

## Subdivision progressing well



Development of the new North Balclutha is well underway. Three successful open days were held at the site in June, with many people choosing to make a deposit guaranteeing them first right of purchase when the lots are officially placed on the market.

The 27-hectare residential development is bordered by Johnston Road and McNeill Street and will have a variety of residential sections available for purchase, ranging from 433m<sup>2</sup> to 7947m<sup>2</sup> plus lifestyle blocks ranging from 5018m<sup>2</sup> to 3.33ha. All residential sites will have services to their boundaries, including ultra-fast broadband. Roads, footpaths, cycle and walkways, including reserve park land, will also be part of the development and along with great views out to Kaka Point and the Nuggets, make the subdivision an appealing

and friendly neighbourhood. The subdivision lots have been drawn up with tenders for construction work the next step in the process. The sections should be available for purchase by Christmas.

Chief Executive Steve Hill said the development was in keeping with the direction set in Council's 10-year Long Term Plan and was one way to address the accommodation shortfall that had been identified in Balclutha. Council would also be looking at the accommodation shortfall in Milton as part of the Community Plan process, which had started for the Milton, Waihola and Balclutha townships. The former plantation land, owned by Council, has most recently been used for grazing and the costs of the subdivision project will be rates neutral. The latest information is available on Council's website [www.cluthadc.govt.nz](http://www.cluthadc.govt.nz).

## Election Day Your vote counts!

On 8 October, Clutha District Council will hold its three-yearly annual elections for Mayor, Councillors and Community Board members. This is your chance to vote for leaders who represent you and are passionate about the community you live in.

There are two ways you can play a part, check whether you are enrolled to vote and decide whether you want to stand for election yourself. All qualifying New Zealand citizens and residents aged over 18 are required to be on the electoral role, this enables them to vote in the election.

If you are already enrolled, you should have received papers in the post outlining your details, if those details are correct, you don't need to do anything. But, if they are incorrect or you have not received anything in the mail, go to [www.elections.org.nz](http://www.elections.org.nz) or call 0800 367 656.

Once enrolled you can also stand for election yourself. Nominations for the election close at noon on 12 August.

Local Government New Zealand President Lawrence Yule said the election was about people having their say and voting for the issues they care about for their family, business and community.

**More information is available on Council's website [www.cluthadc.govt.nz](http://www.cluthadc.govt.nz) including information about how to vote and how to run as a candidate.**



## Civil Defence in West Otago

In April the Otago Group Controller of Civil Defence, Chris Hawker and Council's Emergency Management Officer Brendon Smith met up with West Otago Civil Defence representatives to review how Civil Defence works in that area. They were accompanied by an Otago Regional Council representative and Adverse Events Coordinator Graeme Booth. The day included a road trip with locals to the Pomahaka River head waters so the threat the river poses could be assessed. The visit added to the work Civil Defence representatives have been doing with West Otago locals to update contact lists and streamline communications in times of need.

## Winter Reminders

It was a mild start to winter but it's still a good time for some reminders:

**MUD AND MUCK** on our roads can be a real problem, in part caused by the storage of produce such as baleage and logs on the side of roads or reserves. The main issue is the mud and damage caused by tractors frequently accessing the produce. In some instances the produce itself can also be a hazard by limiting visibility. Please remember, there's a blanket ban on the storage of all produce on the road corridor and a bylaw in place to deter damage being done to roads. Other areas of concern include activities around vehicle entranceways which damage footpaths and overhanging vegetation that creates damage or danger on a road. The process for dealing with such issues is in a roading brochure on Council's website.

Consumers on restricted water supplies are reminded to make sure that the pipework supplying your tank(s) is properly **FROST PROTECTED**. It's also a good time to check the connection is protected from stock damage, the strainer is clear and there are no leaks. After all, the cost of any repairs due to inadequate frost protection or stock damage will be recovered from the customer concerned. Also, it is illegal to tamper with Council water supplies, including your restricted connections. Contact us on 0800 801 350 if you're having problems, rather than taking matters into your own hands.

Lastly, remember you cannot put **ASH** in your recycling bin. Ash can be placed in your green-lidded wheelie bin as waste but only if it is cold and bagged. **GLASS** is also excluded from the kerbside recycling collection, but it can be dropped off for free at Mt Cooe Landfill and Transfer Stations.



Did you know that as a country we throw away 122,547 tonnes of food a year? That means nationally we waste \$872 million a year on food we chuck out that hasn't been eaten. To put it in perspective, the amount would feed double the population of Dunedin for a year.

The environmental impact is that it creates 325,975 tonnes of carbon emissions, which is the equivalent of taking 118,107 of cars off the road for a year or planting 130,390 trees. What can you do about it? Well, the Love Food Hate Waste campaign aims to inspire people to take action to reduce their food waste. Check out [www.lovefoodhatewaste.co.nz](http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.co.nz) for information and tips about reducing waste, including recipes, quizzes and more.

## Staff News

We've said goodbye to Building Inspector Peter Brookland who is returning to building consultancy and design work, and to Graduate Engineer Marcus Frost. However, we have welcomed Malcom Sinclair as our new Building Control Manager. At the Balclutha Pool, Ashlee Beattie is on parental leave with Natasha Edwards filling in for her while Greg Tredwell has been appointed as team leader and Jessica Craik is a new weekend lifeguard. We've also welcomed IT Data Analyst Edward Nolan, Infrastructure Strategy Manager Russell Bond and Facilities Asset Officer Ken Murray.

# Keeping an eye on Balclutha's main street

CCTV cameras have been installed throughout Balclutha's main street and key areas of the township. Given the investment Council has made in the area with the recent main street upgrade, Council felt installing CCTV cameras was warranted. They also add to the liquor ban that was recently extended to cover more central areas in the town. Clutha-Taieri Area Response Manager, Senior Sergeant Alistair Dickie said the Balclutha police were pleased about the installation of the surveillance cameras.

"The camera systems will have playback capabilities so areas where offending or other issues are identified can be reviewed for evidence gathering purposes." Mr Dickie said this was an example of the police and community working together to improve the safety of those whose lived in Balclutha or passed through it.

A new public toilet block was installed in Owaka in June. The toilets are decorated with tiles that were painted by local school pupils after the community group Owaka Going Forward approached Council with the idea. The tiles look great and put a real community stamp on the project.



## Congratulations to our youth...

Congratulations to everyone involved in making the Youth Council Quiz Night so successful. Thirteen teams took part and \$335.90 was raised towards the Annual Youth Council Disco, which was held on the 8 July. The support the Youth Councillors received from their peers was amazing with the turnout of young people taking part absolutely tremendous and the event itself was a lot of fun. Feedback has been glowingly positive. Thank you also to the parents and Youth Council supporter teams. Huge thanks to Councillor Bruce Graham for giving his time to not only prepare the quiz but for attending and being a fabulously funny Quiz Master. The generosity of first place getters 'Hayley's Heroes' and second place getters 'Simple Minds' in donating back their prize money was greatly appreciated.

### Got a project in mind that will:

- encourage participation in the arts? OR
- support diversity in the arts? OR
- encourage young people to engage in arts?

... then you may be eligible for a grant from the Creative Communities NZ Scheme. Application forms and guidelines available at your nearest Council office or online at [www.cluthadc.govt.nz](http://www.cluthadc.govt.nz)

**Applications close Fri 26 August**

Photo: Jennifer Markman

**creative**nz

ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND TOI AOTEAROA

### Do you own a dog?

All dog owners should now have registered their dogs for the 2016/17 year and dogs should be wearing a tag. We will be sending out reminder notices in late August, when a 50% penalty fee will apply, we'll also be following up with property visits. Remember all dogs MUST be registered from 3 months of age.

Some plumbing fittings have the potential to allow minute traces of metals to accumulate in water standing in the fittings for several hours. Although the health risk is small, the Ministry of Health recommends that you flush a cup-full of water from your drinking-water tap each morning before use to remove any metals that may have dissolved from the plumbing fittings. We are recommending this simple precaution for all households, including those on public and private water supplies.

# Council's work programme set for coming year

Council officially adopted the Annual Plan 2016/17 on 15 June and struck the rates for the coming year. The Annual Plan is our work programme for the year and outlines any major variations to the 2015 Long Term Plan. Key decisions included:

Installing a pumping station at Palmer Place in Taieri Mouth to mitigate stormwater issues in the area. Palmer Place was identified as a high priority for stormwater improvements, with the current situation having a significant impact on a number of properties. A pumping station means more capacity in heavy rainfalls.

A new dust suppression programme to apply a semi-permanent sealing solution to roads, paid in part or in full by residents, in conjunction with permitting residents (subject to conditions) to arrange and pay for oiling their road themselves. This answer accommodated the preferences of 70% of submitters. Until now Council had shared the cost of oiling the roads with residents but with the cost going up by more than 500% and Otago being one of the few areas where oil-based dust suppression is still permitted, it was time to review the situation.

To make two carparks in the Council-owned carpark by the Warehouse available (at fair market rental) for a proposed electric car charging station.

To introduce voluntary targeted rates schemes for home insulation, connection to sewerage schemes or extensions and for dust suppression.

To provide financial assistance for the 'house and land packages' in Kaitangata being promoted by the community group Kaitangata and District Promotions. Assistance includes waiving/discounting Council fees to a maximum of \$5,000.

To increase the Cross Recreation Centre's annual operating grant by \$10,000 to \$ 43,300. Representatives of the Centre presented a business case outlining the expected benefits from the increase, including an ability for it to generate more revenue as a result. The Centre has been so successful with the number of users jumping from 60,000 to 80,000 that staff have had no capacity to pursue alternative revenue streams. This funding increase should allow staff time to do this. Councillors acknowledged the tremendous success of the Centre during the meeting.

To provide a one-off increase of \$10,000 towards the South Otago curator position at the South Otago Museum in Balclutha. Council already funds \$32,800 towards the position. In addition, Council also provides \$58,825 to the six museums in the district (including South Otago) towards their operational costs such as power and rates. This one-off increase for the curator position will not be released until the South Otago Historical Society, which operates the Museum, is the subject of an independent review of its governance and operations.

The overall rates revenue received by Council will increase by 3.39%, with average urban rate increases ranging from between 5.86% in Balclutha to 0.46% in Clinton, while average rural rates generally show no increases. However, as the 3.39% rates revenue increase includes additional revenue from rural water scheme growth with more water units being purchased, the projected average rates increase to ratepayers across the district is 2.85%.

A big thank you to all those who took the time to be involved in the process, and make a submissions we always appreciate your feedback.



The Clutha District officially welcomed 10 new citizens at a ceremony in June. Along with Mrs Livia Johnston we also welcomed the Louw, Tolentino and Lin families. They all received a welcome gift of a Kowhai tree.

## Flower Festival

The Balclutha Flower Festival is on Thursday, 6 October at the Balclutha Memorial Hall from 12 to 5 pm. There will be exhibits, raffles and stalls. Entry \$3, children free, afternoon tea \$3. New exhibitors welcome. Enquiries: Helen Barrett 418 1093 or Diane Storer (Floral Art) 418 1788.



Clutha District Council distributes this newsletter four times a year to ratepayers with rates notices. It is also available on our website, [www.cluthadc.govt.nz](http://www.cluthadc.govt.nz), or from your nearest Council office or Service Centre. Feedback and ideas are welcome. Please contact Rachel Askew on 03 419 0200, email to [rachel.askew@cluthadc.govt.nz](mailto:rachel.askew@cluthadc.govt.nz), or write C/- Clutha District Council, PO Box 25, Balclutha 9240.