

Preparing for big alpine quake

Council is inviting the community to tune in to an online presentation of how a major alpine earthquake would impact the Ashburton District, and how they can prepare for such a disaster.

An AF8 workshop for councillors on Thursday afternoon was live-streamed and is also available as a recorded version.

Compliance and Development Group Manager Ian Hyde said AF8 was a programme designed by scientists about the likelihood and impact of a massive alpine fault rupture in the South Island.

“Civil Defence has designed a response to that quake and our emergency management officer Jim Henderson will be presenting to Councillors about our role, and what people can do at home.

“The science shows the alpine fault line ruptures about every 300 years and we are due. We can’t predict when the quake will happen, but we can prepare for it and help our residents prepare for it.”

The recorded AF8 workshop can be found on Council’s Facebook and YouTube channels.

Mr Hyde said a rupture from the south to the north would be the most serious for the Ashburton District, and the whole South Island.

“It would affect roads, drinking water and wastewater systems, electricity and telecommunications. Many of our residents in rural areas may find



themselves isolated and so people need to be prepared to fend for themselves for seven days, and store enough water, food and medicines to get them through.”

An alpine quake of magnitude 8 and greater would create two minutes of intense shaking – the shaking associated with the Darfield, Christchurch and Kaikoura quakes was considered short and sharp.

As part of his emergency management role, Mr Henderson also talks to community groups and organisations about the impacts of a major alpine quake. He encourages them to think beyond the shaking, and to prepare for

widespread secondary impacts like the loss of infrastructure and how that will affect them.

His key messages are to have an emergency plan, find out where to go for information, have enough food, water and supplies to last seven days, and have a getaway bag.

Mr Hyde said larger quakes in the upper South Island and in the North Island over the past 10 days were a reminder that people needed to be prepared.

“We can’t predict big quakes but we can prepare for them, and we all have a part to play. Anything we do will make a difference.”

Cr Leen Braam

Big projects provide growth for future generations

It was a milestone for this district recently with the official opening of the Ashburton Library and Civic Centre, Te Whare Whakaterere.

I have been fortunate as a Councillor to work in this amazing building since January and it is well used by a wide variety of people, young and old. It is certainly the House of Ashburton (Te Whare Whakaterere).

Also at the opening, the Mayor and Councillors planted a shade tree in the library courtyard. It was an honour for me to be asked to find the right tree for the courtyard space.

My choice is a tree that is not well-known, Zelkova serrata - Japanese Elm. It is an upright and erect, spreading,

graceful tree, with autumn colours that range from yellow to purple.

To me, it is an honest and soothing tree. It is a symbol of tolerance, patience, peace and harmony.

Another project I’d like to see physically starting and finishing (ASAP) is the second bridge over the Ashburton River. We’ve been talking about it, planning for it the last 20 years and it is time for walk the talk.

Tinwald is the third biggest suburb of Ashburton and growing. Most people from Tinwald will have to cross the river at least twice a day for work /school/ sport/shopping/etc and they use an 80-year-old bridge that is showing its age.



A second bridge is not a luxury or nicety but a necessity, not only for Ashburton District but also for better connections with the whole South Island.

It will take local traffic away from State Highway 1 and travelling through Ashburton will be easier and quicker. It will connect the community better on both sides of the river.

As a Councillor, you look to the future and plan for the next generations.

And the second bridge will be a big part of growing this amazing district on both sides of the river and beyond.

SHORT AND SWEET

ETHNIC FUN DAY

Council is helping coordinate a fun day for migrants and newcomers to find out about emergency services and community organisations in the district that are available to support them. There’ll be a host of interactive, free and fun activities at the Hampstead Sports Club on **Saturday 19 October**, from 10am until 2pm. Come along and join in!

SAVE THE DATE

Ashburton’s big Christmas tree will be installed in Baring Square East this year, and a party is being planned for Saturday 30 November to switch on the Christmas lights. The square will be buzzing from 5pm until 9.30pm, when the tree will be lit up. East Street, Cameron Street and Baring Square East Road are planned to be closed for the event, and there’ll be music, entertainment and, of course, Santa himself – and his elves.

YOUTH VOICES

Council is promoting an online space for youth, with discussion topics that could help inform future council decisions. Responses will be compiled into a six-monthly report, so councillors can be kept up to date with the latest thinking from young people. Young people are encouraged to join the online conversation with Council at itsourplace.nz

BALLERS TAKE OVER

EA Networks Centre is hosting hundreds of young basketballers this week when 54 teams hit town for the Under 14 Southern regional championships. Competition started on Wednesday with the finals scheduled for Saturday evening. Free entry to stadium!

TINWALD PLAN

The Tinwald Reserve Board is reminding everyone with an idea about how to reinvent the old Tinwald Pool space that their plans must be submitted by 18 October. All creative and innovative ideas welcome - concept plans should be dropped off at Baring Square East or emailed to submissions@adc.govt.nz

Strategy for Lake Hood under way

Council has engaged engineering consultants Tonkin and Taylor to help create a future strategy plan for the management of Lake Hood, which has been affected by water quality issues over the past two summers.

Group Manager of Infrastructure and Open Spaces Neil McCann said Tonkin and Taylor had been involved in the development of the lake 25 years ago.

“They have historical knowledge so it’s good to have them on board to help us create a longterm plan to improve the circulation of water around the lake and its canals. They’ll give us advice about the issues we are facing and help us prioritise the work that needs to be done.”

Council budgeted \$250,000 in the 2024-25 financial year for water quality improvements at Lake Hood and one new tool to improve water flow is already at work.



A new channel was dug to divert some of the intake water to the western lake expansion, so more water would pass through the canals.

High cyanobacteria levels in the canals can trigger a health warning for the whole lake and good circulation keeps them at bay.

Mr McCann said the new channel

introduces water to a different point of the lake and will assist in circulating water to that area, particularly when easterly winds blow.

“Some work has also been done at the original intake at the river and those improvements mean the intake can be fully opened and closed remotely.”

Since July 1, ACL has been managing the lake for Council. The company has a five-year contract for the work, which includes the operation of a weed harvester.

Mr McCann said ACL staff had been learning how to operate the weed harvester that will be in use this summer. Harvested weed will be left for a short period at designated areas on the side of the lake, and then removed by a contractor.

“It’s early days for the harvester and those training to use it, but when the weed starts to grow we will keep on top of it and work out the best times of the day to operate it.”

COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

Meeting agendas are online at ashburtondc.govt.nz

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 (live-streamed)

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

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

PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURE

Ashburton District Council gives public notice of a proposal to temporarily close roads to ordinary traffic for the holding of a community event - **Ashburton Santa Parade**.

Roads proposed to be closed:

- **Walnut Avenue, from Oak Grove to West Street**
- **Creek Road, from Walnut Avenue to Queens Drive**

Period of closure:

- **From 10am until 2pm on Saturday 7 December**

Any person objecting should lodge a notice of their objection and grounds in writing by post or email to the Council, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton by 4pm on **Friday 25 October**.

NEIL MCCANN
Group Manager Infrastructure Services

PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURE

Ashburton District Council gives public notice of a proposal to temporarily close roads to ordinary traffic for the holding of a community event - **Light up the Night**.

Roads proposed to be closed:

- **East Street, from Havelock Street to Cameron Street**
- **Cameron Street, from East Street to Victoria Street**
- **Baring Square East Street, from Havelock Street to Cameron Street**

Period of closure:

- **From 7am until 9.30pm on Saturday 30 November**

Any person objecting should lodge a notice of their objection and grounds in writing by post or email to the Council, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton by 4pm on **Friday 25 October**.

NEIL MCCANN
Group Manager Infrastructure Services

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**.

WORKS NOTICES

Gardiners Road - Closed between Pendarves Rakaia Road and Kyle Road until 31 October.

Reynolds Road - Closed between State Highway 77 and Ledgerwoods Road until 26 October.

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.

NZ Transport Agency is about to begin its highway renewal programme, with SH77 to be chip sealed later this summer.

Full road closure details are available at ashburtondc.govt.nz

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.

Building cost finalised

The construction cost of Te Whare Whakaterere, Ashburton library and civic centre has been finalised at **\$62.1 million**.

Mayor Neil Brown said the final tally included costs of construction, specialist advice and project management, and was reduced by building delay penalties in the construction contract.

“We’re pleased to have reached an agreement with builders Naylor Love and other partners we’ve worked with,” he said. “It was a difficult time to build during and post-covid and we said last year we expected an overrun of about 10 per cent over the budgeted \$56.7m, and it’s come in at 9.5 per cent over.

“We’re disappointed it has cost more than the original budget, but grateful for the \$20m shovel ready project grant from the Government which offsets the ratepayer contribution.”



The balance of the cost will be met by property sales and debt.

“In the nine months we’ve been here, Te Whare Whakaterere has proved to be a hard-working building,” the Mayor said.

“It has exceeded our expectations and through it we’re able to deliver improved services for our community. It will be a building that serves us well for decades.”

Tue & Thu
5.30pm - 6.30pm
\$250pp
20 sessions
Starts 15 October

EA networks centre

BOOTCAMP 2024

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eamccsr@adc.govt.nz | 308 4020

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)