

EA Networks backs Glow show

Mid Canterbury's largest community event is back for another year, with EA Networks proud to contribute to the success of the event as a key sponsor.

Group Manager of Compliance and Development Ian Hyde said Ashburton District Council is thrilled that the partnership is continuing.

"The very first Glow in the Park was a celebration of 100 years of electricity in the district and EA Networks has been a part of the event every year since, so it's exciting to have them on board again."

EA Networks Chief Executive Onno Mulder said EA was excited to support Glow in the Park again.

"We're passionate about contributing to our local community, so having the opportunity to bring people together for events like Glow in the Park really appeals to us."

Visitors to Glow in the Park can expect an enhanced experience with the lighting displays encompassing a wider area of the domain, and a greater range of amusement rides. Alongside favourites from last year, many new light features will be making their first appearance in Ashburton.

Last year's event drew around 40,000 visitors over three nights, and organisers



estimate that almost half travelled from outside of the district.

"Glow is the perfect excuse for people to plan a long weekend getaway to our district and explore the many other attractions and experiences that Mid Canterbury has to offer," Mr Hyde said.

"Entry remains free thanks to our lineup of amazing supporters, and we look forward to announcing some of these partnerships and more of what people can expect to see at Glow in the near future."

EA Networks Glow in the Park will be hosted in the Ashburton Domain on King's Birthday weekend, 31 May – 2 June.

Business of the Year warming up

Ashburton District Council has again welcomed ANZ bank as the naming partner for the 2026 Business of the Year Awards.

ANZ Senior Manager Jeremy Macavoy said ANZ was proud to be the naming partner of the awards for the third time.

"Every awards season we discover new inspirational stories of home-grown people doing amazing things in the business world," he said.

"It's great to take a moment to recognise, acknowledge and celebrate local success."

Mayor Neil Brown said the awards are open to any Mid Canterbury-based business and offer an opportunity to showcase their success to a new audience.

"Whether you're a sole operator or trading at scale, and whether you're a new or established business, these awards are for you."

"Many people who've taken part in these awards have said it's been a great networking event."

Council is teaming up again with Rí Rá Events to run the awards.

"They know how to make the event a great experience and an overall fun night



Mayor Neil Brown (left) and ANZ Senior Manager Jeremy Macavoy are looking forward to Business of the Year 2026.

for everyone," the mayor said.

Category winners and a supreme winner will be announced at the gala dinner on 20 February 2026 at the Ashburton Aviation Museum's superhangar at the Ashburton Airfield, which also hosted the 2024 awards.

The event category partners for 2026 include Abbot Insurance Brokers, ANZCO Foods, Catalyst Performance Agronomy,

Crest Clean, Croys Accounting, Experience Mid Canterbury, Mt Hutt, Naylor Love, Spark Business Hub Canterbury, Talley's, Tavendale and Partners.

The awards are held every two years and entries for the 2026 event will open in the coming months.

For more information visit the ANZ Business of the Year awards website businessoftheyear.nz

SHORT AND SWEET

WOMEN'S NIGHT

The next women's swim night at EA Networks Centre is on Wednesday 14 May. These sessions are held regularly on the second Wednesday of the month, from 7pm-8.30pm and are for women only and children 10 and under. Come for a soak in the spa, do some lengths or spend time with the kids in the water. Adults pay \$5.

PLANTING DAY

Planting volunteers are needed for a special World Biodiversity Day event at the Harris Scientific Reserve on Sunday 25 May. Biodiversity volunteers make a positive impact on the environment and the group welcomes new planters, for this or any of its community planting events.

LAST DAYS FOR GIANT EGG HUNT

The Ashburton Library has been invaded by Easter egg hunters these holidays, all hoping to win a giant chocolate egg. All you have to do is find 10 eggs hidden around the library, match their numbers with images on an official entry form and pop it in the prize draw box. The winner will take home a giant chocolate egg! The lucky draw is on 28 April.



GALLERY & MUSEUM CLOSURES FOR WORK

The Ashburton Art Gallery and Museum will close for two weeks from Monday 28 April for work to combine two reception areas into one on the ground floor and to create new exhibition space on the upper floor. While the facility is closed to the public, staff will be busy helping with the renovations and installing four new exhibitions.

Remember the fallen on Anzac Day

The public holiday on Anzac Day 2025 will bring some changes to Council services and facilities.

The Ashburton Art Gallery and Museum and EA Networks Centre will both be open on Anzac Day, but the Ashburton Library and civic centre will be closed.

Residents will have the chance to remember New Zealand’s fallen soldiers on Friday, starting with the dawn service at the Ashburton Cenotaph at Baring Square West at 6.30am.

Deputy Mayor Liz McMillan will attend the early morning service, as well as the 7.30am service at the Hakatere Marae.

Mayor Neil Brown will be the guest speaker at Methven's Anzac service, and at the civic service and wreath-laying at the Ashburton Cenotaph at 11am.

This year, Anzac Day marks the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

Temporary road closures will be in place for Anzac Day ceremonies at Baring Square West, for the dawn and civic services.

The art gallery and museum is inviting people to join them for a special Anzac Day talk with Sarah Johnston, at 2pm. The facility will be open from 1-4pm.

Sound historian Sarah is researching recordings made between 1940-1945 by New Zealand’s mobile broadcasting units, which travelled overseas with our forces.

She will shed light on recordings the broadcasters made of New Zealand nurses. Courtesy of RNZ and Ngā Taonga Sound & Vision, she will play some of these 80-year-old recordings and talk about the men and women who we hear in them.



On Anzac Day, the Ashburton Art Gallery and Museum is inviting residents to hear the voices of nurses who travelled overseas with our forces during World War Two. The gallery and museum will be open 1-4pm on Anzac Day, with a special talk about the nurses at 2pm.

The nurses' recordings are part of a wider Anzac Day exhibition, Land, Sea and Air, which explores the stories of four Ashburton people who put themselves in danger during the Second World War.

The exhibition will run until 25 May, though the art gallery and museum will close for two weeks from 28 April while its reception areas are merged.

Rubbish & Recycling

There will be no change to kerbside collections on Anzac Day so put your bins out as normal.

The Ashburton Resource Recovery Park will be closed on Anzac Day.

EA Networks Centre

EA Networks Centre will be open on Anzac Day from 1pm-7pm (pools and gym close an hour earlier at 6pm).

Customer Services

Council’s Customer Services counter at Te Whare Whakatere, Baring Square East, will close at 5pm on Thursday 24 April, and re-open at 8.30am on Monday 28 April.

If you have a problem or urgently need to contact us, then the afterhours/24 hours-a-day service will be operating - please phone 03 307 7700.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are at Hine Paaka (Council Chamber), 2 Baring Square East, unless specified.

Wednesday 7 May, **Council Meeting** (live-streamed), 1pm

Wednesday 14 May, **Three Waters Committee** (live-streamed), 9.30am

Wednesday 14 May, **Audit & Risk Committee** (live-streamed), 1pm

Wednesday 21 May, **Council Meeting** (live-streamed), 1pm

Monday 26 May, **Methven Community Board**, 9am, Mt Hutt Memorial Hall

Wednesday 28 May, **Council Activity Briefings** (live-streamed), 1pm

ANZAC ROAD CLOSURES

Ashburton District Council gives public notice of a temporary road closures to enable the holding of a community event - **Anzac Day commemorative services at Ashburton Cenotaph.**

Roads to be closed:

- **West Street (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**

Period of closure:
From **6am to 8.30am**, and from **10am to 12.30pm** on Friday 25 April.

NEIL McCANN,
Group Manager
Infrastructure & Open Spaces



Final chance to have your say on water

There's only a few days left to have your say about how water services will be delivered in the Ashburton District under the Government’s Local Water Done Well legislation.

Council is proposing to deliver drinking water, wastewater and stormwater services with an enhanced inhouse Stand-Alone Business Unit (SABU) and wants your feedback ... but be quick as the

consultation closes this Sunday.

We've also investigated an alternative option of setting up a water services council-controlled organisation (WSCCO).

You can learn more about both options at itsourplace.nz

Both delivery models comply with the Government’s expectations while keeping our water infrastructure under strong

local control and maintaining the level of service that our community expects.

We encourage you to take a look at our consultation document, which provides a summary of the issues we've considered, the reasons for selecting our proposed model and financial modelling which compares the costs of each option.

Feedback closes on Sunday 27 April.

LAND TENDER AT RAKAIA



Council is calling for tenders on land on behalf of the Rakaia Reserve Board. The tender is for a five-year licence to occupy 2 hectares of **RES 2986 Michael Street, Rakaia** (outlined left).

Tenders must be received by Ashburton District Council on or before 2pm on 12 May 2025. The licence to occupy would commence 1 June 2025.

Please contact commercial@adc.govt.nz for a tender application form or for more information.

RUBBISH & RECYCLING ANZAC WEEKEND

There will be no change to rubbish and recycling kerbside collection services on Anzac Day, Friday 25 April so please put your bins out as normal by 7.30am.

The Ashburton Resource Recovery Park will be closed Anzac Day, Friday 25 April.

Access to the recovery park this Anzac Day weekend will be via Dobson Street West and Range Street (not Smallbone Drive), because of road closures associated with the Ashburton Car Club street sprints.

ROAD CLOSURES

Ashburton District Council gives public notice of a temporary road closures to enable the holding of a community event - **Ashburton Car Club Street Sprints.**

Roads to be closed:

- **Smallbone Drive from River Terrace to Robinson Street**
- **Robinson Street from Smallbone Drive to McNally Street**
- **Watson Street from Range Street to Robinson Street**
- **McNally Street from Range Street to Robinson Street**

Closure period: From 6pm on Friday 25 April 2025 to 8pm on Sunday, 27 April 2025

Additional closure: Range Street will be closed on Saturday, 26 April from 6pm to Sunday, 27 April 6.30 am only.

NEIL McCANN, Group Manager
Infrastructure & Open Spaces

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)