hanmer springs village news

HANMER SPRINGS the pinkie

13 November 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 TWO locations in Hanmer Springs:**

The Gateway Lodge
35 Hanmer Springs Road
Hanmer Springs
(Available 24/7 from the office/reception)

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

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

HURUNUI District Council

Hanmer Springs Community Library

Hanmer Springs Community Library
& Service Centre

Cnr Amuri Avenue
& Cheltenham Street

03 315-7912

hanmer@hurunui.govt.nz

Monday - Friday
12pm - 4pm

Saturday & Sunday
10am - 2pm

Useful Opening Times

Four Square

8am - 8:00pm

The Four Square is open 8am to 8:00pm. (Summer Hours)

The Toy Shop

(including postal services)

Mon - Fri 9am - 3pm
Saturday 9am - 3pm
Sunday 10am - 2pm

Our post code
7334

Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools & Spa

10am - 7pm

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

Culverden

Hammer Hardware

8am - 5pm
(Mon - Fri)

9am - 4pm
(Saturday)

Closed Sunday & Public Holidays

About "The Pinkie"

The Pinkie is published by

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thepinkie@readme.co.nz

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My pet frog, "Kermit". Kununurra, Western Australia

The Anglican Church Fete

Saturday 14 November @ 11am
Anglican Church grounds
33 Jollies Pass Road

We all love Hanmer Springs ...

Over the last couple of weeks we've had some warm days, some cold days and we've even had a dusting of snow.

While it's easy to squeal about cold days in Hanmer Springs I've been sweltering in 39°C - 42°C days in far north Western Australia, close to the border with North Territory.

I was drinking 7-8 litres of water a day to keep hydrated and during my work day I was saturated from head to waist, and below, as if I was caught out in a heavy downpour.

I participated in a couple of parkruns over there too. They started at 7am to miss the heat, but by 7am the temperature was already 31°C (feels like 35°C). I'm not making this up!

Where I was staying there were often frogs under the toilet lid, on the seat or in the bowl. You could try to flush them but when you're not successful they find refuge under the flange of the toilet bowel, at the front, from where the water flows weakest during a flush. So imagine this, sitting on the toilet knowing there is a frog not far away!

While "a change can be as good as a holiday", a little travel also makes the heart grow fonder for home, and I love Hanmer Springs more. The climate is temperate and there is never a temperature I cannot dress (or undress) for! There are also no frogs in my bathroom in Hanmer Springs!

On the cover of this edition of *The Pinkie* is a photo of the Ord River Dam (completed 1971) that forms Lake Argyle. Lake Argyle is Western Australia's largest freshwater reservoir and Australia's second-largest man-made lake by volume, located about 75 km south of Kununurra in the East Kimberley. The lake holds over 10 billion cubic metres of water (around 20 times the volume of Sydney Harbour) and spans over 700 square kilometres with more than 70 islands.

In New Zealand we tend to take all our fresh water for granted but Australians who visit the South Island are amazed by all the lakes and rivers we have.

While last weekend was a quiet one in the village the one before was busy with the *Hurunui Garden Festival* and the *Hanmer Springs Fete*. Hanmer Springs had four gardens on display; presented by Dorothy & John Geen, Jonathan & Sarah Gardiner, Peter Grant & Morag Godfrey-Grant and Hamish & Mary McRae. They worked tirelessly to have their gardens and grounds ready for the Festival and I've only heard five-star reports. Thanks to you all for representing Hanmer Springs with such amazing garden displays.

The Hanmer Springs Fete was also a fantastic day for our village, and the village was looking fantastic with a big blue sky day and that fresh dusting of snow on the hills. Thanks to everyone involved.

Today, Friday 13 November 2026, is Canterbury Show Day and we'll have a busy weekend here in Hanmer Springs.

Remember the Anglican Church Fete on Saturday at 11am.

Enjoy Hanmer Springs & keep being awesome out there!

Reece

CLASSES, FITNESS, CLUBS & MUSIC

Monday

AQUACIZE
Monday 9am
Thermal Pools rear 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
Marilyn Eagle (021 224 1402) 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
It's as easy as that!

Wednesday

MT ISOBEL TRAMPING GROUP
Day tramps in local mountains and surrounding areas. Every Wednesday.
Call Janet (021 103 4303) for information.

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 5:00-6:15pm (school term only)
Hanmer Springs Primary School
Call Judy (021 0246 5633)
Cost: Donation

Thursday

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

AQUACIZE
Thursday 10am
Thermal Pools entrance.
You will need an aqua stick.
Call Sue (027 346 3931) for more information.

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 every "odd" month on the second Thursday of the month.
Gateway Tavern at 6:30pm. All welcome.
Email Boio Sarahu-Hothersall at 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

HANMER FOREST PARKRUN
Saturday 8am
Brooke Dawson Reserve (off Bath Street)
See parkrun.co.nz for details

Sunday

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

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 Rev. Hilary Willett (0204 0300 310)

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 AND HALL
Both the hall and church are available for hire for community groups, weddings, birthdays, meetings, retreats etc.
Call Rev. Hilary Willett (0204 0300 310)

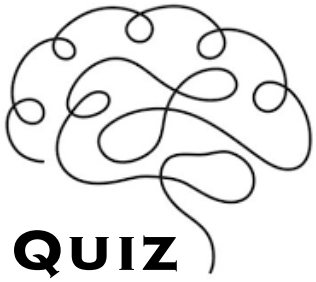
HANMER SPRINGS SPORTS PAVILION
Available for sports groups, weddings, functions etc. Fully equipped kitchen. Large carpeted function room, changing rooms and showers.
Call Nicola at the Hurunui District Council (03 314-8816)

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

Trivia



Quiz

1. Which Olivia got "*Physical*" in 1981?
2. Which Kenny and Dolly recorded "*Islands in the Stream*"?
3. Which Sultans of Swing took the Walk of Life?
4. Which Swedish seaport faces Copenhagen?
5. Where would you find a dado rail?
6. Which nursery-rhyme shepherdess lost her sheep?
7. Which plant shares its name with a word meaning "to cut short"?
8. New York has what fruity nickname?
9. In which US state is Fort Lauderdale?
10. What type of institution was Wormwood Scrubs?
11. Which is the second smallest continent?
12. An area of land described as a delta has what shape?
13. Which month of the year was named after Julius Caesar?
14. What are Jersey Royals?
15. The *Ugly Duckling* was a tale written by which author?
16. Which word can mean both "atmosphere" and "to broadcast"?
17. Who was the 44th president of the USA?
18. What type of animal was TV's Skippy?

Read this subliminal message …

I'm really awesome at the Trivia Quiz

Quiz for the Kids

1. What is the highest mountain in NZ?
2. What is the longest river in NZ?
3. What is the second most populated city in NZ?
4. What is New Zealand's deepest lake?
5. What is New Zealand's largest lake?

---

19. What is the second letter of the Greek alphabet?
20. *Everybody Hurts* was a 1992 hit for which group?

Colour this …



A little space for doodling or colouring!

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Trivia Answers

1. Newton-John
2. Rogers & Parton
3. Dire Straits
4. Malmö
5. On a wall
6. Little Bo-Peep
7. Dock
8. The Big Apple
9. Florida
10. A prison
11. Europe
12. Triangular
13. July
14. Potatoes
15. Hans Christian Andersen
16. Air
17. Barack Obama
18. A Kangaroo
19. Beta
20. REM

KIDS ANSWERS

1. Aoraki/Mt Cook
2. Waikato
3. Christchurch
4. Lake Hauroko
5. Lake Taupō

www.thepinkie.co.nz

Sudoku for you!

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



For those with “Beautiful Minds”

It was a morning like any other. The school drop-off was done, the kids safely ushered through the gates, and I was driving away in the family car, basking in that glorious post-drop-off tranquility.

Then, I looked down at the dashboard. There it was. The odometer had ticked over to a magnificent, symmetrical 111,111 km.

For some people, this might be a passing thought. But for those of us blessed with "beautiful minds," it was a cosmic event. A milestone. A digital work of art.

"I have to get a photo of this," I thought.

But as I glanced closer, the universe began to play its games. Next to that sea of ones, the outside temperature was sitting at 10°C. Ten! A rogue zero in my perfect mathematical haven.

Determined to make the numbers sing, I brought the car to a very precise, very safe 11 km/h on a quiet stretch of road and snapped a quick photo. It was good. I had 11 km/h and 111,111 km. But it wasn't perfect. I needed 11°C.

I did what any logical, reasonable person would do: I pulled over, stopped, and waited. Surely, the morning air would warm up by a single, solitary degree. I waited five minutes. Then ten. I stared at the dashboard with the intensity of a scientist watching a lab experiment.

Nothing. The 10°C remained, mocking me.

Feeling the pressure of actual life—and realising I couldn't spend the entire morning parked on the roadside waiting for global warming to kick in—I reluctantly gave up, put the car in drive, and pressed the accelerator.

Naturally, the very instant the car began to move, the temperature flicked to 11°C.

The universe was laughing at me.

Suddenly, the pressure was on. The magical, once-in-a-lifetime alignment was happening—11 km/h, 11°C, and 111,111 km—but so was traffic. Real, moving traffic, which was now approaching quickly in my rearview mirror.

With the focus of an Olympic athlete, I tried to maintain a steady 11 km/h while fumbling to capture the fleeting moment. Was it safe? Probably not my finest hour. Was it necessary? Absolutely.

I managed to capture the elusive 11-11-111111 on camera just before accelerating back to normal speeds, leaving behind any evidence of my brief highway snail-crawl.

Some might call it a waste of ten minutes. Others might call it slightly obsessive. But for us "beautiful minds" out there, getting that shot is a triumph of the human spirit.

Now, if you'll excuse me, I need to start planning my route for when the odometer hits 222,222km. I just hope it's 22 degrees that day.

This piece was provided by a reader and is a true story!



Something To Talk About



I noticed this “little special” in the Coles Supermarket in Kununurra, Western Australia, a couple of weeks back.

Three litres of full cream milk on special for $1.99, normally $6.60. The milk is produced by Brownes Dairy, Western Australia’s oldest dairy company, founded by Mr Edward Browne in Perth in 1886. Today Brownes Dairy collects over 150 million litres of milk each year from more than 50 dairy farms in Western Australia’s South West.

Kununurra is over 3,000km from Perth where Brownes Dairy is based, so this bottle of milk has a significant freight cost by the time it’s on the shelf in the supermarket.



Hanmer Springs School Report.

School Athletics.

On Friday last week, we held our School Athletics on a lovely sunny, hot day. Each year group rotated around a variety of different events. We competed in discus, long distance, shot put (Y4-Y8) or tennis ball throw (Y0-3), long jump, and high jump. In the afternoon, we did the sprints and team relays and finished the events with the teacher, parent v student relay. After the events were finished, the high jump winners in each age group continued their jumping to see how high they could go. Ethan in Y7 jumped an amazing 1m 40cm, well done Ethan!.

Thank you to Ms Wright for organising the event and to the teachers and teacher aides for running the stations. Thank you to all of the parents and whānau who came along to help and support us. Y4-8 students who came first or second in their events qualify for the Hurunui Athletics which is next week at Amuri Area School.

At the end of the day we enjoyed a refreshing ice block, kindly donated by our fantastic Home and School and we enjoyed our first swim of the term in our school pool.
The overall year group winners are listed below:

Y0 girls	1st - Izzy		
Y1 girls	1st - Zara	2nd - Cressida	3rd - Simona
Y2 girls	1st - Esther	2nd - Ciara	3rd - Penny
Y3 girls	1st - Josie	2nd - Harper	3rd - Grace
Y4 girls	1st - Iris	2nd - Myra-Anne	3rd - Ruby
Y5 girls	1st - Meila	2nd - Georgia	3rd - Izzy
Y6 girls	1st - Abigail	2nd - Bridie	3rd - Katie
Y7 girls	1st - Aaliya	2nd - Eloise	3rd - Ella
Y8 girls	1st - Jamilah		

See the following page for page 2 of the Hanmer Springs School report

Y0 boys	1st - Beau & Ashuman		3rd - Eli
Y1 boys	1st - Cairo	2nd - Liam F	3rd - Liam M
Y2 boys	1st - Angus	2nd - Ben	
Y3 boys	1st - Stirling	2nd - Pax	3rd - Elijah
Y4 boys	1st - Niko	2nd - Patrick	3rd - Luca
Y5 boys	1st - Kahn	2nd - Harry	3rd - Teddy
Y6 boys	1st - Jonty	2nd - Remington	3rd - James
Y7 boys	1st - Ethan	2nd - Nico	3rd - Sammy
Y8 boys	1st - Archie		

Canetbruy Schools' trampoline competition.

On Sunday, the 24th of October, I went to Rangiora for the Canterbury Schools' trampoline competition and represented Hanmer Springs School. I competed in the yellow badge category. I did front flips, barani flips (front flips with a twist), and some back flips. There were about 20 schools in my age group; it was a tough competition, but I got 3rd on the trampoline for my routine and 5th on the double mini tramp. My favourite part was my backflip on the trampoline.
By Georgia.







Hanmer Springs is Awesome

New Zealand's Safest Family Holiday Destination

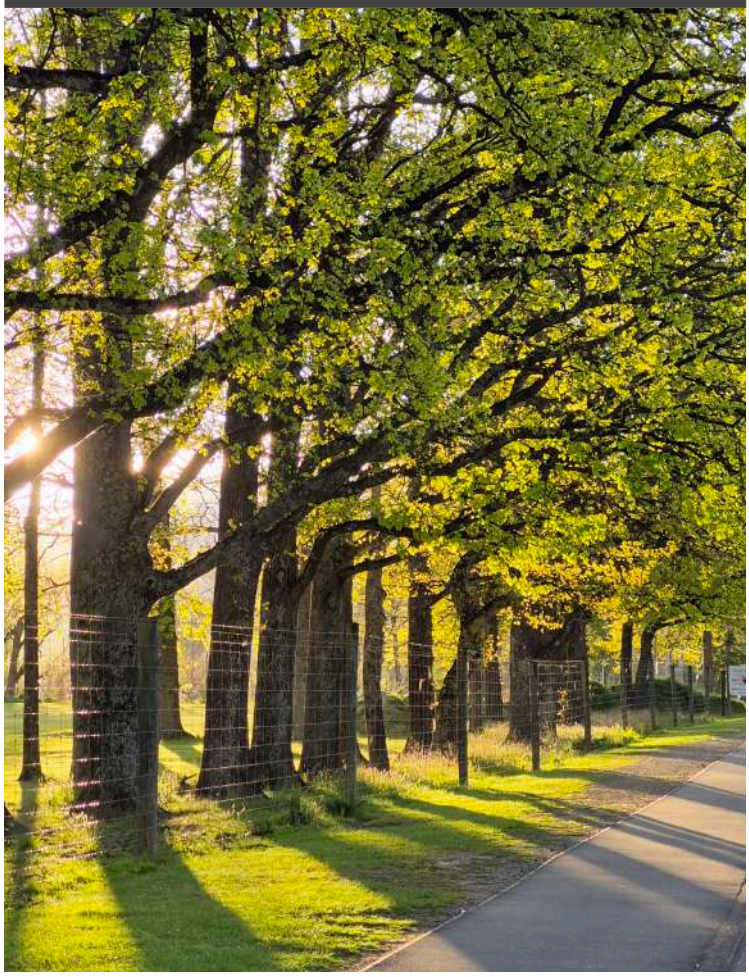
1. Hanmer Springs, North Canterbury
2. Oban, Stewart Island
3. Tōtaranui, Abel Tasman
4. Pounawea, Catlins
5. Balloon Hut, Kahurangi National Park

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

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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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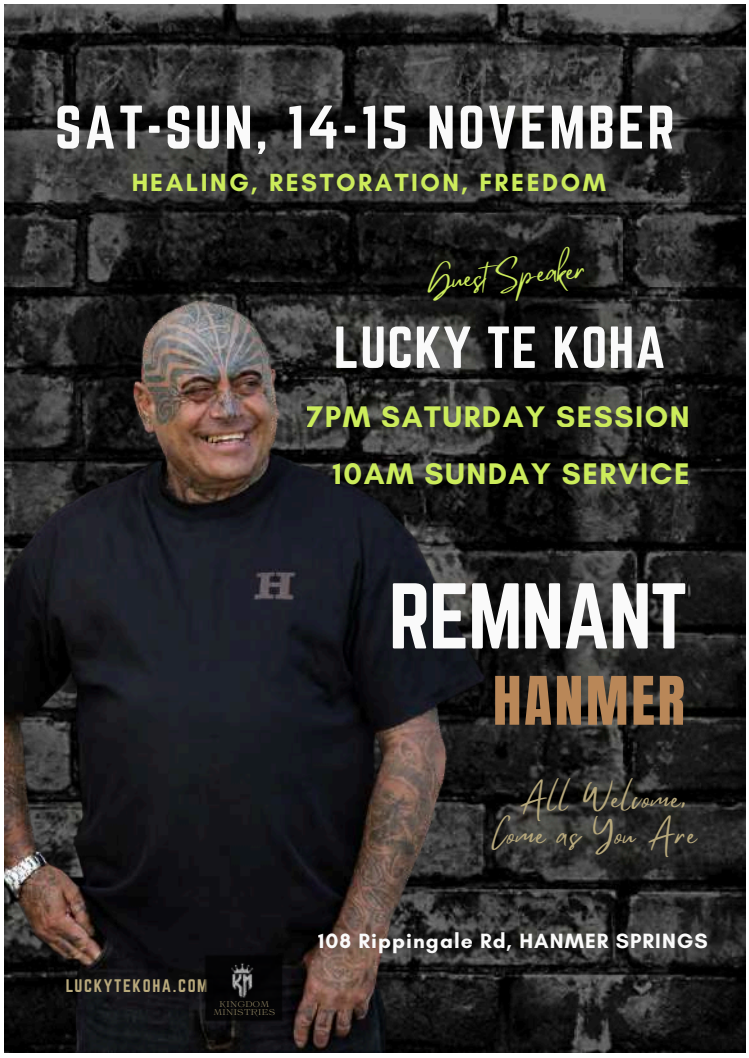


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Support our Community by Shopping Locally





Speed limits on Hurunui's roads affect everyone.

If you have concerns about a speed limit on a particular road, we want to hear from you.

We're inviting feedback on roads where you think the current speed limit may not be appropriate. Your feedback will help identify locations for further assessment.

You have until Monday 14 December to suggest locations where a speed limit review may be needed.

Scan QR code to have your say

Email drive@hurunui.govt.nz

Please note this applies only to Hurunui District Council roads, not State Highways or private roads.

HURUNUI District Council



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/

Hanmer Springs Menzshed

Hanmer Springs Menzshed
Tuesday/Thursdays, 1pm - 3:30pm
(Winter hours)
Queen Mary Hospital Grounds
Beside the old boiler house/large chimney

Hanmer Springs Bridge Club

Results 08/10/2026
1st –R Hothersall & G Baldwin

Results 15/10/2026
Power cut. No recordings.

Results 22/10/2026
North/South – R Findlay & D Dowthwaite (visitors)
East/West – R Hothersall & K Brown (visitor)

Results 29/10/2026
1st – R Ensor & J Wilson

Results 05/11/2026
1st – R Ensor & J Wilson

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

JPs in Hanmer Springs

Rod Ell	027 437 2464
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

Saturday 24th October
Gross & Net Medal
Ladies - Gross
Carolyn Williams 85
Ladies Net
Rae Bowyer 71

Men - Junior Gross
Ben Williams 85
Net Graham Heenan 68

Intermediate Gross
Craig Meaclem 82
Net Scott Callaway 68

Senior Gross
Jason Hill 70
Net Tiaki Ogilive 69

Twos
Craig Meaclem

Nearest the Pin
Don Giles

Jackpot Twos & Net Eagles
Not struck

Saturday 7th November
Stableford competition

1st Rae Bowyer 39pts
2nd Marty Bonnett 38
3rd Dean Pollock 38
4th Matthew Morgan 37
5th Jason Hill 36
6th Tony Hawker 36

Twos
Howard Chellew

Nearest the Pin
Steve Pearson

Net Eagles & Jackpot Twos
Not struck

Saturday 14th November
Club competition
Gross & Net Medal

Results kindly submitted by:
Mike Gainsford.

Thinking About Maths

Q. When I was twelve my brother was half my age. I'm 40 now, so how old is he?

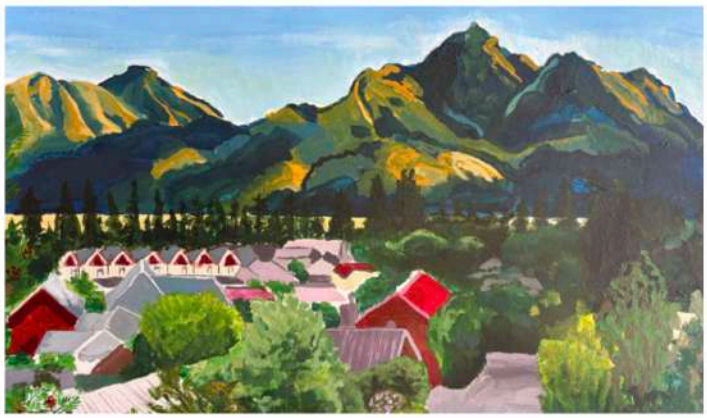
A. The answer is on the bottom of the back/last page.

Hanmer Springs features in Bath, UK

Hayesfield GIRLS' SCHOOL MIXED SIXTH

School Bulletin

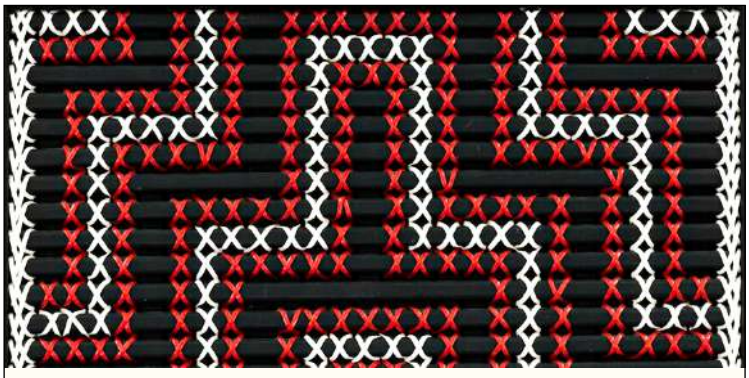
Friday 18th September 2026



Kate (13AR)

Hanmer Springs resident Barbara Groves writes, “my granddaughter Kate Hamnett painted this scene from a photo taken in the summer of 2025-2026. It was printed in her Sixth Form School Bulletin at Hayesfield Girls’ School, Bath, United Kingdom.” Thanks for sharing this Barbara. From one bath town to another. Well done Kate.

Hanmer Waiata Group



WAIATA-ITI

HE RŌPŪ WAIATA O MĀNIA-RAUHEA

A casual group in Hanmer Springs to help you learn waiata in community and uplift te reo Māori in our village. Koha towards hall hire, tea and coffee, and biscuits is welcome.

Every Tuesday at 7 – 8:30pm
Church of the Epiphany Hall
33 Jollies Pass Rd, Hanmer Springs

An Epiphany

A Column by Rev Hilary Willett

Good Enough Faith

Many of my friends are in the season of having children. It’s delightful to watch as some of my favourite people transition into parenthood. Former “party animals" now watch “Bluey”; ex-corporate operatives gently swaddle baby feet. I see new sides of my nearest and dearest as they undergo this sacred shift, their eyes full of exhaustion and contentment. It is a change both wonderful and strange.

One of the more challenging parts of having children today, besides the cost of living, is the sheer volume of opinions about the right ways to raise a child. “Don’t go back to work early.” “Always breastfeed.” “Don’t ever leave a baby to cry.” “Do have skin-to-skin contact.” “Don’t allow x amount of screen time.” “Do have a co-sleeper.” “Don’t have toys in the cot.” “Do have heuristic play.” Countless dos and don’ts, delivered with near-religious fervour by family members, friends, nurses, doctors, doulas, and child-care workers.

Amid this maelstrom of advice and anxiety, one of the most welcome rediscoveries is the idea of the “good enough parent”. This form of parenting highlights that no parent or child can be perfect, advocating instead for relationship, resilience and doing your best.

In Christianity today, I think many feel a similar level of overwhelm. There’s limitless advice on how to follow God correctly. Social isolation and polarisation seem to have turned the Bible into a proof text for myriad perspectives and political moralising.

But what if we held to a “good enough” faith instead? What if we focused on developing a relationship with God, resilience, and doing our best? Maybe the quest for perfection is actually about anxiety. Maybe it’s normal to have doubts, questions, and uncertainty. Maybe faith has never really been about perfection. Maybe grace is good enough.



Event Calendar



NOVEMBER 2026

12 Hanmer Springs Lions Club Dinner Meeting
13 Canterbury Anniversary Day
14 Anglican Church Fete (15th if wet)

DECEMBER 2026

16 School Term 4 ends
25 Christmas Day

MAY 2027

01 Hanmer Half Marathon

Quotes for the week

You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

What you do today can improve all your tomorrows.

Ralph Marston

A Poem

Do Not Stand At My Grave and Weep

Poem by Mary Elizabeth Frye

Do not stand at my grave and weep
I am not there. I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am the diamond glints on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken in the morning's hush
I am the swift uplifting rush
Of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry;
I am not there. I did not die.

The Soldiers Block





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

!! 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".

Quotes

If someone tried to take control of your body and make you a slave, you would fight for freedom. Yet how easily you hand over your mind to anyone who insults you. When you dwell on their words and let them dominate your thoughts, you make them your master.

Epictetus

We are not disturbed by what happens to us, but by our thoughts about what happens to us.

Epictetus



Queen Mary, Oil on board, Helen Beattie

MOLESWORTH

An extract from "Historic Sheep Stations of the South Island" by Colin Wheeler (First published 1968)

A VAST 700-SQUARE-MILE block of inland Marlborough, the Molesworth country is a land of strange self-contradictions. Fierce heat contrasts with bitter cold. Placid creeks can become raging torrents within the hour. Quiet spells follow long, gruelling days in the saddle. An airstrip mocks old charges of isolation. But there is no contradiction but rather a close affinity between Bill Chisholm and the rugged country he controls: the biggest, maybe the hardest, farm in New Zealand.

Molesworth lies eighty miles south of Blenheim, twenty-five miles west of Kaikoura. A brief rain can render impassable the many unbridged creeks on the northern access road, while the road south to Hanmer is normally suitable only for four-wheel-drive trucks. Three separate stations - Molesworth, Tarndale and St Helens - plus 425 acres at Hanmer, form the 458,000 acres of Molesworth today. On all these properties, homesteads, cattle yards and other facilities have been duplicated. This is really big country - rugged, often hostile, the country of four great rivers -Acheron, Wairau, Awatere, and Clarence.

"The climate's rough, Colin," Bill tells me. "Tests a man, it does. The whole property is subject to snow, often up to dangerous depths. The homestead has 230 frosts a year; rainfall is from 26 to 60 inches, depending on the area, and our summers are dry and hot."

The Molesworth story began in 1852 with Dr James Robinson. Tarndale and the Rainbow were added when W. B. Acton-Adams bought the property in 1883. Successive owners grazed huge numbers of sheep until the cumulative effects of overgrazing, rabbits, burning, snow losses and low prices ended, in 1938, with the abandonment of the lease to the Crown. For three years the land was spelled. War was declared on rabbits. Sheep were replaced with cattle.

In 1942 Bill Chisholm was appointed manager, and remains today after twenty-five years of inspired direction. "In 1948," he told me, "phosphorised pollard dropped from planes made the old-time rabbiters redundant, huge kills being recorded. Today, pilots spend three exhausting, daylight-to-dark months every spring dropping poisoned carrots, controlling rabbit numbers so that Molesworth is relatively free. Yes, it costs money, but if we stopped-" Bill spreads his big hands expressively.

"Cattle numbers are rising every year," he goes on. "See here-721 in 1941, 9,500 in 1967. Maybe up to 14,000 in the future? What breeds? Aberdeen Augus, Herefords, and the cross - all three do well- eagerly sought after, easily handled. No, the only sheep we breed are killers for mutton."

Huge four-wheel-drive trucks, mobile in all but the severest conditions, handle transport, even the hardy Land Rovers being too light for this country. Light aircraft are used for cattle-spotting, dropping fencing materials, for aerial spraying, topdressing and sowing (up to 8,000 acres yearly) with English grasses. "Vast tracts of bare hillside,' says Bill, "have been stabilised and protected against erosion. This riverbed where you see cattle grazing was bare shingle not so long ago. It's incredible.." Sweet briar and broom, more recent menaces, are also being studied and fought.

Molesworth station buildings are scattered, contemptuous of space: cob homestead, built in 1884; twenty-four-stand woodshed brought over from Tarndale, now a store; cookhouse ; clerk's office; men's huts and recreation block. After twenty years Molesworth has broken even financially, and since 1961 has shown rapidly increasing profits. Bill Chisholm demonstrates that sound management and hard work will overcome great obstacles. The giant Molesworth stretches, shrugs off its erosive shackles, and turns to face a future full of promise.

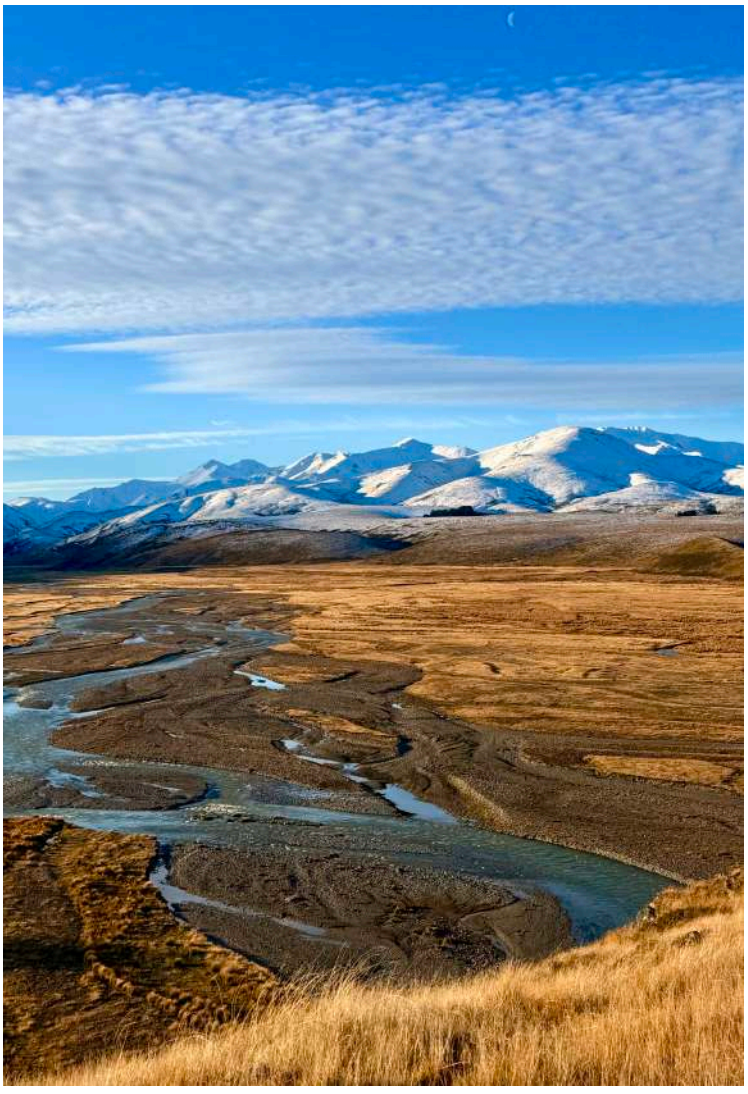


Photo by Holly Whittfield. The Clarence, on the way to Lake Tennyson

The Inside Back Cover - Images of the Hurunui



Readers are invited to submit Hurunui images for this space. Email: thepinkie@readme.co.nz

Leslie Hills Amuri Garden Club

The Leslie Hills Amuri Garden Club meeting and annual Rose Show will be held on Monday 16th November at the 'Lyndon Homestead', 31 Lyndon Road, Waiau at 1.30 pm. Visitors and new members welcome. Enquiries to Yvonne Cheney on 027 229 3824.

Men's Breakfast

Hurunui Grace Fellowship invite all men to a BBQ breakfast
When: Saturday 21st November
Where: Culverden Fire Station
Time: 7 - 9am
RSVP: Please RSVP for catering purposes to Chris Scarlet - 027 2155577

The trail is the thing, not the end of the trail. Travel too fast, and you miss all you are traveling for.

Louis L'Amour

Council Notice

HURUNUI District Council

HANMER SPRINGS TRANSFER STATION CLOSED CANTERBURY ANNIVERSARY DAY

Hanmer Springs Transfer Station will be closed on Friday 13 November and will re-open Sunday 15 November. To reduce wait times, keep recycling and waste apart and remove lids from glass bottles prior to arrival.

For further information visit hurunui.govt.nz



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Brook Yates
027 807 8093



Kathryn Duncan
021 107 5719



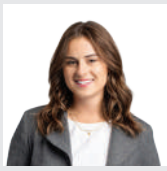
Robyn Powell
027 259 1569



Harley Manion
021 149 8050



June Manion
021 823 824



Charlotte McGuire
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Q. When I was twelve my brother was half my age. I'm 40 now, how old is he? A. 34.