

Wastewater detectives at large

Wastewater detectives will be using a special mobile camera to assess the internal condition and structures of our sewers in parts of Ashburton and Methven during June and July.

A crew from Citycare Water will be working over a six-week period and advising residents by letter drop when they are in their vicinity.

Group Manager Infrastructure and Open Spaces Neil McCann said the work was part of Council's regular monitoring of wastewater pipes.

"The operators use closed-circuit television, with a rover camera connected to a fibreoptic cable, which sends video and images to a laptop.

"They are looking for irregularities in the pipelines such as cracks, water infiltration, breakages, tree roots and collapsed areas, and their report helps tell us which pipes need to be renewed."

The CCTV surveillance is less invasive than



digging up a pipe to inspect it. Some of the pipes being inspected will be glazed earthenware installed in the 1920s.

When the crew is on your street, people will see a Citycare Water van and combi truck parked near a manhole. The mobile camera can inspect up to 120 metres at a time, and the 150mm camera broadcasts a signal so the operator can pinpoint exactly

the location of potential problems.

Mr McCann said the crew were specialists and qualified to undertake the routine monitoring. "It makes good sense to use technology to help us determine when and where we need to do renewals and it lets us view the health of the pipe without digging it up and causing major inconvenience."



Leaf sucker busy in parks

Council's Open Spaces team has a new leaf-clearing machine to keep local parks and reserves tidy this autumn and winter.

The homebuilt machine has a Trillo suction unit from France mounted on a locally-made Helmack trailer.

Group Manager Infrastructure and Open Spaces Neil McCann said it streamlined the collection of leaves.

"This new machine saves us a lot of time and we're able to recycle the collected leaves as compost in our gardens."

Staff are initially using the machine mostly in the Ashburton CBD and high-profile areas, and will take this season to get familiar with what the unit can do.

"It is a purpose-built prototype. The suction unit can swivel to left or right-side collection, and the trailer cage and suction unit are removable so the trailer can be assigned to other uses. The trailer has an electric hoist to streamline emptying."

"Clearing leaves not only gives a well-kept look to our parks and reserves but it also maintains the overall health of gardens."

Cr Richard Wilson Armed with best info possible

It's been a long, Long Term Plan process, first reading and listening to submissions, then going through the decision-making process itself.

As a councillor, it has been good to understand many viewpoints on a wide range of issues and hear directly from the residents of our district.

After all the talk, however, decisions have to be made and councillors are elected to make these decisions.

At the Council table we make decisions at a point in time armed with the best information available, and that information comes from a wide range of sources including residents, experts, and staff. In hindsight they can be seen to be wrong or right - we will only know

in the future.

I believe that if you are charged with making the decision, you should make it to the best of your ability. I had a good understanding of some areas of our Long Term Plan, but in others I was a beginner and had much information to absorb.

We are lucky at the Ashburton District Council that we are not a council dictated to by party politics, and each of our councillors makes their own decisions individually. I think that this results in the best inclusive decisions being made.

If you disagree with our decisions, the best way to change our direction is to talk to your local councillor or vote to have the person who you believe will

represent you best at the next local body election. Everyone has an equal vote.

The reality is everything costs money and rate increases have had to happen. Your council understands things are difficult but also knows we must keep our infrastructure up to standard. We all deserve good roads, water services and community facilities.

I hope everyone enjoyed their long King's Birthday weekend and if you stayed at home, then I hope you went along to Glow in the Park. It was great to see so many families, from far and wide, enjoying this dazzling event in the Ashburton Domain.



SHORT AND SWEET

COOK ISLANDS

Join us at the Ashburton Art Gallery and Museum on Tuesday 18 June for a cultural awareness talk showcasing the Cook Islands! You'll learn about Cook Islands culture and discuss basic social protocols to help you interact with clients, parents, and friends. Tanya Pere, a member of the local Cook Islands community, will lead the discussion. The session runs from 10.30am-12pm.

GLow SURVEY

Did you go to Glow in the Park? We'd love to hear your feedback at www.ashburtondc.govt.nz/glow. Everyone who completes the survey goes into a draw to win a pass to Opuke Thermal Pools and Spa. The survey closes on Monday.

CAMPGROUND OPEN

Council's Mount Somers campground will close for a six-week winter break on 24 June, following the Fire and Ice hot air balloon and laser show in Methven. The campground, which is in the Mount Somers Domain, will re-open on 5 August.

PLANT WORKSHOP

Want to know more about establishing a successful native planting? Get tips and talk to local experts at a workshop at the Staveley Hall on 20 June, 12.30pm-4.30pm. Email contact is Susan-Moore-Lavo@mpi.govt.nz

There's more to lose
than your licence

Drinking? Don't drive.



Go to Glow? Tell us your thoughts

The thousands of people who visited Glow in the Park last weekend are being encouraged to take an online survey about the event.

Well over 40,000 people attended the light show over three nights at the Ashburton Domain and now organisers are collecting feedback as part of a wider post-event analysis.

People who take part in the survey will go into a draw to win a pass to Opuke Thermal Pools and Spa in Methven. The survey closes on Monday.

Glow in the Park is in its third year and early indications from the 2024 display are that many visitors travelled from outside the district to attend the free event.

The survey will help determine if those visitors also went to other local attractions or restaurants, or would be keen to in future events.

Council organised the show, with support from local businesses, and Group Manager Compliance and Development Jane Donaldson said they were thrilled with the numbers of people who came.

"The most popular displays seemed to be the underwater world and the fire-breathing dragon, and comments we've heard so far are generally very positive.

"We'll be having a debrief to see what can be done better if Council decides to run it again, and we encourage people to tell us what they think in our survey."

Did you go to Glow in the Park? We'd love to hear your feedback at www.ashburtondc.govt.nz/glow



COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

Meeting agendas are online at ashburtondc.govt.nz/council/agendas-and-minutes

Methven Community Board, Monday 10 June, 9am, at Mt Hutt Memorial Hall

Council Activity Briefings, Wednesday 12 June, 9.30am

Audit & Risk Committee Meeting, Wednesday 12 June, 1pm (live-streamed)

Ashburton Water Zone Committee, Tuesday 25 June, 1pm (live-streamed)

Council Meeting, Wednesday 26 June, 1pm, (live-streamed)

WORKS NOTICES

Walnut Avenue - Kerb and channel renewal from Oak Grove to West Street, until 30 June. Traffic should not be affected, but watch for temporary changes.

Grace Ireland Drive, Methven - Closed for subdivision development until 31 August.

Full closure details on our website ashburtondc.govt.nz

PENSIONER UNITS

One elderly pensioner single housing unit at Rakaia has become available.

If you are in need of housing and meet the criteria please contact Council for an application form.

Applicants shall:

- Be eligible for Government National Superannuation
- Not be in full time employment/business
- Be able to care for themselves independently
- Show a housing need which cannot be met adequately elsewhere
- There is a total assets criteria (contact Council for more info)

Please phone 03 3077770 or email info@adc.govt.nz



It's doggy rego time

Dog registrations are on the way, so it's time to tell us if your details have changed.

- Have you got a new dog?
- Has your pet passed away?
- Have your address or contact details changed?

Visit ashburtondc.govt.nz/do-it-online or call us on (03) 307 7700

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 6am-9pm (pools 7pm, gym 8pm)
Sat & Sun 7am-7pm (pools 5pm, gym 6pm)

ASHBURTON ART GALLERY & MUSEUM

327 West Street
10am-4pm daily (late night Wed)