

WHAT'S on

SEPTEMBER 2025

guide



September

What's on these holidays

Book at ashburtondc.govt.nz/events
Scan the QR code for available days and times.



Nau mai, haere mai, tauti mai.

Welcome to our spring guide of family-friendly activities.

Whether you want quiet time or have energy to burn, there's loads of (mostly) free stuff to do at our Ashburton District Council facilities.

Ashburton Art Gallery & Museum

EA Networks Centre

Ashburton Library

Open spaces and community events



 @ashburtonpubliclibrary

 @ashburtonlibrary

 @AshburtonMuseum

  @ashburtonartgallery

  @EANetworksCentre



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Ashburton District Council
2 Baring Square East
Ashburton 7700

What's On Guide
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Hakatere Noodle Festival

13 SEPT

📍 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton

Sat 13 September, 3pm-8pm

Come along and try a yummy noodle dish, get into some fun in the interactive whānau game space and use our paints to make a self-portrait on a special community canvas.

→ **Whole whānau/family**

→ **Cost:** Free entry, with food costs additional



Pixel Sculpture

20 - 28 SEPT

📍 Ashburton Art Gallery & Museum

Sat 20 to Sun 28 September 10am-4pm

Drawing inspiration from Bobby Kurb's exhibition 'Before Black and White there was Colour', create a pixel character from coloured wooden cubes to take home.

→ **Tamariki/children, ages 5-12**

→ **Cost:** \$3



Liquorice Colour Spinner

20 - 28 SEPT

📍 Ashburton Art Gallery & Museum

Sat 20 September to Sun 28 September,
10am-4pm

Inspired by artist Bobby Kurb's exploration of colour, create a liquorice themed colour spinner to explore how colour works in a fun way.

→ **Tamariki/children, ages 5-12**

→ **Cost:** Free



Build a Treasure Chest

20 SEPT - 5 OCT

 Ashburton Art Gallery & Museum

Sat 20 September to Sun 5 October,
10am-4pm

Create and decorate a treasure chest and make replica taonga from air dry clay based on what you find in the Shipwreck Treasure Hunt.

→ **Whole whānau/family**

→ **Cost:** Free



Ashburton Library

1000

Books Before School

A fun way
to encourage
regular reading
to babies and
toddlers

Sign up and set your child on the road to reading for life

*This programme is proudly supported
by Altrusa Ashburton and encourages
regular reading to babies and toddlers
in the years before they start school.
Register via our website.*

ashburtonlibrary.co.nz



Shipwreck Treasure Hunt

20 SEPT - 5 OCT

 Ashburton Art Gallery & Museum

Sat 20 September to Sun 5 October,
10am-4pm

Search for treasure from a shipwreck throughout the Art Gallery and Museum. This activity puts you in the draw for a prize at the end of the holidays.

→ **Whole whānau/family**

→ **Cost:** Free



Dunk it for Plunket

22 SEPT - 3 OCT

 EA Networks Centre

Mon 22, Wed 24, Fri 26 September
Mon 29 September, Wed 1 and Fri 3 October,
10.30am-11.30am and 2pm-3pm

Can you score a free throw shot? Come and have a go if you think you can! Sink your shot to win a sweet prize, all while supporting a great cause.

All proceeds go to Plunket.

→ **Whole whānau/family**

→ **Donation:** \$2 for 3 throws



Radish Seed Heads

22 SEPT

 Ashburton Library

Mon 22 September, 10:30am - 11:30am

Make and grow your own radish seed head.

→ **Tamariki/children, ages 5-12**

→ **Cost:** Free and booking required, limit of 50 places





Event and Bookings

ashburtondc.govt.nz/events

Remote Control Car Racing

22 SEPT - 3 OCT

 *Ashburton Library*

Mon 22 September, 3pm-5pm
Tue 23 September, 10am-12pm
Wed 1 October, 2pm -4pm
Thu 2 October, 5:30pm-7:30pm
Fri 3 October, 3pm-5pm

Book your spot to have a go on our track with our remote control cars. Face off against others to gain bragging rights.

- **Rangitahi/young adults, ages 12-18**
- **Booking:** Free, limit of 12 places per session



TRY OUR DISC GOLF COURSES OVER THE HOLIDAYS

It's free to play and you can hire discs if you need them!



Smallbone Reserve, at EA Networks Centre, has an 18-hole course, with equipment hire at the recreation centre's customer service desk.

Tinwald Domain has nine holes, with equipment hire onsite at the Ashburton Holiday Park.

EANC September Holiday Programme

22 SEPT - 3 OCT

 EA Networks Centre

Mon 22 September- Fri 3 October

Day Session (8am-3pm)

Full Day Session/Field Trip (8am-5pm)

A safe and organised school holiday care option, with opportunities for children aged 5-13 to get involved and try new and exciting activities in a fun and supportive environment.

Activities include archery, swimming, wheels day, two field trips and so much more!

→ **Tamariki/children, ages 5-12**

→ **Booking required:** Day Session: \$40,
Full day session \$50, Field Trip: \$60



School Holiday Swim Lessons

22 - 26 SEPT

 EA Networks Centre

Mon 22 September - Fri 26 September,

9am-11am

Swim lessons in the school holidays are great for practising those tricky skills and a fun way to ease into a new level. The lessons run every day over the week, helping convert practice into muscle memory.

Please contact EANC Customer Services to book.

→ **Tamariki/Children Ages 3+**

→ **Booking required:**

Toddlers (five lessons): \$54

School-aged (five lessons): \$67

Individuals (per lesson): \$32 for 15mins,
\$42 for 20mins, \$52 for 30mins - can
book up to five lessons






Event and Bookings

ashburtondc.govt.nz/events

Delphiniums at the Domain

24 SEPT

 Hosted by Ashburton Library and Open Spaces team, held at the Ashburton Domain (Corner of West and Wills Streets)

Wed 24 September, 10:30am - 11:30am

Come and plant Delphiniums in the Ashburton Domain. Learn about gardening and enjoy being part of a community project.

Make sure you wear suitable clothing and bring some gardening gloves.

- **Tamariki/children, ages 5-12**
- **Cost:** Free and booking required, limit of 20 places



Stadium Inflatable

26 -29 SEPT

 EA Networks Centre

Fri 26 September - Mon 29 September
Toddler Time (Ages 0-5): 9.30am-10.30am
Session one: 11am-12.30pm
Session two: 1pm-2.30pm
Session three (Fri & Sun only): 3pm-4.30pm

Don't miss out on this great opportunity to burn off some steam for young and old. Jump in and have a go on our indoor inflatable obstacle course!

- **Whole whānau/family**
- **Booking required:** Per person per session prices - Toddler time: \$4; Inflatable: \$7; Inflatable and swim combo \$10



Pom Pom Key Ring Creatures

25 - 30 SEPT

 Ashburton Library

Thu 25 September 10am-12pm

Fri 26 September 3pm-5pm

Mon 29 September 3pm - 5pm

Tue 30 September 10am-12pm

Come along to the allocated Maker space time to create a pom pom creature. The room will be set up for you with staff popping in over the time so you have the freedom to create on your own.

→ **Rangitahi/young adults, ages 12-18**

→ **Cost:** Free



Zen Garden Diorama

26 SEPT

 Ashburton Library

Fri 26 September, 10:30am - 11:30am

Chill out while you create your own mini zen garden diorama using some fun craft materials.

→ **Tamariki/children, ages 5-12**

→ **Cost:** Free and booking required, limit of 50 places



Pool Movie

27 SEPT

 EA Networks Centre

Sat 27 September, movie starts at 3pm

Bring the whole family and watch a movie while you relax and float around the pool.

Pool supervision rules apply.

→ **Whole whānau/family**

→ **Cost:** Normal pool admission applies (or as part of the stadium inflatable and pool combo)





Event and Bookings

ashburtondc.govt.nz/events

Tribute to an Ancestor - Ceramic Vase

29 SEPT

 Ashburton Art Gallery & Museum

**Mon 29 September to Sun 5 October,
10am-4pm**

Throughout time various cultures have drawn on and decorated items to tell stories. These items become taonga. In this activity, create a visual story on a vase with ceramic pens to honour your ancestors.

We have 300 vases in stock, and this activity available until supplies run out.

→ **Whole whānau/family**

→ **Cost:** \$5



Family Water Safety

29 SEPT

 EA Networks Centre

Mon 29 September, 10am-12pm

With summer around the corner, this is a great opportunity to come along and learn about being safe in the variety of open water that we have in our country. This session will cover water safety at the lake, beach or river, as well as boat safety and life-jacket fitting.

→ **Whole whānau/family**

→ **Cost:** Free



Make Spring Flowers

29 SEPT - 5 OCT

 Ashburton Art Gallery & Museum

**Mon 29 September to Sun 5 October,
10am-4pm**

Celebrate spring by making 3D flowers for a vase, using tissue paper and pipe cleaners.

→ **Tamariki/children, ages 5-12**

→ **Cost:** Free



Friendship Bracelets

29 SEPT

 Ashburton Library

Mon 29 September, 10:30am - 11:30am

Create two friendship bracelets, one to keep and one to give away.

→ **Tamariki/children, ages 5-12**

→ **Cost:** Free and booking required, limit of 50 places



Splash into Fun Obstacle Course

30 SEPT

 EA Networks Centre

Tue 30 September, 10am-12pm

Come join us for some friendly, fun competition! Test your skills as you navigate our obstacle course and hunt for hidden clues, all while in the water.

The obstacle course will be in the learners' pool.

→ **Tamariki/children, ages 5-12**

→ **Cost:** \$5



Sharplin Falls Scenic Reserve

📍 *Tāhekerua / Sharplin Falls Walk*
90 min, 2.6 km return

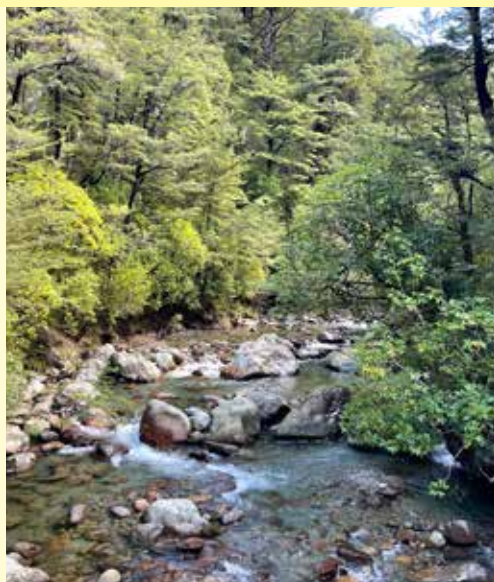
All day, everyday

This track is located in Sharplin Falls Scenic Reserve in the foothills of Mt Somers and is accessed off Flynn's Road in Staveley. From the car park on Flynn's Road, follow the signs for Sharplin Falls.

The track is maintained by the Mt Somers Walkways Society and is a beautiful bush walk through dense beech forest, and across two bridges to the falls. It's a gentle walk with great views – pack a picnic lunch and enjoy the birdlife.

→ **Whole whānau/family**

→ **Cost:** Free



Growing Gases

1 OCT

📍 *Ashburton Library*

Wed 1 October, 10:30am - 11:30am

Learn about gases and how they expand and make a vinegar based volcano.

→ **Tamariki/children, ages 5-12**

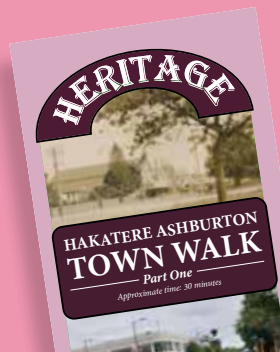
→ **Cost:** Free and booking required, limit of 50 places



Take your grandkids on a short town walk and share your memories of the past!

Check out the Hakatere mural on Cass Street, the red post box on Burnett Street that's still receiving letters, and the East Street water feature.

Two self-guided cultural walks have been created by Historic Places Mid Canterbury, and the brochures are available online or in paper form at Council.



Aquatic Supervision

At EA Networks Centre, your family's safety comes first. Lifeguards are always on duty but parents and caregivers play a vital role too. Here's how we keep everyone safe, guided by strict Water Safety New Zealand and Recreation Aotearoa standards.

eanetworkscentre.co.nz/aquatics/supervision



Splash Into Fun! Family Morning

1 OCT

 EA Networks Centre

Wed 1 October, 10am-12pm

Join us for a fun-filled family morning! Enjoy games, music, bubbles, raft building, and so much more.

Have a child under 3 years old? Come along and trial a Waterbabies class – the perfect taster of our term time lessons. Come play, splash, and have fun.

Designed for families with children aged 6 months to 7 years. Check out our social media for the schedule of events.

→ **Whole whānau/family**

→ **Cost:** \$5



Sensory Swim

2 OCT

 EA Networks Centre

Thu 2 October, 9am-11am

Enjoy a calmer, welcoming swim at our low sensory morning, with reduced background noise and a dedicated pool for those who prefer a less stimulating environment. Toys and equipment will be available for gentle play and exploration. Caregivers are to stay with their children in the water.

→ **Tamariki/children, ages 5-12**

→ **Cost:** \$5





Event and Bookings

ashburtondc.govt.nz/events

Magic Mug Cakes

3 OCT

 *Ashburton Library*


Fri 3 October, 10:30am - 11:30am

Bake your own tasty mug cake and learn about the science of baking.

- **Tamariki/children, ages 5-12**
- **Cost:** Free and booking required, limit of 50 places



Skate Parks

 *Ashburton and Methven*

All day, everyday

Whether you're regular-footed or goofy, there's plenty of space for all your moves at our skate parks!

Check out Methven's skate park on the corner of Bank and McMillan Streets - it features a large bowl, mini ramp and a street/transition area.

The Ashburton skate park is on the corner of West and Moore Streets, and has a range of different obstacles including quarter pipes, rails and boxes, suitable for skaters of all skill levels.

- **Whole whānau/family**
- **Cost:** Free



Active Adventures

4 OCT

 EA Networks Centre

Sat 4 October, 11am-2pm

A child led, parent supervised session for toddlers aged 1-5 to play, explore and improve their gross motor skills with a variety of sensory and building toys, balance beams and soft play equipment.

→ Pēpi/babies and toddlers, ages 0-5

→ Cost: \$3



Light
up the
Night 

SAT 29
NOV 6.00PM

BARING SQUARE EAST

Save the date!

Join us for a night of food
and Christmas fun!



Coming up...

Summer Reading Challenge

Get yourself some juicy reading in
over the summer. Keep an eye out
for the challenge, for teens 13-18.

Ashburton Art Gallery & Museum

327 West Street, Ashburton

03 307 7890

ashburtonmuseum.co.nz

ashburtonartgallery.org.nz

Ashburton Library

Te Kete Tuhinga,
2 Baring Square East, Ashburton

03 308 7192

ashburtonlibrary.co.nz

EA Networks Centre

20 River Terrace, Ashburton

03 308 4020

eanetworkscentre.co.nz

Ashburton
Library

ASHBURTON
GALLERY

ashburton
museum 

EA networks
centre 

 **Ashburton**
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Services: (03) 307 7700 | ashburtondc.govt.nz