



Councillor comment

with Ashburton District Councillor Darryl Nelson



When I was a boy in the late 1950s and early '60s, I used to bike along a shingle road to Hampstead School and the grass beside the road grew so long it was almost over my head by mid-summer. The council mowed it once a year.

We used to swim in the Ashburton River, in spite of pollution from a wool scour and dye factory. But no one seemed to worry.

Back then, we had lower expectations from the council. It's a far cry from today, when people expect shingle roads to be sealed and grass mowed regularly. And the standards people expect – and the Government demands – for water and sewerage are increasing all the time.

This is how it should be. It's part of the process of evolution. We expect things to get better all the time.

Of course, progress comes at a cost. The council has to bear this in mind when planning new developments. Although Ashburton still has some of the lowest rates in New Zealand, we can't continue increasing them without being very clear about what we want to achieve with the money.

Looking ahead, I can see two major projects I'd like to see accomplished, to take Ashburton to the next stage of its development.

The first is a modern sports stadium for the town. We desperately need this kind of multi-sport facility, which other towns of our size around New Zealand already possess. We're making progress, with a sports trust now established, and I'm confident we'll have a stadium we can be proud of within a few years.

The second project I want to see achieved is a reticulated water and waste water supply to the growing number of households on the north-east outskirts of Ashburton, as well as the Racecourse Road area and the outskirts of Tinwald.

Residents in these areas can't be expected to put up with unreliable drinking water supplies much longer.

Of course, there will be a cost to residents to achieve reticulated water supplies. The council and residents need to work together to find a solution that is acceptable to both parties, and I'm confident we will achieve this within the next few years.

There are many other exciting projects on the horizon for Ashburton at the moment as the district seems to be enjoying a remarkable period of growth and development.

It would have been impossible for me as a boy to imagine what Ashburton would be like today. The town has come such a long way during my lifetime. And I expect to see it progress a great deal further yet.

Ashburton's water set for big improvement

From March next year Ashburton town residents will notice a marked improvement in the quality of their drinking water, when five new deep bore wells come on stream permanently to replace the ageing gravity main from Greenstreet.

The benefits will not only be better-tasting water but also a greater quantity of water to meet emergency demands, and higher and less variable water pressure.

The new wells are at three sites across the town — two at Argyle Park, one in the Ashburton Domain and two at Bridge Street (one of which is still to be sunk).

Three of the new wells are already being used to supplement



The new treatment plant at Argyle Park, which will treat water from two new deep bore wells at the park. There will be similar treatment facilities in the Ashburton Domain and Bridge Street from early next year.

the gravity main supply and some residents have already commented on the improved taste of the water.

Council water services man-

ager Andrew Guthrie says the well water is of such high quality that it requires only light chlorination – so the taste of chlorine will be barely detectable.

District poised to bloom again

An unusually mild spell of weather in late July has seen spring bulbs and annuals get a head start in the Ashburton Domain and other public areas maintained by the council's parks and recreation department.

It means public gardens in Ashburton, Methven and Rakaia are going to look as good as ever this spring and summer.

Staff employed by the council's parks and recreation department have once again planted a beautiful selection of annuals, including pansies, polyanthus, violas and myosotis, which are already in bloom around the Domain, and in other beds such as the Walnut Avenue roundabout and in the centre of Methven and Rakaia.



Daffodils, tulips and other bulbs will be blooming soon in the Domain, Oak Grove, Rakaia and other public areas.

During winter, parks and recreation staff have also been busy pruning trees, tidying up the area around the pond in the Ashburton Domain and topdressing hollows in lawn areas to make it easier for mowing.

They have also planted several new trees around the district.

Inside

Strategy to continue district's growth	Page 2
More event funding available	Page 2
Road safety issues	Page 3
Council and the internet	Page 3
Annual survey of council's performance	Pages 4-5
Community funding	Page 5
Roading works for 2005-2006	Page 6
Water supply and waste water works	Page 6
What's On	Page 7
Wastebusters' news	Page 8



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New strategy to see Ashburton's record breaking growth continue

Ashburton is already one of the fastest growing districts in New Zealand and a bold new economic development strategy is aimed at seeing this growth accelerate even faster.

The Ashburton Enterprise Agency has just released its Economic Development Strategy 2005-2015 – as part of a Canterbury-wide strategy for growth.

One of the most ambitious aspects of the strategy is to attract former Ashburton people back to the district to live and work, stressing the lifestyle advantages alongside the booming local economy.

Enterprise Agency Manager Tim Fitzgerald says former Ashburtonians are already starting to move back here. But he believes many more would return if they realised the rapid economic development taking place, presenting exciting new business and job opportuni-

ties.

"The district has changed so much in the last 10 years, it's a totally different ball game now," Mr Fitzgerald says.

The economic development strategy aims to protect the district's existing agricultural wealth while building on it with new industries.

Mr Fitzgerald points to the growing manufacturing sector in Ashburton, not just supplying the agricultural sector but also a range of other innovative industries – and this is set to expand with the opening up of a new industrial estate of more than 200ha on the north-east edge of town.

This means there's now a huge new opportunity for businesses to relocate to the district.

Given Ashburton's location in the centre of the South Island, on the state highway and main trunk railway line, just an hour from Christchurch Airport and the ports of Lyttelton and Timaru, it's an



Tim Fitzgerald

ideal situation for businesses with customers throughout the South Island – and further afield.

Ashburton's location is currently attracting interest from some big North Island-based companies who want a distribution/logistics base in the South Island.

Rail operator Toll Holdings is also keen to see more businesses move to Ashburton and is doing its

best to point more companies here, to take advantage of its location on the main trunk railway line.

Another big development that's set to boost Ashburton's economy within the next decade is the proposed irrigation and hydro electricity scheme on the Ashburton River.

This is now set to become a reality and could be built within five years.

Not only will this open up huge new farming opportunities – particularly high-value arable farming – but it will also see new industries grow up in Ashburton town, servicing the farming sector.

Mr Fitzgerald also notes developments taking place behind the scenes to encourage more training in the trades for young people in Ashburton, to help meet a critical skills shortage.

He expects these developments to become public later in the year.

Changes ahead for staff in the hospitality industry

New laws from April 1 next year mean many Ashburton bar managers will have to go through extra training to gain a new nationally-recognised qualification.

Under recent changes to the Sale of Liquor Act 1989, no one will be able to get or renew a General Manager's Certificate unless they hold the new Licensed Controller Qualification (LCQ).

Ashburton Licensing Inspector Alison Batcheler explains the hospitality industry has designed the new qualification to ensure all bar managers have adequate knowledge and skills. The LCQ is being administered by the Hospitality Standards Institute.

The change has come after consultation with the Liquor Licensing Authority, District Licensing Agencies, the hospitality industry, police and training advisors.

People already holding a General Managers Certificate will have to pass a 'transition test' of their workplace knowledge in relation to the Sale of Liquor Act if they have not completed the two NZQA unit standards that are required - 4646 covering the Sale of Liquor Act 1989, and 16705 covering host responsibility issues.

Aoraki Polytechnic, CPIT in Christchurch and Liquor Licensing Training (Chch) Ltd in Christchurch will be offering transition courses, as well as the two unit standards they currently offer.

It is also possible a training provider will hold a transition course in Ashburton and/or Methven if sufficient numbers are interested.

Ms Batcheler says some Ashburton bar managers have already passed the Unit Standards but many others will need to go through the training to keep their licences after next April.

People who were issued General Manager's Certificates five or more years ago may well need to upgrade their qualifications.

From April 1 this year until April 1 next year, General Manager's Certificates can only be renewed for two years instead of three if the applicant doesn't have the new qualification.

The LCQ requirement does not apply to club manager's certificates. But people wanting to obtain or renew a club manager's certificate must still complete an approved training course and show they have adequate knowledge and experience.

More money available for funding events

If you're organising an event in Ashburton District, there's now an extra source of funding from the Ashburton District Tourism Board to help meet the cost of planning and promotion.

The tourism board has more than doubled the amount of money it has available for event funding from \$18,500 to \$40,000 a year.

It has also widened the criteria for those applying for grants, so more events will be able to get funding.

Ashburton District Tourism Manager Michelle Healey explains previously funding was only available for new events, and only for the first two years. But the new criteria mean all events are eligible to apply for grants including established events and one-off events as long as they can raise at least 50 per cent of the cost themselves.

Another significant change is that the tourism board will now consider grant applications every month, instead of only quarterly.

This means people applying for funds don't have to wait so long for an answer and can get on with planning their event.

Ms Healey says the board is now able to fund up to a



maximum of \$10,000 for one event.

All kinds of events qualify, including sports tournaments, as long as they're not for commercial, religious or political purposes, and the dates don't clash with another major event in the district.

The board may give preference to events that attract visitors in the off or shoulder seasons.

Funding can go towards wages for an event manager or coordinator, to help meet the

cost of finding sponsorship, and to pay for signs and advertising.

Ms Healey notes events are a particularly effective way of attracting visitors to the district, with spin-offs for the tourism industry and the wider economy.

More information:

Ashburton District Tourism

131 Havelock Street, PO Box 482, Ashburton

Phone: 64 3 308 2669

Fax: 64 3 308 2665

Email: managerash.tourism@xtra.co.nz

Website: www.ashburtontourism.co.nz

Ashburton premises strict on no alcohol to minors

Ashburton liquor outlets seem to be getting the message they're not allowed to sell alcohol to anyone under 18

years old.

A recent "controlled purchase operation" by the Ashburton Police, Ashburton

Community Alcohol and Drug Service, and the District Licensing Agency saw 11 premises visited by volun-

teers aged 15 and 16 – and none of the premises allowed the youngsters to buy liquor.

It's a pleasing

result for Licensing Inspector Alison Batcheler, and a repeat of the nil sales in the previous controlled purchase

operation last November. She notes a similar operation in Timaru recently saw 50 per cent of the outlets

sell liquor to people under-age.

"It shows all our extra effort in Ashburton is paying off," she says.

E-Government is the way of the future

— in fact it's already here —

Within the next few years some radical changes are set to occur in the way we pay our rates and other fees to the council.

It will all be able to take place online via the Internet.

In fact, the technology is available now to pay everything online. But there are still some practical issues to iron out before it becomes reality, explains council information systems manager Steve Allen.

Steve has been working on a long-term strategy for the council's computer system since he joined the staff five years ago.

He's already overseen some incredible developments in information technology.

For example, it's now possible for Ashburton Public Library members to check the entire catalogue of books, magazines, tapes, videos and CDs online via the council website.

It's a simple matter of getting set up with a password to use alongside your library membership number.

Then you can log on to the website and find out what books are available at that very moment. You can also renew books online and check any outstanding fines you have owing.

Steve explains the move to what is known as E-Government – the use of the Internet to get information out to the public – is following a worldwide trend.

The council website – www.ashburtondc.govt.nz – is the portal through which all this Internet-based information and service is taking place – and will take place much more in future.

Steve's vision to see as much

information as possible available online to Ashburton ratepayers via their home computers.

Coming next year is an incredible database of aerial photography, which will cover every square metre of Ashburton District. This will be available to the public online, so people will be able to check details of properties and related information.

Already, you can log on to the council website and find up-to-the-minute details of the weather around the district.

Steve explains Ashburton has joined forces with 24 other councils around New Zealand to share a single computer database. This makes Internet-based services much more affordable than they would be if each council tried to do it alone.

The computer system also has huge benefits for council staff as they try to manage their extensive database of information. The in-house "Intranet" system now means staff can access information from any other department – an ability that will speed up a lot of processes from the public's viewpoint.

If you want to acquaint yourself with the council's website, it's at www.ashburtondc.govt.nz. You'll be amazed at the amount of information it already contains. And it's growing all the time. Watch this space over the coming months and years for some staggering advances in technology that will give you even more useful information and services at your fingertips from the comfort of your home computer.



Information systems manager Steve Allen

District diary road safety issues

Accident figures highlight careless driving at intersections

The number of injury crashes involving alcohol and driving too fast for the conditions are down in Mid Canterbury, however crashes at urban intersections continue to remain high.

Figures just released for the Ashburton District by Land Transport New Zealand show six deaths occurred in the region in 2004, compared with seven in 2003.

All of the 2004 fatalities happened in rural areas, with four of the five fatal crashes involving alcohol.

Of note however, was that for the period 2000-2004, the total number of injury crashes involving alcohol decreased, with a decline also noted in the number of injury crashes in which driving too fast for the conditions was a factor.

In spite of that, people in the district's rural areas appear to be slower at taking on board the "don't drink and drive" message.

According to Land Transport, alcohol was a factor in 23 per cent of injury crashes on rural local roads, between 2000-2004.

Excessive speed was involved in the same percentage of injury crashes.

Another notable factor in the local statistics was the number of injury crashes recorded at urban intersections.

Statistics show in the 2000-2004 period, 60 per cent of urban injury crashes occurred at intersections, with 44 per cent of those crashes from crossing/turning type incidents.



The most common factor for urban injury crashes at intersections was drivers "failing to give way" or "stop", with men and women drivers responsible for an equal number of all crashes and a high proportion of the total number of all drivers in such crashes over 70 years old.

Also of concern was the number of cyclist casualties, with statistics showing an increase from two in 2003 to five, in 2004. This figure puts the Mid Canterbury district among the poorest performing local authorities, in that category, throughout New Zealand.

The most vulnerable age group for cyclist casualties are in the 10-14 year-old age group.

While pedestrian casualties have been a cause for concern in the past, last year proved a better year than 2003, with only three casualties recorded, compared with eight in 2003.

Ashburton's top 10 urban intersections with the most crashes between 2000-2004

	Injury crashes	Non-injury crashes	
1. West Street/Walnut Avenue	6	19	(State Highway - due for upgrade shortly)
2. West Street/East Street (north)	6	15	(State Highway - due for upgrade shortly)
3. West Street/Moore Street	1	16	(Improvement scheduled)
4. Walnut Avenue/East Street	2	7	(Due for upgrade with 1.)
5. West Street/Havelock Street	2	6	
6. Chalmers Avenue/Victoria Street	2	5	(Due for upgrade 2005/2006)
7. Oak Grove/Elizabeth Street	2	4	
8. Cass Street/Moore Street	1	5	(Failing to stop)
9. Cass Street/Havelock Street	0	6	
10. Moore Street/East Street	0	6	

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Ashburton District Council — NRB Community Survey 2005

The annual survey of residents was held from 10 June to 17 June 2005. The survey has been conducted since 1993, primarily to provide objective data to Audit New Zealand relating to the achievement of targets set in the Annual Plan and to provide feedback on how the community views the conduct and performance of Council activities.

In this year's survey additional questions were asked covering the representation review and quality of life in the district.

401 residents over the age of 18 were sampled using a randomised selection method. Statistics New Zealand Census figures were used to determine the proportion of interviewees to draw from each ward – Ashburton 231, Methven-Hinds 101, Rakaia 69. 201 men and 200 women were interviewed. The margin of error is 6.9%, which means that if the same study was repeated using an entirely different randomly selected sample, the answers would most likely fall close to those obtained in this survey, but with decreasing likelihood vary by up to 6.9%.

The full summary is available for inspection at the Library and Council offices.

SUMMARY

Peer Group (32 like councils)

Ashburton achieved as well as or better than its peers in all but two (Library Service and Public Toilets) of the categories in which comparisons have been made, our rubbish collection (25% greater) being the major achiever.

Other activities to rate higher than like councils by double-digit margins are Water Supply (15%), Landfill and Recycling (13%), Employment / Business Activities (10%).

Ashburton achieved better than the average of all councils surveyed in 9 of the 15 activities Employment / Business promotion (10%) being the biggest margin. Both the Peer Group and National Averages have increased in almost every category in the latest update.

Ashburton vs Peer Group/National Averages

Service/Facility Satisfaction Questions (All residents figures. Don't Knows included)

SERVICE/FACILITY	ASHBURTON	PEER GROUP AVER.	NATIONAL AVER.
	% Very/Fairly Satisfied	% Very/Fairly Satisfied	% Very/Fairly Satisfied
Roads	76	69	71
Footpaths	70	61	71
Stormwater Services	65	56	70
Water Supply	73	58	80
Tourism Promotion	81	72	74
Landfill & Recycling	75	62	78
Rubbish Collection	92	67	83
Library Service	86	87	90
Sportsfields & Playgrounds	94	89	89
Parks & Reserves	96	88	94
Cemeteries	76	76	67
Employment/Business	68	58	58
Rates Spending	76	69	74
Public Toilets	52	64	64
Dog / Animal Control	73	66	71

Mayor, Councillors and Staff

The rating of the performance of the Mayor and Councillors maintains its upward ascendancy with best ever figures of 78% in the Very / Fairly Good assessment range surpassing the previous best of 77% set in 1996 and well above the 59% average of similar councils.

Approval rating was highest in the urban area (83%) against 72% in the rural area. Other notable support came from females (81%) against 75% for males, from the over 60's (84%) and from those who have lived in the district for more than 10 years (80%).

Staff performance ratings did not quite sustain the major improvement seen last year falling four points to 74%. This is still 12 points above the peer average and 13 points above the national average and apart from 2004, the highest achieved since 1997.

MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

	Very/ Fairly Good	Just Acceptable	Not Very Good/Poor	Don't Know	Rating with D/K excluded	Goal Achieved
1993	73	19	5	3	-	-
1994	63	25	10	2	-	-
1995	76	20	4	2	-	-
1996	77	16	2	5	-	-
1997	72	21	4	3	-	-
1998	73	21	3	3	75	(70%)
1999	71	21	3	5	75	(70%)
2000	66	27	4	3	68	(70%)
2001	66	21	6	8	71	(80%)
2002	54	31	9	6	58	(80%)
2003	53	34	8	5	56	(80%)
2004	71	22	4	3	73	(80%)
2005	78	13	3	6	84	(80%)
Peer Aver.	59	23	10	8	-	-
National Aver.	54	26	13	7	-	-

STAFF

	Very/ Fairly Good	Just Acceptable	Not Very Good/Poor	Don't Know	Rating with D/K excluded
1993	70	15	5	10	-
1994	79	13	4	4	-
1995	84	10	3	3	-
1996	73	14	3	10	-
1997	79	15	2	4	-
1998	73	15	4	9	-
1999	71	21	3	5	75
2000	69	21	4	7	74
2001	71	17	4	8	77
2002	59	22	5	14	69
2003	56	22	7	15	66
2004	78	9	6	7	83
2005	74	13	4	9	81
Peer Aver.	62	17	9	12	-
National Aver.	61	21	8	10	-

Works and Services

Council's essential services generally maintain a reasonable rating, higher (apart from 2004) than recent years. Roading is at its highest level of approval since 1998 coming close to achieving its target level of 80%.

Rural residents (74%) do not rate the roads as highly as urban dwellers (78%), but significantly the standard of roading received strongest support from over 60's (79%), higher earners (83%), long term residents (80%) and ratepayers (78%). This last figure contrasts with non ratepayer approval of 67%.

All Residents (Don't Knows excluded)	Goal	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	+/-
Roading	80	61x	75x	76x	+1
Footpaths	75	70x	79ü	75ü	-4
Stormwater/Drainage	75	72x	75ü	73x	-2
Cemeteries	80	99ü	99ü	98ü	-1
Landfill/Recycling	80	85ü	91ü	93ü	+2

User information is obtained in respect of some activities and results were fairly consistent with 2004.

Users only (Don't Knows excluded)	Goal	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	+/-
Water Supply (Urban)	80	67x	69x	81ü	+12
Water Supply (Rural)	80	67x	64x	54x	-10
Sewerage	80	98ü	96ü	94ü	-2
Stockwater	70	53x	62x	69x	+7
Rubbish collection	90	89x	92ü	92ü	=

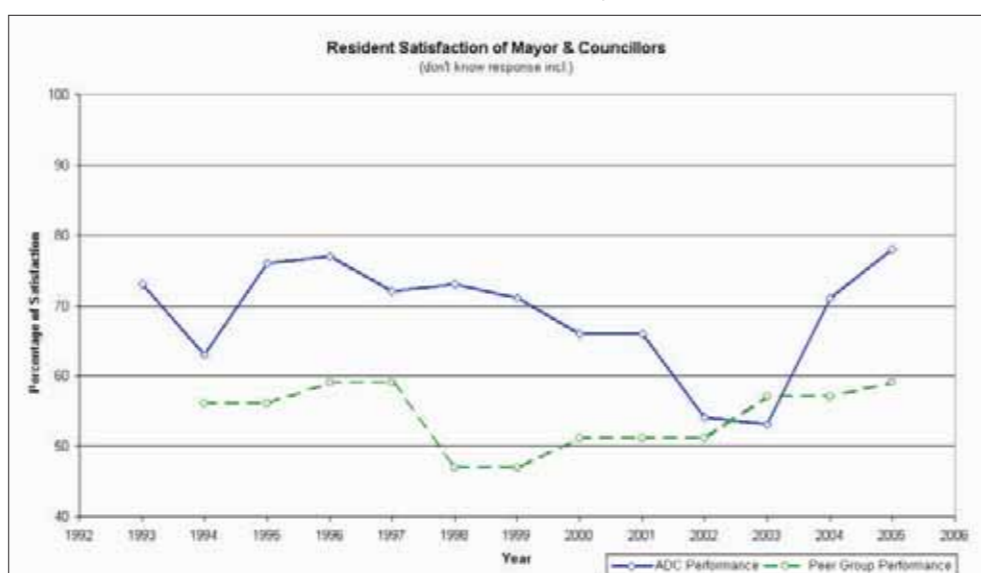
Regulatory Responsibilities

Environmental monitoring (oversight and enforcement of such issues as noise, smell and litter control) increased by two points to an 85% satisfaction level which would have been high enough to achieve last year's goal. Parking enforcement is steady at 93% approval. Animal / dog control drops four points off last year's all time high of 85% as does building regulation while still recording an impressive 87%.

Parks, Reserves, Sportsfields, Playgrounds etc

Yet again our district's parks and reserves recorded high levels with the Ashburton Domain again scoring a perfect 100 with "Don't Knows" excluded.

	All	Don't Knows excluded	Goal
Parks & Reserves	96	98	90%
Ashburton Domain	96	100	90%
Rural Reserves	68	97	90%
Reserves & Camping Areas	57	96	80%
Sportsgrounds / Playgrounds	94	96	90%



Several avenues for community funding

The Ashburton District Council has several ways of providing funds for community projects, including the Annual Grant Scheme, School Holiday Programme Scheme and Heritage Grants Scheme.

Applications for funding from these schemes are now available from the Council office. Applications close on Wednesday, August 31, 2005.

Annual Grant Scheme

Provision is made in the annual budget for \$35,000 to be disbursed as grants to qualifying organisations. The maximum individual grant from this source is \$5000. The Council will make grants only to those organisations:

- Whose object or principal objects are in keeping with Section 598(4) of the Local Government Act, i.e. conserving or promoting the welfare of the community or of any members of the community.
- That are operating in the district.
- That are serving the community or providing a benefit to the community or a significant section of the community.
- Those are educational facilities which provide a major recreational facility available to the public.
- That are non-profit organisations.

Assessment Criteria

Applications for funding are considered in relation to the following:

- The background and status of the applicant organisation.
- The organisation's ability to raise its own funds.
- Volunteer input.
- The importance of utilising Council land.
- The organisation's planned development — Council must ensure it is carried out in such a manner that it will be in the long term interests of the district.
- Applications are prioritised on the following basis; however the assessment committee reserves the right to vary these priorities.
- Development of indoor and outdoor facilities.
- Purchase / replacement of

- equipment.
- New initiatives.

Assessment Process

The assessment committee comprises the local authority councillors. The assessment committee views applications from a variety of organisations on a yearly basis, during August.

School Holiday Programmes Funding Criteria

Provision is made in the annual budget for \$1500 to be disbursed to qualifying organisation for the purpose of providing school holiday programmes. Council will accept applications only from:

- Non-profit organisations or groups.
- Ashburton district based groups.
- Any group may receive only one grant per year. The application may cover more than one programme or holiday period. The funds are disbursed as a maximum amount of \$250 for the two week holiday periods and \$750 for the Christmas holiday period.

Assessment

Applications for funding are considered at the same time as the annual grant scheme by the assessment committee comprised of the local authority councillors.

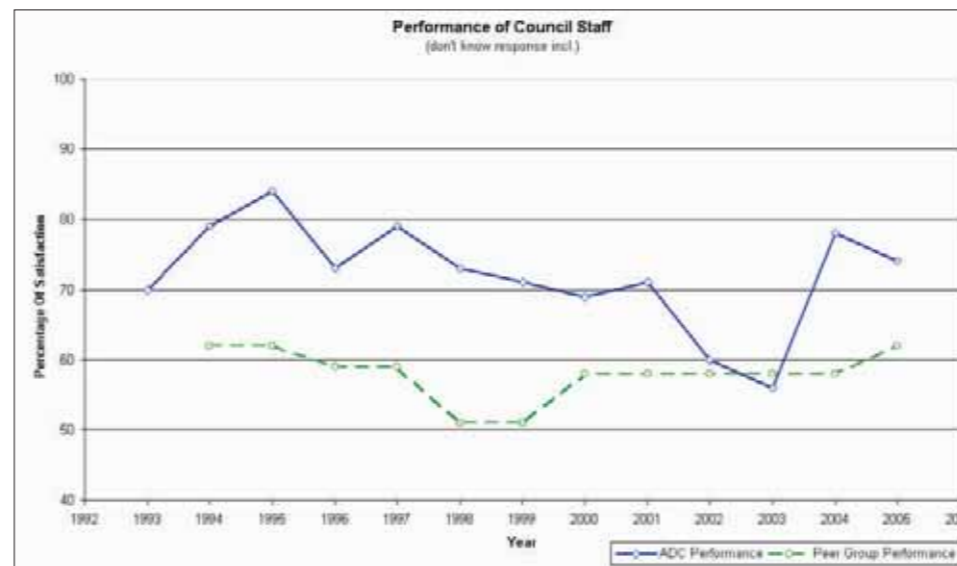
Heritage Grants Funding Criteria

Provision is made in the annual budget for disbursement of funds for heritage grants, which are allocated annually, in or about August each year. The maximum individual grant from this source is to be no greater than 50% of the cost of the approved project and no more than \$5000.

Assessment

Grants are made in respect of applications which comply with the following criteria:

- Projects which relate to heritage items that are scheduled Category A in the District Plan.
 - Projects which provide for specialised maintenance such as replacing matching cladding or replacing matching windows or other fittings in order to retain the heritage state of the item.
 - Projects which have provided a full project and finance plan (including copies of work schedule and quotes).
- Applications are assessed by the Heritage Subcommittee, comprising local authority councillors.



Community

Apart from Social Services (up 13 points) and Water Resources (up 7 points) all of these activities were down by up to six points. Probably not surprising in that 2004 was the all time high point for several activities.

	All	Don't Knows excluded	Goal
Employment/Business Development	68	89	80%
Tourism Promotion	81	92	80%
Arts & Culture	76	93	80%
Social Services	68	93	85%
Water Resources (Community Water Trust)	58	67	80%
Community Events	87	96	90%
Communication	84	86	No Goal
Advocacy	69	83	No Goal
District Library	86	96	85%
Rates Spending	76	80	80%

A significant portion of our community has used or participated in Council facilities, events and services.

Activity	Used / contacted / taken part
Contact Mayor or Councillor	24%
New Years Eve Street Party / Concert in the Park	42%
Museum / Art Gallery	41%
Camping Grounds and Reserves	30%
Ashburton Domain	83%
Rural Reserves	57%
Sportsfields / Playground	72%
District Library	68%

Summary of Target Achievements

Council has achieved 19 of the 26 applicable targets set in the 2004/05 LTCCP and is within the margin of error (6.9%) on a further 4 targets.

Previous Years	Target
1994-95	7 of 10
1995-96	11 of 19
1996-97	11 of 20
1997-98	13 of 21
1998 - 1999	17 of 23
1999 - 2000	17 of 26
2002 - 2001	18 of 28
2002 - 2003	15 of 28
2003 - 2004	22 of 31
2004 - 2005	19 of 26

Representation Review

Council is required to review its representation arrangements over the next 12 months and initial views were sought from the community on the numbers of Councillors and whether they should be elected by wards or by the whole district.

72% of those surveyed opted for the Council number remaining as it is with 20% voting for a smaller council. Of those recommending a smaller council the most popular number was 8 or 9 (44%). Over half those surveyed (55%) want the ward system to be retained, 16% opting for a district wide system and 24 % suggesting a mixture of both.

Much more publicity will be given to this review in the coming months. It will be interesting to see what changes of opinion there will be as a result of the dissemination of more in depth information.

The Likes and Dislikes cannot be reported on at this stage as the data is still being finalised. The quality of life questions will also be reported on in September.



During the school holidays Hayley (11 years) and Melody Shaw (12) created hand embroidered Christmas stockings at a young embroiders' class held by the Ashburton Embroiders Guild. Help with funding for school holiday activities such as these is available from the Ashburton District Council.

Roading works for 2005-2006

Ashburton footpath resurfacing: Farm Rd, SE side, Alford Forest Rd to Harrison St; Lane St S Glassey Dr to Harrison St; Allens Rd SE Middle Rd to Turton St; Allison St NW Harrison St to Elizabeth St; Baker St SE Alford Forest Rd to Elizabeth St; Cavendish St NW Harrison St to Churchill Ave; Belt Rd SE Kelvin Cres to Kelvin Cres; ills St SW Grigg St to Walker St; Grigg St NW Cameron St to Philip St; Havelock St NE Grigg St to Walker St; Kermodie St SW West St toward north-west; South St SW Cass St to Williams St; William St NW Princes St to Walnut Ave; Princes St NE Connor P to Kerr St; Princes St NE Brucefield Ave to Bridge St; Sealey St N Winter St to Grigg St; Philip St SW Grigg St to Walker St; Brucefield Ave NW King St to Showgrounds; Brucefield Ave SE

Water works

Water supply or waste water work that may be underway or is scheduled to start in your area:

Upgrade investigations— Water supply upgrades (issues and options identification) at Rakaia, Fairton, Mayfield and Mt Somers.

Pipeline asset addition and replacement programme — Woods Street water main replacement, Creek Road to end; Porter Street water main replacement, Bridge Street to McDonald Street; Reddecliffe Crescent water main replacement, Bird St to end; Bird Street water main replacement, Nelson St to Wakanui Rd; William Street water main replacement, Walnut Ave to Princes St; East Street water main replacement, Walnut Ave to Princes St; Alexander Street, Chertsey, water main replacement, WTP to Chertsey Kyle Rd; Hoods Road, Mt Somers, water main replacement, Buccleugh St toward south; Wills Street sewer main replacement, Grigg St to West St; Oak Grove sewer main replacement, 39a to 55 Oak Grove; Philip Street sewer main replacement, Grigg St to Wills St; Burnett Street sewer main replacement, Winter St to West St.

Facility asset addition and replacement programme — Installation of water network meters at Ashburton and Hinds; Installation of chlorine analysers at Methven and Rakaia; Well head replacement / protection works at Rakaia, Dromore and Winchmore; Water pressure reducing valve replacement and air valve replacement at Methven-Springfield; Water pressure pump system replacements at Dromore and Winchmore; Wastewater security fence installation at Methven; Storm water outlet structure replacement at Ashburton; Stock water intake improvements for consent compliance at Methven-Lauriston, Winchmore-Rakaia, Montalto-Hinds and Mount Somers-Willowby.

Mill Creek bank stabilisation, upstream Belt Road, storm water.

Water pipe condition investigations at Ashburton and Methven. Wastewater pipe condition assessments at Ashburton, Methven and Rakaia.

SW of King St to Showgrounds; Dobson St SW Williams St to Cass St; Willow St NW Beach Rd to Dobson Rd; Carters Tce SW Thomson St to Grove St; Wilkin St NE Archibald St to McMurdo St; Wilkin St SW Archibald St to McMurdo St; homson NW Johnstone St to Agnes St; Thomson NW Graham St to Jane St; Graham St SW Thomson St toward NW; Graham St NE Thomson St to McMurdo St; Archibald St SE Jane St to Catherine St; Millichamp St NE Full length; Wakanui Rd SW Cambridge St to Bird St; Park St SE Tancred St to Havelock St; Park St SE Cameron St to Wills St; Winter St SE Havelock St to Cameron St; Burnett St NE Park St to Winter St; Burnett St SW Park St to Winter St; Grigg St SE Havelock St to Cameron St.

Methven footpath resurfacing: Chapman St S Cameron St to Morgan St; Lampard St N Alford St to Western end.

Rakaia footpath resurfacing: Railway Tce West S Bowen St to Elizabeth Ave; Bowen St N Railway Tce West to Cridland St; Mackie St W Michael St to Rolleston St; Mackie St S Rolleston St toward south.

Rural footpath resurfacing: Fairfield Rd, Fairton N Fairfield Ave to Grigg St, Fairfield; Reed St, Hinds S Delamaine St to Ellis St, Hinds. New Footpaths Ashburton: Leeston St NW End of kerb to Riding for Disabled.

New kerb and channel, Ashburton: Leeston St NW End of kerb to Riding for Disabled.

Methven, new kerb and channel: Carr St SW End of kerb to Racecourse Ave; Spaxton St SE Carr St to Forest Dr; Spaxton St SW Bend in road to Forest Dr.

Rakaia, new kerb and channel: Dunford St N West Town Belt to Cridland St; Cridland St W Dunford St to Normanby St. Rural, new kerb and channel: Beccleugh St N Hoods Rd to Pattons St.

Minor Safety Works

Ashburton, urban thresholds: 4 (number) 05/06 thresholds at main rural roads at town perimeter.

Mayfield urban thresholds: 4 (number) thresholds at main rural roads at town perimeter.

Hinds School: Bus bay and entry improvements required to provide safer location for school bus drop off area and safer entrance to.

Ashburton, intersection improvements: Upgrade Bridge St-Seafield Rd intersection.

Mt Somers, intersection improvements: Pattons St-Buccleugh St, upgrade intersection to improve safety.

Greenstreet intersection improvements: Upgrade intersection at Ashburton Staveley Rd-Thompsons Tr.

Ashburton, intersection improvements: Racecourse Rd-Farm Rd - widen and provide right turn facility.

Grahams Road intersection improvements: Grahams Rd-Stranges Rd upgrade.

Potts Cutting sealing: Seal stabilised area for safety for large vehicles traversing down this hill section.

Ashburton, safety footpath-cycle lane: East side of Ashburton River bridge south approach.

Ashburton, new traffic splitter islands: Victoria St-Wakanui Rd-Chalmers Ave in median gap with new signs.

Completion of Brothers Rd Bridge widening: Completion of bridge started in 2004-05. Widened to improve safety due to visibility issues.

Ashburton, new streetlighting: New street lights, various sites.

Rural towns, new streetlighting: New Street lights, various sites.

Ashburton, streetlight upgrading with undergrounding: New Street lights, various sites.

Convert to guardrail on RDR Bridge, Cavendish: Provision for conversion of one bridge from ex timber to W section guardrail (ARG 36720).

Stock underpass, Rural: District site - provision.

Area Wide Pavement Treatment - rehabilitation of unsealed roads: Cairnbrae Road Line Road Pole Road; Cairnbrae Road Methven Chertsey Road Line Road; Winters Road Christys Road Hampton Road; Boundary Road Coldstream Road Ealing Road; Barford Road Maronan Road Scales Road; Corbetts Road North Acton Road Dolans Road; Hamptons Road Seafield Rd Winters Road; Hamptons Road Winters Rd Chertsey Kyle Rd; Carneys Rd Arundel Rakaia Gorge Rd end.

Road reseal, rural: McCormicks Rd, Full length; Rundles Rd, Full length; Buckleys Tce, Tarbottons Rd, NW end; Wilkin St SE, Grove St Grove Farm Rd; Maronan Rd Urban, Bdy Winslow Westerfield Rd; Old Main South Rd Frisbys Rd Tilsons Rd; Brogdens Rd Emersons Rd, end of seal; Crows Rd Coldstream Rd End of seal; McDougalls Rd, Full length; Trevors Rd, Stoneylea Rd Boltions Rd; Arundel Rakaia Gorge Rd, Rangitata Br Ealing Montalto Rd, Arundel Rakaia Gorge Rd, Ealing Montalto Rd Jaines Rd; Arundel Rakaia Gorge Rd, Jaines Rd SW Barnswood Rd; Ealing Montalto Rd, Ruapuna School Rd Moorhouse Rd; Arundel Rakaia Gorge Rd, Moorhouse Rd SE Millers Rd; Arundel Rakaia Gorge Rd, SE Anama Station Rd NW Anama Stn; Ashburton Gorge Rd, Hoods Rd SE Woodshed Creek; Grayburn Rd, Full length; Hakatere Dr, River Rd SE end; Hakatere Dr exten Hakatere Dr, SW end; Seaside Rd, Fitzgerald Rd to SE; Maronan Valetta Rd, SW of Frasers Rd Westerfield Valetta Rd; Reynolds Rd, Dip Rd SW of Dip Rd; Dip Rd, Reynolds Rd to SE; Dip Rd, Longford Rd Reynolds Rd; Blackford Rd, Arundel Rakaia Gorge Rd Little River; Double Hill Run Rd, Little River end of seal; Back Track, Highbank Cambrae Rd Accommodation Rd; Rakaia Methven Barhill Rd NW, Lauriston Barrhill Rd; Rakaia Methven Barhill Rd, Rakaia River Rd; Pole Rd, Lyndhurst Rd Thompsons Track; Dromore Methven Rd, Mitcham Rd NW of Mitcham Rd; Hardys Rd, West Town Belt Baker Rd; Thompsons Track, Somerton Rd Mitcham Rd; Ashburton Staveley Rd SH77 NE Bridge Abut; Ashburton Staveley Rd SW, Bridge Abut Driscolls Rd; Company Rd, Seafield Rd Fairfield Rd; Wakanui Rd, Trevors Rd Beach Rd; Winslow Westerfield Rd, Maronan Rd to NW; Hinds River Rd, NW of Surveyors Rd Surveyors Rd; Winslow Rd; Hinds River Hinds Lismore Rd; McKendrys Rd Lyndhurst Rd to NW.

Road reseals urban: Ashburton — Reighton Drive NW, Beauvais Pl end seal; Falcon Dr, full length; Burton Pl, full length; Cameron St, Grigg St Walker St;

Wills St, Grigg St Walker St; Wills St, Walker St Oak Gr; Grigg St, Havelock St Wills St; Park Lane, full length; Winter St, Short St to end; Cass St, Walnut Ave Grey St; Cass St, Grey St Peter St; Cass St, Peter St Wills St; Beatty Cres, full length; William St, Walnut Ave Victoria St; Melrose Rd, full length.

Methven — McMillan St, Rotary South Belt; Jackson St, full length; Cameron St, full length; Wayne Place, full length; Colcorde Pl, full length; Morgan St, full length; McKerrow St, full length; Lockhead Cres, full length; Bank St, full length; The Mall, full length.

Rakaia — Mackie St, Rolleston St Micheal St; Rolleston St, Cridland St West Town Belt. Lauriston — Church St, full length; Coleridge St, full length.

Fishtails on rural roads: Maronan Road — Lills Rd NW Maronan Rd Maronan Rd; Lills Rd Maronan Rd SE Maronan Rd; Kennels Rd, Maronan Rd NW Maronan; Thews Rd, SE Maronan Rd Maronan Rd; Thews Rd, Maronan Rd NW Maronan.

Old Main South Road — Tilsons Rd, SE Old Main South Rd Old Main South Rd; Tilsons Rd, Old Main South Rd NW Old Main South Rd.

Brogdens Rd — Adams Rd, Brogdens Rd to SW.

Crows Road — Dowdings Rd, Crows Rd to SW.

McDougalls Road — Lennies Rd McDougalls Rd to NE.

Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road — Bennetts Rd, Arundel Rakaia Gorge Rd to NW; Jaines Rd Arundel Rakaia Gorge Rd to SE.

Ealing Montalto Rd — Montalto Rd, Ealing Montalto Rd to NW.

Maronan Valetta Rd — Frasers Rd, Maronan Valetta Rd to E; Tanks Rd, Maronan Valetta Rd to NE; Tanks Rd, Maronan Valetta Rd to SW.

Dip Rd — Ledgerwoods Rd, Dip Rd to SE.

Back Track — Highbank Cairnbrae Rd, Back Track to NE.

Rakaia Methven Barrhill Rd — Accommodation Rd, Rakaia Methven Barrhill Road to SW.

Hardys Rd — Martins Rd, Hardys Rd to SW.

Thompsons Track — Farquhars Rd, Thompsons Track to NE.

Ashburton Staveley Rd — Driscolls Rd, Ashburton Staveley Rd to SW; Ollivers Rd, Ashburton Staveley Rd to NE; Ollivers Rd, Ashburton Staveley Rd to SW; Blacks Rd, Ashburton Staveley Rd to SW; Rawles Crossing Rd Ashburton Staveley Rd to SE.

Solid Waste

Ashburton Solid Waste Collection: Replacement of 9 litter bins.

Hinds Solid Waste Collection: Installation of 1 litter bin.

Mt Somers Solid Waste Collection: Installation of 1 litter bin.

Ashburton Resource Recovery Park: Development of composting and demolition site; purchase of additional bins; extension of shed roof.

Methven Landfill: Development of greenwaste drop-off area; capping of the Methven landfill.

Rakaia Resource Recovery Park: Extension to shed at Rakaia Resource Recovery Park.

What's On

New books at the Public Library



Non-fiction *Runner's World guide to adventure racing, by Ian Adamson.*

Insider guide to this extreme sport. Includes advice for the highly competitive athlete down to the everyday mortal with a yen for torturing their bodies. The contests the author has won give us a clue as to the level of crazy commitment required – Eco-Challenge, Primal Quest, Southern Traverse, Raid the North Extreme.

Hide-and-seek with angels, a life of J.M. Barrie, by Lisa Chaney

A satisfying biography about the Scottish playwright, perhaps most famous for his children's story of Peter Pan. Like many artists, Barrie was liable to depression, and he valued the company of children because of their ability to live vividly in the present moment. Many literary figures of the late Victorian age appear in this well written and illustrated life.

Political animals, by Jane Clifton

Perfect for election year, a profile of life in Parliament by our most famous lobby journalist and political insider. She even has her own pet MP at home.

Kandahar Cockney, by James Fergusson.

An Afghan interpreter who had worked for the author when Fergusson was a journalist in rebel-controlled Afghanistan moves to Britain to seek asylum. Fergusson helps him and his family adjust to the huge cultural change involved. A very topical book in the wake of the London attacks. James Fergusson is the great-nephew of our former Governor General, Bernard Fergusson.

How to get rich rewards in real estate in 3 years, by Phil Jones

40 Australian and New Zealand residential landlords explain how the Richmastery programme helped them get started. Although it is a largely a plug for this programme, there is a lot of good advice of a practical nature about renting and renovating properties.

Why Europe will run the 21st century, by Mark Leonard.

Two billion people, one third of the world's population, live in the European Union's sphere of influence. The author believes that inevitably these people will seek the advantages of joining the Union, or of doing things the EU way in order to

benefit from trade links with the largest single internal market in the world. This peaceful revolution will be more gradual, but more lasting and effective, than the Superpower status which the United States remains burdened with upholding.

Home: the story of everyone who ever lived in our house, by Julie Myerson.

An alternative to family history for those of us who live in older places. Novelist Julie Myerson found out that a hundred years ago another writer with three children lived in her family's home. She starts on a long process of discovering the relatives of previous residents, and charming stories and photographs out of them. An interesting detective

Botswana time, by Will Randall.

Many readers have been charmed by the Alexander McCall Smith detective stories set in this part of southern Africa, and might like to read about life there. Will Randall is a travel author who lives and teaches in the countries he writes about.

The Frank family that survived, by Gordon F. Sander.

Anne Frank's tragic and touching story is deservedly world famous. This luckier Frank family were also German-Jewish émigrés in Nazi occupied Holland. They too were forced to go "underground" in the home of Gentile friends, hiding to avoid deportation to labour or death camps. This book tells of their comfortable background as loyal and accepted citizens of Germany before the Nazis came to power, the rise of Hitler, then their three years of secret life before Holland was liberated.

McLaren memories, a biography of Bruce McLaren, by Eoin Young.

Bruce McLaren won his first Grand Prix race at the age of 22, as a team mate of

Jack Brabham. He had been born into a car-mad family – his grandfather owned a transport firm and his father a garage, and racing sports cars was a natural form of family recreation. A flair for design gave McLaren an additional edge as a works team driver. This author has also written a life of Chris Amon, and a history of New Zealand Grand Prix racing

FICTION

The dead place, by Stephen Booth.

The sixth mystery featuring Derbyshire police detectives Ben Cooper and Diane Fry. A killer with a fixation for attending funerals starts making calls to police. And then a woman goes missing, and a snatched body is found.

Crystal Gorge, Book Three of The Dreamers, by David and Leigh Eddings.

Sequel to *The Elder Gods* and *The Treasured One*, this new fantasy continues the story as the Younger Gods' succession to power is threatened by the dark forces of the Vlagh and the Ruler of the Wasteland.

As far as you can go, by Lesley Glaister.

A young couple agrees to spend a year in the Outback on a remote cattle station, as housekeeper companions for a reclusive couple. It soon becomes apparent that their employers are distinctly odd, but escape from the situation seems impossible.

The ship of brides, by Jojo Moyes.

It is 1946 and all over the world young women are crossing the seas to join the men they married in wartime. The aircraft carrier HMS Victorious transports 655 Australian war brides to Britain. And 1100 sailors. This is a fictional account of that voyage.

Mixed blessings, by Elvi Rhodes

Another book in the series about Venus Stanton, the attractive young vicar of the English village of Thurston. Although a woman parish priest as a heroine is slightly unusual, this is an old-fashioned country village series very like the Miss Read stories – nothing like the Vicar Of Dibley. Very enjoyable and satisfying reading about the tensions and rewards of village life.

Cold in the earth, by Aline Templeton.

Set in rural Scotland at the time of the recent foot and mouth outbreak. While digging a pit for the disposal of cattle carcasses, the body of a young woman who has been missing for many years is discovered. The arrival of the dead girl's sister from New York, and the fact that at the time of her disappearance she was living in a policeman's family, makes this case tricky for D.I. Marjory Fleming, already struggling with the effect of foot and mouth on her own farming family.



ASHBURTON ART GALLERY

Exhibitions coming up at the Ashburton Art Gallery—

Ashburton Embroiderers' Guild

Bi-Annual Exhibition August 2-August 14 "Pleasure of Stitch"

Joy Gallagher Guest Exhibitor
Celebrating 90 years.

This popular exhibition showcases a selection of work from members of the Ashburton Embroiderers' Guild. Members are invited to submit up to four pieces each. The pieces demonstrate the wide variety of styles and techniques currently being applied by embroiderers and range from the very traditional through to contemporary pieces.

Temuka Pottery August 20-September 25 Curated by Oamaru's Forrester Gallery

Temuka Pottery was a household name by the 1970s. Come and take advantage of the opportunity to view a variety of uniquely kiwi domestic ware and gain an insight into a significant aspect of local cultural heritage.

Ashburton Photography Society Exhibition September 7-September 25

The Ashburton Photographic Society seeks to promote the enjoyment and advancement of photography. The society has thirty five members who have been invited to submit work for the exhibition.

Mid Canterbury Schools Annual Exhibition October 11-November 4

Muka Youth Print Exhibition October 18-October 19

This special children's only event gives children aged between 5-18 the opportunity to purchase original lithographs for a fraction of the normal price.

Whats on with WasteBusters

WasteBusters Winter Waste Fest August 12-19

A festival of wearable art, creative workshops and much more. Enrol now for mosaics, paper making and compost bin / worm farm workshops.

Come along to the recycling depot for a guided tour on August 18, see the recycling bus unload and how the materials are sorted.

Book now to join us for a night of fun and fashion at the Regent Theatre on 19th August.

**Be part of our journey
towards zero waste and a
sustainable future.**

Resource recovery parks no longer accept green waste mixed with other rubbish



The Ashburton and Rakaia resource recovery parks are no longer accepting mixed loads of green waste and household rubbish.

The new rule came into effect from July 1. While this may be inconvenient for people in a hurry it's essential to comply with conditions set by the new Kate Valley Landfill, where all rubbish that is not recycled or composted is now sent.

The council's acting solid waste manager, Tammara Page, explains Kate Valley is not allowed to accept any green waste at all, under conditions imposed on it through the resource consent process and by the Environment Court.

Any loads sent from Ashburton containing green waste will be rejected and sent back. This would mean staff at

the Ashburton resource recovery park would have to sort through it and remove the green waste – at considerable time and expense to ratepayers – before sending the load back to Kate Valley.

Miss Page stresses the resource recovery park is still accepting green waste – just as long as it's separated from other waste.

All green waste received at the site is turned into compost and sold.

"We can still take plenty of green waste," she says.

Staff at the resource recovery park are now keeping a close eye on all loads coming on to the site, to make sure green waste is kept separate. And anyone arriving with a mixed load will be told politely but firmly to go back and separate it first.

How much of your rubbish is disposable nappies?

Did you know that in a household with one baby disposable nappies can make up to 50% of total household waste going to landfill.

To reduce this figure parents are urged to consider using cloth nappies.

The cost of using disposable nappies is around 45c per nappy, and up to \$25 per week or \$1300 per year. If your baby uses a total of 6000 nappies the cost could be as much as \$2,700. Compare these figures against the cost of cloth nappies, around \$7.50 per week, including all washing and drying costs, or \$390 per year and the savings both to the weekly budget and waste to landfill is considerable.

Flushable or compostable pads and nappy liners are also available in New Zealand supermarkets and via the internet.



For further information contact Wastebusters Trust, or Zero Waste Trust



Call in and visit Wastebusters Education Centre

Wastebusters Education Centre and Worm Farm next to the recycling shed is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 11.00am-3.00pm and Thursday 12.30pm-4.30pm.

Gardens surrounding the centre feature a range of garden art including bicycle wheel archways, wiggly worm pathways, mosaics, ground glass mulched gardens, live willow sculptures, a telephone book adobe wall and a solar straw bale couch.

Water efficient plants and mulches demonstrate how to reduce water, weeds and work in your garden.

Inside the centre

visitors can see a range of products made in New Zealand from recycled glass, plastic bottles, steel cans and even tyres.

Many of these materials are available at low/no cost to landscape our gardens and add creativity to our lives.

Such creativity is an essential ingredient for us to make that mind shift in our communities from "rubbish to resource".

Ask our friendly staff to show you the compost bins and worm farms and explain to you how to turn your food scraps and garden waste into your own fertiliser.

For the Zero Waste journey to be successful we need everyone to take

positive action in their daily lives to make a difference, after all – every little bit counts.

The Education Centre is proudly supported by the Ashburton District Council and Zero Waste NZTrust.



Crushed Glass for landscaping

This crushed silica sand product has been made by crushing clear glass bottles and jars. Use it to create a special effect around cacti, succulents and house plants or in a feature garden ideally over weedmat to

suppress weeds and reduce water usage. It can also be used to replace sand and add a sparkle to cement for making pavers or landscaping projects.

Disclaimer: Wastebusters makes no warranty as to the

suitability of this product for any particular purpose or to its grading or quality and will not accept any liability for its misuse. Not recommended for schools and play centres.

Did You Know

Every tonne of recycled paper saves:

- Approx 17 trees
- 2.5 barrels of oil
- 4m³ of landfill
- 4,200 KW energy (enough to power the average home for 6 months)
- 26,000 litres of water

Recycling creates six times more jobs than landfilling

The average 100-person company uses about 250,000

sheets of copier paper per year. That's a high stack of paper nearly five floors high

Paper recycling hints:

- Keep a paper recycling box near computers and photocopiers
- Encourage everyone to keep paper flat
- Separate confidential paper for shredding at Wastebusters Recycling Depot

Did You Know