WAITAKI JOHN December 2020

NEWS FROM WAITAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL



CHRISTMAS is coming!

After some fundraising, Waitaki has three brand new Christmas trees, now put up in Palmerston, Kurow and Oamaru. A special celebration was held on 1st of December to celebrate lighting Oamaru's tree for the first time and the beginning of the festive season. Don't forget, the Oamaru Santa parade is this Saturday, 5 December. The big guy himself will be there, so we hope you've been nice this year... but if you've been naughty, just blame Covid.

Closing hours and holiday contacts

Please check out our website for after-hours contacts for the holiday season and shut down dates for Council services and facilities.



What's the LONG TERM PLAN?

Getting back to the future.

After a challenging year, which was mostly about just getting through, it's time to get back to looking at the future of Waitaki, which is why we'll soon be asking for your ideas, big and small, as we consult on the Long Term Plan 2021-31.

OPENING THE DOORS to OUR HERITAGE

This month will see the first stage of Waitaki's refurbished Museum open to visitors.

Boy, are we looking forward to this! After everything that could delay a museum refurbishment (including a global pandemic) happened, the doors will open on Friday December 11. Such a lot of hard work has gone into showcasing the district's treasures, a HUGE job done extremely well by the Waitaki Museum and Archives Te Whare Taoka o Waitaki staff.



Planning on CAMPING?

It's a busy time at the lakes.

A reminder that Waitaki Lakes camps will be very busy over the Holiday period and that it is essential prospective campers get in touch with the camp manager on 027 686 6901 to ensure there is space prior to going. It is recommended that campers make themselves familiar with the camp rules and the fire evacuation plans which are on the camp noticeboards and it is essential that no fires are lit.

Why not try Dunback Domain camping ground?

As the lakes camping area will be very busy this season consider Dunback Domain (just out of Palmerston) instead. Less crowded, lovely facilities and a river to splish splash in.



FLUSH YOUR TAPS!

This is your regular Plumbosolvency reminder.

Some pipes and taps (especially in older homes) allow small traces of metals to accumulate in water if left unused for several hours. We recommend you flush a mug-full of drinking water from your tap each morning before use. It's a simple

precaution for all households, including those on public and private water schemes.

RATES REBATE SCHEME

Assistance for ratepayers on low incomes

Think rates rebates are only available to people on government benefits? Wrong! Eligibility criteria is based on income. If your household is on a low income, you MIGHT be eligible for subsidised rates through the rates rebate scheme. Why not check?

Find out if you're eligible - give us a call on 03 433 0300 or the **www.govt.nz** website has a rates rebate calculator. Application forms are available from Council offices, or phone us to have a form posted out.

Say "GOOD BYE TO ALL THAT!"

...with a family-friendly street party at Oamaru Harbour to welcome in the new year.

MC'd by Mulletman & Mim (internationally seasoned pro champions bringing you acrobatics, juggling and a whole lotta cheek!), there'll be live music from Jas Josland, Johnny & the Cashtones, with MC Mana and DJ Getafix ringing in the new year (high energy fun - expect a night of kiwi flavas!), along with food vendors and a kids' zone with karaoke and face painting.

Join us as we bid 'good riddance' to a barmy year and herald in 2021 (almost, surely, hopefully better... come on how bad can it be?). Anyway, it's time to come together as a community and celebrate having survived a pretty bumpy ride.

Do you HAVE A PLAN?

After the recent Fires here in Waitaki, a timely reminder as summer heats up about household emergency preparedness and having a plan.

Talk to your family, your neighbours and check out the website: **getready.govt.nz**

Santa says DO YOUR PAPERWORK!

If you have a construction project on the go or a request for our building team to action, time is running out!

Christmas fast approaches and with it, the closing-off dates for some Waitaki District Council services:

Alcohol – Special Licence applications:

Applications have closed for events held before Jan 15 2021. For events that are being held after 15 Jan 2021, all applications must be received at least 20 working days prior to your event.

Food and Mobile Shops:

Any new food registrations or Mobile Shop applications need to be submitted by 21 Dec 2020

Building Consents & Inspections:

Under the Building Act 2004 the Statutory Clock stops on the 20 Dec and restarts on 11 Jan 2021. The Building team continues to receive and work on consents up to 24 Dec and recommences on 11 Jan. The last day for Building Inspections will be 23 Dec and will recommence on 11 Jan 2021.

Land Information Memorandum (LIM):

Standard LIM applications need to be submitted by 8 Dec 2020. Urgent LIM applications need to be submitted by 17 Dec 2020.

Property File requests:

Viewing standard property file information will not be available from 23 Dec 2020 to 11 Jan 2021. Requests for copies of information after 21 Dec can't be guaranteed to be completed until after 11 Jan 2021.



