



Rosebank Industrial Park 'all go'



It's been 'all go' at the Rosebank Industrial Park with significant progress being made in recent months. Ongoing chattels and goods are being sold through the Council's website and a successful open day was held at the site in September, which included a garage sale and interest from parties in potential development opportunities. Expressions of interest have been sought for the demolition of some of the structures at the site. A short term

contract has also been completed for use of part of the site. MWH have been contracted to provide development planning advice. Geotechnical and building structure studies have been completed and the next steps include further defining the concept plan for the site. Council is appreciative of the positive feedback the project has received and the amount of interest in it so far. As we've said before the purchase of this eight hectare site is in keeping with Council's new economic development strategy, which set us the task of being more proactive about promoting growth and business investment in the Clutha District. If you're keen to know more about the project or may be interested in being part of the park, then check out Council's website for contact details and the latest information.

From the Mayor

Bryan Cadogan
Mayor,
Clutha District



With Christmas catapulting towards us it seems like an opportune time to consider the highlights for Council during 2015. So much focus was placed on this year's Long Term Plan, and it is from this direction setting document that many highlights have stemmed. For example, considering selling our forestry assets, purchasing of the Rosebank Industrial Park, starting the process of changes to our District plan to facilitate strategic growth in Milton and Balclutha, developing a subdivision in North Balclutha and our desire to facilitate growth and stimulate the local economy. All of this must be, at worst, on a rates neutral basis. No easy task but to date we are on target to achieve this. So, why is Council placing such an emphasis on growth, obviously from a rating perspective to contain costs we need critical mass, and while in recent years there have been a number of upgrades to our district's facilities that place us in a good position to attract and retain population,

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Otago Mayors prepare for ShakeOut

CLUTHA GETS EARTHQUAKE READY

'Drop, Cover and Hold' has been one of the key messages from Clutha District Council in recent months with emergency management staff encouraging residents to be prepared for future earthquakes. A safety training day called Clutha Clued Up Kids was held for the first time and involved 10 and 11 year old pupils from 19 schools taking part in a range of practical safety lessons. Emergency

Management Officer Brendon Smith (pictured to the right) was there teaching kids how to drop, cover and hold. He said it was heartening to see that all of the 220 pupils he spoke to were already familiar with the message. In October, Council staff took part in the national earthquake drill, the New Zealand ShakeOut. People and organisations throughout the

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Where Do I Fit? - tool for food businesses

Do you run a cafe or restaurant? Do you own a dairy or sell produce to a shop or supermarket? If your business involves selling or providing food in any form, then you need to find out what the new food regulations mean for you.

The Ministry for Primary Industries has developed a new tool, called 'Where Do I Fit?' to help make it easier for people to find out how the Food Act 2014 applies to them.

It's available on the Ministry for Primary Industries' website or you can find it through the "Quick Links" on the Council's website www.cluthadc.govt.nz.

The new Food Act comes into force on 1 March 2016, but existing businesses will be given time to transition to the new rules during a three-year period that runs from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2019.

Food Safety Minister Jo Goodhew said in September that there will be different rules for different businesses, depending on what they make or sell, and to who. So, the tool has been designed to help the 45,000 food businesses in NZ navigate these new requirements.



Author and musician Craig Smith, also known as 'The Wonky Donkey' main delighted crowds in Tapanui and Milton during September. He's written a new book titled 'Eating' that is accompanied by a CD, with Craig playing the instruments and singing the words of the story. Check out upcoming events on the new Facebook page Clutha District Libraries.

Clutha Country Christmas Celebration...

The Santa Parade is back! Saturday 5 December 1-1.30pm, Clyde Street, Balclutha. The Xmas Market will also be taking place on 5 December from 10am - 2pm. Check out www.cluthacountry.co.nz or contact Jean Proctor 0800 801 350 to take part or find out more. The Can Cruise through Balclutha, Hillend, Clydevale and Clinton will be running from 10am-12.30pm that same day collecting food items for the Salvation Army, to take part contact Jackie Greenall on 418 7348. And don't forget Toot 4 Tucker in Balclutha on 10 November from 6.30pm.

Balclutha Hospital Celebration

Balclutha Hospital is celebrating 90 years on 13 February 2016. If you used to work there please contact maureen.r@yrless.co.nz or 418 0670 or 418 4480.

Does your junior sports team:

- have young people aged 5-19 years? AND
- require subsidy for travel to local competition?

... applications are now open to the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund for expenses which will be incurred from 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016. Applications and guidelines from your nearest Council office or go online at www.cluthadc.govt.nz



Applications close Fri 20 Nov

Got a project in mind that will:

- encourage participation in the arts? OR
- support diversity in the arts? OR
- encourage young people to engage in arts?

... then you may be eligible for a grant from the Creative Communities NZ Scheme. Application forms and guidelines available at your nearest Council office or online at www.cluthadc.govt.nz

Applications close Fri 27 November

Photo: Jennifer Markman



ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND TOI AOTEAROA

Tuapeka County Bursary

Applications are now being accepted for the Tuapeka County Bursary.

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. A minimum bursary of \$1,000 is available on an annual basis and will be paid to the successful applicant(s) by 1 April 2016.

Further details available from Council or online at www.cluthadc.govt.nz. Applications close 29 January 2016.



find us on
Facebook

Did you know you can find out lots about what Council's doing through Facebook? Follow Clutha District Council for the latest news including civil defence and emergency information such as road closures or check out the Clutha District Libraries page or the Balclutha Centennial Pool or Milton Centennial Pool pages for library and pool news.

Clutha gets earthquake ready (continued from page 1)

country participated by performing 'drop, cover and hold' at 9.15am on 15 October, and preparing for the right action to take before, during and after an earthquake. More than a million people took part nationally, with over 3000 of those in the Clutha District. Thanks to all who participated and

remember it's never too late to prepare for an emergency. On Council's website you can find information on household emergency checklists and planners, surviving an emergency in Otago, Clutha's emergency plan and you can purchase a 'grab & go' emergency kit, so check out www.cluthadc.govt.nz.



Clutha District's newest citizens:

Eleven new citizens were welcomed recently. Marie Morrison became a citizen in September, while in August the Niupulusu family, Qun Yan Ou, Sonia and Steven Sanders, John Peter Williams and Sylvia Bobadilla Concha became citizens. Each was presented with a Kowhai tree as is tradition in the Clutha District.

Word from the Mayor (cont.)

we are not quite there yet. We choose to live in this beautiful part of the country for a multitude of reasons but we must listen to what potential new residents are telling us they want and take proactive steps to grow our district. Some of the common themes include, "your housing stock is older than most other districts", elderly are saying they want the security of a retirement village, the young want a chance, and a place to grow. All this makes me proud that Council has shown the courage to take up the challenge and not sit back and accept the often stated predictions for rural New Zealand. And when I say Council, I mean both the political and organisational team. Their cohesion augers well for the future, and talking of future prosperity and happiness, this is my last letter for the year so on behalf of all of Council can I wish you all a safe and family-focused Christmas and can we all look forward to a rewarding 2016. Bryan Cadogan

Council Staff Changes

Council's new Records Assistant is Malcolm Smith who joined us at the end of August making the move from Invercargill to Clutha. Also, joining us from the south is Karen Piercy, our new Corporate Services Administrator, who used to work for Invercargill City Council. Meanwhile, we will bid farewell to our Environmental Health Officer Stewart Webster, at the end of the year. We wish him all the very best for his retirement.

New rural fire tanker for the district



A new rural fire tanker funded by the Clutha District Council and the National Rural Fire Authority was presented to the district in September. On hand to celebrate were Mayor Cadogan, Principal Rural Fire Officer Stephanie Rotarangi and her colleagues Gareth Brown, Graeme Still and Ian Rietveld along with fire officers Roger Smith from Dunedin, Mike Harris and Graeme Ferguson from Balclutha.

Do you qualify for help with your rates?



Are you eligible for a Rates Rebate?

The Rates Rebate Scheme was established by the government to provide a subsidy to low-income homeowners to help meet the cost of their rates. Local councils administer the scheme and are reimbursed by the government for all rate rebates. Council encourages all low-income households to check their eligibility for a rebate as we estimate that as many as one in three households which are eligible haven't applied. This is not a benefit, but an entitlement like any other form of tax refund. The amount of your rebate will be based on three factors 1) the amount of your annual rates levy 2) the total income received by you and your partner and 3) the number of dependants living on your property. If you provide these three details to Council by phone or at one of our offices, we can estimate your eligibility for a rates rebate. You can find out more on our website, which also includes a link to a rates rebate calculator and application form. Application forms are also available from Council offices, or you can ask us to post one out to you. If you received a rates rebate for the last rating year, you will automatically be sent an application form again. You can bring your completed form in to our offices or we can help you complete it, just remember your signature must be witnessed as outlined on the form. You can apply for a rebate at any time during the rating year. **The closing date for applications is 30 June 2016.**

Main Street upgrade report

With about four weeks left of the main construction works to complete, the end of Balclutha's main street upgrade is in sight. Council wants to begin by thanking all the residents and businesses for their patience during this project, which at times has been noisy, messy and inconvenient. It was heartening to attend a meeting with retailers last month and hear positive feedback about the upgrade. Comments included good communication from the contractors, the diligence of the contractors in tidying up, and the effectiveness of the new streetlights. Parking availability in peak times also was discussed and Council will be reviewing the situation once the upgrade is complete to see if

people's needs are being met. We're excited about seeing the finished product and what it will mean not only for Balclutha, but for the district as a whole. Having a smart and vibrant main street in our district's biggest "hub", can only be good for everyone. Over the past few weeks people have been able to see visible signs of what the final product will look like. Most of the undergrounding work has been completed, new lamp-posts have been installed, and the majority of pavers laid. Some supply issues, especially with the vertical timber elements and precast concrete structures have placed pressure on the project, but the final stage will see the installation of the "green wall" in the new community area of Elizabeth Street and trees planted.



Clutha Volunteers celebrated at Trustpower Community Awards

Clutha District volunteers were, once again, well represented at the annual Trustpower community awards held at the Rosebank Lodge in September. Twenty-five groups were part of the judging process, which included the Youth Community Spirit Award and the Clutha District Council individual awards for volunteering. More than \$5000 was given away to community groups throughout the evening. And the winners were...

Supreme Winner and Health and Well Being: West Otago Health Trust. Arts and Culture: Knit and Yarn. Heritage and Environment: Owaka Lions Club. Sport and Leisure: Kaitangata Black Gold BMX. Education and Child/Youth Development: Kaitangata Car Show and Run. Youth Spirit: Dion Falconer, Blue Mountain College. Individual Volunteers: Barbara Wilson, Lawrence, Jean Goodlet, Lawrence, Doug Henderson, Balclutha Judy Nicol, Balclutha. Congratulations!!



Clutha District Council distributes this newsletter four times a year to ratepayers with rates notices. It is also available on our website, www.cluthadc.govt.nz, or from your nearest Council office or Service Centre. Feedback and ideas are welcome. Please call us on 03 419 0200, email to help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz, or write C/- Clutha District Council, PO Box 25, Balclutha 9240.