

WAITAKI LINK

August 2019

NEWS FROM WAITAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL

Photo: Lake Benmore by Sara Matchett



WAITAKI WHITESTONE GEOPARK NEWS

First Research Under Lincoln MOU Begins

A postdoctoral fellow at the Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Tourism at Lincoln University, Helen Fitt will be the first to commence research under the memorandum of understanding signed last year between Lincoln University and the Waitaki Whitestone Geopark Trust (WWGT).

Helen's project explores opportunities for tourism-related businesses associated with the Waitaki Whitestone Geopark. Particularly, it considers whether there may be opportunities for local business to develop closer relationships with each other and the Geopark through the development of 'geotrails'. Dr Fitt doesn't have set expectations about the research's outcomes. "I want a range of views and perspectives, I need to find the people who aren't engaging or are engaging negatively with the geopark; hear from them, and start a conversation. While the research is conducted under an MOU it is carried out independently so people can feel free to be truthful. I want to hear the good, the bad and the ugly." People can contact Helen directly: Helen.Fitt@lincoln.ac.nz



ELECTIONS 2019

Nominations are coming in! Want to keep track of who is standing?

You can check it out here: <http://bit.ly/electionsnz-waitaki-candidates>. We'll update this after 4pm week days every day until nominations close on August 16.

FUNDING AVAILABLE

Charitable and not-for profit organisations are invited to apply for funding from The Donald & Nellye Malcolm Trust Grant – applications open 1 August and close 30 August 2019

GET CREATIVE WAITAKI!

Need money for an arts project in your community?

Creative Communities Grants are open NOW! Pop into Council HQ and pick up an application form.



PLANNING THE FUTURE OF OTEMATATA AND ŌMĀRAMA

The Waitaki District is experiencing strong growth, and our communities in the Waitaki Valley are in the midst of it.

The community has asked Council to look at the future planning for both Otematata and Ōmārama, to help guide development and Council projects into the future. Along with the Ahuriri Community Board, we have used input from community members to come up with draft plans.

We want your thoughts on them – have we got it right? Is there anything missing? Have we gone far enough? Have we kept the elements of the townships which are important to you? Your feedback is critical.

The masterplan documents will be available on Council's website from 5 August. Paper copies will be available from Council offices in Ōamaru or Palmerston and also in community libraries and businesses in Ōmārama and Otematata.

Community workshops will be held in Otematata on Saturday 24 August from 10 – 12pm at the Otematata District Club and in Ōmārama on Sunday 25 August from 10 – 12pm in the Ōmārama community centre. Once the community feedback has been received, we'll be working with the Ahuriri Community Board to finalise a preferred masterplan option for Otematata and Ōmārama.



LOOK OUT FOR OUR ROVING RATES REBATE OFFICER

Waitaki District Council's Rates Rebate Officer Jay McMillan will be out and about in your area soon!

Mark it in your calendar for September & October! Thursdays... are rates rebate days, pop in with your Rates rebate application form and relevant paperwork between 10am – 1pm and the lovely Jay will sit down and go through the application with you and witness your signature. Or call 03 433 0300, and book a time and she'll come to you on October 7 when Jay will be visiting those Ōamaru locals who are physically unable to visit the Council offices.

On October 18 Jay will be at the Kurow Museum and Visitor Centre between 10am – 2pm. On August 19, September 16 & October 14 Jay will be based in the Waihemo Service Centre, from 10am – 1pm. Call to book a time, and bring your paperwork. If you live in Ōamaru central or nearby simply call to make an appointment.



SO MUCH WETTER THAN USING HORSES!



Ōamaru will host the South Island Secondary Schools Canoe Polo Champs at the Waitaki Aquatic Centre, in the main pool from 4pm on Friday 9 August through to 4pm on Sunday 11. Other pools are open as normal. There is no charge for spectators to come down and watch this exciting event – teams from all over the South Island will be attending, with the top teams off to the National champs later in the year. Town will be busy with parents and competitors so give them a wave (there will not be waves at the pool, thankfully).



DISCUSSING THE RIPPLE EFFECT

There was a great turn out for the Family Harm mini conference held at the Ōamaru Opera House in July.

Brought to Ōamaru by Safer Waitaki and partners, the photo shows Jeremy Eparaima telling his story of becoming violence free to a packed auditorium. The conference targeted those "sticky" subjects, that are rarely discussed but which are a growing concern, and the "ripple effect" of family violence and harm.



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Waitaki

DISTRICT COUNCIL
TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WAITAKI