



Council News

a newsletter from the Clutha District Council



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August 2019 | www.cluthadc.govt.nz | 0800 801 350 | help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz

thinking of standing for office?

Have you ever thought about running for Council or either the West Otago or Lawrence Tuapeka community boards? The next local body election will be held on Saturday 12 October 2019. Clutha District Council's Chief Executive Steve Hill encourages anyone who wants to make a difference in the local community to stand.

Anyone over the age of 18 can stand for election as long as you are a New Zealand citizen and are enrolled on the electoral roll. Nominations open July 19 and you have till August 16 at midday to hand in your nomination. For more information on standing for office, visit Council's website www.cluthadc.govt.nz/Your Council/Elections to read the candidate handbook.



[Read More](#) →

no overdue fees for children



The Clutha District Libraries will no longer charge overdue fees for material on loan to children. This has been done to ensure that all children in Clutha have real access to free books from the library. One of the key roles of a public library is to support reading and literacy in children and encourage them to use the library. However we know that many families in our communities cannot afford to pay overdue fees on library books and other materials.

The result is barriers to use - because families either stop using the library – or the fear of fines keeps them out of libraries. So the very children whom we need to help most with free access to books and language miss out. Reading and literacy has been shown to be adversely affected by low income. In particular, children from low income backgrounds are often disadvantaged when it comes to exposure to reading and language.

[Read More](#) →

find out about what's involved in standing for council

this month

elections continued...

Positions

During 2018, Clutha District Council undertook a representation arrangements review (a review of wards, community boards, boundaries, number of elected members etc). The final proposal, confirmed by the Local Government Commission on 9 April 2019, retains the existing number of councillors, wards, community board members and community boards but with some slightly modified ward and community board boundaries. Elections are required for the following positions:

Mayor (elected 'at large')

Councillors (14)

- Balclutha Ward (4)
- Bruce Ward (3)
- Catlins Ward (1)
- Clinton Ward (1)
- Clutha Valley Ward (1)
- Kaitangata-Matau Ward (1)
- Lawrence-Tuapeka Ward (1)
- West Otago Ward (2)

Community Board Members (12)

- Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board (6)
- West Otago Community Board (6)

Nomination papers will be available Friday 19 July 2019 and close at noon on Friday 16 August 2019 from:

Council's Main Office, 1 Rosebank Terrace, Balclutha

Catlins Information Centre/Owaka Service Centre, 10 Campbell Street, Owaka

Lawrence Service Centre, 5 Peel Street, Lawrence

Milton Service Centre, 124-126 Union Street, Milton

Tapanui Service Centre/Information Centre, 1 Suffolk Street, Tapanui

by accessing www.cluthadc.govt.nz

by telephoning the electoral office on 0800 922 822.

To be eligible to stand for election, a candidate will need to be nominated by two electors whose names appear on the electoral roll within the respective area that a candidate is standing for.

Electoral roll

All parliamentary electors, including those on the Māori Electoral Roll are automatically enrolled on the Resident Roll, at the address where they live.

Any alterations to the Resident Roll (e.g change of address details, including new postal addresses) should be made by:

- Going into any PostShop
- Freephoning 0800 36 76 56
- Visiting vote.nz

VOTE
2019
LOCAL ELECTIONS

Electoral system

The first past the post (FPP) electoral system will be used for all elections except for the Southern District Health Board which will use the single transferable voting (STV) electoral system.

Voting period

Voting documents will be sent to all eligible electors, by post, from **Friday 20 September 2019**.

The voting period is three weeks (**Friday 20 September 2019 to noon Saturday 12 October 2019**). Electors may post their completed voting documents back to the electoral officer using the orange pre-paid envelope sent with their voting document. Completed voting documents can also be hand-delivered to all Council offices from Friday 20 September 2019 to noon Saturday 12 October 2019. Special votes will also be available during the voting period at all Council offices. To be counted, all completed voting documents must be in the hands of the electoral officer or an electoral official by **noon Saturday 12 October 2019**.

Progress results will be known early afternoon on Saturday 12 October 2019, and preliminary results will be known early on Sunday morning 13 October 2019. These will be accessible on Council's website: www.cluthadc.govt.nz

Contact us
For further information regarding this election, please contact the electoral office:

Key Dates

- **19 July - Nominations open**
- **16 August - Nominations close at midday**
- **20 September - Voting opens.**
- **12 October - Voting closes at midday**
- **17 October - Official result released**

balclutha pool

The Balclutha Centennial Swimming Pool will be closed for its annual maintenance shutdown.

Closed: Monday 22 July
Reopening: Monday 12 August at 6am.

This work allows the pool to operate with fewer disruptions during the year. So thank you for your patience during this time.

overdue fees continued...

The result is an enormous disparity in their learned language.

The word gap by the age of 3 years, between children from the lowest income families, to those from high income then follows them into school, leads to poor reading skills and lack of career success.

So in Clutha we are doing our bit to help and from the 1st July 2019 the overdue fees for children officially ceased and all accrued charges will be waived.

Things to check before you pay online...



- We can only process Clutha District Council payments. So please check you are paying the right rates payment to the correct council.
- Please check that you have the reference details correct. For a rates reference put down your valuation number.
- If you are paying a Council Sundry Invoice, change the reference to your Customer ID and/or invoice number.
- When paying your Water Billing online the reference is your valuation number.

For more information just give us a call on 0800 801 350 or email us at: help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz



Notice to all dog owners

Are you registered yet?



All dogs should have been registered by the end of **July**. It's important to register dogs over three-months-old as otherwise you may be issued with an **infringement notice**. Remember, you can now also register your dog and pay online at: **<http://onlineservices.cluthadc.govt.nz>**. If you haven't done so yet, please register your dog **immediately**.

spotlight on / libraries

“ press reader



You can now read (or listen to) magazines and newspapers either at the library or from your own device thanks to a new service offered by Clutha Libraries called Press Reader.

This was introduced to extend the access to NZ and international newspapers and magazines to all of our Clutha community.

It is the most cost effective way for us to offer the range of topics, countries and languages covered.

Introduced in May people from all over the District are really enthusiastic about this library service.

One person was even reading their daily newspaper at 3am! And it is all ages!

The APP option is also proving very popular.

In the first 8 weeks from late April to late June there were:

- At least 1,008 users

- 6,383 sessions
- 12,528 articles read
- 4,567 issues read (1,111 magazines, [869 print magazine loans during the same period] and 3,456 newspapers)
- 570 different titles (329 magazines and 241 newspapers)

Woman's Day is the most popular magazine – but there is a strong following for the ODT, Southland Times, Washington Post, The Dominion Post, The Press, The Nelson Mail and a lot of people exploring different titles.

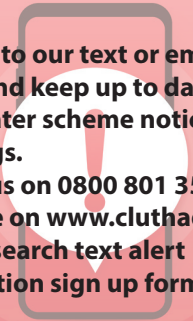
There are still a lot more people out there yet to discover this great resource.

Free to all library members. Call in and talk to your local library staff to learn how to join up.

Library membership is available for free to all Clutha District residents (ID and proof of address is required).

Water text alerts

Sign up to our text or email alerts and keep up to date with rural water scheme notices and warnings. Phone us on 0800 801 350 or do it online on www.cluthadc.govt.nz and search text alert notification sign up form.



fees and charges

The 2019-20 Annual Plan and the Water and Waste bylaws have now been adopted and the fees and charges for the new financial year are in place. Council's fees and charges can be found on our website: [www.cluthadc.govt.nz/fees and charges](http://www.cluthadc.govt.nz/fees-and-charges)

dogs & sportsfields

With lots of winter sport and sports tournaments happening around the district, Council is reminding people that dogs are not allowed on sportsfields. There is a \$300 fine for non-compliance and remember to always pick up after your dogs.

We farewell Peter Ross from his role as Senior Project Engineer in the Capital Delivery team. Peter's association with Council stretches through 24 years, including his 16+ years as an employee and as a consultant through Serdel and Fulton Hogan.

Rachel Askew has decided not to return to her Communications Coordinator job when her parental leave ended.

Rachel started at Council nearly five years ago, originally in the split role of Communications and the Mayor's EA before her job evolved solely to Communications Coordinator.

Diane Byars who has temporarily filled the role during Rachel's leave is also finishing at the end of her fixed term contract.

It's also farewell to two of our pool Lifeguards, Louise Beresford who joined the swimming pool team in 2017 and Natasha Edwards. Natasha first joined Council in 2008 as a seasonal Lifeguard at

the old Council operated swimming pool at Lawrence and later became a full time Lifeguard at the Balclutha Centennial Pool. Sanjeewa Ranasinghe, Council's Business Process Analyst on a fixed term contract has also finished to take up a position in Dunedin. The various contributions made by these people is gratefully acknowledged.

On the welcome front, Lorena Martins is Council's new IT Application/Data Analyst. We also welcome Lamane Holgate who is our new cleaner at the Lawrence Service Centre.

We have two new faces to our Regulatory and Planning team.

Leonie Mullions joins Council as Senior Planner and Nerilee Hakkaart has come on board in a two year fixed term Planner role. We also introduce our new Clutha District Youth Worker Margaret Cardno.

Margaret is employed by Malcam Charitable Trust who in turn are contracted



Pictured: Clutha District's new Youth Worker Margaret Cardno.

to the Clutha District Council to deliver the Clutha District Youth Development Programme.

In her role Margaret is providing valuable team building facilitation for the Clutha District Youth and is supporting them with the Methamphetamine Awareness Campaign (MAC).

Key work in and connection with the district secondary schools is underway as is the initiation of partnerships for youth with Work & Income and PACT.

spotlight on / creative communities...

“funding



Do you have a project in mind?

Applications are now open for the first of two rounds of Creative Communities Funding for the 2019-20 year.

- Round 1 closes on 30 August 2019
- Round 2 closes on 1 March 2020

To meet the criteria for this funding your project must:

- Provide opportunities to engage with and increase participation in local arts activities.
- Support the diverse artistic traditions of our local communities.

- Enable young people (under 18 years) to engage with and participate in the arts.

The application guide and additional information can be found on the Funding Schemes page of our website. Council's website: www.cluthadc.govt.nz

Please contact our Corporate Administrator Karen Piercy with any questions on 03 419 0261. It's great to have local groups take full advantage of this funding opportunity.

minor accident form

Did you know the Clutha District Council has a minor road accident report form available? When you complete the form it tells us 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 and locals to fill in, including those 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 surface, and repair if needed.

This is for our information only. You can get a copy of this form at any of our service centres or online at www.cluthadc.govt.nz. Simply fill out the form, hand it back in at the service centre or email to help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz

Do remember that If you are involved in a crash while driving, and you are not badly injured, the first thing you must do is stop and check to see if anyone is hurt and provide assistance and inform the Police.