

# Scuttlebutt

THE QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWSLETTER // JUNE / JULY 2022 // ISSUE 149

IT'S LOCAL ELECTION YEAR

## DO YOU KNOW A LOCAL LEGEND?

Local elections are coming up in October. If you know someone who's passionate about our district and would make a great Councillor, Community Board Member or our new Mayor then get them to read more on page 7.

**NOMINATIONS CLOSE  
MIDDAY, 12 AUGUST**

Mariela from  
my church?

Louis from  
mountain biking?

The ongoing effects of COVID-19 mean we are working in a changing environment. All information published here was up-to-date at time of printing. Please check [www.qldc.govt.nz](http://www.qldc.govt.nz) or our **Facebook page** for any updates caused by changes to the COVID-19 Protection Framework.

### INSIDE

09

**DOG REGO FAST  
A-POOCHING**

10

**WINTER  
DRIVING TIPS**

12

**STATE HIGHWAY  
UPGRADES**

16

**MATARIKI  
CELEBRATIONS**



Tell us if you want to save paper and read Scuttlebutt online. See page 9 for details.



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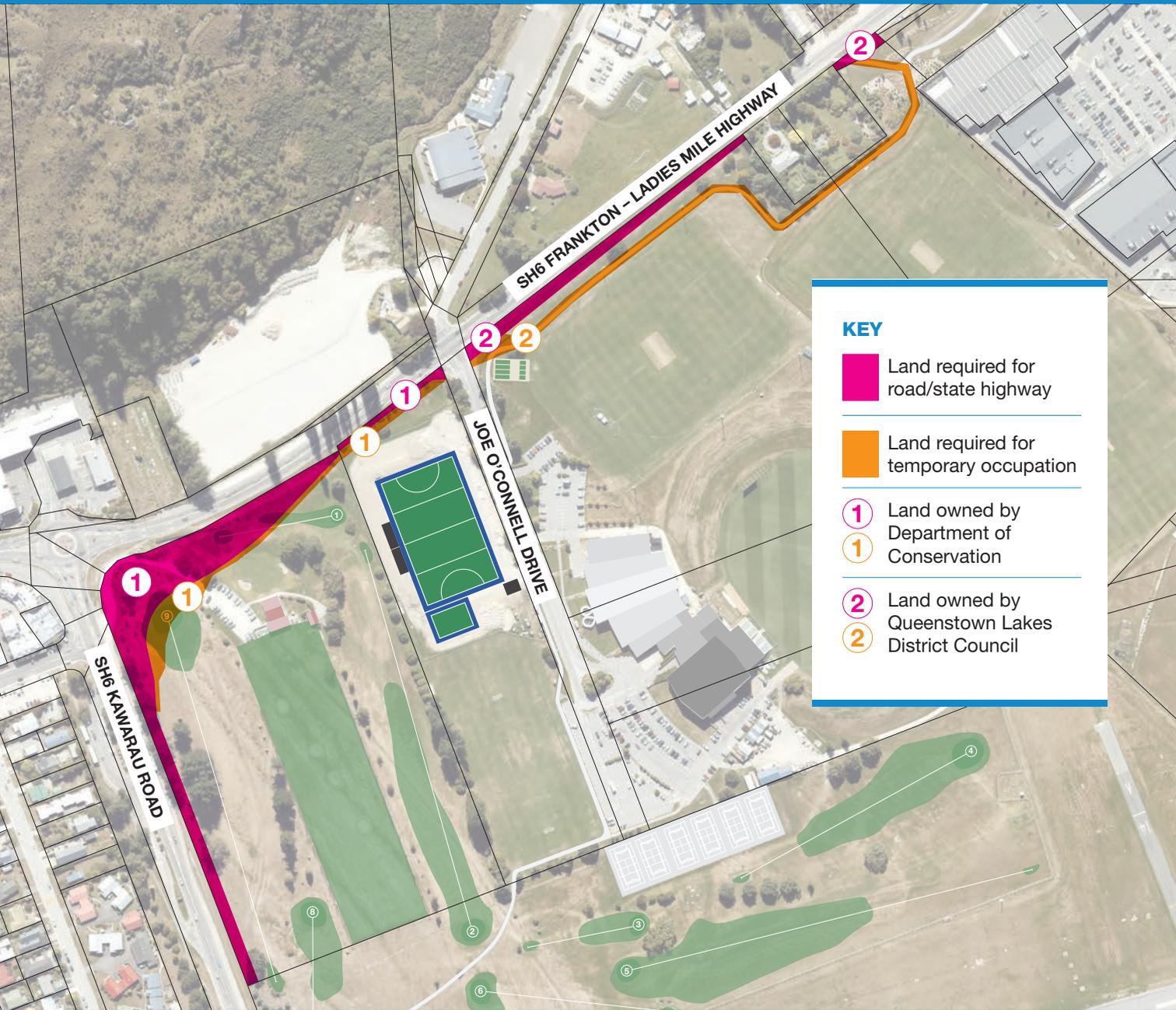
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# Landing on space for transport improvements

More info on the NZUP Queenstown Package can be found on page 12.

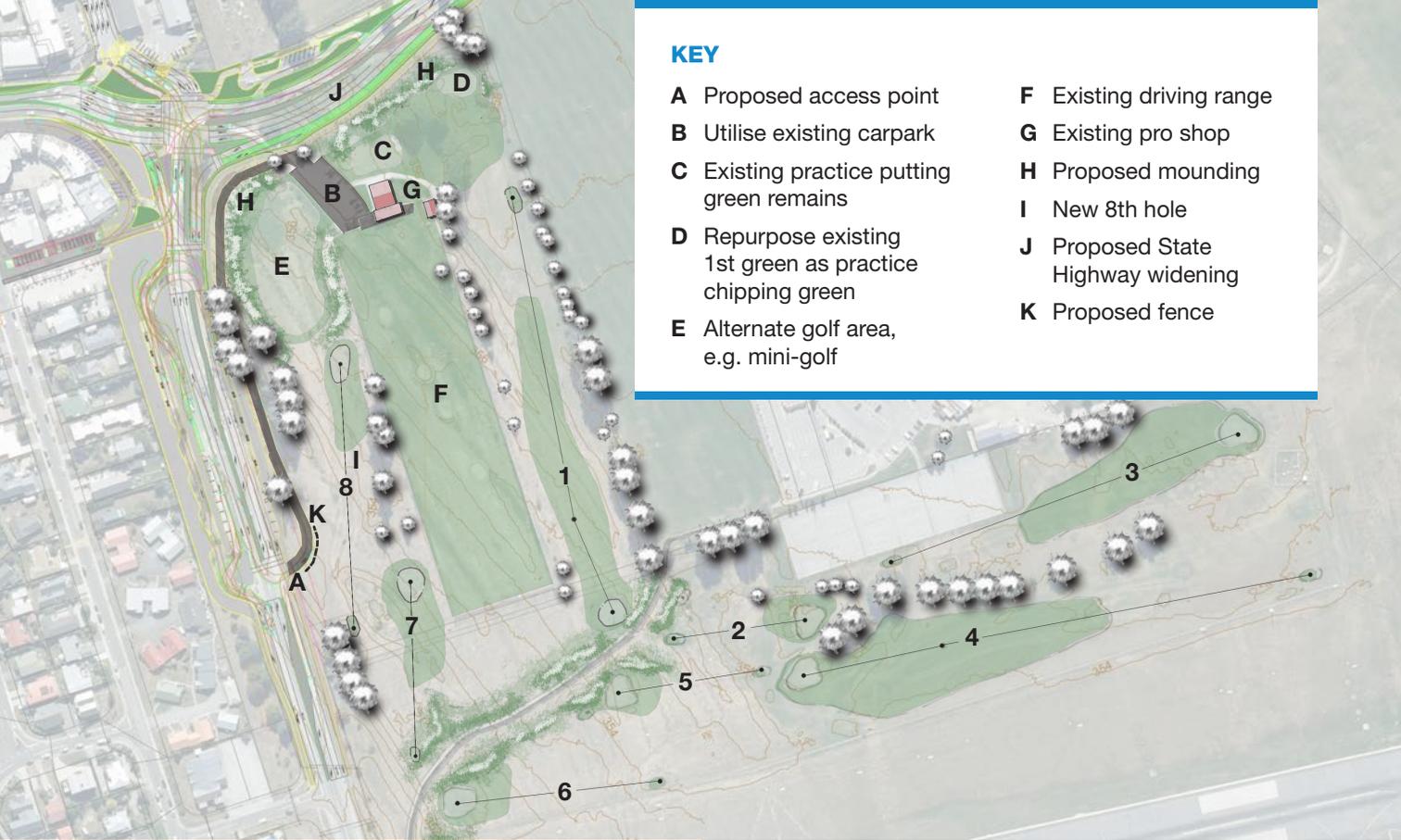
We've been working with Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency over the past couple of years as they plan to upgrade State Highways 6 and 6A and provide

people with more environmentally friendly choices for getting around our little piece of paradise. This is the Government funded \$115M NZUP Queenstown Package.



**KEY**

- Land required for road/state highway
- Land required for temporary occupation
- Land owned by Department of Conservation
- Land owned by Queenstown Lakes District Council



**KEY**

- A Proposed access point
- B Utilise existing carpark
- C Existing practice putting green remains
- D Repurpose existing 1st green as practice chipping green
- E Alternate golf area, e.g. mini-golf
- F Existing driving range
- G Existing pro shop
- H Proposed mounding
- I New 8th hole
- J Proposed State Highway widening
- K Proposed fence

To enable part of this work, we're currently consulting on a proposal to dispose of parts of the Queenstown Events Centre (QEC) and adjoining Frankton Golf Centre (FGC) to Waka Kotahi.

The Crown, through the Department of Conservation (DOC), owns portions of the land affected by this proposal which includes approximately 2,493m<sup>2</sup> of the QEC land and approximately 8,230m<sup>2</sup> of FGC land.

The QEC land is adjacent to the highway and set back from existing uses. We're not expecting this to affect the centre's day-to-day operations.

While QLDC doesn't own the land the golf centre sits on, it does manage it on behalf of the Crown and community. We think it's important people get the chance to have a say on how this land is affected by the proposed transport improvements and we will share all feedback with both DOC and Waka Kotahi before any decisions are made.

Disposing of this land will require modifications to the golf facility as shown above.

Get full details on this proposal and make a submission at [letstalk.qldc.govt.nz](http://letstalk.qldc.govt.nz)

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# Life at Orange

As this edition of Scuttlebutt went to print we were welcoming the return of tourists, friends and family from across the Ditch and around the world. Nau mai, haere mai!

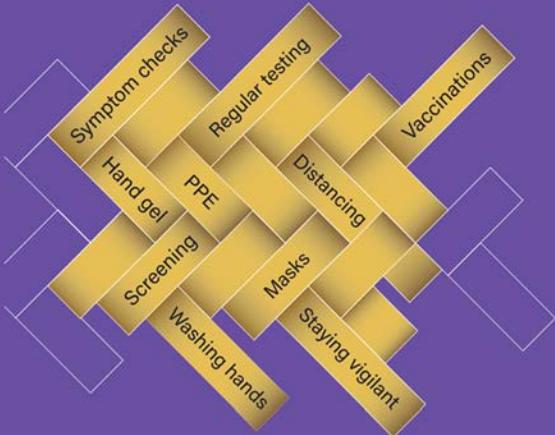
With the country still at the Government's 'orange' traffic light setting and cases of COVID-19 continuing to affect many in our community it's as important as ever to keep each other, and our new visitors, safe by taking the usual precautions.

The Ministry of Health is also advising of a potential spike in cases of colds and 'flu as well as COVID over the winter months. So make sure you have enough medication and groceries in the house in case you need to lie low and rug up for a while.

At orange, all Council offices are open for those who need to visit us in person. We also have a wide range of services available online or via the phone which you may prefer to use to reduce any risk of infection.

Check out our website for more details:  
[www.qldc.govt.nz/community/emergency-management/covid-19](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/community/emergency-management/covid-19)

And if you do need a bit of help getting through, then a good place to start is the Te Hau Toka Southern Lakes Wellbeing Group:  
W: [southernhealth.nz/tehautoka](http://southernhealth.nz/tehautoka) F: @tehautoka



**Every strand counts  
Stronger together.**

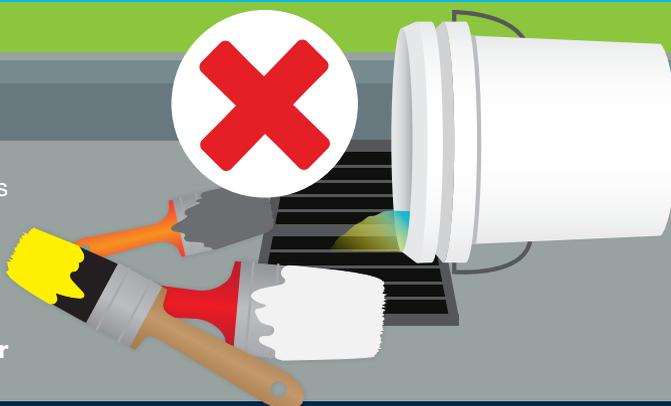
It's a combination of precautions that builds a strong layer of protection.



## Only rain down the drain!

What goes into the drain outside your house or business – whether poured in intentionally or washed down with rainwater – ends up in our waterways untreated. We all have a part to play to prevent anything nasty getting into our waterways!

For more tips, head to [www.qldc.govt.nz/stormwater](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/stormwater)



# Next steps for Cardrona water supply scheme

Over the past couple of years, we've been working on plans to deliver a community drinking water scheme in the Cardrona Valley in partnership with Mount Cardrona Station.

We currently have an approved budget of \$10M in the 2021-2031 Ten Year Plan but due to a number of factors, we're proposing to increase this budget and associated debt recovery required to deliver the scheme.

Three Waters Strategic Manager Brandon Ducharme said like other councils across the country, QLDC is facing rapid cost escalations across the board.

"Costs are increasing as a result of global supply chain disruptions and domestic skilled labour or professional resource shortages as a flow-on effect of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We're also working within a challenging environment of uncertainty as new water standards are developed and the Government's reform programme progresses.

"The design of any new drinking water scheme will need to be future-proofed to ensure it meets the regulatory requirements being signalled. We must also give as much consideration as possible to ensuring design and operation will be able to meet both the current requirements of QLDC as well as any reasonably foreseeable requirements of a possible future water entity," he said.

## WHAT'S PROPOSED?

The proposal is to revise the budget included in the 2021-2031 Ten Year Plan up from \$8.1M (with a further \$1.5M staged outside the ten-year window) to an estimated \$17.2M.

The proposal also requires a corresponding increase to the 2021 Development Contributions Policy to reflect the capital cost estimates and required debt recovery, from \$8,490 per dwelling equivalent to \$16,490. For properties within the existing township there is a limited time option to pay off the development contribution over 30 years at 4% interest using a Targeted Capital Water Supply Rate.

The above figures have also allowed for the Small Scheme Subsidy of 20% used to provide township with new three waters services. This subsidy was also applied for the Cardrona wastewater scheme and does not apply to properties in the Mount Cardrona Station zone. Properties within this zone would be charged a development contribution of \$20,070.

If you're interested in making a submission on this proposal head to [letstalk.qldc.govt.nz](https://letstalk.qldc.govt.nz) for full details and an online form. **Submissions close on 14 July.**



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# From the Chambers

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## THAT'S SO RANDOM

Voting papers for this year's election won't be out until later in September but the Council has already made an important decision about them: the candidate names will not appear alphabetically but rather in random order. Gone are the days when a candidate with the (admittedly unlikely) surname of Aardvark could have an advantage over (an equally dubiously named candidate) Zebedee by being placed higher in the list on each voting paper. This perceived advantage is a concept known as the 'ballot effect'. The software that produces the voting papers is able to randomise the names, and the number of different permutations of voting papers is large and only limited by the total number of candidates. So don't worry if your voting paper looks a little different from your partner's – it's meant to be that way!

## COMMUNITY HUB GRANT

The development of the Wānaka Community Hub has been a major achievement for the Upper Clutha community but has not come without some challenges along the way. In July 2020, the Council agreed to offer the Hub a free interest-bearing loan of \$500,000 to help cover a repayment that was due. This loan was to transfer to a capital grant after 12 months if various conditions were met. After initial discussions in May 2021, the Wānaka Community Board agreed at its March 2022 meeting that conditions had been met and hence the loan should become a grant. The Board also agreed that the funding should come from the Wānaka Asset Sale Reserve (proceeds from the sale of Council-owned land at Scurr Heights). This outcome will ensure that the Wānaka Community Hub continues to deliver a host of benefits to the Upper Clutha and the wider district.

## MAKING A STAND FOR MOBILITY PARKING

At its meeting on 2 June the Council approved a variation to Chapter 29 Transport of the Proposed District Plan and the Plan Change to Section 14 Transport of the Operative District Plan. This is a very important outcome for folk in the community who rely on mobility parking spaces. An August 2020 National Policy Statement on Urban Development Capacity introduced new requirements for car parking, requiring some councils (including QLDC) to remove minimum car parking provisions from their district plans. The upshot of this was to remove any requirement for accessible parking spaces because mobility parks are assessed as a proportion of overall parking. The Council recognised that this was not a desirable outcome and agreed to this plan change last September which, following completion of the usual statutory procedures, was presented back to the Council for approval in June. The Council was pleased to be able to take this stand to preserve these vital parking spaces in our towns and shopping areas for the less mobile in the community.

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Did you know you can tune in live to our full Council meetings?

They are livestreamed via our Facebook page (@QLDCinfo).



LIVE

# DO YOU KNOW A LOCAL LEGEND?

Local elections take place on 8 October so now's the time for potential candidates to find out more about what's involved. Our latest campaign is all about encouraging people who may not have previously thought about standing for election to consider it.

We all know a few local legends – people who stand out in the community, filled with passion for our district and views on the local issues that matter. It could be your kids' swimming coach, a mountain biking buddy, someone from your church or temple, your local barista...

These folk could make a great Councillor, Community Board Member or even our next Mayor. So next time you see them, why not start a conversation with "hey, have you ever considered becoming a Councillor?"

We welcome people from all walks of life to stand whether you were born here and are a lifelong-local, or are from one of the many nationalities that has chosen to make this place home. And you don't need to have any particular qualifications – just an interest in and commitment to shaping the future of the wider Queenstown Lakes District.

Interested candidates are encouraged to come along to Council meetings or watch previous recordings on our Facebook page to get an idea of what elected members do and the types of decisions with which they're involved.

QLDC Chief Executive Mike Theelen explains more:

"Elected members make some very important decisions about how the Council spends its rates, and determining its priorities. This requires an open mind, being able to discuss and at times debate different ideas and points of view, and being able to make some tough decisions."

"The Council is also a legal entity, a regulator, and an enforcement agency. This means that often the Council is doing things which for some people may be very unpopular. This is part of its responsibility."

"Meetings are often held during daytime hours, so if you have work commitments it helps to have an employer who is open to some flexibility," said Mike.

The Council website and Facebook page will be kept up to date with the latest information, including the nomination form. A QLDC candidate's handbook is also available from our website and offices.

## KEY FACTS

Candidate nominations open Friday 15 July and close at midday on Friday 12 August.

Candidates are able to stand for the role of Mayor, Councillor or Community Board Member; they can put themselves forward for more than one role but, if elected, they may only take on one.

As part of the Representation Review undertaken by Council last year, new ward names and boundaries were adopted. You can find a summary of the review and the changes here: [www.letstalk.qldc.govt.nz/representation-review](http://www.letstalk.qldc.govt.nz/representation-review)

Candidates need to be over 18 years of age, enrolled to vote, and be a New Zealand citizen. To enrol, check or update your enrolment details, go to [www.vote.nz](http://www.vote.nz). You can also freephone 0800 36 76 56 or free text 3676 to get a form sent to you in the mail.

## USEFUL LINKS:

[www.qldc.govt.nz/elections](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/elections)

[www.votelocal.co.nz](http://www.votelocal.co.nz)

[www.vote.nz](http://www.vote.nz)

[www.lgnz.co.nz/local-government-in-nz/local-elections/vote2022/](http://www.lgnz.co.nz/local-government-in-nz/local-elections/vote2022/)

[www.elections.nz/democracy-in-nz/about-elections/what-are-local-elections/](http://www.elections.nz/democracy-in-nz/about-elections/what-are-local-elections/)

[www.dia.govt.nz/Services-Local-Elections-Index](http://www.dia.govt.nz/Services-Local-Elections-Index)



*Craig Gibson from Emergency Management Otago getting techy.*

# Local emergency team looks to the stars

Our local Emergency Management team has just taken delivery of two new bits of tech to boost our district's resilience should the need arise.

Queenstown Events Centre and Wānaka Recreation Centre are both designated as potential Emergency Operations Centres (EOC) – bases from which to co-ordinate the response to a civil defence situation or other emergency.

Both venues are now fitted with Sentinel earthquake sensors. These allow the team to make quick assessments of the buildings and the infrastructure they service after a shake. Instant alerts provide data about what the building has experienced enabling quicker,

more informed decisions about its ongoing use and how best to protect people.

Emergency Management Otago has also invested in Starlink satellite kits that enable continuous internet access in the event of any disruption to normal telecomms service. Portable and easy to use, the kits self-acquire a satellite link and provide excellent download/upload speeds.

The lack of fixed infrastructure means our connection to the outside world won't be affected if an EOC building can no longer be used after a shake, or if its existing connection has been damaged.

## **FAULTLINES: PREPARING FOR THE RUPTURE**

How much do you know about the Alpine Fault?

Scientific evidence indicates there has been a major earthquake on the Alpine Fault on average every 300 years. The last big one was around 1717 and so we need to be preparing for the next one.

*Faultlines* is a multi-platform documentary project funded by NZ On Air in association with North & South Magazine and produced by Vanishing Point Studio. It explores what the next big Alpine Fault quake means for the South Island and how communities can prepare.

Check out short videos on YouTube here

<https://tinyurl.com/3sr43v8c>

and the full immersive feature at <https://faultlines.nz/>

# Get your dog-uments in order

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It's time to register your dog for the 2022-2023 period. Registration is due by the end of July, and if you've already done the deed and documented your dog in the past, you should have already received a reminder in the mail.

It's important to remember that all dogs need to be registered by three months of age. Not only does this help Council staff identify dogs, but it also means your pooch can enter fun local events like the Queenstown and Wānaka dog walks and take part in free dog training sessions held throughout the district.

Want to renew your dog registration now? Head to [www.qldc.govt.nz/renew-dog-registration](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/renew-dog-registration)

If registration didn't get the tail wagging, this year your pooch will be receiving a lifelong tag. These new tags are metal and created with a unique identification number, designed to last a lifetime and a great way to reduce the amount of plastic previously required in our annual process. It will also make it a whole lot easier next time you register your dog!



# Scuttlebutt online

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Did you know that six times a year, we produce around 25,000 copies of Scuttlebutt to distribute to our local residents and out-of-town ratepayers. That's a lot of paper! You can help us reduce the number of copies we print by switching to our email distribution list.

Just email [services@qldc.govt.nz](mailto:services@qldc.govt.nz) with the word "newsletter" in the subject line, and be sure to include your name and postal address so we can cross you off the postal mailing list and send you a website link to Scuttlebutt instead.

Every issue of Scuttlebutt is also on our website [www.qldc.govt.nz/scuttlebutt](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/scuttlebutt)

An advertisement for Luxe Stay Holiday Home Management. The background is a scenic view of a town nestled in a valley with snow-capped mountains in the distance. The text "HOLIDAY HOME MANAGEMENT" is in large, white, sans-serif font. Below it, "Sorted." is written in a white, cursive font with a white underline. A dark rectangular box contains white text: "We offer all-round service from marketing, guest interaction, cleaning to property maintenance, giving our clients a complete handsfree, stress free experience. Contact us for a free assessment of your property's rental potential." Below this box, it says "Ask us about our latest referral program." At the bottom, the Luxe Stay logo (a diamond shape made of smaller diamonds) is followed by "LUXE STAY" and "Queenstown • New Zealand". At the very bottom, contact information is listed: "+64 21 126 3900 | [hello@luxestay.co.nz](mailto:hello@luxestay.co.nz) | [www.luxestay.co.nz](http://www.luxestay.co.nz)".



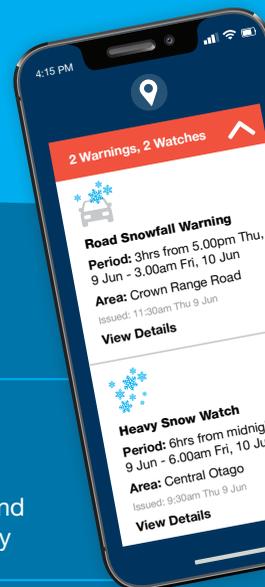
Know how to read your tyre and get the right chains for your car. Your tyre size will be printed on the side. Use the **Snowsweat online calculator** to find the right size chains for your vehicle.

# KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

**THIS WINTER**



Grab a free **ice scraper** from QLDC offices, libraries and rec centres. Don't use hot water to clear your windscreen!



Whether you're an ace behind the wheel or haven't had much experience driving in ice and snow, there's plenty you can do to keep yourself and others as safe as possible when you're out on the roads this winter. **Here are some top tips:**

- 1 Double your following distance and don't overtake grit trucks
- 2 Plan extra travel time and slow down
- 3 Take extra care on bridge surfaces and when driving through shaded areas
- 4 Accelerate smoothly and brake gently
- 5 Carry chains in your vehicle wherever you go, and know how and when to fit them. If you use Crown Range Road regularly, chains should be carried at all times
- 6 If it's one of those really cold, snowy or icy days, sometimes it's just better to stay home and only travel if it's absolutely necessary
- 7 Check road conditions before you leave the house, and make sure all vehicle windows are free of snow and ice before driving

Practice how to fit chains on your vehicle in the driveway at home, because there's nothing worse than having your debut performance on the Crown Range at 11.00pm while it's -3 degrees and bucketing with snow. Trust us. Make a note of which wheels to fit your chains to and leave it in the bag that holds your chains.

This year, we'll also be using a lot more Calcium Magnesium Acetate (CMA). It's a biodegradable de-icing agent we spray on roads, and it works when road temperatures are above -7°C. CMA can make a road look wet. Look for the straight line down the side of the road to know it's CMA.

Sign up to our Winter Road Reports at [www.qldc.govt.nz/winter-road-reports](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/winter-road-reports) and you'll get an email every morning before 7.00am with a heads up on what to expect.

Sign up to our community text alerts at [www.qldc.govt.nz/text-alerts](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/text-alerts) and we'll send you a txt message about any road closures due to snow or black ice warnings.

# ARE YOU A RECYCLING SUPERSTAR?

Don't worry if you've noticed someone peering into your bins in the early hours recently – it'll have been one of our friendly bin checkers on a mission to improve the standard of recycling around the district.

By lifting the lid on a random selection of yellow kerbside bins, the 'Save Our Stuff' team have been able to assess how we're all doing and help residents reduce contamination.

Checked bins have been stickered as either superstar recycler, almost awesome or contaminated recycling. Where we found contamination we left an information pack to explain more about how to recycle with care.

QLDC Waste Minimisation Officer Kath Buttar said most people are doing a great job.

"It's clear how much our community cares about reducing waste and recycling, but unfortunately we still see some contamination come through our sorting facility. It's really important that we have high quality recycling that meets the strict standards set by our reprocessing partners and enables collected materials to be turned into new products," said Ms Buttar.

"Putting the wrong items in recycling bins also impacts on the team working at the facility who hand-sort all kerbside recycling. Stopping rubbish or dirty recycling going in the yellow bins makes their job easier and more pleasant, so a big thank you from us for everyone's help."

If you're unsure about what to recycle check out our website at [qldc.govt.nz/services/rubbish-recycling](http://qldc.govt.nz/services/rubbish-recycling) or call our recycling hotline:

- > 03 441 0499 (Queenstown)
- > 03 443 0024 (Wānaka).



*Bin checker Simon McKenzie gives the thumbs up to another superstar recycler; credit Wastebusters.*



Urban Design and Landscape Architecture

[www.reseturban.co.nz](http://www.reseturban.co.nz)

# Major infrastructure improvements planned for State Highway network

More choices for locals and visitors to get around the Queenstown region are on their way, with a \$115million infrastructure upgrade as part of the New Zealand Upgrade Programme (NZUP).

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency held pop-up community sessions in May to provide an update on what has been proposed and what the improvements could look like in the coming years.

The proposed works include the removal of a roundabout at the SH6/6A intersection – replaced with traffic signals, bus priority measures on SH6/6A, bus lanes on SH6, improvements to the existing Frankton bus hub, pedestrian access improvements across SH6 and SH6A and a new roundabout at Howards Drive.

Tony Sizemore, Waka Kotahi Principal Transport Planner, says the changes will make a significant difference to infrastructure in the region.

“The demand for transport in Queenstown keeps growing, but its unique geography means there aren’t many options for increasing the capacity of our roads. The main way we manage this is by providing ways for the same road space to carry more people – in this instance, by more people catching the bus instead of driving their car. The reality is we cannot simply build our way out of this.

“For Queenstown, buses will increasingly become an essential part of the transport picture and so to achieve these goals it is critical that buses have priority on our roads. While not everyone will take the bus, if those that can have better access to the bus network, this will help ease congestion on the road.”

The project, currently at design and consenting stage, will provide dedicated public transport infrastructure to make journeys more reliable.

During pop-up sessions the community seemed genuinely engaged with what Waka Kotahi is proposing, Mr Sizemore says.

“However, we also understand there are questions around timeframes, delivery and what the network will look like when complete.”

Following those sessions Waka Kotahi is collating information which will be fed back to the community in the coming weeks.

And as design progresses, Waka Kotahi will share detail with the community so they can see what is being proposed. There will also be an opportunity to give feedback during the consultation stage of the consenting process for the main works.

## At a glance

NZUP is a \$8.7 billion programme of works announced by the Government which Waka Kotahi is delivering

\$115 million funding committed for Queenstown

New bus lanes on SH6

New bus priority measures SH6A



**Artist impression of the SH6/SH6A intersection**



**Artist impression of the new Howard's Drive roundabout**

Improved pedestrian access to public transport

Improved safety across the network with a focus on walking and cycling

Improvements at SH6/6A intersection including better accessibility

Improvements to existing Frankton bus hub

New roundabout at Howards Drive

## Project Partners

The NZUP project is being delivered for Waka Kotahi via Kā Huanui a Tāhuna, a partnership between Queenstown Lakes District Council and four design and construction companies: Beca, WSP, Downer and Fulton Hogan. It is also delivering projects for QLDC including the Queenstown Town Centre Street Upgrades and Queenstown Town Centre Arterial Stage 1.



## Paving the way for cyclists and pedestrians

Work on a shared pathway is also nearing completion along the front of Queenstown Events Centre and Frankton Golf Centre. While an element of this work is temporary it will take pedestrians away from the road shoulder into a much safer environment until the wider active travel paths are designed as part of the bigger project. When complete, cyclists and pedestrians will have a designated connection from Hardware Lane to the SH6/6A intersection including road crossings. In turn this will connect to new or existing paths on both Kawarau Road and towards Frankton Track, and to a shared path on SH6A.

## Resource Management Act processes

Waka Kotahi needs to go through a formal process as part of the Resource Management Act 1991 to complete the works. The process to designate the land for State Highway purposes in the District Plan involves submitting an application to QLDC. The designation will allow for the construction, operation and maintenance of the State Highway. In some areas of the NZUP project land will be added to the highway designation to allow for additional road width, sufficient space for intersection works and shared paths.

As part of this process Waka Kotahi will be requesting feedback from the public via a fully notified consultation process for the proposed changes to the SH6/6A intersection. Residents and businesses are encouraged to give feedback on the plans when it goes live.

## Public Transport – the bigger picture

In addition to Waka Kotahi providing infrastructure for public transport, the Otago Regional Council (ORC) are working on the Queenstown Public Transport Business Case (QPTBC) which was approved by regional councillors in October. It will cover detailed analysis of how bus routes and fleet will evolve over the next 15 years. Its approved scope includes service of demand, quality of service, public transport infrastructure, asset ownership, system management, and labour supply and funding.

For it to succeed it needs to be supported by infrastructure improvements and behaviour change.

ORC general manager operations Gavin Palmer says public transport will alleviate pressure and help facilitate a shift in travel behaviour. “To achieve this outcome we’re asking, ‘what does the public transport system look like in 30 years?’. We are working with partners to develop a responsive public transport service plan that is adaptable, sustainable, realistic, fundable, considers decarbonisation needs and is accepted by the community,” says Gavin.

# 'Postcards' from recent events

We thought it would be fun to round-up some recent events around the district with a few photos to tell the story.



**A short time ago in a reserve not far away...** Disc Golf Wānaka recently held its annual tournament on the Council-managed Lismore Park near the town centre. The three-day event featured a sci-fi themed doubles match which brought out some of the best players this side of the Dagobah system.



**MILK bottles tell a story.** Frankton Library recently hosted the MILK Bottle People community art project, with MILK standing for Messages of Identity, Life and Kinship. Participants created personal totems from recycled bottles. Library Assistants Kay Turner (left) and Natasya Zambri (in front) are pictured with participants (L to R) Himaliyah, Raewyn, Esdira and Mia.



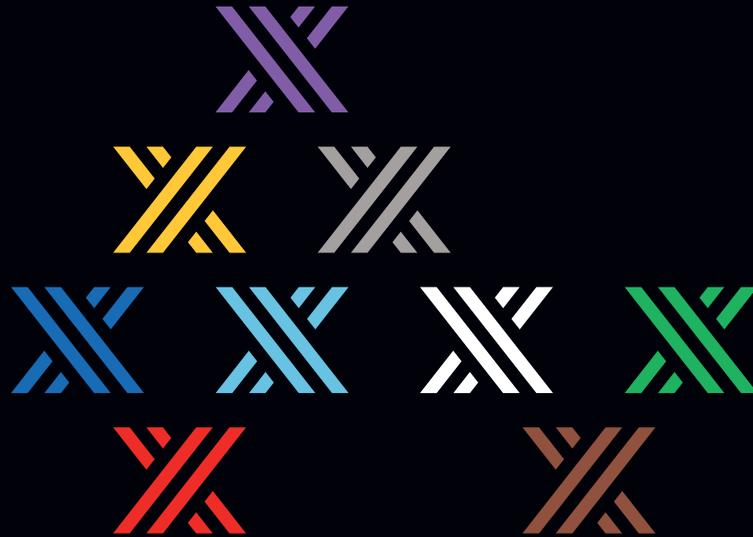
**Legendary boat launch.** The legend of Haki te Kura, daughter of Chief Tuwiroa and the first to swim across Lake Whakatipu, is the inspiration behind the name of Coastguard Queenstown's new rescue boat. Pictured at her launch in April are (L to R) Coastguard Queenstown President Andy McLeod, Mayor Jim Boulton and Glen Sowry, CEO of Queenstown Airport Corporation which has been the local unit's major sponsor for several years.



**Haere Mai Hāwea!** Hāwea Community Association welcomed all-comers in May for an international potluck dinner. Residents old and new shared some homemade kai and a few stories about their life in the township. Pictured tucking in (L to R) are Dan Robertson, Corey Peterson, Florence Meyer, Andre Meyer, Julia Vandermaat, organiser Colleen Carr and Dan Marshall.



**Setting down roots.** We invited the latest local citizens of Aotearoa New Zealand to Wānaka's Welcome Forest near Lismore Park. A great turnout of new Kiwis along with other volunteers and QLDC staff grabbed a spade and planted dozens of native trees to symbolise new beginnings in their chosen home. Welcome Forest plantings are supported by Trees That Count, Te Kāhano Aotearoa Trust and the Whakatipu Reforestation Trust.



# Celebrating Matariki

For the first time this year there'll be a public holiday to celebrate Matariki on Friday 24 June. In addition to the long-standing celebration on the Lake Wānaka foreshore there's a brand new event in Arrowtown.

## WĀNAKA

**When:** Saturday 25 June;  
2.00-7.00pm

**Where:** Dinosaur Park and Roys Bay Reserve

Kahu Youth Trust brings you a great family event that's sure to warm a cold winter's night! Spectators will be able to enjoy kapa haka, waiata (song), storytelling, fire displays, the famous hangi (don't forget a koha donation) and a spectacular fireworks display to conclude the evening.

For more info:  
Scan this QR code.



## ARROWTOWN

**When:** Friday 24 to Sunday 26 June;  
each day until 10.00pm

**Where:** Buckingham Street and surrounding laneways

This inaugural event for all ages will showcase visual storytelling and stunning light displays and projections down Buckingham Street. It will also include performances by local kapa haka school groups and an astrophysicist sharing the wonders of the Otago night skies. There are different events each day so check out all the details online:

 [arrowtown.com/our-town/events/matariki-arrowtown-lights/](http://arrowtown.com/our-town/events/matariki-arrowtown-lights/)

 @MatarikiArrowtownLights

 @MatarikiArrowtownLights

## WHAT IS MATARIKI?

Matariki is an abbreviation of 'Ngā Mata o te Ariki Tāwhirimātea' ('The Eyes of the God Tāwhirimātea') and refers to a large cluster of stars, also known as the Pleiades. The predawn rising of Matariki in the mid-winter sky marks the changing of the seasons and the beginning of the Māori New Year. It is a time for:

- > **Remembrance –**  
Honouring those we have lost since the last rising of Matariki
- > **Celebrating the present –**  
Gathering together to give thanks for what we have
- > **Looking to the future –**  
Looking forward to the promise of a new year



# Community centres attract interest

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With new community centres in Wānaka and Lake Hayes taking shape, Council has been inviting expressions of interest (EOI) from local groups and clubs keen to run activities there.

The two buildings have very different histories: one is the former Wānaka Mitre 10 retail store and the other used to be a private residence at 516 Frankton-Ladies Mile Highway.

At the former, we're creating two bookable, multi-use indoor courts plus a separate studio that could be used for dance, yoga and fitness classes, or as a meeting space. In addition, there will be dedicated areas for Kahu Youth and Aspiring Gymsports.

Over at '516', we've appointed architects to transform the house into a multi-purpose community facility.

We received more than 300 responses to our online feedback form and a public open day at the property co-hosted with the Lake Hayes Estate and Shotover Country Community Association, and we're looking forward to unveiling more concrete plans soon.

Both EOIs will have closed by the time this issue of Scuttlebutt appears so look out for updates in the next one, and on our website.



# Welcome to Winter!

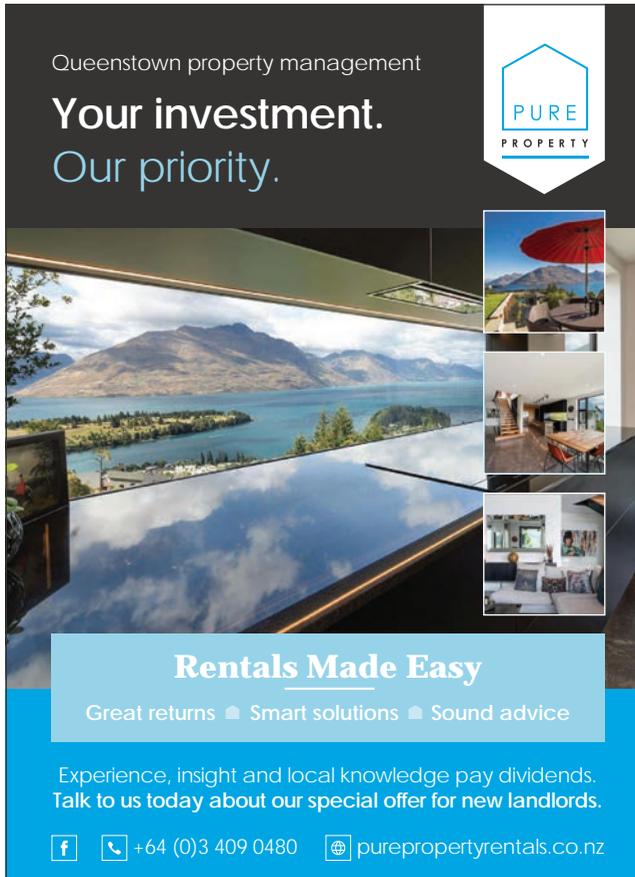
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Block out your calendars for 7-10 July. Welcome to Winter is back again this year, packing heaps into a four-day celebration of all there is to love about the snowy season in Queenstown.

There's a mix of free and ticketed events for all ages including the Winter Wonderland Market, fireworks and live music.

Pack your woollies and round up your friends and family for a fun-filled weekend!

For updates and more info keep an eye on the Welcome to Winter 2022 Facebook event and webpage: [www.queenstownnz.co.nz/welcometowinter](http://www.queenstownnz.co.nz/welcometowinter)



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# Ruby's friends across the water

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If Ruby Island has a somewhat shady past (who knows *exactly* what partygoers got up to during the cabaret evenings hosted there during the Roaring '20s?) its future is in far safer hands.

Being the closest of Lake Wānaka's islands to the township it continues to be hugely popular with visitors and locals, attracting around 5,000 visitors each year. It's also the only island on the lake managed by QLDC rather than the Department of Conservation (DOC).

Through an approved management plan, Council acknowledges the valuable work of the Ruby Island Management Committee (RIMC) whose volunteers have been carrying out regular working bees since 1995. These are focused on maintenance, native planting and fire prevention (the island is covered by a total fire ban).

The RIMC's most recent visit saw the annual 'big job' of emptying the Norski toilet, and a new BBQ choppered

over and installed. The new unit was funded through a Council grant and will provide a free and safe catering facility close to the pontoon which was also refurbished over the summer.

Volunteers also erected information signage and a new storage shed.

The RIMC would like to acknowledge the support it receives from all volunteers, from DOC and also Caltex which supplies gas for the BBQ.

Anyone wanting to find out more about future Ruby Island working bees can contact Michèle Lacroix on 027 2783988 or Nic Blennerhassett on 021 709419.



*Delivering the new BBQ.*



*(L to R) RIMC volunteers Jo and Brian Nimmo, Chris Aspinall and Michèle Lacroix with the new BBQ.*



Left to right: Adrienne Taylor (Alpine Community Development Trust), Ruth Blunt (Wastebusters), Ben Elms (Dr Compost), Diana Manson (QLDC), Daisy Watford with Tobias (Community Networks/LINK), Emma Hunter (Kahu Youth) and Marilyn Duncan (Food for Love).

# Share food, reduce waste

Wānaka's Food Security Network recently hatched six community produce stands to encourage food sharing, reduce waste and help ensure everyone in the Upper Clutha has access to fresh produce.

Anyone can use the stands to share fruit and veggies, eggs, herbs, preserves and baked goods. Everything shared means one less thing going to landfill. Choice!

## Look out for them in the following locations:

Wānaka Community Hub, McDougall Street

Wastebusters, Ballantyne Road

Wānaka Recreation Centre, Sir Tim Wallis Drive

Sherwin Avenue, Albert Town

Kanuka Corner Early Childhood Centre, Lake Hāwea

Hopkins Street, Luggate

**There are additional community-led stands at Lake Hāwea Community Centre and the Sharing Shed in Hāwea Flat.**

# Libraries news

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## Our winter reading challenge is back

Love reading and fancy a challenge? Queenstown Lakes Libraries have created 12 categories to encourage you to step out of your comfort zone, try new genres, and discover new authors. Tick off at least six before the end of August and you could win a book voucher. There's a bonus prize for the district's top reader. Visit your local library to collect an Adult Reading Challenge card (and a stack of books to get you through winter). If you'd prefer, you can download a challenge card or take part digitally using the Beanstack app. For details, go to [codc-qldc.govt.nz/blog/adult-reading-challenge-2022](https://codc-qldc.govt.nz/blog/adult-reading-challenge-2022)

## All is forgiven – come back to the library

Fines for overdue items sometimes stop families from using our libraries. If that's you, we've got some great news. We're running a fine-free trial for junior members until 30 September.

Bring back any overdue children's and young adults' items borrowed on a junior membership and all fines will be waived.

"Evidence from around the country has shown that overdue fines can create a barrier to the resources available at libraries," District Librarian Sue Gwilliam says. "We hope the fine-free initiative improves free access to library resources and increases borrowing."

The trial does not include lost or damaged items, or adult's items borrowed on a junior card. Nor does it cover children's and young adults' items borrowed on an adult's card. However, if it proves to be a success, it could be extended to everyone in future.

If you would like your child to have their own membership, join online at [codc-qldc.govt.nz/join](https://codc-qldc.govt.nz/join) or ask a librarian for help.

**libraries**  
whare pukapuka  
Queenstown Lakes

# Burn Dry, Breathe Easy

The release of an Otago study showing a link between woodsmoke and health risks is a timely reminder about heating our homes in winter.

Woodsmoke pollution can be reduced when we burn only dry wood, keep our fire hot, not smouldering, and keep our homes thermally efficient with good insulation.

The research provides good, local data as the Otago Regional Council (ORC) begins work on its Air Plan review later this year.

The findings also highlight the need to replace older wood burners with no-emission appliances or ultra-low emission wood burners if possible. These are kinder to our air and to people's health.

ORC's winter campaign 'Burn Dry, Breathe Easy' highlights ways you can ensure your firewood stays dry over winter, and the effects that burning wet wood and other items can have on the air we breathe.

Read about the study and find out more about heating your home well here:  
[www.orc.govt.nz/burndrybreatheeasy](http://www.orc.govt.nz/burndrybreatheeasy)



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QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL

# Natural Hazards

## CONSULTATION REPORT RELEASED ON GORGE ROAD NATURAL HAZARDS REVIEW

Last year, Council staff presented four possible response options to mitigate risk from rockfall and debris flow in the Brewery Creek and Reavers Lane areas along Gorge Road in Queenstown, and we asked community members for their views on the potential available options.

The four options were no changes being made, building engineering structures, putting planning rules in place, and moving people out of harm's way.

Council recently released a report detailing the results of consultation, finding those who participated were concerned about the natural hazard risk and its implications for personal safety, the long-term viability of the area, and financial implications for those who owned property in the area.

Engineering options and the installation of rockfall fencing were identified as the preferred responses. However, there isn't a single engineering option that mitigates all of the potential risk which means Council's proposed approach will need to consider additional measures.

Council staff continue to work on preparing a 'preferred response package' that addresses risk in these areas, taking into account community feedback and advice received from technical experts.

This package will recommend mitigation and response actions, as well as identifying the further steps required to develop actions and

implement them. We expect to present the preferred response to Full Council on Thursday 30 June, when Councillors will be asked to consider undertaking further work.

We plan to share details with affected community members in advance of the Full Council meeting. It's important to note that no decision will be made by Councillors at that time. If endorsed, QLDC will continue to develop the detail of the package for a Council decision at a later date.

We'd like to thank those who took the time to attend the consultation sessions in November and December 2021, and for discussing this important plan review with Council staff.

The feedback we received from the community continues to assist Council staff, and we'd encourage all potentially affected landowners, occupiers and businesses in the area to read through the consultation report if they haven't already.

The consultation report and more information on the Gorge Road Natural Hazards Review can be found at: [letstalk.qldc.govt.nz](https://letstalk.qldc.govt.nz)

REAVERS  
LANE

BREWERY  
(BUSH) CREEK

Flooding at Glenorchy in February 2020.



### NEW FINDINGS ON GLENORCHY HAZARDS RELEASED

Recent natural hazard findings commissioned by the Otago Regional Council (ORC) for the Glenorchy-Kinloch area at the head of Lake Whakatipu have been released.

While the area has a long history of large-scale environmental changes to the rivers and floodplains, the new geotechnical investigations with detailed modelling and analysis provide a much better understanding of the area's natural hazards challenges. More information on the project, including the findings from the two reports, can be found here: [www.orc.govt.nz/holw](http://www.orc.govt.nz/holw)

ORC would like to thank everyone in the Glenorchy community for their participation and feedback during this process. It would like to stay in touch so follow-up sessions for the Glenorchy community will be scheduled. Please subscribe to its monthly newsletter for dates, or feel free to contact ORC's Natural Hazards team on **0800 474 082** or email us: [headofthelake@orc.govt.nz](mailto:headofthelake@orc.govt.nz).

QLDC is reviewing the implications of these findings and will be working closely with ORC on next steps.

**BOWEN PEAK**



## SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

An action packed two weeks from Monday 9 July to Friday 22 July at Queenstown Events Centre and Wānaka Recreation Centre

Bookings are open! Download the brochure and book your spot at [qldc.govt.nz/recreation](http://qldc.govt.nz/recreation)

 **QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL**

# Let's talk

Don't miss the opportunity to have your say. Join heaps of other locals signing up to get involved – head to [letstalk.qldc.govt.nz](http://letstalk.qldc.govt.nz) and register today!



There are lots of important topics to talk about this year so keep your eyes peeled for details on key projects on which we'll be seeking your input.

## CURRENT CONSULTATIONS:

### QUEENSTOWN EVENTS CENTRE/FRANKTON GOLF CENTRE LAND DISPOSAL

Proposed land disposal and reorientation of Frankton Golf Centre to support major intersection upgrade at SH6-6A.

**Status:** Consultation underway, submissions close 14 July 2022.

### INCREASED INVESTMENT IN CARDRONA WATER SUPPLY

Proposed increase to budget and debt recovery to invest in a community drinking water scheme for Cardrona Valley.

**Status:** Consultation underway, submissions close 14 July 2022.

### BALLANTYNE ROAD RECREATION MASTERPLAN

Creating a plan to transform the old Ballantyne Road oxidation pond site into a community recreation hub.

**Status:** Early engagement underway, feedback closes 10 July 2022.

## UPDATES ON RECENT CONSULTATION TOPICS:

### ANNUAL PLAN 2022-23

**Status:** Consultation complete. Final plan due to be adopted 30 June 2022.

### CLIMATE AND BIODIVERSITY PLAN 2022-25

**Status:** Consultation complete. Final plan due to be adopted 30 June 2022.

### DISTRICT-WIDE PARKING STRATEGY

**Status:** Targeted consultation complete. Community consultation on a draft Strategy expected later in 2022.

### QUEENSTOWN ARTS CENTRE BUILDING

**Status:** A submission hearing is scheduled for June and a decision is expected by August 2022.

WHAT'S COMING UP. There's lots of other topics coming up this year too. Keep an eye out for:

PROJECT MANAWA

ALCOHOL BYLAWS

KIMIĀKAU RESOURCE RECOVERY HUB

TRANSPORT PLANNING IN WĀNAKA AND QUEENSTOWN

SPATIAL PLAN

## QLDC & SERVICE CENTRES

### Queenstown Office:

10 Gorge Road  
Private Bag 50072, Queenstown  
Phone: 03 441 0499

### Wānaka Office:

47 Ardmore Street, Wānaka  
Phone: 03 443 0024

E-mail: [services@qldc.govt.nz](mailto:services@qldc.govt.nz)  
[www.qldc.govt.nz](http://www.qldc.govt.nz)

### Office Hours:

Weekdays 8.00am – 5.00pm

## QUEENSTOWN EVENTS CENTRE

Arrowtown Athenaeum Hall  
Queenstown Memorial Hall  
Lake Hayes Pavilion  
Lake Wānaka Centre  
Alpine Aqualand  
Alpine Health & Fitness  
Sports fields  
Phone: 03 450 9005

## WĀNAKA RECREATION CENTRE

Wānaka Pool  
Indoor Courts  
Phone: 03 443 9334

## TRANSFER STATIONS

**Wakatipu:** 110 Glenda Drive  
Frankton Industrial Area  
Phone: 03 348 5126  
**Upper Clutha:** Cnr of Ballantyne  
& Riverbank Roads  
Phone: 03 348 6125

## HARBOURMASTER

Report non-compliance of waterway rules by phone **03 441 0499** or email [services@qldc.govt.nz](mailto:services@qldc.govt.nz)

In an emergency on the water always **call 111**

## LIBRARIES

For library opening hours and locations please head to [codc-qldc.govt.nz](http://codc-qldc.govt.nz)

EDITOR: REBECCA PITTS

TO ADVERTISE CONTACT:

✉ [rebecca.pitts@qldc.govt.nz](mailto:rebecca.pitts@qldc.govt.nz)  
Feedback and ideas are welcome.

Sam White  
✉ [sam.white@qldc.govt.nz](mailto:sam.white@qldc.govt.nz)

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