

Steep Street Domain

Some residents are concerned the trees in the domain are causing shadowing to the back of the buildings on Ross Place and Back Road. Community Board members met with arborists recently to look at the issue and while we are awaiting a full report, the arborists' views expressed on site were:

The mixed woodland of the domain is a significant and valuable asset to the town, both as an attractive backdrop and as a recreation area, though none of the trees individually (apart from those with plaques) meet the criteria to be seen as specifically "valuable".

Removing any of the large trees would not be practical both in terms of cost and damage to the surrounding parts of the

domain. However, removing some of the (mostly) sycamores at the bottom of the slope at the eastern end – bringing the edge of the wood back in to line with where it is at the western end – would be practical and reduce the overshadowing.

The Board will look at this further when the full report is received. It was very positive that the arborists felt the work currently being done by the community in the domain was right on the mark and we are extremely lucky to have such capable people maintaining it.

The Board wishes to acknowledge Stevie Robertson and his working bee team who spend time maintaining and improving this beautiful woodland in the centre of our town.

Peace Gardens

During the recent summer months, Community Board members took the time to inspect the trees in the Lawrence Peace Gardens and noted that some of them have become overgrown.

Maintenance has already started with the removal of undergrowth from some of the larger trees which is making a big difference.

However, it is proposed that the oak tree bordering the garden and an Ardrossan Street residence (pictured to the right) is removed as it is already too big and will only keep growing. There are also some wilding sycamores that may be removed as well.

The Board welcomes feedback on this proposal and residents are welcome to contact any of the members whose details can be found below. Please ensure you get in touch before the end of May.



Your Community Board

We want to ensure our area continues to be a great place to live! Residents are welcome to approach the Board with concerns or suggestions. **Garry McCorkindale (Chair) - 027 242 6735 or glenside@rivernet.co.nz**

Liz Ritchie - 0274 862 041 or elizabethanne.ef@gmail.com Cr Geoff Blackmore - 485 9503 or g.c.blackmore@xtra.co.nz Geoff Davidson - 485 9628 or gtdavidson@xtra.co.nz

Mel Foster - 485 9040 or melinda.foster@zensolutions.co.nz Quentin Currall - 485 9646 or quentin@xtra.co.nz Paul Tansley - 021 645222 or theprospector.lawrence@gmail.com

Community news continued

Zigzag Track



The Community Board is undertaking a review of the garden area by the zigzag track. We are currently waiting on two professional planting plans and will be consulting the community once these have been received. We acknowledge the footpath is precarious, especially at this time of the year with the acorns. The Board will be proposing an upgrade of the track to the Council during the current Long Term Plan consultation process.

Lawrence to Gabriel's Gully Walkway

The walkway from Lawrence to Gabriel's Gully, which was opened for the 150th celebrations, runs through private land and has been closed in recent years. The Community Board is currently liaising with the landowner to be able to re-open this for access to the public. There are some gates and fences that need to be erected prior to this happening which the Board has agreed to fund. This track is not available to dog walkers due to crossing farmland.

Toilet Upgrade

The Community Board has identified to Council that an internal upgrade of the public toilet is due. We have requested the Council look at replacing the urinal, as well as a general upgrade of the wall linings, lighting and toilet bowls/cisterns.

Drains and Culverts

With winter on the way and with it the expectation of increased rainfall, a number of residents have expressed their concerns about the drains and culverts flooding again as they did in July last year. The Clutha District Council and Otago Regional Council have been actively looking at the issues over recent months. As a brief update, the Lismore Street culvert is currently being replaced and there are capital works planned around Lawrence during the next two years, as part of the Long Term Plan process.

Cemetery

Some of you will be aware of the recent exhumation of skeletons as part of Otago Historic Cemeteries Bioarchaeology Project.
Council is suggesting that the exhumed remains should be laid to rest in the historic area of the new cemetery near Gabriel's Road.

Service Requests

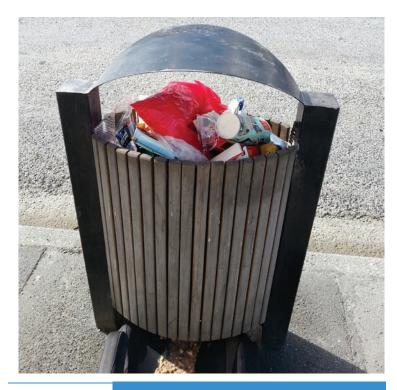
If you've seen something that needs Council's attention, you can easily place a service request through the Lawrence Service Centre, or by ringing 0800 801 350 or via www.cluthadc.govt.nz

New Rubbish Bin

The Community Board has been looking at installing a large rubbish bin near the intersection of Whitehaven Street and Ross Place, as the small rubbish bins there presently cannot cope with the demand and often end up overflowing.

The Board is proposing a double bin be placed in this area, which would be in a similar vein to the existing bins with the dark wood panelling.

At this stage, there won't be a seperate recycling bin as we are told there is often confusion about what can be recycled and rubbish just ends up contaminating the recycling.



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