

## Take a stand in local elections

**Nominations open next week for the 2025 local elections and potential candidates are already staking a claim for some of the 21 roles available around the district.**

Aside from the mayoral race, nine councillors will be elected to represent the three Council wards, as well as five Methven Community Board members, six Braided Rivers Community Trust members and two Environment Canterbury representatives.

Nearly anyone can represent their community, as long as they are over 18, a New Zealand citizen and enrolled on the Parliamentary electoral roll.

Ashburton District Council Chief Executive Hamish Riach said potential candidates could now download a handbook with useful information about the election process and campaign rules.

"The handbook, nomination forms and a lot of useful information can be found at [voteashburton.nz](http://voteashburton.nz). There's also a link to the candidate information session that was held in Ashburton and a copy of the powerpoint presentation from that event."

Candidates can be of any age and background, and anyone interested in standing is encouraged to find out a bit more about what's involved.

The [voteashburton.nz](http://voteashburton.nz) website has a



ton of information for both voters and candidates, including how to make sure you can vote in the local elections, maps for the different wards and Frequently Asked Questions. Those interested in standing for the regional council can find out more at [www.ecan.govt.nz](http://www.ecan.govt.nz)

Nominations for all roles are open from 4 July until noon on 1 August. Candidates cannot nominate themselves and they must be nominated by two people, who are over 18 and enrolled to vote in the same ward or area the candidate is planning to stand.

Mr Riach says he encourages candidates to complete their nominations early, so they can be checked for any technical errors well before the deadline.

The local elections are conducted by postal vote, and people can expect to receive their voting packs in the mail ahead of the start of voting on 9 September. Voting closes at noon on Saturday 11 October, with progress results available later that day.

Local candidates will be listed at [voteashburton.nz](http://voteashburton.nz) once their nominations are processed.

## Tinwald's UV equipment now in play

New UV disinfection equipment at the Tinwald Water Treatment Plant has now been commissioned.

The plant treats water from a 74m deep well for households on the southern side of the Ashburton River. It has been upgraded to include a UV disinfection step, which is now housed in a new concrete block building near the bore, in the Tinwald Domain.

The water treatment plant is one of nine on the Ashburton community supply and council is upgrading all its plants to include a UV step, as required by the national quality assurance rules.



## CE Hamish Riach Water treatment upgrades roll on



**The UV upgrade of another Council water treatment plant was achieved last week when the Tinwald plant came back online.**

Council has a \$10 million programme of work to upgrade all its drinking water plants to include a UV disinfection step, necessary for the plants to meet national drinking water rules.

Tinwald joins plants at Mayfield and Hinds where the UV is now operational, with work at Rakaia, Argyle Park and Chertsey not too far off being finished too. The Ashburton Domain and Bridge Street plants are on target to be completed by the end of this year.

This work sometimes affects water pressure in surrounding areas or even necessitates a short shutdown of a plant, so I want to thank residents for understanding if their water pressure has been lower on the odd occasion. These upgrades are important for Council's compliance at a national level.

If you're keen to hear the nuts and bolts about these projects, you can watch a recording of this week's Three Waters

Committee meeting, which is where councillors receive a detailed update about all drinking water operations, wastewater and stormwater.

It's a meaty agenda and our water services team and contractors work extremely hard to ensure these three essential services run smoothly every hour of the day, as well as looking to future needs and improvements.

Eagle-eyed commuters may also have spotted a drilling rig in the Ashburton River – it's all part of work associated with the second bridge.

NZ Transport Agency's drilling contractor has been taking samples from the river banks and river bed at the location of the new bridge and the samples will reveal what the ground is like beneath the surface, and in turn help in designing the foundations to support the new bridge and embankments.

If you are interested in this important project, I encourage you to sign up for regular newsletter updates from NZTA by heading to their project page, [nzta.govt.nz/2AB](http://nzta.govt.nz/2AB)

## SHORT AND SWEET

### STOCKWATER CALL

Council is reminding people interested in the future of the Stoney Creek/Mt Somers stockwater intake that they have until 30 June to provide feedback via an online survey. Users of stockwater from the intake have already been surveyed, and the wider public now has a turn. Scan the QR code to take the survey.



### PUP-DATE DETAILS

Dog owners should have received their registration notice in the mail, with instructions about how to re-register their pet and pay the annual fee. If your dog's registration details have changed, such as a new address, ownership or they are now deceased, you will need to contact Council by email or phone, and staff will update your changes before you can then re-register them.

### MATARIKI VIEWING

The Ashburton Astronomy Club is holding free public viewings of the Matariki star cluster, at Argyle Park on 5 July and 12 July. You'll need to get up early and wrap up warm, as the viewings are from 5.45am-7am (weather permitting). All welcome.

### WHAT'S ON

School holidays get under way this weekend, so arm yourself with a copy of our What's On guide so that you can keep the kids happy. There's an activity for everyone at any of our facilities, from making a snow globe to taking part in a scavenger hunt or learning about paper quilling. Scan the QR code to download a digital copy of the guide and get busy.





# Baring Sq primed as event venue

Council is encouraging event organisers to look at Baring Square East as a venue, after making a decision to not allow events that would require a road closure on East Street, south of Havelock Street.

Group Manager of Compliance and Development Ian Hyde said the decision by councillors last week meant events on the southern part of East Street would not be permitted between 8am and 5.30pm Monday to Saturday.

“While this means events that have fixed equipment like tents and tables cannot happen in that timeframe, it does allow for a moving event like a Santa parade or other travelling celebration to take place.”

Council has revitalised both the CBD and the Baring Square East in recent years and Mr Hyde said the square now had room for events big and small, plus the ability to close off adjacent streets.

“We’ve successfully held Christmas events and the Hakatere Noodle Market in the revamped area of Baring Square outside Te Whare Whakateru and surrounding streets, and there are also other Council-owned spaces that are available for events, rather than East Street south.”



Baring Square East now hosts Council's Christmas event, Light up the Night.

A delegation from East Street retailers came to Council last year with concerns about road closures on East Street during business hours, saying they impeded regular customers and also had the effect of stopping traffic on side streets, which were now one-way.

Mr Hyde said Councillors’ decision addressed those trading concerns but still allowed for road closures for events on a Sunday.

“This decision supports our bricks and mortar retailers while giving events that have traditionally been held on East Street south, like Market Day or Boulevard Day, a chance to reinvent themselves in a different location.

“And when Mid Canterbury wins the Ranfurly Shield, then we’ll still be able to celebrate it with a tickertape parade on the main street.”

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

Monday 30 June, **Methven Community Board**, 9am , Mt Hutt Memorial Hall

Wednesday 30 July, **Three Waters Committee** (live-streamed), 9.30am

Wednesday 30 July, **Audit & Risk Committee** (live-streamed), 1pm

Wednesday 30 July, **Council Activity Briefings** (live-streamed), 3pm

## WORKS NOTICES

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

**Nicholson Street** - Closed between Belt Road and Davidson Street from Monday 9 June to Friday 25 July while contractors install utility mains to supply a new development. Access remains for residents.

# Splashdeck, toddler pool surface to be replaced

The new surface of the splashdeck and toddler pool at EA Networks Centre is not up to scratch and will be replaced by the contractor who installed it, at no cost to Council.

The recycled rubber surface was laid in January but has become discoloured and in places it has disintegrated.

People and Facilities Group Manager Sarah Mosley said the splashdeck surface was recommended by the contractor, who would replace it with a different product.

“That work will happen in the next couple of months and the splashdeck and toddler pool will be out of action for two weeks

during the repair.

“It’s disappointing, but the recycled rubber has not performed as expected in our facility.”

Ms Mosley said the area could still be used until its repair.

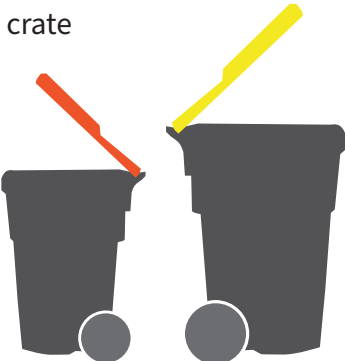
“The discoloured and faded areas are pretty obvious and the whole surface has lost its vibrancy, so it needs to be replaced. There’ll be no disruption for users of our other pools during the repair period, and we’ll keep the community informed about when the work will happen.”

The repair period will be scheduled outside of school holidays.

# VISITING OUR DISTRICT?

Here’s how we roll when it comes to recycling:

- Clean glass bottles in the green crate
- Clean hard plastics 1, 2 and 5 (no lids), and clean cardboard and tins in the Yellow bin
- Food waste and all other rubbish in the Red bin



# Own an active dog?



Is your dog always on the move, and worn out more than one registration tag?

Anna and Kevin shared this neat idea with us through Snap, Send & Solve ... and we think it's a great solution.

Their working dogs are always moving and have worn out their metal rego tags. So, they came up with a crafty solution of riveting the tag directly to the collar.

Remember, if your dog's tag has worn out or been damaged, you can bring it in for a free replacement.

## 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)