



A Community Board Newsletter - Autumn 2017

Welcome to the first newsletter from the recently elected Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board. These will be circulated on a quarterly basis with the intention to keep the community informed about the projects being managed by the Community Board.

Town Parking

With a view to increased tourists in the coming years, the Community Board is currently reviewing parking in the town. Council was asked to evaluate options and will report back to the Board in due course. At peak tourist times Ross Place can be very busy and short of parking. We want to encourage people to pull over as they are passing through, which they may not do if they can't find a park on the main street. Shop owners and staff are encouraged to use the parking area to the right of the pub to keep the main street as free as possible for visitors. For locals who plan to be in town for a few hours, Colonsay Street is a good option with easy access down the zig-zag track. Bike parking is also being considered to cope with the ever-increasing number of cyclists visiting the town.

The Old Swimming Pool

Council have approved a budget to go ahead with the demolition and disposal of buildings, cladding and the hard-filling of the old swimming pool to be paid out of the Lawrence Swimming Pool Reserve Funds, however final arrangements will need to be reached by the Community Board and Lawrence Heritage & Cultural Trust before any final decisions are made. Marjorie Hay's "The Arches" proposal to make the area into a green space has been agreed in principle, subject to formal agreements and confirmed outside funding. No other proposals for the space were presented to the Community Board for consideration.

In the Spotlight

Lawrence basked in another 15 minutes of fame in February when we featured as a top three finalist in the 'Mitre10 Community of the Year', part of the Kiwibank New Zealander of the Year Awards. Peter Cummings, representing the Lawrence Lions Club, and myself on behalf of the Tuapeka Aquatic Centre, travelled to Auckland for the awards dinner.

The nomination was centred on the completion of the \$2.5M aquatic centre and the local fundraising efforts of more than \$400K.

Alongside that, the Lawrence Lions Club was also recognised for its fundraising ability and its donations to local projects and significant sums to the Otago Rescue Helicopter Trust.

The presentation reflected on Lawrence's trailblazing history, from the gold rush in the 1860s to the Tuapeka Community Health Co. establishment, through to being the first NZ town to offer free wireless, the annual Century Farm Awards, and the town's support for establishing the Clutha Gold cycle trail.

The evening was a glamorous affair with more than 500 extremely well dressed guests seated for a beautifully presented meal and entertainment from a variety of artists.

Awards were presented in a variety of categories including Young New Zealander and Senior New Zealander, Innovator of the Year, and the main award for New Zealander of the Year.

Listening to the presentations was truly inspiring and we felt very privileged to be featured amongst them. There were no losers on the night, however we did miss out on the silverware and the Community of the Year award that went to a South Auckland community whose issues are certainly different to what we see down here.

Garry McCorkindale - Chair

Your Community Board Members

We all want to ensure the Tuapeka region continues to be a great place to live! Residents are encouraged to approach the Community Board members with any feedback, concerns or suggestions about improvements for the area.

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Stay Informed... Remember agendas and minutes for the Community Board meetings are available at www.cluthadc.govt.nz