

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)*Staying close whatever the distance...*[View this email in your browser](#)

Omarama Gazette



The Daily Wire

Keeping us connected

Wednesday, April 8, 2020

In this issue...

Police checkpoints will turn holiday makers around; Successful rowing season curtailed by virus; the Teddies' next adventure; today's diary entry, still more new notices :)

Hi everyone

NB. It's tonight! Counting out week two of lockdown. Make a 'big noise' 7pm tonight, Wednesday, when the fire siren goes.

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Publishing this week - unless there is an urgent message The Daily Wire will not be published on Good Friday or Easter Day.

- 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/>

Maadi decision "gutting" but understandable



More than 2000 secondary school rowers faced disappointment last month when Rowing New Zealand announced the cancellation of this year's Aon Maadi Cup Regatta because of the Covid-19 restrictions. Coxswain Samantha O'Neill (16), of Omarama, is one of 25 who made up the various crews from Craighead Diocesan School who were eagerly awaiting the chance to put their many months of training to the ultimate test. "It was pretty disappointing," Samantha said.

ngh.

"It [cancelling the event] was the right decision - just gutting, that's all."

This is her second season rowing and her crews had been headed for Lake Ruataniwha with some significant wins under their belts.

In February, at the Canterbury Junior Regatta at Lake Hood, she was cox for the under-16 eights who won silver, the under-17 fours who also gained second place, and the novice quads and novice fours who won gold.

At the South Island Secondary School Championships at Lake Ruataniwha in March she coxed the under-16 quad who got seventh and the under-16 eights who were placed.

Initially Samantha tried out as a rower but said it was "too tough" on her legs

"I thought rowing's not for me."

But then it was suggested she try out for cox. "I never thought of cox."

You could say she took to it like a duck to water.

"There's a lot of talking – I took to talking naturally," she said, laughing.

Coxswains are traditionally of smaller build so they can tuck themselves into the front end (stern) of the boat. They are the only ones in the crew who face the direction the boat is heading (the bow) – they are the "eyes and ears of the crew".

The role of a cox is to steer the boat, and coordinate the power and rhythm of the rowers.

"My job is to focus on the boat and what they need... like a coach on the water."

Her main piece of equipment is the electronic 'cox box' which hooks up to speakers and allows her to be heard.

"There's a lot of 'talking' to motivate and steer the crew."

Practice makes up a big part her week, after school four days-a-week and before school there is morning training three days-a-week at the Bay steps - gym work and cardio.

Plus, in the holidays there are the rowing camps and regattas.

Samantha says her involvement has given her the opportunity to meet others from schools up and down the country and there is a "great social atmosphere" when they get together.

The crews are well looked after by the house parents, "everyone pitches in", mum Prue said.

They are also on standby to "catch all the tears", she said.

These school holidays were brought forward because of the 'lockdown'.

Samantha has so far only had to do a small amount of home-schooling.

But it will be full on from next week as will rugby training from home, with online advice from coach and captain.

Samantha also plays in Craighead's First XV and last year they won the South Canterbury secondary schoolgirls rugby championship for the second year running.

Photos: Supplied



Holiday makers to be turned back

Police checkpoints are likely to be set up in the valley over Easter weekend and anyone found to travelling to holiday homes in breach of COVID-19 Alert Level 4 restrictions will be turned back.

Oamaru police Senior Sergeant Jason McCoy said the move was not a police initiative but civil defence-led in collaboration with local authorities.

"We will be assisting them where they see fit... we are part of the instrument they use."

As well, police will be carrying out the usual road policing duties, he said.

People have been urged to stay at home to prevent the spread of Covid-19 and only travel if it is essential.

Specifically, travelling to a holiday home is against lockdown regulations.

Snr Sgt McCoy said the police approach would be to "educate" and people would be asked to turn back.

"Acting on the advice of civil defence they will be turned around."

And there were further options available to police if they did not, he said.

Acting Superintendent Gini Welch, who is the national manager for road policing said, during Easter, the only travel that people should be undertaking was essential

most years police remind people to drive safely for the holiday weekend, this year we're reminding people to stay home," she said.

"It does not include driving to your bach out of town, visiting family out of town, or going out to do activities.

"Alert level 4 restrictions mean you stay home, and you stay within your neighbourhood to exercise.

This is about saving lives.

"Let me assure you our Police will still be out on the roads over Easter.

"We will be ensuring people who are using the road are doing so for the appropriate and allowed reasons, and are doing so safely.

"This includes driving to the conditions and within the speed limit.

It also means wearing your seatbelt, putting your phone away, and being sober and alert.

"Since 21 March, 12 lives have been lost on the road, eight of these people died during alert level 4 restrictions.

"There is a more than 75 percent decrease in traffic in most places across New Zealand, yet we are still seeing people die on the roads, " she said.

Our Coronavirus Diary - Day Fourteen



She-shed success: Now, all it needs is the 'shed warming, Pam! Photo, supplied.

By Pam Young

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

I have finally put my mark on the Shed !
 It was built before Christmas but a broken knee cap delayed my moving stuff in!
 along comes Covid 19 and here we are in Lockdown!
 Wahoo.....now we have time to get the Shed project completed.
 Partner/helper/handyman Brian was keen to get my boxes of tiles, plates, mirrors
 and post-quake China that I have collected over many years out of the garage so
 some of his fleet could be put undercover.
 It's taken days to transform the empty space into a workable area with shelving, work
 benches and all important lounge chair! Feels great, now I can Mosaic to my hearts
 content!

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.

Yesterday, she spotted the teddies with lots and lots of rope...how would this end?

All's well that ends well, it seems.

Out of bed this morning, what do I find
 They tied up my Tiger, that's not very kind
 Could not escape, there was so much twine
 But actually, she really didn't mind
 She does like the spare room bed
 Last cat, Bubs, it can be said
 Loved to visit, and rub against her head
 Not content to nap beside, but all over her instead
 Tiger feeling lonely, wanted to play with the other Teds
 Tiger was missing Bubs, was very, very sad
 When Teddies asked to play, she was so so glad
 Thought they had forgotten her,
 she was a bit tad mad
 Wanted to join Teddies Antics, and the fun they had
 Now she's all excited, as she's now one of the lads
 Next Teddies Antics, Tiger can't wait
 Finally, she can join in and partake



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

Together at home

Chiming in with crafty ideas
- from New Zealand Geographic



Waste not

- some ways to deal with green waste, including making compost, from Gardeners' World.



See if you can puzzle this out...

(Click on the photo to do the puzzle)



The answer - We're Better Together.

Boots & Jandals Pink Ribbon Breakfast 2019

Feeling a little stir crazy right now?

The Noticeboard

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.

FROM NETWORK WAITAKI

"We're two weeks into the lock down and are now planning for the future.

To ensure that we can keep the power flowing safely and reliably, we need to get back into essential maintenance and equipment replacement to ensure our network remains safe and reliable. Like any system it needs maintenance and attention so it doesn't break down.

Over the coming weeks, you'll start to see our crews out there getting back into work.

Some of the work we do means we can't keep everyone two metres apart, but they are working in their own extended bubbles and we have health and safety measures in place to minimise the risk.

Where possible we will do the work in such a way that we keep the power on, but there might be some work we have to do where we need to switch the power off.

We'll let you know well in advance if this is going to affect you - we know the timing isn't great but with enough planning we hope to minimise the disruption to your household. We apologise in advance for the inconvenience."

Network Waitaki ask that you refer to its [Facebook](#) page for regular updates

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 be treated like any other surface, doorknobs, stair rails etc, collectors say.

PLAYGROUNDS ARE CLOSED

OMARAMA GOLF COURSE IS CLOSED.

SPORTS COURTS ARE CLOSED

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

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

Waitaki District Council update

[Subscribe](#)
[Past Issues](#)
[Translate ▼](#)
[questions here.](#)

All boat ramps at the Waitaki Lakes are now closed, this includes those administered by the Waimate District Council.

Mā tātau katoa e ārai atu te COVID-19. The Government WhatsApp channel for COVID-19 is now available in seven additional languages. These are Maori, Samoan, Tongan, Fijian, Hindi, Cook Island Maori and Simplified Chinese. Find the link here: covid19.govt.nz/whatsapp.

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

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

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?

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

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

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

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.

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.](#)

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

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.

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

Ministry of Health

Advice for Farmers

- from the Waitaki Emergency Response group

Otago Rural Support Trust: 0800 787 254 (0800 RURAL HELP) continues to provide its support service over the phone or on Skype/Zoom 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:

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

See MPI's [COVID-19 & Primary Industries FAQ](#) 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)

Now, that's original!

Stay tuned...catch you again tomorrow :)

Housekeeping...

Please share this email and encourage others to subscribe if they need to get local 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?

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,

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

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/>



Copyright © 2016-2019, Omarama Gazette, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

omaramagazette@gmail.com

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

