

# Ōmārama Gazette

December 2023

## 30 years at Otamatapaio celebrated

When Francesco Botto Poala, laid eyes on Otamatapaio Station 30 years ago he knew this was the one.

Francesco first started coming to New Zealand in 1987 when he began looking for the right property to further the family plans - it took six years to find. "I fell in love...It is right."

It was so much more than a home away from home, he told the Ōmārama Gazette. "It is home – it is our home."

Last month the Botto Paola family celebrated 30 years of family times at Otamatapaio.

The family is internationally known for its fine wool processing and textiles. Based in Biella, in Northern Italy, which has been a wool processing and textile centre for about 800 years, the Botto Poala family business, Reda, was established

Francesco and Fabrizio Botto Poala open the celebrations for the family's 30-year anniversary at Otamatapaio Station. Photo: Ruth Grundy



## 30 years at Otamatapaio celebrated - continued

in 1865.

Reda is the biggest buyer of quality, sustainable merino wool in the world, handling 2.5 million kilos of fibre a year that it produces into 7.5 million metres of cloth. It sources some of its merino wool from New Zealand and the rest from Australia. It exports to United States, European, Asian and Middle Eastern markets, and supplies fabric to such fashion industry names as Hugo Boss and more recently the activewear market.

Reda purchased Otamatapaio as its first farm back in 1993 and later added Rugged Ridges and Glenrock to make up its Merino operation in New Zealand. Francesco Botto Poala is Reda chairman.

In celebration of its first 30 years, the family brought Reda executives with them from Italy so they could experience life on a high country sheep station first hand. And they gathered suppliers, grower representatives and long-time friends at Otamatapaio for an afternoon of catching up and reminiscing.

Fabrizio Botto Poala told the Gazette the family had achieved their initial goal which was to understand the raw material, "to put our hands in the business".

"Understanding farming has become part of our lives, understanding the knowledge and skill [which goes into producing the raw material] a little of farming, shearing, wool handling, understanding the basis [of the finished product," he said.

"We have been lucky we found this. As soon as we saw it we loved it, we seized the moment. It's like a second home for us all."

The extended family has grown over those 30 years and now the individual families have to "book in advance" for their share of time at Otamatapaio, Fabrizio said laughing.

"Every time we go back to Italy, even if we have been here working, we have recharged the batteries."

The only year the family did not visit was 2020 when Covid closed borders.

That year Franceso sent Christmas wishes to the Ōmārama Community on behalf of the wider family.

Fabrizio said they made a concerted effort through that time to keep connected and support the "whole team" across the world.

"Covid was a very difficult time ...but what cannot destroy you makes you stronger."



# **Ömārama masterplan funding signed off**

The big decisions have all but been made in one of the most significant dedicated spends by the Waitaki District Council on town centre improvements in Ōmārama in recent years.

On Tuesday, at its final meeting for the year in Duntroon, the Ahuriri Community Board recommended the council sign off its proposals for how \$225,000 in Better Off funds should be spent in the town.

The Government funding, which the council applied for in September 2022, was allocated specifically to implement the Ōmārama town centre masterplan which was developed after community consultation in 2019 and approved by the council in March 2020 with three options for development.

On Tuesday, the board voted to adjust that plan so all three options go forward as a basis for future development.

It also voted that three concepts would "leverage a portion" of the funds initially and progress on these would be rolled out with the help of a community project team.

These three concepts are; developing a design for playground developments and new amenities at the Community Centre, a six month parking and traffic management trial at the town centre car park, and paying for better signage at the Sutherland Rd carpark.

It has also recommended chief executive Alex Parmley have final say in how the funds are allocated so "projects can be implemented at pace" but he will take into account the recommendations of the "nominated community-led project team". Ahuriri Community Board member Mike King told the meeting he was "very proud" to have had the work progress to this final stage.

In the accompanying report put to the board, council placemaking lead Cyndi Christensen said the work of the core team of council officers, the Board, and the Ratepayers Association of Ōmārama over the past few months to create the Ōmārama Masterplan Proposed Action Plan had shown "how effective a collaborative approach had been in building community relationships".

"Better Off Funding has been the catalyst for inspiration for both the Ahuriri Community Board and the RAOI to work together.

"Ongoing updates and communication will ensure the community is kept abreast of developments and have opportunities to contribute to future projects," the report said.

The RAOI and the Board would lead the projects, and "source people and other external funding" to support the action plan projects and their alignment to the Masterplan options, it said.

A "communication and engagement plan" was being developed to "complement other local social media channels".

The report makes mention that, in August, Mr King conducted an informal survey of 50 Ōmārama residents to see if the issues prioritised in the 2020 Masterplan were still relevant, and those key findings did align.

In particular, issues with town centre parking were highlighted, respondents said they valued their playground as an area for sport and recreation and there was an emphasis on developing more pedestrian and cycle friendly access.

## Ōmārama masterplan funding signed off -continued

The council's "Community Conversation" in Ōmārama at Labour Weekend, reiterated that parking and the impact of tourism on the town were areas requiring attention. Speed limits on the SH83 and SH8 were also highlighted as a safety concern and the junction was viewed as dangerous by residents, the report said.

Continuing on, it said after recent discussions with the board, the RAOI, and members of the Ōmārama community, a community-led project team had been set up to help "move agreed projects from the Masterplan forward".

"The team is being supported by council officers and will meet monthly under the chairmanship of the RAOI chair."

The team was set up at an informal community meeting on November 20 led and hosted by RAOI Chair Lindsay Purvis and attendees included current and previous members of RAOI as well as council officers from Parks and Reserves, Roading and Economic Development units.

"The options in the Masterplan were discussed further and an action plan that could help facilitate progression of opportunities within them was outlined.

"Each option will be costed for budget approval," the report said.

[About the promotion of that meeting – The Ōmārama Gazette was told there was to be a public meeting to discuss town centre plans and to expect material from the council to promote it. When the material did not arrive, I contacted council communications who gave this statement:

"It [the meeting] was set up by the Ratepayers Association so the group could come together to draw up a plan of action focused on the area in and around the playground, as this project group starts to on the Omarama Masterplan Action Plan. "Monday is more of a working bee with the playground project team that was stood up by Ratepayers Association."

After consultation with Mr Purvis a notice to that effect was put out through the Gazette Extra.

#### Attendees were:

From the Waitaki District Council; placemaking lead Cyndi Christensen, Parks and recreation officers Lyndsay Hyde and David MacFarlane, Roading officers Rodger McGaw and Chamitha Punchihewa.

Ahuriri Community Board member Mike King.

There were 11 Ōmārama community members present, nine were Resident's Association of Omarama Inc committee members plus one former member, and one other resident was invited by Mr King to speak about the Ōmārama Stream walkway. It is unclear if the group were told the outcomes of the meeting would be sent as supporting documents to the report to the Ahuriri Community Board for its decision last night.

The Ōmārama Gazette was unable to attend.

The report presented on Tuesday contains an action plan and rough detail about the projects including the proposed traffic layout and signage.

The next meeting to discuss progress on the action plan is 1pm, Monday, December 18 at the Ōmārama Hall.

# What's in it for us? - the fine print

So, what is this 'Better-off Funding' everyone is talking about? Where did it come from and how will it be spent? How will the Ōmārama community benefit?

In September 2022, the Waitaki District Council applied for and was allocated \$3.71 million of Better Off funding from central Government as part of the (then named) Three Waters Reform (now Affordable Water) process.

The funds were made available for councils to invest in community wellbeing. The council decided to allocate \$1.695m of that to 'Waitaki placemaking and CBD revitalisation' for Oamaru, Palmerston, Otematata and Ōmārama over three years. As part of the original application, funding of \$225,000 [\$240,000 minus \$15,000 support costs] was allocated specifically to implement the Ōmārama town centre masterplan.

Better-Off Funding is a 'draw-down' fund – so the council must present projects which meet the criteria of the initial application to 'drawn down' the funds for the projects.

In May, as part of its new Economic Development Strategy, the council appointed placemaking lead Cyndi Christensen for a fixed two-year term to implement the various projects. These support costs are paid for from the Better Off fund (see above).

Since that time Ms Christensen has met with the Ōmārama Community on three occasions; an initial meeting attended by 17 people in July, the council's 'Community Conversation' held at Labour Weekend which nine Ōmārama residents' attended, and most recently as noted in the agenda of yesterday's Ahuriri Community Board meeting; "an informal community meeting" on November 20, in Ōmārama, "led and hosted" by Residents' Association of Ōmārama chairman Lindsay Purvis. From this, Ms Christensen put recommendations about how the \$225.000 should be spent to the Board in a report to its meeting last night for its approval. These were approved and will go to the council for ratification at its meeting on December 12.

Only an outline of how approved projects will be prioritised was given in the information made public but previously released information also gives some clues.

Firstly, instead of choosing only a single option as a masterplan for development as was initially proposed the board has recommended the council "annotate" the Ōmārama Masterplan it approved in 2020 to include all three options – listed on page 5 of the plan - put forward at the time. This will be the primary guide to the allocation of funds.

Option one gives priority to "streetscape amenities and traffic improvements to alleviate congestion and parking issues"; option two puts the emphasis on creating an additional retail area, providing more housing choice, creating a pedestrian and cyclist friendly centre, and an option to provide an activity / adventure zone. Option 3 also goes for providing an additional retail area plus it recommends creating a new visitor attraction and visitor accommodation.

Nothing in the initial masterplan has been implemented since its adoption.

In August, Ahuriri Community Board member Mike King conducted an informal survey of 50 Ōmārama residents to see if the proposals in the 2020 Masterplan were

### What's in it for us? - the fine print - continued

still relevant and the survey results did line up.

At the "Community Conversation" in October those present reiterated that parking concerns and the impact of tourism on the town were areas requiring attention.

The November 20 meeting was arranged by the RAOI with Ms Christensen to discuss ways to leverage the Better Off Funds for playground and amenities development at the Community Centre.

However, council officers present sought feedback on a much wider range of topics. Ms Christensen's report to the board recommended that three "opportunities" from that feedback should receive funds, and that these are managed by the community-led project team set up at that meeting and overseen by council staff.

#### The three selected are:

- 1. To develop design concepts of a natural playground and new amenities at the Community Centre. This does not appear to include funding for any subsequent build. However, playground and reserve developments can also be funded from the council's Development Contributions fund sometimes called RMA funds collected from any developers of new subdivisions.
- 2. Funding for a six-month parking improvement trial for the council-owned town centre carpark.
- 3. Better signage for Sutherland Road carpark including adding electric vehicle / parking signage.

The parking improvement trial is to be postponed until after Christmas because of the busy period and because not all businesses have been consulted, the report said. There is no indication in the report as to how the new traffic flow and parking arrangements are to be policed.

However, it does say; "to gauge success of this trial" the community is "to self-monitor effects on traffic congestion and parking issues".

The community project team is also tasked with suggesting alternative parking for truck parking.

Although not mentioned in masterplan options in 2020 both Network Waitaki and Jump Charging NZ Ltd have asked for the council's permission to install more electric vehicle chargers in the Sutherland Rd car park.

At the informal meeting with the RAOI council officers asked the group to give its preferences for a site.

The group decided the number of chargers in the Sutherland Rd park should be kept to two. There is one there at present.

Last month, Jump Charging Ltd told the Ōmārama Gazette it had been co-funded by the previous Government to install two 150kW rapid chargers capable of charging four vehicles simultaneously in Ōmārama with a completion date of December 2023. It told the Ōmārama Gazette it was in discussions with the council about using the Sutherland Rd carpark.

The Gazette understands the council has also considered an alternative site in TA Munro Ln for Jump Charging Ltd's proposal to grow into a commercial hub. In the report to the board upgrading signage for Sutherland Road car park is prioritised, because the carpark is underused and difficult to see from Chain Hills Hwy.

"Additional EV charging is being installed ahead of the Christmas holidays by Network

Waitaki and new signage signalling the Sutherland Road carpark is underway," it said.

Another priority which meets the funding criteria and is likely to be vying for the \$225,000 is footpath maintenance.

Ms Christensen's report is a follow-up to a report to the November 13 meeting of the board in which it says the fund will be used for "Delivering projects in the Ōmārama Master Plan 2020 (eg landscaping, improved footpaths, and connectivity to key amenities, public art and lighting, improved wayfinding along key routes)".

Upgrading footpaths has been front and centre of residents' priorities since at least 2018 with only patch-up jobs funded since at least that time.

Funding for improved footpath or "safe pathway connections" as they are called in some of the action plan reports, comes from the Ōmārama Township amenity fund – in other words they are not funded by district-wide funding but by Ōmārama ratepayers only.

Paying for this maintenance from the Better-Off fund would relieve the ratepayer of that burden at a time when costs are increasing rapidly.

Plus, it could be that the Ōmārama ratepayer has to fit the bill for the additional costs entailed in the Water Treatment Plant build if the present Government repeals the previous Government's water legislation as it has promised to do.

That the footpaths are now in need of repair – in some areas urgently - has been acknowledged in the council's latest footpath survey.

Agendas and minutes of meeting can be found here:

https://www.waitaki.govt.nz/Council/Council-Meetings/Agendas-and-Minutes

Graphics above and below: Waitaki District Council's proposed layout for parking and traffic trial and the new signage

## AHURIRI COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING AGENDA

5 DECEMBER 2023



# Was golf the winner on the day?

They say that golf is the winner on the day – well maybe not this day.

Fifteen players of varying 'handicaps' took to the Ōmārama Golf Club greens on Friday, for the annual Ōmārama Emergency Services golf tournament. This year the Search and Rescue representatives came out tops.

"We are the champions," Senior Constable Nayland (Bean) Smith proclaimed loudly as Ōmārama Fire Chief Greg Harper extricated the much-coveted trophy from a back cupboard and reluctantly handed it over.

Ōmārama Volunteer Fire Brigade were last year's winners.

In answer to persistent rumours the results were rigged Snr Const Smith was adamant it was simply misinformation to suggest he had been heard to say before the game that he needed a minute to "work out how to stack the teams" so Sar would win.

Another Sar team member was overheard saying "I don't know about you but I'm feeling quietly confident today – quietly." [You should have seen his golf!] And, although the Ōmārama Gazette did witness money changing hand, it was told, "you cannot believe everything you see".

In yet another dubious move, the Sar team recruited two overseas players, obviously professionals, but passed them off as novices who had never played before...Uncle Hank's nieces? Oh really?

The Sar team won the 'friendly' ambrose tournament by one point. Closest to the hole in the hole-in-one playoff: Sergeant Tony Woodbridge Putt of the day: Station Officer Jack Zorab Uniform of the day: Fenz, for their Hawaiian shirt ensemble

#### With thanks to:

The Ōmārama Golf Club and Boots and Jandals Hotel



# The latest from the Ōmārama Gliding Club

Two Yorkshiremen walked into the Ōmārama Airfield and immediately began recounting their humble beginnings in the gliding world.

The Ōmārama Gliding Club 'summer crew' of two UK Gliding instructors - Andy Parish and Ian Willows - arrived in October.

Both are Yorkshiremen who now hail from the Midlands.

They have opted to come to Ōmārama for the season because the club was short of instructors and to escape the UK winter

"We bring fun and amusement in a different accent," Andy said.

The move is an initiative to return the club to a full-service gliding club - one that is more heavily involved in training.

This season the club is running courses aimed at various skill levels more or less every other week and flying in between time until February.

At the same time as enabling flying to continue through the week, which would otherwise not be able to happen, and training instructors, the pair of volunteers are also "expanding our horizons" and hoping to gain more gliding experience themselves.

lan first came to New Zealand 20 years ago to visit his uncle who had emigrated here. He has been an instructor since 2003 and is also an outdoors enthusiast enjoying cycling, camping, hiking, kayaking.

Andy is chief flying instructor of the Yorkshire Gliding Club. He first came to New Zealand in 2017 and came back annually but then "got stuck" at the Wellington Wairarapa Gliding Club during the "Covid years" and had the airfield to himself. When he's not stuck in't middle 'o' airfield he likes that other wind-powered sport, sailing.

Both are supporting the Wellington Wairarapa Gliding Club this season as well - splitting their time between the two centres.

Their time in Ōmārama wraps up at the end of December and they return to the UK for their summer in March.

-continued



## The latest from the Ōmārama Gliding Club

- continued

## In other gliding news...

Ōmārama Gliding Club's chief flying instructor Gavin Wrigley has been awarded Gliding New Zealand's 2023 Friendship Cup. The cup was presented to Gavin in Ōmārama by Gliding New Zealand vice-president Nigel Davy. The award is given for outstanding contribution to the gliding movement during the preceding year.

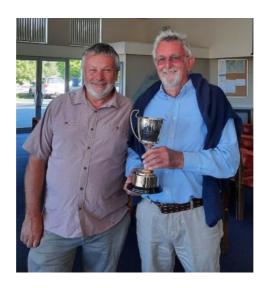


Photo: Supplied.

The club ran a successful mountain flying week last month, officials say, although the weather did not always play its part.

Ōmārama Gliding Club vice-president Brian Savage said there were six people on the course from Auckland, Australia, Nelson plus locals. They en

#### **COMING UP**

#### December:

4-8: Intensive 5-day Training Course 1 18-22: Intensive 5-Day Training Course 2

January

1-6: Aoraki Classic Hang Gliding Comp

2-9: SI Regional championships

15-21: Youth Glide NZ Soaring Development Camp

22-26: Introduction to Alpine Flying Course 1

Check out the Gliding Club's Facebook page

# Boys' boot camp builds confidence

Some very good Ōmārama boys have been sent to boot camp for the past five weeks.

Between 12 and 16 energetic young lads between the ages seven and 14 have been put through their paces at the Ōmārama Playground and sports facility weekly since the end of November.

The after-school activity was the idea of Ōmārama mum Kathy Kerr who, with sponsorship donated by the Sutherland family from the proceeds of the Clay Cliffs gate sales recruited Twizel fitness trainer Garey Hanifin to run a programme based on building strength and body confidence.

The group has made use of the outdoor fitness equipment, sports courts and newly-mown former rugby field in their training.

The funds also paid for caps for the group.

Kathy says parents and children had embraced the idea with enthusiasm and it was possible it could grow to include other activities.

It was also great to put those community resources there to work, she said.







# Let's have ourselves our very own...

### DIY Community Christmas in the Park

Pop in on Christmas Eve from 5pm to 8pm to the Park Lane Reserve - so many pretty trees to decorate there!

#### BYO everything!

Bring your own decorations for the tree - join in the decorating fun from 4pm.

Bring a rug and picnic chairs,

Something to share but only if it's no trouble

There's only one rule ... there's to be nothing to add to anyone's to do list!

Dress-up if you'd like to

There'll be Christmas music

Santa is popping in before he starts his night shift.

Walk if you're able, parking is limited

No postponement day, no wet weather standby

Any cancellation will be on the Ōmārama Gazette Facebook page

Let's enjoy a wee break from the hustle and bustle and a catch up with friends and neighbours before the big day.

Let's see if we can grow a new tradition.

Let's have ourselves a merry little Christmas time! See you there!







## The Noticeboard

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

The very happiest of birthday wishes to Wingy who celebrated his 89th birthday in style at Boots and Jandals hotel, Omarama last week with family and friends.

Congratulations to Toby McCabe and MaryAnn Cubillo on their success at the Industry training awards celebrated at the Oamaru Opera House last week.

Sincere condolences to family and friends of Fay Cowie who died in Timaru last month. Fay was the wife of Ōmārama's first chief fire officer, Graeme, who passed away in 2017.

**Planned outages:** Network Waitaki has advised customers of two planned outages next week. for network maintenance. Please note that dates and locations are subject to change. Those affected should have received a notification about the outage. If you haven't please phone 0800 440 220

\* Monday, December 11, from 8.30am to 4.30pm

Area Affected : Quailburn Drive, Cuthbert Place, Clay Cliffs Lane, Black Peak Rd and Ahuriri Drive

#### \* Tuesday, December 12. from 8.30am to 4.30pm

Area Affected: Ahuriri Drive

Please take note that power may be restored at any time. It is essential that all lines, electrical installations, and wiring must be treated as live at all times and precautions should be taken regarding appliances and sensitive electronic equipment.

**Kurow Medical Centre Ōmārama Clinic** at the Ōmārama Community Centre, is open Thursdays, 8.30am to 12.30pm. To make appointments for all clinics, order repeat scripts or make enquiries please contact Kurow Medical Centre 03 436 0760 (Monday to Thursdays). www.kurowmedicalcentre.org.nz

**The Ömārama Community Library** is open 9.30am to 11am, Wednesdays and Saturdays. Library hours can change. Contact Yvonne: 027 476 7473.

**Ōmārama MenzShed** meets each Saturday at 10am and at other times too. For further information please contact Malcolm Cameron 022 476 2225

#### St Thomas' Ōmārama Church Community:

Rev Lee Kearon, phone: 021 250 1060 or email: lee.kearon@gmail.com

**The Ōmārama Golf Club** Saturdays cards in 12.30pm, tee-off 1pm. Club captain: Greg Stuart 027 438 9018, secretary: Arron Chambers 027 203 2340. Twilight golf on Thursdays, tee-off 5pm to 5.15 pm. Nine hole stableford run through summer. Come along for some fun and laugher. Contact is Greg Stuart 027 438 9018. www.omaramagolfclub.co.nz

The Ahuriri Community Catchment Group meets once a month. For time and place contact facilitator Bridget Pringle, 021 072 2113 or bridget@irricon.co.nz

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

**Ōmārama Playgroup** meets at 9.30am each Wednesday during the primary school term at the Ōmārama Community Centre. For more information phone president Nic McKerchar 022 612 7570 rn.mckerchar@hotmail.com or secretary Olivia Black, 027 833 0869.

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

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

**FENZ Ōmārama Volunteer Fire Brigade** meets 7pm each Wednesday and has its meeting at 7:30pm on the third Wednesday of the month. New members welcome.

A gentle exercises and social afternoon group meets at the Otematata District Club at 1.30pm Thursday afternoons. Gold coin donation and a cuppa after the exercises. The exercises are run with the guidance of personal trainer Lauren Maree. Gold coin donation and a cuppa after the exercises. Contact Ethel Gray 03 438 7764.

**Waitaki Newcomers Network:** For more information about this group and to subscribe to regular updates send contact details to E: waitaki@newcomers.co.nz W: www.newcomers.co.nz F: facebook.com/WaitakiNewcomersNetwork/

Plunket Line: 0800 933 922

To read more, enjoy more photos and watch our place 'come to life' check out our Facebook page and website.

www.facebook.com/omaramagazette/ omaramagazette.nz

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

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

# The Christmas Issue of the Omarama Gazette is Friday, December 15, 2023.

Please submit copy by Wednesday, December 13, 2023



Ōmārama Four Square will be closing at the earlier time of <u>4pm Sunday</u>, <u>December 10</u>.

Normal hours will resume

Monday, December 11 (8.30am – 7.00pm).

Many thanks Blair, Alona and the 4SQ team





Adam, Eddie and family would like to wish everyone a relaxing holiday season and to extend our sincere thanks for your support over 2023.

For our whereabouts over the Christmas, and New Year holiday period, keep an eye on our Facebook page.



# The Community Reports Upper Waitaki Police News



Senior Constable Nayland Smith Sole charge Constable / Omarama / Po Box 101, Omarama 9448.

Phone: (03) 438 9559 / Ext: 34580 / mailto:nayland.smith@police.govt.nz

## It's been 21 years!

Congratulations from all of us, Bean, on celebrating 21 years of service to New Zealand Police.

After serving in Counties Manukau, Dunedin and Mosgiel, Bean was appointed to Ōmārama in August 2011.

And look what we did to the wee lad - we've well and truly aged him.

Seriously, the place would not be the same without you - different, yes, but definitely not the same!!

### Thank you, Bean!













### OMARAMA GOLF CLUB

# NEW YEARS TOURNAMENT ALL WELCOME

#### Saturday, 6th January 2024

Numbers will be limited per session

Morning Session: Report 8.00 a.m. for 8.30 a.m. tee off

(Lunchtime meal supplied)

Afternoon Session: Report 12.30 p.m. for 1.00 p.m. tee off

(Evening meal supplied)

One Prize Giving will be held at the conclusion of afternoon session

#### Stableford prizes

Entry fee: \$45.00 - Two's \$2.00

On-course BBQ - Great Prizes - Raffles - Great company

Entries (including morning/afternoon session, club/player ID) to:

Arron Chambers (Secretary) email <a href="mailto:secretary@omaramagolfclub.co.nz">secretary@omaramagolfclub.co.nz</a> or TXT 0272032340

Entries to be received by Thursday 4th January 2024

CAMPERVANS WELCOME TO STAY OVERNIGHT

PLEASE NOTE: CASH ONLY

# **ANNUAL MEETING**

The St Thomas's management committee annual meeting will be at the Ōmārama Memorial Hall, 35 Chain Hills Highway, Ōmārama, 11.30am, Tuesday, December 12.

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## A SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING

with the St Thomas's management committee
will be at the

Ōmārama Memorial Hall, Ōmārama,

1.15pm, Tuesday, December, 12, 2023.

# **Ömārama Volunteer Fire Brigade**



Kia ora

Ho, Ho, Welcome to December Another week or two and you will all have the kids home from school. I bet you are all looking forward to that.

Remember to put all the things that start fires out of reach.

Hopefully we get some good weather moving into Christmas.

Things are getting dry and as of December 5 we have moved into a restricted fire season so you now require a permit to burn any offal pits and slash heaps etc. Check the

website checkitsalright.nz before you light and you will be prompted how to proceed. To the rest of us, if using charcoal, please make sure we have some safety measures in place before we light the BBQ.

Stay Safe

Greg Harper and the team at the Ōmārama Volunteer Fire Brigade

Greg Harper, Chief Fire Officer, 021 293 1171, greg.harper@fireandemergency.nz

Facebook: /Omaramafirebrigade

## **Toot for Tucker 2023**

By Jill Wilson

What a wonderful turnout once again to help with the collection.

On Monday 4 December the Local Lions Clubs combined to run the Annual Toot for Tucker collection to stock the Oamaru Foodbank.

The North Otago Lions with support from St John Ambulance, the Fire Service, Oamaru Police, businesses and individuals collected the goods left out by residents.

We really appreciate the help of runners from ATC, Columba Scouts, Sea Scouts and St John Cadets who do the running.

Thankyou also to the residents of the Waitaki Valley, Lake Ōhau Ōmārama, Otematata, Kurow and Glenavy who also ran collections as did many workplaces.

The great response means our shelves are now well stocked for the coming year.

The Oamaru Churches Foodbank is open every Friday from 10am to noon at 4 France street, Oamaru.

We wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas.

Thankyou

from The Oamaru Combined Churches Foodbank Team.

### Omarama Golf Club

By Christine Bowman

TWILIGHT GOLF STARTS THIS THURSDAY, TEE OFF 5pm to 5.15 p.m.

Nine hole stableford run through summer. Come along for some fun and laughter. Contact is Greg Stuart 027 438 9018.

Congratulations to the Ōmārama Men's team who came SECOND in the Brasch Cup for 2023.

This is a competition open to all golf clubs in Otago and is a 18-hole medal round played on the club's own course in September. You have to nominate your day and players prior to playing the round so a bit of weather forecasting involved. Teams consist of eight players and the aggregate of the best six scores adjusted against New Zealand golf course rating.

The team was Adrian Tuffley, Paul Bowman John Anderson, Greg Stuart, Daniel Burgess, Richard Kitto, Ian Niles and Ken Wigley. WELL DONE TEAM.

Paul Bowman also was THIRD for the 2023 Country Day Club with a score of 90 - 21 (handicap) = 69 net.

This cup was the best score of all players from each club that played in the Brasch Cup.

The club held it's AGM last month and the following are the club's new committee.

President - Paul Bowman
Vice Present - John Anderson
Secretary - Arron Chambers
Treasurer - Richard Kitto
Club Captain - Greg Stuart
Course Convener - John Anderson

Committee members - Ant Ford, Adrian Tuffley, Nayland Smith, Daniel Burgess, Aaron Ferguson

Our New Year tournament is on Saturday 6th January 2024 (see poster below) it is filling quickly, so get your names in so you don't miss out.

It is pleasing to see more locals joining the club and enjoying the course. If you are interested in joining email Arron Chambers for details. secretary@omaramagolfclub.co.nz



Hard-working Ōmārama Golf Club secretary Christine Bowman, who has held the role since 2019, stepped down from the position at this last month's annual meeting. Heartfelt thanks for all you do, Christine, from all of us.

Saturday Club Day, cards in 12.30 noon, tee-off 1pm.

Twilight golf on Thursdays, tee-off 5pm to 5.15 pm. Nine hole stableford run through summer. Come along for some fun and laughter.

Contact is Greg Stuart 027 438 9018.

Club captain: Greg Stuart 027 438 9018 Secretary: Arron Chambers 027 203 2340 email secretary@omaramagolfclub.co.nz www.omaramagolfclub.co.nz

## **Ōmārama Community Garden**

By Heather Smith

## Ready to eat!!!

Please take a wee trip down to the Community Garden and pick yourself a feast of greens. Spinach, silver beet, kale, and salad greens are ready to eat now and need picking to keep them coming.

And what about tossing a few tasty herbs in your bag too?! The cabbages will be ready any day so get down and grab one and more planting can be done by anybody keen to put something in.

Don't be shy - it's time to appreciate the work of our volunteer gardeners.

For tips on how to harvest using cut and come again methods go to Youtube and search for: Spinach, Silverbeet, Kale, lettuce and salad 'greens'

We are a group of gardeners who work together to create something for everyone in our community

Anyone is welcome to pop along to the Community Centre and enjoy

Join the Facebook group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/742877880594146

Contact Heather Smith, 027 330 0249





## **Ömārama MenzShed**

The Ōmārama MenzShed meets at 10am each Saturday and at other times, too.

For further information contact:

Malcolm Cameron 022 476 2225

### **Boots and Jandals Hotel Social Club**

By Malcolm Cameron.

Last month, the Boots & Jandals Social Club organised a 4x4 trip over Meyers Pass. The vehicles turned up Sunday morning at 8.30am to leave at 9am.

Unfortunately, there was an emergency services call to an accident on the Lindis Pass and some couldn't make it.

Only two vehicles left at 9am heading to Meyers Pass.

Once on the Pass we drove to the top where we entered private land, (A big thanks to Gary Powell for letting us on his land)

We then did a loop around the top of the mountain coming back onto Meyers Pass not far from Waihaorunga where we had a quick lunch.

From there we headed to the Waihao Forks Hotel for a refreshment in honour of the soldier that didn't return from the War.

Then we head back to the Boots & Jandals for pizza and chips,

It was a great day out regardless of there being only two vehicles. and six people. We have another 4x4 Trip planned for 25 February 25, 2024. Details to come soon.







# Boots and Jandals Social Club Christmas/Children's Pirate function

Sunday 10th December 2023 at the Boots and Jandals Omarama Hotel Start Time 3pm: Barbeque meal to be provided later in the afternoon.

Prizes will be awarded for the best child pirate costume.

Hope to see you there

# Age Concern in Ōmārama

NB: There will be no coffee groups in December or January, but returning on Tuesday, February 13, 2024.

And save these dates - February 7 and March 6
- for more magical mystery tours!

#### By Kathryn Bennett.

Last month's outing was just wonderful, taking the group through Benmore station and on up to Lake Ōhau Station.

Tom and Sally Moore from Lake Ōhau Station kindly let us have our lunch in their shearing sheds. Ann Patterson provided wonderful sandwiches, sweet treats, muffins and tea/coffee.

Lex Perriam was a wonderful tour guide - he travelled in the van with us. Lex gave detailed history on the background of Benmore Station, how it was subdivided after WW1, the purchase of Ahuriri Downs and Clay Cliffs and he showed us the historic buildings including the original woolshed.

From there we drove toward Lake Ōhau where we stopped so Lex could enlighten us about the postal ballot mailbox at Ōhau Downs Station and give us the background story about the Te Maihāroa

Pou, which was fascinating.

We then went into Lake Ōhau Village where Lex provided a running commentary on the fires that happened in 2021 - pointing out homes that had been rebuilt, vacant sections where homes once stood and the obvious regeneration of the burned land. We went into the Lake Ōhau Lodge for a drive around the property.

Lex pointed out both air strips before heading to Lake Ōhau Station.

Tom and Sally talked about the history of the Station, the merino sheep they run and the cattle. They gave a detailed explanation about blade shearing and machine shearing, the pros/cons of each and the benefit to the sheep. This was very enlightening!

The scenery was breath-taking and the knowledge of Lex was nothing short of brilliant.

His commentary added great value and depth to the outing and I'm sure he must have been a first class tour guide in another life

Age Concern Coffee afternoons begin for 2024 on Tuesday, February 13, 2024 and continue on the second Tuesday of each month at the Ōmārama Community Centre.

Kathryn Bennett is the coordinator for Age Concern Waitaki, based in Oamaru.

Kathryn's contact details are: 03 434 7008, 027 4347 089

NthOtago@ageconcernotago.co.nz

Hours: Mon-Wed 9- 4.30pm / Thur- Fri 9-12.30pm

Photo: by Kathryn Bennett





## **New Potatoes For Xmas**

Omarama/Twizel/Otematata

delivery afternoon/early evening - collections welcome

Sunday 24th December 2023



Contact: Jo Golder 0274584858

Or Donna Hardie 0274518585

Direct Debit to: SCTETM 03-0887-0246596-02

Surname in Reference

Thank you for supporting our club!! Merry Xmas



# **Christmas Housie**



lunch at the





1pm, Wednesday, December 13



All the usual fun

Plus just a few little surprises









#### Kurow Medical Centre and its satellite clinics in Twizel (Mackenzie Health Centre Private Clinic) and Omarama (Community Hall) are proud to offer our registered and casual patients the following services

- \* Ultrasound performed by a qualified clinician (great for minor fractures, gall stones, kidney stones, heart and lung problems, foreign bodies, blood clots, detecting early pregnancy and much more!) \* Minor surgery \* Vasectomies
- \* Mole checking and removal \* Steroid injections \* Venesection
- \* Aviation, workplace and driving medicals \* Botox for Wrinkle reduction
- \* Workplace health screening \* Counselling
- \* Spirometry to diagnose asthma and COPD
- \* Hearing and sight tests for adults and children \* Ear syringing
- \* Liquid nitrogen for warts, verruca's and skin lesions
- \* Cardiovascular risk assessment and diabetic checks (funded for eligible patients) \* Travel advice and vaccination
- \* Cervical smears (funded for eligible patients)
- \* Seasonal flu shots and shingles vaccine (funded for eligible patients)
- \* Childhood immunisation \* Before school checks
- \* Postnatal and six-week baby health check

#### And much more!

#### GP consult fees: Under 14yrs Free; Adult \$45.00 Care Plus – Free to eligible patients only

We also offer the following services from external Health Care Providers:

- \*Podiatry and Ear Health (Kurow only)
- \*Physiotherapy, Acupuncture and Massage (Kurow and Twizel)

#### Opening hours

Kurow: Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 5pm and Friday mornings 8.30am to 1pm Omarama: Thursday 8.30am to 12.30pm

Twizel: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 8.30 to 5pm and Saturday 9am to 12pm

Please note: We provide 24/7 on call after hours cover by our doctors and PRIME nurses for all our registered and casual patients!

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

-Dr Tim and Juliet Gardner Look us up on our website or Facebook page for more information

## Wellness matters

A health column from the Kurow Medical/Mackenzie Health Centre Team - by Fiona Chamberlain

Christmas music is playing on the radio and decorations are going up which means the silly season is approaching fast. Sadly, instead of being a happy and fun time of the year, Christmas and New Year can be stressful for some.

This period can bring many pressures, from feeling obliged to socialise more than usual to worries about how to pay for everything.

Unmanaged stress can result in physical and psychological symptoms as well as health conditions, however it is reassuring to know that stress is a part of life and learning how to manage it is important to maintaining both physical and mental health.

Preparing in advance is important and if you think your mental health might be impacted over the holiday period, knowing what triggers you so as to avoid and manage stress can help.

It is easy to overcommit ourselves financially at this time of year. Spending time with friends and family and having fun can be much more rewarding than spending money on gifts.

Setting aside regular time for recreation or exercise or doing something we love can also help. Walking, cycling, and enjoying the amazing outdoor spaces our country has to offer can relax the mind and body. A scientific study has shown that even the act of smiling can trick our minds into being more positive – all achieved by simply moving our facial muscles.

If you do feel yourself having trouble managing, seek professional advice early. You can talk to your primary care provider confidentially for support. You can also call or text 1737 for free any time of the day or night, seven days a week, 52 weeks a year. The 1737 team provides brief counselling support and can help plan some steps to take, as well as connecting you with more comprehensive support services.

A range of support options can also be found here www.healthed.govt.nz/products/helplines-and-mental-health-services

"A SMILE COSTS NOTHING, but gives much. It enriches those who receive, without making poorer those who give. It takes but a moment, but the memory of it sometimes lasts forever" Author unknown.

Season's greetings from us all. Wishing everyone a happy and safe festive season.



# Merry Christmas from Kurow Medical Centre and Mackenzie Health Centre!



#### Kurow Medical Centre, Mackenzie Health Centre and Omarama Hall

#### Opening and closing dates for Christmas and New Year 2023/24

Monday 25 Dec CLOSED

Tuesday 26 Dec CLOSED

Wednesday 23 Dec OPEN in Kurow, Twizel

Thursday 24 Dec OPEN in Kurow, Twizel and Omarama

Friday 25 Dec OPEN in Kurow and Twizel

Saturday 26 Dec CLOSED

Monday 01 Jan CLOSED

Tuesday 02 Jan CLOSED

Wednesday 03 Jan OPEN in Kurow and Twizel

Thursday 04 Jan OPEN in Kurow, Twizel and Omarama

Friday 05 Jan OPEN in Kurow and Twizel

Saturday 06 Jan CLOSED

24/7 ON CALL COVER WILL BE PROVIDED AS USUAL TO ALL OUR REGISTERED AND CASUAL PATIENTS BY OUR DOCTORS AND PRIME TRAINED NURSES

Call Kurow: 03 4360 760 or Twizel: 03 976 0566

Dr Tim, Juliet and all the staff at Kurow Medical Centre & Mackenzie Health
Centre would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy & Safe
New Year!



# Merry Christmas ...

We appreciate your Support during the past year and look forward to seeing you in 2024.

Christmas & New Year 2023 / 24

Monday 18th December Open 8.30 to 5pm

Tuesday 19th December Open 8.30 to 5pm

Wednesday 20th December Open 8.30 to 5pm

Thursday 21st December Open 8.30 to 5pm

Friday 22nd December Open 8.30 to 5pm

Monday 25th December Closed. Public Holiday

Tuesday 26th December Closed. Public Holiday

Wednesday 27th December Open 8.30 to 5pm

Thursday 28th December Open 8.30 to 5pm

Friday 29th December Open 8.30 to 5pm

Monday 1st January Closed. Public Holiday

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January Closed. Public Holiday

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January Normal hours resume. Open 8.30 to 5pm



Season Greetings from all of us at

The Twizel Medical Centre

In an Emergency,

please dial 111, ask for an Ambulance.

# **Ömārama Playgroup**

Ōmārama Playgroup meets at 9.30am each Wednesday during the primary school term at the Ōmārama Community Centre.

For more information contact: president Nic McKerchar 022 612 7570 rn.mckerchar@hotmail.com or secretary Olivia Black, 027 833 0869.

# **Ömārama Community Library**

### 

The library will be closed on Saturday, December 23, 2023 and Wednesday, December 27, 2023

The Ōmārama Community Library is open 9.30am to 11am, Wednesdays and Saturdays, at the Ōmārama Community Centre.

Email: omaramalibrary@gmail.com

Contact: Yvonne 027 476 7473



# **Ōmārama School**

- By Clair Winslade

The Ōmārama School year 7 and 8 pupils of 2024 will be attending a leadership camp in February at Peel Forest. They will have the incredible opportunity to participate in team-building activities to develop their confidence and push them outside their comfort zones.

They have set a monetary goal that they would like to fundraise for themselves to contribute towards the cost of their camp. The pupils have met and brainstormed ideas as to how they could raise money. They then balanced these ideas with costs, time, and money raised. One of their ideas is to sell bags of sheep poo and pinecones.

If anyone would like to purchase bags of sheep poo and pinecones please email the school with your order. Orders will be taken until December 8.

Bags of sheep poo \$7 Bags of pinecones \$5

Email: office@omarama.school.nz

Delivery date will be confirmed once orders and payment have been received.

Thank you,

Amelia Paton, Nicole Mc Murtrie, Paige Doree, Brydie Ferguson, James Mason, Angus Gloag, Liam Mcleod and Amelia Wilson. 2024 Ōmārama School Student Leadership Team.

Contact details: Phone: 03 438 9815, principal@omarama.school.nz office@omarama.school.nz



## **Ōmārama Residents' Association**

The Christmas meeting of the Ōmārama Residents' Association

will be 6pm, Thursday, December 14
at the Oasis Café and Bar.
The meeting will be followed by a social occasion.

#### **Contacts:**

Lindsay Purvis, chairperson, 027 438 9630 Vicky Chambers, secretary, 021 296 5782

(Minutes of the previous meetings are available from Vicky)

#### THE ASSOCIATION HAS ITS OWN POST OFFICE BOX

Could all those who want to contact the association by mail, send accounts to be paid, or have correspondence considered at the monthly meetings ensure it is addressed to:

The Secretary, P O Box 93, Ōmārama 9448. The association's email address is omarama.committee@gmail.com

### ŌMĀRAMA COMMUNITY CENTRE HALL HIRE

To make a booking for an upcoming event or for more information about hall hire and availability please contact Michelle Kitchen 027 280 5446 or email hallhire.omarama@xtra.co.nz



## Report from the Ōmārama Residents' Association

By Lindsay Purvis, Residents' Association of Ōmārama Inc chairman.

A short while ago the Waitaki District Council (WDC) appointed a new role within their team. Cyndi Christensen who was appointed as a Placemaker for some small communities within the Waitaki to take on and complete projects that will improve their respective villages. This is the result of the WDC applying to Central Government for a "better off Fund" which they were granted. This grant was then allocated to these communities to use within two years on projects at their discretion with Cyndi as their facilitator to help with identifying priority projects and get them started then help with the progress.

After Cyndi was introduced to us various discussions were had and our Community Board member Mike King conducted a survey of 50 households to identify what the town felt was priority. Parking and traffic congestion over peak periods was identified as a concern from these conversations and WDC Roading are interested in trialling some options, but this can only be after full consultation with associated business owners, some of which has been completed. Some signage restricting long vehicles or towing vehicles mat be erected prior to Xmas but anything involving traffic movement could only be trialled after the busy season if at all.

Another high priority was an upgrade on the playground and surrounding areas. It was felt that with the right up-grade to this area involving more user-friendly seating and picnic tables it will not only provide a better environment around the tennis court but could also help alleviate traffic congestion by drawing travellers down to that end of town.

As you can imagine there were lots of differing worthy ideas but as a committee we had to identify where to start. So, a notified public meeting we held on Monday 20th November 2023 to do just that. Our secretary Vicky Chambers captured some notes from that meeting, and these are available from Vicky.

There will be an update from the project team in a future issue of the Gazette outlining the first phase of our project plan.

I ask that you read these papers carefully so as to understand what we as a committee are trying to achieve, then come to our meetings and put your hand up to help with the improvement of our beloved little town.

Cheers all Lindsay

'The Community Reports' is dedicated to news from clubs, groups and sports teams.

Contributions are welcome. omaramagazette@gmail.com

# Care in the community

#### **Ōmārama Community Care Group**

Because all Covid 19 restrictions have been lifted and the last time the Care Group was asked for assistance was in June, the Care Group has been formally wound up. If you are in need of any assistance please do not hesitate to contact Ruth Grundy 021 294 8002 and we can work together on options and put you in contact with those who can help or whatever will best suit you.



If you need any of the services listed below please contact:

**Twizel Community Care Centre** 

Mount Cook St, Twizel, Phone: 03 435 0687

Open: Monday - Friday 9am to 2pm

• A reminder we have a food bank available with no questions asked With the lead up to Christmas, it can be a particularly difficult time for people so please call in to the Twizel Community Care Centre on Mt Cook Street if you are in need of food.

Our contact details are 03 4350687 and email admin@twizelcare.co.nz if you would like to arrange a convenient time to collect a parcel.

- Twizel-Tekapo Community Car bookings this is a community car that picks you up from your house and takes you wherever you need to go such as town here in Twizel or Timaru for an appointment, whatever you need. There is a cost involved depending on destinations.
- Work and Income assistance with applying for benefits, helping with queries regarding superannuation, and any other financial assistance you may receive. Printing and scanning of documents.
- Inland Revenue queries regarding anything IRD related, access to forms.
- Home Delivered Meals We have small roasts for \$10, Regular meals for \$8 and small snack meals for \$4. We can deliver to your home.
- Printing/scanning services
- Assistance with finding jobs in the area.
- Foodbank donations, and supply people with food parcels when in need
- Any other government services ACC, Department of Corrections, etc
- Arowhenua Whanau services Free health clinic on the first Wednesday of each month.
- Computer/cellphone assistance needing help with something on your computer or cellphone. Free WiFi
- · Rat tests/Mask supply free of charge
- Assistance with filling in any forms or paperwork.
- Offer room hire to community groups and businesses.

### **Ahuriri Catchment Community Group**

#### Ahuriri Community Catchment Group – December 2023

By Nicola McKerchar

After a successful meeting held at the Boots and Jandals Hotel, we have a new fresh -faced committee, led by Gundy Anderson, as chair, and Dave Ellis, as vice chair, to relaunch our catchment group.

With the goal of having represented each sub-catchment on the committee; Pip Smith, Wendy Parsons, Evan Gibson, Amanda Schnell/Lachie Hamilton also joined bring new ideas and enthusiasm to the group.

Additional members are welcomed.

In addition, Bridget Pringle has joined as our new facilitator/project manager. Bridget already knows the issues facing the farmers here, and brings her knowledge and experience to the table, already demonstrating her understanding at the recent Environment Canterbury meeting.

While the group has been waiting in the wings for the correct project, Richard and Annabelle Subtil attended a meeting in August to pitch the Ahuriri's case to be included in the Ministry for the Environment's Wai Connection funding.

The Wai Connection has a total of \$2m to spend across a total of four catchments within two years.

They must have told a compelling story to the selectors as the Ahuriri Catchment has been selected to receive a portion of that funding.

Discussions have begun as to what project would best suit our catchment and set us up for long term success. This is a massive boost to the group and means real action can begin.

A huge thank you to Richard and Annabelle for taking the time to represent our area and put us in a great position for the future.

Any comments, or further information, please contact Bridget on 021 072 2113 or bridget@irricon.co.nz



### ECan's Ōmārama Stream update

'Tree work' at the Ōmārama Stream required to reduce risk of flooding was completed by Environment Canterbury contractors on behalf of the Ōmārama Stream ratepayers group, last month.

Last year, after serious flooding in July and August, the group met with ECan and Waitaki District Council staff to come up with a plan to tackle ongoing maintenance. As a result about 13 or 14 properties plus Ōmārama Station, Ōmārama Top 10 Holiday Park, Hot Tubs Ōmārama and the Ōmārama Golf Course - agreed to find \$100,000 or \$30,000 each year for three years - to pay for the urgent remedial work.

Last month, in reply to questions from the Ōmārama Gazette ECan Rivers Manager David Aires said the original \$100,000 discussed at last year's public meeting for tree removal and stopbank repair was an estimate.

"An additional \$11,000 was needed to meet the original objectives sought by the community to carry out the tree removal,"

This was discussed on site in October with members of the rating district, "with more than 80% voting in support of the additional work", including those members who could not make the walkover on the day.

"As such, we have now completed the tree clearance works.

"The remaining \$30,000 has been set aside to repair the stopbank."

That work is planned for January, Mr Aires said.

The Ōmārama Gazette understands the Waitaki District Council is to manage the removal of the slash and debris, and progress on this was raised with Parks and Reserves staff at the meeting with the Residents' Association of Ōmārama, on November 20.





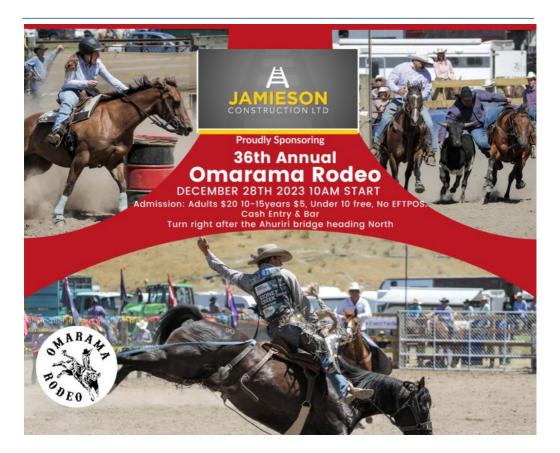
Twizel Medical Centre is a well-established and growing local community organisation. We are currently seeking friendly front-line services stars to join our busy Administration team — either one full time or two part-time positions.

Applicants will be experienced administrators with an eye for detail, excellent communication skills and a desire to go the extra mile to ensure high levels of customer care and satisfaction.

In addition to being team players, candidates will be self-starters who can prioritise workflows and trouble shoot under pressure. Daily tasks will include greeting patients, screening patients for triage as required, managing patient appointments, and liaising with clinical staff. Additional duties may include processing of payments and invoicing, and accounts reconciliation as well as general office duties, depending on background and experience.

Applications close at 5pm on Friday the 8th of December 2023

All enquiries and applications to manager@twizelmed.co.nz





# Seen Chilean needle grass?

#### Chilean needle grass

Nassella neesiana

- · Erect tufted perennial grass, growing up to 1m
- · Lime green leaves, flat and rough towards base
- · Seeds have long, kinked awns that intertwine
- Large drooping purple tinged flowerheads are visible November – December

#### If in doubt, shout!

Chilean needle grass numbers are low in Canterbury, help us by reporting all potential sightings via the Find-a-Pest app or on ecan.govt.nz/Chilean-needle-grass



Sharp, needle-like tips of the seeds can penetrate the skin, flesh, and eyes of stock, causing serious injury and degrade meat and wool.







# Reporting issues is a snap with our Snap Send Solve App

Did you know Waitaki District Council has a FREE smart phone app to help make reporting issues easy? If you spot a pothole on a local road, damage to a footpath, a water leak or any other issue that you think Council may be able to sort, then you can use this clever app to report it by taking a photo (SNAP) and sending (SEND) it to the Council (SOLVE).

The app works by identifying the location of where the photo is taken using your phone's GPS data. You can fill in a few details then hit send. A report is then allocated to the relevant Council department. Find more info and a link to the app on our website.



Scan for more info and app download



#### Justices of the Peace

#### JPs are available by appointment to:

- \* Witness documents such as applications for citizenship
- \* Certify copies
- \* Take declarations, affidavits and affirmations

#### The service is free of charge

#### To make your visit quick and easy:

- \* Do not sign anything beforehand
- \* Do take photo identification
- \* Remember to take the original as well as the copy to be certified
- \* Check that a New Zealand Justice of the Peace can complete your documentation



Georgie Robertson Omarama 03 438 9554 027 4861525



Vicky Munro **Otematata** 03 438 7855 021 438745



Alona Shaw **Omarama** 027 773 4214









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# **AHURIRI LINK**

NEWS FROM COUNCIL & THE COMMUNITY BOARD





The fine folks at Network Waitaki have been busy in Kurow, putting up the Ahuriri Ward Christmas Tree (with Richie site supervising) - thank you!

Thanks as well to our other sponsors The Lion Foundation, Ōamaru Licensing Trust, Toll Group and River Cafe Kurow for making the season merry and bright.

# ONLINE RAMP

We've set up an online payment system for boat ramp day tickets.

Simply scan the QR code on the sign at the boat

ramp with your phone, follow the prompts to pay, fill out an envelope and display in front window of vehicle - then enjoy safe boating!



### **NEW WATER SUPPLY**

The project to upgrade the Ōmārama Water Supply is nearing completion and the new treatment plant is on schedule to start supplying water that meets the NZ Drinking Water Compliance Rules by Christmas.

The new plant will allow for future growth and make the supply more resilient - especially during floods and earthquakes.

The process of commissioning the new bores and treatment plant has started and will continue over the next few weeks to make sure everything works as it should before the supply is permanently switched over.

As a precaution, we'll retain the old treatment plant for a few months as backup until the new supply is bedded in and we're confident everything is working as it should.

In the meantime, we ask Ōmārama residents and visitors to be mindful of their water use over the coming weeks while we do the commissioning work. During this period we'll also be monitoring water losses that have been occurring on the supply network for some time and fixing any leaks where we find them. We'll also be upgrading watermains in the town next year.

Give us your feedback on Dog control in Waitaki, visit: www.letstalk.waitaki.govt.nz/ lets-talk-dogs







www.waitaki.govt.nz





LJ Hooker

eam

Karan & Jess

Karan MacDiarmid 027 517 7959 karan@mcre.co.nz

> Jess Mackay 027 902 5529 karan@mcre.co.nz

20 Ruataniwha Road, Twizel

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Phone Matt 027 227 8256 Email: info@csihelicopters.co.nz



FROM LABOUR WEEKEND

### **Open: Wednesday to Sunday**

Hours may vary, please check our Facebook page Dinner bookings available by reservation, please

Phone: Tanya 027 673 1381









Many thanks to all in the waitaki who have given me their support this year and Have a very merry & safe christmas with family & friends.

Gary is proud to be covering the Waitaki Valley - with over **three decades in the Real Estate industry** in the Waitaki, Central Otago and Mackenzie Country, using the traditional real estate model.

Living in Omarama, Gary is proud to offer New Zealand's #1 FREE marketing package and fair flat fees.

With one centralised national office, we keep overheads low and savings where they belong - in your pocket!

Thinking of selling? Call Gary today.



**Gary Sutherland**027 432 6615
gary.sutherland@tallpoppy.co.nz

For appraisals & viewings over the holidays call me anytime



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)

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

November 2023

Highest temperature: November 21, 25.3C

Lowest temperature: November 25, - 0.7C

Most rainfall: November 17, 12.2 mm

Total rainfall for November 46.2 mm

### The Ōmārama Gazette

Ōmārama's news delivered to your inbox

the first Wednesday of each month

To subscribe email:

omaramagazette@gmail.com

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