

Scutteebutt april / May 2022 // ISSUE 148

Climate and Biodiversity Plan – have your say now!

This decade is crucial for the planet. So are our collective next steps. Don't miss the chance to have your say on our latest plan which includes more than 60 actions to respond locally to global climate change. Read more on page 6.

Feedback closes Monday 25 April



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** or our **Facebook page** for any updates caused by changes to the COVID-19 Protection Framework.

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Tell us if you want to save paper and read Scuttlebutt online. See page 5 for details.



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A century of Anzac Memorials

This year's Anzac Day sees both the Fallen Soldiers Memorial Arch in Queenstown and Wānaka's War Memorial celebrate their centenaries.

With the help of the Lakes District Museum and the Upper Clutha Historical Records Society we've gathered together some background on the origins of both monuments.

QUEENSTOWN FALLEN SOLDIERS MEMORIAL ARCH

The town's community originally pondered the idea of a playground, then decided their memorial should be a more sombre place of remembrance. A monument was suggested, in addition to a drinking fountain and an arch.

The decision was made to construct an arch in a prominent waterfront location beside the Queenstown Gardens, serving as a reminder to residents and visitors alike of the sacrifice made by their small community. Locals raised funds with the financial sacrifice considered no comparison to that faced by those who served and died. The local Returned and Services Association also had a fund for a memorial.

38 potential designs were sent by the Minister of Internal Affairs to Queenstown and then exhibited for three days. The tender of Messrs Fletcher Bros., builders from Dunedin, was accepted for the creation of the chosen design at the price of £274 plus the cost of placing the names on tablets.

The Fallen Soldiers Memorial is unique in that the decision was made to include not only the names of those who had fallen in World War I, inscribed upon the northwestern face of the arch, but to also incorporate a Roll of Honour listing all who had served and returned, inscribed along the southeastern face.

However, some of the returned soldiers at the time did not approve of having their names so inscribed as they considered it insulting to their fallen comrades.

The Queenstown Fallen Soldiers Memorial Arch was unveiled on Anzac Day 1922. After World War II, a small plaque was added to the lower portion of the archway to commemorate those local servicemen killed in that second great conflict.

WĀNAKA WAR MEMORIAL

Originally called the Fallen Soldiers' Memorial, the Wānaka War Memorial was unveiled on 20 February 1922 by Member of Parliament Mr J. Horn. The names of 15 soldiers from the Upper Clutha who served in World War I were inscribed on the memorial, with additional names added following World War II and one from the Boer War.

The Wānaka Patriotic Association had formed during WWI to support soldiers serving overseas. On 11 March 1919, a discussion was held in the Pembroke Hall about a suitable district memorial to local soldiers. Two proposals were made: a cairn on Mount Iron and a Memorial Hall.

However, a decision was made on 18 May 1921 to instead create a monument of concrete, with marble relief and slabs bearing the Roll of Honour. The monument was to be erected on the hill behind the post office.

A woman's name on a First World War memorial might be considered relatively unusual, but the Upper Clutha's very own Catherine Fox is listed on the Wānaka War Memorial. She enlisted to serve overseas and was with a group of New Zealand Army Nursing Service nurses on a troopship heading for Thessaloniki in Greece. The ship was torpedoed with the loss of an estimated 167 nurses, soldiers, firemen and sailors.

The Upper Clutha Historical Records Society says research is still underway to identify further lost servicemen and women from the Upper Clutha who served in WWII.

We'd like to thank the Lakes District Museum and the Upper Clutha Historical Records Society for their valuable contributions, with special thanks to Jo Boyd and Ken Allan for their time.



Unveiling the Fallen Soldiers Memorial in Queenstown, photo dated 9 May 1922 (image courtesy of the Lakes District Museum).



Wānaka War Memorial unveiling, 20 February 1922 (image courtesy of the Upper Clutha Historical Records Society).

Council offices including our libraries will be closed to commemorate Anzac Day on Monday 25 April. Facilities at Queenstown Events Centre and Wānaka Recreation Centre will be open from 1.00-8.00pm.



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Check out the proposal and have your say at **letstalk.qldc.govt.nz** from 26 April.

What's the future for the Queenstown Arts Centre?

Later this month, we'll be consulting on the future of the Queenstown Arts Centre building on Stanley Street.

The proposal is to remove the building from Council's strategic assets register. This would allow the building to be removed or relocated, taking a further step towards supporting the longer-term use of the land for Project Manawa – a new cultural and civic heart for the whole district.

The Stanley Street site has long been a topic of conversation in our community. In 2017 it was identified in the Queenstown Town Centre Masterplan as the preferred location for a community heart with new Council offices and a variety of cultural facilities to benefit the whole district. In June 2019, Councillors approved a proposal to enter into a Partnering Agreement with Ngāi Tahu Property to agree a development plan for the site.

During 2020-21 the Three Lakes Cultural Trust, with Council's assistance, secured a lease on premises in Frankton to develop a community arts and culture hub. Known as Te Atamira, the facilities will provide a significantly improved space for a wide range of groups, including existing tenants of the Queenstown Arts Centre and Queenstown Performing Arts Trust buildings, whose leases end in May.

Read more about Te Atamira on page 18. Read about Project Manawa on our website www.qldc.govt.nz/ project-manawa

Life at Red

As this edition of Scuttlebutt went to print many of the Government's measures to slow the spread of COVID-19 and protect public health were being lifted, and we were expecting the return of overseas visitors starting with our Aussie mates. Awesome news!

There is no longer a need to use the COVID Tracer app and vaccine passes will no longer be required to enter our facilities (although these were never required at our customer service offices).

However, Omicron remains in our community and its effects continue to be felt across the district.

The traffic light system remains in place (we were still at red as we went to print) and right now it's as important as ever to keep doing our bit to keep each other safe.

Mask wearing indoors continues to be a valuable weapon against the virus, as does the need for people to stay home if they are symptomatic or when someone in their household tests positive.

If you do need help getting through, then a good place to start is the Te Hau Toka Southern Lakes Wellbeing Group – they're on Facebook @tehautoka.

Things can and do change quickly and we'll continue to take our lead from official guidance from the Government and the Ministry of Health. So keep an eye on the usual channels as well as our own website and Facebook pages for the latest info:

- > www.covid19.govt.nz
- > www.health.govt.nz
- > www.southernhealth.nz/tehautoka
- > www.qldc.govt.nz
- > www.facebook.com/QLDCinfo

Scuttlebutt online

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 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**

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Climate and Biodiversity Plan – have your say now!

WHAT IS THE PLAN?

The draft Climate and Biodiversity Plan 2022-2025 sets out how the district is going to respond to climate change and includes more than 60 actions.

These range from reducing carbon emissions through more effective land-use planning and infrastructure design, to regenerating native forest.

The plan is currently open for community feedback – we want to know what you think!

OUR GOALS

- The mauri (life force or essence) of our ecosystems is protected and restored; indigenous biodiversity is regenerated.
- Queenstown Lakes is a place that is ready and prepared to adapt to a changing climate.
- Our district reduces its greenhouse gas emissions by 44% by 2030 and achieves net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

THE NITTY-GRITTY

Katherine Durman, QLDC's climate action programme manager, said there is a focus on embedding climate change into Council decision making. This includes in our business cases, policies, and planning work.

"Some of the actions are quite technical and delve into the nitty-gritty for subject-matter experts, such as procurement and building materials, while others are broader, such as pledging our commitment to the international effort to limit global warming to 1.5°C," Katherine said.

Many of the actions in the plan require close partnerships with other agencies, communities, and conservation groups.

OUR CHALLENGES

Bill Nicoll, QLDC's risk and resilience manager, said responding to climate change isn't easy.

"We know it will require significant behavioural change in everything we do as a community. We've been up front in the plan about the challenges we think we face – both as a Council and as a district.

One of the ideas that's important to us is ensuring that our communities are resilient to these challenges and that people don't get left behind as we start to transition to new technologies, new ways of getting around, working, and living."

> Community feedback is open until 5.00pm 25 April, check out letstalk.qldc.govt.nz.

THIS PLAN BELONGS TO THE DISTRICT

Katherine said the plan will set our direction on climate change for the next three years.

"This plan belongs to our district. We're urging community groups, businesses, young people, and all our residents to have a look at this plan and let us know what they think."





We're also consulting on the 2022-2023 Annual Plan that highlights the progress made on major capital projects, sets priorities for the year ahead and provides a detailed breakdown showing the impact on rates that our proposed work programme would have.

The consultation process also provides an opportunity for community groups to apply for grants for oneoff projects or operational costs for the 2022-2023 financial year.

Community consultation closes 25 April. Following hearings in Wānaka on Wednesday 25 May and Queenstown on Friday 27 May (or online depending on COVID restrictions at the time), Councillors will consider adopting the final 2022-2023 Annual Plan at the Full Council meeting on Thursday 30 June.

Copies of the Annual Plan and consultation document are available at Council offices at Gorge Road, Queenstown and Ardmore Street, Wānaka as well as library branches across the district. Full details are also online at **letstalk.qldc.govt.nz**.

Standing for elections

Do you know someone who loves to roll up their sleeves and get the job done? 2022 is an election year for local government, and we're looking for local leaders who are keen to stand for Council, Community Board, or the role of Mayor.

KEEN TO FIND OUT MORE?

There's heaps of info and some really useful FAQs at taituara.org.nz /local-elections-2022 Candidate nominations open 15 July and close 12 August. We will keep our own website and social media channels up to date with all the latest information:



facebook.com /QLDCinfo



Lakefront transformation continues

Construction of Stage Two of the Wānaka Lakefront Development Plan kicked off before Easter.

This will transform the area between McDougall Street and Dungarvon Street with car-free grass lawns, unobstructed views and a shared pathway connecting Mt Aspiring Road Carpark with the town centre and then on to the similar pathway up to the marina created as part of Stage Three last year (yes, we know two normally comes before three!). Stage Two will also see new informative tiles laid down to continue the legacy of the Millennium Pathway, a much loved and Instagrammed community project.

The work involves the temporary closure of Ardmore Street in front of Pembroke Park until September. Whilst we appreciate this will create a change to how people normally get about, it will mean the project can be delivered sooner, cheaper and more safely for the construction crews. Clear, sign-posted diversions along Brownston Street will be in place, along with a clear message to locals and returning visitors that Wānaka remains open for business.

Heaps of feedback from open day

We're now reviewing all these ideas with LHESCCA and preparing to go out to tender for the work involved. Watch this space!

More than 400 people came along to a public open day at 516 Frankton-Ladies Mile Highway co-hosted by Council staff and the Lake Hayes Estate and Shotover Country Community Association (LHESCCA) at the end of March.

This followed Council's recent approval to convert the property into a multi-purpose community facility.

It was great to see so many locals walk around the site on a lovely sunny day, talk to the team involved and provide feedback on the concept plans for the main building.

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We received heaps of great feedback and ideas about the potential layout as well as longer-term uses for the open spaces surrounding the house. One thing most people agreed on was that the old interior colour scheme definitely needed to change!

Clyde's Linda McLeary points out one of the suggestions for the new community facility to her mother Julie White, who is a resident of nearby Queenstown Country Club retirement village (image credit: Lakes Weekly Bulletin).



From the Chambers

KAWARAU FALLS BRIDGE

Would you believe it's been more than three years since motorists had to wait at traffic lights to get across the single lane bridge at Kawarau Falls? After decades waiting for a two-way bridge, it was a redletter day in May 2018 when traffic flowed over the new bridge in both directions for the first time. The old bridge has remained in place and is now an important connection on the Queenstown Trail network. It's also listed as a Category 1 historic place, an outstanding natural feature in the District Plan, and is approaching its 100th birthday having been constructed between 1922 and 1926. Unusually for a bridge, it is actually owned by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment which has invited Council to purchase the bridge for a nominal sum on the basis that it becomes a 'local road' (and therefore under Council's control) on revocation of its highway status. Council initially considered purchasing the bridge at its February meeting but raised a number of guestions and ultimately decided to leave the item lying on the table. The item will be discussed again and a final decision made at the Full Council meeting in either April or June.

TREE POLICY REVIEW

Feedback on a draft new Tree Policy recently closed so, firstly, a big thank you to everyone who provided us with your thoughts. Much of the feedback focused on biodiversity, consultation and safety, and these comments and suggestions will be considered as we finalise the policy. We'll also make sure the policy is aligned with the Climate and Biodiversity Plan but another important goal is to make sure it's like a well-trimmed topiary: to the point. The proposed policy is less than half the length of the existing (2006) version which means that you will also help save trees if you have to print it (keeping a PDF on file is even better!). A formal report on the draft policy will be presented to the Community and Services Committee mid-year and reported to Full Council for adoption prior to the election.

SHORT AND SWEET...

Council will consider the Te Pūtahi Ladies Mile Masterplan and planning provisions this year. The item is currently set down for consideration in June.

At its meeting on 31 March, the Wānaka Community Board recommended to Council that the \$500,000 loaned to the Wānaka Community Hub be converted to a grant. This will now be discussed in the Full Council meeting on 28 April.

Council is a step closer to revoking the reserve status of the former Wānaka Community Pool site. There were two submissions on the proposal but neither raised objections. Ultimately, Council hopes to be able to sell the land to the Ministry of Education for Mt Aspiring College to use.

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

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



Bookmarks made with love

"What does aroha mean to you?"

The theme of the Queenstown Lakes Libraries' Summer Reading Challenge bookmark design competition sparked a flood of heartfelt designs that filled the librarians with joy.

"Luckily the winning designs are chosen by lucky dip because it would have been too hard to choose," said Children's Services Librarian Shana Makuta.

Six bookmarks have been professionally printed for use by library members. The big-hearted designers were:





Ruby Thornburgh, 11 of Queenstown



George McCormack, 8 of Wānaka



of Frankton



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Rescuing good food from landfill

"Why should we let perfectly good food go to landfill when there are people who need it?"

This is the question Kayleigh Simons-Smith asks herself.

Ms Simons-Smith is the Queenstown branch manager for KiwiHarvest, a food rescue charity that collects good food before it goes to waste and delivers it to those in need.

"Food insecurity around New Zealand is a real problem – even here in our district which from the outside has a reputation for being affluent. For many, the fact that some of our district's families are struggling with food security will come as a shock," she said.

KiwiHarvest has been working in Queenstown with support from QLDC since 2018, rescuing good food from supermarkets and wholesalers that would otherwise be destined for landfill. Last year it rescued more than 80,000kg of food locally. Once the food is collected, KiwiHarvest delivers it to community groups and charities including Mana Tāhuna Charitable Trust, Happiness House and Whakatipu Youth Trust.

And there's another major benefit to rescuing food – and that's environmental.

"Food that is disposed of incorrectly doesn't break down properly and creates harmful greenhouse gases as well as filling up our landfills unnecessarily. So the benefit of rescuing food is two-fold for me: we can reduce our carbon emissions from landfill, and we can help whānau in need. It's a win-win," said Ms Simons-Smith.

More recently the Queenstown team has branched out into collecting food from cafés and bakeries.

Using funds from Council's Waste Minimisation Community Fund they bought an e-bike from ChargeAbout Queenstown and a trailer from Christchurch to help with their food collection.

"It's the perfect size for getting around the CBD's small streets and we're stoked to have received support from the fund to help make this happen."

A team of volunteers help with the food collection, pedalling around town three times a week. The food is from the previous day which cafés were unable to sell but is still good to eat.

Those currently signed up to the project are Queenstown Signs Café, Yonder, Bespoke Kitchen, Starbucks Queenstown, Taste and Savour, Exchange, Vudu Larder and Queenstown Bakery.

If you're interested in volunteering, run a café that would like to donate food, or simply want to learn more contact Ms Simons-Smith on Queenstown@kiwiharvest. org.nz or 021 385246.













Yonder staff participating in KiwiHarvest's food rescue mission.



Kayleigh Simons-Smith on the new e-bike and trailer used for collecting food around Queenstown CBD.



Kayleigh Simons-Smith (right) rescuing food from The Exchange to deliver to charities supporting families in Queenstown Lakes.



Do you also have a clever idea for cutting waste in the Queenstown Lakes District?

Just like KiwiHarvest, we can help make it a reality with up to \$120,000 to distribute in the next financial year.

The Waste Minimisation Community Fund is open to community groups, businesses, iwi / Māori organisations, educational institutions, and other community-based organisations operating in the district. We're particularly interested in initiatives that address gaps in existing programmes, create new opportunities to minimise waste, and encourage community participation.

Applications to the latest round close on 29 April 2022. For more info head to www.qldc.govt.nz/wmcf or email zerowaste@qldc.govt.nz with any questions.



Let's Talk parking

We're developing a district-wide parking strategy which will feed into comprehensive parking management plans for our communities.

The strategy will provide a framework to guide consistent decision making on how we manage parking at a holistic, district-wide level. The comprehensive parking management plans will get into more detail around actions we can take to manage parking in specific areas.

Through this process we'll consider how parking is managed to meet the different needs of our diverse communities in the short, medium and long term.

We will look at how to make best use of the existing parking supply across the district and target known problems to ensure there's enough parking available for those who need it most, such as those with mobility challenges or delivering goods and services.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Parking is always a hot topic and as a community we've talked a lot about the issues over the past few years. We're drawing on all the feedback we've received so far to help us start to prepare the draft Parking Strategy.

We're also gathering some targeted feedback from specific user groups and our smaller communities where there might be different issues to those in our main centres. This will help us ensure we have a broad understanding of the issues and opportunities from right across the district. There will be a wider opportunity for the whole community to provide feedback on the draft Parking Strategy a little later in the year.

If you're interested in reading more about this process head to: **letstalk.qldc.govt.nz/district-wide-parkingstrategy-and-comprehensive-management-plans**

Changes coming up in Tāhuna Queenstown

Keep your eyes peeled for new signage if you're parking in the Queenstown Town Centre – there are a number of changes coming in as the street upgrade programme progresses.

SHARED ZONES

From the middle of 2022, Lower Beach Street will become a high-quality shared zone, prioritising access for pedestrians and cyclists.

While general parking will be removed from this area, you will be able to pick up and drop off passengers and goods at any time. Mobility permit holders will be able to park for up to 60 minutes. CCTV cameras will be operating in this area.

> All parking changes will be clearly marked with either signage or broken yellow lines – please keep your eyes peeled and always double check the signage while you get used to the changes.



PARKING CHANGES

There are a number of temporary and permanent parking changes coming into play in the centre of Queenstown over the next couple of months. We are working on detailed parking maps for our website but in the meantime, some of the key changes you can expect include:

New car pool spaces along Gorge Road

Temporary changes to loading zones and timed restrictions right across the town centre

Rees Street and Lower Brecon / Duke Street to become a shared zone

New mobility parking on Church Street, Brisbane Street and Park Street

P10 (pick up and drop off 8.30 – 9.30am, 2.30 – 3.30pm on school days) on parts of Melbourne and Hallenstein Streets (P120 all other times).

You can read more about what changes are coming up at www.qldc.govt.nz/services/ transport-and-parking/parking

Have your say on alcohol licence applications

Did you know all alcohol licence applications are listed as public notices on our website?

If you're interested in checking out current applications, having your say on a particular licence, or requesting a redacted copy of the licence you're interested in, just head to www.qldc.govt.nz/services/alcohollicensing/have-your-say-on-alcohol-licenceapplications.



Urban Design and Landscape Architecture

www.reseturban.co.nz



The NZ Mountain Film & Book Festival is back for its 20th year

Celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, the muchloved NZ Mountain Film & Book Festival takes place in Wānaka from 24-29 June and in Queenstown from 30 June to 2 July. Fans will also be able to enjoy the popular online sessions from 24 June to 24 July.

The nine-day event is a celebration of adventurous sports and lifestyles presented for film and book enthusiasts, intrepid explorers and armchair adventurers alike. World-class filmmakers and authors will be showcasing their work and vying for generous cash prizes, ensuring an action-packed and aweinspiring programme.

This year's line up once again features presentations from inspiring Kiwi adventurers, writers and film makers, along with premieres, book launches, art displays, live music, a trade show and charity auction. With free family shows and youth programmes the festival is a true community event. From humble beginnings as the Wānaka Mountain Slide Festival where presenters gave slide shows using pre-digital 35mm projectors, the NZ Mountain Film & Book Festival is now a member of the International Alliance for Mountain Film and sits on the international calendar alongside the world's other prestigious mountain festivals.

In 2012 founders Jo and Mark Sedon made the decision to create a charitable trust and the festival now raises money for three key causes close to their hearts: training youth in outdoor adventure skills, helping people with disabilities to buy sporting equipment, and participating in environmental projects.

QLDC has supported the festival since its inception 20 years ago helping to inspire our local community, shining a light

on local talent and putting many thousands of adventurous eyes on the Wānaka/Queenstown area globally.

Tickets and programme details will be released in May. Check out **mountainfilm.nz** to become a supporter.

16 THE QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

At your service

A pothole in your street? A leaky pipe? A broken swing in your favourite park?

We want to know about it so we can fix it.

To make sure your request for service gets to the right place, we're streamlining our current system.

Sounds simple enough but this is a major undertaking involving many staff and external contractors who pick up the requests as they come in.

The result will be a request management system that's easier to use and more customer focused. Tailored questions for specific types of request will help ensure we get the right info to direct them to the right department or contractor first time.

The launch of the new system is currently scheduled for late May.

If you are aware of things that need our attention, Fix It forms can be found on our website at www.qldc.govt.nz/do-it-online/contact-us-fix-it.



BOOTCAMP

Tell Me Yes is BACK! Keep your muscles warm this winter as our bootcamp returns for term 2 from 2 May to 29 June (8 weeks)

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OPTION 2: MIXED-STYLE

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QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL

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利 qldc.govt.nz/recreation

Te Atamira – the stage is set

Te Atamira is Queenstown's newest multi-purpose arts space with a wide-ranging programme of exhibitions, displays, workshops, classes, performances and events designed for everyone to be creative, every day. In te reo, Te Atamira means platform or stage, which is exactly what it aims to be: a place for everyone to practice, produce and experience art and creative practice in its many forms.

When its doors open this autumn, Te Atamira will be home to 22 purpose-built spaces including:

- a contemporary art gallery featuring local, national and international artists;
- > a curated shop showcasing artisan products;
- > dance studios;
- > a pottery studio;
- an 80-seat theatre;
- > music and performance rehearsal spaces;
- a project space for displays, exhibitions, community meetings and intimate public events;
- > an art workshop and teaching space;
- > a hang-out space for young people;
- > music teaching rooms and art studios.

Run by a not-for-profit charitable trust, the space has been designed with the community at heart. It will be a space for everyone from seasoned dancers to newbies that want to give ceramics a go for the first time. Alongside music, dance and performance classes, it will also offer creative workshops, drop-in art classes, after-school and holiday programmes as well as a wide variety of exhibitions and events open to all and catering to diverse interests and audiences.

The project is the culmination of a 20-year-old conversation around developing the arts in the district by providing infrastructure, building capacity and skills to support the growth of cultural industries.

With the help of QLDC, the Three Lakes Cultural Trust and many other groups and individuals in the community, Te Atamira's team can't wait to open its doors to a world of creativity, curiosity and imagination!

Find out more at www.teatamira.nz

The first exhibition in Te Atamira's new gallery space is Bailee Lobb's 'In Bathing, Bask' – an installation of large, brightly coloured inflatable sculptures that transform the gallery into an immersive and playful environment (image: Bailee Lobb; courtesy of the artist).

Committed to Welcoming Communities

We've recently become one of just ten local councils nationwide to achieve accreditation under Immigration New Zealand's (INZ) Welcoming Communities Waharoa ki ngā Hapori programme.

The programme brings together local councils and communities to make the places we love more welcoming for everyone.

As a Committed Welcoming Community – the first stage of four under the programme – INZ has recognised that our district values newcomers and is committed to building a welcoming and inclusive community.

Since formally joining the programme last year, we've held an online hui for Queenstown-based newcomer groups and started engaging with similar groups in the Upper Clutha.

We're also inviting expressions of interest to be part of an advisory group that will help guide the creation of a Welcoming Plan for the whole district. Further discussions with mana whenua about iwi involvement in the programme are also part of the next phase.

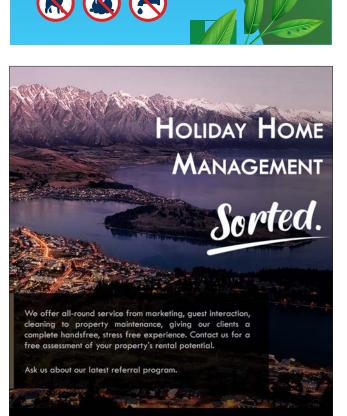
Find out more and stay connected at www.qldc.govt.nz/welcoming-communities



Pigeon Island Hut

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You'll need a booking to use this hut from 1 April 2022. For more details and to make a booking go to www.qldc.govt.co.nz /pigeonisland



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STAY



Everybody loves good neighbours!

Our new community play space just outside Wānaka Recreation Centre (WRC) hosted a number of recent events to celebrate Neighbour's Day Aotearoa (18-27 March).

WRC Manager Allan Wainwright said the space is going to be an important part of the WRC community. "It's a space where we can come together and do great things," he said.

"We had such a great turnout to the Neighbour's Day events. The kids got a kick out of making bee hotels for the garden and those with a green thumb were able to swap seeds and garden secrets." "I think we'll see some fantastic gardens next season as everyone practices the new skills we learnt including some top tips from Dr Compost."

"The next thing on our agenda is to gather feedback about the space. If you're interested in seeing improvements or want to see something added, check out our short survey," said Allan. Scan this QR code to complete the survey...



Calculating for climate change

Local tourism workshops proving a huge success.

Over the past few months, more than 20 businesses around Queenstown and Wānaka have taken part in the Climate Action Initiative (CAI), a programme which aims to give local businesses and schools a roadmap for calculating and reducing their greenhouse gas emissions

Claire Akin-Smith, Chair for Wao Aotearoa, the non-profit educator behind CAI, says the programme has been a resounding success.

"There was such a buzz in the air at the end of the final workshop. Businesses were informed and excited to change the way they operate for the better," she said. The CAI is jointly funded by Lake Wānaka Tourism, Destination Queenstown and Queenstown Lakes District Council.

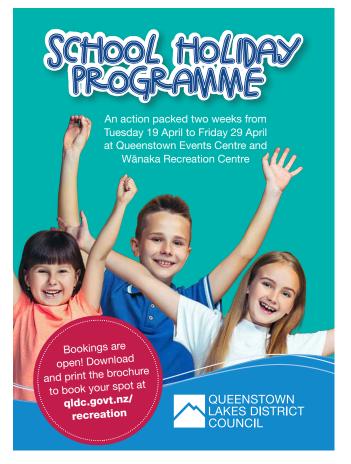
Wao Aotearoa has already been contacted by other Regional Tourism Organisations wanting to launch this programme to tourism operators and businesses in their region, and plans are underway to run another local round of the programme.

To register your interest visit **www.wao.co.nz** or follow **@WaoAotearoa** on Facebook.

Want to join other businesses in the Queenstown Lakes taking Climate Action? **Register your interest now.**



To register and learn more about the **Wao Climate Action Initiative** visit **www.wao.co.nz**



'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.



Our inaugural Dogs Day Out at Arrowtown Memorial Pool was a howling success. Paddling pooches of all shapes and sizes enjoyed a cooling dip after the pool had closed to humans for another summer season. Thanks to everyone who came along and helped raise \$456 for the SPCA! Image credit - Laura Holzner (lauraholznermedia.com)



Natural inspiration for mural

The work of three local artists is brightening up the walls of Kā Huanui a Tāhuna's temporary construction laydown area on Stanley Street. For her 40m mural, Ronnie Baker chose native species as the theme, inviting Queenstown Arts Centre, Whakatipu Reforestation Trust and students from local primary schools to help. The trust's education and outreach officer Jo Smith (right) is pictured with Ronnie and the kids at the unveiling.



Nurturing Glenorchy natives

Glenorchy Community Native Nursery opened in March to support native planting in the area. QLDC provided funding for the project while local residents and contractors have so far racked up more than 300 hours' work. Pictured (L to R): John Glover, Amanda Hasselman, Corrine Davis, Christina Lister, Mark Hasselman. Image credit – Whakatipu



Pop-up books with a difference

The Queenstown Lakes Libraries team created a whole new style of pop-up book with their recent StoryWalk at Lake Hāwea's Peter Fraser Park. Pages of Hipi the Sheep were displayed on poles for familes to enjoy reading together as they walked. Watch out for more pop-up StoryWalks near you soon!



Lighting up for St Patrick's Day Following a nationwide request from the Ambassador of Ireland to 'green' some of the country's iconic landmarks on Ireland's national day, QLDC joined forces with local event and audio-visual company TomTom Productions to project a stunning Celticthemed light show onto Queenstown lakefront's Eichardt's Private Hotel.



Our Winter Paralympic champions Mayor Boult recently welcomed home skier Adam Hall who added a further two bronze medals to his collection at the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games. Huge congrats also to Adam's fellow Wānaka resident Corey Peters for his own outstanding effort at Beijing where he won gold and silver medals, and all the team's coaches and support staff. *Image credit – Snow Sports NZ.*



The pages of history

Queenstown Library is celebrating 145 years of serving the community with food for the mind. From left, librarians Sharon Duncan, Amy O'Reilly and Shana Makuta hold pictures showing its three locations through the years. *Image credit – Mountain Scene*



Working out for a great cause This year's Relay for Life event in Queenstown was replaced with a series of individual 'Relay Your Way' fundraisers. Alpine Health and Fitness members and instructors led by the indomitable Andi P stepped up and raised a whopping \$1,130 for the Cancer Society. Huge thanks to everyone involved. Pictured (L to R) are Violet Smillie, Andi P, Drey Tendron, Deni Zawalski and Nat Jakobs.

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** and register today!



Here's an update on some key consultation topics happening in 2022. There are lots of important projects to talk about this year so keep your eyes peeled for details of those we'll be seeking your input on.

CURRENT CONSULTATIONS:					UPDATES ON RECENT CONSULTATION TOPICS:		
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rebecca.pitts@qldc.govt.nz Feedback and ideas are welcome. Sam White Sam.white@qldc.govt.nz

Scuttlebutt is published bi-monthly by Queenstown Lakes District Council to inform ratepayers and residents of council activities.

SCUTTLEBUTT // APRIL/MAY 2022 // ISSUE 148 // www.qldc.govt.nz

ISSN 1177-133X