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Omarama Gazette



The Daily Wire

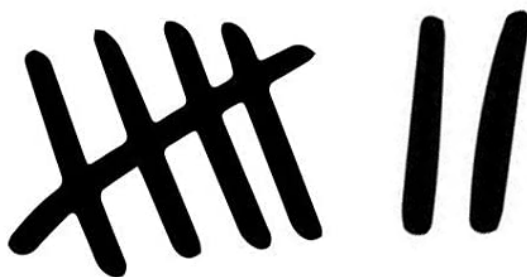
Keeping us connected

Thursday, April 2, 2020

In this issue...

Upper Waitaki Police update #three; a reminder from our emergency services; simply red; needs more cowbell; final town masterplans released, other stuff; and today's diary entry.

Hi everyone



Say farewell to week one - to memories made and stories to share.

Hello Week Two, we all know what to do now. Stay safe, keep your distance - we got this :)

***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.**

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***Please scroll to the end for email order instructions and forms** for Four Square, instructions from Kurow Medical Centre and info from the Waitaki District Council.

Let's stay close whatever the distance
- Ruth

**Click here to message, contribute, or
subscribe to the Daily Wire.**

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

Upper Waitaki Police Covid-19 update #three



Hi all,

Well we're just over one week into it now, and it would be fair to say both Scotty and I have been pretty busy. Apart from answering numerous phone calls, texts and emails asking for advice here are some examples of what I've been dealing with.

- locate three males at Base Hut in the Ahuriri Valley who decided they would leave home to go rock climbing for a few days. Warned and sent home.
- locate two tourists in self-contained campervan Department of Conservation reserve near Quailburn Historic woolshed, where they intended to stay for the lockdown period. Instructed to leave and to go to camp ground for lock down period.
- locate two males from Central Otago who wanted to go to the beach for the day. Warned and sent home.
- locate two tourists at Benmore Dam lookout having come from Lake Pukaki and Mt Cook where they had been camping for past five days, aware of lock down, no plan to self-isolate except to go into the wilderness. Instructed to leave and go to camp

Otematata-council supervised camp ground to uplift caravans, this is well into lockdown period.

- checking numerous reports of people believed to be failing to comply with the lockdown protocols.

The list goes on.

At this stage we (police) are taking an educational approach with prosecution being the last resort. We know that the majority of New Zealanders understand the reason for the lockdown, so don't want to take a heavy handed approach, unless it's absolutely necessary.

Locally.

I'm still really happy with how everyone's abiding by the lockdown.

Although after you read this update you may think I'm not. I really am.

These are just a couple of wee speed bumps which I wanted to bring to your attention.

But before I do, I want the people who were involved to understand I'm not having a go at them in any way at all. I'm just bringing it to the community's attention so we don't make the same mistakes again.

- A gentleman travelled for three days at the onset of the lockdown to get to Omarama to be with his partner. This isn't ideal nor is it in keeping with the purpose of the lockdown. This person has since been self-isolating and instructed to remain at his current address.

- A lady travelled to Oamaru where her parents are self-isolating having just arrived back from overseas. She went to Oamaru to get food for them and left this at the gate. Her parents would not let her in the house (even if she did want to go inside which she didn't). This would be okay if there was no one else able to help her parents....but in this case there was, so should not have happened.

- Two family groups go to one house for a BBQ but still stay out of each other's bubble by keeping apart by at least three metres. This is a big No No. From the Governments COVID 19 website staying at home is defined as:

- *The intention of staying at home is meant to reduce the transmission of the virus. For this to work, you are asked to only have contact with the people you live with.*
- *If you want to talk to a friend, call or video chat with them.*
- *If you want to talk to a neighbour, do it over the fence.*

- A more contentious issue I faced was residents of one street thought it would be okay to meet out on the street and have an afternoon tippie. This consisted of people bringing their own seat and then sitting around in a large circle but still maintaining

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socialise to some extent, this can't happen either. It was argued that it should be okay as they were still maintaining their social distance. The issue is that you can only be with people in your bubble. Congregating in public is not allowed. The risk of transmission is increased with every person who turns up. Would you take the risk of doing that if you knew that one of those people in the group actually had the virus? Bet you wouldn't. BUT in saying all that, if you want to sit outside your house on the footpath and talk to your neighbour across the road/fence I have no issue, as long as you still maintain that distance. This is more structured and you shouldn't have anyone walking through your bubble which if you can imagine can extend from the border of your property out to the edge of the footpath...if that makes sense.

- DOGS. If doing this I would recommend your dog stays at home. If you have the virus and have given your pooch a pat and it then runs over to old Martha from next door and she pats him, she may pick up the virus. Actually I'd recommend all dogs are on a leash at all times if out in public.

I have had a lot of people asking if they can travel to Oamaru or Wanaka to go to a bigger Supermarket to get groceries. You have a Four Square in Omarama, Kurow and a larger one in Twizel.

Travelling as far as Wanaka or Oamaru is not recommended and I'd challenge if it's essential when you have two to three supermarkets nearby, (depending on where you live of course).

Also think about those bigger areas/towns. With the larger population surely the risk is greater of picking the virus up, do you want to risk bringing it back to your friends and family?

HOLIDAY HOMES: A very small minority of holiday home owners are turning up to their holiday homes one week into the lockdown. (*Note to self, stay professional Bean!*)

This is beginning to be my biggest bug-bear and in all honesty it shouldn't be. If you have a crib/holiday home in Omarama, Otematata, Twizel, Kurow or Ohau and you aren't already there, then stay the ... away, it's as simple as that. A lot of the larger towns/city's have numerous Covid 19 cases now. If you decide to leave town to come to your crib you are putting everyone at risk, including yourself. I'm not the only one who is getting fed up with this selfish behaviour, a lot of locals are ringing me voicing their concerns as well, which is understandable. Any crib owners I hear that turn up during the lock down period will have some serious explaining to do. And I will do everything in my power to send you packing.

Lastly don't forget to take advantage of the Omarama Four Square delivery service if you're able.

I'm sorry this reads as a fairly negative article. But it seems to me that the main issue of this lockdown is the varying messages we get of what we can and can't do.

So I'm trying to clarify that as best I can.

Head to the GOVT COVID 19 website if you want to know more <https://covid19.govt.nz/>

Please don't be afraid to call me if you have any issues or questions.

Stay safe, Bean

Senior Constable Nayland Smith, Omarama Police.

021 191 4808 or email

nayland.smith@police.govt.nz

Fenz Omarama Volunteer Fire Brigade



Hi all,

I have noticed a few of our 'at-risk' people heading into the Four Square to get their supplies since we have gone into lockdown.

All the information I have read about Covid-19 says it is not advisable for anybody at risk due to their age, medical issues or a compromised immune system to go out to public places.

Those so affected should stay away and use the delivery system set up by Blair and Alona (see below) or see if a neighbour may be able to help. I have not been near the shop or any garages myself because I am classed as high-risk because of suffering a medical event a year ago.

The upside to that is I have had \$55 in my wallet for a week it's not all bad.

We as the First Response unit do not want to be coming to any address in the district during this current situation when it can be avoided if people stay at home.

It is still a closed fire season this includes drums and burning holes. Please don't light any fire.

We were notified on Wednesday of one burning and were asked by police to extinguish it.

Attending any such call-out at the moment puts our volunteers at risk of picking up Covid 19.

This could be a disaster as we may all have to go into isolation as has happened in a couple of small towns.

Let's follow the rules and stay safe.

The Noticeboard

HELP WITH WAGES

If anyone needs help or support with the wage subsidy and paying wages please give me a call and I would be happy to help. I am continuing to work from home in Omarama and have had lots of queries from clients already on how to deal with the wage subsidy, how to reconcile the payment and what to pay your employees and how to process it. Any questions please give me a call. *Keep safe, Lynley.*
Lynley Pryde, 021 333 942 lynley@launchoffice.co.nz www.launchoffice.co.nz



A MESSAGE FROM WASTECO MANAGING DIRECTOR CARL STORM

Put gloves on before you move your bins and wash your hands thoroughly after you move them.

The handles can be a coronavirus hot-spot and must be treated like any other surface, doorknobs, stair rails etc.

Here is the link to the [website](#) for other updates about services.

PLAYGROUNDS ARE CLOSED

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.

OMARAMA GOLF COURSE IS CLOSED.

SPORTS COURTS ARE CLOSED

OMARAMA AND OTEMATATA RESOURCE RECOVERY PARK

Omarama open: Wednesday and Sunday – 9am to 11am

Otematata open: Wednesday and Sunday – 1pm to 3pm

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)**
- **No green waste**
- **Place all waste in the marked area**
- **One person out of a car at any one time only**

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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 (see below for how to place an order)

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

Photo challenge entries - Simply red.

Featuring five ...

(Sorry, there's only room for five photos here. Be sure to check the Omarama Gazette [Facebook](#) album 'Simply Red' for all of the entries.)

Today's entries (*clockwise from top*) Red sky in the morning, by Paige Doree (7); What a hoot, by Granny; Autumn colours by Jan Dow; and A sign of good things to come, by Glen Rutherford and red harvest, by Fiona.

Tomorrow's challenge ... Something borrowed. (AKA Bet you didn't know I had it :) Sorry, can't have it back until after the lockdown)



Together at home

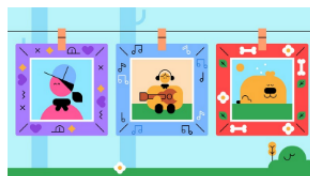
Find out where that phrase 'Out, Out damn Spot' originated

(Clue - Lady Macbeth) Stream The Globe's Shakespeare plays for free, get ahead on that NCEA Study. Enjoy.



The Great Indoors

- Scouts UK have put together a few ideas for those 'I'm bored moments'.



Fabulous fancy frames

Craft a frame for a photograph that makes you smile then make a gallery for everyone to admire.

Suitable for: 6-8s | Takes: 45 mins

[Fabulous fancy frames >](#)

Teeny tiny twig rafts

THIS ACTIVITY IS ALL ABOUT
VALUING THE OUTDOORS AND PROBLEM SOLVING

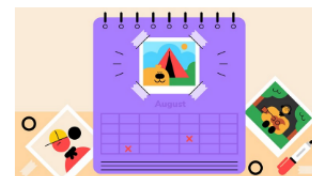


Teeny tiny twig rafts

Build a miniature raft with twigs and leaves, then set sail. Will yours float successfully away?

Suitable for: 8-10s | Takes: 30 mins

[Teeny tiny twig rafts >](#)



An in-tents year

Get creative and make a colourful calendar to show off your best photos.

Suitable for: 8-10s | Takes: 1 hr

[An in-tents year >](#)

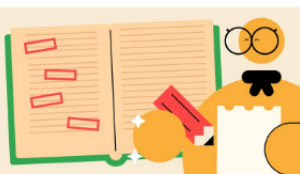


Snap happy

Learn how to use a camera, and share your skills with others.

Suitable for: 8-10s | Takes: 30 mins

[Snap happy >](#)

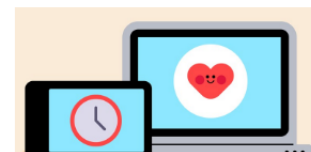


Be a blackout poet

Anyone can be a poet (even if they don't know it). Set your inner poet free!

Suitable for: 10-14s | Takes: 30 mins

[Be a blackout poet >](#)



Switch off challenge

Take on the switch off challenge to find a healthy balance between time on and away from screens.

Suitable for: 10-18s | Takes: 15 mins

[Switch off challenge >](#)

Our Coronavirus Diary - Day Eight



By Tracy Young, practice nurse

Dear Diary,

It's the end of another work day and I think I'm finally finding a new rhythm since adjusting to multiple life and work changes thanks to Covid-19.

Work was pretty steady - 25 patients, 15 of those booked in for influenza vaccines that were all done while patients sat in their cars (I do quite like my new outdoor clinic on the sunny days).

My day starts with a decontamination of all surfaces touched before patients arrive and gets repeated throughout the day. Today, I saw five patients in the clinic (we can't do everything in the car park!!). My Covid-19 screening questions roll off my tongue. It's as though I've been doing this for weeks!!

I have to ask this before anyone walks through the door or before I go to stab someone in the arm with a vaccine. It's about protecting myself and future patients from this disease spreading.

No matter how repetitive and tiresome this gets, it's still it's really important.

I have already swabbed a few patients (dressed in my PPE gear), my stomach turns a little less now but as I learn more about this virus, the less I want to see it in our community.

I have lost count of how many times I wash my hands in a day. And anytime I touch something or someone I instantly reach out for the hand sanitiser. My hands are looking a bit dry and cracked. But it's worth it, there are so many wonderful people in this world that we don't want to lose.

My drive home is quiet - tonight one car, a tractor, police car and stock truck. It's lovely seeing people out walking as I enter town and I pull over to say hi to friends walking their dog. I'm grateful for their wide berth (more than the 2m recommended). I know they understand the importance of all this.

Once home it's dinner, pats for the dog, then bed. This new regime has tired me out!!



ANNOUNCEMENT
FROM KUROW MEDICAL CENTRE
AND MACKENZIE HEALTH CENTRE

We as health care providers in the Mackenzie and Waitaki districts would like to extend our heartfelt support and comfort to everyone during these difficult and stressful times.

There will be many who have had to make huge sacrifices and adjustments with their lifestyles that prior to the lock down would never imagined possible. For some the biggest challenge will be isolation and for others too much close contact.

Thankfully the Community Care Centre is doing a fantastic job at reaching out to people who may need help with simple tasks like shopping or fetching wood for the fire, and Kurow and Twizel Community Vehicle Trusts continue to provide a great service for those unable to get to the shops or medical facility.

Friends and families are coming together like never before and even though they may now not be allowed close contact just talking on the phone or skyping etc. is such a valuable way to keep in touch and keep us motivated!

My daughter and three-year-old granddaughter were supposed to arrive from UK last week but missed the border closing deadline by one day! Heart breaking as it was for all of us we made a pact to talk every day on the phone, stay strong and not let this virus kill our spirits!

We as a medical facility are now doing the majority of Doctor and Nurse consults via phone or using virtual consults which is working well. We will continue to see all urgent patients requiring acute care at our clinics. In Kurow we have a separate building next to the medical centre and also fortunate to now have sole use of a building next to our Twizel clinic at Benmore Place. These buildings will be used solely for any potential suspected COVID-19 cases. This means our Kurow Medical Centre, Mackenzie Health Centre and Omarama Community Centre will be kept as safe as possible from the virus.

Flu shots are unfortunately in short supply across the country but will continue to be provided to all eligible patients once we have more in stock. When this restriction is lifted we'll be able to offer this to other patients. We strongly recommended you ALL get your shot this year to ensure our community is protected from the flu. Getting the flu and COVID-19 at the same time is not a good recipe.

I know I can speak for all my staff when I say we are sending you all our very best wishes and will continue to support you all during the lockdown.

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01 03 976 0503

Please stay safe everyone and ensure you follow the Ministry of Health guidelines for self-isolation: <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-health-advice-general-public/covid-19-self-isolation-close-contacts-and-travellers>

Yours in health

Juliet Gardner

PRACTICE MANAGER

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 Consultations (for this you will need a computer, laptop or smart phone so we can send you a link to download). All screening appointments i.e. 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

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.

Waitaki District Council update

Update 4pm, Thursday, April 2.

Today's messages from the Waitaki District Council

Council releases masterplans for Otematata and Omarama

The final Otematata and Omarama masterplans have been released to the public and are a "great starting point" for both communities Ahuriri Community Board Chairperson Vicky Munro says.

"It will be important to see the evolving process over the coming years and implement the town processes as an on-going 'to do' list that solves major issues like traffic control and town growth while keeping the lifestyle as we know it," Mrs Munro said.

"The masterplans are great starting point to increase community resilience and a way for the community to work together to implement the plan."

The engagement with the communities began back in 2018 with a series of visioning workshops held as part of the Long Term Plan process. Council then went back out to the communities of Omarama and Otematata in early 2019 and held some drop-in sessions as part of the District Plan Review process to find out what residents and property owners most valued about their towns and how they wanted to see them evolve in the future.

In August and September 2019 three masterplan options were released for public consultation and workshops held in Omarama and Otematata to further drill down into what the community wanted for their towns and develop a preferred masterplan option for each.

Waitaki mayor Gary Kircher said the masterplans "have been a huge success"

"The level of engagement from both communities has been fantastic, and I think we have two plans which will help these important Waitaki townships grow sustainably and in ways that will keep their essential character.

"The plans are still conceptual ... but there is a real opportunity at the moment to get the details developed.

"We are currently going through a lockdown phase due to Covid-19, but this may give us time to progress some of the detailed planning on some of the public areas which will then be released for public feedback."

Here are the links to the final documents:

Omarama

https://www.waitaki.govt.nz/our-council/plans-reports-strategies/plansandreports/Documents/Other_plans/Omarama%20Masterplan%2020.pdf

Otematata

[020.ppt](#)

OLDER MESSAGES

WHAT'S OPEN?

The council has launched a 'What's open in Waitaki' [page](#).

The directory will be part of the Covid-19 Waitaki Response page and aims to list all businesses that are staying open during New Zealand's Covid-19 Level 4 alert. The response page also includes information on council services and facilities, support for people and businesses.

At present, the list includes medical centres and pharmacies, vets, food and service providers, service stations and transport options.

Council economic development manager Gerard Quinn said it was still working with local businesses to fill this list and encouraged everyone who wanted to be included to get in touch and register by emailing wcded@waitaki.govt.nz. The council needs to know your location, contact details and a website link so people can check for any specific conditions.

Business owners are reminded that it is the business's responsibility to ensure they are acting according to the law while staying open. If businesses are uncertain about whether or not they can continue to operate they are urged to contact MBIE by emailing essential@mbie.govt.nz or calling 0800 22 66 57 (9 am to 5 pm).

Waitaki District Health services

From today, there is a bright green tent by the side door of Oamaru Hospital's Emergency Department. This tent has been supplied by St John.

It will provide a clinical space for hospital staff to see persons that may have Covid-19 or other infectious conditions.

There will be security presence around the tent and no one is to enter this tent unless directed to by an ED staff member. ED staff members will use this space to take history and swabs where this is clinically indicated.

The tent will be used to keep the ED Covid-19 free for as long as possible.

The public are to present to the side door of ED if unwell.

Staff will talk to you through the intercom and may either have you enter ED or be directed to the tent.

IMPORTANT: Unless it is an emergency - call your GP anytime if you are unwell.

There is a GP available at all times

HOLIDAY HOME? Thinking of heading to the crib for a change of scene during lockdown? Yeah, we're thinking of flying to Mars. Just in case you're wondering, Virus says NO. You can only travel if you're accessing essential services or if you're an essential worker travelling to and from your essential work..

DELIVERIES please have the necessary items left at your door. Avoid any physical interaction with the delivery person and keep a distance of two metres. This will protect you both from exposure to COVID-19. Wash your hands thoroughly after receiving anything.

COURIER or post parcels and packages.

You should only post or courier items that are essential to the provision of the necessities of life. the postal and courier service is busy helping society receive items and goods that are essential. Adding additional pressure and burden to that service may impact on society's wider ability to get through this period and stop the virus.

WET WIPES Please pop them in the bin - don't flush them down the toilet. Wet wipes don't disintegrate like loo paper, so flushing them can cause major blockages and breakdowns at wastewater plants, and they'll break your loo, too. Do you really want to be stuck at home with your kids and a blocked toilet?

<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

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 neighbours! 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



Unite
against
COVID-19

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 KAHUHERA A ROHE O WAITAKI

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

Open Monday to Saturday, 9am to 6pm

CLOSED SUNDAYS

Easter trading hours

Good Friday CLOSED

Easter Saturday 9.00am to 6.00pm

Easter Sunday CLOSED

Easter Monday 9.00am to 6.00pm

While New Zealand is at Covid-19 alert level 4 and in 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.

1. Email order - and collect
2. Email order - and delivery (within the township).

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 email if at all possible and 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...

to.omalama@oursquare-st.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.

Shopping safely guidance now available

31 Mar 2020

Simple guidance is now available for people in New Zealand to keep themselves and others safe while doing their supermarket shop.

The information covers:

- how to prepare so you can get in and out quickly
- tips to keep 2 metres away from other shoppers and supermarket staff
- hygiene tips for while you shop
- what to do with your groceries when you get home.

[Find out more about shopping safely.](#)

How goes it today?

Other places to find support - click below to go to websites

Ministry of Health

Be kind



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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)

Could we have a volunteer to fact check this please?

There are 6637 holes in it



Stay tuned...catch you again tomorrow :)

Housekeeping...

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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?

Here is the link to the Government's one stop shop for all things Covid-19- related <https://covid19.govt.nz/>
(There are daily updates, check it out.)

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

If you know of someone who is not getting these emails and they are on the 'local list' it could be because some servers believe these messages are spam. 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.

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.

Just to let you all know, there will be no Omarama Gazette or Otematata Chronicle produced while New Zealand is at alert level 4 in the fight against the spread of Covid 19.
Instead there will be the Daily Wire with the latest updates sent each day at 4pm-ish by email.
For those who advertise regularly in the Gazette and Chronicle, I will extend your present contract arrangement accordingly once regular transmission resumes.
Please contact me if you would prefer a refund - many thanks for your support.

Omarama Gazette

Editor: Ruth Grundy,

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Email: omaramagazette@gmail.com

<http://omaramagazette.nz/>



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