

What's On this winter break?

A free family show called **The Snow** is one of the highlights of a winter-themed **What's On Guide** for activities at Council facilities over the coming school holidays.

The Snow is a play about an epic snowfall that imprisons the residents of a tiny village called Kishka, and how they build a catapult to fling one of their bravest and strongest out in search of a solution.

Group Manager of People and Facilities Sarah Mosley said the play featured Canterbury actors and would be held in the event space at the Ashburton Library.

"This is a great play. It's whimsical and funny, and suitable for the whole family, and the event space with its tiered seating will be a great venue. Space is limited though, so people need to book even though it's free."

The Snow will be held on Sunday 6 July, at 1.45pm and bookings can be made at ashburtondc.govt.nz/events.

The winter What's On Guide has 22 listings for events over the holidays, which run from 28 June to Sunday 13 July.

Ms Mosley said there were activities for all ages at the library, EA Networks Centre and the Ashburton Art Gallery and Museum.

"There's a scavenger hunt every day of the holidays at EA Networks, and you



can make a snowglobe at the art gallery and museum and learn a little bit about Antarctica at the same time.

"You can also make a special star, learn about paper quilling, or come to a movie in your pyjamas, there really is something for everyone."

Running across all the activities is a winter challenge, where children have to complete four tasks and have their challenge card stamped so they can go

into a draw to win a boredom buster pack.

Most of the activities in the guide are free, but some require booking, like the Matariki escape room and The Snow show.

You can find the guide at ashburtondc.govt.nz/events, pick up a paper copy at any Council facility or scan the QR code.



Mayor Neil Brown A special time for all Kiwis



There is something quite special about presenting citizenship to 93 new Kiwis this week, as our country celebrates Matariki.

The path to citizenship is no small journey, and it takes time, commitment and money. It is also an emotional journey for some, as they reflect on where they have come from to start a new life in New Zealand.

No matter their origin, migrants make our district richer as they contribute to their communities and bring their work skills and talents.

Our new citizens this week come from 22 different countries, including Russia, Nepal and Cambodia, and that must be some sort of record for our district.

It's always been a pleasure as mayor to officiate at citizenship ceremonies to mark such important milestones.

Friday is the public holiday to mark Matariki, which is the beginning of the Māori New Year. It's a time

for reflection, remembrance, celebration, and looking forward to the future ... fitting for our newest Kiwis.

The rising of the Matariki star cluster in the winter sky signifies a time of renewal and there are a few places in the district that offer great early-morning views. The Rakaia Gorge scenic lookout is a great spot, and you can also join the Ashburton Astronomy Club on 5 and 12 July when they set up at Argyle Park early in the morning.

Our district's winter face is truly here and it's great to see Methven beginning to buzz with tourists as the ski season gets under way. If you're on the roads, please take extra care as black ice is treacherous.

I'm also delighted to share news that Te Whare Whakareta has captured another local government award - this one is for outstanding placemaking and it's less about the nuts and bolts of the new library and civic building and more about how it has been embraced by the community.

Lake Hood water testing continues

Environment Canterbury continues to monitor the water quality at Lake Hood and the lake needs two consecutive weekly cyanobacteria tests below 0.5mm3/L to trigger the lifting of the public health warning by Health New Zealand.

Group Manager of Infrastructure and Open Spaces Neil McCann said the most recent test was 2mm3/L.

"Council is already looking ahead to what we can do to manage or mitigate algae levels in coming summers, including working with a scientist from Lincoln University who has extensive experience in cyanobacteria. We have a lot to learn about managing algal growth in the warmer months using all the operational tools we have."

A hydrodynamic model of the lake is also being developed to simulate water circulation patterns, which are key to understanding the transport, distribution and accumulation of nutrients, sediment and cyanobacteria blooms.

Lake Hood residents and the wider community interested in the ongoing water quality work at Lake Hood can sign up for email updates via Council's website.

SHORT AND SWEET

CLIMATE VIEWS

Council has extended the deadline for feedback from the community on its draft climate change and sustainability strategy until **Sunday 22 June**. Group Manager of Democracy and Engagement Toni Durham said it was a big subject and the community needed more time to digest the draft strategy and make submissions. "We've had a handful of submissions so far, but we know more are coming so we've extended the deadline." For more, go to itsourplace.nz

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.

SIGN LANGUAGE

Are you curious about New Zealand sign language, or would you like to learn sign language? Come along to beginner classes at the Ashburton Library starting Wednesday 16 July, 6pm-7.30pm. For more information, text Carol 0272 498 400.

BRIDGE UPDATES

NZ Transport Agency is drilling test bores in the river off Chalmers Avenue and Carters Terrace, as part of preliminary work for the second Ashburton bridge and connecting road. Track users on either side of the river should not be affected. The agency has created a webpage for the project and is encouraging people to sign up for email updates: www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/second-ashburton-bridge

GRANNY FLATS

The government is making changes to make it easier to build "Granny Flats" (also known as Small Standalone Dwellings). These changes are not in effect yet and until the law changes, small standalone dwellings still need a building consent. If you start building before the rules change, you need a building consent, even if it meets the proposed building consent exemption conditions. Not sure? Check with our planning team.

Pip leads list of popular names

The most popular dog name in the Ashburton District is Pip, according to our dog registration data.

Bella is the second most popular name, followed by Ted, Max, Molly and Ruby.

The district has about 7000 registered dogs and the most popular breed is Labrador, followed by Huntaway and Border Collie.

Owners of all dogs can expect to receive their annual registration notice in the mail over the next two weeks, with instructions about how to re-register their pet and pay the annual cost.

Compliance and Development Group Manager Ian Hyde, who will be among those to receive a notice, said dog owners had until the end of July to register their dog.

“It’s easy to do online and now that we have the long-wearing metal tags you don’t even need a new one. However if you have a particularly active dog and the number on the tag is hard to read, then bring the old one in and exchange it for a new one.”

If your dog’s registration details have changed, such as a new address or ownership, or they are now deceased, you will need to contact Council by email or



Border Collies are among the most popular dog breeds in the Ashburton District.

phone, and staff will update your changes.

The law requires all dogs over three months of age to be registered, and dogs that have not been registered with Council before are classified as a new dog.

Mr Hyde said there was plenty of helpful information on Council’s website about

dogs and their owners’ responsibilities.

“We’ve also translated our dog ownership pamphlet into Samoan and Tongan and copies of these, as well as the English version, are available at Customer Services at the Council building in Baring Square East.”

Council service hours over Matariki long weekend

The public holiday for Matariki on Friday 20 June will see temporary changes to some Council services and facilities.

There is no change to the kerbside rubbish and recycling collection, so put your bins out at usual on Friday. Collection times can vary, but if your bin isn’t emptied by 7.30pm then please call us and let us know.

The Rakaia Gorge has a special platform offering seasonal views of the Matariki star cluster, but if you want an activity closer to home, then pop along to the Ashburton Art Gallery and Museum and see its Puaka

Matariki exhibition. The art gallery and museum is open 10am-4pm every day of the long weekend.

There are also some Matariki-themed activities coming up in the school holidays that you can check out in our latest What’s On guide (you can find the guide on our website or scan the QR code).

The Ashburton Library will be closed on Matariki, but open Saturday and Sunday. EA Networks Centre will be open all three days of the long weekend.

For our full service hours, see ashburtondc.govt.nz/latestnews

COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

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), 12.45pm

Thursday 26 June, **Council Hearings Climate Change & Sustainability Strategy** (live-streamed), 9.30am

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 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.

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

RUBBISH & RECYCLING OVER MATARIKI HOLIDAY

There is no change to the kerbside rubbish and recycling collection on Matariki, so put your bins out at usual on Friday. Collection times can vary, but if your bin isn’t emptied by 7.30pm then please call us on 03 307 7700 and let us know.

The Ashburton Resource Recovery Park will be open Friday, Saturday and Sunday, from 9am-5pm. The Rakaia Resource Recovery Park will be closed on Friday.

Are you thinking about running in the local body elections?

CANDIDATE INFORMATION SESSION

Methven

Tuesday 24 June - 7pm
Mt Hutt Memorial Hall

Topics include:

- ✓ How to stand for election and who can nominate you.
- ✓ The rules and guidelines for campaigning.
- ✓ What happens if you’re voted in.
- ✓ Your responsibilities as an elected member.

RUN

BACK YOURSELF. RUN FOR COUNCIL.

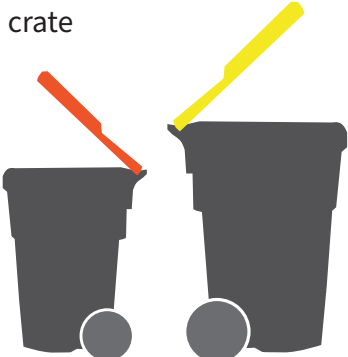
voteashburton.nz

VOTE 2025
LOCAL ELECTIONS

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



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)