



# Council News

a newsletter from the Clutha District Council

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May 2021

[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



Has there ever been a time in local government where the challenges and the possibilities have been so great?

These are the most extraordinary times I have ever seen.

Democracy, as we know it is about to change forever. Huge reforms are underway regarding ownership and governance of the Three Waters and the public, in unison with

councils as owners of billions of dollars of assets, have a right to genuine engagement and most importantly - the critical facts. Presently we are woefully short on both counts. To date, the Three Waters Reform discussions have been the most frustrating and camouflaged process I have ever seen. We have been fed droplets of information along the way, but at time of writing this column we are woefully short on detail, with the only rock solid detail to date being that change is inevitable.

There is the option to opt out, and go it alone, but the Government has dictated that the starting point is that all councils are 'in' the process that establishes centralised water delivery entities (possibly 4 or 5 for NZ). To date it has been impossible to determine any councils' stance. We just have not been given the information required for effective due diligence. But the one thing that is clear is that this process is moving at a ridiculously fast pace and if we are going to have an effective input we are going to have to act fast.

So please, in the near future when we finally get a clear picture of what these water reforms entail, we need wide public awareness and engagement. So please watch this space and hold on tight because it could be a bumpy ride.

Running in tandem with the proposed Three Waters upheaval has been our Long Term Plan (LTP) process. I am immensely proud of our Councils' achievements to date with regards to the LTP process. Not only have we, in tandem with our communities, articulated an extremely positive and forward thinking document, we have also met our social responsibility of maintaining our 4% rates cap - no small achievement when you look around the country.

A couple of highlights of note has been the continued focus on core infrastructural projects, with an over doubling of spend to more than 270 million dollars budgeted over the next 10 years, and a continued determination to support our communities to grow and prosper, leveraging off all the amazing groups and individuals that are assisting council to drive much needed projects as we gain momentum on recouping a generation of population decline.

The LTP process has been exhaustive, with so many opportunities to engage with you all, and I sincerely thank everyone that got involved for the positivity and passion you brought to the table. Council is so fortunate to have your assistance, and we promise to take heed of all comments as we complete the task of reflecting the consensus views of our district.

Busy and interesting times but as always onwards and upwards.

# Report a road problem

With a total network of 2,900 km, the Clutha District has the third largest local roading network in New Zealand. Of that 830 km is sealed and 2,050 is unsealed. Rural roads make up 95% of the total network. We also have 360 bridges.

With such a large network we need your help to inform us of any problems on our roads whether it be potholes or grading issues to overhanging trees.

You can report a problem via our online forms at [www.cluthadc.govt.nz](http://www.cluthadc.govt.nz), on Antenno or phone us on **0800 801 350**.

Council has a Minor Accident Report Form that lets us know when, where and how the minor accident happened so we can investigate the

condition of the road, and make sure it is safe for everyone to travel on.

This form is for tourists to fill in and for locals, including those friendly locals that have helped out at minor incidents by pulling a car out of a ditch and helping someone get back on the road.

Please remember if we don't know an accident has happened then we don't know to investigate the road condition, and repair if needed.

This form is for our information only and is also available online or can be requested at any of our Council Offices and Service Centres.



## Report a problem

**Antenno** makes it easy to report any problem with Council services directly to Council.

However, for **URGENT** issues ring us on **0800 801 350**

[www.cluthadc.govt.nz](http://www.cluthadc.govt.nz)

## New pool safety rules at Balclutha and Milton pools



To keep everyone safe at the Balclutha and Milton pools we have rules about the supervision of children.

Council has introduced new caregiver ratio rules.

This means that one caregiver can supervise (actively) no more than three aged under 5's or no more than four aged under 8's at a time.

This applies to the Clutha District Council pools in Balclutha and Milton.

Children under the age of five need to be kept within arm's reach and actively supervised by a caregiver 16 years or older.

All children under the age of eight need to be actively supervised by a caregiver 16 years or older.

This means you are watching your child/children at all times (not the occasional glance while you read, text or relax) and are able to provide immediate assistance.





# “New rules

*What can I put in my yellow lidded recycling bin?*



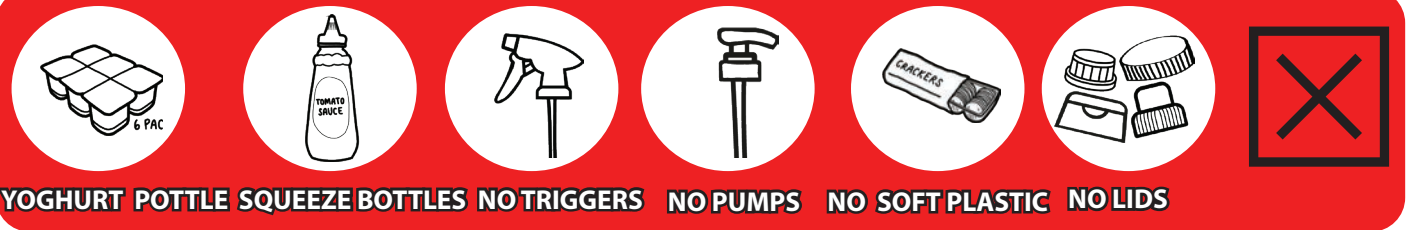
**THE PLASTICS THAT CAN BE RECYCLED HAVE CHANGED, ONLY PLASTICS 1, 2 AND 5 ARE NOW ACCEPTED, ALONG WITH CLEAN PAPER, CARDBOARD, AND STEEL AND ALUMINIUM CANS.**

They must be clean and come from your Kitchen, Bathroom or Laundry

*Here are some common examples, but always check the number!*



## WHAT PLASTICS CAN'T GO IN:



**YOGHURT POTTLE SQUEEZE BOTTLES NO TRIGGERS NO PUMPS NO SOFT PLASTIC NO LIDS**

**PLEASE BE A GOOD RECYCLER, IF IN DOUBT LEAVE IT OUT!**

## Paying by cheque to be phased out by June 2021

We will no longer be able to accept payments by cheque from 25 June 2021.

Several banks, including BNZ and Westpac, have indicated they will be discontinuing cheque usage in 2021.

We encourage you to start considering other ways to pay your Council accounts.

We understand that some of our customers currently pay by cheque and we want to give these people plenty of notice to adapt to new ways of paying their rates and other Council payments.

Alternative ways to pay include:

- Direct Debit
- Direct Credit
- Internet Banking
- Eftpos
- Cash
- Telephone Banking

If you need help with sorting out alternative methods of payment call Council on **0800 801 350** or your bank.



# Youth Development Fund

Helping our young people in the Clutha District achieve!

Financial support is available to youth in the district who are looking to pursue personal development and leadership skills.

The Clutha District Youth Development Fund has been set up to ensure our youth can make the most of every opportunity available to them, by helping to remove the barrier of financial limitations.

\$2000 is available annually and is distributed by the Clutha Youth Council.

However, this year the Youth Council have \$4000 to distribute as no funding was distributed in 2020 due to COVID-19 limitations.

The number of recipients and amounts awarded to each individual is flexible depending on the applications received.

The process involves young people submitting a letter or story (in writing or video) about why they require funding.

The Youth Council will decide on a shortlist of applicants who will then be interviewed by a panel of youth councillors, a councillor and staff.

Examples of how this funding has supported other youth include funding assistance to attend Outward Bound and other leadership courses.

To be eligible to apply you will need to be:

- ✓ A resident of the Clutha District?
- ✓ Aged between 12 and 24?
- ✓ An individual or part of a group that needs money to help you



make an event, trip, project, course, training opportunity etc happen?

- ✓ Prepared to come and talk and tell us?

The project/activity should not have started before 1 July 2021.

**For more details and an application form visit**

**[www.cluthadc.govt.nz](http://www.cluthadc.govt.nz) or phone 0800 801 350.**

**Applications close:  
Friday 28 May 2021**

## Get the skills you need to go digital

From taking your everyday banking digital to learning how to stay safe online, we've got you covered.



## Tuapeka Bursary

The Tuapeka County Bursary Trustees met on 3 March 2021 and allocated the 2021 bursary as follows:

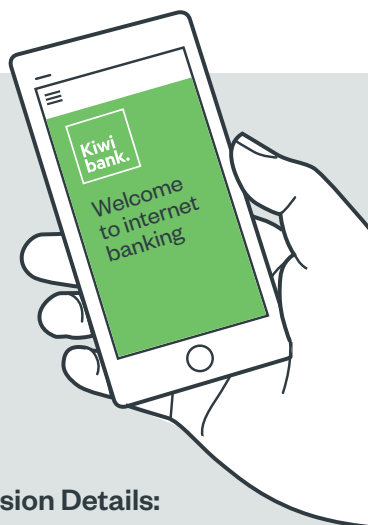
- Emma Buchan (Roxburgh) \$1,000.
- Alex Darling (Ettrick) \$1,000.
- Ella-Rose Lawrence (Roxburgh) \$1,000.

This bursary fund is available to students who reside in the former Tuapeka County and Roxburgh, Tapanui and Lawrence Borough areas and is designed to assist them in their attendance at tertiary education institutes.



### Stepping UP Digital Banking Workshops

Come along to our Workshop. You don't need to be a Kiwibank customer to register. Just visit your local Stepping UP location.



#### Partner Details:

##### Clutha District Libraries

Debbie Duncan - Library/Service Centre Manager

Dalene Breytenbach - Digital Programmes Coordinator

Phone: 03 418 1677

#### Session Details:

27 Apr - 07 May 2021 (various locations)

10am-12noon and 1pm-3pm

For more information visit:

[www.steppingup.nz/dora](http://www.steppingup.nz/dora)

## 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.**