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Omarama Gazette



The Daily Wire

Keeping us connected

Friday, March 26, 2020

In this issue...

Today's diary entry, an idea from New Zealand Geographic, more of the important stuff and a few laughs :)

Hi everyone

If you want to view previous issues click on '[view this email in your browser](#)' at the top right of this page. Then click on '[past issues](#)' at the top left of that page.

Please share this email and encourage others to subscribe if they need to get Omarama notices. I apologise, I am not able to print copies at the moment. Perhaps, those who can could print one off for someone they know who would appreciate it?

Please feel free to contact the Daily Wire and share your 'day in the life of Covid-19', or phone and I'll take down your words. Send photo's videos, whatever you find easy. Let's share.

Please get in touch if you have a message you want to get out to the community.

I won't be giving advice because I'm no expert.

Here is the link to the Government's one stop shop for all things Covid-19- related <https://covid19.govt.nz/>

[Radio New Zealand](#) is the best radio station to tune to for the latest updates, or check its site for news.

One more thing,

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If you add this email address omaramagazette@gmail.com to your email contacts address 'book' the servers will know we are friends and not spam.

Let's stay close whatever the distance

- Ruth

**Click here to message, contribute, or
subscribe**

Here is the link to the Government's
one stop shop for all things
Covid-19 <https://covid19.govt.nz/>

- just going to leave this here :)



Omarama services and notices

REMINDER

To prevent the spread of the virus all playgrounds are closed - this includes the school playground. This is because the disease can be spread on hard surfaces like swings and slides.

CORRECTION TO PREVIOUS: The Omarama Golf Club course is closed.

OMARAMA RESOURCE RECOVERY PARK

Open: Wednesday and Sunday – 9am to 11am

Household rubbish: Only bags of household/domestic waste and essential commercial waste will be accepted. There will be no charge for bags, however, there is a **limit of two bags per car, per week** (car registrations are recorded to monitor this).

Commercial rubbish: commercial waste from current account holders will be accepted with no gate charge, and invoiced later.

To safely manage these facilities under current circumstances and to protect the facility operators' wellbeing, please note the following conditions for using this service over the next four weeks:

- **No recycling (either clean and store at home, or dispose of as rubbish)**

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- One person out of a car at any one time only
- Please do not talk to the booth operator
- Please leave promptly

And please, do not enter a recovery park if you are unwell, have travelled outside of NZ in the last 14 days; or have been in close contact with someone with a confirmed or suspected case of Covid-19. Thank you!

Essential services operating in Omarama:

Omarama Four Square
 The service stations
 Firewood supplies
 Rock gas supplies

Omarama Veterinary Clinic

"The veterinary professional has been given an official 'essential service' status and therefore will continue to be able to supply seasonal requirements. We have had assurance from suppliers that there will be no issue with supply (or logistics), so we would urge everyone that there is no necessity to stock up or forward purchase. When you do visit our clinics you may be met at the front door to ensure that we regulate the number of people in the building at any point in time. Phoning ahead can allow orders to be prepared in advance and these can be brought to your car. We are currently awaiting advice from the NZVA/Vet Council and MPI on what veterinary based tasks will be considered essential over the next four weeks.

Regards
Veterinary Centre Ltd – Management Team



A SPECIAL REQUEST FROM ALONA AND BLAIR

To ease the pressure on staff...

orders need to be in by 4pm – for delivery the following day.

Email is preferred. (scroll down for order forms and how to place an order by email)
We realise some don't have email, so were happy for these customers to phone in orders. However, if you do have email please use it, as this will reduce the work load.

Omarama Four Square | 10 Chain Hills Highway | Omarama 9448 | Phone: 03 438 9895

New hours: Open seven Days, 9am to 6pm

Following the recent Government announcement and our ongoing efforts to ensure the safety of our local and wider community, and our staff and their families - we offer the following options regarding your grocery requirements – should you be unable to, or simply prefer not to shop personally during this time of uncertainty.

This service is available Monday – Friday
Please send orders to - omarama@foursquare-si.co.nz

Emailed orders need to be received by 4pm (Sunday – Thursday) for delivery/collection Monday-Friday between (10am-12pm).

Please refrain from phoning through orders.

Please find attached a template grocery order form to be completed, which on receiving – our team will put together for you – for either collection or delivery. At this stage, communication indicates stock levels of core lines are being maintained, however further updates may see some non-essential lines reduced - alleviating unnecessary pressure on deliveries/transportation of goods.

Options for payment:

1. Charged to existing account
2. Payment by direct credit
3. Payment on collection

Any significant updates affecting this current service will be communicated.

Stay safe everyone.

From Alona and Blair, and your Four Square team

There are two ways to access the order form...

(In both cases the completed form must be emailed

to: omarama@foursquare-si.co.nz)

1. Click [here](#) to download the Microsoft Word form.

* save it to your computer.

* type in your order, save it, attach it to the email and send.

2. Click [here](#) to open the form as a PDF.

* download the form and save it to your computer

* print it

*write your order on the form

*scan it or photograph it, attach it to the email and send.



SOME HEROES DON'T WEAR CAPES.

Thank you, to you all - Alona and Blair and your amazing team.

We could not do this without you.

Take care.



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

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FROM KUROW MEDICAL CENTRE AND MACKENZIE HEALTH CENTRE.

In order to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and to protect our vulnerable at-risk patients we have been asked by the College of General Practitioners to only see patients at our clinics if they really need to be seen.

For all other appointments, we will now do these via telephone OR virtual

Health Heart Checks, Diabetic checks, Cervical Smears etc. will be re-scheduled for a later date.

**PLEASE DO NOT COME TO THE MEDICAL CENTRE
(OR OMARAMA COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAYS)
UNTIL YOU HAVE PHONED AHEAD FIRST!
WE HAVE BEEN ADVISED TO TAKE THE PRECAUTION
OF LOCKING THE CLINIC DOORS!**

Call 03 436 0760 or 03 976 0503 to speak with the Doctor or Nurse.
Please be reassured you WILL be seen if your condition is urgent!

Our aim is to bring in patients one at a time from their cars.
Flu shots are now in and will still be given to patients who are eligible but this will now take place outside the clinics and preferably whilst you are sitting in your car.

Again phone ahead first to arrange a time with the nurse.

Thank you for your understanding during these difficult times.

Take care and keep safe, Juliet and Tim.

8 Wynyard St, Kurow

P: 03 4360760 F: 03 4360780

E: info@kurowmedicalcentre.org.nz

W: www.kurowmedicalcentre.org.nz

www.facebook.com/kurowmedicalcentre

The Mackenzie Health Centre is our Twizel Satellite Clinic at:

3A Benmore Place, Twizel. Phone: 03 976 0503 Fax: 03 4360 780

Omarama Clinic at Omarama Community Centre, Chain Hills Highway, Omarama. Phone: 03 4360 760, Cell: 027 434 7464.

Together at home

New Zealand Geographic

Every day we stay at home New Zealand Geographic will post a story or a video to its website that can be shared among your family.

The story is posted [here](#) and with it some talking points to fill our days at home together.

Today's post - Kākāpō, In a land renowned for its unusual birds, the kākāpō—a giant flightless nocturnal parrot with a bizarre breeding system—has to be one of the strangest.

Waitaki District Council update

Update 4pm, Friday, March 27.

The Waitaki District pandemic response information page is here:

<https://www.waitaki.govt.nz/our-services/emergency-management/Pages/pandemic-response.aspx>

The Waitaki District Council facebook page is [here](#)

www.waitaki.govt.nz

Zero rates rise

From today's Waitaki District Council emergency meeting, in Oamaru.

The council has voted for a nil increase in rates.

"We've asked council officers to work with us to achieve this. There's been a lot of pressures go on, and while anything we do now will create a bigger impact down the line, we'll deal with that then. It's important to give people as much certainty as possible," Waitaki mayor Gary Kircher said.

As a result of this decision and the COVID-19 lockdown and its impact, the council will not consult on the Annual Plan this year. Mr Kircher said.

"Not everyone will be able to participate, plus any anticipated rates increase is now not going to happen. Not to mention I think everyone's got better things to do at the moment."

The council's support and stimulus fund was also set up today.

The masterplans for Otematata and Omarama have been approved.

Decisions from today's meeting will be posted to the council website in due course.

Keeping Waitaki's water supply flowing

To report any water supply issues or leaks during the lockdown, please phone 03 433 0300 or use the Snap Send Solve app available via the website.

Water supply is an essential service and vital for maintaining public health, so council contractors are available to attend to leaks and other supply issues when needed.

Contractors have strict protocols in place to protect their health and safety – and the community's - during this time.

Waitaki's health services

The Waitaki Emergency Response team is meeting daily to help Waitaki's health services as it prepares for possible COVID-19 patients. At this stage Waitaki is in a good position and preparations are well underway for possible cases. The declaration of the National State of Emergency gives powers to Emergency Management Controllers to assist with the pandemic. Controllers can do things like, close roads and public areas, require evacuations and requisition resources. In this case Emergency Management is supporting Health who are in the lead role. There are three levels of controllers, National, Regional (Dunedin) and Local. All groups are talking daily and discussing what help hospitals need to be able to continue to provide healthcare should cases in NZ escalate.

It is not the role of the Emergency Management to enforce self-isolation or ensure health and safety practices of essential businesses still operating.

point of truth, which is the national COVID-19 website.

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

COVID -19 Alert Level 4 in Waitaki

Visit the dedicated Pandemic Response Page on our website: www.waitaki.govt.nz



Message from the Mayor

"May you live in interesting times." This ancient quote which is an ironic curse, seems to be an appropriate one for us in the current situation. These are indeed interesting times! Life has changed significantly for many of us, and we will have to adapt to it. For others who have been housebound or have limited mobility, sadly it may be more of the same. But for all of us, this is a time to step up and take responsibility for ourselves, and the people around us.

Please remember to stay connected to friends and family. Even though you can't visit them, you can still phone them on landlines, or contact them electronically. Keeping connected to other people is more important than ever, and it's necessary for most people's mental health. I'm looking forward to having a little more time to 'Facetime' with my extended family, using video chat whenever possible to see how everyone is.

Please make the most of the month ahead of us, and please take care of yourself and your family. These are interesting times, and we all have the ability to make them positive times. Best wishes,

Gary Kircher, Mayor for Waitaki



How to self isolate

All NEW ZEALANDERS who are outside essential services are asked now to stay at home, and to stop all interactions with others outside of those in your household. You can leave your home for fresh air, a walk, exercise, to take your kids, or the dog, outside but **only spend time with those you are in self-isolation with**. If you are outside, keep your distance from others. That means 2 metres at all times. Try not to touch any surfaces. If you do, wash your hands.



Essential Services are still running

Supermarkets, doctors, pharmacies, service stations, and access to essential services like banking, power, communications, postal services will all be available throughout New Zealand at every alert level.

If you do not have immediate needs, do not go to the supermarket. It will be there for you today, tomorrow, and the day after that. We must give time for supermarkets to restock their shelves, there will be enough for everyone if we shop normally.



Be kind. Check-in on the elderly or vulnerable

Now's the best time to start yelling over the fence at your neighbour! Swap phone numbers. Think of ways to keep people who aren't online in touch. Think about dropping supplies to those at home sick or that can't make it out. Just remember good hygiene and leave at the door or an agreed spot. Always stay 2 metres apart or more.



Need financial support?

Don't wait! Apply now. Visit www.covid19.govt.nz for info on how to access the government's economic response package or phone the Ministry of Social Development on 0800 599 009.

Need Help?

The Waitaki District Council call centre will remain open: 03 433 0300

For health advice call your GP, or Healthline on 0800 358 5453

Stressed? Call or text: Need to talk? 1737 This service is free, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Womens Refuge: 0800 733 843

Youthline: 0800 376 633

Age Concern Otago Waitaki: 021 0234 5882

Whitestone Taxis & Post (transport, delivery): call 0800 434 1234

How we're updating you

On our website, we'll post updates on Facebook and Twitter, broadcast updates via Real Radio 104 every morning (plus send updates to other stations). If you live in the Waitaki Valley check the Oamaru Gazette. In Palmerston listen to Happy Days Radio and Puketapu Radio. We are also finding ways to reach those of our customers who might not use these channels and get print material out to them. Stay safe, everyone.

www.waitaki.govt.nz



For the latest information and advice go to the national response website:

covid19.govt.nz



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Changes to Council Services

Our offices are close to the public but Council is still operating and focused on delivering essential services during this time.

Our call centre will remain open 03 433 0300, you can email us too at service@waitaki.govt.nz

Building

No building inspections will be undertaken. Proceeding with uninspected building work will ultimately delay a project and limit our ability to provide Code Compliance Certification. Please be patient and delay your building work until after the alert levels are reduced. If there are any safety concerns with respect to Building/Construction, contact Council for further guidance.

Rubbish and Recycling

Waitaki Resource Recovery Park is closed. If you don't currently have a kerbside rubbish collection service, please call one of the following businesses directly to organise this - Awamoa bins on 03 434 9445; WasteCo on 0800 341 1111; or Waste Management on 03 434 0031.

Our rural Transfer Stations and the Palmerston Landfill will continue to be open for rubbish drop-off but with limited opening hours and restrictions. Check our website for details.

Recycling isn't an option for hygiene reasons - please clean and store or treat as rubbish.

Council Facilities

Parks

All playgrounds are closed for hygiene reasons. When using the open spaces of our parks and reserves please follow social distancing guidelines.

Cultural Facilities

Oamaru Opera House, Horroster Gallery Waitaki, District Archives and North Otago museum are closed. Check the Culture Waitaki website for updates.

Waitaki Aquatic Centre

The Aquatic Centre is closed. All pre-payments have been automatically frozen for all customers (swim school & squad). Expiry dates on concession cards & memberships will also be extended.

Waitaki District Libraries

Libraries are closed but online resources including e-books, press reader, story box and movie streaming are available from the Library website. Please keep all library items in your home until Libraries are open again. No overdue fines and fees will be incurred.

Camping Grounds

All WDC camping grounds are closed. Our Camp Manager will endeavour to facilitate collection of units if necessary - phone 027 6866 901. Otherwise units may stay on site until it is publicly advised that the grounds are open for collection of units again.



Waitaki
DISTRICT COUNCIL
TE KAHUNHERA A ROHE O WAITAKI

Other places to find support

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Be kind



RuralSupport

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)



26 March 2020

Help for small accommodation providers to find Covid-19 information

Many small bed and breakfast operators have suffered significant cancellations due to the Covid-19 pandemic and are facing extremely stressful situations – all this whilst trying to reassure and assist any guests they do have, many of whom are on the other side of the world, far away from home.

To assist these operators to easily find the information they need to support their businesses and their guests, the Bed & Breakfast Association has been compiling relevant material for bed and breakfast property owners from a number of official sources. This information is available to all bed and breakfast owners, whether they are a member or not, on the Association website – bandbassociation.co.nz.

"An enormous amount of information about Covid-19 and the lockdown is available but our small accommodation operators have specific needs. So we have identified the most relevant information to share with them," President Rayma Jenkins says.

The Association has also opened up its Facebook Group page to any bed and breakfast owner who may wish to join the group – simply search on Bed & Breakfast Association NZ Members and ask to join or contact the President or Secretary with your email address.

It is crucial for all B&Bs to receive up to date and correct information, and owners are also encouraged to contact the President or Secretary with any queries or questions they may have.

For further information contact:

Rayma Jenkins

t: +64 6 834 2090

e: president@bandbassociation.co.nz

w: bandbassociation.co.nz

Fiona Rollings

e: secretary@bandbassociation.co.nz

The Bed & Breakfast Association New Zealand represents and promotes home-hosted bed and breakfasts throughout the country - including homestays, farmstays, boutique, heritage and luxury accommodation. All members of the Association are rigorously assessed ensuring travellers can book their accommodation with confidence.

Bed & Breakfast Association New Zealand Incorporated

Experiencenzwithus

bandbassociation.co.nz		/		www.bedandbreakfastnz.co.nz	
President:	Rayma Jenkins	e. president@bandbassociation.co.nz		Secretary:	Fiona Rollings
		t. 164 27 855 1240			e. secretary@bandbassociation.co.nz
					t. 164 27 223 9207

transmit the virus by patting your dog.

Your dog is part of your bubble: keep it that way.

Keep dogs on a lead.

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Our Coronavirus Diary - Day Two



*Still a busy day for a good grandmother who has decided to pack away her party shoes
- please don't ditch them for good, Granny!*

Dear Diary,

The first day in my life of Covid-19 was spent forming a plan of what I could/should or may/may-not do to replace my casual ad hoc free lifestyle.

After my morning swim and brekkie, I made the bed, did a quick "spray and wipe" around the bathroom then got busy with pen and paper feeling somewhat excited about proving to myself that I can handle this lock-down by dealing with several chores that I'd put off for many months, years actually!

No point doing mundane things like cleaning oven, polishing silver or washing

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unworn/unloved clothes and hopefully pick up courage to dump 20-year old heels that I haven't and can't wear any more; tidy my undie drawer so that my kids aren't terrified when I 'fall off my perch'; attack many boxes of photos and prepare them for an orderly inclusion in albums; write letters to old friends, imagine the excitement of finding one in your letter box instead of your inbox. Bugger, No stamps, oh well Arkwright will deliver some with my milk and paper. Aren't we lucky who would have ever thought we would get home deliveries in Omarama. Bet those big fancy supermarkets in the city wouldn't do that for nothing.

While having my coffee and sandwich, I thought the next on my list should be to complete sorting the remaining boxes of 40 years of farming "stuff". This could be classified as history but in reality is probably junk. This tends to involve lots of reading which leads to day-dreaming of what things were like before PC madness changed our world. A time where every spare dollar was used to improve production not gobbled up by modern bureaucratic systems. And lastly, I have always had this funny idea I would one day write my memoirs. Perhaps, I should do this first as I could go crazy after a couple of weeks of this lock down and lord knows what tales would be penned.

As it's taken so much of day one to form this plan it's now 'wine time', that's my favourite time of the day!

Maybe we should be grateful in these times that we are just being asked to stay at home, not go into service to fight for our country.

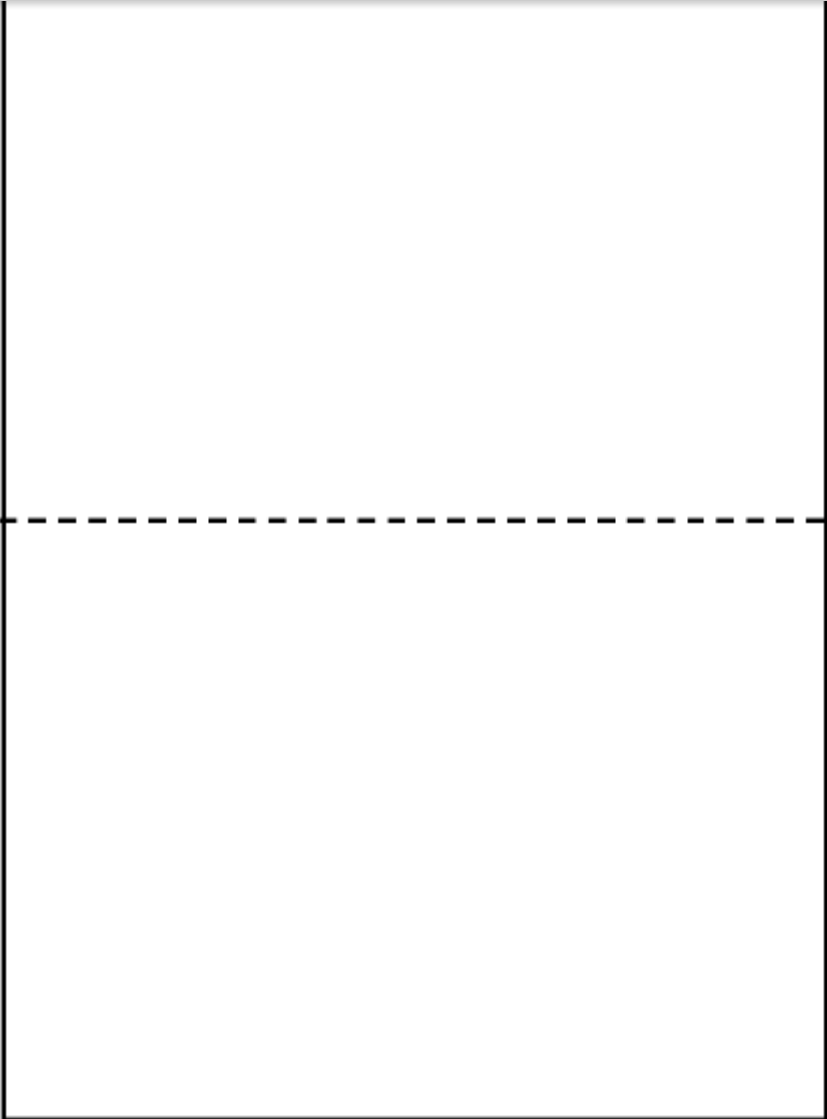
Run out of loo paper? We're here for you!

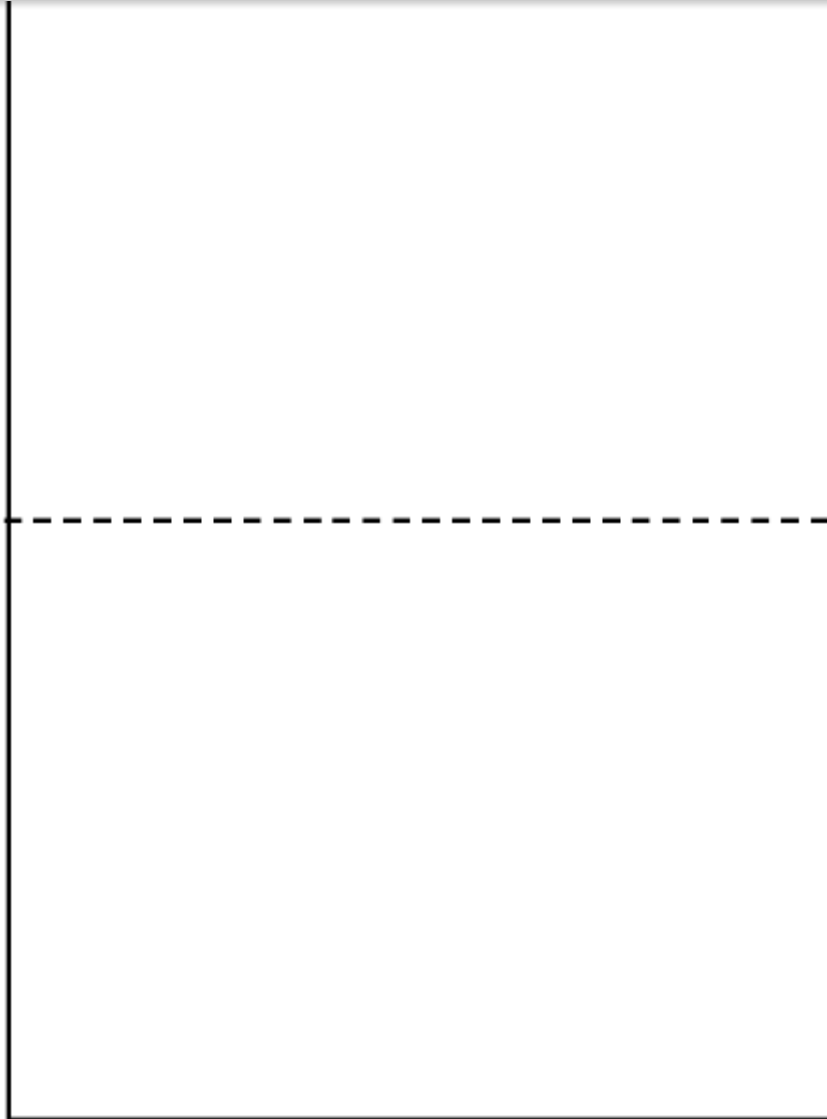
For you to use in an emergency ...simply print off as many of the pages below, complete with handy cut lines, that you need. 🧻

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Stay tuned...catch you again tomorrow :)

Omarama Gazette

Editor: Ruth Grundy,

021 294 8002, 03 438 9766

Email: omaramagazette@gmail.com

<http://omaramagazette.nz/>



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