

hanmer springs village news

# the pinkie

February 13th, 2026



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# Important Information & Useful Opening Times

## Satellite Phones for Hanmer

Should you require access to emergency services during a power outage, and your phones are not working, **Civil Defence Emergency Management** has provided satellite phones at four locations in Hanmer Springs:

Top10 Holiday Park  
3 Bath Street

Pines Holiday Park  
158 Argelins Road

Drifters Inn  
2 Harrogate Street



Hanmer Springs Medical Centre  
(opening hours only)  
59 Jacks Pass Road

Satellite phones are free to use for members of the public who need to dial 111 for medical, fire and emergencies involving Police.

## Hanmer Springs Transfer Station

Tuesday	10am to 2pm
Wednesday	10am to 2pm
Friday	10am to 2pm
Sunday	10am to 2pm



Out of hours recycling for glass bottles is available. Paper, card, cans, plastic bottles and containers (under 4 litres) numbered 1, 2 and 5 can be delivered to the transfer station during opening hours.

637 Hanmer Springs Road



## Hanmer Springs Community Library

Hanmer Springs Community Library  
& Service Centre



Cnr Amuri Avenue  
& Cheltenham Street

Monday - Friday  
12pm - 4pm

03 315-7912

Saturday & Sunday  
10am - 2pm

hanmer@hurunui.govt.nz

hanmer@hurunui.govt.nz

## Useful Opening Times



**Four Square**  
(Summer Hours)

8am - 8:00pm

Summer hours started with the introduction of Daylight Savings.



**The Toy Shop**

(including postal services)

Mon - Fri 9am - 4pm

Saturday 9am - 4pm

Sunday 10am - 2pm



**Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools & Spa**  
10am - 9pm



**Hanmer Springs Service Station**

7:30am - 6:00pm  
(seven days)

03 315-7107

154 Hanmer Springs Road



**Velocity Mechanical**

8:30am - 5:00pm  
(Monday to Friday)

027 740 4142

Woodbank Road



**Hammer Hardware**

8am - 5pm  
(Mon - Fri)

9am - 4pm  
(Saturday)

Closed Sunday & Public Holidays

# About “The Pinkie”

*The Pinkie* is published by

## Hanmer Springs Village News (2024) Ltd



[thepinkie@readme.co.nz](mailto:thepinkie@readme.co.nz)

**Reece Gardner**  
022 366 4477

### Pinkie News

*The Pinkie* is called “The Pinkie” because it was originally printed on pink paper.

*The Pinkie* is currently published fortnightly, on a Friday, while we establish new systems and build a more resilient and enduring newspaper that contains more news and local content.

Printed copies of *The Pinkie* will be available from the Hanmer Springs Four Square, the Toy Shop and the Caltex on Monday afternoon, following the Friday publication date.

Contact us if you are a local resident and would like a guaranteed copy of the *The Pinkie*, by subscription, delivered to your letterbox, or door.

For the benefit of both our readers and advertisers, we plan to increase our print run in the near future.

We've got some work to do and we appreciate your patience while we make *The Pinkie* even better.

### Photo Credits

Cover photo: “Looking South, Looking Green”

Other photos: Reece Gardner & others

All images are covered by copyright

Your name could be here! We would be very happy to publish readers photos, providing they are of a publishing standard and we have space available.

Email your images to:

[thepinkie@readme.co.nz](mailto:thepinkie@readme.co.nz)



### e-Subscriptions

We can email you *The Pinkie*. Send us an email with “Subscription” in the subject line and we’ll add you just like that! Thank you.

[thepinkie@readme.co.nz](mailto:thepinkie@readme.co.nz)

# It's all about community ...

The 9th annual Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools & Spa Senior Championship Pro Am Golf Tournament took place on the weekend of Saturday 31 January and Sunday 1 February and all the local folk that work quietly behind the scenes made it the “best run tournament in the country” - a direct quote from one of the pros.

Thanks so much for your efforts the last few days really appreciate it and loved the event, best run tournament in the country



The Senior Championship Pro Am Golf Tournament is the brainchild of our very own Golf Pro Mike Gainsford (photo). Mike first suggested he run the tournament over 9 years ago and it has been run every year since, without exception. Yes, not even the pandemic could stop the event; it is run each February so it was “done and dusted” before March 2020.

This year was the biggest event to-date and Mike said, “I couldn’t squeeze another golfer on the course. We were running at capacity.” There were 62 pros and 130 amateurs in the tournament with 96 players on the course at any one time.

To make a great Tournament you need a right-hand man and Mike’s right hand man is David O’Brien.

To make a great Tournament you also need a major sponsor and the *Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools and Spa* continues to be the major sponsor of the tournament; thank you!

To make a great Tournament you also need a great course. Of course the Hanmer Springs Golf Course is just that - thanks to the shoulders we climb upon; past committees, green keepers, caretakers and visionaries of the Hanmer Springs Golf Club.

Today Steve Hill and Neil Duncan keep the place looking shipshape, but I’m told the place wouldn’t look as good as it does without the weekly assistance of “Dad’s Army”; a crew of 8-10 “local lads” that volunteer each and every Tuesday effectively adding another 1.5+ FTE (full time employee) to ground staff; without the cost. Thanks chaps. The summer rain helped too!

To pull the event off Mike also needs help with catering and that’s where the “She Loves Golf” ladies step-up.

So many local people that love golf and love this community become the glue that makes this event New Zealand’s best run tournament. And we all benefit. The accommodation providers, the cafes and eateries and all the other retailers that make Hanmer Springs a village we get to call home. A big thank you to you all! And thank you Mike, for your vision and drive!



## CLASSES, FITNESS, CLUBS & MUSIC

### Monday

#### AQUACIZE

Monday 10am  
Thermal Pools entrance. Informal group.  
You will need an aqua stick.  
Call Linda (021 223 8188) for more information.

#### HANMER SPRINGS STITCH GROUP

Monday 10am  
Hanmer Springs Library  
Call Diane (021 315 779)

#### LINE DANCING

Monday 1pm  
Memorial Hall  
Call Penny (027 240 8321)  
Cost: Donation

#### PILATES CLASS

Monday 5:30pm  
12 Amuri Avenue  
Call Wendy (027 243 2123)

#### HANMER SPRINGS BIG BAND

Monday 5:30pm (during school term).  
Hanmer Springs School  
New members and travelling musicians  
are welcome.  
Must read music or have a good ear.  
Call Marguerite (021 125 4062)  
Cost: Free

### Tuesday

#### TUESDAY WALKERS

Tuesday 9:45am  
Meet at the Jollies Pass Road Forest Entry  
carpark (by the old DOC house).  
Approx. 1.5 - 2 hour walks in the forest.  
Call Anne (021 277 7515) or  
Julian (021 148 2811) for more information.

#### COMBINED PROBUS CLUB

#### HANMER SPRINGS

First Tuesday of each month  
Fun and fellowship for the more mature.  
Call Corry Scrivener (021 045 7666) or  
Dennis Hall (021 294 1541) to join, or for more  
information.

### Mount Isobel Paragliding Club

#### MOUNT ISOBEL PARAGLIDING CLUB

The Mount Isobel Paragliding Club is looking  
for members (flying or non-flying).  
Call Reece (022 366 4477) or  
Chris (021 038 2046) for more information

### Information

#### LISTINGS ON THIS PAGE

If you'd like a listing on this page drop a note to  
[thepinkie@readme.co.nz](mailto:thepinkie@readme.co.nz)  
It's as easy as that!

### Wednesday

#### TRAMPING GROUP

Day tramps in local mountains and surrounding  
areas. Every Wednesday.  
Call Janet (021 103 4303) for information.  
Mt Isobel Tramping Group

#### LOCAL LADIES CATCH-UP

First Wednesday of each month.  
Fire and Ice, from 5:30pm.  
We are a fun loving, vivacious group and can  
have from 5-20 meet each month.

#### HANMER SPRINGS KNITTING GROUP

Wednesday 10am  
Hanmer Springs Library  
Call Diane (021 315 779)

#### HANMER SINGS

Wednesday 5:30-7:00pm (school term only)  
Hanmer Springs Primary School  
Call Judy (021 0246 5633)  
Cost: Donation

### Thursday

#### PILATES CLASS

Thursday 8:45am and 10:00am  
12 Amuri Avenue  
Call Corry (021 045 7666)

#### E-BIKE TOURING GROUP

Thursday 11:00am (winter hours)  
Call June (021 823 824) or  
Anne Inglis (021 277 7515) for information.

#### HANMER SPRINGS BRIDGE CLUB

Thursday 7:15pm  
Anglican Church Hall  
Call Joy (027 220 2511) for information.

#### HANMER SPRINGS LIONS CLUB

Dinner meeting second Thursday of the month.  
Five Stags at 6:30pm. All welcome.  
Email Boio Sarahu-Hothersall at  
[hanmerspringslionsclub@gmail.com](mailto:hanmerspringslionsclub@gmail.com)

#### HANMER SPRINGS ART GROUP

Thursday 5:00-7:00pm  
(every 2nd Thursday during school term)  
Hanmer Springs Play Centre  
Call Ilze (027 241 0832)

### Saturday/Sunday

#### HANMER FOREST PARKRUN

Saturday 8am  
Brooke Dawson Reserve (off Bath Street)  
See [parkrun.co.nz](http://parkrun.co.nz) for details

#### MORRIS DANCING

Sunday 7pm  
Lots of laughs and some added exertion.  
Dancers and musicians welcome.  
Call John (021 395 022)

## CHURCH NOTICES

### Saturday Church Services

**CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, HURUNUI**  
Saturday Mass 5pm  
St Roch's Church  
27 Amuri Avenue

### Sunday Church Services

**ANGLICAN PARISH OF HANMER SPRINGS CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY**  
Sundays 10am  
33 Jollies Pass Road  
Tea & coffee after Sunday Service  
Call Jonathan Gardiner (Warden)  
(03 315-7925 or 027 685 9276)

### REMNANT CHURCH NEW ZEALAND REMNANT HOUSE

Sundays 10am  
Remnant House 108 Rippingale Road  
Children's Church & He Brews  
Monthly lunches & Evening Service  
A Four Square International Church  
Call 021 076 7236 for details

### VENUES FOR HIRE

#### ANGLICAN CHURCH HALL

Available for hire for community groups,  
meetings, worship, retreats etc  
Call Shirley Whitaker (027 416 1415)

#### HANMER SPRINGS SPORTS PAVILION

Available for sports groups, weddings,  
functions etc. Fully equipped kitchen. Large  
carpeted function room, changing rooms and  
showers.  
Call Nicola at the Hurunui District Council  
(03 314-8816)

#### HANMER SPRINGS GOLF CLUB

Available for hire for functions, weddings,  
funerals etc.  
Fully equipped kitchen. Spacious and warm  
carpeted room. Bar facilities.  
Call the Golf Club (03 315-7110)

### Tennis

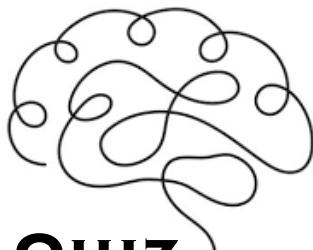
#### HANMER SPRINGS TENNIS CLUB

Twilight Tennis & Kids Coaching  
(During the season)  
Don't call Sarah! She's out!  
Call Kate (021 026 67019) for more info

"Lost time is never  
found again"

Benjamin Franklin

# TRIVIA



## QUIZ

Colour these in!



1. Who owned Winnie-the-Pooh?
2. What is the word for loose rock found on the side of a mountain?
3. What is the name of the Dr Seuss character who "hears a Who"?
4. What is the legal term for reported, rather than directly gathered, information?
5. In a bulb of garlic, what is an individual section called?
6. Which famous racing car make is named after five Italian brothers?
7. On which river is Baghdad located?
8. What vessel is used for cleaning mud from rivers?
9. What name is given to the branch of fiscal studies relating to individual households?
10. What name is given to a person who studies the environment?
11. Traditionally, what does a cooper make?
12. Who had a 1986 hit with *The Lady in Red*?
13. Which word can mean both a hanging ornament and a communications device?
14. What was the name of King Arthur's magic sword?
15. The chart topping album ÷ (divide) was released by which singer in 2017?

P.

16. Kelp is what type of plant?
17. Which word meaning "to retain" means "a quick look" when read backwards?
18. Which British fighting service was formed in 1918?
19. In the game chess, which is the most powerful piece?
20. What is the capital of Denmark?

P.

### QUIZ FOR THE "KIDS"

1. "Li" is the chemical symbol for which element?
2. Which vegetable is the main ingredient in coleslaw?
3. What is the capital of Germany?
4. What is the square root of 121?
5. Which New Zealand city is known as the "Edinburgh of the South"?

A little space for doodling!



A subliminal message

I'm really awesome at the Trivia Quiz

# "The Pinkie" Dining & Takeaway Guide



Monday - Sunday  
11am - late

A classic 'locals pub' the way they used to be! Great family dining for lunch and dinner.

10 Jacks Pass Road, Hanmer Springs



COFFEE & THAI FOOD

Evening Takeaway (Thu - Mon)

4:30pm - 9pm

Coffee & Lunch (Fri - Mon)

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Friday - Tuesday  
7am - late

Wednesday & Thursday  
7am - 3pm

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Open Thu, Fri, Sat, Sun, Mon

pizza, coffee, treats

**027 4499 025**

20 Conical Hill Road, Hanmer Springs

**Hanmer Sushi & Bowl**



Winter hours

**Open seven days from 10am**

Monday-Friday 10am - 3pm

Saturday 10am - 5pm

Sunday 10am - 3pm

5 Conical Hill Road, Hanmer Springs



Monday - Sunday  
2pm - late

47 Amuri Avenue  
Hanmer Springs  
(Opposite Hot Pools)



Monday - Sunday  
8am - 9pm

Hanmer's best outdoor dining.  
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37 Amuri Avenue  
Hanmer Springs  
(Opposite Hot Pools)



**MON - FRI 2PM - LATE**

**SAT - SUN 9.30AM - LATE**

**FULL MENU SERVED DAILY TILL 9PM**

**RESERVATIONS & PHONE ORDERS WELCOMED**

**03 315 5262**

**6 JACKS PASS ROAD, HANMER SPRINGS**



**HANMER BREWERY BAR**

Monday -Sunday  
11am - 9:30pm

Everything a bar & restaurant destination should be.

47 Amuri Avenue  
Hanmer Springs  
(Opposite Hot Pools)

## Views and Opinions

The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the editor or publisher.

## New Email Address

Our email address is: [thepinkie@readme.co.nz](mailto:thepinkie@readme.co.nz)

Please update your records.

## The Printed Pinkie

Printed copies of The Pinkie will be available from the Hanmer Springs Four Square on the Monday, following the Friday publication date.

## Deadline for Material

The deadline for material, including advertising, is Tuesday 5pm unless it is pre-booked in which case our deadline is Wednesday 5pm.

# What An Interesting World We Are Living In - by Pita Alexander

The following is an extract of a newsletter written by Pita Alexander titled, "What an Interesting World We Are Living In Presently".

1. What are the seven (so called) G7 countries: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom and United States of America.
2. Perhaps 6 of these 7 countries are heading for a debt trap by the end of this decade (31 December 2030). All except perhaps Germany.
3. How do we tend to measure this debt trap issue? When a country's debt becomes significantly greater than its overall gross income or GDP (Gross Domestic Product).
4. Which countries have reached, or are close to reaching this point relative to their debt to GDP ratio? These figures are as at 3 February 2026:

Germany	66%
China	100%
United Kingdom	105%
Canada	114%
France	118%
United States	124%
Italy	138%
Japan	228%

(In general terms, a ratio of above 130% is not considered sustainable long term).

5. How many of the world's countries have made any significant debt repayments over the last 50 years? Almost none. So, debt repayment is a phrase that is referred to often, but in practice simply does not happen very often.
6. To repay debt, a country would need to have a primary surplus, meaning they would bring in more money than they spend in most cases.
  - a. France, the second biggest economy in Europe and the 7th biggest in the world, has not had a primary surplus for 51 years (from 1974 to 2025).
  - b. The UK over the 56 years from 1969 to 2025, had a primary surplus in 7 years and a deficit in the remaining 49 years.
  - c. The USA over the last 50 years has only had a surplus 4 times - the other 46 years have been in deficit.
7. Which countries have had primary surpluses over recent years?
  - a. A few oil countries such as Norway.
  - b. A few very strongly run trading countries such as China.
  - c. A few very strong fiscal adopters such as Singapore and Switzerland.
  - d. Considering there are 195 countries in total, the numbers running primary surpluses is very small, and those surpluses are reasonably irregular.
8. The USA/NZ exchange rate:  
1 January 2000 US\$1 = NZ\$1.9160  
1 January 2010 US\$1 = NZ\$1.3776  
1 January 2015 US\$1 = NZ\$1.2758  
1 January 2020 US\$1 = NZ\$1.5200  
1 January 2025 US\$1 = NZ\$1.7600  
1 January 2026 US\$1 = NZ\$1.6600

Over the 26 years since 2000, the New Zealand dollar has devalued by 13.36% against the United States dollar. At 1 January 2015, the New Zealand dollar was 33.41% lower against the United States dollar.

9. It is interesting to look at actual exports between China and the United States (in US dollars):

Year	Exports China to USA (Billions)	Exports USA to China (Billions)
2015	\$411	\$116
2016	\$386	\$116
2017	\$430	\$130
2018	\$479	\$120
2019	\$419	\$107
2020	\$452	\$125
2021	\$568	\$151
2022	\$583	\$154
2023	\$501	\$148
2024	\$526	\$144
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,755 Billion</b>	<b>\$1,311 Billion</b>

10. Estimated government interest payments per day in New Zealand dollars:

Canada	\$187 million per day
Germany	\$249 million per day
France	\$301 million per day
Japan	\$389 million per day
Italy	\$553 million per day
UK	\$685 million per day
USA	\$5,800 million per day

(As at 3 February 2026: US\$1 = NZ\$1.67)

11. Which of the world's countries are under severe financial pressure at 3rd February 2026:

Pakistan	population 259.5 million
Ethiopia	population 138.0 million
Egypt	population 120.0 million
Turkey	population 88.0 million
Angola & Ghana	population 75.0 million
Sudan & South Sudan	population 65.0 million
Kenya	population 58.0 million
Argentina	population 46.0 million
Haiti	population 12.0 million
Lebanon	population 5.5 million
<b>Total</b>	<b>867.0 million</b>

This 867 million is approximately 10.4% of the current world population.

P

## A little about Pita Alexander

Pita Alexander started the successful and widely known accounting practise, *Alexanders*, headquartered in Christchurch.

Pita has specialised in agribusiness accounting for more than 50 years. He's keen to share his knowledge on all matters from taxation to succession planning through to acquisitions, mergers and economic growth. Pita is a Hanmer resident. He writes regularly on relevant and interesting matters.

## Sudoku for you!

		3	2	6	7		9	8
6	7		9	3	5	1		2
5	2	9	8	4	1	7	3	
	4		5	1			6	
8	6		7	9	2			3
		7		8		9		1
1	9	6	3	5	8	2	7	
				7				5
7	8			2	6	3		9

This is an easy one so no answers are needed!



# WORKSHOP



## with JAN THOMSON

**Hammer Springs**  
**Sat 28 February 2026**

Cost: \$150 - limited to 12 people  
\$50 deposit required to book your place

Book now at:

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

info: [amuricommunityarts@gmail.com](mailto:amuricommunityarts@gmail.com)

A chance to learn with full-time artist and watercolour tutor Jan Thomson – all about materials, colour mixing, and the special properties of this lovely medium. You will leave with the skills to begin your journey with watercolour.

Workshop suitable for beginners – all materials and equipment supplied.

Just bring your lunch, an open mind and a sense of humour :)

For more workshop details check out our Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/p/Amuri-Community-Arts-Council](https://www.facebook.com/p/Amuri-Community-Arts-Council)



## Trivia Answers

- |                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| 1. Christopher Robin | 15. Ed Sheeran |
| 2. Scree             | 16. Seaweed    |
| 3. Horton            | 17. Keep       |
| 4. Hearsay evidence  | 18. RAF        |
| 5. Clove             | 19. Queen      |
| 6. Maserati          | 20. Copenhagen |
- “KIDS” ANSWERS**
- |            |
|------------|
| 1. Lithium |
| 2. Cabbage |
| 3. Berlin  |
| 4. 11      |
| 5. Dunedin |



Spend your cash in Hanmer Springs

## 2026 Hanmer Motorfest



The Christchurch Falcon Fairlane Car Club invites all car enthusiasts, families, and friends to the Hanmer Motorfest on Saturday 28 February at the Hanmer Springs Domain.

Saturday 28 February 2026  
Hanmer Springs Domain.  
8:30am - 4:30pm

This year's event promises to have a stunning lineup of classic cars, hot rods and bikes that will take your breath away. Whether you're a die-hard petrolhead or just looking for a fun day out with the family we've got you covered with live music, food trucks, and a range of exciting activities for all ages, there's something for everyone at the 2026 Hanmer Motorfest.

There will also be a Friday Night Car Cruise with all proceeds going to the Amuri St John. More details in *The Pinkie* on Friday 27 February 2026.



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## DISC GOLF AT TARNDALE PARK



The Hanmer Springs Community Board  
is proposing to relocate a 9-Hole Disc Golf  
course to Tarndale Park.

### What are your thoughts?

For more info visit  
[hurunui.govt.nz](http://hurunui.govt.nz)  
or scan the QR Code.  
Feedback closes 5pm,  
Friday 20 February, 2026.



HOSTED BY: FALCON FAIRLANE  
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Hanmer Motorfest - 28 February 2026

*The Pinkie* is online at [www.thepinkie.co.nz](http://www.thepinkie.co.nz)

# Septic Tank Emptying



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Support our Community by Shopping Locally



## Hanmer Rental Services

*A division of Hanmer Holiday Homes*

## Hanmer Springs Property Managers - Long Term Rentals -

- Healthy Homes Assessment
- Find the right Tenants
- Tenancy Agreements & Bond Lodgement
- Regular Inspections, Maintain & take care of your home

[www.hanmerholidayhomes.co.nz/longtermrentals-2](http://www.hanmerholidayhomes.co.nz/longtermrentals-2)

022 580 7963



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If you don't know where you are going,  
any road will get you there. — Lewis Carroll

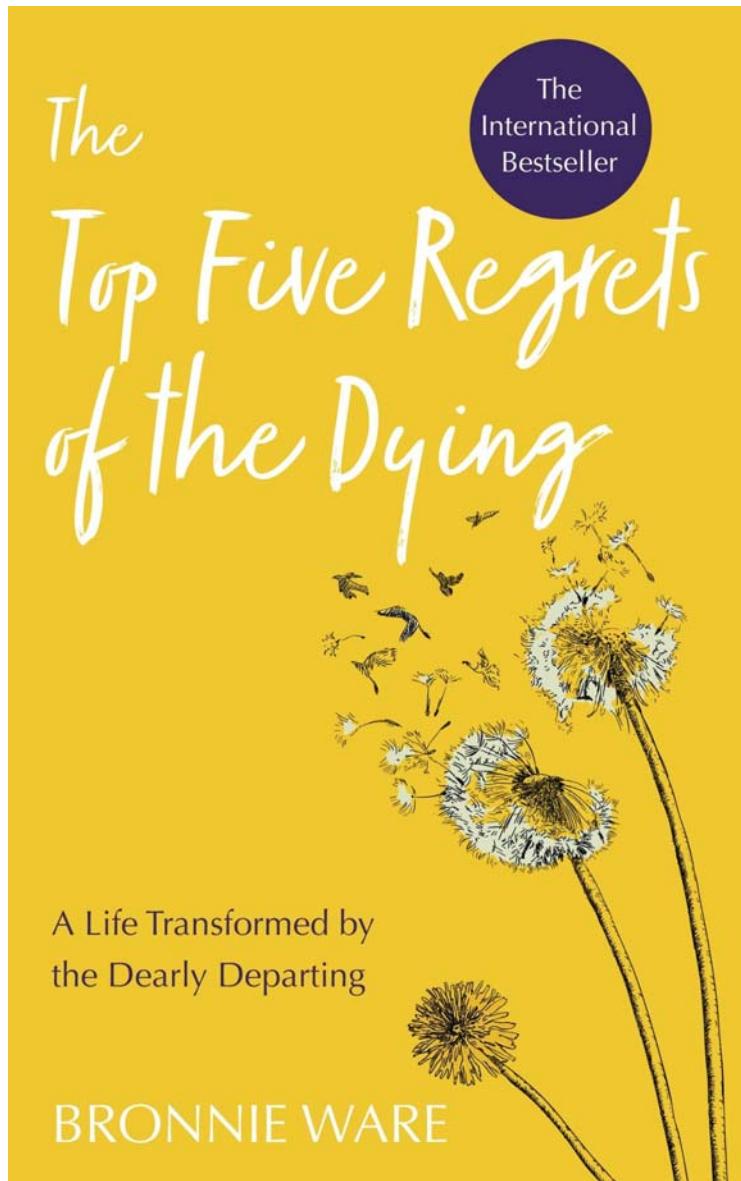
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"He who knows that enough is enough  
will always have enough" - Lao Tzu

## Book Review - The Top Five Regrets of the Dying



Australian author and songwriter Bronnie Ware spent some eight years looking after the terminally ill; people that were living the last 3-12 weeks of their life.

Below is a short transcript of Bronnie talking about her book. *Are you afraid of reaching your death bed and regretting the choices that you made or didn't make? I'm Bronnie Ware and for several years I sat by the bedsides of dying people. The conversations shared were personal, life changing and enormously insightful. I share those conversations more in detail in my memoir "The Top Five Regrets of the Dying" because those conversations changed my life and they may do for you too. The dying people told me, "I wish I had lived a life true to myself, not the life other people expected of me", "I wish I hadn't worked so hard", "I wish I'd had the courage to express my feelings", "I wish I'd stayed in touch with my friends" and "I wish I'd allowed myself to be happier". What if we could all arrive on our deathbed free of regrets? What if we could lose the harsh judgment that causes regret and turn it into compassion for our humanness instead? What if we could set others free by not judging them and seeing them as doing the best they can as who they are right now, just as we are too? What if we all decided to be happier, to focus on simplicity and connection and things that make our hearts happy, instead of competition and lack and fear and all the things that hold us back from being our truest happiest self? What if we gave ourselves and each other permission to do all that, to have courage, to feel safe in expressing our feelings, to go where our hearts guide us, to learn how to be kind, not just to others, but to ourselves as well? What if we encouraged each other to be courageous and vulnerable? Let us support each other to create regret free lives, let us be courageous together!*



2026 Hanmer Motorfest, Hanmer Springs Domain, Saturday 28 February



**Citizens Advice Bureau**  
Ngā Pou Whakawhirinaki o Aotearoa

We're here to help you with any issue. Please call in to talk to one of our trained volunteers or phone us on 03 313 8822 or 0800 367 222 or email [northcanterbury@cab.org.nz](mailto:northcanterbury@cab.org.nz)

209 High Street, Rangiora

# Rigatoni with Sausage & Red Wine Ragu.

## Easy!



This pasta dish is super simple. Combine all the ragu ingredients in a pot and simmer for an hour – no slicing, dicing or chopping required. Just choose good-quality, Italian-style sausages and trust them to provide all the seasoning you need. All that's left to do is to toss the cooked rigatoni in the sauce; this meal will taste as if you've been working on it all day. Don't we love that!

### Ingredients

- 3 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- 500g Italian pork sausages removed from their casings
- $\frac{1}{4}$  tsp chilli flakes
- 500ml chicken stock
- 1 tbsp tomato paste
- 400g tomato passata
- 60ml red wine
- $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp fennel seeds
- salt and black pepper
- 500g dried rigatoni pasta
- grated parmesan cheese, to serve

### Method

- **Step 1**  
To make the ragu, combine all the ingredients, except the dried pasta, in a medium-sized pot and bring to a simmer over medium to high heat.
- **Step 2**  
Place the lid ajar on the pot and lower the heat to medium-low. Simmer gently for 1 hour.
- **Step 3**  
Uncover the pot and taste for seasoning; adjust if necessary. Remove from the heat and use a fork or a potato masher to break down the pork sausage. Set aside.
- **Step 4**  
Bring a pot of salted water to the boil and cook the pasta, according to the package instructions, until al dente. Drain, reserving about 200ml of the cooking water.
- **Step 5**  
Place the sausage ragu back over a medium to high heat and add the drained pasta. Add half the reserved pasta water and stir vigorously. If needed, add a little more water so the sauce coats all the pasta.
- **Step 6**  
Divide into bowls and top with the freshly grated parmesan cheese.

## Book Review - Cell 22 - From Party Girl to Political Prisoner

Recently, in Hanmer Springs, hosted at the Gateway Tavern, I had the pleasure of attending a talk presented by Australian author Monica Smit.

Monica has written a book titled, "Cell 22 - From Party Girl to Political Prisoner". She explained that she had been brought up under the umbrella of the Catholic Church but as a young woman had a very low self esteem and became a self confessed party girl.

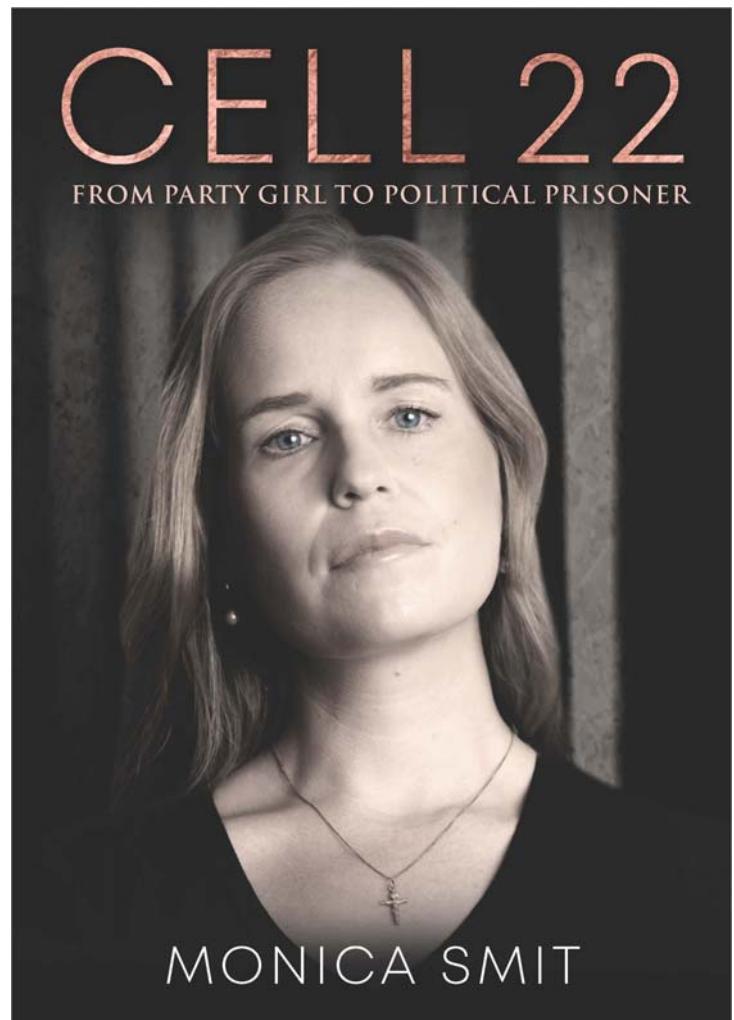
She reached low levels of depravity and much of the book is targeted at girls with advice on how to avoid the pitfalls she had fallen into. Monica had talent in sales and marketing and was very successful at making money and maintaining a turbulent lifestyle. Eventually she grew weary of the emptiness it created and was drawn back into the ethics of the church. She looked forward to making changes, meeting someone, settling down and starting a family.

Then, in her early 30s, she was suddenly confronted with the Covid19 lockdown and what she observed became the catalyst for her to found 'Reignite Democracy Australia'.

Monica was outspoken in her opposition to the government handling of the pandemic and for her efforts she was arrested on charges of incitement. To silence her she spent 22 days in solitary confinement, courtesy of the Victoria prison service. She was then released and the charges were eventually dropped. During the Police riots she met a fellow protester who became the love of her life. After a year romance he proposed and she accepted. Rooted in her new found faith she insisted he follows the Catholic traditional prenups. He went along with it to appease her but eventually it became such a source of argument Monica broke it off.

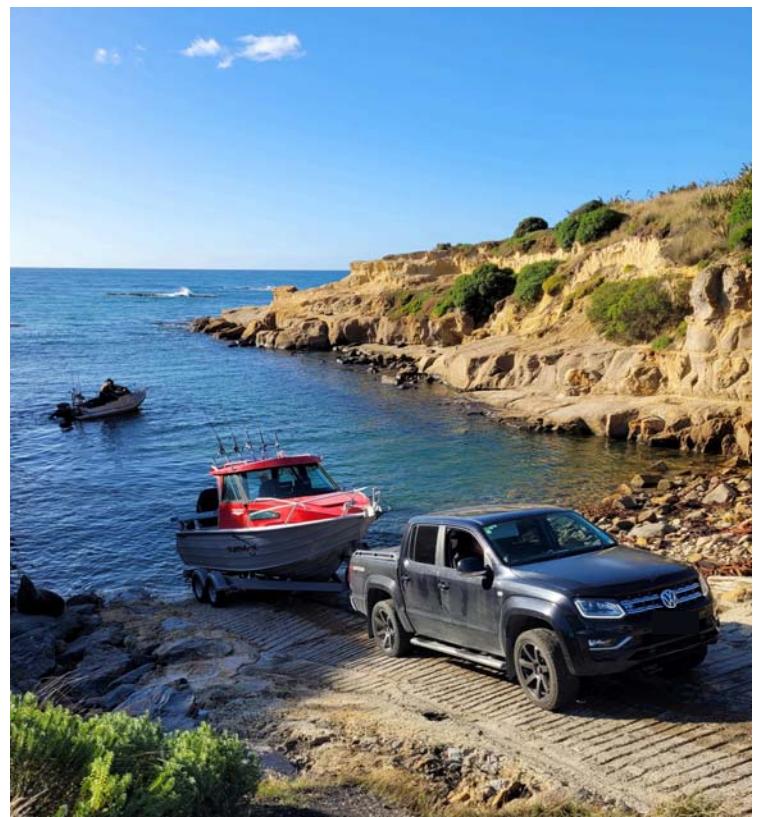
After the talk we had a brief chat but she resisted any notion that church dogma had limited her perception of freedom.

[Thanks to Dr Richard Roe for submitting this review - Ed]



### Mindset is everything.

The difference between a good day and a bad day is your attitude. Your mind is a powerful thing. When you fill it with positive thoughts, your life will start to change. Consciousness is the state of being aware of and responsive to one's surroundings. To shift your life, you must first shift your mindset. Believe you can and you're halfway there.



Shag Point, Otago

## Things to Think About in an Election Year

- Some interesting facts you should keep in mind in the run-up to the 2026 General Election; that will be held on Saturday 7 November 2026.
- Our population is currently 5,310,695.
- 928,000 people receive National Superannuation.
- 781,000 people receive some other benefit.
- 1,709,000 is the total of the two groups above.
- 1,816,000 is the population of the Auckland Region.
- The number of beneficiaries in NZ is almost equal to the population of the Auckland Region. This is a massive burden for our work force.
- Like many countries around the world, New Zealand survives on an ever increasing amount of debt. We live using a "credit card" that is never paid off.
- The cost of servicing our debt is \$24.2 million per day in interest charges, or \$8.862 billion annually.
- Spending an extra \$24 million each day on health, education or housing would be significant.
- \$24 million is equivalent to 30 houses each worth \$800K.
- Yes, we pay \$24 million in interest charges, every day!
- Do politicians distract us from the real issues?
- We are not living within our means.
- We spend more than we earn (than we pay in taxes).
- The only way to live within our means is to cut spending or increase income (pay more taxes).
- We need to learn to tighten our belts.
- If we want better *health care* we need to cut spending in other areas, or pay more taxes.
- If we want better *education* we need to cut spending in other areas, or pay more taxes.
- If we want better *welfare* we need to cut spending in other areas, or pay more taxes.
- We can't have it all.
- At the moment New Zealand, along with many countries around the world, are living on credit. No person can live like this so why have we, as a country, accepted this?

## Mindset is Everything

The difference between a good day and a bad day is your attitude. Your mind is a powerful thing. When you fill it with positive thoughts, your life will start to change. Consciousness is the state of being aware of and responsive to one's surroundings.

To shift your life, you must first shift your mindset. Believe you can and you're halfway there.

A healthy lunch option when in the Big Smoke



If you're in Christchurch and need a healthy lunch, "on-the-run", try Pepe's at the city end of Riccarton Road.

Pepe's is located inside the Caltex Station at 66 Riccarton Road (opposite KFC). There is free parking directly in front of Pepe's.

Pepe's is a dine-in or take-out sandwich type bar where you'll get fast service with easy parking.

Try a Burrito, Nachos, Chimichanga, Quesadilla, Rice Bowl, Tochos, Taco Salad or a salad.

**Mention that you saw this ad in *The Pinkie* and you'll get a free can of drink, or bottle of water, with your purchase.**

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**How am I supposed to make big decisions when I still have to sing the alphabet in my head to get the right letter?**



## Hearing Care for Small-Town Life

Small-town life has its own pace - and its own mix of sounds. Staying connected often means chats at the local café, the sports club, or community events. That's why hearing care needs to work in real life, not just inside a clinic room.

I began running regular hearing clinics in Hanmer Springs and Kaikoura last year and I've really enjoyed the stronger relationships that naturally develop in small towns. My visits have reinforced my belief that supportive, ongoing relationships are just as important as technology. An important part of this is seeing the same Audiologist at each visit. Having worked many years in large corporate clinics, I've seen the differences in hearing outcomes when a client has a consistent service with the same clinician.

Travelling long distances for appointments isn't always convenient, and people have enjoyed having a service that provides trusted, local hearing care. For myself, I enjoy the chance to travel for the day and do some walks in the hills of Hanmer before I head back to my family in Christchurch.

The best hearing care comes from understanding the community, listening to individual needs, and offering honest, long-term support. I'm looking forward to continuing this with my regular clinics at the Hanmer Health Centre this year.

# Hanmer Springs Hearing Clinic



With over 19 years' experience as a fully qualified Audiologist, I provide regular visits to Hanmer Springs Health Centre, offering local, expert hearing care.

- Hearing assessments for adults and children
- New hearing aid fittings with ongoing support
- Repairs and servicing of all hearing aid brands
- Assistance with funding: ACC, Veterans Affairs, Government subsidies, WINZ
- Tinnitus assessment and management

To find out more or book an appointment, contact Liz

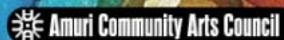
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## Kotahitanga Unity – A Celebration of Connection

### Hanmer Springs Art Gallery 2026 ART COMPETITION

submit your masterpiece  
★★★ lots of prizes ★★★  
open to all ages and skill levels

Submission Deadline: 4pm Wed 29 July

Awards Ceremony: 2pm Sun 30 Aug

Theme: Unity – Kotahitanga

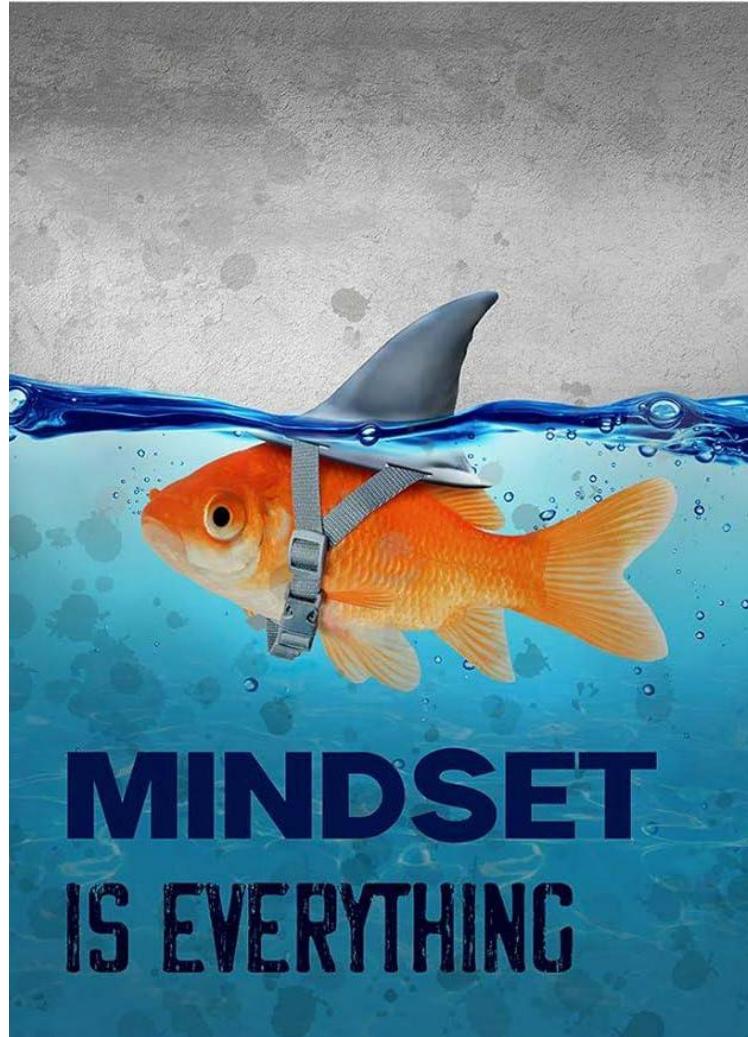
People's Choice Award: cast your vote in Gallery

Rules & Entry Forms: Hurunui Libraries

Enquiries:

Gallery Director, Marguerite Clubb PO Box 55, Hanmer Springs 7360 [mclubbnz@gmail.com](mailto:mclubbnz@gmail.com) 021 125 4062

**MINDSET  
IS EVERYTHING**



# Event Calendar



## FEBRUARY 2026

- 27 Hanmer Motorfest Charity Cruise (7pm)  
All funds raised to Amuri St John
- 28 Hanmer Motorfest (Domain, 8:30am to 4:30pm)

## MARCH 2026

- 07 Hanmer Springs MTB Backyard Ultra  
<https://hanmerbackyardultra.co.nz//mtb>
- 28 The Bandquet - Hanmer Springs

## APRIL 2026

- 03 Good Friday
- 06 Easter Monday
- 25 ANZAC Day (Observed Monday 27 April)

## MAY 2026

- 02 Hanmer Springs Half Marathon

## JUNE 2026

- 01 King's Birthday

## JULY 2026

- 04-18 Alpine Winter Festival

[www.thepinkie.co.nz](http://www.thepinkie.co.nz)

### !! Attention Event Organisers !!

Please let us know if you have events coming up within the next few months.

Please use this calendar to schedule new events to prevent "clashes".

## 2026 School Dates

### Term 1

Monday 2 February to  
Thursday 2 April

### Term 2

Monday 20 April to  
Friday 3 July

### Term 3

Monday 20 July to  
Friday 25 September



[www.thepinkie.co.nz](http://www.thepinkie.co.nz)

## The Soldiers Block



The Soldiers Block is open every Sunday from 10am - 12 noon.

 **Amuri Community Arts Council**

HANMER SPRINGS ART GALLERY  
**EXHIBITION**

**Home & Away**  
12th January – 28th February



## Jan Thomson

Jan lives surrounded by the mountains of Nelson Lakes National Park. She's attracted to the starkness of alpine valleys, passing weather and dramatic light. Sometimes it's the feathered locals who take her eye. "Home and Away" features watercolour and oil paintings inspired by both NZ and Australian landscapes, where Jan has travelled extensively. Her work is held in private collections both in NZ and overseas.

[www.janthomsonart.com](http://www.janthomsonart.com)



GALLERY ENTRY THROUGH LIBRARY  
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 **Amuri Community Arts Council**

Gallery info: mclubbnz@gmail.com

"Creativity is intelligence having fun. Don't take life too seriously; curiosity, play, and a touch of whimsy are just as important as logic and hard work. After all, some of the greatest discoveries began with a laugh." — *Albert Einstein*

# Community Notices



## Hanmer Forest parkrun

Hanmer Forest parkrun takes place every Saturday at 8:00am.

Hanmer Forest parkrun is a fun, free event organised by volunteers for the benefit of everyone.

The route is a clockwise 5km lap around Hanmer Forest, starting from the Brooke Dawson Reserve (off Bath Street). The course is mostly flat, with a few small inclines and is a mixture of walking trails, all of which are solid underfoot, suitable for road shoes.

<https://www.parkrun.co.nz/hanmerforest/course/>



## JPs in Hanmer Springs

Rod Ell	027 437 2464 (03 315 7222)
Jonathan Gardiner	027 685 9276
Alice Stielow	021 317 001
Ann Toomey	021 155 7622
Ken Williams	027 284 7241
Joy Wilson	027 220 2511

## Hanmer Springs Golf

### 2026 Hanmer Springs Hot Pools & Spa Senior Championship

**Saturday 7th February**  
Stableford competition

1st Craig Owen, Kate Montgomery, Rebecca Gibson, Freina Sands

2nd Adam Henwood, Gary Mander, Greg Buchanan, Hamish Mabey

3rd Wayne Perks, Eileen Holden, Anne Hodgen Jones, Sue Mullins

4th Robert Farley, Wayne Love, John Dickson, Renai Stretch

5th Derrin Morgan, Paul Jones, Bruce Mitchell, Joe Gantley

6th Mike Gainsford, Ollie Wilson, Jason Hill, Sam Gavin

7th Paul Powell, Aaron Bunt, Tammy Bunt, Darryl MacDonald

8th Dominic Barson, Alan Hicky, Terry Clark, Allan Heffer

1st Mark Worner 45 pts  
2nd Rae Bowyer 40  
3rd Jason Hill 38  
4th Richard Campbell 38  
5th Greg Samson 35  
6th Gordon Simpson 35  
7th Don Giles 35  
8th Bruce Mitchell 35

Twos  
Mark Worner  
Murray Pool  
Richard Campbell  
Owen Evans

Jackpot Twos  
Mark Worner

Nearest the Pin  
Garry Ritsma

Net Eagles  
Not struck

---

Saturday 14th  
Tom Menzies Memorial Stableford  
Ruby Turton Rd 2 Stableford  
1st round Alpine Village Inn Shootout

Saturday 21st Graham Rouse  
Memorial Trophy

## Either way it's 20k



Results kindly submitted  
by Mike Gainsford.



## Hanmer Springs Bridge Club

Results 29/01/2026  
North/South = R Hothersall & G Baldwin  
= T Davies & P Bennett  
East / West - R Ensor & J Wilson

Results 05/02/2026  
1st - J Pillidge & W Stewart

Results kindly submitted by  
Joy Wilson.  
[Thanks Joy. Ed]

"Happiness is contagious"



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