

New tool in use for waste education

Waste educators working in the Ashburton District have begun using a new tool to encourage good kerbside recycling habits: a brown envelope.

From this week, people who inadvertently put out lids or other non-recyclable items in their yellow wheelie bins, will find the unwanted items returned in a brown envelope left in their letterbox. The envelope is printed with information about how items should be sorted and points to the Council's website for more information.

Infrastructure and Open Spaces Group Manager Neil McCann said residents were mostly getting it right when it came to what they could and couldn't recycle in their kerbside bin.

"But there are a few problem items, like lids and tops, that can easily catch people out. Returning these items along with further recycling information is a good way to share the message and it allows us to still collect their bin."

Mr McCann said the most common items that tripped people up were lids, tops, soft plastics and plastic that wasn't type 1, 2 or 5.

"Items in the brown envelope need to go in the red wheelie bin for rubbish, and the envelope itself is recyclable."

Auditors would also continue to check recycling bins ahead of kerbside collections and mark bins that were too contaminated for collection.

"Some yellow recycling bins have to be rejected because they contain food or a lot of rubbish. If they were emptied into the truck, they would put everyone else's



clean recycling at risk.

"We generally see positive changes once our audit team provides education and assistance to those properties whose bins have been pulled back. However, for properties that don't actively make any changes, we will remove their bins."

In January, 140 households had their recycling bins confiscated, and another 1284 bins were rejected. The watch list was 1876 the same month.

However, Mr McCann said contamination rates in the Ashburton District for the kerbside collection were generally low when compared with other areas of the country.

"Most of our community are doing a fantastic job with their recycling, so I'd like to thank everyone who is making an effort and encourage them to keep it up.

"Our contamination levels are around five per cent, but every truckload that gets rejected at the recycling plant costs ratepayers money. So, these envelopes are just one more tool we can use to keep improving."

A recent item on Fair Go highlighted problems with contamination in recycling bins in public areas, like our CBD and parks and reserves. Mr McCann said the same rules applied for those bins, but unfortunately like the rest of the country, these bins are often contaminated with non-recyclable material.

"We would like to see less contamination in these bins, but it's harder to achieve. The main message is that overall, recycling is effective and worth doing."

More information about kerbside recycling is at www.binitright.nz

Baring Sq East revamp under way

Contractors have fenced off Baring Square East, as Council's project to rejuvenate the public space gets under way.

The locations of underground services have been marked out and the fences restrict people going into the square until the work is complete.

Plants and trees will be relocated by Open Spaces staff in the early stage of the project, and new kerb and channelling is planned along East Street and Cameron Street.

Tru-Line Civil was awarded the contract for the project and the work will tie in with the recent revitalisation of the CBD and the new library and civic centre, currently under construction on the eastern side of Baring Square East.

Part of the redevelopment will include relocating the Boer War Memorial to Baring Square West. That sensitive work is being done by specialist contractors.

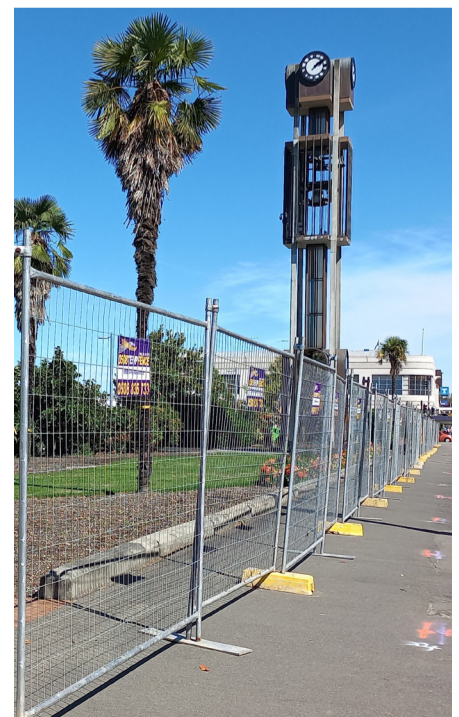
Infrastructure and Open Spaces Group Manager Neil McCann said redeveloping the square would breathe new life into the area and encourage more public use.

"People won't be able to access the square while the contractors are undertaking the work, but it won't be long until they have a new space to enjoy."

Some original features of the square, including the whale bones, oval path, water feature and clock, will stay, while the remainder of the area will be replanted and renovated.

People who regularly walk or drive in the area may find detours for pedestrians or some roads partially closed at times.

Signs will indicate traffic management in the area.



Hamish Riach - Chief Executive Village green to town square

Baring Square East has always had a special place in the history of Ashburton town, so it is good to see a planned renovation of the space getting under way.

The square was first surveyed in 1863 and "the patch of village green" has been modified several times over the past 160 years. It was cleared of tall pines and macrocarpa in 1892 and photographs taken since have shown ornamental trees and grass that provide a natural gathering spot for people of the town.

The renovations that will happen at the square over the next few months are designed to keep that sense of community use, while bringing the square into a modern era.

I look forward to seeing it being well used - for a lunch break or coffee stop,

for community events or smaller gatherings.

Importantly, we will still be able to enjoy a slice of the district's history via the statue of Longbeach estate owner John Grigg, founder of the Canterbury Frozen Meat and Dairy Produce Export Company, while waiting for the iconic town clock to strike the hour and kick off the water feature, as has happened for years.

The clock tower was installed by the Ashburton Lions Club in 1978 and contains a restored version of the 1904 clock that was originally in the old Post Office. It is a well-loved treasure and recognised landmark for the town.

Part of the renovation work will see new kerb and channelling along East and Cameron Streets, and a new one-way road on Baring Square East with parking for those visiting Te Pātaka

o kā
Tuhituhi
and Te
Waharoa a
Hine Paaka, the
new library and civic centre.

Construction of the centre continues, with contractors currently installing windows and working on the roof.

A project that is also well under way is the construction of a new membrane treatment plant for the Methven water supply.

We are pushing to have the plant and two new reservoirs complete and commissioned by winter and the new membrane treatment will filter water to a higher level than the old system, bringing an end to boil water notices for the town.

Everyone is looking forward to that day.



Big welcome for new citizens



Thirty-nine new Kiwis received their certificates of New Zealand citizenship at a special ceremony in Ashburton last week.

The 39 hail from 12 different countries: Israel, Russia, Philippines, India, Denmark, Fiji, Czech republic, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Slovakia, Samoa and United Kingdom.

Ashburton Mayor Neil Brown represented the Government at the citizenship ceremony, where the new Kiwis affirmed their allegiance to New Zealand before proud family and friends.

The ceremony also included video messages of congratulations from Governor General Dame Cindy Kiro and Internal Affairs Minister Jan Tinetti.

Mayor Brown said the new citizens had

moved from all around the world to make New Zealand their home and he thanked them for coming to Mid Canterbury.

“The good wishes and support of the community are with them and we look forward to our new citizens spending many years in this district. Migrants play an important role in our workforce and enrich our own communities and society.

“It was also great to have the Ashburton Intermediate kapa haka group perform so beautifully on the night and with such confidence.”

About 250 people have received their citizenship in the district over the past two years and last week’s new Kiwis also left with a kōwhai seedling, the young tree representing their new life.

The ceremony was held in the Bradford Room at the Ashburton Event Centre.

Nominations closing for Western Ward by-election

People living in the Western Ward of the Ashburton District are being encouraged to check they are on the electoral roll so they can take part in the by-election.

By the close of business on Tuesday, four nominations had been received, meaning an election will be held. Nominations close at noon on Thursday 16 March.

The election will held by postal vote and voting papers will be mailed out to Western Ward electors around 20 April. Voting will close at midday on Friday 12 May.

Those who received voting papers in the 2022 Local Elections are likely to be on the electoral roll but those who are new to the ward or have recently moved, should check their details are up to date.

Electors may enrol or amend their

enrolment details online at www.vote.nz, by texting their name and address to 3676 or by calling 0800 36 76 56 to ask for a form to be sent. Email requests can be sent to enquiries@elections.govt.nz

Voters will be able to return their ballot papers by post or drop them into orange voting bins at the Methven i-Hub, Ashburton Library or Council building.

The details of the nominations can be viewed on voteashburton.nz



TRIENNIAL MEETINGS

Mayfield Reserve and Hall Board

- Tuesday 28 March, 7.30pm at the Mayfield hall

ROAD WORKS NOTICES

Barford Road - current to 14 April.

Barford Road from Tinwald Westerfield Mayfield Road to Timaru Track is closed for road surface upgrade and widening. Detour available.

Mayfield Valetta Road - current to 6 April.

Mayfield Valetta Road between Tinwald Westerfield Mayfield Road and Anama Valetta Road is temporarily closed during the day for rehabilitation. Resident access remains, detour available.

Holmes Road - current to 21 April.

Holmes Road between Mt Hutt Station Road and Barkers Road is closed for a full road reconstruction and drainage installation. Detour options available.

Allens Road - current until 9 April.

Allens Road between Carters Road and Turton Street will be closed while the North West Ashburton wastewater system is extended and connected to the town network. Detour available.

Allens Road - Sections of Allens Road

between Middle Road and Harrison Street will be closed over the next few weeks for watermain renewal. Detour available.

Seafield Road - Seafield Road, between

Bremners Road and Bridge Street, will be closed on **28 March**, from 7am until 5pm to allow EA Networks to replace two poles. Detours are available.

View a map of all current and upcoming road closures in the district by going to our website ashburtondc.govt.nz

PUBLIC NOTICE

ROAD CLOSURE

Ashburton District Council gives public notice of a proposal to temporarily close roads to ordinary vehicle traffic to enable the holding of a community event – Ashburton Returned and Services Association Anzac Day Ceremony.

Roads proposed to be closed:

- **West Steet (SH1), from Havelock Street to Cameron Street**
- **Havelock Street, from Park Street to East Street**
- **Cameron Street, from West Street to Park Street**
- **Baring Square West, from Havelock Street to Cameron Street**

Periods of closure: **From Tuesday 25 April 6am to 8:30am and from 10am to 12:30pm.**

This proposed closure is made under the Local Government Act 1974 – Schedule 10 (11 (e) and will be considered at the next Council meeting on **5 April 2023.**

Any person objecting to the proposal should lodge a notice of their objection and grounds for their objection in writing by post or email to the Council, 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton by 4pm, **Tuesday 28 March 2023.**

NEIL McCANN

Group Manager Infrastructure and Open Spaces

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings are held in the Council Chambers, 137 Havelock Street

Council Activity Briefing, Wednesday 22 March, 9.30am

Audit and Risk Meeting, Wednesday 22 March, 1.30

PUBLIC NOTICE

MT SOMERS RESERVE RECLASSIFICATION

Notice is given that the Ashburton District Council proposes to resolve that the Reserve for plantation purposes vested in Ashburton District Council in trust, described in the schedule and outlined in yellow below, be classified as Local Purpose (Utility) Reserve pursuant to the Reserves Act 1977. The proposed classification will more appropriately reflect the intended use of the land, which is for the Mt Somers Water Treatment Plant.

Canterbury Land District – Ashburton District Schedule:

Area (hectares) - 1.6187

Description - Reserve 4813 (New Zealand Gazette 1956 page 661).



Any person wishing to object or submit to this proposal can do so in writing no later than **10 April 2023**. To make a submission or objection or to find out more about this proposal, please contact Council’s Property Team or email commercial@adc.govt.nz.

Ashburton District Council, 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton 7700.

Or: PO Box 94, Ashburton 7740

COUNCIL OFFICE

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

ASHBURTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

180 Havelock Street, Ashburton 7700
Mon - Fri 9am - 8pm
Sat 10am - 1pm | Sun 1pm - 4pm

EA NETWORKS CENTRE

20 River Terrace
Mon - Fri 6am-9pm (pools 7pm, gym 8pm)
Sat & Sun 7am-7pm (pools 5pm, gym 6pm)

ASHBURTON ART GALLERY & ASHBURTON MUSEUM

327 West Street
10am - 4pm daily