

# Council News

a newsletter from the Clutha District Council

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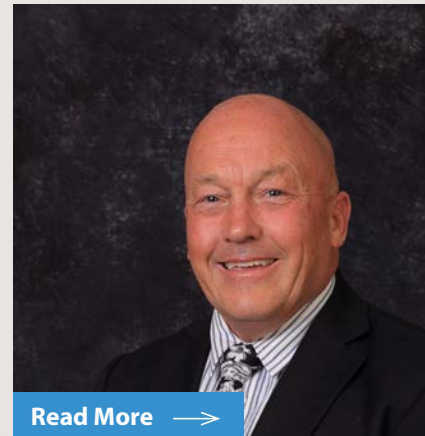
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May 2018 | [www.cluthadc.govt.nz](http://www.cluthadc.govt.nz) | 0800 801 350 | [help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz](mailto:help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz)

## From the Mayor

Did you know Council is doing more projects than its ever done before? This includes for core functions like sewerage, storm water and roading, but also includes upgrades and maintenance of facilities, along with growth projects - and comes during a period where rate increases have been contained to the lowest level for some years. I hope you did know that, because we are immensely proud of the efficiencies we're achieving. I'm nervous about even making such a statement because I appreciate the pressure and challenges our ratepayers are

under, but hope that it will motivate you to take one last look at this year's Long Term Plan (consultation closes 11th May). Council is promoting a number of key direction changes as we continue to search for more efficiencies and fairer ways to allocate costs. A prime example is the new direction Council is taking with our investments. For the first time, you will be able to see tangible results with \$833,000 of investment returns being used to offset every rate demand by \$80 (via the UAGC that everyone pays). We are also questioning the way community



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## dog fees and registrations



Council will be posting out its dog registration forms in June/July and you may notice a couple of changes. In 2016, Council updated its Dog Control Policy and Bylaw following public consultation. This changed the way we classify dogs so we now have 'working' and 'non-working' rather than 'urban' and 'rural' categories. This has also affected dog registration fees, which will change from July this year. These are now based on whether your dog is working or non-working, regardless of where you live. A specific definition exists for 'working'

dogs. Remember, you can now pay your dog registration fees online by visiting [www.cluthadc.govt.nz](http://www.cluthadc.govt.nz). Once you've paid online, there is no need to send in your form - your tags will be posted out to you. We're asking all people that did pay directly into Council's bank account to use this new online service instead. Just a final reminder that all dogs three months or older must be registered, and if you purchase or adopt a dog, please make sure it's registered. Any questions just give us a call on 0800 801 350.

changes to dog registrations coming up...

# this month

From the Mayor cont.

facilities are paid for. This stems from the overarching principle that everyone in the district has the ability to use facilities like pools, parks and halls, and everyone has an affinity to at least one of the seven proposed "communities of interest" zones. We acknowledge this is not an exact science, but are asking if it's more fair than the current system - your assistance in getting this right would be appreciated. I cannot finish without bringing attention to two opportunities that currently present themselves. Firstly, we are well through Milton/Waihola's community plans and the more you study this part of our district,

the more obvious its natural advantages and wealth of potential becomes. From flat land for industry and the potential to grow, to vehicle movements on that part of SH1, there is so much going for the Bruce ward. But, on the flip side many components that contribute to Milton's appearance and vitality need urgent attention. It's going to take more than a slick of paint and some new shrubs down the main street to provide the "circuit breaker" required, and I hope the locals are ready to show faith in the town that they love and provide the necessary support. Secondly, there is the government's \$3 billion Provincial Growth Fund.

Which, after a decade of rural suffocation (as New Zealand fixated on Auckland) has appeared like the cavalry over the horizon in the nick of time. Our district deserves a break, as a Council it's been lonely in recent times as we led the charge in promoting projects that will change the economic trajectory of the region. This fund has a genuine ability to turbo-boost Otago and provide the catalyst for immensely positive change. It's exciting, fast moving, and a chance we must grab with both hands, so watch this space!  
Onwards and upwards.  
**Bryan Cadogan - Mayor.**

## important notices

**PAYING RATES:**  
A reminder to all ratepayers who pay their rates online to make sure you are using your valuation number as a reference. Our system changed in July last year and the old billing numbers no longer exist. So, if you haven't updated your online banking details yet can you please make sure you do so. Your valuation number can be found on your rates bill and if you have any questions just give us a ring on 0800 801 350.

**LIVINGSTONIA PARK:**  
Clutha District Council wants to remind Taieri Mouth residents and visitors that motorbikes, trail bikes, rally bikes and the like are not to be used at Livingstonia Park. There is signage at the park which makes this clear. Unfortunately over the Christmas period Council received a number of complaints about noisy bikes being used at the park, which also pose a safety risk to pedestrians and other users. Thanks everyone for your co-operation and making sure everyone can enjoy this green space.

**STAYING INFORMED**  
Did you know you can receive news about Council straight to your inbox? Just sign up for our online e-newsletter, which comes out after every Council meeting. So, you'll receive it every six weeks and includes the latest decisions and other timely information from Council. You can also sign up to receive emails about any important water notices. Just go to [www.cluthadc.govt.nz/online/newsletters](http://www.cluthadc.govt.nz/online/newsletters) and select the water supplies you want to know about. It's very easy! Another easy way to stay up to date is to follow us on Facebook. A big thanks to all our current followers who already help spread civil defence messages, lost dog notices and much more.

## spotlight on / any number is...

# “too many”



### Are you on board?

We're part of the Southern Road Safety Influencing Group that believes roads can be safer for our community. So, we've teamed up with local police, St John and Fire Emergency NZ to launch *Any number is too many*.

This campaign asks communities in Otago and Southland to think about what is happening on roads and how we can solve it together. We want to get the Clutha community thinking and

talking about what we could do to make a difference and recognise that road deaths are preventable. Change needs to happen because it's our people who are affected by crashes. There's lots of opportunities

to get involved, visit the website [anynumberis.toomany.org](http://anynumberis.toomany.org) or like the Facebook page called Any number is too many. After all, the road toll isn't just a number, it's actual lives lost.



## What you can find at your local service centre/library...

Did you know everything you can do at your combined handy local library/service centres in Milton, Lawrence, Tapanui and Owaka?

Services include:

- paying rates
- registering your dog
- issuing books
- lodging service requests
- free internet and wifi
- general Council queries
- Council forms
- Photocopying, scanning and laminating
- receipting all Council payments
- access to ancestry.com
- and more!

Lastly a special mention of Fluffy, who was a frequent visitor at the Milton Library.

She passed away recently, after seeing out her twilight years with one of Council's staff members who adopted her from the pound. Fluffy was a bit of a favourite with some visitors to the Milton Library and could often be found in the children's section having books read to her by some of our eager young visitors. She's pictured here with Isobel and Frances Taylor.

# LTP last chance

This is your last chance to have your say on the 2018 Long Term Plan (LTP).

### Feedback closes 11 May.

We've identified a few key issues we really want to hear from you about. These are rating changes for community facilities, ramping up services at Mt Cooee landfill, seal extensions on urban gravel roads and Milton's main street. We'd also love to hear from you about other issues like supporting the Clutha Gold cycle trail. This LTP sets the district's direction for the next decade and basically covers

everything Council does and how it is paid for. The aim is to always find the right balance between investing in the future and providing services to the level expected by you, while keeping rates fair and affordable. Consultation has been running since April and your feedback is key! So, please have a look at the consultation document and take a few minutes to provide feedback. You can do this online at [www.cluthadc.govt.nz](http://www.cluthadc.govt.nz) or by using the hard-copy submission form found at the back of the consultation document.



## Public Health Notice

Some plumbing fittings have the potential to allow minute traces of metals to accumulate in water left standing in the fittings for several hours. Although the risk is small, the Ministry of Health recommends flushing a cup of water from your drinking tap each morning to remove any metals that may have dissolved from the fitting. This simple precaution is recommended for all households, including public and private supplies.

## Service Requests

If you need to report any problems with Council services, for example road damage or water leaks, it's easy to get in touch with us. Just ring 0800 801 350 or 03 419 0200 and lodge a service request or visit the "Contact Us" section on our website: [www.cluthadc.govt.nz](http://www.cluthadc.govt.nz)

Please make sure you know your address when you ring to lodge a service request or lodge one online, our new system means we have to provide a physical address - which will include your rapid number if you live rurally.



Former Owaka Lions Club President Andrew Keen who managed the project and club secretary Keith McNab with the new playground sign.

## playground upgrade...

Owaka children can now burn off their energy on some new equipment after a makeover of the town's playground. It officially opened on 14 March with a teddy bears picnic and a great turnout of people. The Owaka Lions club drove the upgrade project to celebrate 100 years of Lions International and Owaka township's 150th anniversary. The Lions raised \$50,000 to complete the upgrade with Clutha District Council contributing \$7,000 from the Parks and Reserves budget for new swings. Lions members then spent more than 150 volunteer hours installing equipment under the guidance of local builder Wayne Hollows.

## spotlight on / CREATIVE COMMUNITIES



Want to know more about the Creative Communities Scheme? Check out the funding schemes page on our website: [www.cluthadc.govt.nz](http://www.cluthadc.govt.nz)

Check out the new mural at KidzWay Early Learning Centre in Tapanui. The project was funded by Clutha District Council's Creative Communities Scheme and led by Members of the West Otago Art Group with guidance from Wayne Edgerton. The mural represents their local community and was finished in time for the organisation's 10th birthday. Head teacher Denise Sanne said it was a thrill to see the mural finished and transforming what was a plain concrete wall.

Pictured above: Kidzway Early Learning Centre children with with head teacher Denise Sanne and members of the West Otago Art Group.