

WAITAKI LINK

January 2019

NEWS FROM WAITAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL



Photo: Katiki Point by Danielle van Duin



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

2019's going to be a royally big one Waitaki!

Our District Plan Review public consultation will be kicking off in earnest this January as we start to travel the land to check your 2030 vision. In February, the Oamaru Opera House will be celebrating 10 years since its transformation from shabby old shell to refurbished, award-winning Heritage Queen. We'll be workshopping your ideas for the Oamaru HarbOUR Space, The North Otago Museum will be back up and running, and in May we're (fingers crossed) just maybe getting a visit from UNESCO to check out the Waitaki Whitestone Geopark. Steampunk NZ Festival Weekend will be celebrating its 10 year anniversary and Queen Victoria's 200th Birthday with extra Steam and extra Punk. In October we'll be swept up in Local Government elections and swept away by the Waitaki Arts Festival which will see acts from all over New Zealand, and the world, descend on Oamaru and surrounds and smother us royally in music, art and theatre. We'll be planning an even bigger Heritage Week in November to run old Queen Vic's birthday up the flagpole.

Get out your calendars and start putting in some dates, because it looks like our dance cards are going to be full!

FASTER INTERNETS!

Finding your cat videos horribly slow? Well get ready for better internet, Waitaki!! Duntroon gets theirs first starting from January 1 followed by Kurow on January 31, with Chorus and partners laying cable all the way to Otematata by the end of May. Phew! There will be a flyer drop, and then a letter drop preceding the start of the works so residents will know it's not just a plague of overactive rabbits digging up their berms. People may be concerned that things look messy – after the cable is put in the ground, things will be a bit untidy until a final reinstatement to council standards when an area is finished off and the installation is tested, which is usually about 6 – 8 weeks, so it's not forever, but faster Googling is!



PARKING GETS APPY IN OAMARU

Heralding an end to scrabbling about looking for change, the paper parking ticket is on its way out in Oamaru with Waitaki District Council adopting a new system allowing smartphone users to pay for parking using a mobile payment system on streets with parking meters.

PayMyPark works like a phone top-up where users select an amount, from \$10 to \$100 dollars, to load onto the app which is then automatically deducted when they log in to a parking area. You can be a casual user or set up an account and use the start-stop function to pay for the exact parking needed and no more. You also keep your fees to a minimum as you only pay when you transfer money to your account.

Top up without having to go back to the car and get a refund of the balance to your account should you not need as much as you thought. The app even remembers where you parked your car! Simply:

- Download the free app from the iTunes Apple Store or Google Play
- Register your details
- Pre-load credit via credit card, debit card or internet banking to minimise fees

Find apps a bit overwhelming? Bring your phone into Council HQ on Thames Street and the nice people there will download it for you.



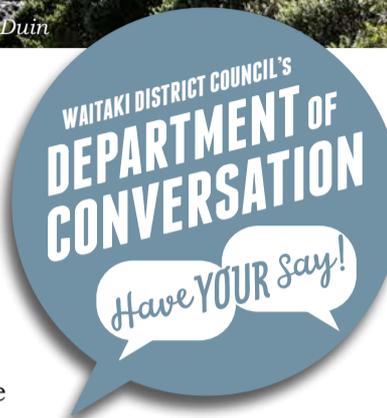
PayMyPark

THIS MONTH WE'RE TALKING ABOUT...

DISTRICT PLAN REVIEW 2020/30

Hey Lake Ohau, Oamaru, Otematata and Kurow - we're talking to you! How do you want your town to look in 2030? We have more District Plan Review drop-in sessions happening at the Kurow Information centre: 10am - 4pm on Monday January 14 and at the Oamaru Town Hall: 10am - 4pm on Wednesday January 16. Pop in for a cuppa with Anna and a natter about the future of everything that makes your town a great place to live, work and play.

Our online interactive maps are fun to use and will be available on our website until January 20. If you prefer to avoid technology, we also have printed surveys available at the Oamaru and Kurow Information Centres, the Otematata Library and Council HQ in Oamaru during the same period. The rest of Waitaki - don't worry! Your turn is coming soon.



FREEDOM CAMPING RULES

We love this place but we don't love people who leave poo and rubbish behind! Locals and visitors are being reminded about Responsible Freedom Camping, with flyers on windscreens and new signage on its way. A current certified self-containment document must be visible in or on your vehicle/ don't park outside houses or block driveways/ wash only your hands in public toilets and stay no more than 3 nights in one place. Offenders can be fined \$200 for breaching freedom camping rules. Search 'Freedom Camping' on our website to find more information.

FLUSH YOUR TAPS!

Some pipes and taps allow very small traces of metals to accumulate in water if left unused for several hours.

While the health risk is small, we recommend that you flush a mug-full of water from your drinking water each morning before use to remove any metals that may have dissolved from the plumbing fittings. This is a simple precaution for all households, including those on public and private water schemes. If you have any concerns about your health please contact your GP or health provider.



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Waitaki

DISTRICT COUNCIL
TE KAUNIHERA A ROHE O WAITAKI