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Staying close whatever the distance...

View this email in your browser



Omarama Gazette



The Daily Wire

Keeping us connected

Tuesday, April 7, 2020

In this issue...

An important reminder, a special goodbye, some more ideas, and new notices for all.

Hi everyone

Here's another couple of boredom buster ideas - what do you think? should we?

Idea 1. What do you think of a "peggy square" competition?

Knit or crochet, any stitch, any wool, any pattern, so long as its 10cm square (check YouTube for how-to videos). There will be prizes (modest) in all age groups (ages 0 to 99) for the most squares.

After the "lock down" is over the squares can be placed in a plastic bag with a label showing name and number of squares and placed in a container/s provided at the Omarama Community Centre. They will be washed and then joined together by volunteers into rugs placed on display and either auctioned or given to those who need them.



Idea 2.

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Idea 3.

If you have a lovely photo or art work, why not place it in your window for those out walking to enjoy.

We would love to hear from you about how you're spending your 'Day in the life of Covid-19'. Feel free to email or phone and I'll take down your words. Send photo's videos, whatever you find easy. Let's create a community diary about how we're spending this extraordinary time.

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

*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.

Publishing this week - unless there is an urgent message The Daily Wire will not be published on Good Friday or Easter Day.

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/

Let's make a big noise about this (again)

hope you've been practicing, it's almost time to 'tune-up' those instruments
Let's see out week two of this lockdown in style!
 Last week the accolades went to the 'horn' section.
 Let's make this week louder and stronger - united and resolute!

At 7pm, each Wednesday night for the duration of this 'war' when the fire siren is tested let's find what ever instrument we can lay our hands on, go to our front doors

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most caring thing we can do right now.



Pump up the volume and hit_

for a wee test...

Our Coronavirus Diary - Day Thirteen



What a time to have to move - Although the move was planned, Kristen John, Charlie and Elise
Mathias were forced to make a hurried departure from Omarama and
head across the strait to embark on their next new challenge.

Bye guys, wish we had time to say a proper farewell. Thank you for all you have done for our place.

All the very best from all of us in your new venture.

By Kirsten Mathias

Dear Diary

- strange times.

We have been so fortunate to call Omarama home for the past nine years. As things turned out leaving was a rush.

We left a fortnight ago. We are living on the East Coast north of Gisborne temporarily as the farm we were supposed to be moving to has had the settlement held up due to the lockdown.

Our departure was brought forward by Covid-19, we had been living in the shearer's quarters at Omarama Station, as all our gear left at the start of March. We feared

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ı ieli like a law-breaker.

I hate having to make decisions like that but by the time we got to Christchurch everything had changed.

We were literally on the last ferry, until they changed that rule, the schools were shut and we were going to make it. *Phew!*

Because we came through so many hotspots we have had 14 days complete isolation. Even though MPI have approved John as an essential worker, required to travel between regions, he wasn't allowed at work.

We are working for a Maori Corporation, they trade as Whangara farms, and we will eventually move to Mahānga which is a beach settlement North of Mahia.

John's new role will be converting a dairy farm back to sheep and beef.

Hopefully if we can kick this thing and drop back to alert level 3, farm settlement can be completed and we can get on with what we came here to do.

A trip back to Omarama at some point is on the cards because my horses literally missed the boat so I will need to sort that as soon as we're able and I'm lucky the Subtil's are happy to accommodate them.

We are still unsure if Charlie will return to Otago Boys or not as it was always the plan that he would, if he does it is likely I'll fly back with him.

Video: Farewell Elise, sorry we didn't get to say goodbye
Photos below (clockwise from top left): All girls in together - Michele Patterson; Charlie is
farewelled from Omarama School; Ruth Grundy; Deidre and Kirsten - Jemma Gloag; John Mathias
- Kurow Rugby Club.

We don't say 'goodbye'





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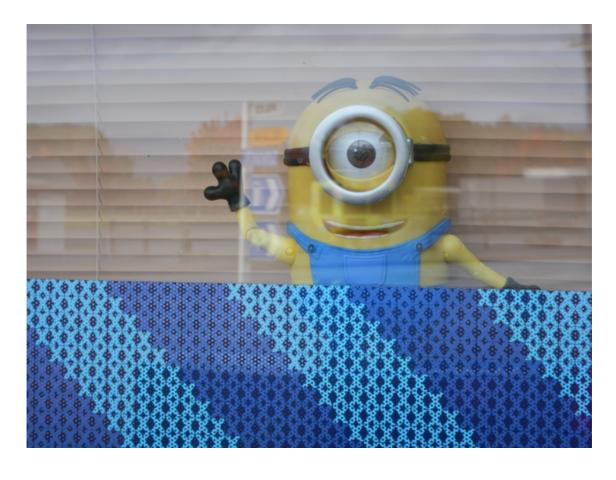








BEEN OUT HUNTIN' BEAR Got a wave from Kev or was that a cry for help? Have you spotted these guys yet?



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What will they do with that rope?

The Great Omarama Teddy Bear Adventure Story for every boy and girl! By Lynda Allen.

The story so far...

Lynda's teddies have escaped with one thing on their minds - creating mischief! Last week they decided to have a picnic on the roof - well, that was bound to turn to custard.

Luckily, Lynda and her magic needle soon had them mended, ready for all new mischievous adventures.

Today - something is up but just what could that be?

"Geez what are they up to now, something about Gulliver's Travels and rope, lots and lots of rope??" *Stay tuned* ...

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(Lynda Allen has kindly allowed the 'Daily Wire' to share her bears' adventures. Thank you Lynda.)

Together at home

Overcome all obstacles - Have fun and win prizes, click below.

5 hrs · 🔇

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We'll weather the weather whatever

At Home Meteorological Experiments

See if you can puzzle this out...

(Click on the photo to do the puzzle)



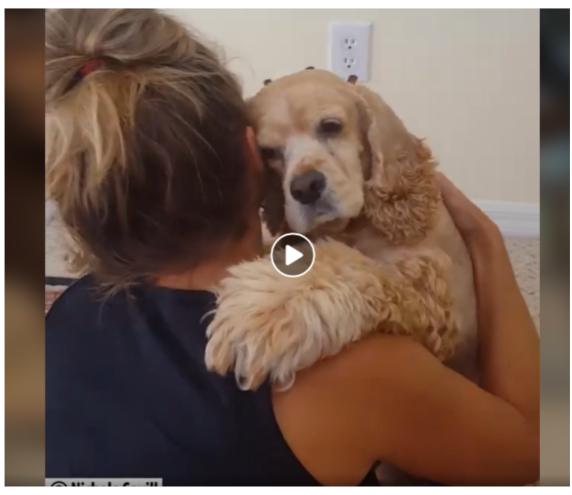
The answer - We're Better Together.

Omarama Emergency Services open day, April 2019

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Just 'cause...

Here's a whole lot of virtual hugs





https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=522521851576745

The Noticeboard

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Mobil Omarama will be open from 8am to 6pm seven days a week including the Easter weekend.

Stay safe and be kind

Challenge Omarama - the store is closed.

Fuel is available 24-hours via the pump pay station.



RUBBISH COLLECTION SERVICES

People are advised to put on disposable gloves before moving bins and to wash hands thoroughly afterwards. The handles can be a coronavirus hot-spot and must

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PLAYGROUNDS ARE CLOSED

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
- · 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 (see below for how to place an order)

Omarama Veterinary Clinic - please phone ahead. 03 438 9868

"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.

Firewood supplies

Rock gas supplies

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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 wdced@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 of 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 <u>two metres</u>. 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?

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πτίρς.//www.waitaκι.govt.nz/our-services/emergency-management/Fages/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.

Gary Kircher, Mayor for Waitaki



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



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 hygine and leave at the door or an agreed spot. Always at home sick or that can't make it out. 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 Omarama 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 Q



against

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

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

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, Forrester 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 trozen 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 02 / 6866 901. Otherwise units may stay on site until it is publically advised that the grounds are open for collection of units again



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

Open Monday to Saturday, 9am to 6pm <u>CLOSED SUNDAYS</u>

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
- 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...

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to. omarama@ioursquare-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.

Shopping safely guidance now available

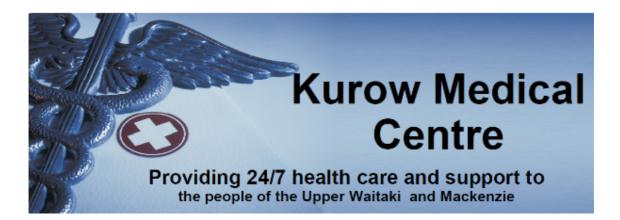
31 Mar 2020

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



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

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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 rescheduled 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: 03 436 0780

Omarama Clinic at Omarama Community Centre, Chain Hills Highway, Omarama.

Phone: 03 4360 760, Cell: 027 434 7464.

How goes it today?

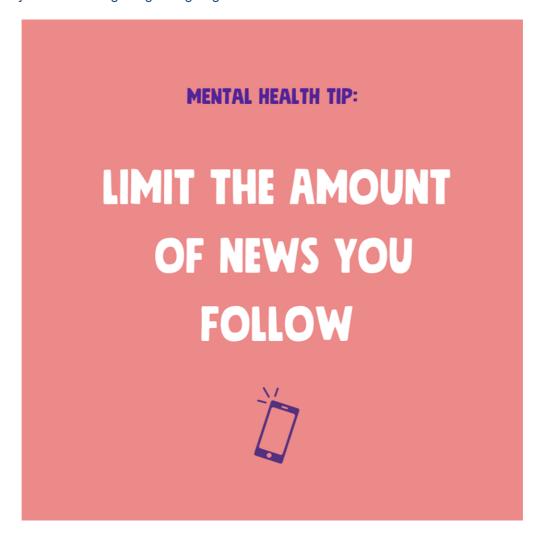
Other places to find support - click below to go to websites

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"If you're finding it hard to control your worries about the virus right now, you might want to look at how much news you're consuming.

If we're checking for updates too often, it's only going to escalate our anxiety, and increase our exposure to misinformation.

Your challenge for this week: pick one source you trust (like the daily press conference by the Prime Minister, or covid19.govt.nz) and check it once per day. If you want to keep checking in with news coverage, take notice of how it makes you feel, set time limits, stick to the facts and restrict your news sources to just one or two if you need to. #gettingthroughtogether



Ministry of Health



Advice for Farmers

- from the Waitaki Emergency Response group

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its support service over the priorie or on SkyperZoom during lockdown.

They can help connect farming families with business advice, suppliers, financial information, health, and counselling services. Their services are free and confidential.

Guidance is going out to farmers about managing under meatworks' capacity restrictions.

See https://beeflambnz.com for details.

Industry groups and MPI have launched a stock feed planning service for all farmers nation-wide. Toll free numbers:

drystock farmers call 0800 BEEFLAMB (0800 233 352), dairy sector 0800 4DAIRYNZ (0800 4 324 7969), anyone can call 0508 AGFIRST (0508 243 477). See MPI's <u>COVID-19 & Primary Industries FAQ</u> webpage for more information: Industry and MPI are also preparing advice about the 1 June dairy "Gypsy Day" changes, which will be promoted by industry groups and Federated Farmers.



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.

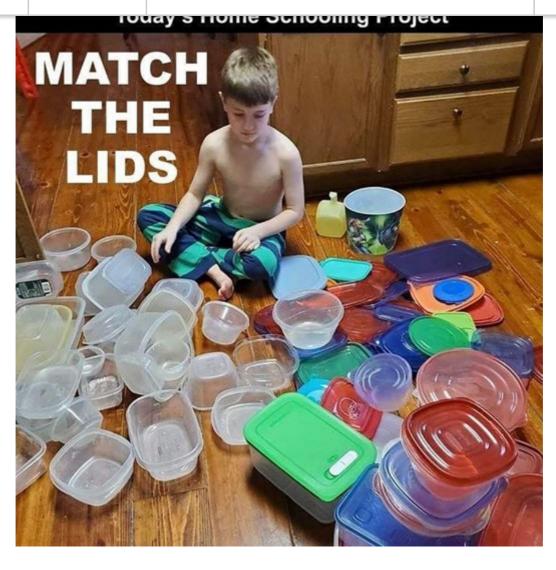
0800 RURAL HELP (0800 787 254)



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Tuesday 7 April Update

As we work our way through the second week, let's build on what we've already achieved. Remember: we're all in this together.

How can I show my support and kindness towards others?

Be kind. Easter is almost here! If you see someone out and about, try not to judge them. Remember that most New Zealanders are doing their bit, and are probably just getting exercise or picking up supplies. Feel free to smile and wave. Just make sure you keep a 2-metre distance, and don't stop to chat.

Will I be able to see my family over Easter?

If they aren't already in your household, then unfortunately not. Everyone needs to do their bit. Stay in your household and stay local, You can still celebrate Easter with your loved ones and community groups or church, using video chat, email, calling or texting. Some will even be holding virtual events online, so it's worth checking to see what is happening.

What can I do if I can't leave home to get food or essential items?

If you can't access online delivery, don't have family or friends who can help, and are not eligible for support from Work and Income, there is urgent assistance available. Just contact your local Civil Defence Emergency Management Group.

What can I do if I notice unfair, high prices at supermarkets?

High prices at supermarkets have been a concern for many New Zealanders. We want to ensure pricing remains fair during these difficult times.

If you're concerned about higher than usual prices at your local supermarket, please report them by sending an email to pricewatch@mbie.govt.nz including a copy of your receipt, or other proof of the pricing such as a photograph etc.

Where can I get financial support?

The Government is acting to support people in New Zealand with a \$16.1 billion package that includes:

- a wage subsidy scheme (the previous cap of \$150,000 per business has been removed)
- · leave and self-isolation support
- · business cash flow and tax measures
- a mortgage repayment holiday scheme for 6 months (talk to your bank directly)
- · a business-finance guarantee scheme.

Also note that the usual financial support, such as benefits, will continue.

You can find out more about COVID-19 support on the Work and Income website at workandincome.govt.nz

Can I apply for the wage subsidy?

All New Zealand employers – including the self-employed and sole traders – who have experienced at least a 30% decline in revenue due to COVID-19, are eligible to apply. Visit Covid19.govt.nz to find the list of employers who have received the wage subsidy scheme.

Where can I seek help if I'm feeling stressed or anxious?

If you feel you are not coping, it is important to seek help and professional support. Your family doctor is a good starting point

For support with grief, anxiety, distress or mental wellbeing, you can also call or text the 'Need to talk'' service on 1737. This is free, and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and gives you the chance to talk with a trained counsellor.

Who can I contact if I see people not following the rules on self-isolation?

You can tell the Police by completing the online form at 105.police.govt.nz. Where possible, try to keep the phones free for those that need them in an emergency.

Thank you supermarket workers

A massive shout-out to our tireless supermarket workers who are doing such an amazing job keeping the supplies we need on the shelves, often under incredibly difficult circumstances. Thanks for your hard work, patience and kindness.

Got questions?

Find the answers faster at Covid19.govt.nz

New Zealand Government



Stay tuned...catch you again tomorrow:)

Housekeeping...

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I apologise, I am not able to print copies at the moment. Pernaps, 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. Listen Live FM 97.3 MHz Omarama, Ch-50 on Freeview TV, CH-421 on Sky TV, Via

Internet rnz.co.nz/audio/live/national

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, 021 294 8002, 03 438 9766

Email: omaramagazette@gmail.com

http://omaramagazette.nz/









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