

Mini golf promises major fun

Mini Mid Canterbury, the district's new mini golf course, is on track to open on Saturday 22 November.

The 18 holes have themes inspired by Mid Canterbury features, like our braided rivers, farming industry and sports like snow skiing.

Mayor Liz McMillan said it was exciting to see the course in its final stages of construction.

"The asphalt on the last holes is due to be laid and this week we had a group of Year 7 and 8 students from Longbeach School come along to help plant native grasses and hebes."

The students met first with Council's biodiversity officer and the Kanuka Mid Canterbury Regeneration Trust to learn about the plants chosen for the course, and what they would need to grow.

The mayor, and former mayor Neil Brown, then joined the students to put the plants in the ground.

"We even had the chance to have a little test run on one of the holes, and that was very entertaining," Mayor Liz said.

"This is something that people of all ages will be able to enjoy together."

Mini Mid Canterbury will be officially opened on Friday 21 November and councillors have been invited to take part in an inaugural and social round of mini golf.

The course will then receive a final inspection before opening to the public the following day.

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

Bookings and equipment rental can be completed online at the EANC website, with bookings opening from next week.

Another unique feature of the course is that



Mayor Liz and Longbeach School student James Molloy took a break from planting to try out one of the holes, which has miniature versions of two special Methven buildings. Each of the 18 holes was inspired by favourite features of Mid Canterbury.

there will no paper scorecards; golfers will be able to scan a QR code to access a digital scorecard on their smartphone; it will be capable of recording individual and group scores.

At each hole, visitors will also be able to scan a QR code to learn more about the theme of the hole. Holes 1-11 are on the flat and designed to be mobility friendly, with the other holes on higher terraces.

Council and EANC are also running a competition via their Facebook pages, with the winner guaranteed their choice of timeslot on opening day and free equipment rental for a group of up to six.



Mayor Liz McMillan Events bring people together

A good crowd gathered at the Ashburton RSA to commemorate Armistice Day on Tuesday.

This is a day that reminds us of the importance of peace, compassion and unity, and it was an honour to be a part of it.

The past two weeks have been a busy time and I've attended quite a few events, as well as tending to the usual council business.

It has been great getting out and about in the community, from primary school book weeks to cultural events and centenaries. This is something that the councillors and I value and we enjoy

being invited along to community events.

One event I was really pleased to be a part of was the planting day at Mini Mid Canterbury, the new mini golf course at EA Networks Centre. Some enthusiastic senior students from Longbeach School helped make light work of planting the native grasses and it was obvious they are looking forward to having a round or two once it opens.

I like the fact that mini golf is an activity for people of all ages and abilities, and is designed to be fun. The course has been built with funds that have accumulated in Council's Reserve Contributions Account over the years, and that is

money collected from developers earmarked specifically for playgrounds and the like.

Last week we had the first of our reserve boards and memorial hall triennial meetings. These sub-committees of Council help with the running of the different reserves and halls and rely on volunteers. Keep an eye out for information on the meetings and come along if you would like to be involved.

Enjoy the long weekend. I plan to spend some time in my garden and get out on a walk or two. If you are travelling, be stay safe on the roads.



SHORT AND SWEET

LAKE HOOD

Visitors to Lake Hood early next week will see activity in a canal alongside Huntingdon Avenue, where scientists are undertaking water quality trials. Six shipping containers will be craned into the water and the scientists will then be testing different solutions on the water to see how they affect cyanobacteria. The testing will continue over the following weeks, with the containers to be removed early December. The weed harvester has also started its seasonal operation and is another tool being used to improve water circulation.

CLOCK TOWER

The clock tower in Baring Square East will light up in purple next week to mark Neonatal November and World Prematurity Day. Buildings, bridges, sculptures and landmarks all over the country are being lit up in purple during the week to raise awareness of the 5000 babies born too early every year in New Zealand.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY

The public holiday on Friday for Canterbury Anniversary Day means changes to some council services. There is no change to rubbish and recycling, and the Ashburton Art Gallery and Museum and EA Networks Centre are open. The Ashburton Library and council offices are closed. You can view our full service hours for the long weekend are on our website ashburtondc.govt.nz/latest-news

CANTERBURY ANNIVERSARY DAY RUBBISH & RECYCLING

There is **no change** to kerbside rubbish and recycling collections on Canterbury Anniversary Day on Friday 14 November and Friday's collection will take place as usual, with residents to have their wheelie bins out by 7.30am.

Remember to use your windstrap, whether it's windy or not.

The **Ashburton Resource Recovery Park** will be open on Friday from 9am-5pm, and on Saturday from 9am-6pm, and Sunday from 9am-5pm. The **Methven green waste** dropoff will be open Sunday from 12pm until 4pm. The **Rakaia Resource Recovery Park** will be closed on Friday, and open on Saturday from 9am-3pm.

Camera rolls for our wastewater pipes

Wastewater detectives are back in the district inspecting the conditions of our sewer pipes, starting in Methven.

The crew from Citycare Water will be working over a period of 4-6 weeks and advising residents by letter drop when they are in their vicinity.

This week they have been inspecting wastewater pipes on Carr Street and Barkers Road, in Methven, Albert Street in Ashburton and Tinwald.

Group Manager of Infrastructure Neil McCann said the crews used closed-circuit television, with a rover camera connected to a fibreoptic cable to send images and video of the inside of the pipes to a laptop.

“They’ll also be inspecting pipes on McElrea Place, Burnett Street, Hanrahan Street, Bucefield Avenue and Bridge Street, as well as stormwater mains on Oak Grove and Davis Crescent.

“The information Council receives helps assess the internal condition of our pipe network, and informs our renewal programme. Cameras are a lot less invasive than digging up a pipe to inspect it.”

Operators viewing the images and video are looking for irregularities in the pipelines such as cracks, water infiltration, breakages, tree roots and collapsed areas.

When the crew is on your street, people will see a Citycare Water van and combi truck parked near a manhole. The mobile camera can inspect up to 120 metres at a



time, and the 150mm camera broadcasts a signal so the operator can pinpoint exactly the potential problems.

Mr McCann said looking after wastewater networks in Ashburton, Methven and Rakaia was an important part of Council’s core work.

“We have over 200km of wastewater pipes in these urban areas and it’s crucial they are well maintained and replaced as needed. Some parts of the sewer network are more than 100 years old and while they’ve held up well, they are getting to the end of their lives.”

\$7.1m budget for road reseal programme

It’s the season for reseals and work is about to start on a \$7.1 million contract to reseal a total of 84km on 39 roads in the Ashburton District.

Group Manager of Infrastructure Neil McCann said the work is being done by ACL, which has a two-year timeframe to do the work.

“The longest section of reseal is 12km on Pendarves Rakaia Road, and there are several sections of about 8km each on Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road, Pole Road, Action Road and Mainwarings Road.

“Resealing is like painting a house, you do it regularly to keep the waterproof layer from cracking or delaminating. For our roads, hot bitumen is sprayed at high temperatures and then stone chip is laid and rolled in. As the bitumen cools, it holds the stone in place like glue.”

ACL will start the reseal contract on Monday 17 November, and aim to have the first summer of work completed some time in March.

The work this financial year totals \$4.1m,



with \$3m to be spent in 2026-27.

Roads were selected for resealing because they were new and needed a second coating to be fully waterproof, they were cracked and the seal was ageing or old, or they had had extensive patching.

The Ashburton District has one of the five largest roading networks in the country. In the 2025-26 year, \$18m will be spent on maintaining and improving sealed and unsealed roads.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

- Wednesday 19 November, **Extraordinary Council Meeting** (livestreamed), 12.30pm
- Wednesday 19 November, **Three Waters Committee** (livestreamed) 1pm
- Wednesday 19 Novmber, **Audit and Risk Committee** (livestreamed), 3.15pm
- 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

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

ROADING NOTICES

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.

- 18 November - **Pendarves Reserve Board** - 7.30pm, Pendarves Fire Station
- 20 November - **Hinds Reserve Board** - 7.30, Hinds Fire Station meeting room
- 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)