



150 Year Celebration Committee

2011 here we come

Are you ready to celebrate? – We are and there will be plenty to keep you occupied over the weekend set aside for the celebrations which will reflect different aspects of the history of Lawrence. Otago Anniversary Weekend has been targeted for a three day celebration of New Zealand's first discovery of payable gold which of course happened right here in our district. The official 150-year anniversary date, 25 May 2011 will be acknowledged with a formal function. However, the committee considers that March should be warmer for the outdoor activities with longer daylight hours contributing to the festive atmosphere.

Already the committee has received support from individuals and government departments with indications the event will attract interest far and wide. You too can keep in touch from home by visiting the Clutha District Council website which is updated by the council media officer.
www.cluthadc.govt.nz

Dr James Ng is a member of the committee and is liaising with the Dunedin Chinese community in organising a celebration to acknowledge the Chinese influence in the gold mining period. He reports there will be activities at the site of the old Chinese Camp displaying their culture, fireworks, pig roasting, dancing and other festivities.

In recognition of the honour Lawrence holds in being the place where the first bicycle in New Zealand was built, the Oamaru Ordinary Cycle Club has expressed an interest in attending the weekend.

The committee has also been successful in applying for a grant of \$1000 from the Creative Communities Scheme. This will enable us to bring a playwright from Auckland in November this year to prepare a script for a show to be produced in 2011. This is exciting and if you have any gold mining collections or stories you consider he would be interested in please contact Kirsty Garner or our committee secretary.

Clutha Country
where everyone says hello

Since the launch of our logo there have been products produced to encourage promotion of the event. Tuapeka Gold Print managers have been supportive in assisting with the production of goods and the committee is grateful for the professional guidance and the company's gift of a pen to each household.

You can also stock up for those overseas gifts now and get the Lawrence name out there with a printed 150 Year shopping bag. These are selling at several local retail outlets as well as the Lawrence Information Centre and the Lawrence Service Centre for \$6 each. Envelopes with the logo are also selling now at the Information Centre and soon there will be sheets of stickers available.

This special occasion belongs to you, it is the history of your town we are celebrating so please contact us with any ideas or information you wish to share.

Wayman Roughan
Chairman

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