

Be part of our time capsule project

The words of hundreds of residents in the Ashburton District will be captured in a time capsule being included in the new library and civic building, Te Pātaka a kā Tuhituhi and Te Waharoa a Hine Paaka.

Residents from the hills to the seas are being invited to hand write on a slip of paper what they like best about our district – the responses will be curated and preserved in the capsule, which will be opened in 2078.

People and Facilities Group Manager Sarah Mosley said Council had adopted a list of items that would be contained in the time capsule itself.

“Taking part in the best thing campaign is the way that members of the community can also participate in the project. We hope that residents will visit any Council facility in May and June and fill in the simple form.”

Council referred the selection of items to the Mid Canterbury Heritage working group and they have carefully selected and prioritised information and objects that represent our district’s built and natural environment, our people and our lives today - while also fitting in a relatively small box.

“We are going to include photographs of landmarks, like the Rakaia salmon; maps, information about our population and snapshots of businesses and community groups at the time.

“For our best thing campaign, people are being asked to write their name and age, and what they like most about living in our district. We’re hoping for responses from people across the age range, so residents of the future can get a good,



Deputy Mayor Liz McMillan says the best thing she likes about the Ashburton District is its community spirit.

positive sense of how people felt about living here in 2023.

“It’s exciting to be preserving a unique slice of our social history this way. Every comment will collated and then printed onto archival paper so it does not disintegrate with time.”

The time capsule will be incorporated into a special panel of the ground floor of the building.

Councillors said opening the capsule in 2078 would acknowledge 200 years since the formation of both the Ashburton County in 1876 and Ashburton Borough in 1878.

Time capsule forms are available at the Ashburton Public Library, Ashburton Art Gallery and Museum, EA Networks Centre, Mt Hutt Memorial Hall and Council’s administration building on Baring Square West until Friday 30 June.

Forms can be completed on site and dropped into collection boxes at the facilities.

War stories from the home front

The Ashburton Art Gallery and Museum is continuing its stories from the Canterbury Home Front during WWII at two special events, with topics ranging from war brides to conscription.

Professor of History at the University of Otago, Angela Wanhalla, will be at the facility on Sunday 21 May to explore lesser known aspects, including the stories of women who married American servicemen, and their fate, through to Maori engagement in the war effort.

Angela specialises in Maori, New Zealand and women’s history and her illustrated talk starts at 1pm on 21 May.

Sharing the Burdens: Conscription in Canterbury during WWII is the subject of a talk on Wednesday 7 June, at 6pm. Senior History Lecturer at Massey University David Littlewood has researched conscription and is guest speaker.

During the initial stages of World War II, the New Zealand government adopted sweeping powers to conscript men into the army. When conscription was subsequently extended into the industrial sphere and made applicable to women as well as men, it became a web that entangled every aspect of wartime life.

Historians have focused on those few who raised conscientious objections. Yet most debate centred on the balance between meeting the country’s military and food production commitments, and on how the burdens conscription imposed should be spread among different groups.

Neil Brown - Mayor

Strengthening our community connections

I’m reflecting about our community connections this week and how, like all good relationships, they need work to stay healthy.

As a district leader, I am invited to many community occasions and over the past weekend I was delighted to unveil a special plaque in the Ashburton Domain marking the start of the reign of King Charles III.

The three Matai trees planted at the domain will grow together, and in the company of other trees planted to celebrate Royal events over the past century or more. Whether you are a Royal fan or not, the importance of the occasion was significant and it was great to see many members of the community come along and join in.

The domain remains one of our premier spots for connecting, whether you are bringing children to play sport or feeding the ducks, or just walking in nature – Council takes pride in maintaining and developing the space for people to enjoy.

The Harris Scientific Reserve also marked the coronation on Saturday with plantings of natives, trees and plants that were everywhere on the Mid Canterbury plains until it was cleared by early settlers. This reserve is an important connection to our past, and it takes a lot of energy by the Ashburton Community Conservation Trust to keep it going.

A special part of Saturday’s activity there involved families planting kowhai trees, with their names on tags tied to the stem – I hope this helps more

people feel connected to the space so that it can continue to grow.

Another way our elected councillors are working to connect with the community is through our Talk it Up Tuesdays. These are regular sessions at the Ashburton Public Library on Tuesdays, from 2-3pm and from 6-7pm, and provide an opportunity to drop in for an informal chat with the people elected to represent you – we’d love to hear your ideas for the district, your concerns, and your positive thoughts.

Our regular Council meetings are livestreamed so residents can see us in action around the decision-making table, but it is always nice to meet the people we represent in person. Don’t be shy, and there’s a good chance we’ll have a packet of cameo creams to share!

I’ve also been pleased to see the strength of Council’s connection with the community shine through during the organisation of this year’s Glow in the Park event. The inaugural event was held last year in the Tinwald Domain and we are back there again, with lots of support from businesses who have been providing sponsorship, food or entertainment. We’ve already seen an avalanche of enthusiasm on social media from people looking forward to the event and it’s fair to say that we can’t wait either!

So, while our core job involves water, waste and roads, an equally important role for Council is to build social connections. Ultimately, it is all about the people.



Arty refresh for Chorus boxes

Bland cabinets across Ashburton have again been turned into lively artworks by talented artists thanks to a continued partnership between Chorus and Ashburton District Council.

Mayor Neil Brown says the cabinet art programme is a great initiative that really celebrates the local area.

“These works are a fabulous celebration of the pride, vibrancy and colour of our district. You can’t help but think it’s great to be in Ashburton when you see them.”

Over the past year the programme has created five new pieces of public art from four talented artists. Work is under way to select cabinets for the next round in July.

Two of the new painted boxes reflect on the district’s sporting links. In Agnes Street, artist Charlotte Riley celebrates Mid Canterbury Rugby and on Robinson Street she honours mountain biking.

“It isn’t just about the sport – it’s about celebrating the hard work of the volunteers who build the trails, and the grass roots pride in seeing a try being scored by the green and gold of Mid Canterbury,” she says.

Chloe Jamieson’s work on the corner of Memorial and Cameron in Methven is buzzing – it’s that great Kiwi icon the Buzzy Bee. According to Chloe, Buzzy Bee is one of those quintessentially Kiwi things. “Somehow it brings us all together and makes us smile.”



In Ashburton’s William Street there is a celebration of nature, with a combination of wildflowers, a butterfly and a crescent moon. “Nature and infrastructure aren’t an obvious mix, but it’s great when we can combine the two,” says the artist behind the creation Amalia Worsfold.

In Beach Road there is an alternative take on nature – with a scene of flower people. Charlotte Syme, the artist, says it’s simply a fun piece “with flower people of different shapes and sizes having fun and wearing clothes that are as colourful as the flowers”.

Chorus Community Relations Manager Jo Seddon says the Chorus cabinet art programme started as an experiment to stop graffiti in 2010 but has been phenomenally successful.

“It’s resulted in hundreds of cabinets across the country becoming bright artworks, which are now rarely affected by graffiti. Added to that, the programme has helped some talented artists further their careers.”

Voting closes midday Friday

Voting in the Western Ward by-election closes at midday this Friday with people now urged to drop their voting papers into the orange ballot boxes at Council, the Ashburton Public Library or Mt Hutt Memorial Hall.

Chief Executive Hamish Riach said the ward had just under 4200 eligible voters and information from the by-election organiser on Monday was that 32 per cent had returned their voting papers already.

“It is now too late to return them by post, so we encourage those who want to vote, to drop their papers into the orange ballot boxes so they are received in time.”

Four candidates are standing for the vacancy on Council created by the death of Councillor Rodger Letham last December. Preliminary results are expected to be known late on Friday afternoon, with confirmation on Monday.

The successful candidate will be sworn in at a Council meeting on 17 May.

The new Western Ward councillor will also join the Methven Community Board, which next meets on 12 June.

For information about the by-election and daily returns, go to voteashburton.nz

Public Notice Rating Information Database

The Rating Information Database of the Ashburton District Council is now available for inspection on our website ashburtondc.govt.nz at any time.

Any other queries regarding the Rating Information Database can be made by calling our office on (03) 307 7700, emailing info@adc.govt.nz or visiting the Ashburton District Council at 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton during our office hours (Monday to Wednesday, 8.30am – 5pm, Thursday 9am – 5pm, Friday 8.30am – 5pm).

The Rating Information Database contains information required by Council to set and assess rates on each rating unit within the Ashburton District. Details include the name and postal address of the owner of the rating unit, rating valuation, services available or connected to the rating unit, the legal description, and the area of the rating unit.

This is as per Part 2 Section 27 and Section 28 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, and the Local Government (Rating) Amendment Act 2004.

Hamish Riach
Chief Executive

PUBLIC NOTICE

GRAZING TENDER

The Ashburton District Council, on behalf of the Rakaia Reserve Board, seeks tenders to graze the land described below:

Michael Street, Rakaia

- Area 2.0234 ha approximately

- Legal Description: RES 2986 RAKAIA TSHIP-RECREATION RES

A five (5) year grazing licence is proposed with a commencement of **5 June 2023**.

Tenderers may tender by completing the appropriate tender documentation which may be obtained from Council’s Customer Services Department at 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton, by phoning Council on 03 307 7700 or by e-mailing info@adc.govt.nz

Tenders are to be enclosed in an envelope enfaced “Rakaia Reserve Board Licence to Occupy” and are to be either delivered or posted to reach Council by **closing time of 4pm, Thursday 1 June 2023**.

Tenders for the sections should be sent to: The Chief Executive Officer, Ashburton District Council, PO BOX 94, ASHBURTON 7700.

Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Officer for inquiries – Michelle Hydes, Property Advisor

COMMUNITY EVENTS

LET'S TALK ABOUT HEADCOVERINGS

To coincide with the Immigrant Journeys exhibition, the Ashburton Public Library will also run a Saturday morning talk for people to learn about the hijab (headcovering).

Saturday 13 May, 10am-11.30am

The library and Hakatere Multi Cultural Council have organised a conversation with members of our community who wear hijabs and who are happy to talk about their stories. It will run from 10am-11.30am on Saturday 13 May.

INFORMATION ON HOME OWNERSHIP

Looking at buying your first home but not sure where to start? Do you qualify for a First Home Loan? Can you withdraw from your KiwiSaver?

Monday 15 May

Kāinga Ora has several products and resources that can give you a helping hand towards home ownership, and you can learn more about them at free sessions at the Ashburton Public Library on Monday 15 May. The sessions start at 12.15pm, 1.15pm and 6pm. Bring your lunch or drop by after work.

KEEP UP TO DATE

For more Council news, advisories and information, and the latest stories, go to ashburtondc.govt.nz and follow us on Facebook.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings are held in the Council Chambers, 137 Havelock Street, (unless otherwise advised).

Council Meeting, Wednesday 17 May, 1pm (live-streamed)

Chertsey Reserve Board triennial meeting, Thursday 25 May, 7pm at the Chertsey Hall

Transportation and Parking Bylaw and Revenue and Financing Policy submission hearings and deliberations, Wednesday 31 May, 9am (live-streamed)

PUBLIC NOTICE

ROAD CLOSURE

Ashburton District Council gives public notice of road closures associated with the Ashburton Car Club's Street Sprints event.

Roads to be closed are as follows:

- **Smallbone Drive**
- **Range Street**
- **Robinson Street**
- **McNally Street**

Period of closure: From Friday 12 May 6pm until Sunday 14 May 6pm.

NEIL McCANN

Group Manager Infrastructure and Open Spaces

PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURE

Ashburton District Council gives public notice of a proposal to temporarily close roads to ordinary vehicle traffic to enable the holding of the Ashburton College Ball.

Road proposed to be closed:

- **Wills Street from 211a (Ashburton Event Centre, Cass Street end) to 197 Wills Street (Neumann’s Tyres, East Street end)**

Period of Closure: From 7pm to 9.30pm on Friday, 23 June 2023.

This proposed closure is made under the Local Government Act 1974 – Schedule 10 (11 (e) and will be considered at the next COUNCIL MEETING on **7 June 2023**.

Any person objecting to the proposal should lodge a notice of their objection and grounds for their objection in writing by post or email to the Council, 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton by 4pm, **Friday 26 May 2023**.

NEIL McCANN

Group Manager Infrastructure and Open Spaces

We are hiring

Methven CBD Cleaner

Apply at www.ashburtondc.govt.nz/work-for-us.

You will be responsible for ensuring a consistently high level of cleanliness in the Methven conveniences. One hour on a Saturday, one hour on a Sunday.

COUNCIL OFFICE

5 Baring Square West
Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri 8.30am - 5pm
Thursday 9am - 5pm

ASHBURTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

180 Havelock Street, Ashburton 7700
Mon - Fri 9am - 8pm
Sat 10am - 1pm | Sun 1pm - 4pm

EA NETWORKS CENTRE

20 River Terrace
Mon - Fri 6am-9pm (pools 7pm, gym 8pm)
Sat & Sun 7am-7pm (pools 5pm, gym 6pm)

ASHBURTON ART GALLERY & ASHBURTON MUSEUM

327 West Street
10am - 4pm daily