

Site set for water quality trials

Six shipping containers with their tops and bottoms removed were craned into a canal at Lake Hood this week, for the first stage of water quality trials this summer.

The containers are partly submerged and scientists will be testing a range of algal-control products targeting cyanobacteria.

Infrastructure Group Manager Neil McCann said the shipping containers would remain for a month and then be removed.

"The aim of this work is to test products on the water captured in the containers and prepare for a more scientific trial in February or March when cyanobacteria levels are expected to be higher. One of the containers is an untreated control container and the other five will be testing three chemical and two biological products."

Scientists are monitoring cyanobacteria, chlorophyll-a, total N, total P, pH, dissolved oxygen, turbidity and temperature.

Signs erected at the trial site inform residents and visitors about the work.



The shipping containers for the water quality trials were placed into a canal at Lake Hood this week.

Mr McCann said the lake was preparing for a busy summer and the weed harvester had already begun regular patrols, cutting and removing weed as required.

A full closure of the lake is also planned for 29 and 30 November, to enable the holding of a club rowing regatta.

Christmas line-up to deliver cheer

A big line-up of local entertainment is planned for Light up the Night, Council's Christmas festival on 29 November.

There'll be live performances from the St Augustine Filipino Catholic Choir, the Fijian Choir, Life Dance Academy, Sam McArthur, the Decibells, Kopy Kat and Murran Carter Buller - Santa will be on stage from 9pm.

Master of Ceremonies for the evening will be Hokonui breakfast radio host Luke Howden, who will also count down to the

lighting of the Christmas tree in Baring Square East at 9.15pm. The tree will be lit by the Mayor and the winner of a radio competition.

Santa and his elves will be roaming amongst the crowd from 6pm and posing for photos, or you can line up for free face painting and take your own in the iHeart radio photobooth.

The food court will be open from 5pm with plenty of tasty treats from vendors

including Purple Dragon, Tanos Gelato and the Toasty Shack.

The event is free and people are encouraged to bring a picnic blanket or a chair and find a nice spot on the grass to enjoy the evening's entertainment.

The giant six-metre Christmas tree is being assembled next week, with the help of EA Networks. There are about 1600 baubles that will glow in the dark.

For more, go to lightupthenight.co.nz

Cr Carolyn Cameron

Making best use of your rates

I feel very fortunate to have your support to represent our community for another three years.

Mayor Liz has given us all our responsibilities, and I am delighted to be chairing the Audit, Risk and Finance committee (this has expanded from the previous Audit and Risk committee that in place in the previous term of council).

I will challenge this committee and council to think in broader terms with the Audit, Risk and Finance committee's work to ensure we maximise the use of every dollar the council receives.

We also need to look at rates mitigation and seize opportunities, where both savings and investments can be made. The community, I hope, will hold us to

account on these matters.

Having a role on the Water Services Committee is also something I am looking forward to, as we will be shaping the implementation of Local Water Done Well within our district. This government legislation was introduced to ensure we continue to have safe drinking water as well as appropriate management of our stormwater and wastewater – how we do this is pivotal to the success of this council and to the future of our district.

Council is progressing work to exit the delivery of stockwater and talking with irrigation companies and property owners to find alternate sources where needed. If you've engaged with us and responded to our surveys, I thank you.

And while I'm no longer a representative on the heritage or migrant committees,

I've really enjoyed this work over the past two terms and will be keeping an eye on developments.

As a member of Council and into my seventh year, I'm grateful to have a place on Mayor Liz's executive team and promise to represent us all with integrity.

Good things continue to happen in Ashburton - the mini golf course is amazing and will open on Saturday, in time for lots of summer fun. We're also preparing for the arrival of Christmas with Light up the Night on Saturday 29 November and I encourage you to come along for some festive fun and see the tree in Baring Square East come to life.



SHORT AND SWEET

SAFE DISPOSAL

Council is urging residents to keep contaminated coloured sand products out their kerbside rubbish bins and instead bring them to the Ashburton Resource Recovery Park from Thursday this week. Some coloured sand products have been recalled by MBIE after independent testing confirmed the presence of tremolite asbestos. The sand needs to be in a sealed container and double-bagged. Bring it to the drop-off lanes in the recycling area, and alert staff.



CLEAN YOUR RACES

Now's the time for checking and cleaning any stockwater races on your property. For all users to have access to the water, no matter where they are on the network, it is important that a clear and continuous flow is maintained – plastic buckets, baleage wrap, weeds, hedge trimmings and other debris can all block races and result in overflows or water being wasted on land or roads.

KEEP KIDS SAFE

Pools can be dangerous for young children and any pool (permanent, portable or temporary), that can hold 40cm or more of water needs a fence or barrier that restricts access to keep children safe. MBIE has published a swag of information about the requirements that apply to different types and sizes of pools and is running an awareness campaign with safety guidance. Go to building.govt.nz/PoolSafety

LOW PRESSURE

Households on the Ashburton drinking water scheme might experience periodic low pressure for the next month while contractors upgrade the Ashburton Domain water treatment plant. The upgrade involves adding UV equipment to the treatment process, as required to comply with national drinking water rules. The plant has been shut down until 17 December; the town will be supplied from water plants at Argyle Park, Bridge Street and Tinwald until then.

Digouts, linemarking first on roading list

Council’s new roading operations and maintenance contractor **Fulton Hogan Ashburton** will initially concentrate on digouts and linemarking when it takes over the job on 1 December.

The five-year, \$40.7 million contract also involves pothole repairs, replacing road signs, grading, street cleaning and ice gritting, and local companies have been sub-contracted to help out.

Infrastructure Group Manager Neil McCann said Fulton Hogan wanted to start the digouts early to make sure more could be done before Christmas.

“Digout repairs need good weather to have the best results and are calculated by the square metre. Over the life of the contract, Council expects over 87,500 square metres of digouts to be achieved.

“A digout is one of the most common repairs we carry out on our network and they are essentially for big potholes or pavement failures that can’t be permanently repaired with a pothole mix.”

The maintenance contract is a mix of routine work, like grading and fixing potholes, as well as programmed work like seasonal ice gritting and weed spraying.

Mr McCann said several sub-contractors would support Fulton Hogan.

“Tarbotton Land and Civil will continue to do the grading on our unsealed roads, Philip Wareing will do the ice-gritting, Delta will deal with the weeds and Wasteco will do the street cleaning.

“Fulton Hogan has the plant and equipment they need and a well-established team in Ashburton to maintain the condition of our roading network.”

Plans made to hook Rakaia's big salmon

Sculptor Phil Price had his measuring tools out last week at the Rakaia salmon, riding up in a cherrypicker to inspect where the lifting hook will make contact.

The plan is to remove the salmon before Christmas for a major renovation, but getting it off its support stand and back on is a big logistical exercise.

The sculpture is about 12m long and weighs 1.6 tonnes. It was constructed with an internal fitting so it could be lifted with a hook and Mr Price went up last Thursday to check the hardware was in working order.

Once the lifting hook is made up and the big fish is hooked by crane, it will be cut off its steel support and then gently lowered onto a truck for transport to Mr Price’s studio in Waltham, Christchurch.

Group Manager of Community and Open Spaces Toni Durham said Mr Price would also need to build a special cradle for the fish to rest on while undergoing repairs. It will also allow the fish to spin in situ.

“The size of the sculpture makes it fairly



tricky to manoeuvre. Once it’s on the back of the truck, it will have a quick stop-off in Hornby for sandblasting before Mr Price and his team begin the refurbishment at his studio.

“We’re lucky to have the services of Ashburton Crane at a reduced rate to lift it off and on, and then Tarbotton Land & Civil have also offered to transport it without charge. We’d also like to thank EA Networks for the use of their cherrypicker at a reduced rate.”

Mini golf bookings open

Mini golf enthusiasts can now book a round at Mini Mid Canterbury, the district's new mini golf course.

The 18-hole course opens to the public on Saturday and players can book using the EA Networks Centre's website, via the Bookings tab.

If you have your own golf equipment, the course is free to play on. Putters and balls can also be hired at the EA Networks Centre reception for \$5 per person, during

opening hours; players can also scan a QR code to bring up a digital scorecard.

Bookings can be made for groups of up to 10 players.

Mayor Liz McMillan will officially open Mid Mid Canterbury on Friday, and councillors have been invited to take part in the inaugural round.

The course has been inspired by the district’s unique landmarks.

PUBLIC NOTICE

ASHBURTON DISTRICT PLAN CHANGE 8

Talley's Limited has applied for a Private Plan Change to the Business Zone Chapter and Subdivision Chapter of the Operative District Plan (2014). The change covers the following areas:

The rezoning of 32.5 ha at 78 Fairfield Road West and 109 Works Road, Ashburton, from Business F to Business E and to adopt the operative provisions of the Business E Zone onsite. Full details of the proposal and the accompanying evaluation report are available for inspection at Council's offices, or at ashburtondc.govt.nz

Council wishes to invite further submissions on decisions received during the initial consultation. Further submissions must be limited to matters either in support of or in opposition to the submissions and must be on Form 6 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Further submissions
Further submissions must be received by Council no later than 5pm on Friday 28 November 2025.

- Further submissions may be:
- Posted to Planning Team, Ashburton District Council, PO Box 94, Ashburton 7740
 - Delivered to Council Offices at 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton
 - Emailed to info@adc.govt.nz

Following the close of further submissions, a report will be prepared on the proposal and a hearing date will be set and notified to all submitters and further submitters who wish to be heard.

See the full copy of this notice at ashburtondc.govt.nz

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council meetings are held in Hine Paaka, the Council Chamber, unless otherwise stated; agendas are online at ashburtondc.govt.nz

Tuesday 25 November, **Council Policy Hearings - Gambling Venue Policy and Dangerous & Insanitary Buildings Act** (livestreamed), 1.30pm

Monday 1 December, **Biodiversity Advisory Group**, 1pm, Wakanui Room

Wednesday 3 December, **Council Meeting** (livestreamed), 1pm

Tuesday 9 December, **Road Safety co-ordinating committee**, 9.30am, Banded Dotterel Room

Wednesday 10 December, **Activity Briefings** (livestreamed), 1pm

Wednesday 17 December, **Council Meeting** (livestreamed), 1pm

USE YOUR WINDSTRAP

We've had some windy days, so please remember to use your wind strap (let us know if you need one)



ROADING NOTICES

Burnett Street - Closed between Chalmers Avenue and William Street until 26 November while Paul Smith Earthmoving install water and wastewater pipes as part of a new development. Access for residents is maintained.

Trevors Road – Closed between Ealing Montalto Road and Withells Road until 21 November while HEB carries out road maintenance on behalf of Council. Access for resident remains.

Chalmers Avenue - closed in places between Dobson Street and Robilliard Park until 28 November while new water pipes are installed.

Thompsons Track – Closed between Winchmore Lauriston Road and Pole Road, and Braemar Lauriston Road at Thompsons Track intersection from 3 November to 19 December, so Fulton Hogan can do heavy road maintenance on behalf of Council. Detours in place. Resident access remains.

Saunders Road – Closed between Pages Road and Galbraith Street from 10 November to 24 November while new wastewater pipes are installed by Tru-Line Civil on behalf of council. Resident access remains. Stage 2 of this work involves the closure of Saunders Road from Creek Road to Galbraith Street intersection, from 25 November to 12 December.

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

TRIENNIAL MEETINGS FOR RESERVE & HALL BOARDS

The new term of Council also signals a new three-year term for the volunteers who sit on the district's hall boards, reserve boards and domain boards. Over the next couple of months, boards will be advertising their triennial meetings and looking for new members.

- 24 November - **Tinwald Reserve Board** - 7pm, Tinwald Memorial Hall meeting room
- 27 November - **Mayfield Reserve Board** - 7pm, Mayfield Memorial Hall supper room
- 1 December - **Rakaia Reserve Board** - 7pm, at the Rakaia Recreation Centre
- 2 December - **Methven Reserve Board** - 7.30pm, Methven United clubrooms
- 8 December - **Alford Forest Reserve Board** - 7.30pm, Alford Forest hall

ALCOHOL LICENSING

Notice of Hearing

The Ashburton District Licensing Committee will hold a public hearing into an application by Joanna Alexandre for renewal of a Manager's Certificate, under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

The hearing will be held on Monday 8 December, at 10am, in the Wakanui Room at Council's offices at 2 Baring Square East.

Parties with an interest must file documents with the licensing committee by **Wednesday 26 November**.

See the full copy of this notice at ashburtondc.govt.nz

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)