

Glow visitors tick over 59,000

Glow in the Park organisers are looking at visitor data collected during the King's Birthday weekend event, but they are already counting it a big success.

About 59,000 people came to the Ashburton Domain over three nights and were dazzled by the free, community light show.

Group Manager of Compliance and Development Ian Hyde said there had been lots of positive feedback after the event.

"It was great to see local families enjoying the lights and our initial look at the data shows the majority of visitors came from our district.

"There were however a lot of people from Christchurch, Selwyn and Timaru, and we also spoke to people who had travelled from as far as Nelson and Invercargill to attend."

Mr Hyde said the Eiffel Tower proved to be a popular photo spot on the light trail, followed by the inflatable jungle animals.

"And there were also lots of people stepping off the trail to see the illuminated spheres floating on the domain pond. We had more food trucks on site at this year's event and they appeared to be doing steady business."

Mr Hyde said Council was grateful to the local businesses who sponsored the event, including EA Networks as the naming sponsor.

"We have plenty of people to thank for making this a success, from our supporters and media partners, to the staff and



volunteers who gave up their time to guide crowds, apply temporary glow in the dark tattoos or look after lost property and the odd child.

"As with all our events, we'll take some time to talk to our event partners, staff and vendors to see what further improvements

can be made, but overall, we're delighted with how the event ran and grateful to our volunteers, sponsors and the support of our community for making Glow possible."

Did our photographer take your photo? Check our Facebook page later this week for online galleries.

Mayor Neil Brown Bright lights lead to big smiles at Glow in the Park

The skies above Ashburton were aglow last weekend and not just from the Aurora Australis.

Glow in the Park, in the Ashburton Domain over King's Birthday weekend, created its own kind of dazzle and it's been great to hear that so many people enjoyed the show.

So much of Council business is about making sure core services run smoothly because we all need things like water services and roads to function 24 hours of the day. Glow in the Park is special because it's a free event, designed to put smiles on the faces of people who live in our district.

The fact many come from out of town to enjoy it too is also good for our

district. They come, they spend, some stay overnight.

I've been asked how Council can afford this fantastic three-day event, and the answer is that we have some equally fantastic businesses that support us and our community too.

The cost of this year's event was covered by Council's event budget, with contributions by the event sponsors and media partners. The very first Glow in the Park was hosted in conjunction with EA Networks (the electricity company) and it's been great to have them on board as a major supporter since then.

It's also been great to see NZ Transport Agency advising the community about the start of geotechnical work

associated with construction of the second bridge and connecting road.

Bores will be drilled in the riverbed near the crossing points, between Chalmers Avenue and Carters Terrace, over the next month or so, but the biking and walking river tracks on either side will still be operational.

NZTA is managing the whole project, reporting regularly back to Council on progress, and it's fair to say we are looking forward to driving across the new bridge in a couple of years. It is essentially a local road for local traffic, but adds resilience to the state highway network and our town, in case the existing bridge is out of action.



SHORT AND SWEET

TINWALD WATER

Contractors are commissioning new UV equipment at the Tinwald water treatment plant and Council is advising residents that the work has potential to affect water pressure, though contractors are aiming for a seamless transition. The UV equipment is part of an upgrade for the plant to comply with national quality assurance rules.

STONEY CREEK

Interested in the future of the Stoney Creek intake? As part of its work to exit the stockwater delivery service, Council is holding a public drop-in session about the Stoney Creek intake. It will be at the Mt Somers Hall on **Tuesday 17 June**, from 4-5pm. All welcome.

SCHOOL SESSION

Council's Welcoming Communities team is helping migrant parents wanting to know more about how local schools, and New Zealand's education system, works. Welcoming Communities is working with the Hukatere Multi Cultural Council, the Ministry of Education and local schools to organise information evenings and one held in Methven this week attracted about 20 people. Other sessions are planned around the district.

NEW FARM STAFF

If you are welcoming new staff members to your farm crew, then check out Council's Welcoming Guide. It provides newcomers to the district with valuable information they need to settle - from English classes to enrolling children in schools, processing their driver's licences and community support available. The guide is online at ashburtondc.govt.nz/welcoming-communities

WASTE GRANT

Do you have a project aimed at lowering waste? Fund it with a Canterbury Waste Minimisation Grant! The grants are open to groups and residents in the Ashburton District and you can find out more at ccc.govt.nz/waste-minimisation-in-canterbury-grant

Methven's plan for progress

The Methven Community Board is wasting no time setting about implementing its newly-adopted strategic plan.

Chair Kelvin Holmes said one of the issues that had surfaced during consultation on the strategic plan was about the need to improve pedestrian safety.

“We had some great conversations with our community as part of the work to update our strategic vision for Methven and one theme that emerged was that the town needed some more pedestrian crossings so people young and old could move about safely.

“We’ve begun talking with the district council and NZTA about pedestrian crossings and we’ll report back to the community soon on progress.”

The community strategic plan was adopted at the community board’s meeting last week and Mr Holmes said he was proud of its vision.

“We had some great feedback, whether it was



The Methven Community Board has adopted a strategic plan for its community.

formally through the consultation process or at the Methven A&P Show or on the street. Methven has changed and grown a lot over the past decade and residents were keen to share their ideas and goals."

Read the full story at ashburtondc.govt.nz/latestnews

Info session for candidates

Council is hosting a candidate information session on Wednesday 18 June and anyone thinking about standing for Council or the Methven Community Board in the Local Elections later this year can come along.

The session will be at Te Whare Whakatare, Council's offices, at Baring Square East, at 5.30pm, and potential candidates can learn all about the election process and ask questions.

Chief Executive Hamish Riach said the information session would give potential candidates a good idea of how the election process worked and what was required to be a candidate.

“We’ll also have our Electoral Officer there to talk about how the election will be run.”

There are about 28,400 eligible voters in the Ashburton District and later this year they will be asked to elect a Mayor and nine councillors, as well as a Methven Community Board and other community representatives.

Mr Riach said key documents would also be available at the information session, including a pre-election report, nomination forms and candidate handbooks.

“The pre-election report is generated ahead of every local election and is designed to give potential candidates an overview of the district and the challenges ahead.

“Councils are responsible for a broad range of services, from making sure water flows from the taps, to managing building consents and providing libraries and parks. Councillors are elected to have a governance role in these important community services, as well as planning for the future.

"Anyone is welcome at the information evening, and even if you're not sure about standing quite yet we'd encourage you to come along and find out a bit more about the process."

Nominations open on 4 July. Voting documents will be delivered in September, with voting closing at midday on 11 October.

Public Notice Dog Registration Fees 2025-26

	1 July 2024 - 30 June 2025	1 July 2025 - 30 June 2026
Dog registration fees		
Disability assist dogs	Free	Free
Micro-chip fee per dog	\$20	\$21
Rural dog (1-2)	\$70	\$75
Rural dog (subsequent)	\$33	\$35
Late registration penalty - rural	\$33	\$35
Menacing dog - rural	\$70	\$75
Dangerous dog - rural	\$105	\$112
Urban un-neutered dog	\$105	\$112
Urban de-sexed dog	\$70	\$75
Responsible dog owner - urban	\$64	\$68
Late registration penalty - urban	\$49	\$52
Menacing dog - urban	\$105	\$112
Dangerous dog - urban	\$158	\$169
Licence to keep 3 or more dogs - urban	\$57	\$61
Replacement tag	\$13	\$13
Impounding fees - dogs		
First offence	\$100	\$107
Second or more offence	\$250	\$268
Daily sustenance fee	\$19	\$20
Impounding fees - stock		
Stock call-out fee	\$144	\$154
Impounding fee per head	\$120	\$128
Daily sustenance fee	At cost	At cost

Ian Hyde
Group Manager – Compliance & Development



ashburtondc.govt.nz

Spreading the word on dogs

We've translated our Dog Ownership pamphlet into Samoan and Tongan, and you can pick up a copy (as well as the English version) at Customer Services!

The brochure has all the relevant information about your responsibilities as a dog owner, including what to do during registration month in July.



ROAD CLOSURE

Pursuant to the Local Government Act 1974 - Schedule 10 (11e), Ashburton District Council gives public notice of the the following temporary road closure.

Ashburton College Ball

Road to be closed:

- Wills Street - between Cass Street and East Street

Period of closure: **From 6pm until 10pm on Friday, 6 June 2025.**

NEIL McCANN, Group Manager Infrastructure & Open Spaces

ICE ON YOUR WINDOW?

There have been a few frosty mornings this week and if you park your car outside, then ice on your windscreen may be an issue. Drop into our Customer Services counter at 2 Baring Square East and grab a free ice scraper.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

Wednesday 18 June, **Council Meeting** (live-streamed), 1pm

Tuesday 24 June, **Stockwater Transition Working Group**, 1.30pm

Wednesday 25 June, **Three Waters Committee** (live-streamed), 9.30am

Wednesday 25 June, **Audit & Risk Committee** (live-streamed), 1pm

ASHBURTON RRP HOURS

The Ashburton Resource Recovery Park is now operating under its winter hours.

The facility is open from 8am-5pm Monday to Friday, and from 9am-5pm Saturday and Sunday.

WORKS NOTICES

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

Trevors Road - One way (northbound traffic only) between Beach Road and Wellington Street from 7 April to 27 June for work related to lifestyle village development.

Agnes Street - Closed between Thomson and Grove Streets, on Monday 9 June as part of work to install fibre connections on behalf of Chorus to expand their network. Resident access remains.

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.

Full details of local road closures are on our website, 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)