to the trailer parked on the road as the ground was too wet to drive on. This took many hours of back breaking work. Once the first two beds were empty of soil, they had to be jacked out of the ground, cut in half, disassembled, stacked on the trailer and transported to the school.

The process of reassembly then began. The new positions had been measured and marked according to our layout plans. The timbers were then put together as they had been taken apart and with some new pieces to fill in the ends where they had been cut, they were soon ready for filling with the previously



**From this**



**to this**



stockpiled soil. Some school children were helping with this, and the first bed was soon filled and ready for planting.

This process was repeated over the next couple of weeks with moving more soil and getting another bed ready for cutting in half and transporting to the school. At the time of writing this report, we had just spent another full day moving soil and placing it into two beds in preparation for planting. We are grateful for the services of our friend Bill who has been helping on the shovel and wheelbarrow. Also, the assistance of Lee [Habitus Group] who has offered us financial assistance for expenses incurred during the relocation process has been much appreciated.

Over the coming days (weather permitting) the third large bed will be cut in half and transported to the school for reassembly into two smaller beds as was done with the previous ones. The remaining raised bed at Truscotts Road will be emptied, dismantled and reassembled at the school for exclusive use of pupils from the school. This will be their learning area so they can produce their own food and know how to tend and harvest from the garden to the table.

The community garden is always looking for volunteers who wish to benefit from this project by helping in the garden to share in the produce grown there. There are many ways to help as you don't need to be a gardener to be of assistance as there are a lot of other projects that need attention. Some of these are watering the beds when needed, maintenance of equipment, building new assets, and generally helping keep the garden looking shipshape.

If you feel you can offer any services to help with the garden relocation, there are a few projects that need attention such as building a fence around a small compound next to the garden shed, the relocation of the noticeboard from Truscotts Road, some edging around the garden to retain the future bark chips. Please contact the Coordinator on 0272290847 or [john.marks47@outlook.com](mailto:john.marks47@outlook.com) for more information.

Follow our progress on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1220815585088673>

## Silos Knitting



A new knitting / crochet group has started up in Heathcote Valley aimed at those working during the week who are unable to get to the well-established Monday morning group. The new group is the idea of Valley residents Eliz Rayner, her sister Frances and Anne Mortimer. All three friends wanted to meet somewhere locally on a Saturday where they can easily walk to for a couple of hours of social knitting.

The new group already has several regulars who meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month 1-3pm to share their latest creations, share wool and pattern tips and inspire each other. Being part of a group encourages you to step out of your comfort zone and to be inspired to stretch your skills. We welcome all ages and abilities and no regular commitment is required. Find us on Facebook as the Heathcote Valley Knitting Group or in Silos Café.

## Welcome Packs for Newcomers



If you have a new neighbour or know of someone new coming into the valley please contact me for a wonderful locally made tote bag with local goodies for you to add to as desired to give to your new neighbours. It's a great way to make new friends and welcome newcomers into the community.

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

# News from the Church of St Mary

*By The Reverend Mark Sullivan, Vicar*

“The times they are a changing”

One of the abuses I placed upon my kids was having them listen to my personal selection of songs in the car whenever we travelled anywhere. Initially it was tape-recordings, then burned discs, transitioning to an iPod and now these days Spotify. Something of a revolt happened in their early teens when they purchased their own devices. Instead, my Seekers songs only rang out to me as they sat contented with head phones and today Bluetooth ear-pods. But two years ago, it was strange to find my 21-year-old daughter partying with her friends and them singing some of those old “car” songs together. After all, don't we all like “Sweet Caroline” at sports fixtures.



*Mark Sullivan, Vicar*

A short time ago I added “The times they are a changing” sung by Keb’ Mo’, to my playlist and cancelled the 1965 Seekers version. The reality for us all is that The Times They are a Changing and the older we get the more severe these changes appear to be. (Or is it that I’m more interested in these changes, now I’m not surfing all summer and ski-ing all winter anymore?)

I am always intrigued when people tell me how little the church has changed and how it needs to renew itself. The ironic thing is when it does, we face huge criticism and vilification, often from the ones who called for modernization. In the face of the “new” Lord’s Prayer first introduced 53 years ago, people still opt for the traditional one that uses words of a bygone era dating back to the year 1662.

In 1860 the Church of St Peter in Heathcote was constructed, but underwent a name change to the Church of St Mary in 1866. In those days, it was situated on Bridle Path Road. Those early settlers who had arrived on ships into Lyttelton, hauled their belongings into the Heathcote Valley and rested before making

their way to the newly planned town which was to become the City of Christchurch. There is historical evidence to suggest that worship services were conducted in tents and make-shift buildings as early as 1843.

This small church was relocated to its current site in 1925. In 1910 a hall was built and this became the focus of community life. Regular dances and community events were held in this place. In 1960, the hall was extended and a supper-room was added. The whole building was modernized shortly before the earthquakes and thus, sustained minimal damage.

In terms of liturgy, the greatest change happened in 1970 when the provincial church offered new liturgies in the common vernacular. And “SHOCK, HORROR” it included not only a Maori translation but Maori phrases replaced some of the English sentences.

The next big change happened in 2019. The parish sold vacant land, upon which now sit several desirable dwellings of varying sizes. And last year, the Parish agreed to consolidate our ministry to the Heathcote and Mt Pleasant suburbs to just one church, the Church of St Mary in Heathcote. This transition will happen on 12 November when the Church of the Ascension in Mt Pleasant is secularized and sold.

The Church of St Mary has been a gem of this community for 163 years and makes it the oldest building in the valley. Not only has it been the spiritual home for this community, but an important meeting place for its peoples and for most of Heathcote’s life, a focus for this vibrant community. To allow us to offer the kind of ministry necessary for a busy suburban parish, some further change is necessary.

On 10 September, a contractor removed the privet hedge around the premises, cut down dead and dying trees, and culled and cleared the pittosporum trees by the gate to make good the area for new plantings and grass. A community working-bee was held to add the finishing touches to these changes to open our site and

make our buildings more visible and our gardens more accessible to the community.

From September, to November, the interior of the church will be completely refurbished, with new heating and lighting installed, the sound system modernized and AV facilities fitted. The exterior of the church and the bell tower will be floodlit during the night and two offices will be constructed off the supper room. Internet will be available throughout both premises and the Centennial Hall will undergo an interior upgrade.

Outside, the Memorial Garden that was consecrated twenty years ago will be upgraded with new shrubs and extended to provide more space for ashens remains to be interred. (This burial site is available to all former Heathcote residents.)

Over the next six years, more changes are planned and these will form a "stage 2" initiative that is still being considered.

While the times may be a changing and as the Seekers give way to new versions of their song to Keb' Mo', so is your valley church. The familiar words will remain the same. But the music and the tempo may alter slightly to make way for our changing world. One thing will remain as constant as those words themselves, the Anglican Church in our valley will continue its mission to the local community and the wider city as it has been doing every day since 1860.

## Craft Group

Heathcote Valley Craft Group meets on a Monday morning 10 am – midday at the community centre. We are a friendly group of women (we would welcome some men) who all enjoy doing some type of hand craft. We have a laugh, share a coffee and admire the talent of the folk who attend. There is always room for newcomers (first session is free). We pay \$3 weekly for hire of the centre and tea/coffee costs.

Come and join us!

Judy and Wendy

## Heathcote Cricket

### Get Ready to Swing for the Stars this Cricket Season!

The excitement is palpable as we gear up for another thrilling cricket season in our beloved valley! We're not going to let some pitch invaders dampen our spirit as we gear up for another stellar season. The wait is almost over, and soon, the air will be filled with the sweet symphony of leather meeting willow. Get ready to be a part of the action!

### Mark Your Calendars

#### Junior Opening Day on Saturday, September 16th:

**Junior Registration** kicks off from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

#### Adult Opening Day on Saturday, September 23rd:

**Adult Registration** follows from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM. This will coincide with the premiers pre-season fixture.

For the seasoned players itching to hit the field, the official start for adult grades is scheduled for **Saturday, October 7th**.

While our enthusiastic junior cricketers will get their turn on **October 14th**.

If you can't make registration days then you can register on our website [www.heathcotecricket.co.nz](http://www.heathcotecricket.co.nz).

Stay tuned for the kickoff of the Friday night 'have a go' sessions for our youngest cricket stars - dates to be confirmed soon in October.

For all your adult cricket queries, feel free to reach out to our dynamic Club Captain, Shaun Berryman, at [shaunberryman33@gmail.com](mailto:shaunberryman33@gmail.com) or on **027 296 6985**.

For everything related to our junior leagues, our new Junior Club Captain, Rhys Watson-Webb, is your go-to guy at [rcww01@gmail.com](mailto:rcww01@gmail.com) or on **027 654 3028**.

Let's make this season one for the books, and together, let's celebrate the spirit of cricket!

David Stack – Committee member

# Spring Recipe

## Lemon buttered asparagus, salmon and eggs

Spring is asparagus season . Those green spears that give your pee a characteristic aroma are incredibly rich in vitamins and minerals and a very good source of fibre. Asparagus is a great low-carb nutritional powerhouse!

Whether you use it in salads, stir fries, rolled in a slice of soft white bread, or on its own, asparagus is a very versatile vegetable. It is best enjoyed lightly cooked to retain that fresh crispness. Here is a recipe to enjoy for a fancy breakfast, lunch, or even a light meal at the end of the day.

### Ingredients

|             |                        |
|-------------|------------------------|
| 32 (approx) | Asparagus spears, thin |
| 2 Tbsp      | Butter (melted)        |
| 1 Tbsp      | Lemon juice            |
| 8 slices    | Salmon (cold smoked)   |
| 8           | Eggs (poached)         |

### For hollandaise sauce

|         |                      |
|---------|----------------------|
| 3       | Egg yolks            |
| 1 Tbsp  | White wine vinegar   |
| 200g    | Butter (melted, hot) |
| 2 tsp   | Lemon juice          |
| 1 pinch | Cayenne pepper       |



### Directions

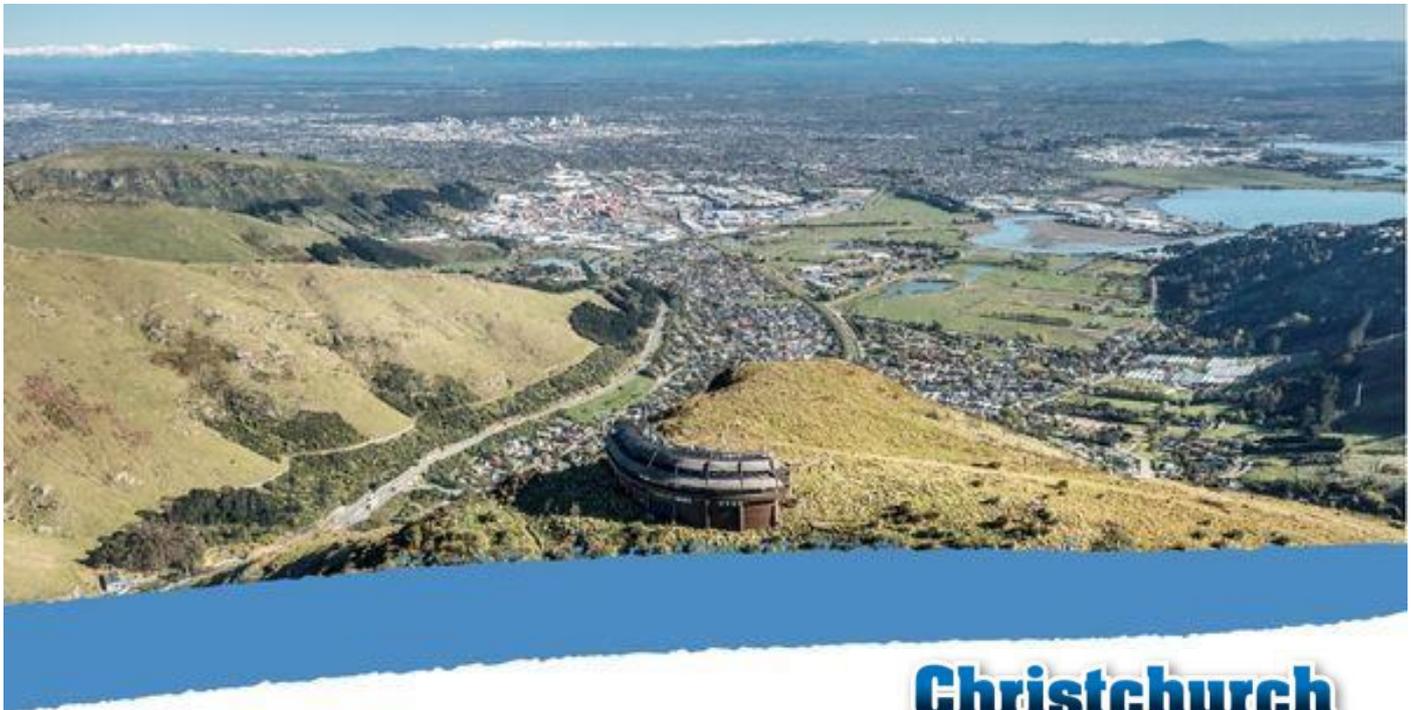
1. Snap or cut the bottom 5cm off the asparagus spears then wash in cold water.
2. Plunge spears into a large pot of boiling water with 2 teaspoons of salt. Cook for 2 minutes then remove with a slotted spoon.
3. Gently toss with butter, lemon juice and season with salt and pepper.
4. Serve on hot plates then top with slices of smoked salmon, poached eggs and hollandaise sauce (below).

### Hollandaise sauce

1. Put egg yolks, vinegar and a pinch of salt in a metal or glass bowl. Whisk for a few minutes then put the bowl over a pan of gently simmering water and whisk vigorously until pale, thick and doubled in size.
2. Remove from the heat then slowly whisk in the melted butter, bit by bit. If the sauce gets too thick add in a few teaspoons of milk.
3. Season with lemon juice and a little cayenne pepper. Cover with cling film and keep warm until needed.

### Perfect poached eggs

- Add 2 Tbsp white vinegar to a pan of steadily simmering water.
- Create a whirlpool in the water; this will help form a neat shape.
- Carefully tip the egg into the water, white first, then leave to cook for 3 minutes.
- Remove egg with a slotted spoon, trim off any wispy egg white edges, then drain on kitchen paper.



# Christchurch *attractions* GONDOLA

## **Kia ora to all in the Heathcote community,**

We have had a wonderful summer season, with international customers returning to the country along with our domestic market. It is at this time of the year that we move to maintenance mode: you may have seen the helicopters around along with the crane as we conducted final cableway tower maintenance on site during May 2023. We closed for a week while maintenance was carried out, during which time our staff were busy undergoing first aid, health & safety and other training as well as giving the complex a thorough deep clean. This work concludes our major tower work projects until 2025 when we begin the rotation again.

Work on replacement of the 30-year-old Summit Station roof was completed in mid-July 2023, with one final lift of scaffolding from the site by helicopter taking place in late July 2023.

You may have noticed the planting of the 100 native red matipo or māpou trees in September 2021, in celebration of His Royal Highness, The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh's 100<sup>th</sup> year legacy. The project was in conjunction with the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Aotearoa; Te Tapuwae o Rākau Trust; Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke, Rāpaki; and other partners.

To protect these trees the wooden bollard rope fence was inserted along the road curbing with an irrigation system to water the plants while they are established. We continue to maintain this area on a weekly basis and look forward to their continued growth. An information sign that details the plantings and our partners is located near the top of the hill by the car park.



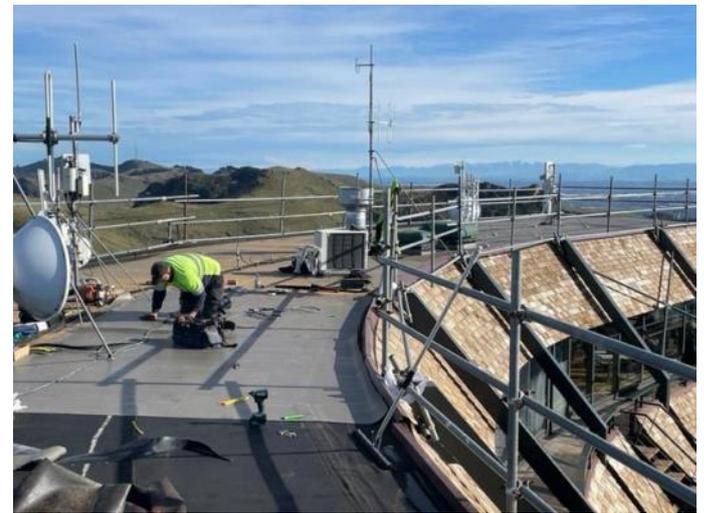
[christchurchattractions.nz](http://christchurchattractions.nz)  
[hanmerspringsattractions.nz](http://hanmerspringsattractions.nz)



I would like to take the opportunity of thanking you for your continued support of the Christchurch Gondola, it is very much appreciated.

**Mark Forster**

**General Manager, Christchurch Gondola**



### **About the Christchurch Gondola**

Visit the Christchurch Gondola for truly spectacular scenery. With breath-taking panoramic views of Christchurch, Lyttelton and beyond, the Christchurch Gondola's summit station also offers walking tracks, Christchurch Discovery Ride detailing the area's history, a licensed café and a gift store as well as a private function venue. Only 15 minutes' drive from central Christchurch and with Qualmark Gold accreditation, the Christchurch Gondola experience is a fantastic way to view and appreciate the city from a unique perspective.

For further information and images, please contact:

Emma Thomson Email: [emma@christchurchattractions.nz](mailto:emma@christchurchattractions.nz)



[christchurchattractions.nz](http://christchurchattractions.nz)  
[hannerspringsattractions.nz](http://hannerspringsattractions.nz)



# Heathcote Valley Library

Located at the Community Centre, Bridle Path Road

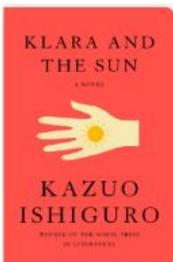
## SAUSAGE SIZZLE BOOK SALE

**Saturday 4 November**

**10.30am - 12.00noon**

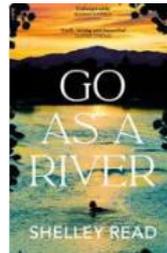
We invite you to join us at the library for a tasty snack and to browse through our ex-rental children's and adult's books

Librarian's Choices . . .



**Klara & the Sun** by Kazuo Ishiguro

English writer Ishiguro is a winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature and four-time Booker nominee. Set in an unspecified future, the book is told from the point of view of Klara, a solar-powered Artificial Friend, who is chosen by Josie, a sickly child, to be her companion.



**Go As A River** by Shelley Read

Shelley Read's coming-of-age story tells of a resilient young woman whose life is changed forever by one chance encounter. A tragic and uplifting novel of love and loss, family and survival

If popular books are out on loan, you can order them. Just call in to the library

### THURSDAY BOOK CLUB

A chance to chat about your favourite current read, meet up with old and new friends, enjoy a hot drink. Meet at the library first Thursday of each month 2.30pm-3.30pm

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#### Library Hours

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

Closed on Sundays and public holidays

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

# UPCYCLE

## Freecycle Day

Mark your diary now!

The spring Freecycle day will be on  
Saturday 14th October

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 14th.

## A Conversation with Carl

A local by the name of Carl recently made contact after reading the article on Heathcote Street names in our Autumn 2023 edition. He has a very early map of Heathcote Valley which shows that Martindales Road was originally called Station Road. The road we now know as Station Road was probably an unnamed track at the time. It's surprising how many of our local street names have changed over the years.

Carl also talked about the 'tower' used for the alignment of the railway tunnel which featured in the Spring 2022 magazine. This tower was built on the crest of the hill midway between the two ends of the tunnel. Carl believes the remnants of the tower may still be there as he located a very old post in the correct position while exploring the area.

During the course of the conversation Carl mentioned the number of old bricks that can be found around the Heathcote and Ferrymead areas. Many of these are stamped with the letters 'R S'. We did some research into their origins, which you will find in a separate article, "Digging Up Bricks".

## The complete guide to NZ Election 2023

Get across the policies, candidates and parties to decide who to vote for.



Policy.nz gathers essential information about the policies and candidates of New Zealand's political parties together in one place, so you can make an informed vote this election. You can see favourite policies and candidates to help you decide who to vote for. All the policies are based on the parties' official websites, policy documents, press releases and social media posts, and the information about candidates is gathered from the candidates themselves. It's updated daily and is non-partisan. Check it out at [policy.nz](https://policy.nz)

## Do you have a story to tell?

Articles are invited for the next issue of the Heathcote community magazine, which will be the spring 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 **Sunday 12 November**.

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

# The Demise of the Heathcote Maltworks

*By John Squibb*

*John Squibb was a meteorologist for most of his life and is now happily retired living at the old Maltworks site which has been developed into the Maltworks Villas.*

In the 1980s the Heathcote Malting Company, owned by NZ Breweries, made an application to the Canterbury Regional Council to convert their power source from rapidly rising electricity to cheaper coal. But at the same time there was an increasing concern in Christchurch about the decreasing quality of air, particularly in the autumn and winter months. Pollutant levels approached – or even exceeded – world standard guidelines and Christchurch was widely referred to as the “Smog capital of New Zealand”.



The Heathcote Maltworks in the late 1970s

The Malting Company hired a private meteorological company to substantiate their application. This company carried out their investigations in late spring – autumn months, but not in winter. The Malting Company’s case revolved around the fact that, in the 1970s, they spent considerable money building six 200 foot silos to expedite the expulsion of pollutants from the site. By doing this, and aided by the topography of the south to north contour of the valley (from the Summit Road), the southerly wind would largely carry the pollution over Woolston etc and out to sea at Brighton.

The case was considered in spring 1997, presided over by Judge John Fogarty QC for two days. The evidence presented against the Maltworks’ proposal was meteorologically based. It was explained that the only specific research in Heathcote had been done in 1970 by A.P. Ryan of the Christchurch Met. Service. He found that only 18% of the valley’s winds were from the south. It was known for more than a century that the

prevailing wind in Christchurch was ENE (East – North – East) – 70 degrees on the compass).

But Ryan’s research also found that the contour of the valley gave the wind an even more easterly slant (90 to 100 degrees on the compass). This meant that the winds came across the valley from the Mt Pleasant side and then proceeded over the northern and western suburbs.

Before the escalation of global warming, Christchurch weather experienced 85 frosts a year. Temperature inversion also featured. This is where a layer of warm air is above a layer of cold air; the cold air having been cooled in the winter by contact with the cold ground. The inversion acts as a lid on the lower layer and traps the pollutants.

Cold fronts from the south traverse Christchurch at (roughly) seven day intervals during the May – October period. These fronts can temporarily clear the pollutants but they quickly reform. Fogs and dews also exacerbate the smog situation.

The meeting stirred plenty of interest. Several local residents spoke against the Maltworks’ proposal. It was no surprise that the application to utilise coal was denied.



Demolition underway in 2012

NZ Breweries decided to close down their operation and transfer to a second smaller plant in the North Island. The business here ceased in the early 2000s. The silos were eventually demolished in early 2012.

# Digging Up Bricks

*By Barrie Woods*

Anecdotally, locals sometimes dig up stray bricks in their yards that are marked with the letters "R S". Similar bricks are found in local buildings and structures from the early days of the Heathcote area, so we decided to find out about their origins.



The story of the 'R S' bricks begins with a fellow by the name of William ('Brickie') Holmes and the Banks Brothers (Alfred, Edward and Henry) who set up a brick making enterprise to supply bricks for the Heathcote portal of the new railway tunnel in 1861. To meet the demand for bricks (1.5 million of them) they installed the first brickmaking machine in Canterbury.

Alfred Lee Smith owned a substantial block of land in Heathcote Valley and in 1871 he purchased the brickyard, naming it the Wincolmlee Brick Kilns. He also established the Wincolmlee Malt Kilns on the same site. The Wilcomlee kilns were located in the area that would eventually become the malt works.

In 1874, Alfred Lee Smith decided to sell much of his land by establishing a new township in Heathcote Valley to be called St Kilda. The sections were in the area of Station Road, Flavell, Marsden and Rollin Streets. A year later he sold the brick and malt kilns to Royse, Stead & Co, and moved to Dunedin.

As part of the sale agreement Smith took up a stake in Royse, Stead & Co. He also had an ongoing business relationship with William Royse and together they purchased Donaghy's Rope and Twine, a company that continues to this day.

Royse, Stead & Co. was established by William Royse and George C Stead who originally set up as grain merchants, with premises on Cashel Street. George Stead arrived at Lyttelton in August 1866 and took up

work with the Union Bank of Australia. William Royse arrived in Dunedin in 1861 and was involved in shipping and trading, but by 1868 was bankrupted. He moved to Australia for a short time then came back to New Zealand to reside in Christchurch.

Royse, Stead & Co took advantage of a boom period in the 1870s, largely brought about by public borrowing for investment in immigration, land development, and transport links, such as railways and roads. The company built up extensive interests as grain traders, shipping agents, brick makers, maltsters, and property developers, among other activities.

Under the ownership of Royse & Stead, the brickworks at Heathcote Valley expanded and became a major producer of bricks. With the growth of Christchurch City nearby, there was a ready market for bricks. A number of brickmakers also set up in business during this time.

Brick makers have a long history of stamping their bricks with their 'mark'. Such marks are useful to archaeologists in determining where and when bricks were made and where they were transported to, sometimes across the world.

The Wincolmlee brick works, under the new ownership of Royse, Stead & Co began marking their bricks with the letters 'R S'. These are commonly found in the Heathcote and Ferrymead areas, but also in other parts of Christchurch. Royse & Stead bricks are found much further afield too. Shipping records show they were shipped to the West Coast for a period of at least eight years, and they have turned up in Hokitika, Greymouth and the Buller districts.

The brickworks was sold to Wigram Brothers brick makers in 1886, and from that time the mark was changed to a 'W'. Bricks were made at the Heathcote site until 1903 when Wigram Brothers merged with T. N. Horsley to form the Christchurch Brick and Tile Company. The Canterbury Seed Co bought the malt-houses in 1906 and at one time supplied all the malt for New Zealand's brewing requirements.

## 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.