

Points of interest

Heathcote River

Its course is over 25 km long running from Halswell to the Rocky base of St Andrews Hill and then discharges into the estuary.



Sign of the Takahe

The Sign of the Kiwi and the Sign of the Takahe were originally intended as rest houses along the Summit Road. The sign of the Kiwi was built in 1916 and the Takahe was started in 1918 and completed in 1948 after many conflicts of interest. The Sign of the Takahe was originally known

as the Tram Terminus Resthouse until it was taken over by the City Council in 1942 and officially opened in 1949 as the Sign of the Takahe.

Cracroft Caverns

Under the strictest of secrecy the Public Works Department began building caverns 30m underground in Cashmere in 1942. It was to be the nerve centre of the South Island's defence against the impending Japanese invasion. The threat faded and building ceased in 1944. They were sealed and forgotten until their rediscovery in 1987. The Cracroft Caverns are now owned by the City Council and information on them can be obtained through the Beckenham Service Centre.

Points of interest cont'd ...

The Malthouse

Located on the corner of Colombo St and Ashgrove Terrace, the Malthouse was built in 1867 and began as a City brewery. The brewery changed hands several times and at one stage NZ Breweries owned it. From 1955 - 65 it was used as a storage building by Aysons Seed Merchants



until it was sold to the Canterbury Children's Theatre. After major alterations it was opened in 1969 and continues to this day with the aim of producing the best plays for children and hiring costumes.

Pioneer Stadium

This is a Council owned facility located on Lyttelton Street. Pioneer Stadium is a great centre offering squash, basketball, netball and tennis facilities as well as hosting a range of recreational and health and fitness programmes for 2 year olds and upwards. Check out the new circuit room!



Beckenham Park

Located between Norwood Street and Eastern Terrace. The park boasts a small lake which is spring fed.

The Bell Tower

The Bell Tower in the grounds of St Mary's Church, Addington is a memorial to Richard John Seddon, former Prime Minister of New Zealand. He was born in Lancashire, England and died at Sea on the s.s Oswestry Grange, while returning from a visit to Australia. One of the groups contributing to the memorial was the Besses o' the Barn Band, a ladies brass band from Lancashire. They were visiting Christchurch to perform at the great International Exhibitions held in 1906 in Hagley Park. The band is still going today - with new members of course!

