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18 Event
Mackenzie Highland
A&P Show

12 Feature
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contents

How lucky were we to have such fabulous weather for the Rock and Hop. This event truly puts South Canterbury on the map and all for such a great cause. We have another iconic event featured in this issue - The 2021 Mackenzie Highland A&P Show on Easter Monday. As usual it is set to be a fantastic day for all the family with stalls, exhibits, animals, wood chopping, dog trials, vintage machinery and live performances from the Mackenzie Highland Pipe, Highland dancing, solo drumming and special guest artist Craig Smith of Wonky Donkey fame. More information is on page 19.

We also have another great cause you can get involved with - can you believe Rosa from Madam Mat is shaving her much loved head of dreads to raise money for animals? How brave is she? Did you know that approximately 300,000 animals are used for research, testing and teaching purposes every year in New Zealand? You can help end animal testing by checking out the details are on page 8.

Writer, Jo Bailey and I were very privileged to be invited to spend an afternoon in the garden of our friend Gerald Horton's hidden oasis. The development of this magical garden is testament to a 35 year labour of love by Gerald Horton and his late wife Rosie. Page 6.

We visit the Waimate District - the perfect destination for your next day trip or weekend getaway. With a reputation for its amazing selection of eateries, eclectic shops and multitude of outdoor activities, stunning landscapes, Edwardian architecture, the silo art and the popular Community Market held on Saturdays - put it on your to do list. Page 10.

Timaru veterinarian Dr Vince Peterson was named a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the 2020 Queen's Birthday Honours list. Writer, Gilly Oppenheim? chats with him about his career spanning more than 50 years. Page 14.

If you aren't prepared to settle for the ordinary - check out our story on The Ring Makers on page 9 and we put some questions to Suzanne from Fashion Focus on page 16.

Have a great month - Dorothy

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Cover

Finding a piece of furniture to suit your own style and fit your own space can sometimes be a daunting task. But at Mr Jones Furniture & Restoration, you can do just that!

See more on page 12-13

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Race to Rock and Hop

Caroline Bay Rock and Hop event was back and blew our locals away. What an eventful weekend seeing all the classic, custom, and vintage cars, bikes, and caravans from across New Zealand. This event was booming.



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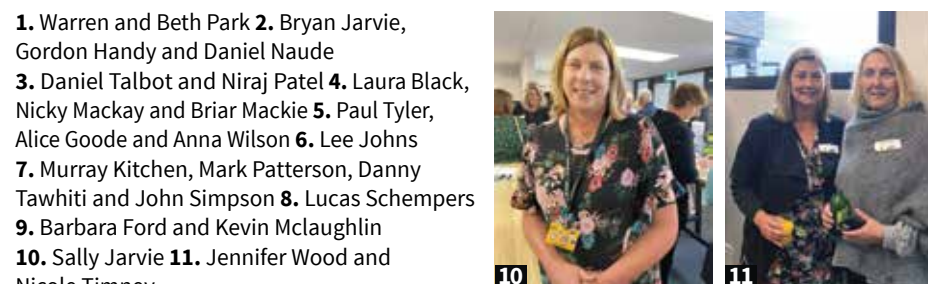


ACCREDITED VILLAGE OF THE RVA



St Johns New Building

What a well-supported event at the BA5, showcasing the New St Johns Building on the 25th of February. The St Johns team were excited to showcase their new working space.



- Warren and Beth Park
- Bryan Jarvie, Gordon Handy and Daniel Naude
- Daniel Talbot and Niraj Patel
- Laura Black, Nicky Mackay and Briar Mackie
- Paul Tyler, Alice Goode and Anna Wilson
- Lee Johns
- Murray Kitchen, Mark Patterson, Danny Tawhiti and John Simpson
- Lucas Schempers
- Barbara Ford and Kevin Mclaughlin
- Sally Jarvie
- Jennifer Wood and Nicole Timney



Rocking out at the Retro Rock concert

On the 13th of February, the Retro Rock concert was held again for our fantastic community. Hundreds of people swarmed to the grassy slopes outside South Canterbury Museum to listen to live music from local bands and indulge in delicious food.



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Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora Water Zone Committee

Native plants flourishing at Taniwha Gully rock art site

An ancient rock art site, which includes a taniwha on the ceiling of a cave near Pleasant Point, is undergoing restoration with the help of \$14,000 of Immediate Steps biodiversity funding.

The Taniwha Gully area, leased by the Ngāi Tahu Māori Rock Art Trust, includes nationally significant Māori rock art sites. The funding is helping restore the gully site and

wetland, including a native planting programme, pest and weed control over the next two years.

Ecological restoration has been undertaken by the Trust since 2016 and has received previous support from the Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora (OTOP) Water Zone Committee, which makes recommendations for Immediate Steps funding to Environment Canterbury.

The OTOP Water Zone Committee is a joint committee made up of community members, rūnanga and local councils.
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Hidden Oasis

words: **Jo Bailey** images: **Essence and Carmen Peter Photography**

At the end of a long, meandering, tree-lined driveway, past an eclectic collection of homes and well-established gardens, is a hidden oasis.

As you approach the property, the buildings appear first. A towering Mediterranean-style home, complete with turret, is linked by a covered walkway to a small, funky wooden studio. An atrium attached to the studio opens into the covered walkway, but all that is visible through the coloured glass in the front door is an external curved stone wall. It is immediately apparent this place is special. And when the promise of what lies behind that wall is revealed, it is breathtaking.

Grape vines hang off a pergola attached to the main house. There is an expanse of manicured lawn, leading to a pond surrounded by lush, tropical plantings and overlooked by 'The Love Shack' a small hut with a deck sitting right on the water's edge. Pathways and streams wind around the extensive, native-filled garden, which includes a mini beech forest, hostas, and ferns, and has things like roses, hydrangeas, bird of paradise, and bright geraniums in pots, to provide pops of colour. Spiky cacti, braziers, bubbling small ponds, a fire pit and an outdoor bath add to the garden's character and charm. There are many places to pause, reflect, and enjoy a new perspective on every aspect of this tranquil, private and calm space.

So where is this piece of paradise? What is almost impossible to believe is that this garden is right in the heart of Rangiora, with the bustling main thoroughfare of Ivory Street, just metres away.

The development of this magical garden is testament to a 35 year labour of love by Gerald Horton, and his late wife Rosie.

They came to Rangiora in 1985, as a young couple in search of "the good life". What they found was a one-and-three-quarter acre property, which was bare land, apart from several tunnel houses filled with table grapes. Gerald had already started a signwriting business in Christchurch but planned to leave that behind to run the established table grape business instead. "We hadn't done our homework very well and quickly realised that growing table grapes was a dying industry in New Zealand. I had to get back into signwriting pretty much straight away."

Gerald and Rosie moved a bus onto the property and lived in it with their two young sons, Mat and

Nick. "I told Rosie I'd build a house in six to 12 months, but it ended up going on hold because I had to build a sign shop first. The Love Shack was the first building we built on the property. It was supposed to be a studio for the business, but it was way too small, so I operated from a little shed down at the neighbour's market garden, Costessy, instead."

For three years, the family lived in the bus while they built their first house on the property, a board and batten home, not far from the Ivory Street entrance to the property. "It was amazing in the summertime, as the boys would pitch tents under the grape vines or around the property. In winter time we would all be back in the bus, which didn't have a scrap of insulation. It snowed during our last winter and was like living in an ice box."

The family lived in their new home for seven years, with truckloads of shingle brought in to form a driveway. "It was like driving up the Ashley River bed for many years, as we couldn't afford to have it properly done at that stage."

With the tunnel houses gone, apart from the 'Grape House' (later home to some of the Horton's legendary parties) Gerald had a vision for the property, which included later subdividing sections off for other homes, and developing the north end of the section for his family. "I started working with John Archer of Earthworks to plan out the driveway and gardens around the house and to figure out where to develop the waterways, and plant mature trees to provide windbreaks around the property. Everything followed this landscape plan. I think it is important to have a vision, and not just plant a tree somewhere because someone gives it to you."

When they sold the board and batten house, Gerald and Rosie moved into a small one-bedroom wooden studio they had built at the north end of the property as a temporary home, while their forever home was being built. "I told Rosie it would be a couple of years before we built our dream home. In the end it was 13 years before we moved in. She never minded and was so patient."

The house, designed by local architect Robin White, is as unique as the highly creative couple. It looks like it would be just as much at home in



External curved stone wall with coloured glass front door



An early photo of Rosie and Gerald

"There are many places to pause, reflect, and enjoy a new perspective on every aspect of this tranquil, private and calm space."

Tuscany as in the middle of Rangiora. One beloved aspect is the 'loggia' as Rosie referred to it, the Italian word for a covered exterior gallery or corridor. The loggia houses a massive table where many big sheltered outdoor dinners have been enjoyed. A room at the top of the home's turret and balconies off the upstairs master bedroom all provide sweeping views of the garden.

While he did all of the 'heavy lifting' when it came to the establishment of the garden, it was Rosie who was the main gardener, says Gerald. Her love of gardening is never far from his mind during the many hours he spends each week maintaining and continuing to develop the property. "I still follow her advice, especially when it comes to weed control. I'd get told off if I pulled a weed. She always insisted on using a carving knife to make sure all the roots came out as well. Her mantra was 'one year's seeds, seven years' weeds', and it drove me on when I took over the gardening."

Gerald also has a large vegetable garden, a glasshouse growing exotic fruits such as passionfruit, tamarillos and grapes, and a nursery where he propagates plants, mostly to give away. "So much of our garden has come from cuttings shared from other peoples' gardens, and I'm continuing that tradition on."

He is known by some neighbours as the 'Frog Man' due to the sound of the New Zealand native tree frogs on the property. "Sometimes their chorus goes on all night and what a beautiful sound it is. Makes you really feel that you are out in the bush somewhere."

Gerald loves to share the garden with others, and it has been the backdrop to many impromptu gatherings, parties, and organised events over the years, including youngest son Nick's wedding, back in 2011. "It was a thrill to host the wedding here and the place looked wonderful for it. Rosie did every bit of the catering herself, just like she did for all of the functions we held here. She was the best hostess. Like her mother, Rosie was also the matriarch of our family and was a stickler for keeping everyone together."

One of Gerald's favourite parts of the garden is on the steps of The Love Shack. "I love sitting there and looking across the pond - it's so restful."

A pepper tree in the east of the garden was one of Rosie's favourite spots and is where her ashes were laid to rest. "Rosie was so wonderful and artistic, and it is sad she hasn't been around these last eight years to enjoy our family, home and garden. I talk to her often about how proud she would be."

BELLBIRD Hearing Professionals



A new, independent and locally-owned hearing clinic has opened its doors in Timaru. Bellbird Hearing are the only New Zealand owned and operated Hearing Care Professionals in South Canterbury and the experienced team are looking forward to helping the local community with any hearing issues.



Continuity of care for patients with hearing loss is immensely important to ensure that hearing aids are working to the best of their ability, Bellbird's small local team and focus on patient care ensures that this is possible.

With over 25 years combined experienced in the hearing care industry, locals, Barbara Brown and Juliet Marsden (nee Turley) are delighted to join the Bellbird Hearing team and keep it local. After working for an overseas corporate for the last nine years, the time felt right to be back working for Kiwis. "The Covid Pandemic has highlighted the importance of supporting and buying local, without local businesses we cannot support New Zealanders", says Juliet.

Juliet and Barbara take immense pride in their work and enjoy helping their clients hear better. "Barbara is a whizz at getting patients hearing aids working again" Juliet says.

Hearing technology is developing exceptionally fast and the changes Juliet and Barbara have seen over the last few years have enabled people to hear significantly better in more challenging situations.

In recognising that each patient has lifestyle and hearing goals specific to them, Juliet and her team provide hearing solutions tailored to meet individual needs and achieve optimum outcomes for the patient, thereby, guaranteeing extensive and comprehensive care. Juliet is an expert in the latest hearing aid technology and understands the importance of a personalised hearing aid fitting and ongoing care.

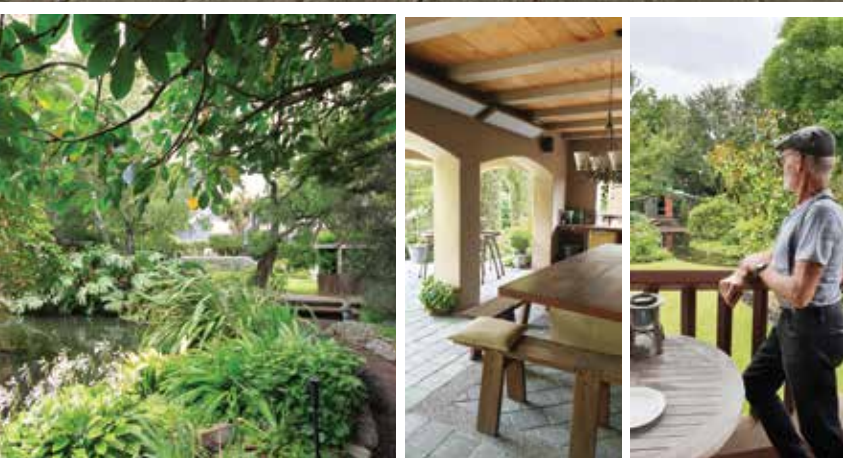
"We provide a world-class hearing healthcare service from hearing experts who take pride in a community based and patient-focussed approach," Juliet says.

As a full member of the New Zealand Audiological Society, Juliet can help you to access all funding streams, ACC, Veteran's Affairs, Government Subsidies and Enable funding. Along with Insurance replacements for those with lost or damaged hearing aids.

Juliet says that the motivating thrust behind Bellbird Hearing is to help and serve all those affected by hearing loss. "We feel passionately about this. Like New Zealand's native Bellbird we may be small but we are mighty"

You can find Bellbird Hearing at 245 Otipua Road, Highfield, Timaru with plenty of off-street parking. Call in and see them.

Follow Bellbird Hearing on www.facebook.com/BellbirdHearingTimaru or check out their website www.bellbirdhearing.co.nz



The small one-bedroom wooden studio they had built at the north end of the property as a temporary home



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Why Settle for the Ordinary?

With three manufacturing jewellers working away on their respective projects, the first floor workshop directly above The Ringmakers' retail space is always a hive of activity.

At any given time there are minor repairs, major re-makes, one-off commissions and items for the retail space downstairs underway in the workshop, meaning there is never a dull moment for owner Brent White



and the workshop team. And contrary to what the name might imply, they make all manner of custom jewellery, including earrings, bracelets, necklaces and pendants, in addition to rings.

Unlike in many big city workshops or factories, the entire manufacturing process, from consulting with the customer in-store and hand-drawing the design, to shaping the mount, setting stones and completing finishing work is undertaken on site. This results in a high level of skill across all facets of the manufacturing process and also makes the jewellers especially invested in each item that crosses their bench.

According to Brent, who has nearly 30 years' experience as a manufacturing jeweller, "It is possible to build a really good rapport with customers who appreciate the time we spend making sure the details are just right in each commission. It is gratifying and humbling when customers return over many years because of their faith in our ability to meet their needs."

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Explore the Waimate District

Delicious food, fabulous shops and the great outdoors... it doesn't get much better than this!

The Waimate District is the perfect destination for your next day trip or weekend getaway. The district has earned a reputation for its amazing selection of eateries, great range of shops and multitude of outdoor activities. Add some stunning landscape into the mix in the form of pristine rivers and lakes, native bush, rolling hills, and an expansive rugged coastline, and you will find the Waimate District makes for the perfect escape.

The vibrant town of Waimate is rich in Edwardian architecture and is home to some well-known artists. Art works can be seen throughout the district in many forms, including the incredible silo art towering over Waimate's Queen Street. If you are in need of some retail therapy, you will find everything from outdoor equipment, hand crafted jewellery, boutique clothing and giftware, to art and secondhand treasures. The popular Community Market held every Saturday in the picturesque Seddon Square is also well worth a visit.

Foodies will delight in the scrumptious selection of eateries available. Whether you are after a juicy steak, light snack, or a fine dining experience, the Waimate District has it covered.

Making a weekend of it? There are accommodation options to suit all needs! From hilltop glamping to comfortable motels or boutique bed and breakfasts. And for the more budget conscious, there are loads of camping options.

The many walking and biking tracks have made the Waimate District a hotspot for keen outdoor enthusiasts – with the well-maintained tracks catering for all abilities; from family-friendly riverside strolls to steep undulating terrain.

If the outdoors is calling you, have a round of golf, go horse trekking or fish in the lakes and rivers. Be sure to visit the famous Enkledooverly Korna Wallaby Park for a unique Waimate experience and hand feed the tame wallabies. And if you want to relax and unwind, pack a picnic and a good book and head to the beautifully maintained public gardens and reserves around the district.

Rumor has it they know how to throw a good party in the Waimate District, hosting many events throughout the year, with over 150 events to choose from!

With so much on offer right at your doorstep, head over to waimate.org.nz to start planning your next weekend escape.



Discover Waimate

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In recent months, it's been great to see the Waimate District bustling with activity, with Kiwis travelling far and wide and spreading the domestic tourism dollar. For both locals and visitors alike, there's been a noticeable increase in numbers, particularly at the Waimate Lakes, and a huge uptake in our wonderful walking and biking tracks within our district.

With the borders closed and travel restrictions presently in place due to COVID-19, it appears thousands of people have been out exploring their own backyard and many have headed for the peace and tranquility at our lakes. For many, it's the quintessential Kiwi holiday and a great way to spend the summer, and with five camp grounds on offer nestled on the edge of Lake Aviemore and Lake Waitaki, there's space galore.

The influx of campers has certainly had a positive spin-off to our walking and biking tracks too, with something for everyone and all suited to a varying degree of fitness levels. Whether you are wanting a short hike to a waterfall, a riverbank stroll with the kids or somewhat of a steeper challenge, there's plenty of bushland tracks, hilltop trails and lakeside rambles to explore. Head over to the Explore Waimate website to find out more (waimate.org.nz), along with dozens of other exciting attractions to see and do throughout the Waimate District.

Aside from the great outdoors, there's been a significant boom around town with the eagerly awaited Waimate Bakery now officially opened on Queen Street (in the former ANZ building), along with other projects to help rejuvenate the main street. Whether it's delicious eateries, stunning parks, walking, biking, camping or just good old fashioned fun at the lakes, you'll find all that and much more right here on our doorstep.

We'll see you soon.

Mayor Craig Rowley - Waimate District



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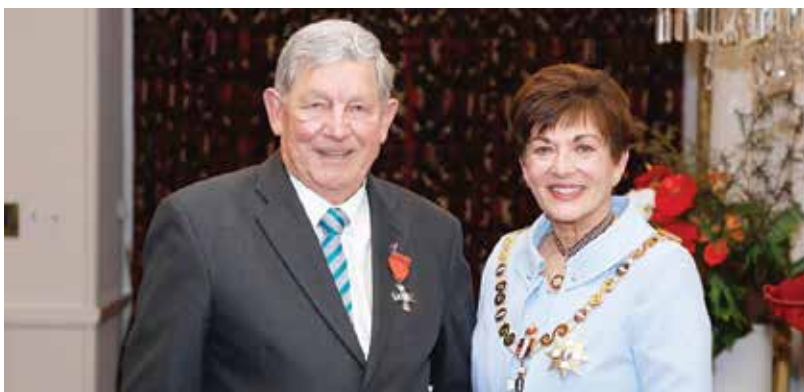
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Vince the Vet

Timaru veterinarian Dr Vince Peterson was named a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the 2020 Queen's Birthday Honours list.



words: Gilly Oppenheim

Priscilla Walker retired and Vince took up the administration of the practices in Geraldine, Fairlie and Pleasant Point, plus the two Timaru clinics in North Street and Otupua Road. The latter two clinics eventually centralized and became the Highfield Veterinary Clinic. He received the NZ Veterinary Association Presidents Award in 2009.



Vince retired from clinical practice in 2001 but he has continued his role on the Board of the Veterinary Professional Insurance Society. Its job is to insure veterinary practices against breach of duty claims. Vince has been an assessor for the society for 25 years. He chaired it for 20 years and oversaw its transition from a novice insurer to offering one of the profession's leading indemnity policies. Besides his long veterinary career, Vince is an avid fisherman and he builds fly rods and ties flies. He is also a life member of the Clay Target Association. In retrospect, after graduation Vince only thought he would be doing clinical work, so his venture into insurance was never envisaged or imagined! His MNZOM is a well -deserved award for his dedication to the veterinary profession.

He was rewarded for services to the veterinary profession over his career spanning more than 50 years. No-one was more surprised than Vince himself because, as he told me that, "the stuff I did was never done with any thought of recognition".

Vince was born in Fairlie and grew up on a farm in Seadown. He attended Washdyke Primary School, followed by TBHS and then he did his pre-vet medical intermediate at Canterbury University in 1959. Because the Bachelor of Veterinary Science was not taught in NZ at the time, Vince then furthered his study in Sydney from 1960-1963. He was one of 25 NZ students awarded a Veterinary Services Council bursary to do so.

On completion of his degree, Vince came back to NZ, where he was bonded for 5 years, and he spent 13 years working for the Veterinary Club in Hokitika, mostly working with large animals and mainly dairy cows. Small animals (cats and dogs) were fitted in when time allowed. The Veterinary Club was owned by farmers who hired the vets, so a very different system to today. The West Coast practice stretched from Paringa (150 miles south) to Seddonville (150 miles north) and east to the Maruia Valley, so his job involved a lot of travel. He was the sole vet on the West Coast for most of his first year after graduation and for approximately two years in total.

In 1964 there were no modern anaesthetics, few modern drugs, no broad spectrum anthelmintics, no new surgical techniques or mobile phones, so the vets were practising largely 'by the seat of their pants'! Nearly every herd of cows was milked by its owner, so the vets dealt directly with the owners and their workers and built up personal relationships. The dairy herds were also smaller, seldom more than 100 cows in the Hokitika area.

In 1977 Vince moved to Geraldine where he set up the Geraldine Veterinary Clinic and worked for ten years. In 1987 Dave and

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Book Club

words: Gilly Oppenheim



The Four Winds Kristin Hannah

This is epic historical fiction : a harrowing, tough and painful read of one of American history's darkest period, the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl, the tragedies, poverty, starvation, unemployment, the sacrifices made, set in Texas and California from the early 1920s up to WW2. This era is seen through the eyes of a woman, a mother, and her family. Elsa has suffered poor health, is from a wealthy family who make her feel she is never as good as her sisters, never loved, that results in her poor self -esteem. So when she receives attention from a younger man, Rafe Martinelli, she ends up pregnant, and despite him being already engaged, they find themselves married.

Elsa finds herself living on a farm, loved and thriving, despite it being a hard life of challenges, getting on well with her in-laws, Tony and Rosa, particularly close to Rosa, with two children, Loreda and Ant. However, living conditions become unbearable, particularly for the farming communities with the Depression, the lack of rain, the never -ending drought, the failing crops and the devastating dust storms and their dreadful impact, leading to people scattering in the winds. Despite everything, for obvious reasons Elsa is reluctant to leave until the life -threatening conditions worsen considerably, and they move to where it is said to be the land of milk and honey, California. In a relentlessly downbeat and bleak narrative, California is far from the promised land, instead they face endless prejudice and injustice.

Elsa is a mother, a strong, courageous and indomitable woman, there is nothing she will not do for her children. She is the hardest of workers, in a California that exploits, with terrible working conditions and pay. Despite everything, despite the horrors, what shines through is the underlying power of the human spirit, and its astonishing capacity to endure the worst of times, the despair, and survive, against all the odds. This book parallels and echoes our contemporary realities, the pandemic and its crushing impact, men in power that cannot be trusted, a divided nation, and a future that looks so bleak, offering hope by illustrating people's resilience from the past. This is not the easiest of reads, but it is nevertheless a powerful, compelling and riveting story of women and their relationships.



Anne Laing

Anne Laing is co-owner of Performance Health Club, dedicated to keeping you in the best shape of your life.

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If you are interested in any of these life changing food and exercise topics for groups, staff or clients, call us. We offer 'Lunch and learn' style talks. See https://thehardedge.com/images/PDF/IOPM_speaker-sheet.pdf - or call 684-6664

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Preparing to buy a home



Buying a property, especially your first home, is a big decision. The trick is to do your homework and learn as much as you can about the process before you start. Below are some top tips to get you started.

1. Set your budget and stick to it
2. List the 10 most important criterias you are looking for in a home, number 1 is non-negotiable to 10 most negotiable
3. See a mortgage broker and get pre-approval for finance. A broker knows the best deals they can get you for your situation
4. Find an agent you like and trust in each company and stick with those agents to help you find your best property to suit you
5. Be realistic in your expectations, do your homework and know what properties are selling for
6. Engage a solicitor, builder and possibly electrician who you trust
7. Check things are working
8. Take brochures away with you
9. Check the neighbourhood out, talk to the neighbours, location of shopping centre, schools and buses
10. Check if anything happening in the neighbourhood ie freezing work etc
11. Visit the house at different time of the day
12. Is it child and/or pet friendly
13. Opportunity to add value



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Suzanne Talbot from Fashion Focus

A Focus on Fashion

What season is your favourite for fashion?

I really love winter fashions. I love a warm snugly jersey teamed with a skirt or pants, a coat and boots. The trick is to make sure that you add a touch of colour to the darker winter colours. I also try and wear something light, something dark, something patterned and something a little glitzy. This wee rule can also be added through accessories and footwear.

What's a must have fashion piece everyone should have in their wardrobe?

You can't go past a classic white shirt. Oversized white shirts are all the rage at the moment tucked in slightly at the front. I just love teaming a white shirt up with denim and sneakers for a casual weekend look, or a classic white shirt with a calf length skirt and heels will take you most places.

What is one of your favourite instore brands and why?

We have so many gorgeous brands it's hard to say. We

love in particular our New Zealand made brands - Bay Road, Nobel Wilde, Bittermoon, Cashews, Deeanne Hobbs and Xquisite just to name a few. We love supporting local brands and find that our customers love the fact that a garment has been made in Christchurch or Dunedin. The quality of our NZ made garments is super high and so it's well worth the investment.

Why is investing in higher quality garments better? Investing in high quality garments is a wise idea for so many different reasons. In today's world of consumerism it's great to invest in quality garments that will stand the test of time. You know you've bought well if you are still wearing a piece of clothing years later! Often these high quality garments are NZ made and so are easy for us to reorder in and in some cases get specially made for our customers. It's supporting our local businesses which is super important in these times.



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Annah S Down the Line Dress \$189



Annah S Abigail Flipit Wrap Dress



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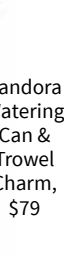
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Stolen Girlfriends Club Falling Plate Earrings, \$169



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Mackenzie Highland A&P Show

Easter Monday 5th April 2021

The 2021 Mackenzie Highland A&P Show this Easter Monday 5 April, is set to be a fantastic day for all the family – with stalls, exhibits, live performances and much more.

With gates opening at 8am this promises to be a full day of entertainment with something to suit everyone. The show will include plenty of interesting events with a truly rural focus from wood chopping demos to dog trials, a display of vintage machinery and the shepherd's hack competition. Along with animals of all shapes and size including equestrian (from miniatures to draught), sheep, wool, cattle, goats or poultry (chickens, ducks and pigeons).

Enjoy performances from the Mackenzie Highland Pipe Band; Highland dancing; solo drumming performances and the Grand Parade. Whilst topping the bill on the entertainment stage this year is Craig Smith of Wonky Donkey fame – who will be giving a fantastic show of music, fun and laughter for kids and parents alike.

There's plenty to keep the bigger kids happy too with carnival rides; Country Kidz Agri-sports, a Fairlie Four Square Lolly Scramble and an Animal Tent.

And with over 160 businesses on site there are stalls and exhibits to suit everyone in the family. Grab a snack from one of the many food stalls, stroll around and enjoy the friendly, country atmosphere whilst browsing amazing displays of everything from home produce to patchwork, photography to upcycled arts. This is a fabulous showcase of the tremendously talented people in our rural communities who will be there sharing their knowledge and skills with visitors. There will be flowers, patchwork, needlework, art, crafts, card making, scrapbooking, jewellery, sculpture, carving, pottery and much more.

So put the date in your diary and make sure you head along to the Mackenzie A&P Highland Show on Easter Monday, the 5th of April 2021 at the Mackenzie A&P Showgrounds. Parking off School Road.

Adults \$15, Under 15 \$5, Preschoolers and cars free.

Public entry from 8am. Keep up to date with details on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/mackenzieshow and website www.mackenzieshow.co.nz



words: Pattie Pegler

The Wonky Donkey Comes to Mackenzie A & P

Kids and parents alike will be looking forward to one particular performance at this year's Mackenzie A & P Show – Craig Smith of The Wonky Donkey fame.

Born in Clyde and now residing in Queenstown where he spends his spare time fishing and paragliding, Smith has attended his fair share of A & P Shows and is no stranger to live performances. So when the Mackenzie A & P organisers invited him to perform 'it was an easy decision'.

As well as many and varied NZ performances Smith has also been performing Zoom gigs during Covid times. Last year he had a global online audience of over 80,000 for one of his Facebook live performances – with parents and kids tuning in from all over the world.

Smith first wrote Wonky Donkey in 2005 as a song and the very first performance of it was at a party with some friends in Te Anau he says. Little did he know it would go on to become such a hit but, as with many creative endeavours it was not an overnight success. Wonky Donkey was released as a book in 2010 and over several years it sold 1 million copies. But in late 2018 YouTube star, Janice Clarke, aka The Scottish Granny read a copy of the book to her grandson in a video. And then the book sales really took off says Smith.

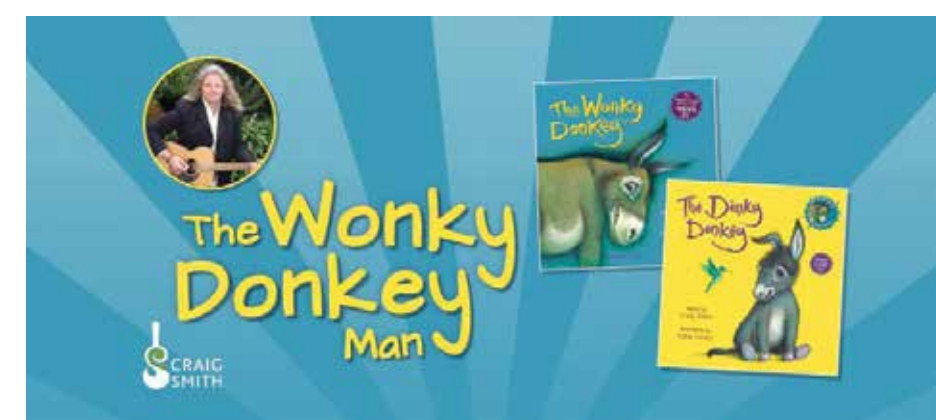
Whilst Smith is famous for the Wonky Donkey book, he is first and foremost a musician and all his books are "written in song" he says. He enjoys performing them live and visitors to the Mackenzie A & P



Show will see him performing his classic Wonky Donkey and some new material including Dinky Donkey which he wrote in 2019 and Grinny Granny Donkey.

"I try and get the kids up and dancing and having a laugh," he says. "And also I get feedback from parents and hear about how their kids love the books. It's lovely to see people reading and being enthusiastic about reading."

Fans of Smith will also want to look out for his new book Wonky Donkey's Big Surprise which will be out in October this year..



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A Little Bit of History

The very first Mackenzie A & P Show was held in 1899 and was a huge success with people arriving by trap, sulky, wagon, horseback and train from all over the region. There were over 178 entries in the various classes which included cattle, horse sheep, dog and poultry.

A long write up in the South Canterbury Times refers to it as the Mackenzie County Autumn Show and states that "Easter Monday of 1899 will long be remembered at Fairlie as the day on which the Mackenzie County Agricultural Society held its first Show... The show itself for a first year and for a country district was very good."

Now over 120 years later the show is still running and this year promises to be a really great event for all the family.



FROM THE Mayors Desk

I'm delighted that after an enforced break last year as a result of the Level 4 lockdown, the legendary Mackenzie Highland Show on Easter Monday is all set to go! This legendary event is the biggest one day show in New Zealand, where the country comes to town and the town comes to the country, and it looks to be gearing up to be a great day. Farming always has, and especially now, been the backbone of Mackenzie's economy. Our thanks to members of the Mackenzie Highland Band whose highland pipes and drums always inspire. Come and enjoy the day, you will not be disappointed. There's heaps to see! From chooks and alpacas to food trucks and craft stalls there's something on offer for every member of the family.

While in Fairlie, the Fairlie Museum is well worth a visit. The exhibits on display of machinery and items from our rich history are amazing. These are maintained and restored by true historian enthusiasts.

Some businesses are still suffering from the absence of international tourists but that will never take away from the splendour, tranquillity and beauty of our mountains, lakes, rivers, and tussock land sceneries – but the majority have adapted to cater to the domestic market and there's never been a better time for New Zealanders to visit their own back yard. When we look at the bigger picture, we are all so lucky that covid has not taken a hold in NZ, and we have largely been able to appreciate and enjoy life by comparison to other parts of the world which have been hit hard.

The greatest asset we have in the Mackenzie is our people: people that have built strong, close communities. I would like to thank our local volunteers who give their time so selflessly which in turn gives the more vulnerable members or areas of our communities in the Mackenzie so much strength. Special thanks to St John and Fire service who are always there to help and assist in emergencies.

There are also those who run events in our District: Rowing competitions, Salmon and Wine Festival, Cavalcade, the Mackenzie Highland Show and more are all supported by passionate people



whether they be volunteers, vendors or stakeholders. These events have helped Mackenzie increase its share of domestic tourism by 24%. It was particularly disappointing for the Cavalcade Committee, after 18 months of planning, to have to cancel the final hoe-down due to another covid disruption but the event was still a huge success.

If you're making a trip to the A&P Show, why not make a weekend of it and enjoy some of the other activities on offer? It's great to see local activities, such as trails and cycleways being enjoyed by all ages. There have been some good fish caught in the canals and lakes. Our Dark Sky Reserve status and controls on lighting levels means the night sky is spectacular all year round. Tekapo Springs has lots of summer activities on offer, alongside the great dining options in the village. If getting outdoors is your thing the autumn colours always leave a lasting impression as nature readies itself for our next season and is a nod to an a forever changing landscape, both literally and figuratively.

So come, explore, relax and enjoy the legendary Mackenzie scenery and hospitality!

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Kona Series II

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Palisade



Santa Fe

latest evolution of our signature headlamp architecture and a dual-cockpit layout that offers personalised space intuitively optimised for a hi-tech user experience. The all-new Tucson is the most daring expression of our evolving Sensuous Sportiness design identity and gives us a glimpse into the next generation of SUVs.

New Generation Santa Fe

The next generation of NZ's favourite family SUV. The New Santa Fe is here and it brings even more of what Kiwi families have come to love over the past 20 years. It's bigger, bolder, safer, and more convenient than ever, offering you more ways to enhance your life.



Tucson



HYUNDAI

South Canterbury

We will be at the Mackenzie County A&P Show with our newest model line up.
Easter Monday 5th April 2021.
See you there!

New Generation Santa Fe

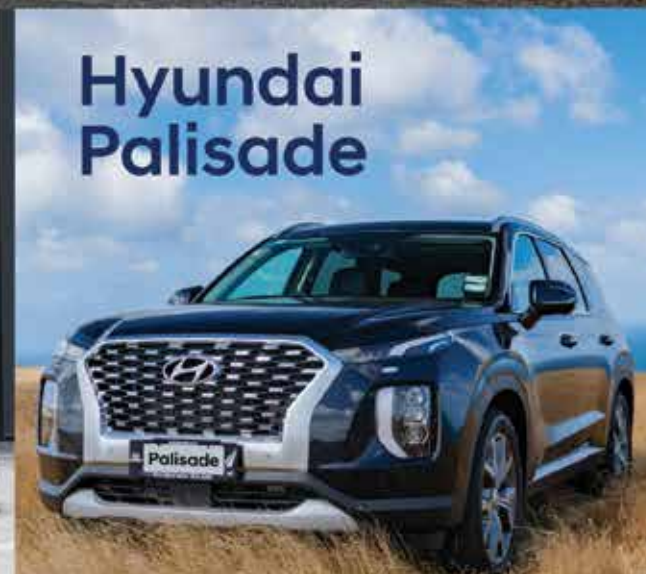




Hyundai Kona Series II



All-new Hyundai Tucson



Hyundai Palisade

Hyundai South Canterbury | 2 King Street, Timaru | 03 688 9995 | www.southcanterburyhyundai.co.nz

Bottling your Beetroot



Beetroot (beta vulgaris) is a root vegetable packed with essential nutrients. Beetroots are a great source of fiber, folate (vitamin B9), manganese, potassium, iron, and vitamin C.

Beetroots and beetroot juice have been associated with numerous health benefits, including improved blood flow, lower blood pressure, and increased exercise performance.

Many of these benefits are due to their high content of inorganic nitrates.

Beetroots are delicious raw but more frequently cooked or pickled. Their leaves — known as beet greens — can also be eaten.

Here is a great recipe and method from Steve Ditmer for preserving your own beetroot!



Prep:

- Sterilize jars by washing thoroughly and then placing in a hot oven approx 180°C to sterilize.
- Sterilize lids in a saucepan of boiling water.

Ingredients:

- 1 cup of malt vinegar
- 1 cup of sugar
- 2 cups of water
- Salt and pepper.

This will make two jars. Double if bottling more.

Method:

- Leave 1cm of stalk on the beetroot so not to lose colour while cooking.
- Boil beetroot for approx 40 minutes or until it can be pierced through with a sharp knife.
- While beetroot is cooking mix the vinegar recipe and bring to boil in a saucepan for approx 5 minutes.
- Empty the pot of cooked beetroot into a sink and when cool enough to handle simply rub the skins off with your hands.
- Quickly slice warm beetroot into the hot jars and when full scoop the boiling vinegar mixture on top of the sliced beetroot.
- Run a sharp knife around the side of the jars to release any air bubbles and then top to overflowing. Quickly put lids on and screw down the bands tightly.
- Within 30 minutes you should see the lids invert down which is the sealing process as the mixture cools.
- Leave for a few weeks then enjoy. Bottled beetroot will last for up to a year if kept in a cool dark place.



Warehouse Liquor

Move over pink gins, it's time for another colour to take the spotlight, and it's blue! The rather striking Greenall's Blueberry Gin is made by infusing Greenall's Original London Dry Gin with real blueberries, with absolutely no added sugar. Pair with elderflower tonic for the ultimate summer refreshment, garnished with blueberries of course. Juniper and citrus notes make an appearance alongside naturally sweet, fresh and fruity blueberries.

35 Brown Street, Timaru. Ph 03 688 1012
warehouseliquor.co.nz

The Bottle O

This month's special deals now available. Jagermeister 700ml, Teacher's 1L, Bailey's Irish Cream 700ml, Kahlua 1L, Kahlua Salted Caramel 1L, Malibu 1L, Pepe Lopez Range 700ml, Jameson Irish Whisky 700ml, Jameson Cold Brew 700ml, Ivanov Vodka 1L, Seagers Gin 1L, Seagers Gin and Lime 1L, Beefeater Gin Pink 700ml & Beefeater Gin Orange 700ml.

Any 2 of the above for \$66

Shop 4, The Landings, 50 Theodosia Street, Timaru Ph 03 971 5546

Easter Specials!

WAREHOUSE LIQUOR

Valid until 06 April 2021



Speights 24 pack bottles \$33.99



Teacher's Scotch Whisky 1L \$33.99



Smirnoff Vodka 1L \$35.99



Speights Summer Ultra Low Carb Lager 24 Pack \$33.99



Seagers Gin 1L \$31.99



Gordon's 3 flavors 12 pack 250ml cans \$22.99



Malibu Passion Fruit cans 250ml 4 pack cans \$9.99



Export Gold 24 pack bottles \$32.99



St Remy Brandy 1L \$38.99



Smirnoff Red Ice 12 pack 5% 250ml cans \$20.99



Coruba & Cola 10 pack bottles \$23.99



Barrel 51 12 pack bottles \$18.99



Monteith's Cider 12 pack \$22.99



Baileys Red Velvet Cupcake 700ml \$29.99

35 Browne St, Timaru | P 03 688 1012
www.warehouseliquor.co.nz



Mitre 10 MEGA Bathrooms

Big Range,
Low Price,
Local Advice

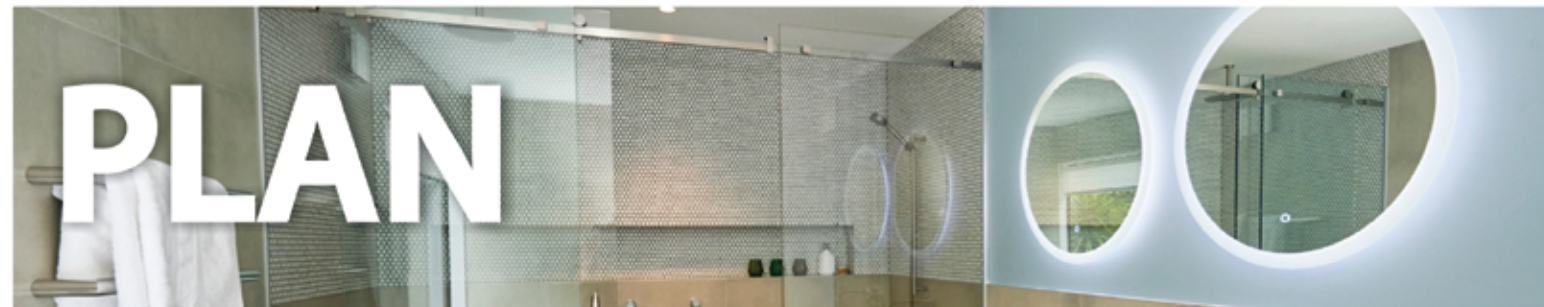
Step 1

Need some inspiration for your bathroom project? Check out our fabulous showrooms in-store.



Step 2

A new bathroom is an exciting addition to the home, but the renovation process can be a big job. That's where our consultants really shine, by helping you with everything you require.



Step 3

Our in-store bathroom consultants are dedicated to helping people plan their dream bathrooms. Head in-store, check out our range of quality bathrooms and talk to a Mitre 10 bathroom consultant who can help you from design to completion.



Step 4

We are your one stop shop for bathrooms, so you can relax, knowing we will get the job done right!



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