

WAITAKI LINK

December 2018

NEWS FROM WAITAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL



Photo: Waitaki Lakes Camping by Sara Matchett



WHAT'S YOUR 2030 VISION, WAITAKI?

What's YOUR vision for the future of Lake Ohau, Omarama, Otematata and Kurow? Council is seeking your views about the mid to upper Waitaki townships to feed into its review of the Waitaki District Plan – the rulebook for land use and development in the District.

We are GROWING... The Waitaki district is experiencing rapid growth in the demand for housing, tourism and business. How do we accommodate this growth over the next 10 years? Where should it go? What should we be protecting? What do we need to be improving? Where should new housing, businesses, car parks, community and recreational facilities and visitor accommodation be located? Should we be increasing housing density in certain areas? Does your town need more recreational facilities or green spaces?

Interactive maps and surveys will be available online at www.waitaki.govt.nz between 20 December 2018 – 20 January 2019 and hard copies will be available at the Omarama and Kurow Information Centres, the Otematata Library and Council HQ in Oamaru during this time. Check our website for details of our upcoming public consultation in the mid to upper Waitaki area.

NORTH OTAGO MUSEUM TO REOPEN

Work on refurbishments has commenced which will see the Thames Street doors flung open in May 2019 just in time to showcase a whole new bunch of displays celebrating the stories of the Waitaki District and the delights of the Waitaki Whitestone Geopark. Visit the North Otago Museum Facebook page for images of the building work as it progresses.



HARBOUR SPACE SURVEY

It's been a great result with a whopping 827 surveys received - one of the largest number of responses we've ever had.

There was a real range of ages and life experiences and feedback, with people telling us all the things they love about the harbour area, such as the relaxed vibe, open spaces and the Farmers Market. People showed their passion for this place and really got involved, demonstrating democracy in action. The

results will be available on the council website before the end of the year and this feedback will be used to build the next stage of our public engagement process around the future of the Oamaru Harbour area.

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL PEST MANAGEMENT

Otago Regional Council (ORC) is notifying the public and inviting submissions about their proposed Regional Pest Management Plan for Otago which will set out the powers, objectives and rules that Waitaki District Council will use to prevent, reduce, or eliminate the adverse effects of specified pests in the region.

The ORC is also seeking submissions on a draft Biosecurity Strategy which outlines priorities and actions over the next 10 years. Copies of both the proposed Regional Pest Management Plan and the Biosecurity Strategy are available on the ORC website. The closing date for submissions/feedback is 5:00pm on 14 December 2018. You can email submissions and feedback to: pests@orc.govt.nz or post to 70 Stafford St, Private Bag 1954, Dunedin 9054. For more information call 0800 474 082.



WATER RESTRICTIONS LIFTED

A big thanks to our wonderful community who rallied together to restrict water use after a prolonged rain event muddied our supply. Great to see we live in the kind of place where people still talk to their neighbours - Waitakians big lack of selfish was heart-warming. We are also super grateful to the local radio stations, media and community networks who kept everyone informed as the situation unfolded.

SWIMMING POOL FENCING

We want everyone to have safe fun in the sun, including staying safe around swimming pools. Preventing children from drowning is the reason why safety standards are in place and making sure correct barriers/fences are in place is one way of doing this.



In January 2017 a new set of rules were introduced to New Zealand with specific responsibilities being placed on pool owners and councils. As an example, if you have a paddling pool, please make sure you empty it after use. If you have a more permanent pool (spa, hot tub or a swimming pool which can hold 400mm or over of water), you must ensure it has an appropriate barrier to stop a child entering it unsupervised.

We will be conducting pool safety inspections in December 2018 and January 2019. If you would like your pool area inspected please contact us to make an appointment on 03 433 0300 or email building@waitaki.govt.nz. More information about the current rules and acceptable barriers is available on the *Building Performance* website here: <http://bit.ly/pool-fencing-requirements>.

OPERA HOUSE GIVING TREE

For many children and their parents this time of year may be taxing or simply go by unnoticed due to more pressing problems. You can help make things a lot better by donating a Christmas present to a child who might not otherwise get one, providing a moment of happiness to a small person undergoing a stressful situation. From now until December 14th you can leave a gift under the Christmas tree in the Oamaru Opera House Café and it will be gifted to a local child in need by the Oamaru Combined Churches Christmas Parcels Trust.

COUNCIL HOLIDAY HOURS

We will be taking a short break over the Christmas and new year holiday period. Council offices in Palmerston and Oamaru will be closed from noon on Friday 21 December and will reopen again on Thursday 3 January 2019. Check our website for other council services hours.

From all the team here at Council we wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas!



www.waitaki.govt.nz



Waitaki

DISTRICT COUNCIL
TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WAITAKI