

Capsule to seal slice of our time

Sealing a time capsule filled with images, papers, digital records and other small items about Ashburton will be a milestone moment for the new civic and library, Te Whare Whakaterere.

Photographs and news items from Friday's official opening will be the last documents added to the time capsule, which will then be sealed and installed behind glass on the ground floor of the building.

Mayor Neil Brown said the official opening was important, even though Te Whare Whakaterere had been operational since the start of the year.

"This building has changed how our community interacts with Council, and the library has become a hub for all sorts of learning, across a huge range of people. It's exceeded our expectations of a civic building.

"It is intended that the time capsule be opened in 2078, which will acknowledge 200 years since the formation of both the Ashburton County in 1876 and Ashburton Borough in 1878."

All the items in the capsule are contained in archive-safe boxes. The documents and photos are printed on special acid-free archival paper, and seed samples are sealed in mini PVC pipe-style capsules.

All the boxes will be fitted into a stainless steel container, that will be placed into a custom wooden box that will be visible behind glass after it is installed near the Havelock Street entrance.



Ashburton Art Gallery and Museum deputy director Danielle Campbell with the time capsule that will contain the district's memorabilia until 2078.

Mayor Brown said the time capsule held a huge amount of information.

"It will be interesting for those opening it in 55 years to see samples of crops we are growing now, and memorabilia, and photos.

"There will also be plans, street maps and data about the Ashburton district, plus words from the campaign we did asking people what they liked best about living here."

For the official opening on Friday, a ceremony will be held in front of the building at 2pm with invited guests including Rangitata MP James Meager,

and former mayors, councillors and senior staff, many involved in the early planning of Te Whare Whakaterere.

The Mt Hutt College Choir will perform and then after speeches by Mr Meager and Mayor Brown, the official party will be piped into the building by Colin Banks from the Ashburton Pipe Band. The party will pass by a new plaque at the front doors, then through the library and past the time capsule space where everyone can view the contents before it is sealed.

Members of the public are welcome to attend. Counters at the Library and Customer Services will be closed from 2-2.30pm.

CE Hamish Riach

Young leaders share ideas of Ashburton 2045

What do you want Ashburton District to look like in 2045? That was the question Council posed to local school children recently and on Monday they came to tell us their visions.

Youth Forums have always been popular and this one was no different – students from nine schools told us what they'd like to see, and Councillors asked lots of questions and commended them on their research and ideas.

Mini golf was suggested several times so it was great to be able to tell them Council already had plans for an outdoor course at EA Networks Centre. There were meatier items raised too, like the quality of our water, climate change and even stormwater.

Students asked about progress on the second bridge and about trying to reduce delays to driver licence testing,

and Councillors asked in return what they thought about issues like vaping and public transport.

I want to thank those schools who came along: Ashburton Intermediate, Ashburton Christian School, Ashburton College, Netherby, Borough, Fairton, Wakanui, Longbeach and Hinds.

In 20 years, many of these young people will be young leaders, ratepayers and some could even be representing their communities as elected councillors or members of a community board. They will be using the sports fields, roads and facilities we are building now, and thinking about if they will be fit for purpose for the next 20 years.

It is important that they feel comfortable expressing their views because many of the decisions Council makes are for the long term, and so the interaction was valuable for all.



Two other events on Monday had Ashburton buzzing and it was great to see so many people walking along East Street and soaking up the sales, and the sun.

East Street was closed for Ashburton Market Day, which has taken over from Boulevard Day on South Canterbury Anniversary Day. There were plenty of visitors looking for a bargain, or to buy lunch from one of the food vendors.

Just across the highway, Bookarama had opened in the sports hall on Tancred Street and many book-lovers headed there to fill their bags with reading material.

With the sun shining on Monday, it was great to see people moving around the whole CBD, browsing shops as well as the busy market, and sitting in Baring Square East, enjoying the atmosphere.

SHORT AND SWEET

BUILDINGS SOLD

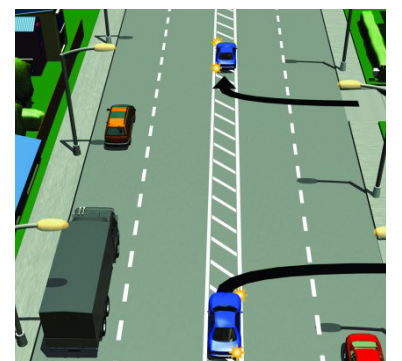
Council has sold two of the four relocatable buildings it had up for tender. Mid Canterbury Rugby Union has bought the former council chambers for \$130,000 +GST, and Talley's has bought the former staff tearooms for \$30,000 +GST. Chief Executive Hamish Riach said there were a range of tender prices submitted for the two buildings and after a full consideration and debate, Council selected the highest bids in both cases.

CONSENTS OFF

Ashburton District Councillors have decided not to pursue resource consents to divert water from Balmacaan Stream to Lake Camp, in the Ashburton Lakes area. The lake is low after a dry few years and Council had been asked by Clearwater hutholders to take action. Councillors called for a report to look at the costs and implications of applying for resource consent, and then voted 6-4 at their meeting last week for not going ahead with the consent application. Full story online.

FLUSH MEDIANS

Our road safety team has been sharing info about the use of flush medians, like the one on SH1 through Tinwald. If you're using the flush median as a refuge before merging into traffic on your left, remember to indicate and check your mirrors, accelerate, and move gently into a gap in the traffic.



STATE HIGHWAY POTHOLES

Potholes on State Highway 1 and State Highway 77 can be reported to New Zealand Transport Agency by calling 0800 44 44 49.

Hampstead pool is summer option

Swimmers will be able to take a cool dip in the Hampstead Pool when EA Networks Centre closes its aquatic area in January for planned maintenance.

People and Facilities Group Manager Sarah Mosley said she was pleased Council had been able to partner with Hampstead School to operate its outdoor pool during the closedown from 3 January to 2 February.

“It’ll be a refreshing swim, as it’s unheated, but it’s a good option for those wanting to swim in a public pool while the aquatic area is closed for maintenance.”

Hampstead School usually opens its pool for students in February and March, and the new partnership allows Council to operate the pool in January and redeploy lifeguards there.

Ms Mosley said swimmer numbers at EA Networks Centre over the years showed that January was historically the quietest month as many people were away on holiday.

“It is actually the best time to get this sort of essential maintenance done and it also does not affect learn-to-swim or schools swim programmes.”

The aquatic area maintenance includes repairs to the pool deck, tiling and



changing rooms, and the cost of the work is about \$100,000.

Ms Mosley said the stadium and the gym would remain open during January and members with pool or dual access to both the gym and pool would have their weekly fee reduced accordingly.

“We have a fantastic facility but in order to keep it that way, we must stay on top of specialist maintenance and give the contractors room to do their work.”

As part of the partnership with Hampstead School, Council will upgrade the pool’s chlorination system and balance tank cover, which will cost up to \$6000. Council will also help the school with pre-opening cleaning tasks.

Opening hours at Hampstead pool will be subject to the weather and advised closer to January, and swimmers will pay \$4.50 per adult and \$3.50 per child (5-17 years). Under 5s are free.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are at Hine Paaka (Council Chambers), 2 Baring Square East, unless specified.

Meeting agendas are online at ashburtondc.govt.nz

Wednesday 2 October, **Council Meeting**, 1pm (live-streamed)

Wednesday 16 October, **Solid Waste Bylaw submission hearings**, 9am (live-streamed)

Wednesday 16 October, **Council Meeting**, 1pm (live-streamed)

Thursday 17 October, **Civic Awards**, 10am

Monday 21 October, **Methven Community Board**, 9am at Mt Hutt Memorial Hall

Tuesday 22 October, **Ashburton Water Zone Committee**, 1pm (live-streamed)

Wednesday 23 October, **Council Activity Briefings**, 9.30am

Wednesday 23 October, **Audit & Risk Committee**, 1pm (live-streamed)

Wednesday 30 October, **Council Meeting**, 1pm (live-streamed)

WORKS NOTICES

Acton Road - Closed between McLachlans Road and Gardiners Road until 8 October, for maintenance.

Back Track - Closed between Highbank Cairnbrae Road and Woods Road until 19 October. Contractors are carrying out road maintenance. Detours are available.

Dromore Methven Road - one-way closure, no entry from State Highway 1 until 12 October. Contractors are carrying out road maintenance. Detours available.

Dromore Methven Road - Closed between Pole Road and Winchmore Lauriston Road until 12 October. Contractors undertaking road maintenance. Detours available.

Winchmore Dromore Road - Closed between Winchmore School Road and Mitcham Road until 5 October. Contractors doing road maintenance.

Fechneys Road - Closed on 30 September for electricity pole maintenance.

[Full road closure info online](#)

ADC VALUATION ROLLS

The Valuation Rolls for Ashburton District Council have been revised by Quotable Value Limited and are open for public inspection, free of charge, at the Council’s offices at 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton, until 25 October 2024.

Objections to the revised valuations must be lodged, in writing or online at www.ratingvalues.co.nz, no later than 25 October 2024.

Objection forms are available from Ashburton District Council or Quotable Value Limited and should be posted to: Quotable Value Ltd - Business Support, Private Bag 39 818, Wellington Mail Centre, Lower Hutt 5045.

More info about understanding your rating value at www.ratingvalues.co.nz

Last week for feedback on waste bylaw



Just over 30 people have had their say on a draft bylaw for how waste is managed in the Ashburton District, and Council is encouraging others to take a look before submissions close this Sunday.

The Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw regulates everything from kerbside recycling to industrial waste. It was last reviewed in 2018, and Council identified three key issues that they wanted public feedback on.

These include whether events on

public land, and construction valued at over \$500,000 should require plans for managing and minimising waste.

To prevent kerbside bins being left out on footpaths into the evening or overnight, feedback was also sought on whether business in the CBD should be required to bring their bins in before a specific time. In submissions received so far, there was strong support for requiring waste plans for events, while opinions on the other issues were mixed.

Learn more and have your say at itsourplace.nz

Refresher for older drivers

Ashburton’s older drivers are being encouraged to sign up for a refresher course aimed at helping them stay independent and driving for as long as possible.

The course is being run by Age Concern Ashburton on 11 October, at the Ashburton Senior Centre, from 10am-2pm.

The free classroom course will help older drivers refamiliarise themselves with traffic rules and safe driving practices. It will also increase drivers’ knowledge about other transport options and help older people stay independent for longer.

To sign up, phone 308-6817 or email ageconcernashburton@xtra.co.nz

Got feedback on local issues?

A matter to raise with Council?

TALK IT UP TUESDAY

Drop by for a biscuit and a chat with a Councillor, and let us know how we can help you.

This Tuesday
1pm - 2pm
Ashburton Library

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)