

From the Rakaiia to the Rangitata, including Geraldine, and from the mountains to the sea.

# The Ashburton Courier

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CULTIVATION AND DRILLING



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Page 3



**Speedway kings**  
Page 4



**Garden delight**  
Page 7

## AI's shooting The Driver Camera action deep in the Rakaiia Gorge

By John Keast

Top-selling author/photographer Al Mabin has turned her attention from driving to driving, and she's been shooting in the Rakaiia Gorge.

She spent an afternoon with Phillip Wareing of Phillip Wareing Ltd to shoot photographs for a new book she is producing, *The Driver*. It will feature New Zealand and Australian trucking companies, including Phillip Wareing Ltd and Temuka Transport.

The Driver is an accidental offshoot of the wildly successful *The Drover*, a coffee-table book which has broken sales records in Australia and New Zealand and captures the action on a massive cattle outback cattle drive.

Soon after completing *The Drover*, and wondering what the next project might be, Mabin, a former musterer from Central Otago, was hit by a truck.

That was the idea, right there - trucking.

Her original idea was to concentrate on Australian truckers, but while she was here promoting *The Drover*, she became convinced the book, expected to be out before next Christmas, should feature New Zealand firms as well.

Hence the trip to Methven with camera, and a \$20,000 drone.

Conditions did not allow the drone to fly, but Mabin was able to capture Wareing's new fertiliser truck, Gorilla.

Mr Wareing saw the Mercedes



The Driver photographer Al Mabin with Phillip Wareing in the Rakaiia Gorge.

truck in Australia and reckoned it would suit as a fertiliser truck.

"I don't go in for naming trucks, but I took one look at this and called it the Gorilla," he said.

The company now has 70 trucks and has interests in other companies and another 130 trucks.

Mr Wareing, who went to Methven as a stock agent, started with one spray truck.

"I never thought we would be where we are today."

He said trucking allowed him to realise the dream of being a farmer, and he owns Mt Arrowsmith

Station in the Ashburton Gorge. The company will soon fit tablet computers to its fleet to improve efficiency, and for health and safety.

Wareing is a rural carrier which also operates logging and agricultural spraying trucks.

### It's our birthday but you get gifts

It's our birthday - we are 30 - but you get the presents.

The Courier was born in Ashburton, the dream of its founder, the late Frank Veale.

The paper has gone from strength to strength, and is the best read paper in Mid Canterbury by a country mile.

We focus on positive community news, and enjoy bringing it to you every week.

To celebrate, we have organised some wonderful gifts - a 50-inch Panasonic television - just in time for the Rugby World Cup - a classy Samsung tablet computer so you can keep track of the scores, a Fujifilm camera and a Panasonic blu-ray player - and details of how you can win are inside.

Believe us, it's easy. The Courier is proud of its role in the community and grateful for the continued support of readers and advertisers.

Turn inside to catch up on the paper's history, how it is produced, news stories from the past, and some ads from yesteryear. Again, thank you for your continued support.

**John Keast, managing editor**

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