



# **-Omarama Gazette -**

**October 2016**

Sponsored by

**ASURE Sierra Motel and Tackle Shop**

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## **Medal-winning smiles for Natalie's visit**



There's one thing guaranteed – their smiles will be as big as, if not bigger than, Natalie's on that podium.

Omarama School pupils are expecting a visit from Olympic silver medalist Natalie Rooney, and they just can't wait.

Last term, during the Rio Olympics and Paralympic games, they were set the task of following an athlete - researching, watching and writing about their chosen competitor

and sport. "They put so much work in...so I went on a mission to get an athlete to visit the school," visit organiser Wendy Parsons said.

She wrote to Natalie to ask if she could spare the time for a visit. Natalie's brother, Cameron, who was working at the Parson family farm at the time, may have also put in a good word.

The 28-year-old trap shooter, who herself attended a small primary school - Waituna Creek, near Waimate, not only agreed to that but to also to display her shooting skills at a Friends of Omarama School fundraising event.

It was later, after reading about Natalie's life since her win and how busy the athlete is with engagements, it hit home just how special this was, Wendy said.

***...continued over***

# The Sponsors' Say



## ASURE Sierra Motels and Tackle Shop

All kinds of new fishing gear has arrived at ASURE Sierra Motel's Tackle Shop just in time for the opening of the new season.

Ken and Jo Walker have spent the past week unpacking new stock so now is the perfect time to get kitted out.

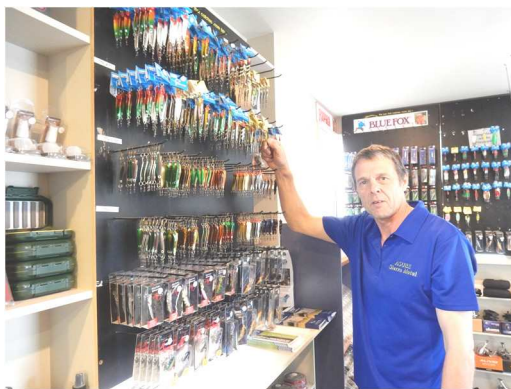
Make sure you have those licences sorted. The Tackle Shop is the Omarama agent for Fish and Game New Zealand Central South Island Fishing licences. There are nine different fishing licences on offer so it's easy to pick the one that suits best – for young and old, and families, and whether or not you've managed to

escape for only a few days fishing or you're lucky enough to be able to put up the 'gone fishin' " sign for the whole season. A whole season licence is valid from October 1 to September 30. The 'open season in all waters' of the Central South Island region is from 1 October to 30 April, with a couple of exceptions. High Country waters open November 1 and the Ahuriri River and its tributaries upstream, including Longslip Creek, opens December 6.

<http://www.omarama.co.nz/>

<http://centralsouthisland.fishandgame.org.nz/central-south-island-fishing>

**ASURE Sierra Motels and Tackle Shop**  
**SH8 Omarama Ave, Omarama 9412. (03) 438 9785**



# ECan considers land sale process

Environment Canterbury will begin the process to return the land it owns in Omarama to the Crown before the end of the year, its director of finance and corporate services says.

In an email in answer to questions from the Omarama Gazette, Miles McConway, who is ECan's Director of Finance and Corporate Services, said negotiations with the Crown regarding the return of the land had not yet started although ECan did intend to commence this process before the end of 2016.

"In the meantime the houses located on the land will continue to be rented out as they are now."

The land in Omarama under ECan control is a 2.3ha block owned by the Crown that was vested in the regional council in 1989 when ECan was first set up.

"At that time pest control came under our remit and the land was owned by the Crown for that purpose and vested in Environment Canterbury as the authority in charge of pest control.

"On the ground pest control work as done in the past is no longer carried out by Environment Canterbury so we have no ongoing need for the property for this purpose and the land can now be returned to the Crown.

"Once the land has been returned it will be up to the Crown how it is sold/used in the future."

Essentially, ECan says it is unable to sell the land because it must be returned to the Crown. It expects that when this happens, because the Crown must follow certain procedures, it will still take some time before anything happened "on the site".





# Getting away from it all

Campers were queued at gates to make sure they secured their favourite camping spots when the Waitaki Lakes camping grounds opened for the season last month.

Traditionally, thousands make the Waitaki District Council-owned camping grounds their home away from home for the entire summer.

The Oamaru Gazette spoke to Oamaru camper Merv Wilson, who arrived at the Sailor's Cutting grounds on Thursday ahead of the Saturday morning opening, about the annual ritual.

Merv said many, like himself and his friends, had been using the same site for years and he wanted to make sure he secured it again this season.

Despite the queues it was all very friendly. Those who were new campers were usually very understanding if it was pointed out to them that that site 'belonged' to another, he said.

Most years, by the Friday night the whole boat ramp area at Sailors Cutting was filled with campers and caravans waiting for the gates to open. And by 7am Saturday morning a large contingent which had set out early from Christchurch would arrive to take up their spots, he said. Gates opened at 8am. The camping ground season extends from the third Saturday in September to the first Sunday in May.

<http://www.waitaki.govt.nz/our-facilities/camping/Documents/Waitaki%20lakes%20camping%20brochure.pdf>



# Omarama visit completes expedition

Expedition South team leader Al Fastier and his TE-20 model Ferguson tractor called into Omarama for fuel and kebabs on their return to homebase – Glenorchy.

They were returning from the Expedition South fundraising 'drive', tractor-style, which officially ended its 2012km road trip at Aoraki Mt Cook on September 19 after setting out from Piha, just outside Auckland, on August 23. The goal of the drive was to raise \$1 million to restore Hillary's Hut at Scott Base which was where Sir Edmund Hillary's Trans-Antarctic Expedition (TAE) of 1957-58 set off for the pole.

Al was joined for the journey by various supporters including Peter Hillary and Peter Scott.

Two Ferguson TE-20 models similar to those used by Sir Ed and one Massey Ferguson MF5600 made the journey which was the same distance as that travelled by Sir Ed and his team on that expedition.

When the Omarama Gazette met up with Al (a former Twizel resident) he said about \$700,000 had been raised.

Al spends his summers in Antarctica where he manages the on-site work for the trust, and he has overseen the conservation work done on Scott's and Shackleton's huts on Ross Island.

He returns to Scott Base this month to manage the conservation of Hillary's Hut this summer, before crossing to the other side of the continent to help the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust with their project on Horseshoe Island.

To learn more and to donate go to: <http://www.expeditionsouth.nz/>







# Shear skills with blades at Longslip

Much has changed in Longslip Station's history but they still shear sheep the same way – with the blades.

Blade shearing contractor Mike Bool's team began the annual shear at Longslip last month.

It will continue for the best part of four weeks, during which time they will shear about 16,000 mostly merinos in three sheds – Longslip, Ben Avon and Birdwood.

This year's team includes Ross Kelman, Matt Parsons and Kate Wilson, of Omarama.

The wool is destined for Elders auction in Christchurch.

Longslip marked its 150th anniversary in 2008.

The first pastoral lease was taken out by Robert McMurdo on September 5, 1858.

The Patterson family has held the lease of Longslip since 1947.

Tenure Review was completed and freehold granted in 2008.

To view a video of Matt at work go to: [www.facebook.com/omaramagazette/](http://www.facebook.com/omaramagazette/)



# Patient care assured even if beds are full

Waitaki District Health Services Ltd's chief executive Robert Gonzales has moved to assure the public Oamaru Hospital has measures in place so patients will receive appropriate care in an emergency even if its beds are full.

Mr Gonzales has issued a statement in response to concerns raised by elderly in the community about access to services if the hospital's Takaro Ward was fully occupied.

"I cannot emphasise enough that all patients will be taken care of appropriately, and should never hesitate in an emergency," he said

The hospital, together with Oamaru GPs, St John Ambulance and Dunedin Hospital, had contingencies in place to ensure any patient, regardless of age, was properly and safely taken care of, he said.

The hospital originally provided 30 rural inpatient and assessment, treatment and rehabilitation beds, but from April 2016 reduced this to 24 beds to meet the funding it received.

At that time, Mr Gonzales said that meant all beds would be occupied more frequently than in the past – with 30 beds the hospital reached capacity four to six times a year, with 24 beds this would occur more frequently.

Processes for inpatient admissions and transfers would not change and they would be treated the same way as in the past when bed capacity was reached, including more treatment in the community, if it was safe, or transferring acute care patients to Dunedin.

When the hospital reached full capacity, a limit was placed on admissions for between 24 to 48 hours, he said.

Oamaru GPs, St John, Residential Care Facilities, Dunedin and Timaru Hospitals are emailed to say that the Oamaru Hospital inpatient ward was closed to admissions, and are asked for their support for the duration.

In such an event the group had agreed it would take the following actions.

- Patients with minor ailments would be expected to see their GP for treatment in the first instance;
- Patients who needed further treatment and hospital admission would be assessed by their GP, St John or Oamaru Emergency Department in consultation with Dunedin Hospital emergency department, for transfer to Dunedin Hospital.
- Major trauma and surgical emergency patients would be transported straight to Dunedin Hospital by St John ambulance in all cases. However, appropriate support would be provided by the Oamaru Emergency Department if required – for example limb stabilisation, intravenous therapy, radiology and laboratory services;
- It was possible patients may be discharged following assessment at the Dunedin Hospital emergency department. All patients should be informed of this possibility and given the opportunity to make their own transport arrangements, if necessary, back to Oamaru.



# Omarama campervan dump station build begins



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## Medal-winning smiles for Natalie *continued..*

“It will be great for the kids to meet someone and see a real medal...very excited about that.

“And it was just a bonus Natalie agreed to stay for the rest of afternoon, so we can run a fundraising event.”

At present, Natalie is in Italy for the International Shooting Sport Federation World Cup final.

The Omarama School claybird shoot with Natalie Rooney will be at 2pm Friday, November 4, at the Omarama Golf Club.

Open to ticket holders only. (See over for more information)

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# The Noticeboard



**To have your community notice** included here

email: [omaramagazette@gmail.com](mailto:omaramagazette@gmail.com)

**The Omarama Playgroup** annual meeting is 7.30pm Tuesday, October 18, at the Omarama Community Centre.

Apologies to

Liz [lizziemcgregor@hotmail.com](mailto:lizziemcgregor@hotmail.com) or Petrina 03 438 9540 or 027 345 6192

**Omarama Playgroup** meets at 9.30am each Wednesday during the primary school term at the Omarama Community Centre.

**Omarama LandSAR** are raising money through book sales on Trade Me and there's some great bargains to be had! Books will be re-listed if there are no bids.

<http://www.trademe.co.nz/Members/Listings.aspx?member=5954916>

**This get a lot of likes:** People love to see photos of our past. If you have some great photos which you would not mind sharing on the Omarama Gazette Facebook page please get in touch, we'd love to hear from you. Phone 021 294 8002.

**Situation vacant.** The position as volunteer hall curator is once again open to any who would like to apply. Please see Craig Dawson 027 4389132 or Ross Gold 027 4434149 for details of what this role entails.

**The Plunket Nurse** is Liz Watson, phone 021 244 9647. Plunket Line: 0800 933 922

Omarama Plunket Committee: Lisa Crawford, phone 021 126 3113

Car Seat Rentals: Christine, Phone: 03 435 0557 or 027 208 0362

Breastfeeding Works: Claire Hargest-Slade 03 684 3625, 021 493 863  
[clairhs@me.com](mailto:clairhs@me.com)

**The Omarama Model Aircraft Club** meets 9.30am to 12 noon Wednesdays and Sundays at its fly-ground at the Omarama airfield. All welcome. Contact Graham McLean 03 438 9832.

**The Omarama Community Library** at the Omarama Community Centre is open 11.30pm to 1.30pm Wednesdays, and 10am to 12 noon Saturdays . Any changes to these hours will be posted on the Library Hours whiteboard in the library window, notified by email through the Omarama Gazette's 'Local List' and posted on its Facebook page [www.facebook.com/omaramagazette/](http://www.facebook.com/omaramagazette/)

Contact: Anna Howard 021 132 5586 or Georgie Robertson 027 486 1525

**The Omarama Volunteer Fire Brigade** meets 7pm each Wednesday and has its meeting at 7:30pm on the third Wednesday of the month. New members welcome.

**Omarama Rural Fire** meets at 7pm on the first and third Monday each month at the Omarama Rural Fire Station, Sutherlands Rd. New volunteers are welcome. Phone Lis 0273303068

**The Omarama Golf Club**, Saturdays tee-off 1pm, all welcome. Club captain Adrian Tuffley 027 347 8276. <http://www.omaramagolfclub.co.nz/>

**A big thank you** to all of you who share your stories and contribute in other ways to the Omarama Gazette. People really appreciate what you do.

**New to the Omarama Gazette:** The Last Page is Classifieds.

To advertise in this section please email [omaramagazette@gmail.com](mailto:omaramagazette@gmail.com)

Cost: Up to 25 words \$5, or ¼ of an A5 \$10, paid in advance. Copy must be received and payment made by the Friday before publication. Payment details will be forwarded on receipt of copy. Publication is the first Wednesday of each month.

**If you find anything amiss** in the Omarama Gazette please contact Ruth Grundy 021 294 8002, email [omaramagazette@gmail.co.nz](mailto:omaramagazette@gmail.co.nz) and I will do my very best to put it right.

**The link to the Omarama Gazette's facebook page**

is: [www.facebook.com/omaramagazette/](http://www.facebook.com/omaramagazette/)

Check it out for regular updates and other little extras not included in the Gazette. If you have any questions concerning its operation, please email [omaramagazette@gmail.com](mailto:omaramagazette@gmail.com).

**Sign up to** the 'Local List'. to receive email alerts between monthly editions of the Omarama Gazette email [omaramagazette@gmail.com](mailto:omaramagazette@gmail.com) and put 'Local List' in the subject line.

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For a copy of the costs to advertise, and publication  
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please phone 021 294 8002, 03 438 9766 or  
email [omaramagazette@gmail.com](mailto:omaramagazette@gmail.com)

**The next issue of the Omarama Gazette  
is Wednesday, November 2, 2016.  
Please submit copy by  
Friday, October 28.**





## **ST THOMAS COMBINED CHURCH SERVICES**

(on fourth Sunday of each month at 3pm)

All Welcome

Clergy Contacts:

Anglican Parish (Waitaki - North Oamaru)

03 437 0064

Kurow Presbyterian Church

03 436 0773



**When circumstances beyond your control lead to a rural business crisis — be it financial, climatic or personal — the Rural Support Trust is ready to assist. Services are free and confidential.**

**0800 RURAL HELP (0800 787 254)**

## **Omarama's Justices of the Peace**

**Omarama has two JPs who are available by appointment to:**

- \* Witness documents such as applications for citizenship
- \* Certify copies
- \* Take declarations, affidavits and affirmations

**The service is free of charge**

**To make your visit quick and easy:**

- \* Do not sign anything beforehand
- \* Do take photo identification
- \* Remember to take the original as well as the copy to be certified
- \* Check that a New Zealand Justice of the Peace can complete your documentation



**Bill Gordon 03 438 9433, 027 4350744**



**Georgie Robertson 4389 554, 027 4861525**

# **“Get Well, Keep Well” with the Kurow Medical Centre**



## **Breast Screen Aotearoa**

BreastScreen Aotearoa is the screening service offered to women for mammography services to help encourage early detection of breast cancer.

The service is free for women from the age of 45 – 69 years, and is something to be encouraged amongst your family and friends.

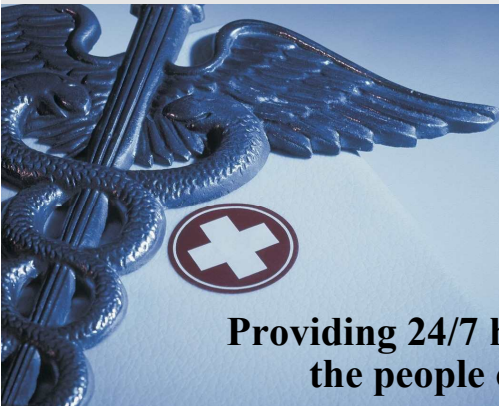
Here at Kurow Medical Centre we are busy contacting all women who are now eligible to be enrolled, to seek permission to get you enrolled in their service. If we haven't touched base with you, feel free to give us a call on 03 4360 760 and let us know if you wish to begin screening, or perhaps catch-up if you haven't been done for a while.

Alternatively you can call the service direct on 0800 270 200 and arrange an appointment at a location nearest you. (Timaru or Oamaru)

Sadly the mobile bus will no longer be visiting Kurow every two years, but instead will be in Oamaru annually at this time of year. So a good time to think about it now, and get an appointment starting in October to get this up to date.

Breast screening can show changes in the breast before anything can be seen or felt therefore detected early for successful treatment.

*- the team at Kurow Medical Centre*



## **Kurow Medical Centre**

**8 Wynyard St, Kurow  
P: 034360760 F: 034360780**

**E: [info@kurowmedicalcentre.org.nz](mailto:info@kurowmedicalcentre.org.nz)**

**W: [www.kurowmedicalcentre.org.nz](http://www.kurowmedicalcentre.org.nz)  
[www.facebook.com/kurowmedicalcentre](https://www.facebook.com/kurowmedicalcentre)**

**Providing 24/7 health care and support to  
the people of the Upper Waitaki**

# The Community Reports

## Upper Waitaki Police news



Earlier this month I had a short pursuit with a 19 year old male who decided that he would try running from police. He was initially seen speeding at 134 kph.

Believing that he was on 75 demerits (max allowed is 100) he thought he would lose his licence if he got another ticket. In his wisdom he decided to risk his, mine, the public and his passengers life when he attempted to flee police rather than get a ticket. He reached speeds up to 186kp.

With the assistance of Twizel police he

was nabbed on the outskirts from Twizel. He was arrested and instantly suspended from driving for 28 days. He is due in Court this month where he will face a fine and further disqualification. Funnily enough if he had pulled over he would have been issued a fairly hefty fine for sure, but he also would have been able to drive away as his demerits were actually only 35!

As previously mentioned by the Omarama Gazette, there was a theft of a large Tandem trailer from Omarama Airfield earlier this month. Please be aware that we have people from all walks of life passing through this area, unfortunately they may not have the same principles as us. So keep things locked up and keep an eye out for each other.

I've attended a couple of car crashes in the last month or so, mainly due to people not driving to the conditions. Thankfully these have been fairly minor with no major injuries. But remember to ease up a bit if its raining or foggy. Especially if we haven't had rain for a while as the roads can be treacherous, even small amounts, can make road surfaces that have been dry for days as slippery as ice and a potential danger for unsuspecting drivers.

I think it also timely to remind all dog owners out there that they need to keep their dogs locked up. I know this can be easier said than done, but be aware that if your dog goes walking and begins worrying sheep the farmer is well within his right to protect his stock which will most likely be by shooting the dog. Unfortunately for all involved we recently had 2 dogs that had escaped and began chasing sheep, one of these dogs was shot. This was unfortunate for all involved especially the owners who have lost a loved pet. It's my understanding that there are some rumours now floating around about this, so here's the facts so there is no misunderstanding.

2 Dogs were loose in a paddock near Omarama Township.

There were pregnant ewes in that paddock.

The dogs were chasing these pregnant ewes.

There is an independent witness who confirms this.

*Continued over*



# Omarama Volunteer Fire Brigade



There were 10 calls in September; one motor vehicle accident, three fires and six medical calls. Daylight saving has just begun. It is a good time for everyone to change the batteries in their smoke alarms. If anyone needs help please feel free to contact any of our friendly team and we can help. Remember: "Smoke Alarms Save lives", stay safe.

*chief fire officer Terry Walsh*

And from *Omarama Font's* roving reporters Jessica Smith and Eliza-Jayne Coetzee:

On a Saturday night, recently, the fire brigade had a fun and awesome lip sync battle! They sang, they laughed and did inappropriate things. Everyone had a blast! Terry Walsh ran the lip sync battle. If you went to the Lip Sync Battle I'm sure you had fun there was comedy, laughing, singing dancing, dinner and drinks! Everyone enjoyed it and we all are sure the adults want to see this next year! Thank you Terry for organising the lip sync battle we hope you all had fun! - *Omarama Font*.

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## ***Upper Waitaki Police news continued***

One dog was shot while it was still in the paddock, yes it may have been near the boundary fence but what was to stop it coming back and having another go at the sheep ?

The other dog ran off and was located a kilometre away in a second paddock by myself and the farmer.

Despite being well within his rights to shoot the dog, the farmer elected to let it escape as it was no longer chasing stock.

Lastly yep the same old...drink driving. It has come to my attention that some locals are taking the piss....literally. I will be clamping down on drink driving leading up to Xmas so be aware. It is police policy to breath test every vehicle that is stopped. I will be working extra night shifts in the near future and any vehicle I see on the road will be stopped, so do the right thing and organise a sober driver or alternative means of getting home before going out drinking. Stay safe Bean. -*Senior Constable Nayland Smith*

*Phone: 03 438 9559 email: [Nayland.smith@police.govt.nz](mailto:Nayland.smith@police.govt.nz)*

**'The Community Reports' is  
dedicated to news  
from clubs, groups and sports teams.  
Contributions are welcome.  
[omaramagazette@gmail.com](mailto:omaramagazette@gmail.com)**

# Omarama's Community Library

Kids complaining of being bored?

The library has just the thing for the school holidays and any uncharacteristically cloudy, drizzly days - more jigsaws than you can shake a stick at! If you have one to swap, bring it along and swap it. If you haven't got one to swap... come along and borrow one anyway! There is a wide variety of pictures, shapes and sizes to choose from. From houses to horses, Washington to Wasjig, we're pretty confident you will find one (or even two) you like. We even have the World's Most Beautiful jigsaw but you will have to wait until we've finished it before you can borrow that one.

The library rosters for October, November and December are looking empty. Please call if you would like to sign up. There is a 'read-me file ' to help and the option to 'buddy-up' with an old hand if you prefer. Don't be shy!

*- By Anna Howard, volunteer librarian*

The Omarama Community Library is open Wednesdays from 11.30pm to 1.30pm and Saturdays from 10am to 12pm at the Omarama Community centre. Library hours can change Contacts: Anna Howard: 021-132-5586, Georgie Robertson: [huntly@xtra.co.nz](mailto:huntly@xtra.co.nz)

## Omarama Residents' Association

The Omarama Residents' Association held its annual meeting last month. In his annual report chairman Ross Gold said the Community Centre had become a facility "to be proud of" and was well used with good forward bookings. The centre now housed the community library and the Civil Defence headquarters.

Notable projects in the past year had included the installation of stage lighting and hall heating. This was made possible through fundraising ventures such as the Variety Concert, led by Kay Verheul, and through a generous donation by Meridian Energy. Considerable effort had also been put into fundraising for a sporting complex. This was led by Gemma Gloag. Finances were sound. Looking to the future, the aim was to boost project funding so the association could apply for outside funding necessary to establish the sporting complex.

Ross thanked former committee members Arda Booiman and Cathy Ferguson for their contribution. Special thanks were extended to outgoing Ahuriri Community Board member Michael Blackstock and Ross also thanked all for their contribution to "making Omarama a special place to live".

There will be no October meeting. The next meeting will be 7.30pm Thursday November 10, at the Omarama Community Centre.

*Craig Dawson, secretary. 027 4389132. Ross Gold, chairman, 027 4434149*



Omarama School celebrated the end of another busy term with an assembly which showcased their learning in dance performance.

At the assembly new senior class teacher Peter Schasching was introduced. Mr S is originally from Christchurch and has been teaching at Murchison Area School. He has also taught in Japan. He enjoys trout fishing and so is familiar with the area.

As well, acting principal Kim McKenzie presented Samantha O'Neill with the Sir Peter Blake Young Leadership Award. Every year, in partnership with Westpac, the award is offered to one pupil in year five to eight at every primary school. The person chosen is one whose "outstanding leadership uplifts their school community". The Omarama School values awards were also presented.

Mrs McKenzie thanked and farewelled the Inkersell family and wished Max and Logan well at their new school.

Ski-ing at Lake Ohau Snow Fields was another term highlight with Omarama pupils awarded winning prizes in various categories.

Photos of ski-ing prizegiving overleaf by Kim McKenzie:

Max Inkersell in the 12 and under on the chair lift, Gemma Patterson receives her ski prize, Archie Bochel - 1st, 6 and under on the chair lift, Toby Bochel - 2nd, 10 and under on the chair lift, Arabella Thomas 1st, Saedy Zeestraten 2nd and Laura Patterson 3rd on the magic carpet.





**We like to move it, move it!**







# Waitaki District Council news in brief



**Restaurants, bars and clubs** - all those who may require a special licence to host a function are being urged to think ahead. Special licence applications must be lodged at least 20 working days before the event. The period between 20 December 2016 and 15 January 2017 are not considered working days under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol legislation. This could cause problems for events planned between January 15, 2017 and February 14, 2017.

This includes Waitangi Day on February 6. For events that occur between December 20 and February 7 the application must be received by the council before 22 November 2016.

**The Waitaki District Responsible Freedom Camping Bylaw 2016** has been approved by the council.

Freedom campers in Waitaki will be allowed to camp in the same spot for a maximum of three days over a four-week period; campervans used for freedom camping will be required to meet national standards for self-containment, and freedom camping will be prohibited in 79 named reserves across the district.

An amount of \$56,000 has been set aside for policing the bylaw, and education about the new rules.

## **The 2016 elections in Omarama - a reminder to vote**

Voting documents for the postal ballot to elect candidates to local government have been delivered to households. Electors can post the documents back to electoral officers as soon as they have voted. October 8 is polling day. Voting documents must be at the council before voting closes at 12 noon. Preliminary results (i.e. once all 'ordinary' votes are counted) will be available as soon as possible afterwards. Official results (including all valid ordinary and special votes) will be declared from October 13.

Omarama businessmen Craig Dawson and Tony Chapman were elected unopposed to the Waitaki District Council and Ahuriri Community Board respectively.

Two nominations have been received for mayor, incumbent Gary Kircher and Palmerston business man Stephen Wesselingh.

# Environment Canterbury news in brief

The clearing of willows at the confluence of the Willowburn Stream and Ahuriri River produced little in the way of useful fire wood, ECan's Upper Waitaki Zone Committee member Richard Subtil says.

In August, contractors began clearing the willows beside the Department of Conservation campsite as part of a joint project with land owners, DoC, Rūnanga and Alps to Ocean to improve water quality.

It was initially thought wood could be used to help provide heating for Omarama residents.

"[However, the work] yielded little of worth, there was not the quality of timber expected.

"The remainder will likely be burned," Richard says.

Further willow removal will occur over the next two or three years through spraying and removing the trunks and branches.

The next meeting of the Upper Waitaki Zone Committee is scheduled for 9.30am Friday, October 21, at the Mackenzie Country Inn, Twizel.

Minutes of previous meetings are posted on: <http://ecan.govt.nz/get-involved/canterburywater/committees/upper-waitaki/Pages/minutesandagendas.aspx>

**[www.ecan.govt.nz](http://www.ecan.govt.nz)**





# **Claybird Shoot with Natalie Rooney**

**Rio Olympic Silver Medallist**

*Enjoy a fun afternoon with Natalie Rooney either as a shooter or spectator .*

*Followed by Presentations, BBQ and Refreshments.*

*CASH Bar Available.*

**Friday 4th November 2pm**

**at Omarama Golf Club**



## **Shooters Ticket**

**\$60**

Claybird Field Shoot

Afternoon Tea and BBQ Dinner.

*Bring your own gun and ammo*

*Must hold current firearms licence*

**Tickets go on sale**

**Monday 10th October**

Purchase from Omarama

School office between

9-12pm - cash or chq

**Limit 2 per person**

Only 50 Shooters and

50 Spectator tickets available

**BE IN QUICK!!**

Courtesy Coach Available

**Omarama School Fundraiser**

Enquires: Wendy 03 4389568



## **Spectators Ticket**

**\$25**

Watch Natalie Rooney

Shoot

Afternoon Tea and BBQ Dinner.

# The Good Food News from GlenCraig's Pantry

## OUR BEST BULK BUYS..

### 500g Bags—best value!!

Nuts—Brazil's \$14

Almonds Whole \$11

Spray Free Walnuts \$19

Cashew pieces \$13

Cashews whole \$15

Fresh Medjool Dates \$17

Cranberries \$13.50

Figs \$12

Apricots \$12

Raisins \$6

Chickpeas \$5

Banana Chips \$6

Goji Berries \$20

Sunflower Seeds \$5

Popping Corn \$3.70



**Check out our great prices!!**



Photo Caption

## GLENCRAIGS Wholesale Pantry Omarama

### *Organic Coconut Flour*

Coconut flour is simply dried, ground up coconut meat. Besides adding flavour, this whole food flour provides many beneficial properties, including being rich in dietary fibre and a good source of protein. It is gluten-free, wheat-free and vegetarian. No chemical bleaching. No alcohol treatment. No additives. No anti-bacterial or anti-fungal agents. No bromate added.

It is ideal for use in gluten-free and starch-free recipes. Add to smoothies and desserts or use as a thickening agent in sauces and gravies. Coconut flour makes a great substitute for other flours in almost any recipe!

See this recipe for **Coconut Blueberry Muffins**—this simple one bowl muffin is healthier but easier to make than traditional recipes!! (thanks Hemsley sisters!)..

You would not believe that they are Gluten Free, no refined sugar—and I use stevia to make them sugar free too) - also if you use coconut oil/butter they are Dairy Free. (and I can vouch they are still great!)..

Coconut flour may seem initially expensive at \$5.90 for 400g, but as coconut flour soaks up liquids and expands hugely upon baking it goes a really long way.

### Coconut Blueberry Muffins

3 eggs

2T butter OR coconut oil/butter

2T maple syrup or honey (use  
1/2 tsp stevia if no sugar  
wanted), 1 tsp vanilla

Small pinch of salt

1T apple cider vinegar or lemon  
juice

40g coconut flour

1/4 tsp baking soda or I use 2 tsp  
of GF Baking Powder

200g blueberries frozen

Blend all above EXCEPT blueberries until smooth—add the frozen blueberries, stir gently and bake in greased muffin tins until lightly golden—about 20 mins.

**GLENCRAIGS 03 4389 816 Email [glencraigs@xtra.co.nz](mailto:glencraigs@xtra.co.nz)**



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revivehairdesign@yahoo.com

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To make an appointment:  
phone/txt Shell on 0275401001  
or message me on Facebook:  
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# NEW MENU

starts

## Labour Weekend

Dine in    Takeaways    Coffee to go

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# The FAQs - The Five Awkward Questions with...



**Bev and Lindsay Purvis**  
**Merino Country Cafe**

**1. What is the best advice you have ever been given?**

*Take a look at yourself, recognise your strengths and weaknesses, capitalize on your strengths and build on your weaknesses.*

**2. What was your best impulse buy?**

*Ruff our handy huntaway. We bought him when we started out as a married couple on farm, at the time a*

*huge cost. He lived for 18 years, great pet and working dog.*

**3. Best day outside the office?**

*Travelling - drinking Mojitos in Havana, a great trip.*

**4. Omarama is the place to be. Why?**

*We've lived here for 23 years, partied here as a teenager (Bev). This is the biggest town I've ever lived in. (Lindsay) It's home.*

**5. What is one thing that would make the world a better place?**

*If it was safer, we need more tolerance and less needless killing*

---

## The View from the Chook House



Apple blossom  
time

# The Garden Diary



## Just mucking about

So, this friend pops in, opens a plastic bag, and says “take a look at this”. In it there’s a finely-cut mixture of fresh grass clippings, earthy-brown leaves and herby, musky horse manure. I look back at her and know we understand each other.

Us gardeners do have the reputation for hoarding all kinds of weird and wonderful ‘organic by-products’ but there is method in what significant

others and non-gardeners like to (quite rudely?) call madness. It’s called giving back. All through the growing season plants dig deep and draw up goodness from the soil. When we harvest or clear it we interrupt the natural cycle and take away what would naturally fall back to the ground and be transformed by busy soil organisms into nutrients for another generation of plant life. Some people redress that by feeding out compost – so skilled are they that they churn out mounds of magnificent mixtures, darker and denser than grandma’s Christmas pudding. Alas, despite knowing the recipe, I am not blessed with that particular ‘Great British Bake-off’ quality.

But I hate to see bare soil. I hate the thought of the wind and sun sucking it dry to dust to fly east on the back of the next warm nor’wester. And the weeds laughing as they move in. Like doting grandma following around her teenage granddaughter I itch to tweak and cover it up. Layers do the trick nicely. I spread and cover with layers of whatever I have to hand at the time. All the while thinking of the plant and what lies beneath. I like to visualise the soil teeming with well-nourished and fit organisms who are doing the heavy lifting and mixing for me. I’m no soil or plant scientist but I have assimilated some quite random and useful trivia over time. (Remember; the internet is the home of the genie who will answer any gardening query at a click.)

Sheep poo is apparently the most completely nutritious manure meal plus it can be applied immediately. Others like chook and elephant poo need to be ‘aged’ a bit so they don’t ‘burn’ the plant. Not all plants like the same diet.

The pretty cowslip was named for its penchant for growing in paddocks near cow pats. Potatoes do not like chook poo. Polyanthus and primulas love rabbit poo. And thanks to *The Fastest Indian* we all know what lemon trees like. Plants, like people, can overindulge to the detriment of their health. Here come those two party-crushing words again - ‘in moderation’.

So, back to the plastic bag - A recipe for nutritious mulch or quick compost. Chuck horse manure on the fallen leaves on the lawn. Mow the lot together, if it’s still too chunky run over it again. Rake it up into a wool fadge or black polythene bag snipped with holes. Keep moist. Feed out as required. Yum!

PS She also dropped in a recipe for Whiskey Cake—let’s just see if I can’t get the two muddled up. - Ruth Grundy (*I garden a small space under a big sky in Omarama*)



# Totara Peak Gallery



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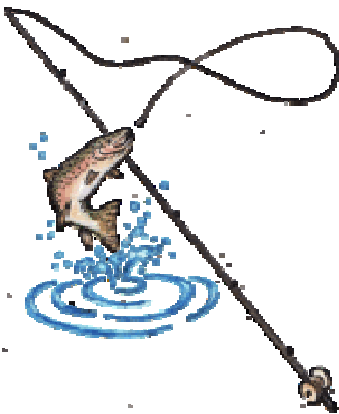
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@ 44°29'29.4"S 169°58'19.7"E

## September 2016

Highest temperature: September 11 24.8C

Lowest temperature: September 9 -3.6C

Most rainfall: September 5mm

Total rainfall for September: 18mm

Total rainfall for September 2015: 19mm

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