



-Omarama Gazette - **June 2019**

A lifetime of 'giving back' honoured

A champion of young women entering the sport of gliding, who, herself, has broken records in what is a male-dominated sport, has been recognised for her work in this year's Queens Birthday honours.

Yvonne Loader is recipient of the Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to the sport of gliding.

Mrs Loader, who lives in Christchurch and has been coming to Omarama "every year since 1977", was New Zealand Association of Women in Aviation president from 1986 to 1988, and has introduced many young women to aviation, particularly gliding.

She holds national gliding records for altitude, distance, and speed, and set a world record in 1988 for greatest height gain by a glider that still stands today.

"I was incredibly surprised and excited, [to be awarded the honour] I couldn't believe it."

She had always been of the belief that if you get something out of a sport, especially if it is a volunteer organisation, then you ought to also make a contribution.

"It's been my 'putting back' into a sport, a sport that's given me such wonderful times.

"I'm very proud to have been an inspiration to women who have gone on to do pretty amazing things."

Mrs Loader is heavily involved with the New Zealand gliding community and has instructed for the Omarama and Canterbury Gliding Clubs. She was secretary of the Canterbury Club from 2000 to 2014, of the Omarama Club from 2008 to 2014, and was made a life member of Youth Glide New Zealand in 2014.

Getting the rubbish sorted

From June 1, Waitaki District Council-owned resource recovery parks, including Omarama, Otematata, and Kurow, will no longer take most types of plastic for recycling.

As well, a change to the amount of cardboard businesses can drop off at the recovery parks free of charge is also being considered.

The Waitaki Resource Recovery Trust has announced it will no longer take a range of plastic lines - numbers 3 to 7, including coloured polyethylene terephthalate bottles and all trays and punnets.

WasteCo, who holds the council contract to operate the Waitaki Valley parks, trucks recyclable waste from those to the Waitaki Resource Recovery Park, in Oamaru, for processing. WasteCo managing director Carl Storm told the Omarama Gazette, as a consequence of the trust's decision, it had to change its practice.

Changes in global recycling markets and a subsequent loss in income have been cited as the reasons behind the trust's decision. In April, the Waitaki District Council made a \$40,000 lump sum payment to the trust, followed by a \$85,000 one-off grant in December - to cover losses, and for a baler to deal with the increased volume in material being received at its park.

Last year, the council put into place its 2018-24 waste management and minimisation plan. The result was a significant rise in fees at the recovery parks in Hampden, Kurow, Otematata, and Omarama – largely to cover the cost of transport of waste from the parks to processing. Prices rose from \$60 per cubic metre to \$120 for residual waste, and from \$20 per cubic metre to \$50 for green waste, to help meet the council's goal of recovering 40% to 60% of operating costs of the recovery parks from users.

At the time, because of the cost of transport, a proposal to charge businesses for accepting cardboard for recycling was also discussed, but dismissed. However, the Omarama Gazette understands guidelines for this are at present up for discussion again. Some businesses have already been informed the resource recovery parks will be limiting the amount of cardboard waste commercial operations can drop off to 1 cubic metre a week.

In a submission to this year's Waitaki District Council annual plan the Ahuriri Community Board has asked for a reduction of green waste fees to align with those charged at the Oamaru Transfer Station, operated by Waste Management.



Costs should be “standard district-wide” the submission said.

“E.g \$50 per cubic metre in the ward’s townships and \$18.80 per 100kg in Oamaru.

“Our ward has constant issues with illegal fly-tipping and it is a serious problem within rural and residential areas,” the submission said.

Submissions to the annual plan closed April 30.

Continued from page one

During that time she has spent many hours applying for funding, much of that going towards safety equipment such as parachutes and emergency location beacons. Specifically, for the Canterbury Club, she helped raise funds for a new hangar, underground power lines, and to convert an old classroom into a training and operations base.

Mrs Loader learnt powered flying in 1972 and went on to take up competition flying. She has her tow-plane rating and has flown several hundred hours towing gliders as a volunteer tow pilot, including for the Canterbury Gliding Club at national and international gliding competitions, and for Youth Glide Development camps at Omarama. She was a crew member at the world gliding championships in Rieti, Italy, in 1985 and the only female tow pilot at the world championships at Omarama in 1995. Among those she has towed for is Christchurch glider pilot Jenny Wilkinson, who set a world record on a flight from Omarama, in 2009.

"I guess I'm a bit of a cheerleader [for women in aviation] "

More women than ever were moving into the field and being encouraged to do so by the aviation industry.

And the growing interest among women was only serving to build more interest , Mrs Loader said.

Last year ,10 young women attended Omarama's Youth Soaring Development Camp.

Canterbury pilot Yvonne Loader has been honoured for her volunteer work.

Photo: supplied



Postcard from Biella

A great yarn has been spun halfway across the world.

Omarama's own Mike King, of Glenburn Station, has been holidaying in Europe and last month paid a visit to the Botto Poala family's textile operation in Biella, Italy. Mike said it had been a "very magical week ... seeing the end product", and something all merino farmers should experience.

Glenburn is owned by the Botto Poala family and farmed as part of their Otamatapaio Station - a Reda of Italy, farm.

The family established their business, Reda, in 1865. Biella has been a wool processing and textile centre for about 800 years.

Reda is the biggest buyer of quality, sustainable merino wool in the world, handling 2.5 million kilos of fibre a year which is spun into 7.5 million metres of cloth.

Some of its merino wool comes from New Zealand and the rest from Australia.

It exports to United States, European, Asian and Middle Eastern markets, and supplies fabric to such fashion industry names as Giorgio Armani, Gucci, Tom Ford and Hugo Boss and the emerging active-wear market.

Francesco Botto Poala shows Mike King the ropes at the Botto Poala family mill in Biella, Italy. Photo: Monique King



A ninth birthday to remember

Young hunter Jack Doree (9) has achieved something many with twice his experience only dream of - and on his birthday too.

He shot a '25-pointer' fallow deer on his first outing.

To celebrate turning nine he asked to go hunting and set out with a goal in mind.

"I wanted to shoot my first deer."

So mum Kim, dad Michael, sister Paige and good friend Robbie Anderson took to the hills for a night in a hut.

Next day, they drove up a nearby hill and spotted some deer.

"We sneaked up and I got a comfy rest and lined one up.

"I squeezed the trigger...I couldn't believe it, I got it.

"I was shaking like a leaf."

Kim says they plan to have the antlers mounted, meanwhile the freezer is packed with venison.

Jack Doree poses with his trophy. Photo: supplied



#EOTM - Employee of the month

John (Linny) Linwood

Machine shearer - Grant Murdoch Shearing

If he had the chance, he'd do it all again.

John 'Linny' Linwood (60), "born and bred in Kurow", has been machine shearing for 42 years and he's not ready to throw in the towel yet.

It was former North Otago contractor, the late Bill Sheppard, of Kurow who took the young Linny under his wing and taught him the necessary skills.

Bill was known for his willingness to give learner shearers and shed hands a start.

When Bill finished up, Linny went on to work for James and Trish Kerr before they sold the business to Grant and Sharlene Murdoch.

"There weren't a lot of merinos when I first started...only three sheds.

"They were either Corriedales or cross-breds."

It was about 25 years ago there was a major shift in focus to fine wool and farmers made the switch to merino, he says.

Initially, Linny and the gang worked mainly from Duntroon to Omarama and "up the Haka Valley".

Nowadays, they shear as far afield as Wanaka and the Mackenzie.

The biggest change to shearing in recent times came about with the introduction of cover combs for machine hand-pieces in the early 1990s.

"It made a huge difference."

Using a cover comb means more wool is left on the sheep as protection against the cold.

As a consequence, the machine shearers could work as effectively as blade shearers on sheep in high country conditions.

It used to be the machine shearers would only be used to follow-up the blade shearers on tasks like crutching, he says.

The other innovation which was a life-changer for many shearers was the accepted use of a sling for back support.

Changes in farming practices have driven other changes in the shed and changes to the working season.

As more research is done more is known about the ideal time to remove wool and how it should be handled.

We meet up with Linny at Bog Roy, Omarama, owned by David (Gundy) and Lisa Anderson

Today Grant Murdoch's shearing team are putting 650 merino wethers through the shed.

They'll be done by lunch time.

Terry Mulcahy is classing wool and Gundy is in the yards.

Gundy is the third generation Anderson Linny has worked for.

When he began at the Bog Roy shed Gundy's grandfather Duncan, was at the helm.

Linny remembers they were shearing the day Duncan died, quite peacefully. He set out from the shearing shed in his landrover to pick up some oil, stopped to collect the paper, drove back and parked up, and that was where he was found, Linny says.

However, the late Ken Anderson, Gundy's father, was the first of the family he worked for.

It was when Ken owned Peak Valley and 16-year-old Linny was learning the ropes as a shed-hand.

And he's worked for Gundy's mother, Susie, shearing her flock of black and coloured sheep.

"So, technically, I've worked for four different Andersons."

Ken followed in Duncan's footsteps and farmed mostly Corriedales.

It was Gundy that convinced his father to "get a few merinos" in the late 1990s and the flock grew from there.

Shearing has taken Linny throughout New Zealand, and to Australia and England.

He estimates he has shorn more than a million sheep over his career - some years there were more than others.

"I'd like to think I've done a million."

"It's a good job, I've really enjoyed it...I'd just do it all again...all the people I've met."

"I've made a lot of friends ...there've been a lot of fun times ...those I can't really talk about," he says with a chuckle.

Kurow shearer John 'Linny' Linwood (60) has worked for three generations of Andersons at Bog Roy Station, Omarama



Correction

Last month, the Omarama Gazette incorrectly named the previous Omarama golfer to ace a hole-in-one at 'home' at the Omarama Golf Club course, as Kathleen Sutherland, in 1993.

Sincere apologies ladies. It was daughter-in-law Kate Sutherland who played that winning stroke.

When the Omarama Gazette phoned Kate she said she remembered the May day vividly.

She was pregnant with first-born Megan.

She laughed as she told the story.

Ironically, she had only paid her membership fees that morning before heading out on the greens, and you have to be a member for the score to qualify.

Since Christine Bowman's hole-in-one in March another Omarama club member, James McIlraith, has scored an ace – this time at the Gleniti Golf course, in Timaru. As Christine says, these things come in threes – who will be up next?

Meridian backs recreation and sport in the Waitaki

- press release, May 28, 2019.

Recreation and sport groups in the Waitaki have been major beneficiaries of the latest round of Meridian Energy's community fund grants.

Waitaki Hydro Skate Park, which is about to build a skate park facility as an addition to the Hydro PI playground area in Kurow, received \$40,000.

Other beneficiaries include the 'Let's Get Riding' programme run by Mackenzie Recreational Riders. The funds will help build a new a new dressage arena and jumps.

The 12 community groups that have received funding are:

- \$40,000 to the Waitaki Valley Community Society for equipment for the skateboard facility.
- \$25,000 to Waitaki Valley Vehicle Trust for a vehicle to transport older members of the community.
- \$20,000 to the Otematata Residents' Association Inc for the Otematata Wetlands Walkway tracks.
- \$20,000 to the Omarama Golf Club for a new green's mower.
- \$9090.70 for the RNZ Plunket Trust to construct a fence at Kurow Plunket.
- \$6,500 to the High Country Medical Trust for testing and diagnostic equipment at the Twizel Medical Centre.
- \$4,065 to Mackenzie Recreational Riders Group for development of the dressage area.
- \$2,898 to Kurow Junior Cricket Club to buy uniforms.
- \$2,500 to Kurow Golf Club Inc for painting the exterior.
- \$1,500 to Waitaki Recreational and Yachting club for a VH Radio, and safety flags for events.
- \$500 to AgriKids to send three Waitaki children to the AgriKids NZ competition in Hastings.
- \$500 to help the regional winners in Twizel Drama Class get to the Shelia Winn Shakespeare Festival.

The total given to Waitaki community groups in this round came to \$132,553.70.

Introducing...

There are some new faces in town. Welcome to Omarama, guys.

Jill Dickie is the new manager of Big Sky Motels, owned by Hank and Kay Verheul.

She has taken over from Pam Young and Brian Hammond who have moved on to a busy retirement.

Jill grew up in Oamaru, and in and around the visitor accommodation business, later moving to Canterbury to spend about 30 years in administration, sales and marketing. Recently, she has worked as the South Island representative for Kaimanawa Heritage Horses, helping to find permanent homes for the wild horses in the south.

For the past year she has worked as a journalist for the Kaipara Lifestyler, in Northland.

However, she says she has welcomed the opportunity to "return to my roots".

This year, for the first time, Big Rooster Antiques and Collectibles will remain open through winter.

Shane Legge (Leggie), of Twizel Revival, will be minding the shop while owners Jamie and Malcolm Wright take their winter break.

The hours are 10am to 4pm each Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday.



Taking time to remember all that is important

Boots and Jandals Hotel Omarama, Pink Ribbon Brunch 2019

It was a time to make time for friends, old and new, a time for fun and laughter, to celebrate great memories, plus raise money for a cause that touches so many. Boots and Jandals Hotel was once again packed for Bruce and Julie Dyson's annual fundraising brunch to raise money for breast cancer research.

"We all get touched by this," Bruce said

"This is our way of doing our bit, but also a way to catch up with old friends."

The crowd enjoyed a varied brunch menu, bubbles, quizzes and competitions - all in the pink, of course.

Generous sponsors from throughout the community donated goods and baskets for the silent auction.

The total amount raised was \$2840.00

A special thank you goes to:

Willie from Glam u, Doreen Leopold, Kaans catering, GlenCraig's, Liquorland Oamaru, DB, Coca-cola, The Big Rooster, Elizabeth Cowie, Kumera and wife Boo, Bev Purvis, Rachael from The Beauty Room, Karen, of Total Interiors, Tanya McAughtrie, Bid Foods, and Carolyn Grant.

Without your generosity we would have not raised as much for Breast Cancer research.

Long-time friends Sharon Rogers(left) and Doreen Leopold catch up at the Pink Ribbon brunch.





New projects afoot for walkway

Just as the last curtain of leaves fall on one of the most spectacular autumns the Otematata Wetlands Walkway has seen plans to create new areas to explore are beginning to take shape.

“Our story [is] very much an ongoing one,” Otematata Residents’ Association chairman Steve Dalley says.

The Wetlands Walkway is the product of many thousands of hours work and fundraising by hundreds of volunteers over more than 10 years.

One group of volunteers has followed another, all with a similar goal – to create a natural wilderness for all to enjoy.

In that time what was 50ha of ‘no-man’s land’, formerly a Benmore Dam construction site, has been transformed.

More than 5,000 native and exotic trees have been planted and are thriving under the existing canopy of pines, poplars, eucalypts and willow.

Fruit trees have been slipped in within reaching distance of the trail.

Natural ponds have emerged from the brambles, gorse and broom, and populations of herons, bellbirds, fantails, pukeko, various species of duck, including scaup, and several beives of swans have taken up residence.

The Southern Bell Frog is established throughout, its distinctive chant chiming in with the bird calls.

The Wetlands are fed by natural run-off from the surrounding hills.

Volunteers have laboured to build more than 5km of tracks to allow the many that visit from near and far to explore the unpretentious surroundings.

A section of the Alps 2 Ocean cycle trail has been built adjacent to the Walkway.

The land was initially requisitioned for hydro-electricity development from Rostreiver Station under the Public Works Act.

After construction the Munro family waived their right to reclaim the land provided it was always used for public recreation.

It is now under the guardianship of the Otematata Residents’ Association.

Former association chairman and member of the original group which sparked the idea, Graham Sullivan, said, although work began earlier, it was 2010 before a plan was formalised.

A grant from Meridian Energy’s Waitaki Community Fund meant they could employ Wanaka Landscape architect Anne Steven to draw up a landscape management plan and set down the group’s “vision” on paper.

The plan has been loosely followed since as time, money and the enthusiasm of volunteers has allowed.

Graham is also the Waitaki District Council’s Ahuriri Community Board chairman.

Over the years the Walkway group has received grants from many sources, he says.

Meridian Energy has made a major contribution through its Community Fund and also through plantings made to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Benmore Dam.

Pupils from various schools have carried out extensive plantings.

Environment Canterbury is another regular contributor of funding for materials and plants.

However, the community’s commitment and support over the years cannot be

underestimated, he says.

“People give what they can, and many have helped in various ways depending on the need at the time.”

These days the team of volunteers is led by long-serving Walkway volunteer Peter Kirk and right-hand-man Carsen Welsh. A recent community fundraising effort has allowed the purchase of a new tractor complete with mower, loader and grab which will make getting around the necessary chores much easier and more cost-effective. Next, is a project to improve the surface of a good part of the existing tracks so it can be more accessible, Steve says. Plus, new tracks will be built to open up more areas of the site including out onto a headland which juts into Lake Aviemore.

Alongside this, information boards and maps will be updated.

Trees which are coming to the end of their lives will be replaced and new plantings established.

Volunteer Stephen Loach's focus has been the new plantings. He has championed the planting of varieties of oaks and extending the areas planted in Swamp Cyprus. Once established these will add to the already spectacular autumn colours, he says. But each season in the Wetlands has something to offer.

Come spring and visitors will enjoy the product of many hours of planting by earlier groups of volunteers – “hundreds and hundreds of bulbs” will be flowering, he says. The community visits regularly. Rest home residents and play groups travel for picnics by the lakeside, weddings take place, outdoor exercise classes are held, and Waitaha continue to travel up from the coast to collect raupo, as they have always done.

There are many sign-posted entrances to the walk, from the various camping grounds between the Otematata Boat Harbour and Benmore Dam.

It is ordinarily closed to vehicles, but access can be arranged as required.

Johnson Gluyas Tractors Ltd managing director Chris Johnson (left, of Timaru) met up with a group of Otematata Wetlands Walkway volunteers (from left) Stephen Loach, Graham Sullivan, Greg Sanders, Carson Welsh, Peter Kirk and Steve Dalley to observe the Kubota L3800 tractor, which the company has been sponsoring, in action.



The Noticeboard



To have your community notice included here email: omaramagazette@gmail.com

Our sincerest condolences to Kayla Murrell, Lilly, Brooke and Trevor, on the tragic death of partner and father Kent Johnston.

Congratulations to Scottie. Omarama Collie Dog Club president Scott Hunter was placed third in event I – the long head - with Crest, and third in event II - the short head and yard - with Rangi, in last month's Tux South Island Sheep Dog Trial Championships 2019, held in Hanmer Springs.

Congratulations to Benmore Station - Andrew and Deidre, Bill and Kate Sutherland, and David Prebble and Lou Egan, who won the overall Clip of the Year title at this year's Merino Excellence Awards hosted by the Otago Merino Association and Child Cancer

Foundation Otago/ Southland, in Alexandra. Ahuriri Downs was runner-up in the over -17.3 micron category won by Benmore, which also won best stud flock.

A cheque of \$25,000 raised through the NZWTA Child Cancer Fleece competition was presented to the Child Cancer Foundation.

Congratulations to Glenys and Craig Dawson, of GlenCraig's Clothing, on 20 years of business in Omarama

The Omarama Community Library is open 9am to 10am Wednesdays and Saturdays, Library hours can change. Contact Yvonne: 027 476 7473.

The Omarama Golf Club Saturdays tee-off 12.30pm. Club Captain Adrian Tuffley, 027 347 8276. www.omaramagolfclub.co.nz

The Upper Waitaki Young Farmers Club meets at 7.30pm on the first Monday of each month at the 'Top Pub' - the Blue and Gold pub, in Kurow. All welcome. Join the Facebook group. www.facebook.com/groups/300929013444437

Omarama Playgroup meets at 9.30am each Wednesday during the primary school term at the Omarama Community Centre. For more information phone president Andrea Aubrey, 03 438 9863; vice president Ruby Milestone, 03 438 9401, secretary Carla Hunter, 03 976 0504

Bridge Club - The Omarama Bridge Club meets on a regular basis and would welcome new members. If you are interested please phone Sylvia Anderson 438 9784 or Ann Patterson 438 9493.

The Kurow Medical Centre holds a clinic 8.30am to 1pm, and 2pm to 5pm, on Tuesdays at the Omarama Community Centre. Please phone Kurow Medical Centre, 03 436 0760, for appointments. On Fridays phone 0274 347 464 because the Kurow Centre is closed.

The Omarama Model Aircraft Club meets on Saturdays from 9.00 am to 12.00 noon at its flying ground at the Omarama airfield. All welcome - Contact Don Selbie on 027 435 5516.

FENZ 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.

Plunket Line: 0800 933 922

Omarama Plunket Committee: Petrina Paton 027 345 6192

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

In case of emergency: to prevent any confusion about the location of Lake Ohau Alpine Village in an emergency, the following points should be noted:

When phoning 111, advise that Lake Ohau is in South Island and the nearest cross road is State Highway 8 and Lake Ohau Road. Also mention that Lake Ohau Alpine Village is on the shore of Lake Ohau, and is 20 mins (40 km) from both Twizel and Omarama. This will assist the operator to find the required information to enter location in the system and allowing the call to progress to the next screen in the system.

To read more, enjoy more photos and watch our place 'come to life' check out our Facebook page and website. www.facebook.com/omaramagazette/ omaramagazette.nz

To receive email alerts between monthly editions of the Omarama Gazette sign up to our 'Local List'. Email omaramagazette@gmail.com and put 'Local List' in the subject line.

Thank you to all who share your stories and contribute in other way to the Gazette. We all really appreciate what you do.

Advertising pays for production and distribution.

To find out about publication and close-off dates,
and how much it costs to place your advertisement,
please phone 021 294 8002, 03 438 9766 or
email omaramagazette@gmail.com

**The July issue of the
Omarama Gazette
is Wednesday, July 3, 2019.**

**Please submit copy
by Friday, June 28.**

The Community Reports

Omarama Land Search and Rescue

Training under the stars *By Ruth Grundy*

A frosty and moonless night saw the Omarama Land Search and Rescue join forces with the other Omarama emergency services to take part in a simulated SAR exercise in 'real-time' format.

The participants were presented with the scenario that a person had been found "unresponsive" down the bank from the Tarnbrae section of the Alps to Ocean Trail. Each of the services were required to play their part to rescue the accident victim. In the scenario put to the teams, with dark approaching a call had come in that a person, 'status unknown', had been spotted earlier in the afternoon down a bank. The person reporting the incident, who was vague about details, had not gone down the bank to investigate because he had a child with him and was certain the accident victim was dead.

The emergency services were instructed to respond on the basis he might still be alive. In the simulation, a helicopter was on route but could be delayed by foggy conditions, and the nearest St John staff were tied up with a motor vehicle accident in Tekapo.



This called for the local services to put their training into practice. The exercise was designed to test the recently devised “pre-plan for emergency response” – a contingency plan for emergency personnel - which was drawn up as one of the new measures put in place after calls for help to several accidents on the trail last year.

In those cases it took services more than an hour to reach the person who needed help because of confusion over their exact location and difficulty accessing the site. Following a request from emergency services last year distance markers have been installed along the trail to help users more easily identify where they are.

But additional signage at the entrances to the Tarnbrae section to advise users to



Omarama Hotel Social Club

Social function

Saturday, June 8 - 5 pm start time (includes team registration)

A social sports evening (pool, indoor lawn bowls etc) will be held for social club members on the above date at Boots & Jandals Hotel.

Members will be placed in teams of four, so get your team organised.

Fun prizes will be awarded and a barbecue meal will be provided.

If you'd prefer not to compete, not a problem, just come along, relax and enjoy the social occasion - there's a need for spectators as well, so hope to see you there.

You can join the social club at Boots & Jandals for \$20 per financial year
(from April to March)

**For more information on membership and the above function,
contact: Philip Jannink 027 410 6524**

Justices of the Peace

JPs 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



Georgie Robertson
Omarama

03 438 9554 027 4861525



Vicky Munro
Otematata

03 438 7855 021 438745



Malcolm McMillan
Lake Ohau Village

03 438 9798 027 4389798

Omarama Golf Club

By Christine Bowman

Congratulation to James McIlraith, another member to get a 'hole in one'. James scored his ace at Gleniti Golf Club, Timaru, on the No. 2 hole. James has only been playing golf for about two years, so a great achievement. Things are meant to come in three's, so who will be the next person in the club???

Congratulations to our men, who had another win in the Inter-Club Pennants, at home against Tokarahi. This is very exciting as Omarama hasn't had a pennants team for several years, so we wish them luck for the rest of the competition.

We would like to thank and acknowledge Waitaki District Council for the Community Grant that we received which assisted the club in purchasing new pop-up yardage markers. One of the frustrations of our volunteers is having to get on and off the mower to move the markers, which is also not fuel efficient. These add a professional look to the club and accurate measurements as they are not continually being moved.

Our next projects over the coming months are redesigning and sowing No. 2 green and creating a new tee for No. 10.

The latest member of the Omarama Golf Club to score a hole-in-one (at the Gleniti Course) - James McIlraith - is pictured here on more mundane duties - cleaning up after the Omarama Golf Club Easter Tournament.

Congratulations, James!

Photo: supplied



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 Residents' Association

From the May meeting... There were 13 people present.

The Omarama Sports Courts project: A meeting was held with the community centre's neighbour, Bo Bateman, and Waitaki District Council recreation manager Erik van der Spek attended by residents' association chairperson Ann Patterson, sports courts coordinator Jemma Gloag, and building convenor Hank Verheul to discuss various issues. These included lack of communication with neighbours, height of fence and noise. Erik informed the group that the land is zoned 'Recreational Reserve' and the activity meets the requirements, therefore no consent is required but the goodwill of neighbours was paramount. Among the matters agreed were; the boundary is to be surveyed, a functional irrigation system will be installed, the council will forward the plans to Bo, and the handball court will be moved away from the shared boundary. After looking at similar netting used at the school tennis courts Bo is still of the opinion the fence will affect their view.

Omarama contractor Kevin Grant has volunteered his time and effort at cost price to construct the courts and will sub-contract as necessary.

One memorial plaque may have to be shifted and Jemma is to look into this.

It was agreed the new toilet would be best placed by the outdoor shed.

Sponsored wall: Ann is to look into more options for a way to include family names and some local history on a wall of the complex.

The Ahuriri River campsite: Ruth Grundy advised it is nearly a year since the forum inviting community input was held. Since then, a toilet and fence has been built at the campsite which seems to have improved matters to an extent. Overall, the campsite appears tidier. The committee agreed the matter could be followed up if the situation deteriorated again.

Letters will be sent to Waitaki District Council, Department of Conservation and MacKenzie District Council asking to be invited to consult on tourism strategies for the Omarama area.

Community Den: Ann thanked Ross Menzies for work he has done on the Den enquiry. He will write up a report to be filed. The council advised they have not been able to find out about any legal ownership for the den. There seems to be no legal owner, and moral ownership only. The Den belongs to the youth of Omarama. The land is zoned recreational. The building is not fit to be used, according to the council. Bo advised he was involved in getting the building from Electrocorp and all permits were completed, therefore, the council should have the permits in its files. Any money coming available from the building needs to go back into the community. A hang glider association has been in touch with Erik from the council regarding using the building which needs to be bought up to standard. Erik has told Ann the council must go through a process of community consultation before a decision is made.

Thank you to Judy Piner and Yvonne Jones who repainted the Memorial Hall sign, last month.

Could all those who want contact the association by mail, send accounts to be paid, or have correspondence considered at the monthly meetings ensure it is addressed to: The Secretary,
P O Box 93, Omarama 9448.
The association's email address is omarama.committee@gmail.com



**The next meeting of the
Omarama Residents' Association
is 7.30 pm, Thursday, June 20,
at the
Omarama Community Centre.**

All are welcome

Contacts:

Ann Patterson,
chairperson, 03 438 9493,
Lorraine King,
secretary, 027 434 6027

FENZ Omarama Volunteer Fire Brigade



We are rapidly moving into winter. If you have a fire, has the chimney been cleaned? And remember, hot ashes must be put into a metal container for around a week before going in the wheely bin. Make sure the wood you burn is covered and dry. This helps keep the chimney clean and puts less smoke into the town's air. Remember to drive to winter conditions. We have been pretty spoilt with the weather this autumn but as I write this I think things may be changing.

- Deputy Chief Fire Officer Greg Harper.

FENZ Omarama Volunteer Fire Brigade meets 7pm each Wednesday and has its meeting at 7:30pm on the third Wednesday of the month.

Omarama Community Library

The Omarama Community Library is open 9am to 10am,
Wednesdays and Saturdays, at the Omarama Community Centre.

Contact: Yvonne Jones 027 476 7473.



Inspiring events at Omarama School.

By Kim McKenzie, Principal. Photos: supplied.

This term we have had two amazing visits.

Our first visit was from Rebecca Wardell, who shared with us her astounding year-long cycle trip from Switzerland to Hawea.

While working for the Olympic committee, she decided, along with a group of friends, to ride from Switzerland to Hawea. She started her adventure in April 2018 and completed it in April this year. During her adventure Rebecca rode 20,435km or 1137 bike hours and rode through 19 different countries. She visited many schools alongside other Olympians to inspire children worldwide and to raise money to support girls in New Zealand to participate in sport.

The children thoroughly enjoyed Rebecca's talk and had many questions to ask after watching the video of her trip. They couldn't believe some of the foods she had eaten (mystery meat), weather conditions she had experienced from -11 to -40 degrees celsius and the strange places she had slept including grey water drains under highways and roof tops of abandoned buildings, all with only knowing three words in every language (hello, thank you and delicious). You can find out more about Rebecca's adventure on her website, "The long way home".



Our second visit was from the Storylines Tour. The aim of this group is bringing together children's writers, illustrators, poets and storytellers with their readers and audiences, to enjoy books and reading, and to encourage literacy.

Suzanne Main and Mandy Hager (writers) spoke and read a snippet from their favourite books to the senior room, who then posed many questions about being and becoming writers.

I learnt about how to write books effectively – Cam I.

I liked the writer's books a lot, especially Suzanne Main's book called "How I alienated my grandmother". She used lots of interesting words and it was humorous. – Yvie.

I liked how the writers were open to all our questions and easy to talk too. They reminded us to keep trying, to put down all your ideas and don't give up, just go for it! Mandy's writing was very inspiring. – Eliza

In the junior room Toby Morris and Jenny Cooper (illustrators) shared their illustrations and showed how they worked from pencil drawings to coloured pictures in a book. Toby drew a strange creature from the children's suggestions and Jenny drew Jack Doree. The children also asked a lot of questions relating to illustrators.

I liked all the books they had made because of the really cool pictures they had drawn - Paige H.

It was great to have by picture drawn by a New Zealand illustrator – Jack D.

It was incredible to see what they do for a living and what they draw and their techniques – Robbie.

On Friday the 17th of May we celebrated pink shirt day with others from around New Zealand. This year we had the biggest number of students and teachers ever, wearing pink to celebrate diversity and to make a stand against bullying.



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



Kurow Medical Centre

8 Wynyard St, Kurow
P: 03 4360760 F: 03 4360780

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W: www.kurowmedicalcentre.org.nz
www.facebook.com/kurowmedicalcentre

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

**Kurow Medical Centre and its satellite clinics
in Twizel (Mackenzie Health Centre Private Clinic)
and Omarama (Community Hall)**

are proud to offer our registered and casual patients the following services

- * Ultrasound performed by a qualified clinician (great for minor fractures, gall stones, kidney stones, heart and lung problems, foreign bodies, blood clots, detecting early pregnancy and much more!)
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- * Steroid injections
- * Venesection
- * Aviation, workplace and driving medicals
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Kurow: Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 5pm; Omarama: Tuesday 8.30am to 5pm

Twizel: Monday and Friday 8.30 to 5pm; Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9am to 3pm
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Please note: We provide 24/7 on call after hours cover by our doctors and PRIME nurses for all our registered and casual patients!

**If you require further information or an appointment, please contact us on:
For Kurow 03 436 0760 or for Twizel 03 976 0503**

Flu Notice

With the flu season well underway and now circulating widely in New Zealand we are urging all our patients to get their flu shot if they haven't already done so.

Points to note about the Flu:

- The flu can be a serious and sometimes life-threatening viral infection!
- The flu virus is very easy to catch and can affect anyone - it doesn't matter how fit and healthy you or your child are.
- It can spread through the air by coughing and sneezing as well as by hands, cups and other objects that have been in contact with an infected person's mouth or nose.
- Regular hand washing, covering mouths when coughing and keeping sick people away from healthy people will also reduce the spread of flu.

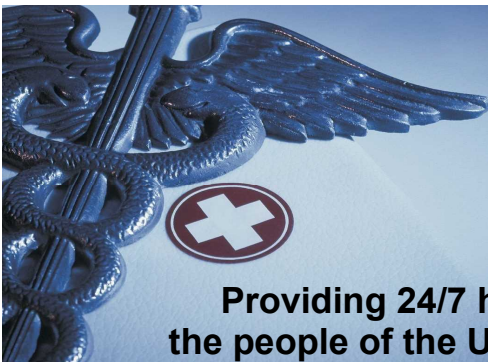
All adults and children from 6 months of age can benefit from yearly flu immunisation.

It is especially important, **and free** for pregnant women, anyone over the age of 65 and adults and children with certain chronic conditions who may develop complications from the flu.

If you do not have an eligible condition, you still benefit from an influenza immunisation available, at a small cost.

Make sure your family is ready to prevent the flu each year!

**Please contact us on: Kurow Clinic 03 436 0760
or Twizel Clinic on 03 976 0503
to book in or for more information.**



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The Omarama Airfield Ltd

- An update from the directors following their board meeting of March 2019, by Lesley Jackson

Airfield Operations: Glide Omarama have identified to the company congestion issues that arise from the multiple use they have to make of a relatively small office area. A re-configuring of the terminal layout to accommodate sales, administration and operations functions was considered before the parties agreed that a mobile on airfield operations facility was the answer. MOCCA (Mobile Operations Control Centre Airfield) This unit will enhance the safe operation of the airfield by providing an operations facility that can be moved to wherever it is required and will include enough space to allow pilots and passengers to safely observe the landing and launch activity. The design is being progressed by GO and OAL.

The Terminal Building: The board is to continue its review of the terminal building's use and layout and welcomes any suggestions parties may have. Marketing and using the Airfield in recent years, the company has rightly focused on using its scarce financial resources on improving the runway and surrounds through enhancement of the irrigation system, over sowing and topdressing and the results of this work is seen in the much improved facility that is in use today. Refurbishment of the cafe is the most recent part of this improvement programme. The board has recognised that there now is a part for the company to play in being a partner in the joint venture marketing of the airfield and the promotion of and development of the aviation and non aviation events that airfield does and could host. The board intends to liaise with the shareholders and stakeholders to progress the development of a marketing plan and to discuss with the Omarama community how the airfield asset could be used by the community.

Plant and Equipment: The company has a range of plant and equipment much of it aged and increasingly difficult to maintain. The board is to undertake an assessment of the maintenance and development needs of the airfield and will establish from that an 'ideal' plant and equipment schedule so that an informed replacement policy can be constructed. The irrigation system will be included in this review.

Airfield Maintenance: The airfield manager, Ron MacPhail, has advised he will not be available for the coming summer. The board wishes to publicly acknowledge the outstanding contribution Ron has made to the airfield and wishes him all the best for the future. We now need a replacement for the position which comes with 30 + hours a week of irrigating, mowing and maintenance. There is the possibility of the work expanding to include cleaning and the ability for job sharing over seven days. Let us know if you have any candidates.

Briefly: The board is progressing: the Waitaki District Council's waste water disposal project; the addition of artwork to the airfield; discussions with adjoining landowners re the airfield entrance; and has presented the 2019 - 2020 Statement of Intent to the shareholders.

Directors:

Clive Geddes: clivegeddes@xtra.co.nz

Terry Jones: morganjones@xtra.co.nz

Richard Subtil: subtil@omaramastation.co.nz

Glen Claridge: glenclaridge@yahoo.com

Waitaki District Council - news in brief

The Oamaru-based New Zealand Airline Academy signed a training agreement with Harrison Omniview Consulting and AirAsia India, last week. Under the agreement it will bring 50 trainee pilots to New Zealand in the first year. The first 15 trainees are expected to arrive in August.

Two new bike parks. The Waitaki District Council opens two new bike parks this week. Kurow's park was opened on Monday and Palmerston's facility will open on Sunday. The bike parks, designed by council roading engineer Rodger McGaw, were built as a collaborative effort between the council, community and a contractor, and paid for with a combination of council and community-raised funds. Further work is scheduled over the coming months to also provide a clay pump/bmx for the communities.

The new Waitaki District Health Services Ltd chairman of directors has been announced as Paul Allison, who has been a board member since early 2018. Present chairman Chris Swann will step down on June 30.

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www.waitaki.govt.nz

The Ahuriri Community Board meeting Monday, May 13, in Kurow.

Present: Board chairman Graham Sullivan, board members Tony Chapman, Brent Cowles, Vicky Munro, Cal Reid, and Cr Craig Dawson, Waitaki District Council chief executive Fergus Power, Waitaki mayor Gary Kircher, and deputy mayor Melanie Tavendale, executive assistant Eden.

The sealing of Settlement Rd, Kurow

The council is to consider a request to seal Settlement Rd, in Kurow, as part of its annual plan, after ongoing issues with "dust drift" through the summer saw the matter raised at the Ahuriri Community Board's public forum, once again.

Kurow resident Jo Paterson presented the board with signatures from concerned ratepayers accompanied by photos showing the extent of the problem and asked that the matter of sealing 0.78km of the straight be attended to urgently because of health and safety concerns.

The road was the main route to Kurow's Resource Recovery Park and for parents of those children east of the town who travelled to the Waitaki Valley Pre-school.

Forty children attend the Waitaki Valley Pre-school on a regular basis but its roll was 60, Mrs Paterson said.

"So, it is really, really busy."

Traffic on the road was "constant" and, in summer, "clouds of dust" were stirred up and drifted over properties including Whalan Lodge Rest Home where there were three residents with "severe breathing difficulties".

- ***Continued***

One house was virtually “obliterated all day” by the dust clouds, Mrs Paterson said.

“We cannot air our houses, we cannot hang washing out, we cannot garden unless we’ve got dust masks on.”

Parents had stopped children walking along the road because they could not be seen for the dust.

It was pointed out it was not the first car going down the road but the second car “following really closely” and hidden by dust which could, potentially, “wipe out” a pedestrian or cyclist.

“When the resource recovery park went in it was promised that road would be tar-sealed,” she said.

It had been an ongoing issue since, at least, 2003, board member Tony Chapman said.

Calum Reid, who has been on the board for nine years, said, in his time, this was the “second or third request” that had been made and he had “given three submissions” about the issue to the council.

It came down to cost, but it was “all about how not to do it rather than how we can do it”, he said.

Board chairman Graham Sullivan said it had been an issue for his entire 12-year term.

Cr Dawson said he could recall it being discussed when he was Ahuriri Community Board chairman – “but it keeps coming off the list”.

Waitaki mayor Gary Kircher also acknowledged it had been an ongoing issue and said the biggest obstacle was cost and the lack of subsidy for the work.

“For quite a few years we haven’t had any budget for un-subsidised seal extensions.

“This year we brought it back in, so there is some funding,” he said.

“You’ve got to bear in mind there are 1200 km of unsealed roads out there, so there’s a bit of a queue.”

Cr Dawson said his recollection was the road needed to be “fortified” to bring it up to a standard that could be tar-sealed, which was costly.

Mr Kircher said, although there was no formal consultation on the council’s annual plan this year and submissions closed on April 30, following the residents’ request to the board the matter would be presented to the council as an annual plan submission.

Public forum submissions welcome, funding application process to be streamlined.

The way groups can apply for Ahuriri Community Board funds at its public forum looks set to be changed.

However, board members stressed they did not wish to see this undermine the integrity of the public process.

Three people made presentations at the public forum before the board’s meeting, last month - one was a funding application.

Kurow resident Jo Paterson asked for Settlement Rd to be sealed, Otematata Residents’ Association chairman Steve Dalley asked the board for money to pay for improvements to the Otematata Wetlands Walkway tracks, and Senior Constable Nayland (Bean) Smith, of Omarama, spoke to the board about the police role in enforcing liquor ban and parking bylaws.

A decision about the Otematata Residents' Association funding application was not made at the time, instead Mr Dalley was asked to provide further information in writing to the board secretary so the matter could be discussed at the board's workshop next month and then put on the agenda for a decision at its next meeting, in July. In his presentation, Snr Const Smith told the board he had been concerned to read in the Omarama Gazette comments by board members at their last meeting about police enforcement of the liquor ban, made in relation to the need for better lighting at the Otematata Domain.

He said it was not true that there had been bottles thrown at police vehicles, nor was it true police were chasing people through the park in the dark and not "catching" them.

"It was also mentioned it [under-aged drinking in public] is getting worse every year and I completely refute that.

"I'm at the coal face and we've come a long way from when I first began policing up here."

The situation had improved to the point there was not really much more police could do, apart from educate people about the liquor ban, he said.

The bylaw was certainly effective because it gave police more authority to take preventative measures.

"It gives us the power to seize any alcohol. If you've got young ones with bags in the middle of the domain then that booze is coming with us, and they're either getting sent home, or getting a ticket, or getting locked up if they fail the attitude test."

Better lighting was "definitely" a good idea. "I wholeheartedly back that, completely". Board member Brent Cowles reiterated he had seen "a bunch of guys" throwing bottles at police cars, a crate of bottles had been smashed, and he had spent the next morning cleaning up broken glass.

"I don't think it's a major. I think it's something new that people are gathering there." Snr Const Smith said he had "dealt with a few youths" at Christmas time but mostly "they were good kids".

"As far as prevention goes, I think we've got the mix pretty much right".

At Christmas time and Labour Weekend extra patrols were sent from Oamaru to stay for the duration and their "sole purpose" was to help police the area.

"We have marked patrol cars going around the whole time over those busy periods.

"I'm working from 5pm to three or four in the morning, until everyone has gone to bed."

He said he was open to suggestions but because of the low number of incidents "we're probably not going to get more staff".

Mr Cowles said, overall, there had been an improvement in the past three years.

"All the indications I've seen, since the liquor ban has been brought in, is the unruliness has tapered off, gone down to a low plateau," Cr Dawson said.

"There hasn't been any impediment to law-abiding citizens," he said.

In addressing a second issue, also discussed at the previous meeting, Snr Const Smith said police could not take any action over abandoned vehicles unless they were a danger to the public or blocking a driveway.

"We're not parking wardens."

That was a matter for either the New Zealand Transport Agency or the council, he said.

Mayor Gary Kircher said there was a process the council had to follow before a

- continued

vehicle could be declared abandoned.

Snr Const Smith offered to answer any further questions before being thanked by the board for his presentation.

"We thought it might be mis-information," Cr Dawson said.

Cr Dawson then asked the minutes of the previous meeting recording the information about abandoned vehicles be changed to reflect the correct information.

Later in the meeting, while discussing the board's financial update, board chairman Graham Sullivan asked it to consider a change to the process by which public forum applications for board funds are made.

He proposed applications be made in writing, on a form designed for the purpose, and submitted to the board secretary for discussion at board workshops, which are every second month and closed to the public, and then put on the agenda for a decision at the next scheduled meeting.

"I think it gives you time to think about it," he said.

Board members discussed various ways this could be achieved so it was still straightforward, was proportionate to the request but gathered together relevant information for decision making and accountability, and allowed people to speak to their submissions.

They agreed to ask council officers to come up with new process.

"There's only one area I'm concerned with, that you should never undermine the public open process in the open forum... I still like the 'freeness' of people being able to contact us," Cr Dawson said.

"I think it's great when the public come to a community board, it's always nice to have the public come to us. "It's good to hear from them...it's informal, it's very helpful," he said.

"It's great to have the submission on Settlement Road... that's what we want to encourage."

"It's great to see Bean here getting rid of all the silly little myths and innuendos about how policing works. He's lined us up with the truth," Cr Dawson said.

Board approves improvements to Omarama Top 10 Holiday Park and removal of trees

The Ahuriri Community Board has approved the improvements proposed for Omarama's camping ground and the removal of a dozen tall poplar trees which are to be replaced with a hedge.

Omarama Top 10 Holiday Park owners Tony and Amanda Chapman want to build a new reception/administration area, and upgrade the driveway and carpark.

As well, council staff have recommended they remove the tall Tasman poplars at the back of the park because of the danger they pose to campers. Staff also recommended these be replaced by a hedge.

The holiday park is on reserve land which is leased from the council.

Any changes to the park are subject to council approval.

Recreation manager Erik van der Spek said in a report, the improvements "supported the council lessee in operating their business", and were in line with the purpose of the lease and its present use, which is camping.

Mr Chapman, who is also a Ahuriri Community Board member, was not present during the discussion of the topic.

However, board members asked him to return to the meeting towards the end of discussions to answer questions about the poplar trees.

He did not take part in the vote.

Cr Dawson said he was happy with the recommendations for the upgrade.

"It's pretty basic. He's just making a better operation with what he's got."

Deputy mayor Melanie Tavendale questioned the removal of the trees and whether the community should be informed.

Trees are "a hot button topic," she said.

Because it was "still council-owned" there was "a public element".

"It might be worth thinking about whether you want to put out some kind of press release," Cr Tavendale said.

The poplars "were on their way out" and had become a hazard because they were growing on the edge of the stream and faced strong nor' westers, Cr Dawson said. The fear was they could "come down on top of caravans", board member Brent Cowles said.

Mr Chapman said the poplars, once removed, would be replaced by a 3m high hedge of native plants as recommended by council staff.

The willows growing along the creek would not be removed and would provide sufficient windbreak.

It was only the tall Tasman poplars which posed a danger.

"They're growing on edge of creek and are so big and tall, they're just not safe," he said.

"It's really important to note this is a recommendation that has come from staff after having conversations with you, Tony, and also looking at the trees and the issues... it's professional advice," mayor Gary Kircher said.

Other matters in brief

The two compacter bins installed at the Omarama Campervan dump station were "working really well," Cr Dawson said. However, the downside was the weight of the full bins which meant a hydraulic hoist had to be brought in to empty them.

Once the new Otematata toilet facility is functioning, the old toilets and wall will be demolished and community feedback sought on creating new artwork for the area.

The New Zealand Marathon Boat commission will not be charged approximately \$250 in boat ramp fees for its Twin Lakes Marathon event held at Queens Birthday weekend. The lakes were closed for the event.

Board chairman Graham Sullivan brought the meeting to a close.

He then asked the board go "into committee" for further discussion.

**The next meeting of the Ahuriri Community Board
is 3.15pm to 5.15pm
Monday, July 8, 2019
at the Kurow Memorial Hall**

Minutes and agendas can be found here

[http://www.waitaki.govt.nz/our-council/council-meetings/agendas-and-minutes/
Pages/default.aspx](http://www.waitaki.govt.nz/our-council/council-meetings/agendas-and-minutes/Pages/default.aspx)

Upper Waitaki Water Zone Committee

Friday, May 17, at Lake Ohau

Two main topics of discussion dominated the meeting of the Upper Waitaki Water Zone committee at Lake Ohau Lodge, last month.

ECan surface water science team leader Graeme Clarke presented a preliminary report and fielded questions about the impact of the erosion of the Clay Cliffs on the water quality of Lake Benmore.

More investigation will be done and the topic discussed at the committee's July meeting.

You can read more in this Otago Daily Times article here:

<https://www.odt.co.nz/regions/north-otago/impact-erosion-investigated-further>

The committee travelled to Lake Middleton and met with representatives of six groups to discuss issues facing the lake and its management.

You can read more about the discussion on the Omarama Gazette Facebook page

- search posts for The Long Read about the Lake,

or email omaramagazette@gmail.com for a copy.

There is a joint meeting
of Environment Canterbury's
Upper and Lower Waitaki water zone committees
Wednesday, June 19, 2019
assembling at 11.50am at the Waihao Marae, Morven.
There will be a pōwhiri at 12 noon, followed by lunch.
Following lunch there will be a presentation
and discussion of
traditional Maori place names in the Waitaki
All are welcome

www.ecan.govt.nz

Minutes and agendas are posted at:

<https://ecan.govt.nz/your-region/your-environment/water/whats-happening-in-my-water-zone/upper-waitaki-water-zone/>

Environment Canterbury - news in brief

Lincoln University student Emma Subtil, of Omarama Station, has been appointed to the new Environment Canterbury Youth Rōpu.

She was one of 15 selected from 29 applicants by an independent panel. The group held its first meeting last month at the ECan council chambers, in Christchurch.

The Youth Rōpu was set up as a way for young people to contribute to decisions made for the region.

Miss Subtil said she put her hand up for the role because she wanted to be "part of the conversation".

"The idea of getting young people together really appeals to me because the earlier we can learn about the work that Environment Canterbury are doing, the more we can help work together to achieve the collective goals."

The Rōpu is, at present, setting up its structure, code of conduct, goals and objectives.

It plans to meet fortnightly online and will meet face-to-face every couple of months.



ECan is inviting those between the ages of 15 and 24 from throughout the region to its annual Youth Voices Hui. The hui is at Ōnuku Marae, Akaroa, Banks Peninsula, from Thursday June 20 to Saturday June 22. Registrations close June 6.

Three candidates will stand for the two available South Canterbury seats in the first full ECan regional council elections since 2007. Former Waimate deputy mayor Peter McIlraith will join incumbents Peter Scott and Tom Lambie in vying for the seats at the October elections.

Farmers preparing nutrient budgets are reminded that from the end of June 2019, OverseerFM software will replace the legacy version of Overseer. Under the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan, farmers need to maintain and update their nutrient budgets using the latest version of Overseer.

The Canterbury Regional Council will adopt the ECan annual plan at its June 20 meeting. While no significant changes are proposed to activity or strategic direction, the draft Plan proposes an increase in rates equivalent to about \$25 a year for an urban Christchurch property valued at \$570k - to increase spending for freshwater management and biodiversity, and public transport.

Rates for each property in the region are based on a mix of general rates (charged to everyone) and targeted rates (charged for targeted work or to a targeted geographical area). Location and property value influence the exact amount charged.

- continued

ECan has declared a climate emergency to highlight the urgency of addressing the issue and also the work already being done to help the region respond. The council noted it already demonstrated climate change leadership, including establishment of the Climate Change Integration programme; incorporation of climate change considerations into all Council's work programmes and decisions; working with regional partners to ensure a collaborative response; advocating and engaging with Central Government; and leading by example in reducing its emissions. There are no additional immediate financial implications for ratepayers with the decision, the statement says.

ECan has released its annual groundwater quality survey for 2018. The report summarises the current state of groundwater quality throughout the region and provides analysis of trends over the past decade.

ECan has updated its 'Canterbury Wetlands' geographic information system layer on its Canterbury maps. The updated layer will provide an important source of information and guidance for landowners and ECan when seeking to identify and protect wetlands.

www.ecan.govt.nz



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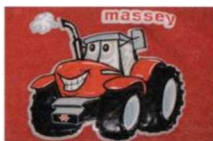
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or call in to the kindergarten

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is now closed for the season - re-opening Labour weekend

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15 Mackenzie Drive PH: 4350777

OPENING HOURS

We are now open for appointments.

9:30am to 6pm	Mondays and Fridays
8.30am to 5pm	Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
9:45am to 11:45am	Saturdays

AFTER-HOURS

On call after-hours services are also offered 24/7 for urgent care.

Other Health and Wellbeing Services

Blood Tests, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Risk Assessment, Minor Surgical Procedures such as Skin Lesion removal, Smears, Medicals, Ultrasound and Physio, Podiatry, Counselling, Dentures and Mole Map, are also available at Twizel Medical Centre.

We will be also be advertising other services as these come on stream.

Please make inquiries with our reception. 4350777

Enrol With Us

Twizel Medical Centre is an enrolling practice. When you are an enrolled patient your fees are reduced. Please feel free to come in see our centre and talk to the team about our services and enrolling. Because our centre is community owned and has charitable status, any surplus can be reinvested into improving access to services for our community.

**Come and join us
and be part of growing services for our community.**



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Moisture is one of several essential factors necessary for bacterial growth in bedding materials. Therefore, it is important to keep bedding as dry as possible to minimise exposure to environmental mastitis pathogens.

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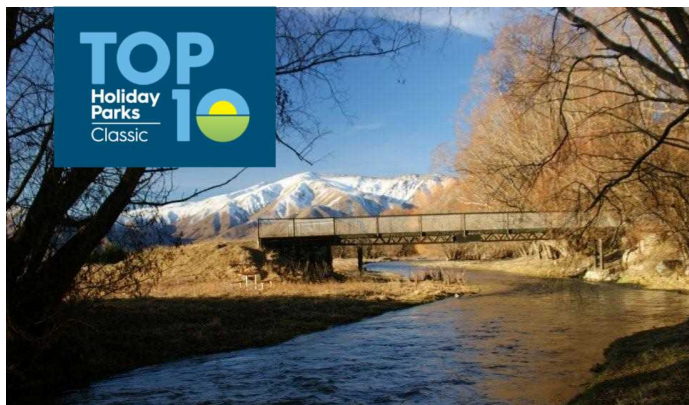
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Situations Vacant

Omarama Visitor Information Centre *Casual Customer Service Consultant*



Tourism Waitaki Limited (TWL) is looking for a Customer Service Consultant to join the Visitor Information Centre team on a casual basis. If you enjoy working as part of a team or independently and would like a job where you can proudly represent the Waitaki District and assist visitors with their travel arrangements, we want to hear from you.

To succeed in this role, you must have:

- Proven customer service and interpersonal skills
- Well-developed sales skills and experience
- Good knowledge of Microsoft office applications and booking systems is preferred
- A passion for Omarama and the Waitaki district
- An outgoing, friendly personality with a "can do" attitude
- A self-starter, able to work independently and committed to deliver quality results
- Tourism qualification and foreign language skills would be an advantage

Must be available holidays and weekends. You must be a New Zealand resident to apply for this role. To apply please send a covering letter together with your CV to Melanie Jones – mel@waitakinz.com. Applications close 5pm 21st June 2019.

Full job description available on our website www.waitakinz.com/contact/careers



The FAQs - Those Five Awkward Questions with...

Michael and Kim Doree

Michael, Kim, Paige(7) and Jack(9) Doree moved to Omarama from Blenheim at the end of last year. Michael and Kim run Quailburn Station in partnership with Sam Lucas of Timburn Station.

What is the best piece of advice you have been given?

"Keep your mouth shut and your ears open." - Michael.

"If at first you don't succeed, try and try again." Kim.

Tell us something about Omarama we might not know?

"We're still learning all about Omarama." - Michael.

"Everyone already knows this but you have a very awesome school." - Kim.

What was your best impulse buy?

"Always a dog, they're great mates" - Michael.

(Michael and Kim train pig dogs and once ran two teams of 11 dogs.)

"The kids go cart - a two seater - it was a Christmas present and I can fit in it!" Kim.

Best day outside the office?

"Taking the kids hunting." - Michael.

"Kids sports days." - Kim.

What is your wish for the world?

"that people moved away from a materialistic lifestyle and learnt to live with less." - Michael.

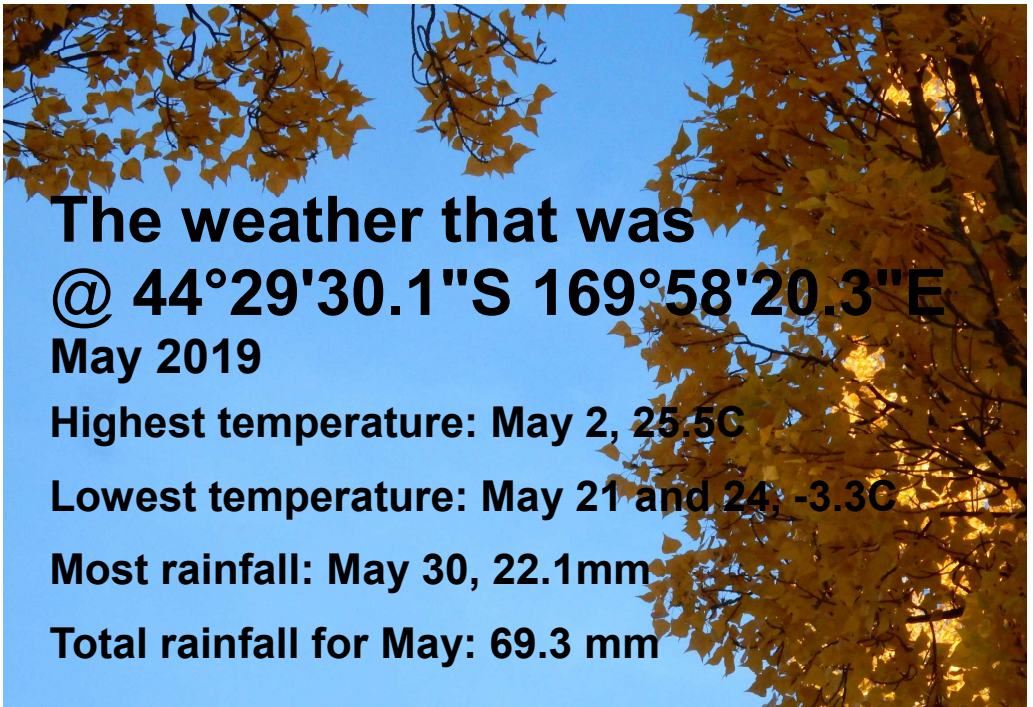
"that people would stop judging others and focus on their own lives." - Kim.



The View from the Chook House



Snow-raking at the chook house
(June 2015)



The weather that was
@ 44°29'30.1"S 169°58'20.3"E
May 2019

Highest temperature: May 2, 25.5C

Lowest temperature: May 21 and 24, -3.3C

Most rainfall: May 30, 22.1mm

Total rainfall for May: 69.3 mm

The Garden Diary

Beauty in that moment of decay

The clouds hang low, murky-grey-yellow and heavy with the promise of snow, but it keeps to the tops for now.

It's cold and gloomy.

Things are looking a bit ugly in the garden.

This year there's not been so many frosts to set it sparkling.

The freezing, sleety, windblown rain has washed out the last of the autumn colour.

Fallen leaves, not yet cleared, are slippery layers of brown mush.

It's grey rain, but not yet snow, which throws its great white transformational blanket over all.

The garden has so welcomed the rain – it's been a while, the lawn greened in an instant.

The spider webs all misty wet with rain spin across the garden.

Today you can see them before they wrap around your face.

The finches, swinging upside down, pick the last of the seeds from the blackened and drooping sunflower heads.

The tiny dunnocks are gorging on silver birch seed and there's plenty of that.

It gets in everywhere.

They flit and trill with glee between feeds.

The bellbirds have visited but not yet taken up residence.

As the sun breaks through a gap in the gloom it lights the seed heads across the garden.

It plays shadows and shapes on the wheaten, strappy leaves of day lilies, the fluffy crew-cuts of asters, the spiky globe thistle - once shiny metallic blue - and the dun, cauliflower heads of sedum, no longer 'Autumn Joy'.

That which remains – everything you see in this moment – is coloured only by memories.

"Beauty in decay, beauty in the unexpected".

They say when you look at a dandelion seed head you see a thousand weeds or a thousand wishes.

Everything you see in the moment.

- Inspired by this man,

Five Seasons:

The Gardens of Piet Oudolf

(<https://vimeo.com/81833686>)

Ruth Grundy

(I garden a small space under a big sky in Omarama)



The Last Page is Classifieds

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Annual Meeting

7.30pm, Friday, June 7

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information about hall hire and availability
please contact Charlotte Newfield, 027 940 1648,
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