

# GOLDEN GOSSIP

Issue #3 - December 2010



GABRIEL'S GULLY  
GOLDRUSH 150TH  
Clutha Country  
where everyone says hello

Golden Celebration · www.celebrategold.co.nz · 18-21 March 2011

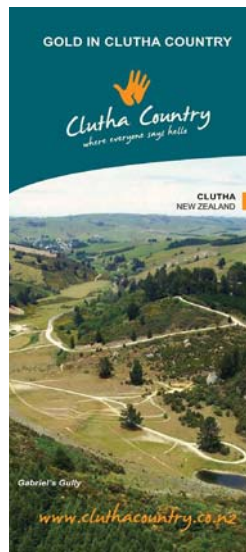
Welcome to Golden Gossip: the newsletter that will keep you up to date with the progress of the planning for Gabriel's Gully Goldrush 150th, a four-day golden celebration 18-21 March 2011, with drama, music, historical tours, walks and displays.

A 'Gold in Clutha Country' brochure (pictured right) has been produced ahead of next year's celebrations.

Naturally, the brochure focuses on the Lawrence-Tuapeka goldfields including stories on memorable gold rush characters including among others:

- Edward 'Black Peter' Peters, the discoverer of the first workable goldfield in Otago at Glenore in 1859.
- Gabriel Read, who was the first to discover payable gold at the gully which now bears his name on 25 May 1861.
- Sam Chew Lain, a well-known Chinese miner who became proprietor of the Chinese Empire Hotel at the Lawrence Chinese Camp.

The brochure is available for viewing on the Lawrence 2011 webpage on the Clutha District Council website at [www.cluthadc.govt.nz/lawrence2011.htm](http://www.cluthadc.govt.nz/lawrence2011.htm)



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### Lawrence featured in Air NZ Magazine

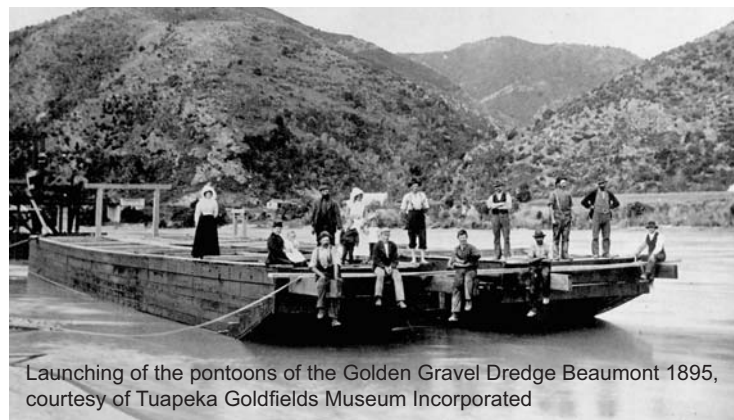
Also now available for viewing on the Clutha District Council website is an article on Lawrence, which was featured in the November edition of Kia Ora, Air New Zealand's in-flight magazine. The article identifies six of the major attractions in Lawrence and is a wonderful bit of publicity for the area ahead of next year's celebrations.

### Goldrush Heritage Centre

A nationwide appeal has gone out to the descendants of goldminers, prospectors, Lawrence industries and pioneer entrepreneurs to provide family items and stories that have links to the Tuapeka Goldfields an area that includes: Gabriel's Gully, Munro's Gully, Waipori, Waitahuna, Weatherstons, Lawrence, Beaumont and Tuapeka Flat.

During the celebrations this memorabilia will be displayed in the Goldrush Heritage Centre to be set up in Gabriel's Gully and housed in a large marquee.

Personal items belonging to Gabriel Read have already come to light from that appeal and will be on display at the centre. Another very exciting find has been a rare nitrate film from 1912 that shows goldminers in Lawrence and scenes of early Dunedin. Organisers are hoping to stage the first public viewing of the film at the Heritage Centre.



Launching of the pontoons of the Golden Gravel Dredge Beaumont 1895, courtesy of Tuapeka Goldfields Museum Incorporated

### Updated programme now available

Advertising of the event begins in earnest this weekend, while the programme of events for the Gabriel's Gully Goldrush 150th is available for viewing on the Clutha District Council website.

Friday night's *The Drama of the Tuapeka* staged in Gabriel's Gully will be followed by entertainment from the Roxburgh Brass Band in Lawrence with cafes and restaurants open for dinner and coffee.

Other updates since the draft programme of events was released earlier this year include the Gabriel's Gully Gold Panning competition which will take place at Gabriel's Gully on Saturday 19 March. Registrations open at 10am and the prizegiving will be held at 3.30pm (\$10 entry fee).

On the Sunday afternoon, Bryan and Dianne Miller will launch their Stars of Orion picture book. The story is based on typical events of the goldrush and at the back of the book, historical facts about this period and about gold mining are listed. It is aimed at children around 6 to 10 years old. Copies will be on sale and there will be a competition for children to come dressed as 'diggers' – with prizes for the best costumes.

Tickets to the following events will be available from Ticket Direct from February 2011: The Drama of the Tuapeka (Friday 18 March), Swaggers Dance (Saturday 19 March), and the Sesquicentennial Ball on Sunday 20 March.



Cottage at Blue Spur c1890, courtesy of Tuapeka Goldfields Museum Incorporated

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Clutha District Council

