



Long term planning is important

There has been some comment recently about the number of projects Council currently has on or are proposed, and their affordability. While it is essential that Council efficiently operates and maintains current services and assets, equally important is its long term planning. Infrastructure must be in place when it is needed.

Long term plans are required to ensure future capacity in our services, whether they be water and roading infrastructure, or community facilities such as the art gallery/museum and swimming pool/sports stadium.

As well as long term planning, Council's decision making can be complex. The process includes long term financial strategies, public consultation, planning designations and resource consenting. Residents have opportunities to have input through all of these phases. Factors for consideration include changes in demographics, population growth, land use changes, and wider regional and national issues/legislation. We endeavour to give our community plenty of notice of major projects, not only to



enable you to make considered comments, but also for your own medium/long term decision making.

Affordability is also a key factor in considerations of levels of service. No-one likes rate increases, however increased levels of service do impact on the levels of rates and takes them above the CPI. But where do we sit?

The Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) recently undertook an analysis of Council's long term plans (published www.localcouncils.govt.nz). This report includes an appendix – "Indicative Rates per

Dwelling".

This ranks Ashburton in 2010 15th lowest out of 73 and in 2019 9th lowest out of 73

It should be noted that this is based on a population in 2019 of 29,820. The current population is estimated at 29,700.

Debt per dwelling is expected to rise from \$3,398 in 2010 (Local Government average \$3,548) to \$5,351 in 2019 (average \$5,117). This is based on very conservative projections such as the funding of the proposed second bridge and potential returns from projects such as the Lake Hood extension.

These comparisons are across Councils. It is also of interest to note that local government spending as a proportion of GDP is, and has been, relatively constant at 3.1% since 1989.

In the recent Communitrak Survey (July 2010), 82% of our residents who expressed an opinion on Council spending were satisfied (very/fairly), well ahead of our peer Council group and the national average.

Quake safe checks we recommend you do

Following the earthquake activity of the past week your property may have sustained damage you haven't noticed.

Check All Buildings Now - damage may not be apparent, but we advise you to carry out a thorough inspection of your property

- Brick and masonry structures may have loosened, particularly chimneys, look for dislodged masonry, plaster or new cracking.
- Roof flashings or tiles could be loose – don't wait for the next rain storm to find out
- Have a skilled tradesperson remove damaged material, cordon off the danger area until it is made safe. Take photographs as a record of damage
- Engineering advice - we can suggest an engineer who may be working in your area if you need advice on structural damage
- If you have a heritage building, think about saving damaged building materials as these could be recovered and used in any repair work
- Contact Council about whether you need a building consent before repair and replacement work commences

Rural Residents

- Most water supplies on bore water have a filter - with added sediment dislodged by the earthquake we recommend you service the filter
- Check your septic tank is functioning properly
- Rapid Numbering - check your rural property address number is visible so your property can be located in an emergency
- Ensure stock and other animals are secured and not able to wander on to roadways. Dogs must have a current registration tag.

General Quake-Safe Guidelines

What you can do to make sure you and your family are quake-safe

Be Prepared

- Have a plan for what do in an emergency - where to meet



Rangitata MP Jo Goodhew, Methven resident Martin Nordqvist, builder Paul Middleton and Ashburton Mayor Bede O'Malley inspect the damage in Cafe 131 in Methven. The lathe and plaster ceiling is being replaced after earthquake damage, and the popular cafe will be open as soon as possible

and what to do

- Have an emergency survival kit located in a safe and accessible place, including torch, batteries, and three days of food and water
- Check your BBQ gas is full so you can cook without power
- Have a battery radio and your in-car mobile phone charger available
- Do not use candles in an emergency as they are a fire risk
- Check your insurance cover is adequate

Make Your House Quake-Safe

- Tie back book cases and large items that could move in any further earthquake activity
- Tie back your hot water cylinder
- Log fires should also be secured
- Take items from shelves that might move in any further earthquake activity

For further information on how to Get Ready go to www.civildefence.govt.nz

In this issue

Election FAQ's	page 2
New Faces	page 2
Museum & Art Gallery	page 3
Local body election candidates.....	page 4

Local body election candidates.....	page 5
Local body election candidates.....	page 6
New Books	page 7
Second bridge	page 8

What's Happening . . .

At the gallery . . .

Sam Foley

4th September - 3rd October 2010

In early 2010 Foley made a research trip to Ashburton, "The urban landscape is a subject that I have been focusing on now for a number of years and the combination of painting and projection lend itself particularly well to night scenes and street lights — the intersection of West and Moore Street was the first thing that came to mind. It wasn't until I spent some time in Ashburton that I was drawn to the other aspects of the town, often unique and with character, that have found their way into this body of work."

"It was said of Monet 'He was only an eye. But what an eye!' As a summary of Impressionism this compression leaves out the transition from narrative — every picture tells a story — to observation, which

in Monet's case was focussed on light. Foley is similarly engaged with the processes of seeing and picture-making and how you render complex experience. Visual perception is conditioned by memory and imagination. We don't just see things; we remember them and have anxieties and expectations about how they will be. This makes seeing fraught. Foley re-creates that and fleshes it out with his ghostly, moving phenomena. Some of this is observation. It represents what actually happened at the site while the artist waited with his camera. Some of it is staged, the interventions being contrived by Foley. All of it registers as completely ordinary, yet disturbing."

Extract from essay by Peter Entwistle.

Below: Artist Sam Foley in front of his large oil on canvas depiction of the busy stretch of SH1 along West Street.



Gilded Frames: Treasures from the Ashburton Museum Collection

Gilded Frames: Treasures from the Ashburton Museum Collection opens on Saturday 4th September; with the exhibition Curator Julia Waite delivering a floor talk at 1.30pm. The exhibition can be viewed at Ashburton Art Gallery until 3rd October.

Pictorial collections are not exclusive to art galleries. Paintings, drawings and photographs have long found their way into Museum and library collections. Gilded Frames: Treasures from the Ashburton Museum Collection delves into the wealth of pictures in the Ashburton Museum to present a glimpse into the diversity of framed paintings, lithographs and photographs.

Since the 1970s, the then Ashburton Historical Society was particularly active in collecting cultural and historical artefacts which reflected the history of the Ashburton District. Hand coloured photographs of early settler families, framed tapestries, oil paintings of local champion racehorses, and large landscape oil paintings — all in gilded frames are some of the highlights and indicate the diversity of the collection.

Exhibition Curator Julia Waite has a BA, majoring in Art History, and a Masters in Museums and Heritage Studies. She was recently appointed Assistant Curator at the Auckland Art Gallery. She has previously worked at Expression Arts and Entertainment Centre in Wellington and Te Papa. Julia has been working as an intern at the Ashburton

Museum as part of the National Service's Museum Graduate Internship Programme.

"The Concert"

An uplifting comedy about a true band of misfits

This month's Film Society Evening presents "The Concert" on Wednesday 29th September at 5.45pm. Tickets can be purchased from Regent Cinema at a discounted price of only \$10.00. Following the film refreshments will be provided, and a discussion held at the Ashburton Art Gallery, all welcome.

The Concert tells a tale from the 1980s, when Brezhnev ruled the Soviet Union, Andrei Filipov, (Alexei Guskov), was the conductor of Moscow's famous Bolshoi Theatre Orchestra - but, because of his attempts to help Jewish members of the orchestra who were being purged, he was publicly humiliated and dismissed from his post.

Now, 20 years after the end of Communism, he's still working as a cleaner at the theatre where he was once a star. One night he intercepts a fax from the Chatelet Theatre in Paris - they want the Bolshoi Orchestra to perform there for one night. Andrei decides it will be his orchestra...

With his friend, Sacha, (Dimitri Nazarov), he seeks the help of Ivan, (Valeri Barinov), a former KGB man who still supports the Communist Party; he needs Ivan's managerial skills to make his scam a reality. His only demand is that celebrated French violinist Anne-Marie Jacquet (Malanie Laurent) accompany them, for mysteriously personal reasons.

At the museum . . .



Christobel search revealing

It's interesting how a simple request for information can lead to the unfolding of a whole series of interlocking stories.

The Ashburton Museum recently received a request from an author for photos showing what he called 'Citizen Soldier'. Ashburton has a rich history in this area, with units such as the Ashburton Guards, the Ashburton Mounted Rifles, the Canterbury Yeomanry Cavalry and more recently the Territorial forces.

The request was for informal photos, and one that fitted the bill exactly was a photo of a little girl sitting on a horse, which had an Ashburton Mounted Rifles saddle blanket. A note on the back said her name was Christobel Hopwood.

The author of course wanted to know more about her and any connection her family had with the Ashburton Mounted Rifles. A quick search in the Museum's files and the story was discovered, or more correctly re-discovered, as we had approached it from another angle in the past.

Joseph and Sarah Hopwood came to New Zealand from Shropshire about 1882, bringing with them their children including eight-year-old William. They settled in Ashburton and William attended Borough School. When he left school he joined his father at laying drains on the Longbeach Estate. Father and son would walk to Longbeach for the week's work and walk back again at the end of the week for Sunday at home.

By 1898 Longbeach owner John Grigg had put William in charge of a large grain store he had built at the rail siding at Winslow. In 1907 William moved to live in Tinwald and opened

a store there before taking charge of the Tinwald branch of W.H. Collins & Co, and later working for Buchanan's Ltd at their West Street flour mill.

In the 1920s he was appointed foreman for the Ashburton County Council. In that position that he made his mark on the community in a way that is remembered today.

As a committed member of the Salvation Army, William took a keen interest in the welfare of relief workers employed by the County during the financial depression of the 1930s, as well as men walking through the town looking for work. His home on Carters Terrace was well known to them and he never refused a meal to any who called. When the Ashburton Hospital Board built a shelter for itinerant men it was built near his house and he took charge of it. The men who stayed there called it 'Paradise Shelter'.

When William died in 1933 the homeless men he showed so much concern for collected what money they could and erected a seat in his memory. That seat still stands today, on State Highway One in Tinwald, just south of Carters Terrace, and it was from that angle the story had been researched in the past.

William was, of course, the father of Christobel, who was born in 1898. In the years prior to World War One he was an enthusiastic member of the Ashburton Mounted Rifles, attaining the rank of Quartermaster Sergeant. The Museum holds a photo of him during a camp at Lagmhor in which he is riding a horse, possibly the same horse Christobel was seated on in the earlier photo. Sharing the saddle with William is a little fox terrier.



Some Election FAQs

When do the elections take place?

On Saturday, October 9, 2010. The electoral officer will announce election results as soon as they are available after voting closes at 12 noon. It is anticipated a preliminary result will be available by 1 pm.

How do I get a vote?

The primary qualification for voting at the council and health board elections is registration on the parliamentary electoral roll. If you have made sure of that then the council will have a record of you as being eligible to vote as a resident of the district.

Any New Zealand citizen or permanent resident aged over 18 years is qualified to enrol on the parliamentary roll.

How do I vote?

Two voting systems are used in the voting papers you will receive, First Past the Post (FPP) and Single Transferable Vote (STV). Both systems are explained more fully on this page. The non-compliance or incorrect completion of STV voting papers has meant several thousand votes are not captured each election. Please read all instructions carefully.

How will I get my voting papers?

They are sent out three weeks before the elections and will be delivered by post between Friday 17 and Tuesday 21 September 2010. All returned voting documents must be received by the Electoral Officer no later than 12 noon on Saturday 9 October 2010.

What if I don't get my voting paper?

Anyone who doesn't get a voting paper is entitled to a special vote. If you haven't received a voting pack by September 24 you should go to the council office and arrange for a special vote. After completing a declaration you will be issued with voting papers for the ward for which you are qualified to vote.

Who is responsible for running the elections?

Council has appointed John Rollinson as the electoral officer who will be conducting the elections. He can be contacted on his direct line at the council, 307-7742, or emailed at johnr@adc.govt.nz and is happy to answer any enquiries about the elections.

When do elected members take office?

They take office on the day after the official declaration is made or four or five days after Election Day. However, they must first swear an oath of office before they can make decisions. The oath is taken at the first meeting of the new council scheduled for 21 October.

First Past The Post

The local body elections will be conducted under the old First Past The Post (FPP) electoral system in all but eight councils.

Under the FPP system the candidate with the most votes wins - a very simple method of electing candidates that is widely used throughout the world.

It was used for New Zealand Parliamentary elections up until the introduction of MMP (Mixed Member Proportional) during the 1996 general election.

There has been some argument that the FPP system does not always reflect the wishes of the majority of voters. The following examples show how the results of FPP elections may vary.

Where one candidate has a clear majority of votes, it can be seen that the majority of people did support the winning candidate.

	Number of Votes	Percentage of Votes
Candidate One	140	70%
Candidate Two	20	10%
Candidate Three	20	10%
Candidate Four	20	10%
Total Votes = 200		Total = 100%

In this example the winning candidate received 70 per cent of the total votes. However, the winning candidate might receive more votes than any other one candidate, but receive fewer votes than the other candidates put together.

	Number of Votes	Percentage of Votes
Candidate One	80	40%
Candidate Two	60	30%
Candidate Three	40	20%
Candidate Four	20	10%
Total Votes = 200		Total = 100%

In this case the winning candidate attracted 40 per cent of the total votes and the other candidates received 60 per cent. It could therefore be claimed that the election result did not reflect the wishes of the majority.

Some people have also argued that even when the winning candidate gets the majority of the votes many peoples' votes are wasted.

More information about local body elections is available on the Department of Internal Affairs website.

Local Elections 2010
YOUR VOTE
YOUR COMMUNITY

ELECTION LIFTOUT

STV, it's simple to vote

For just the third time everyone will be using the 'Single Transferable Vote' or 'STV' voting system in the elections for District Health Boards (DHBs) and for some local authorities in October this year. STV was used for the first time in the 2004 local government elections. Prior to 2004, these elections used 'First Past the Post' or 'FPP' voting.

The DHB elections are held at the same time as the local authority elections for city, district and regional councils. All voting in the DHB elections are held under the STV voting system.

How do you vote with STV?

In an STV election, you use numbers instead of the ticks you use in First Past the Post elections.

It is simple to vote. Instead of putting a tick beside the candidates you want to vote for, you rank them with numbers. In other words you put them in order of preference. You begin with '1', for the person you like best.

By giving the number 1 to a candidate, you are saying that the candidate is your number one choice. By ranking candidates in your preferred order - 1, 2, 3, 4 and so on - you are saying which other candidates you prefer if your top choice doesn't have enough support to get in, or does not need all the votes they got to be elected. You can rank all the candidates on the voting document, or as few candidates as you wish.

How are candidates elected?

Candidates must reach a certain number of votes to get elected. This is called a quota and is based on the total number of votes cast and the number of people needed to be elected to fill all the vacant positions.

How are votes counted?

With New Zealand STV, votes are counted using specially developed computer software after all votes have been received. The counting process begins by tallying all first preference votes.

If a candidate is elected, they keep only the proportion of the vote they need to reach the quota. The surplus part of each vote is transferred to the voter's second choice. The votes are then re-tallied and, if another candidate gets more votes than they need to be elected, again the surplus part of each vote for that candidate is transferred to the voter's third choice. This process is repeated until enough candidates are elected to fill the vacant positions.

The transfer of votes is done in order of voters' preferences. This means that surpluses are not 'wasted' but are available to help other candidates to get elected. If a candidate does not have enough support to get elected, all votes for that candidate are also transferred to voters' next choices. This means if a voter's first choice candidate is not elected, their vote goes towards the next candidate they selected.

The system treats all candidates the same, by giving them a 'keep value'. This allows them to keep the portion of the vote they need to be elected but allows any extra or

surplus votes to be distributed proportionately amongst the other candidates, according to voters' preferences. For example, if the quota or number of votes required to gain election is 100, and a candidate receives 100 votes, they keep all of those votes, so they have a keep value of 1 (i.e. 100%).

But if the candidate received 200 votes, they still only need the equivalent of 100 of those votes to be elected, and the surplus can be transferred to voters' second choices. The candidate's keep value would be 0.5 (i.e. 50%), because that person only needed to keep 50% of all the votes they received in order to be elected.

This means the lower the keep value, the more votes the candidate received. The most popular candidates will have the lowest keep value, because they received so many votes, they only needed to keep a small proportion to gain election.

Canterbury District Health Board candidates (7 Vacancies)

Alpers, Oscar (Independent)
Carter, Heather
Cox, David
Crighton, Anna (Independent)
Darby, Jonathan (Independent Citizens Health Team)
Dickerson, Andrew (Independent)

Dowie, Tom (Alliance)
Ewart, Baden
Gilchrist, Wendy (Independent Citizens Health Team)
Hansen, Michael (Electronic Schizophrenia)
Hawarden, Rosanne (Independent Citizens Health Team)
Horlor, Ken (Independent)
Kane, Jo
Keown, Aaron (City Vision)
Kingi-Patterson, Drucilla
Mene, Chris
Morrell, David (Independent)
O'Rourke, Denis (Better Governance)
Prinsloo, Alwyn (Independent Citizens Health Team)
Roberts, Vanessa (Independent)
Ryan, Chris
Sheriff, Gail (Independent)
Stewart, Linda (Independent)
Wakeman, Peter Keith (peterwakeman.org)
Webb, Olive (Independent)
Wright, John (Peoples Choice)
Yearbury, Peter (Independent)
Young, Peter (Independent Citizens Health Team)

Ashburton District Council Mayoral

Angus McKay

I always intended to stand for council in the western ward, but in recent weeks a wide range of people from Ashburton town have asked me to consider the mayoralty. They have been vocal in their desire for change and suggest I can improve the council's relationship with the community.

This is not a decision I have made lightly, but I am putting myself forward as someone who understands the district, knows how to lobby nationally and has a track record of achieving results. My number one goal will be to improve ratepayer satisfaction with council, and this can be achieved through more transparent and well communicated processes.

Talking to locals two issues were highlighted:

consensus decision-making, and leadership style.

Council should be open in its decision making, and residents must know not only that the right decisions have been made, but need to have more say in those decisions.

I welcome the opportunity to participate in election debates and I am happy to speak to community groups.



Bede O'Malley

If offering myself to serve as your Mayor for a third term, I am conscious of the need for continuity of leadership during this dynamic phase in the history of the Ashburton District. Our district is undergoing unprecedented growth and many projects are at a critical stage in their development. Stage One of the Ashburton Business Estate is nearing completion and the Aquatic Centre and Indoor Stadium site is before you for determination, while Stage Two of the Methven Heritage Centre is underway. Council has played a key role in these developments, and I am proud of my role in the development and

implementation of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy and our Social Wellbeing Strategy, two examples of collaboration and community decision making. I have been a passionate advocate on your behalf at a local, regional and national level and respectfully seek your support for another term as your Mayor



Bev Tasker

I humbly offer myself as a candidate for mayor of our great district. I bring an inclusive, open style of leadership, a genuine love of and concern for people, enthusiasm, commitment, proven community experience at local, regional and national levels.

As a six-term councillor I have worked successfully with three mayors and many councillors. I have had the privilege of chairing the Operations Committee for the last five terms, my responsibilities include overseeing many projects and ensuring council delivers improved services, better quality water, innovative recycling and waste management, sustainable sewage systems, roading, footpaths, and emergency services.

Through the years I have been involved in all aspects of council and represented council in local and regional organisations.

New developments including ambitious sporting and cultural projects are being planned, the ability to work alongside the community to achieve good outcomes is essential.

Let's move forward together to achieve the community's aspirations.



Ashburton District Council Urban Ward (7 required)

Jim Burgess

I am pleased, and just a little humble, to offer myself for a third term on the Ashburton District Council, Ashburton Ward. The earlier part of my life was mainly in retail, while by far the biggest part of my working life was in the Hotel/Liquor industry where I was employed by the Ashburton Trust for 25 years, in mostly senior positions. During those years I gained some experience in the workings of local bodies, as the two organisations the Ashburton Trust and the Ashburton District Council are not too dissimilar. I have been active in the local Grey Power Association for many years having served as a committee person, President, and Vice President. For relaxation I enjoy being a member of the Ashburton Savage Club. Should I be re-elected, I will do my utmost to work in the interests of all ratepayers.



Donna Favel

My husband, David and I operate the Regent Cinema. In our little corner of Ashburton we have experienced first hand, Ashburton District Council (ADC) lack of forethought and planning, miscommunication and endured the consequences of ADC bylaw exemptions. In our business it is necessary to listen to customers, observe national and global trends – comply with legislation – provide a safe and fair work place – maximise teamwork – co-operate with many groups, distributors and promoters to assist in achieving all of their goals and provide the best service we can offer at an affordable rate. There are two policies I require of our staff; be responsible along with open and honest communication. My intention is to use these skills to focus on ratepayer service and encourage meaningful communication between the ratepayers and Council whilst being fiscally responsible. Listening to the needs of the people of Mid Canterbury will be my priority.



Robin Kilworth

Ashburton is a great community and I am grateful to have lived here all my adult life. My desire to offer myself again as an urban councillor, to make decisions which affect us all, reflects my commitment to Ashburton urban and rural. Important and challenging decisions were made during the last term and your views will be vital when Council needs to consider them further. I am always available to discuss any aspect of Council work.



It would be a privilege to use my past experience on Council as a Committee Chair, business, community organisations, Zonta, Aoraki Polytechnic Council and my understanding of issues as mother and grandmother, to represent you for a further term.

I am committed to being a well informed and strong voice for responsible spending and open consultation. I seek your support to continue to help Ashburton to be the place of choice to live and work.

Judy Kingsbury

Concern for the wellbeing of all ages in this district, where I have lived since my birth inspires me to offer myself for another term of governance in the Ashburton ward.

My experience includes Turkey and Duck farming along with mixed farming under irrigation.

My off farm working experience has been as a dentist's receptionist, retail manager, company rep in New Zealand and Australia, 14 years in real estate and the establishment and governance of a retirement village.

In all my working experience I have continued to study for higher qualification to better understand my work while continuing my charity work.

In my spare time I love to play some golf, sew, cycle or walk.

If elected for another term as a councillor, I will continue to be available as your representative to make considered decisions with honesty and integrity for the benefit of this district.



Leslie (John) Leadley

My passion for the Ashburton District as a superb place to live and work is backed by a lifetime of residence and involvement in district affairs. From a background of shearer – worker – farm owner I know the rewards of hard work and business efficiency.

Being a seven-term councillor, the last 12 as Deputy Mayor with multi-term chairmanship of water, wastewater and airport committees overseeing major developments, and 12-year chairmanship of the Safer Community Council, gives me the social and cultural balance for total community understanding.

Outside my long association with Rotary, Heart Foundation, church choir, Lake Hood, Greypower, family and grandchildren keeps me in touch with all sectors of the community.

In honoured with re-election, I pledge to listen, liaise and bring my own high standards of commitment, affordability and value for money to the council table as custodian of the ratepayer's purse.



Ken Leadley

From a strong community focused family; I'm standing as someone prepared to listen to constituents, to address community betterment, advance Ashburton's vitality, and offer sensible common sense governance.

With a broad background of experience embracing years of farming, retailing, and commercial business in Ashburton and district; I offer honest, sincere, considered, leadership applied through logical solutions to local development and requirement.

Flip flops and back tracks by Council on major decisions in recent times is one mark of flawed procedure; a stance of Executive mandate to Councillors is sham process, and must be changed. Council is at a crossroads, it must return to more openly consultative governance.

I'm single-mindedly committed to this district and its people; if elected I will advocate; less outside specialist consultancy; more public consultation; less in committee deliberations, and consensus decision making based on informed community knowledge, advice, referenda.

Local governance by, for, local people.



Don McLeod

I am standing for Council as a long-time resident of the district, keen to put something back into a community which has offered much to me and my family. The last 23 years of my working life have been here, first as Associate Principal at Ashburton College and then as Principal at Mt Hutt College for nearly 15 years; my wife Denise still teaches at the College; our two children grew up here. We are committed to the district.



I am currently President of the Rotary Club of Ashburton, Board Chairperson for the Ashburton Community Alcohol and Drug Service, and recently became spokesman for the campaign to save our Railway Station. In these past and present capacities I have developed a cross-section of community contacts, and believe I can represent those by contributing to sensible discussion and decision-making at Council level.

Kathryn Mitchell

It is with supreme confidence in Ashburton's future that I offer myself for your consideration to serve our community on our district council (Ashburton ward). My passion for the Ashburton community has led me to make this decision. The numerous committees, boards, executives and community councils that I have had the privilege to serve on over the past 10 years have contributed to my understanding and appreciation for the democratic process, particularly the principles of transparency, accountability and above all, communication. Communication is the foundation of any successful relationship and what is a community if not a large and complex network of relationships. Council's role as I see it is to facilitate and inform the various sectors that make up our community, tying them together building strong networks, which in turn translate into strong communities. Communication being paramount, I invite residents to contact me anytime at www.kathrynmitchell.co.nz



Maurice Myers

I offer myself as a candidate for the Ashburton Ward of the Ashburton District Council.

Married to Isabel with three adult children, we have enjoyed the benefits the town has to offer – good schooling, great outdoor sporting and recreational activities and a sharing and caring community.

As a Chartered Accountant and a Director of our company, I am acutely aware of business needs for both urban and rural sectors. As present Chairman of the Stadium Trust and Vice Chairman of the Project Group, past chair and current board member of the Ashburton Community Pool, I am well aware of community needs and expectations. If elected I will endeavour to represent the community with a professional approach, clear leadership and direction to meet the significant challenges that council currently faces. I will be open, honest, and committed to effective decision making and accordingly seek your support.



Darryl Nelson

Having served a previous 12 years as a Ashburton District Councillor followed by a three year break I offer myself for the 2010 Elections in the Ashburton Ward.

Council must maintain its core business infrastructure, water, wastewater, stormwater, roading, and footpaths etc before all else.

Decisions must be made while the people of the district are kept fully informed, so the district can move forward together.

I have been self employed for over 30 years, served 28 years as a Volunteer Fireman to Deputy Chief in Rakaia, several years in Scouting raising to District Commissioner and still involved. Presently President of the Railway and Preservation Society and Committee member of the Tinwald Reserve Board.

I have experience, integrity, business knowledge, common sense and enthusiasm to offer our growing and diversifying community.



Russell Nelson

Born in Ashburton, I offer myself as a candidate for the Eastern Ward of the District Council. My wife Carolyn and I reside in the Ward and we are both community focused.

While serving the last six years on the Ashburton Trust and charitable foundation, I have gained experience and knowledge of the Ashburton district, its organisations, clubs and culture. Currently, as a result of global recession, many households and businesses are financially challenged. It is therefore paramount that our Council's service costs and commercial transactions are in accordance with sound business practices. Putting further stress on our citizens is not an option.

Key to Ashburton's economic success now, and for future generations, is our land and its many uses. With planning, guaranteed water and Council's cooperation, our district will prosper. Council also needs to be transparent, collaborative and accountable to its ratepayers, while concentrating on core infrastructure.



Peter Reveley

I have been encouraged by a large number to stand for a third term in the Eastern Ward. I have a good understanding of plans and the rather complicated council financial systems. I am quite prepared to speak and vote against items that I don't believe are good for the district, either short or long term. I voted against the council's preferred option for the second bridge, Grove St, this is too narrow to allow trucks and cyclists long term and there is no easy exit option.

I am a hand-on farmer, farming dairy support and crop in partnership with my wife and son.

I have been on many committees, most in a lead role, I have a life membership from Rugby, I have chaired Meat and Fibre in more profitable times and been honoured twice for dedication and leadership in 29 years in St John.



Neil Brown

I am restanding for Council in the Eastern ward of the Ashburton district, having completed two terms of council, and consider that I have a lot to offer the district. Having a farming and commercial property background, I have practical knowledge and the ability to think outside the square. I ask the questions that need to be asked so that I can make an informed decision for the betterment of the whole district, on issues that affect the whole district, of which there are currently too many.

I would continue to advocate of behalf of constituents of the district so that the district continues to prosper as it has been doing. Council has some very important projects on its books at the moment which need to be carefully governed so that the people of the Ashburton district can get the full benefit of them now and in the future.



Bernard Davidson

I have decided to stand for council representing the East Ward in the coming elections. My wife Barbara and I have a family of four adult children.

I have lived in the Eastern Ward all my life, farming in Eiffelton, then moving to Winchmore in 2004. I understand how the rural area operates and will support people when the need is required.

Currently I am a valuer with Hastings McLeod Valuation, President of the Ashburton Art Gallery, a member of the Ashburton District Tourism Board, Hinds Lions, and Methven Trotting club committee.

My reason for standing is to try and deliver a level of service which reflects common sense, value for money and to be true to my own beliefs of honesty and integrity. In politics, there is always more than one side to an issue. I will listen to all sides.

From 2010, Ashburton needs strong leadership.



Angus McKay

I am putting myself forward as someone who understands the district, knows how to lobby nationally and has a track record of achieving results. My number one goal will be to improve ratepayer satisfaction with council, and this can be achieved through more transparent and well communicated processes.

In talking to locals two issues were highlighted: consensus decision-making, and leadership style.

Council should be open in its decision making, and residents must know not only that the right decisions have been made, but need to have more say in those decisions.

I welcome the opportunity to participate in election debates and I am happy to speak to community groups.



Martin Nordqvist

Being a life-time resident of the Methven district, and having the experience of serving numerous groups and committees, including 12 years as a member of the Methven Community Board, and the last six as chairman, I believe it is now time to offer my knowledge for the benefit of the Ashburton district residents as I seek your support for a Western Ward seat on the Ashburton District Council.

Large money projects are now on the drawing board, however, as the district population continues to grow, we need to keen on providing water, roads, footpaths, solid waste and other essential utilities that are so important and necessary for the everyday lives of our district residents.

As I seek voter support, and if successful, I will bring an open minded and common sense approach to the governance of the Ashburton district.



Bev Tasker

Ashburton District is continuing to experience economic growth, these changes inevitably put pressure on services and infrastructure in both rural and urban areas.

Intensification and changes in farming with sustainable water and land use will produce increased product to be transported for processing. Maintaining and improving New Zealand's third largest roading network is challenging with ever changing traffic patterns and still being affordable.

Council must continue to deliver good quality household and stock water, affordable and sustainable waste management.

It has been an honour to be a councillor for six terms, chairing the Operations for five terms. I bring enthusiasm, commitment, concern for people and years of experience. Fostering improved sporting, recreational and cultural opportunities is important, I'm passionate about ensuring this district is a great place to work, play and bring up families.

Council must continue to be a strong advocate on behalf of our communities at regional and national levels.



Alan Totty

I am a 63-year-old semi-retired Staveley farmer, married to Jane, with two adult children, Sarah and Mark. I have experience with planning and governance and am a past chairperson of Mt Hutt College and Springburn School Board of Trustees. I have also taken a leadership role in farming, community and heritage organisations.

I have submitted on two Ashburton district plans, organised petitions, and made presentations to council meetings. Recent reversals of council decisions on issues such as the stadium in the domain, the second bridge and the Proposed District Plan indicate poor initial decision making.

If elected, I would use my knowledge and independent thought, my ability to listen to others, to make good decisions. I have a keen interest in the progress of the district and a desire to help others.

It would be an honour to represent you as a member of the Ashburton District Council.



Ashburton District Council Eastern Ward (3 required)

Ashburton District Council Western Ward (2 required)

Methven Community Board (5 required)

Hamish Gilpin

I am seeking re-election for a second term on the Methven Community Board.

Having been involved in the ski industry and currently working in agriculture, I bring practical skills to the board. Priorities for me are ensuring our water supplies can cope with a growing population and that Methven's facilities and services are looked after well by council. With children starting primary school and high school next year, road safety, is a concern and the community board will continue top lobby for improvements. As a member of the Methven Community Pool committee and trustee for the Methven Sports Recreation Trust, I support efforts to keep our local pool open. I enjoy working with the current board members and look forward to serving the community for another term. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.



Anna Johnson

Hello my name is Anna Johnson, I have been on the board for two years and have really enjoyed being able to gain an understanding on how the board operates. I hope to be able to take this understanding into the next three years and use it to support the Methven Community to continue to grow into a positive, successful town. I will work towards making sure all voices of Methven residents are heard on issues that affect us as our town grows in population and size.

As a Mum and a Teacher at the Methven Pre-School one of my real passions is making sure that our town is serviced well for the safety and development of our children. Thank-you for giving me the opportunity to be on the board these last three years and I hope I can continue to be there for the next three years.



Rob Markillie

I am 33 years old and married to Amy. We have two children under 3 and I am a passionate family man.

I emigrated from England 8 years ago and have been a Methven resident for 7 years. I'm currently employed as a manager for South Pacific Seeds. Interests include family time and sport.

I am passionate about Methven and its community, only believing in moving the town forward into the future for all residents and businesses. This has led me to attend various community meetings.

My aims include our youth having more choices of activities. I believe other projects in the pipeline are very important for the town. Town infrastructure is also a concern to me.

I am a positive person who enjoys working with others. Methven and its community are very important to me.



Dan McLaughlin

I am seeking election to the Methven Community Board as I feel my experience both in the agriculture and tourism industry brings a wide spectrum of knowledge to the Community Board. Balance is something required to make a community function at its best and I feel my attributes will contribute well to this.

For the last 8 years I have been serving on the Methven Gold Club General Committee as Treasurer. Over the last 20 years that I have lived in Methven I have also been a part of other local events.

Something I feel strongly about is the local infrastructure and the need to keep expanding it with the growing population in Methven. Increasing our range of sporting facilities and improving what we have is also of great importance to me.



Liz McMillan

I am re-standing for the Methven Community Board as the last three years have been very rewarding. While I feel the board has achieved much, we still have some unfinished projects that I would like to see completed. This would be the second access road to Methven Primary School, prominent road signs indicating the school zone, and walking tracks around town.

I am especially interested in getting plastic recycling at the Recycling Depot, the upgrade of the Railway Reserve playground, as well as the building of an outdoor skatepark.

My achievements since standing for the Board include setting up the Methven Farmers' Market, to help organise new playground equipment and the decorative lights for the Oak Trees.

I plan to continue my work for the community with the same energy and dedication.



David Wilson

I am excited to re-stand for the Community Board. I have a wide and varied involvement in Methven that allows me to add value to the many projects of the Community Board. I am involved on the Ashburton District Tourism Board, Mt Hutt Marketing Group, Ski Heritage Committee and I am manager of the Mt Hutt Ski Area. I have three children at Methven Primary School and my wife Fiona works as a relief teacher at Mt Hutt College.

Over the past few years that I have been on the Community Board I have enjoyed hearing and representing the townsfolk of Methven. We have achieved a number of projects in recent times and have a number still to complete.



Ashburton Licensing Trust (6 required)

Gwen Clucas

I believe my experience in community activities may be an asset for the Trust. I am a retired Primary School Principal with a Masters Degree in Educational Administration. I was an elected member of the Malvern County Council for nine years during which time I was Chairman of the Social Services Committee, Welfare Officer for Civil Defence, and a member of several other committees including Finance and Administration and Town Planning. I have participated in many other community activities as I believe it is only by having healthy communities that we provide an environment which allows the next generation to develop their own values to maintain a strong community. The support the Licensing Trust has given Ashburton needs to be encouraged and maintained. I would like your support to have the opportunity to contribute to the Licensing Trust.



Andrew Colquhoun

Thank you for my nomination to represent the community on the Ashburton Licensing Trust.



I am Andrew Colquhoun and reside in Ashburton along with my wife and two children. The Community has many challenging and exciting projects ahead and having been involved in many aspects of the community I feel very qualified to make the right decisions for you.

The commitment and balance between work and family is something I have learnt and managed. It taught me patience and improved my ability to listen and think strategically. There are the values and community spirit that I will bring to the ALT.

My age of 36, business and interests, bring a fresh approach to our community moving forward.

Greg Lambert-Lane

The most important aspect of business is performance and delivering a suitable return in investment.

Therefore, I am seeking election to enhance the performance of the Ashburton Trust and ensure the assets and funds are used appropriately.

I would like to see the Ashburton Trust regularly engage in open and transparent communication with the community. The community must be able to determine how the Trust is performing and where it's going.

As a chartered accountant the key attributes I would bring to the role are independence and diversity. Currently, I do not belong to any group that benefits from the trust's activities, nor do I represent any particular cause. I have a wide range of professional accounting skills and seek your support to make the Ashburton Trust a better organisation now and for future generations.



Stuart Leadley

I have a history of managing my own businesses, mostly in the agriculture industry. As a now retired farmer I am able to devote time to community interests, which I do in a variety of groups and at various levels. With this involvement I understand the aspirations of our community.

I have been on the Ashburton Trust Board for 11 years. Initially a protected trading entity the business has evolved to what we have presently. In the last few years we have opened several new businesses and entered the commercial tenancy market.

In the present challenging economic environment in the hospitality industry, we now need a period of consolidation while these operations develop. Careful and experienced governance will be needed to achieve that.

I am enthusiastic about the Trust and am keen to be part of the team that will see profitability return.



Garry Haskett

Ashburton Trust has positively impacted our community over many years and more recently adjusted, through necessity, to a more competitive and challenging business environment. With industry related experience and MBA qualification, I offer myself for election. Primarily, I would like to see increased alignment of strategic direction through consultation involving community groups and stakeholders.

As a Rotarian and recent past president of Rotary, I have lived and worked in this community of Mid Canterbury my whole life. With experience in a range of diverse business segments. I offer a balance of community values and integrity combined with business acumen.

If elected to the Ashburton Trust, I will bring to the board positive enthusiasm, a can do attitude, commitment, and governance experience.



Alister Lilley

As chairman of the Ashburton Trust and the Ashburton Charitable Foundation

I appreciate the important role the Trust plays in the well-being and support of our community for all sectors including social welfare, education, arts and sport.

As a local business owner I'm well aware of the importance of running the Ashburton Trust as a profitable and cost effective business. Over recent years the Ashburton Trust has invested in several new business activities including the commencement of a refurbishment program at Hotel Ashburton. In today's challenging financial environment I believe a period of consolidation is now required for the Ashburton Trust. It must look at all options to increase the return from its investments while actively managing costs.

The Ashburton Trust has a very important role to play in helping to meet the needs of our community. I look forward to the challenge.



Alan Neumann

Born, raised and educated in Ashburton I am married with two teenage children who are both attending Ashburton College.

I am a Company Director for our local family tyre business that I co-own with my brother Ian, which has been trading since 1945.

Currently I am a member of the Ashburton Plains Rotary and I have been involved with many local sports clubs both as a player and in later years with administration.

The Ashburton Licensing Trust is a business that I am very passionate about and I enjoy contributing to the discussions and decisions in this very exciting and sometimes challenging environment.

I have nine years experience on the board, and have been deputy chairman for the last six years. I have the local knowledge and business acumen that this community business requires to move forward.



Roger Paterson

I, Roger Paterson, having been a member for nine years, and having helped guide the trust through many changes, my passion still remains very strong.

The needs of this community asset require enthusiasm, business skills, knowledge and experience when making decisions to achieve a profitable business for Ashburton.

As a trustee I chair the Braided Rivers Trust, am a member of the Event Centre Management team and as a Charitable Trustee I have the privilege to help organisations advance their projects in supporting the wider community.

I have always made myself available to discuss Trust activities and to assist applicants for funding.

The Trust faces the most challenging times in its management and it would be a privilege again to take up the opportunity to support Ashburton in its promotion and growth and to do this I humbly seek your support.



Fay Watson

Building the Ashburton Trust to a position of strength was my passion for 20 years as a chartered accountant and the Trust's Financial Accountant, and as Secretary/Manager of the Charitable Foundation I enjoyed a strong interest in the welfare of our community. I am standing for the Trust to help provide the responsible financial management needed now.

A careful finance focus is critical for the next phase of the Trust's development, to consolidate and cement the Trust's investments for the benefit of the community.

Detailed knowledge of the Trust's structure from previous service combined with more recent experience means I bring to the table solid business and planning skills and specific industry knowledge.

I am Practice Manager at Gabites Ltd, married to Tony and have two adult children.

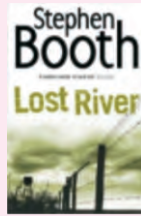
I welcome the opportunity to positively contribute to the Ashburton community.



New Books at the District Library

FICTION

Lost river, by Stephen Booth — Another Peak District murder mystery featuring Detective Constable Ben Cooper and his sergeant, Diane Fry. This time Ben is Acting DS when Diane goes to Birmingham where new evidence has emerged about her assault and rape some years before. Ben is put in charge of the investigation into the drowning of a little girl at a riverside beauty spot. He becomes aware of discordant reactions from her family, which arouse his suspicion. Diane is making contact with her own family background in Birmingham, with equal unease, as she comes to realise that a mysterious cover-up is preventing her case being re-opened.



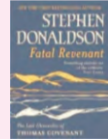
Rain gods, by James Lee Burke — A typically involved and gripping crime novel by the creator of Dave Robicheaux and Billy Bob Holland. This story has a different hero, Billy Bob's cousin Sheriff Hackberry Holland, an aging South Texas lawman haunted by his experiences in the Korean War. His long acquaintance with evil is tested when the bodies of nine machine-gunned Asian prostitutes are found hastily buried near the Mexican border. A witness and his girlfriend are on the run from the killer, a ruthlessly efficient religious crazy called The Preacher, who begins eliminating all associated with the incident. Holland must rescue the witness, and finally confront The Preacher.



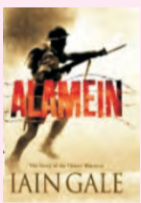
The whisperers, by John Connolly — Artefacts stolen from a museum warehouse in Baghdad exert a sinister force on a unit of American servicemen involved in their theft and subsequent smuggling back to the United States. On their return home, several of the soldiers commit suicide, driven mad by hearing whispering voices. Private detective Charlie Parker is hired by the father of one of the suicides to discover what made him kill himself. He finds himself on the track of an ancient evil about to be unleashed on the world.



Fatal revenant, the last chronicles of Thomas Covenant, by Stephen Donaldson — The eighth and final instalment in this popular and prolific series about leper Thomas Covenant and his adventures in the magical realm called the Land.



Alamein, by Iain Gale — The battle of Alamein turned the tide of the Second World War; until that point, the Axis forces had triumphed. In this novel, Iain Gale takes the same approach as he did in his previous work, about another pivotal showdown, Waterloo. He tells the story of the eleven days of the battle of El Alamein, October, 1942, through the eyes of nine characters, most of them real people. The opposing generals Montgomery and Rommel are represented of course, along with German, Italian and British officers, a pacifist ambulance driver, an aide at HQ, and frontline soldiers.



The snowman, by Jo Nesbo — Scandinavian detectives are very fashionable at the moment, and Oslo police inspector Harry Hole is certainly stereotypical. He is tall, alcoholic, inclined to allergies, and depressed. He is also an expert at tracking serial killers, and when the deaths and disappearances of women are marked by the building of snowmen near the scene of the crime, Harry knows his skills will be needed.



Bad boy, by Peter Robinson — Set in the Yorkshire Dales, this is another DCI Alan Banks police mystery. Banks is away on leave in the States when a handgun is reported in the possession of one of his daughter Tracy's flatmates. Tracy finds herself on the run with this girl's boyfriend, Jaff, the "Bad Boy" of the title. Jaff is a drug dealer and not only the police are hunting him, but also his criminal associates, who mean to silence him forever. Banks returns from holiday to find his daughter's life at risk if he does not find them first.



NON FICTION

Lessons well learned, why my method works for any horse, by Clinton Anderson — Clinton Anderson is one of the most respected trainers of horses and horse people in America, which is amazing because he is himself an Australian. He has won his reputation by a simple approach, using cause and effect on the physical level involving movement that horses can understand. This book offers some insights into how to get more respect from horses while avoiding extreme methods.



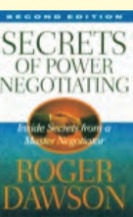
Cottages in the sun, bungalows of Venice, California, by Margaret Bach — Bungalows of the 1920's to the 1950's are well represented in Ashburton's housing stock. They are attractive, compact houses, solidly built of honest materials. They represented a belief in a modest, sustainable way of life that strikes a chord today. But it can be difficult to know how to brighten them up and make them more suited to modern living. This book showcases 28 homes in the artistic community of Venice, near Los Angeles, where the owners have sympathetically reshaped and decorated their bungalow homes.



Highland living, landscape, style and traditions of Scotland, by Stephane Bern and Franck Ferrand — Many of us may recall from our school days that in the "Scottish Play" Macbeth was to be Thane of Cawdor and King thereafter. Cawdor Castle was built from 1370, long after the reign of the real Macbeth which began in 1040. This book has wonderful photographs of the estate, gardens and interiors of Cawdor, with its fascinating history, including many reputed ghosts. The narrator is chiefly the Dowager Countess Cawdor, a cosmopolitan Central European beauty who arrived here in 1979 after a childhood in Africa and youth in Paris. She has systematically redecorated the house, just finishing this task with a room untouched since the 1920's.



Secrets of power negotiating, by Roger Dawson — Did you know the importance of flinching when you are quoted a price? Apparently it's amazingly effective, because 70% of people are "visuals" and pay more attention to what they see than what they hear. If you don't flinch, they take it that you basically accept their price, which makes negotiating it down much harder. This is only one of many useful insights in this practical guide to negotiating, which makes interesting reading, if only to make you realise how often various ploys have been successfully used against you in the past.



The Facebook effect: the inside story of the company that is connecting the world, by David Kirkpatrick — The growth of Facebook is one of the marvels of the digital age. In only five years, it has amassed 500 million users, and become for many of them an inseparable part of their daily lives. While much of the book focuses on the genesis of Facebook and its development as a business entity, it also examines the transformation of our social, political and economic lives through the Facebook focus on personal identity.



All flesh is grass, the pleasures and promises of pasture farming, by Gene Logsdon — In the United States the best types of farmland produce 90 percent annual grain and 10 percent pasture. Most of the grain goes to feedlots, a huge waste of fuel and other resources in tillage, bolstered by government subsidies, to feed stock that would be happier, healthier and more profitable on grass. Stating the obvious? Yes, but it is fascinating to read this account of the evolution of a very different and far less sustainable style of meat production to our own. These arguments in favour of grassland farming will be valuable to counter the "food miles" attack on New Zealand meat exports.



New Books at the Children's Library

Picture Books

Magpie mischief by June Peka. Illustrated by Jo Thapa — When a friend gives Grandfather a pet magpie he imagines that 'Pie' will clean up the insects in his garden. Pie has other ideas and merrily creates mayhem. Both Pop and Pie are real characters and their battle of wits makes a great story. I can see why it won the Joy Cowley award, given to foster the publication of excellent New Zealand picture books.



Goal! by Mina Javaherbin. Illustrated by A. G. Ford — Ajani has a brand new, 'proper' football, won as a prize for being the best reader in his class. He and his friends come out into the street to play. But the streets aren't always safe. Will the neighbourhood bullies steal their new ball? This is set in South Africa but the theme is universal – a group of friends just having fun, playing the world's most popular game.



Non fiction

1001 Children's Books you must read before you grow up. Edited by Julia Eccleshare — Quentin Blake, writing in the preface, describes children's literature as 'a rich and varied landscape' and the 1001 Children's Books ...as a guidebook. This book covers ages 0 to 12+, and includes works from Aesop's fables to the Twilight series. Inevitably every reader will have their favourites.



Nubs: The true story of a mutt, a Marine & a miracle. By Major Brian Dennis, Kirby Larson and Mary Nethery — Nubs was a wild dog in war-torn Iraq, surviving as best he could. When Marine Major Brian Dennis showed him a little kindness he gained a loyal friend. Nubs didn't know that soldiers don't have pets. This is the story of one dog's trek across the winter desert to find the person that he loves. Great photos and a touching story.



Chapter books

The unicorn princess by Babette Cole — Penny is pony-mad. When she reads about Fetlocks Hall, a boarding school where life revolves around horses, she thinks it looks perfect. Her parents can't afford the enormous fees but even that problem is solved by a timely scholarship. Yet there is something a little bit strange about Fetlocks Hall...



Thea Stilton and the secret city by Thea Stilton — Most of you will already know Geronimo Stilton but have you met his sister, Thea? These books retain the rainbow text and cheesy jokes that Geronimo's fans know and love but they are based on the adventures of the Thea sisters. When Nicky, Colette, Pamela, Paulina and Violet travel to Peru in search of a missing friend they find clues leading them to a mysterious hidden city.



Young adults

62 projects to make with a dead computer (and other discarded electronics) by Randy Sarafan — We live in a throwaway society. When our electronic equipment dies a swept-up new model is just waiting to take its place. Repair isn't usually an option but why not creatively reuse those discarded parts instead of adding to overflowing rubbish dumps. All you need is a few simple tools, some spare moments and this little book of ideas.



Fury by Shirley Marr — Eliza is a poor little rich girl, living in a secluded suburb, attending a posh school. 'Designer shoes, expensive haircuts, makeup, skin-tight clothes – and that's just the boys.' Eliza is insecure. Her father has left, her mother is caught up in a career as an up-market lawyer, school is a shifting sea of allegiances. Eliza is also a murderer. The circumstances of the crime are revealed slowly, giving the story a finely balanced tension.





Ashburton Second Bridge



The final decision on a second bridge location has not been made

Why does Ashburton need a second bridge?

There have been a number of studies undertaken on the Ashburton transportation network. The Ashburton Transportation Study 2008 identified that the main issue for the future will be the ability of State Highway 1 (SH1) to cope with increasing traffic volumes through the Ashburton urban area, and in particular near the Ashburton River bridge.

The studies confirm that, during the busiest times of the day the effectiveness of SH1 at the Ashburton River bridge and nearby intersections, is significantly reduced. This effectiveness is projected to get worse and be at an unacceptable level by 2026.

For residents of Ashburton to continue to have safe and adequate access between Tinwald and Ashburton, a second bridge was recommended in the transportation study. Council is now considering options to improve route security and land transport capacity across the Ashburton River to address existing issues and allow for growth and development. Council is discussing funding and location options with the NZ Transport Agency.

Community concerns include, but are not limited to the following:

- The current bridge and associated roading is near capacity
- Forecast further increase in traffic arising from growth
- Road safety, particularly at intersections on SH1 through Tinwald
- Safe access for cyclists and pedestrians
- Route security issues and lack of alternative routes

These issues are of concern to Council as most of the traffic crossing the Ashburton bridge is travelling between Ashburton and Tinwald and surrounding areas.

Refer to drawing below for traffic count information on the existing bridge.

What's happening now?

Further investigations into a number of options, some raised through the feedback process, are currently underway. You will get the opportunity to see the results of this work in further newsletters and at the community open days.

A second bridge needs to:

- Be in a location that best addresses the issues identified
- Be convenient to use
- Improve the ability of Ashburton residents to get to key destinations in town (including employment, shopping, education, health and leisure) by car, on foot or cycle
- Improve safety for all road users including motorists, pedestrians and cyclists
- Not create a division through the town
- Provide a cost effective solution

What about the effects of the second bridge?

A second bridge is likely to result in some negative effects through increased traffic near the new bridge. These effects will be considered when assessing location options.

How many vehicles cross the bridge?

A vehicle survey was undertaken throughout Ashburton on 15 February 2006. Results for the Tinwald section between 11am and 1pm and 2.30pm and 3.30pm are shown in the diagram below. This diagram shows the majority of the traffic crossing the bridge is not inter-district traffic. Further traffic count information is available on the Ashburton District Council website.

Did you receive and read Newsletter 1?

Newsletter 1 was distributed with the Courier on 24 August. We will be sending further newsletters to keep you up to date as the project progresses. You can find a copy on the Council website (see web address below)

Opportunity for public involvement

Community open days will be held to provide information on the further investigation work carried out. Feedback will also be invited from the community at this time.

For more information

See Ashburton District Council website:

www.ashburtondc.govt.nz

Or alternatively:

email: info@adc.govt.nz

Rob Rouse, ADC Operations

ADC Operations Manager

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