

## Skaters join Mt Hutt birthday bash

Council is helping Mt Hutt skifield celebrate its 50th birthday by bringing an ice rink to the party.

The ice rink will be set up outdoors in Methven and offer free skating on Thursday 24 August, the first night of the skifield's big birthday weekend celebration.

The rink will move indoors to the Mt Hutt Memorial Hall for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and people can pay to skate or try their hand at curling.

The birthday weekend kicks off with a big party and parade in Methven on 24 August, with lantern and float street parades, and interactive lighting. Kiwi rock band Dragon will also perform.

Entry to the ice rink will be free that night, thanks to sponsorship from Mt Hutt.

On the following days, it will operate for skating from 1-6pm, with tickets available for half-hour timeslots.

On the Friday and Sunday nights, the rink will be open from 6.30pm until 9pm for curling competitions, with a maximum of 16 teams of four able to take part each night. Teams of workmates, friends and family are welcome to sign up.

On Saturday night, the rink will host a family disco from 6.30pm until 9pm – while older teenagers will be enjoying the White Out festival and rail jam at the Methven racecourse.



**Get your skates on and join in some of the fun happening in Methven to mark Mt Hutt skifield's 50th birthday.**

On the mountain over the weekend, there will also be special activities, including a Mad Hutters Tea Party, and other fun snow activities.

Ashburton Mayor Neil Brown said it was great that Council could be part of the 50th celebrations.

"Mt Hutt is one of our big stars when it comes to attracting tourists and most people who live here or grew up here can remember going up the mountain to try snow skiing.

"The skifield brings visitors from all over

the world to our patch, and Methven and the Ashburton District's businesses benefit from their custom.

"Continuing investment in the skifield over the years has encouraged others to flourish and most recently we've seen the development of hot pools and the Staveley outdoor skating rink. This contributes to our economy and helps makes the district a great place to live and visit.

"So I wish Mt Hutt skifield and management a very happy 50th birthday and look forward to more milestones."

## Boost for community projects

Ashburton District Council will give out almost \$245,000 to volunteer and not-for-profit groups around the district in the 2023-24 financial year.

The funding was approved as part of the Annual Plan adopted recently. The figure does not include operating grants given to Ashburton Event Centre \$324,800, Safer Mid Canterbury \$212,022, Safe Communities \$45,026 and Community House \$15,000.

Democracy and Engagement Group Manager Toni Durham said Council had budgeted a total of \$945,848 for community grants that would benefit many groups and people in the district.

"These grants help community libraries and pools, agencies like Neighbourhood Support and the Hakatere Multicultural Council, and they help all manner of projects and events get off the ground.

"We have some funding still available, like in the biodiversity category, and another round of applications will be called for later in the year."

Amongst the community groups to benefit from a grant was the Ashburton Toy Library, which is in its 30th year of operation and provides affordable toy hire to 130 local families.

The toy library applied for money to help fund the wages of its two librarians and was granted \$6000. This means the library's volunteer committee can help keep the membership fees at an affordable and accessible level.

Council grants and funding is used to support operating expenses, community projects and events, biodiversity, community halls and other assets and school holiday programmes. See the full list of recipients at ashburtondc.govt.nz.

## Nominations now open

Nominations are being sought for the 2023 Community Honours Awards, which recognise individuals and/or organisations who have carried out meritorious voluntary community service in the Ashburton District.

Mayor Neil Brown says the awards are an opportunity to publicly acknowledge the valuable and important work of our volunteers.

Individuals or organisations can be nominated for: Mayor's Award for Public Service, the Ashburton Medal and Civic Awards. Nominations close 25 August - award criteria and more information is available online at ashburtondc.govt.nz.

## Leen Braam - Councillor

### Respect for all cultures helps grow inclusive communities

**Sometimes it is not easy to step outside your comfort zone.**

Moving half-way across the world to New Zealand in 1982 was a big step for me and my family, but our first rental home on Harland Street, Tinwald, turned out to be a great spot in a great street.

The people living around us were an amazing mixture – from young families to old, from self-employed to freezing worker, from different cultures. There was respect for everyone and it was a great community.

Over recent years, there seems to be a different feel around New Zealand.

It feels like we are drifting apart and have less tolerance and inclusiveness, we have different rules for different cultures/communities or race, and that to me is not the right direction for our community and country to go.

We all came from different parts of the world to live in "God's own", whether

your whanau arrived in the first waka or on sailing ship, or the latest Boeing airliner.

We are all here to live in this great country.

Keeping it simple is key to harmony in the future. Respect all different cultures, be inclusive of race, gender and ability, be open-minded. Learning from our past and concentrating on an equal, inclusive and tolerant community for the future should be the goal.

So what is Council's role in helping to create an inclusive and tolerant society? We have our Welcoming Communities programme and we support the Hakatere Multicultural Council, the local newcomers network, the refugee resettlement programme and a host of other community groups working in the traditional wellbeing space.

But is there more we could do? Now is the opportunity to tell us.

Council has just released four short surveys as part of its work to create a



draft Long Term Plan for 2024-34. The

surveys are grouped into wellbeing themes – environmental, cultural, economic and social – and we are asking people to take 10 minutes and give us their feedback.

The information gathered will help us prepare a Long Term Plan that will go out to the community for formal consultation in the new year.

Council produces a new Long Term Plan every three years because things change over time, and we need to hear what you think about a plan and priorities for the next 10 years.

So this early opportunity is for blue-sky thinking. It is to encourage ideas that could evolve and help ensure our district remains a great place to live, work and play.



# Noodle market shows off diversity

**Save the date: A Night Noodle Market will be taking over the West Street carpark in Ashburton on Saturday 2 September.**

The event is being organised by the Hakatere Multicultural Council and Ashburton District Council's Welcoming Communities team, and celebrates national Multicultural Day and Welcoming Week.

Hakatere Multicultural Council co-ordinator Mercedes Walkham said noodles are a delicious and versatile food eaten in many different cultures around the world.

"So the Night Noodle Market is a great way to celebrate the diversity of our community and learn about different cultures.

"By trying their food, people can start to understand and appreciate the many flavours that now make up our community."

The national Multicultural Day is on the last Friday of August, and Welcoming Week – Te Wiki o Manaaki runs from 1-10 September, with the theme nau mai rā, glad you're here.

A mix of local businesses and noodle vendors will be offering at least one noodle dish at the night market in Ashburton on 2 September.



"We have a variety of options, including Korean, Thai, Singaporean, Filipino, Japanese, Cantonese, Samoan, Indian and Italian," Mercedes said.

"The market will be set up in the West Street carpark, but we also have some of our local restaurants getting on board for the night, so people can see what they are offering too."

Local restaurants supporting the noodle theme include Cleavers, Fine Lion, Kelly's, Formosa and Indian Minar. Noodle vendors at the market include Purple Dragon, Jaeju, Pom's Thai, Nora's Kitchen, Sangkusta, and A&F Island Taste.

Live music on the night will be provided by Tyrone Schwalger, who will be there with his acoustic guitar singing covers and originals.

Acting Chief Executive Jane Donaldson said Council was pleased to be co-hosting the Night Noodle Market and celebrating the district's diverse community.

"We hope people will also take time to walk around our newly-developed CBD and take in the lanterns and lights of the town while enjoying some good food and company."

In the event of wet weather, the noodle market will move to Sunday 3 September.

## Take 10 minutes for the next 10 years

**Council is asking people to take 10 minutes to have their say on the next 10 years.**

Work is under way on the Long Term Plan 2024-34 and Council wants to hear from residents about how their community is doing and issues they see in the future. The feedback will help shape a draft Long Term Plan and formal consultation in the new year.

Democracy and Engagement Group Manager Toni Durham said Council was required to promote the four well-beings – environmental, cultural, economic and social.

"All of the services Council provides contribute to community well-being in some way, from the roads that connect our communities and enable our produce



to be transported, to the parks that encourage healthy lifestyles and play.

"So we have developed four short surveys with questions grouped into these themes, and we will be encouraging people to take 10 minutes and tell us their thoughts.

"We'll focus on a different well-being each week and the surveys will be available online or in paper form. However, you

don't have to wait to do the surveys, you can jump online straight to the topic that interests you the most."

To encourage people to take part, every completed survey goes into a draw for one of 10 family passes to the Ōpuke Thermal Pools and Spa.

"We want to get feedback from a wide range of people in our community, and this is a fun way to perhaps encourage those who don't often interact with Council to get involved," Mrs Durham said.

"Given the significant reform currently under way for local government, we are particularly interested in what role Council could play in some areas that it may not have been as involved in previously."

The short surveys can be found at [itsourplace.com](https://itsourplace.com)

## Keep animals out of stockwater races

**Farmers grazing cattle with access to Council's stockwater races are being reminded they need to provide compliant drinking bays to ensure that animals cannot stand in the water race while they drink.**

Council staff are monitoring the stockwater network over the winter grazing season, looking for races not fenced off and signs that animals have been standing in the water to drink.

Acting Chief Executive Jane Donaldson

said farmers grazing stock were obliged to keep animals, especially cattle, deer, and pigs, out of stockwater races.

"They must follow rules set out in ADC's Water Race Bylaw, ECan's Land and Water Regional Plan and their own Farm Environment Plans to exclude stock from being able to enter a water body.

"Water races need to be fenced off and drinking bays provided, and these bays must have a solid edge to stop stock from breaking down the side of the race and standing in the water.

"Water races can easily be polluted by stock standing in them and this makes the water unsafe for other stock further down the race to drink."

She said Council staff were proactively checking stockwater races and were able to go on to private property to ensure a race was functioning properly.

"Obviously we'd prefer to help people change their ways and do the right thing, rather than prosecute someone for polluting the water way, but enforcement action remains an option."

### 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 a community event – The Methven Float Parade/Lantern Parade/Ice Skating.

**The parade route is as follows:**

- Methven Chertsey Road, Main Street Methven (SH1), Forest Drive, Blackford Street, Lampard Street, Main Street Methven (SH1) Hall Street, Mackie Street, Kilworth Street

**Periods of closure:** From 7pm to 7.30pm on Thursday, 24 August 2023.

The period of the **full closure** (Lantern Parade and Ice Skating) is as below:

- Kilworth Street: Thursday 24 August 10am until 10pm
- Barkers Road: Thursday 24 August 4pm until 10pm

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 **9 August 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, **Thursday 27 July 2023**.

**NEIL McCANN**  
Group Manager Infrastructure Services

### WORKS NOTICES

**Allens Road** - current to July 28. Allens Road is temporarily closed between Carters Road and Turton Street to allow contractors to install a pump station that will complete the North West Ashburton wastewater extension. Detours in place.

**Park Street** – current until 26 July. Contractors are installing new kerb and channel, and footpaths, so there is no access from Park Street onto Havelock Street, from the north or south.

**Chalmers Avenue** – current to 20 August. The southbound lane of Chalmers Avenue, from Wellington Street to Nelson Street, will be closed while a watermain is replaced. Detours are in place.

**Mackie Street (Methven)** – on 23 July. Mackie Street, from Barkers Road to Methven Chertsey Road, will be closed on 23 July while contractors replace a watermain. Resident access available, detour for other traffic in place.

**Lagmhor Road/SH1 rail crossing** – The crossing will be closed for night works from 7pm 23 July to 6am 24 July, and under traffic management from 25-27 July at night. Contractors are laying ducting near the rail crossing for the new traffic lights. Footpath access remains.

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

**Methven Community Board**, Monday 24 July at Mt Hutt Memorial Hall, 10.30am

**Council Meeting**, Tuesday 25 July, 9am (live-streamed)

**Ashburton District Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee**, Tuesday 1 August, 9.30am

### 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