

New residents share journeys

Seven residents starting new lives in the Ashburton District will share their stories through an outdoor exhibition titled Welcoming Ashburton in the lead-up to the Hakatere Noodle Festival, which celebrates national Welcoming Week.

Delicious noodle dishes from many different cultures headline the festival on Saturday 13 September and storyboards featuring the newcomers will be set up in Baring Square East, where people can gather with their food and enjoy some entertainment.

Group Manager of Democracy and Engagement Toni Durham said Welcoming Week (Te Wiki o Manaaki) was a national celebration of diversity and the welcoming spirit of communities like Ashburton's.

"It's also about fostering connections and a sense of belonging for everyone, especially newcomers, and what better way to do this than with a night of noodles. Events like these promote understanding and connection between long-time residents and recent migrants, international students, and former refugees."

Twenty food trucks selling dishes and desserts from around the globe will be parked around Baring Square East, from 3pm on 13 September. The surrounding streets will be closed to traffic and an interactive family zone will also be open for fun.



Teacher Joselene Tagra and her family love living in the Ashburton District.

Mrs Durham said newcomers were an important part of the population of the district.

"They bring their skills, energy and talents and work in local businesses and on farms. They join community groups, schools and sports teams, and many start their own businesses.

"All this adds to the economic prosperity and development of Mid Canterbury, as well as enriching the social side of our communities. It's by everyone working together that we succeed, from both financial and wellbeing points of view."

The newcomers sharing their stories come from South America, the Pacific Island,

Italy and the Philippines.

Teacher Joselene Tagra, from the Philippines, said Ashburton had the charm of a small town, as well as offering great facilities and a strong sense of community.

Eileen Tuivuci and Jone Ratucoko, from Fiji, have embraced community and sport groups since coming to Ashburton for work two years ago, and they say people are friendly and welcoming.

Welcoming Week runs from 5-14 September.

The Welcoming Ashburton exhibition is supported by Ashburton Guardian and will be on display in Baring Square East for a week from Monday 8 September.

SHORT AND SWEET

DADS SWIM FREE

It's Father's Day on Sunday and we're encouraging dads to take a dip in the pools at EA Networks Centre. Dads swim free with a child (entry \$5.20). The pool alone policy still applies.

NEED A JP?

Justices of the Peace are available at the Ashburton Library every Tuesday and Friday, from 12pm until 2pm. A JP is a volunteer who witnesses and certifies legal documents, such as statutory declarations, affidavits, and copies of original documents. No appointment needed.

REBATE CLINICS

Our Customer Service team is heading to the Mt Hutt Memorial Hall in Methven on **10 September** (from 10am-12pm), and to the Rakaia Library on **1 October** (from 10am-1pm) to help residents with their rates rebates applications. Please phone 307-7700 to make an appointment at either of the rural clinics, or in Ashburton at another time. Do you qualify? Check the criteria on our ashburtondc.govt.nz/rates webpage.

PROTECTED TREES

Arborists will be undertaking pruning and maintenance on protected trees outside Balmoral Hall on September 15 and 16. Branches over the roads are being lifted and deadwood removed, and the red oak is having weight reduced on a limb over Cass Street.



Voting time is arriving

Keep an eye on your letterboxes because voting papers for the Local Elections will start to arrive from next Tuesday.

An advertising campaign featuring local faces will encourage people to vote.

Once you receive your voting papers, carefully read the included information and complete your voting document.

Pack your completed voting papers into the free-post envelope.

Post your voting papers back before Tuesday 7 October (so they reach us before voting closes) or pop them into one of our orange ballot bins.

For more information about voting, and the candidates, visit voteashburton.nz

MAYOR Neil Brown Milestone step for second bridge



It's great this week to see a preferred contractor has been appointed to design and build the new bridge over the Ashburton River at Chalmers Avenue.

Fletchers was named by Associate Transport Minister James Meager as the contractor to progress this job, which is a joint project between Council and NZ Transport Agency.

We've been told that construction work is on track to begin early next year, which is good news indeed for Ashburton and Tinwald, as a lot of local traffic will use the new crossing and this will lead to less congestion on SH1. It also means that if the existing bridge is out of action because of a crash, or because of flooding, then there is another crossing to keep our town connected, as well as the South Island.

I want to remind residents that this new bridge is not a bypass - that misconception seems to be sticking

in the minds of some. Traffic passing through Ashburton on SH1, trucks and cars, will not be leaving the highway to detour over the new bridge, why would they add miles and minutes to their journey through town unless the old bridge was out of action.

If you have questions about the second bridge and what it could look like, I urge you to come along to a public information session being held at the Ashburton Library and civic building on Thursday 11 September, from 3.30pm to 6.30pm.

Another piece of great news this week is that our Glow in the Park community event was a big winner at the national Event Association of New Zealand annual awards, taking out the Local Government Event of the Year and beating the likes of the Auckland Lantern Festival.

A very big congratulations to our hard-working event team, and thank you all for coming along to enjoy the show!



**MID CANTERBURY
CAREER FEST**

**EXPLORE YOUR FUTURE
DISCOVER | LEARN | CONNECT**

**THURSDAY
9 OCTOBER
3.30PM-7PM**

A&P SHOWGROUNDS
FREE ENTRY
FREE BBQ

Sunday shutdown to install new valves

Households and businesses in a large part of north-east Ashburton, including all of Fairton, will have a short water shutdown on Sunday night to allow important work on the Bridge Street water treatment plant.

The shutdown is from 8pm Sunday (7 September) until 2am Monday, though contractors are hoping to have the work completed sooner.

Contractors will be completing a new valve installation at the treatment plant, as part of an upgrade to the drinking water facility. New UV equipment is being installed, so the plant complies with national drinking water standards.

Group Manager of Infrastructure and Open Spaces Neil McCann said the shutdown would affect connections along a water main that ran from the Chalmers Avenue/Bridge Street roundabout along Bridge Street to Seafield Road, east to Company Road and then north to Fairton.

Also affected are properties on Murdochs Road, Keenans Road, Glassworks Road and Taits Road.

“It’s a fairly wide area that includes both residential and commercial, and the whole of the Ashburton Business Estate and Fairton township. Sunday night was chosen because it should be the least disruptive and we’re getting the message out early so people can be prepared.

“Residents may wish to store some



drinking water for use during the shutdown period, or fill a bucket with water if they want to flush their toilet.”

During the shutdown, contractors ARC Projects will be isolating the plant to install some valves that will enable the installation of the UV equipment.

After a water shutdown, it is common for air and discoloured water to be trapped in pipes, but this is normal. Residents are encouraged to flush internal taps for several minutes or until all the air and discolouration passes.

People signed up to Council’s free text alert service will be sent a shutdown reminder notice on Sunday morning.

Text your postcode to 4196 to receive free text alerts from Council when important issues arise.

Work starts on Dromore water plant

Work is under way on a major upgrade of the Dromore community water supply.

The supply has 80 connections and the upgrade will add additional cartridge filtration and UV disinfection. The new equipment will be housed in a new block building, near the supply’s 102m deep well.

The upgrade is part of a \$10 million package of work to ensure all of council’s 10 water supplies have a UV step, as required by new drinking water rules.

The Dromore upgrade is being undertaken by ARC Projects, who have also upgraded the Argyle Park, Mayfield and Hinds water treatment plants.

Group Manager of Infrastructure and Open Spaces said the Dromore work had just begun and has a value of about \$740,000.

“ARC will be constructing the new building and installing the new equipment over the next few months, with work expected to be finished by December. It is one of our older and smaller supplies and we’re also adding two new reservoirs, which will double the volume of treated water able to be stored before distribution.”

Each reservoir holds 30,000 litres of water.

A new water main to distribute water to household connections is also planned.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are at Hine Paaka (Council Chamber), 2 Baring Square East, unless specified. Agendas can be found on our website.

- Tuesday 9 September, **Ashburton District Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee**, Wakanui Room, 9.30am
- Wednesday 10 September, **Three Waters Committee**, 9.30am (livestreamed)
- Wednesday 10 September, **Audit and Risk Committee**, 1pm (livestreamed)
- Wednesday 17 September, **Council meeting** (livestreamed), 1pm
- Thursday 18 September, **Stockwater Transition Working Group**, 1pm
- Monday 22 September, **Methven Community Board**, 9am, Mt Hutt Memorial Hall
- Wednesday 24 September, **Council Activity Briefings** (livestreamed), 9.30am
- Wednesday 24 September, **Council Agencies - 6 month reporting**, 1pm

ROADING NOTICES

Line Road, Methven - Parts of Line Road will be closed to traffic until mid-October while new wastewater pipes are installed. Tru-Line Civil is laying about 800 metres of pipe from Methven’s wastewater treatment plant west along Line Road to the township. Any road closures and detours will be signposted.

King and Alexander Streets, Chertsey - Closed until 13 September while a new water treatment plant is built. The road closure does not impact school access.

Philip Street - Sections closed at times between Oak Grove and Walker Street until mid-September while new water pipes are installed by Rooney Earthmoving. Resident access remains.

Mason Place - Mason Place will be closed to traffic until 31 October, while new water pipes are installed. Access for residents remains.

Tancred Street - Closed between William Street and Chalmers Avenue until end of August while new water pipes are installed by Rooney Earthmoving. Resident access remains.

Thomson Street - Closed at Carters Terrace intersection on 4 and 5 September while EA Networks installs utility cables as part of its underground conversion project.

Grove Street - Closed at Wilkins Street intersection while new water mains are installed by Rooney Earthmoving. Road closures and detours expected until 31 October. Resident access remains.

Ashburton Staveley Road - Closed between Walkhams Road and Driscolls Road from 22 September until 28 September while a stock underpass is constructed by Harmer Earthmoving. Resident access remains, detours will be signposted.

Tinwald viaduct - Melcombe Street, under the Tinwald viaduct, is temporarily closed pending repairs by KiwiRail.

Full details of local road closures are on our website, ashburtondc.govt.nz

WATER WORKS

Grove Street

A new water main is being installed on Grove Street, between Carters Terrace and Wilkin Street, and drivers who regularly use that route can expect temporary road closures. The work is being done in two phases, starting from the Wilkin Street end, and it will take about two months. In the first phase, the intersection of Grove Street and Wilkin Street will be closed from 1 September to 26 September. Access remains for residents and they have been advised of the work, which is being done by Rooney Earthmoving on behalf of Council.

Brothers intake

About 40 members of the community interested in the future of the Brothers stockwater intake attended a meeting at Mayfield this week. It was a chance for them to ask questions and share ideas about how the intake could remain operational, given Council is exiting its stockwater delivery service. Have your say via our online survey (ashburtondc.govt.nz/services/projects/ashburton-district-stockwater-network). The survey closes soon.

Lifelong Learning Festival

Why: It’s Adult Learners’ Week – Festival of Adult Learning Ahurei Ākonga

Location: 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton Library & Civic Centre Te Whare Whakatere.

Organised by: Keep Learning Mid Canterbury & Ashburton Library

Get your free ticket
events.humanitix.com/lifelong-learning-festival

Are you...

- Looking to upskill for work?
- Exploring a new career or hobby?
- Learning life skills?
- Wanting to keep busy in retirement?
- Just keen to try something new, connect, and have some ‘you time’?

Engage with over 30 groups & learning providers.

9 Tuesday SEPTEMBER 4–7pm

Keep Learning Mid Canterbury Ashburton District Council

SECOND ASHBURTON BRIDGE

Come and meet the team!

We’ll be holding an information session in September where you can pop in, see plans and ask questions.

When: Thursday 11 September
Time: Any time between 3.30pm and 6.30pm
Where: Te Whare Whakatere, the Ashburton Library and Civic Centre 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton

NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi | **Ashburton District Council** | **Second Ashburton Bridge project**

COUNCIL OFFICE

2 Baring Square East
Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri 8.30am-5pm
Thursday 9am-5pm

ASHBURTON LIBRARY

2 Baring Square East, Ashburton 7700
Mon & Fri 8.30am-6pm, Tue-Thu 8.30am-8pm
Sat & Sun 10am-4pm

EA NETWORKS CENTRE

20 River Terrace
Mon - Fri 5.45am-9pm (pools 8pm Mon & Tue, 7pm Wed-Fri; gym 8pm). Sat & Sun 7am-7pm (pools 6pm, gym 6pm)

ASHBURTON ART GALLERY & MUSEUM

327 West Street
10am-4pm daily (late night Wed)