



Council News

a newsletter from the Clutha District Council

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| www.cluthadc.govt.nz

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Care about Clutha? Stand in the 2022 local government elections

Care about Clutha District and want to help shape the district's future?

The decisions made by the Mayor, Councillors and Community Boards make a difference to the day to day lives of residents.

Elected members help to decide the priorities for Clutha District, making decisions for our communities and the district's future.

Local elections are coming up, so it's time to consider – will you stand to represent the Clutha District?

If you want to talk to someone about what's involved, you can arrange a confidential online meeting or phone call with the Clutha District Council's electoral officer by calling 0800 922 822.

Find out more at: cluthadc.govt.nz/elections

Are you enrolled?

To be able to vote please ensure that you are on the Electoral Roll.

If you reside in one council district, you may also be able to vote in another, if you're a ratepayer there.

The Ratepayer Electoral Roll closes on 12 August. After this date you can still enrol but you will need to cast a special vote.

Find out if you are on the electoral roll at www.vote.nz



Key dates

- 15 July - Nominations open
- 12 August - Nominations close at midday
- 16 September - Voting opens
- 8 October - Voting closes at midday
- 13 October - Official result released

How does local government work in Clutha District?

Councils are made up of members of the public, who are elected every three years.

Elected members (the mayor, councillors and community boards) play a varied role in what they do for the district.

The Clutha District Council consists of the Mayor and 14 Councillors. The Council is responsible for governance of the district and setting future direction.

Councillors represent eight wards, with a set number of representatives for each area: Balclutha, Bruce, Catlins, Clinton, Clutha Valley, Kaitangata-Matau Lawrence-Tuapeka, West Otago.

The two community boards, Lawrence/Tuapeka Community Board and West Otago Community Board, each have six members and Councillor representation. Their role is to provide advice to the Council on matters affecting their communities and to advocate for their communities.

Who can stand as a candidate?

You do not need any formal qualifications. Elected members come from all walks of life and generally have a desire to serve their community.

You must be a New Zealand citizen and be a parliamentary elector (over 18). There's more information and criteria on the Council website.

What do the mayor and councillors do?

The mayor leads the Council's governing body. The Mayor has a lot of responsibilities. Requirements of the role include reading agendas, preparing for meetings, engaging with the public, responding to media and attending hearings and public events.

Responsibilities include promoting a vision and providing leadership for the district, leading development of council plans, policies and budgets and ensuring effective engagement between the Council and residents.

What do councillors do?

Council meets every six weeks and Councillors may be representatives on Council committees.

As well as attending meetings, the role requires Councillors to read agendas, prepare for meetings, engage with the public, and attend hearings and public events.

Among their responsibilities, Councillors and the Mayor:

- Participate in strategic and long-term planning.
- Help decide how money is spent and manage assets.
- Decide how to meet current and future needs for infrastructure, services and regulations.
- Help to develop and review policies and bylaws.
- Advocate on a range of issues.
- Monitor performance of the council organisation.

What do community boards do?

Clutha's community boards meet every six weeks. As well as attending meetings, the role requires board members to read agendas, prepare for meetings, engage with the public and attend public events.

The key responsibilities of the board include:

- Representing and advocating for the interests of their community.
- Considering and reporting on matters referred by Council, as well as any issues of interest or concern to the board.
- Making an annual submission to Council on expenditure.
- Maintaining an overview of local services provided by Council.
- Undertaking any responsibilities delegated by Council.

Want to know more? Visit cluthadc.govt.nz/elections

Notice to all dog owners



Are you registered?

All dogs should have been registered by the end of July.

All dogs over 3 months-old must be registered by their owner every year.

Remember, you can register your dog and pay online at: **cluthadc.govt.nz/do-it-online/dog-registrations** If you haven't done so yet, please register your dog **immediately.**



The Balclutha Pool is closed from Monday, 25 July and is due to reopen on Monday, 15 August.

This is to allow Council to do annual maintenance work and spring cleaning.

We look forward to seeing you when the pool reopens!

Community heroes

The dedication and commitment to volunteer work in the Clutha District was formally acknowledged by the Mayor and Councillors at the 2022 Clutha District Community Awards held at the Rosebank Lodge recently.

Clutha District Council Mayor Bryan Cadogan said it was a privilege to honour the recipients for their outstanding community service to Clutha.

The awards are an annual event recognising groups, an individual, and a year 13 student in the community who are doing great volunteer work for the Clutha District.



Recreation and Leisure and Supreme Winner - the Clutha Parks Trust (above) was recognised for their efforts in partnering with Council and stepping up to the challenge of a seven phase significant redevelopment of Naish Park and Centennial Grounds. This was signalled as a community need in both the Our Place Balclutha Community Plan and the Balclutha Reserve Management Plan consultation process.



Individual award winner - Dale Wyber
Dale was recognised for her tireless commitment and services to the Milton Bruce Community. Dale works hard behind the scenes. She's on several committees, volunteers for countless different clubs and organisations and is responsible for being the driving force behind the set up and development of the Tokomairiro Community Hub and Project Bruce.



Individual award - Murray Paterson.
Murray was recognised for his efforts and service in leading the work done with the Lawrence to Waihola Gold Trail. A farmer from Lawrence, he has been dedicated to the development of the Clutha Gold Cycle Trail since its inception in 2006.



Health and Wellbeing group award winners - Clutha Budget Advisory Support
Clutha Budget Advisory Service was recognised for its partnership with KiwiHarvest Community Foodshare for the service to increase food security in Balclutha and surrounding areas by sharing excess food with anyone who needs it.



Health and Wellbeing group award winners - Blessed Box Charitable Trust
Blessed Box won this award for their initiative to provide support and nourishment to Clutha District mothers and families following the birth of their baby.

[Read More →](#)

Inspired to volunteer?

There are a number of community plan projects on the go throughout the Clutha District, being run by volunteers as part of the Our Place community plans, with support from Council.

Learn more about these projects on Council's website and see if there's something you want be part of.



Fraser McAtamney - Youth Spirit Award high calibre.

Fraser's contribution to his school is to the forefront as deputy head boy of South Otago High School organising and leading many student activities.

The overall Youth Spirit Award was won by Mari Chacapna who could not attend. Mari's contribution to her school and local community is to be truly admired. Mari is very active a range of activities at school and is a member of the South Otago Theatrical Society.

Improvements on the way for Milton and Balclutha

A major upgrade of public toilets in Milton and Balclutha's main streets will also result in better access and a fresh look and feel.

New destination toilet blocks are being added in Milton and Balclutha.

Clutha District Mayor Bryan Cadogan said the new toilet blocks will be beneficial for both towns.

"As well as being a useful convenience for locals, they'll give motorists another reason to stop when passing through and with both toilets located in the heart of each town, there's a greater chance people may also spend time and money visiting businesses in the area."

Both facilities will be located near to the existing toilet sites,

Gray Street in Milton and Clyde Street in Balclutha.

The new facilities are modern, safe and easily accessible.

The Balclutha site will also offer better pedestrian access to Clyde Street.

New landscaping and paving improvements are planned for Milton as part of the main street upgrade.

The new facilities cost around \$660,00 in Milton and \$624,000 in Balclutha (excl GST).

Part of this has been covered by a \$420,000 grant from Government.

The old toilet block in Milton will be demolished and Balclutha's temporary toilets will be relocated.



The concept design for Balclutha Toilet. Note that the landscaping may be different.

Rates Rebate

If your household is on a low income, you might be eligible for subsidised rates through the rates rebate scheme.

The rates rebate scheme provides assistance for ratepayers with low incomes.

This year the government increased the income threshold and more people are now eligible for the rebate.

Unsure if you're eligible? Visit Council's website cluthadc.govt.nz/rates-and-property or call Bronwyn at Clutha District Council on 03 419 0260.

Community heroes continued...



Individual award - Simon Cleverley

Simon was recognised for his outstanding fundraising efforts to support families with sick children and his overall services to the South Otago community. He's always willing to lend a hand and help the community. Simon is a very generous businessman in many ventures in the community.



Individual award - Arthur White

Arthur White's family accepted this posthumous award, recognising Arthur's more than 30 years' service to youth. Arthur and his wife Barbara hosted nearly 4000 young people from the Clutha District on their yacht, Elwing, sailing around Stewart Island.



Individual award - Francis Parker

Francis was recognised for his exceptional fundraising efforts to support families with sick children and services to South Otago rugby and cricket. As well as maintaining an admirable cricket and rugby career, Francis has helped keep both sports alive in the district.



Individual award winner - Nathan Baldwin

Nathan Baldwin was recognised for his unwavering support and service to the Kaitangata community, in particular his support of the Kaitangata Black Gold BMX Club.