

Scuttlebutt

THE QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWSLETTER // MARCH 2019 // ISSUE 130

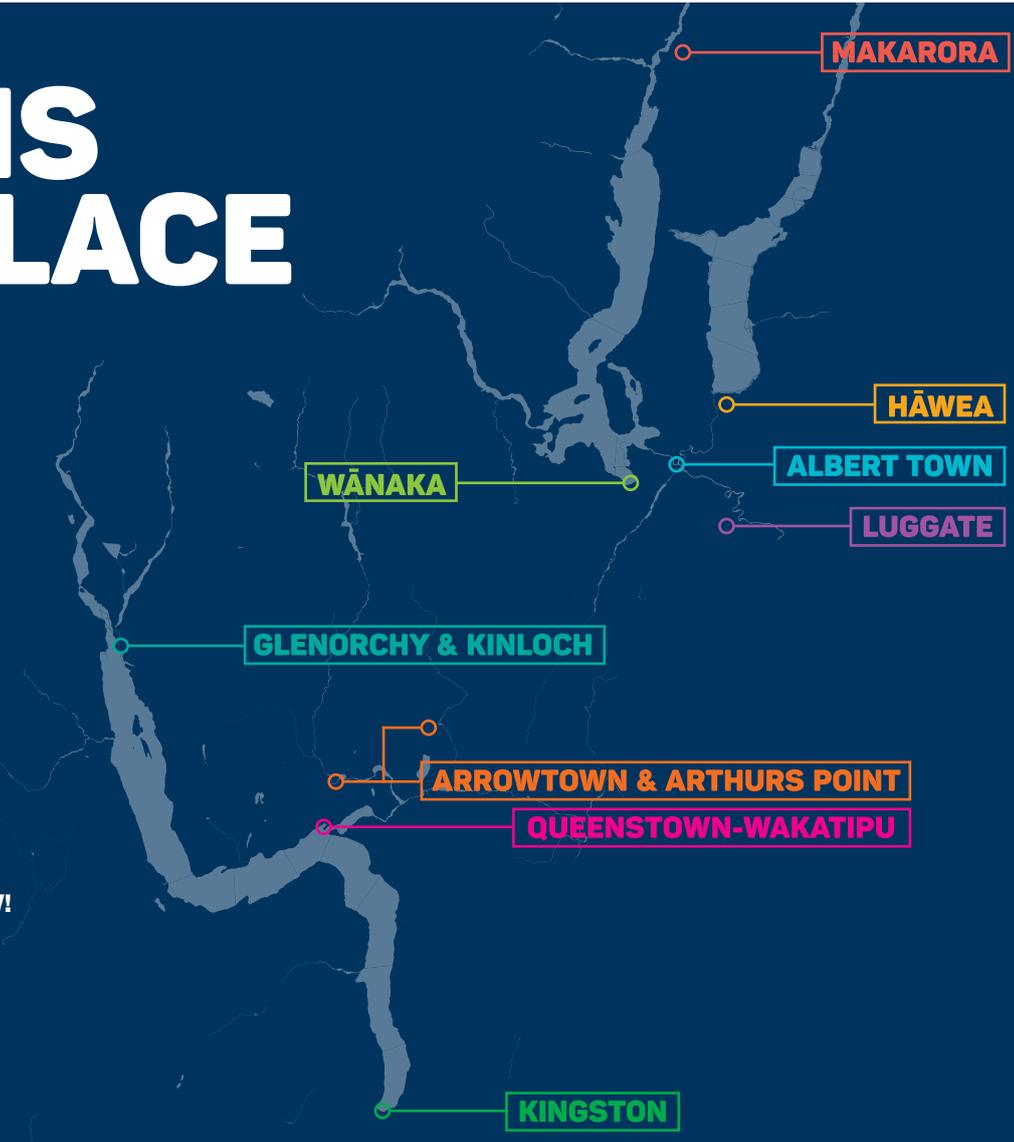
THIS IS MY PLACE

Have you got ideas to share about homes, climate change, development and land use in your town or area?

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SHARE YOUR VIEWS NOW!

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TALK



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NEW BINS
COMING



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THIS IS MY PLACE

Have you got ideas to share about housing, climate change, future development and land use in your town or area?

We're visiting a number of communities in our beautiful district over February and March to hold 'My Place' - facilitated workshops to talk about strategies around development, climate change, housing and how the District Plan works.

We've already visited Makarora and Hāwea but there are plenty more opportunities coming up for you to take part! We would love if you, and your friends and whānau are able to come along and share your views, to help us shape future strategies and plans.

For more details and to register your spot, please head to letstalk.qldc.govt.nz

If you can't get along to a workshop, you can still take part online here: letstalk.qldc.govt.nz

MY PLACE WORKSHOP DATES

LUGGATE

Monday 25 February | 6.30pm - 8.00pm | Luggate Hotel (Dining room)

ALBERT TOWN

Tuesday 26 February | 6.30pm - 8.00pm | The Prince Albert

WĀNAKA

Tuesday 5 March | 6.30pm - 8.00pm | Lake Wanaka Centre

GLENORCHY & KINLOCH

Tuesday 12 March | 6.30pm - 8.00pm | Humbolt Bar (Function room)

KINGSTON

Wednesday 13 March | 6.30pm - 8.00pm | Kingston Bowling Club

QUEENSTOWN-WAKATIPU

Monday 18 March | 6.30pm - 8.00pm
| Queenstown Events Centre

ARROWTOWN & ARTHURS POINT

Wednesday 20 March | 6.30pm - 8.00pm
| Athenaeum Hall (Supper room)

LET'S TALK QUEENSTOWN LAKES!

Do you find it difficult finding the time to get involved in the decisions that affect you?

Let's face it, we're all a busy bunch and few of us have time to head along to meetings or drop-in sessions. Well we've just made things a whole lot easier.

Let's Talk is a brand new way of talking to us online about the things that matter to you.

Use your voice anytime, anywhere.

- CHECK OUT**
letstalk.qldc.govt.nz
- REGISTER AT**
letstalk.qldc.govt.nz/register
- START HAVING YOUR SAY**
on the things you care about

But what are we talking about!

2019 has a lot in store for our district and we want to make sure your voice is heard.

That's why we're pulling together a roadmap of what we'll be talking about and when over the coming year. So whether you're interested in transport and infrastructure, future land use planning, community services, council activities or what we're doing to promote a sustainable environment, head to www.qldc.govt.nz to see the full roadmap or drop into one of our council offices or libraries to pick up a copy.

LET'S
TALK

THE ANNUAL PLAN IS COMING!

Keep an eye out for our Annual Plan consultation document for 2019/20 set to land in your letter box in the coming weeks.

This details changes from the 2018-28 Ten Year Plan and provides an opportunity for general feedback. Have your say from 11 March-12 April by return post or online at letstalk.qldc.govt.nz



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A GLIMPSE INTO THE FUTURE!

WANAKA
TOWN CENTRE
TRIALS
15-19 MARCH
2019

This March, we'll be testing out some ideas to better connect the Wanaka Town Centre with the Lakefront and bring to life the community's desire for a more pedestrian and cycle friendly area.

WHAT TO EXPECT:

A new and exciting public open space

For three days, we'll pedestrianise part of Ardmore and Helwick Streets to test out how it feels to create more car-free, space in town. This will allow us to create a new public space connecting the town centre to Lake Wanaka.

We'll run a range of activities on this space to bring it to life, including pop up activities like team dodgeball, backyard cricket, artisan markets, community group workshops, acoustic performers, street art and interactive lighting, along with street furniture, oversized board games and family activities across the whole site.

Road closures

The trials are scheduled to run from 12.00pm on Friday 15 March until 3.00pm on Monday 18 March and will be located on Ardmore and Helwick Streets.

They will involve the following road closures:

- > Ardmore Street (between Dungarvon Street and Lakeside Road)
- > Helwick Street (between Ardmore Street and Dunmore Street)
- > The closures will run from 3.00pm on Thursday 14 March until 3.00pm on Tuesday 19 March to allow for set up and removal.

A change in the way you get around town

During the trial period we'll be testing out some changes to how we use roads and carparks in the town centre, including:

- > No parking on the foreshore (free parking provided on Wanaka Showgrounds)
- > New one-way streets: Dungarvon Street (from Dunmore to Ardmore) and Ardmore Street (from Dungarvon to McDougal).
- > A dual access bus entry/turning point near the log cabin.

Opportunities to share your views

During this time, it's so important we hear your views. We want to get you thinking about what the future could look like for the Wanaka Town Centre.

Over the three days, we'll have a community information tent onsite where people can drop by and learn more about some of the proposed ideas being explored as part of the Town Centre Masterplan and transport infrastructure. You'll be able to provide your feedback then and there or if you'd like to think it through, you'll be able to jump online at home later on.

Any questions?

If you have any questions or concerns about the trials, you can email us at any time at wanakamasterplan@qldc.govt.nz

**WANAKA
TOWN CENTRE**
YOUR FUTURE



LOCAL GOOD SORTS AND THE WAKATIPU BABY MEMORIAL

The Wakatipu Baby Memorial in the Lower Shotover Cemetery is a place to remember and honour babies who have passed away.

And it's the culmination of an idea shared by two local Queenstown mothers – Natasha Murray and Ali Hanrahan.

Natasha and Ali, along with their families, have experienced losing a baby. Both women have had to learn to live in a world where the loss of a baby is a very real prospect.

The pair found an opportunity in amongst everything they've been through, to bring the community together to support and acknowledge parents and families of the Wakatipu Basin who have experienced the tragic loss of a baby, whether during pregnancy or in infancy.

Having already worked tirelessly to rally community support for their idea, both women approached QLDC with the concept of the Wakatipu Baby Memorial – a wall for plaques, a lovingly crafted statue and somewhere for visitors to sit.

They had letters of support in hand from local midwives and the community, and an insatiable desire to get things done. As the project started to take shape, Natasha and Ali proved no task was too small when it came to fundraising, firing up the barbeque and running sausage sizzles. They sourced local contractors willing to help provide resource, expertise or materials, and then organised them to keep things moving.

As a direct result of Natasha and Ali's selfless actions, the Wakatipu Basin now has a place dedicated to honouring those gone far too soon. They also offer support for families and are available to provide resources, visit and chat over the phone.

If you're interested in applying for a plaque, you'd like more information or you'd like to support this amazing initiative, please get in touch with Sands, Natasha and Ali or QLDC using the following details:

Sands, New Zealand: www.sands.org.nz

Natasha Murray/Ali Hanrahan:
wakatipu.babymemorial@outlook.com
or on Facebook [@wakatipubabymemorial](https://www.facebook.com/wakatipubabymemorial)

QLDC: **03 441 0499** or email services@qldc.govt.nz



The Wakatipu Baby Memorial features a lovingly crafted statue and quiet place for people to sit and reflect.

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IT'S THE WAKATIPU WAY TO GO

We've joined forces with the New Zealand Transport Agency and Otago Regional Council to develop and deliver a safe, connected and accessible transport network for the Wakatipu area.

Keep an eye out for a chance to jump on board the transport planning process in April

Going forward the partnership will be known as Wakatipu Way to Go, and recognises that all three agencies have an important role to play in driving change.

There has already been a significant amount of planning work completed to identify potential solutions and the group will continue to build on this, focusing on the following projects:

- > Queenstown Town Centre (*detailed business case*)
- > Frankton to Queenstown (*single stage business case*)
- > Wakatipu Active Travel Network (*single stage business case*)
- > Grant Road to Kawarau Falls Bridge (*detailed business case*)
- > Frankton Masterplan (*programme business case*)
- > Lake Wakatipu Public Water Ferry Service (*detailed business case*)
- > Queenstown Transport Modelling (*to feed into business case projects*)



WAKATIPU WAY TO GO



Keen to stay in the loop with Wakatipu Way to Go progress? Sign up for a monthly newsletter at www.qldc.govt.nz/wakatipu-way-to-go

LANDSCAPING WITH LESS WATER

A long hot summer can play havoc with your garden.

Here are some tips to help your garden survive the dry summer months.

- > Plant appropriate species for the site – check out our website for some great advice on this.
- > Add organic matter to your garden while you're planting
- > Always add mulch as you plant
- > Water early morning or late evening for better water absorption
- > Plant smaller plants with well-developed root systems.

Check out www.qldc.govt.nz/creating-a-sustainable-garden for more tips.

MAKING OUR COMMUNITIES SAFER

Identifying potentially earthquake-prone thoroughfares

We're after your thoughts on a list of potentially earthquake-prone thoroughfares in our district.

If you think a thoroughfare needs to be included or if you disagree with the proposed list, please let us know.

Read more about the proposal or to submit your feedback at www.qldc.govt.nz/identifying-potential-earthquake-prone-priority-thoroughfaresbuildings

Submissions close Friday 15 March at 5.00pm.



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RESPONSIBLE CAMPING

Over the busy summer we've been promoting our responsible camping project to campers far and wide.

With just over a month to go on the trials, we thought we'd share some interesting stats to highlight how it's been going.

Overall, we have seen better behaviour by campers across the district, resulting in fewer complaints and infringement notices issued compared to the summer season last year.

Once the trials come to an end later in March, we'll spend some time taking stock of what worked, what could be improved and report back to the community (and Central Government, who funded the trials) with our findings.

Summer Camping at a glance

SERVICE HUBS

Queenstown

- > over 5,000 self-contained vehicles
- > busiest between 10.00am-12.00pm and 4.00pm-7.00pm

Wanaka

- > over 5,500 self-contained vehicles
- > busiest between 10.00am-12.00pm and 4.00pm-7.00pm

OVERNIGHT SITES

Luggate Red Bridge

- > 45 self-contained vehicles per night.
- > 14-16 non self-contained campers moved on to appropriate locations a week

Kingston

- > 60-70 self-contained vehicles per night
- > 6-8 non self-contained campers moved on to appropriate locations a week

Read more at

www.qldc.govt.nz/responsible-camping



Changing attitudes

15.7t waste disposed of responsibly (Dec and Jan)

58 recycling bins emptied (Dec and Jan)

Over **16,000 pamphlets** distributed to campers

2,800 litres liquid waste removed per day, 7 days a week

Easy to understand signage installed district-wide

4,620.42 hours spent educating campers by our Ambassadors

Fewer complaints from locals

Fewer infringement notices

DIVERSIFYING OUR LOCAL ECONOMY

We're proud to support a number of economic development initiatives aimed at diversifying our local economy.

One of these has been funding Startup Queenstown Lakes (SQL) - a coalition of entrepreneurs, investors, and residents who are committed to supporting and growing businesses and create more well paid jobs across the district.

Start-up Queenstown Lakes was formed thanks to support from The Cube in Wanaka. However the two groups have now merged offering a board of experienced Trustees, and over 100 events planned this year to assist start-up businesses.

To find out more, please head to:
www.entrepreneurship.co.nz

OTHER ECONOMIC INITIATIVES INCLUDE:

- > Commissioning a report on research and development (R&D) opportunities together with New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZTE). These findings have identified that hydrogen as an alternative energy source is a major opportunity for the district.
- > Conducting a research project to understand more about residents who travel outside our district for work (according to the recent Quality of Life survey, this segment accounts for around 20% of our resident population). This research has just begun but the aim is to explore whether some of these residents would prefer to grow business and jobs locally.
- > Running a trial together with Lake Wanaka Tourism to understand what software small tourism operators use. This project is a collaboration between QLDC and Lake Wanaka Tourism and its effect is being researched by Queenstown Resort College. It will provide useful insights into ways to help these operators streamline their administrative processes.
- > Providing funding to Wherewolf as part of the 2018 Economic Development Contestable Fund. This funding enabled Wherewolf to consolidate customer data gathered by 50 tourism operators in the district and the data offers a deeper understanding of demographics and behaviours for visitors.

To find out more, please visit:
www.qldc.govt.nz/economic-development



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We publish Scuttlebutt six times a year, deliver it locally through community newspapers, and post around 7,500 copies to ratepayers who live outside the district – 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.

You'll not only receive Scuttlebutt earlier, but also help QLDC trim the amount we spend on printing and postage to keep you informed – that's a win for everyone.

Every issue of Scuttlebutt is also on our website www.qldc.govt.nz

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THE JOURNEY TOWARDS ZERO WASTE

YOUR NEW-LOOK RUBBISH AND RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICE STARTS ON 1 JULY

As a Council and a community we must act now and work towards a zero waste future. The new district-wide contract for solid waste reflects the collective approach needed, and is a strong collaboration between Waste Management New Zealand and nationally-recognised sustainability leaders, Wastebusters.

As we embark on our journey we must also recognise that people are travelling at different speeds – there are many future-facing members of our community already making significant steps towards zero waste. You are leading by example and we ask that you help us to support our wider community as we introduce the district-wide change. The zero waste journey is one we all need to take together.

For many of us the service will be a big change. It's an opportunity to consciously choose to make less rubbish and recycle responsibly.

Introducing the new bins on the block

For how we pay for the new bins see our 2019/20 Annual Plan consultation document.



COLLECTED ON ALTERNATE WEEKS

COLLECTED ON ALTERNATE WEEKS

COLLECTED ON ALTERNATE WEEKS

COLLECTED ON ALTERNATE WEEKS

COLLECTED EVERY WEEK

COLLECTED EVERY WEEK

COLLECTED EVERY WEEK

COLLECTED EVERY WEEK

How to get your new bins

Your new wheelie bins will be delivered straight to your door, along with important information on how to use the new service.

Our contractors will start delivering the new bins starting with Wakatipu households from late

March through till June. In Upper Clutha, you can expect to receive your bin during May and June.

There's a map online showing expected delivery dates for each area – check out www.qldc.govt.nz/rubbish-and-recycling

What about the old wheelie bins and black crates?

We're still working on a plan for collecting the old bins and will share more details on that soon.

KEEP USING YOUR EXISTING WHEELIE BIN, BLUE BAG OR BLACK CRATE UNTIL THE NEW SERVICE STARTS ON 1 JULY

ZERO WASTE FUND NOW AVAILABLE

What's your big idea to help move our community towards Zero Waste?

A new \$50,000 contestable fund is now available for community driven projects aimed at reducing waste.

The fund is open to community groups, businesses, iwi/Māori organisations, educational institutions and other community-based organisations operating in the Queenstown Lakes District.

Full funding criteria and application information can be found at www.qldc.govt.nz/funding

No matter how big or small your idea is, we'd love to hear from you!

Applications close on 5 April 2019.

 Apply for funding now!

COMMUNITY TEXT ALERTS ARE HERE TO HELP

If you haven't already signed up for Community Text Alerts, now's the time.

Simply register your name, phone number and tick the communities in our district relevant to you. We'll do the rest.

We don't just let you know about road closures, but also extended water shut-downs, any emergencies in your community, and ice and snow conditions when required.

What we won't do is use your details for any email marketing, so you can rest assured knowing you won't get any spam about the next Nickleback tour to New Zealand.

So, this is how we remind you to head on over to www.qldc.govt.nz/text-alerts and sign up today.

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HELP FILL IN THE GAPS AND MAKE OUR DISTRICT PREDATOR-FREE

The Whakatipu Wildlife Trust is working hard to make a deafening dawn chorus a reality, both now and into the future.

Founded in 2017, the Whakatipu Wildlife Trust supports, connects, and fosters community groups to create and maintain the predator-free environment throughout the greater Lake Wakatipu area. The end goal – to enable our birds and other native wildlife to flourish!

There are over 20 trapping groups under the Trust's umbrella and they're now calling for your help to fill in the gaps across the district so that we can be as predator-free as possible.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- > Let the Trust know if you're already trapping so you can be included on the district's growing trap map. A trap in the backyard (or on the roof to keep those pesky possums at bay) definitely counts.
- > If your neighbourhood or area, isn't trapping but you'd like to be, the Trust can help you put a group together and show you what you need to know to get up and running.
- > Is there an area you walk regularly where you'd like to see it being trapped? The trust can help coordinate people who might be interested in coming together to create a trapping group.
- > Check out the website for other ways to get involved: <http://wakatipuwildlifetrust.co.nz>

Are you already trapping or keen to help? Check out the map and help the Whakatipu Wildlife Trust fill in the gaps!

- New community traps (Since August 2018)
- Community trap locations
- Trap locations (DOC Animal Pests - Trapping)
- ▬ DOC Operations District boundary

Get in touch with the Whakatipu Wildlife Trust

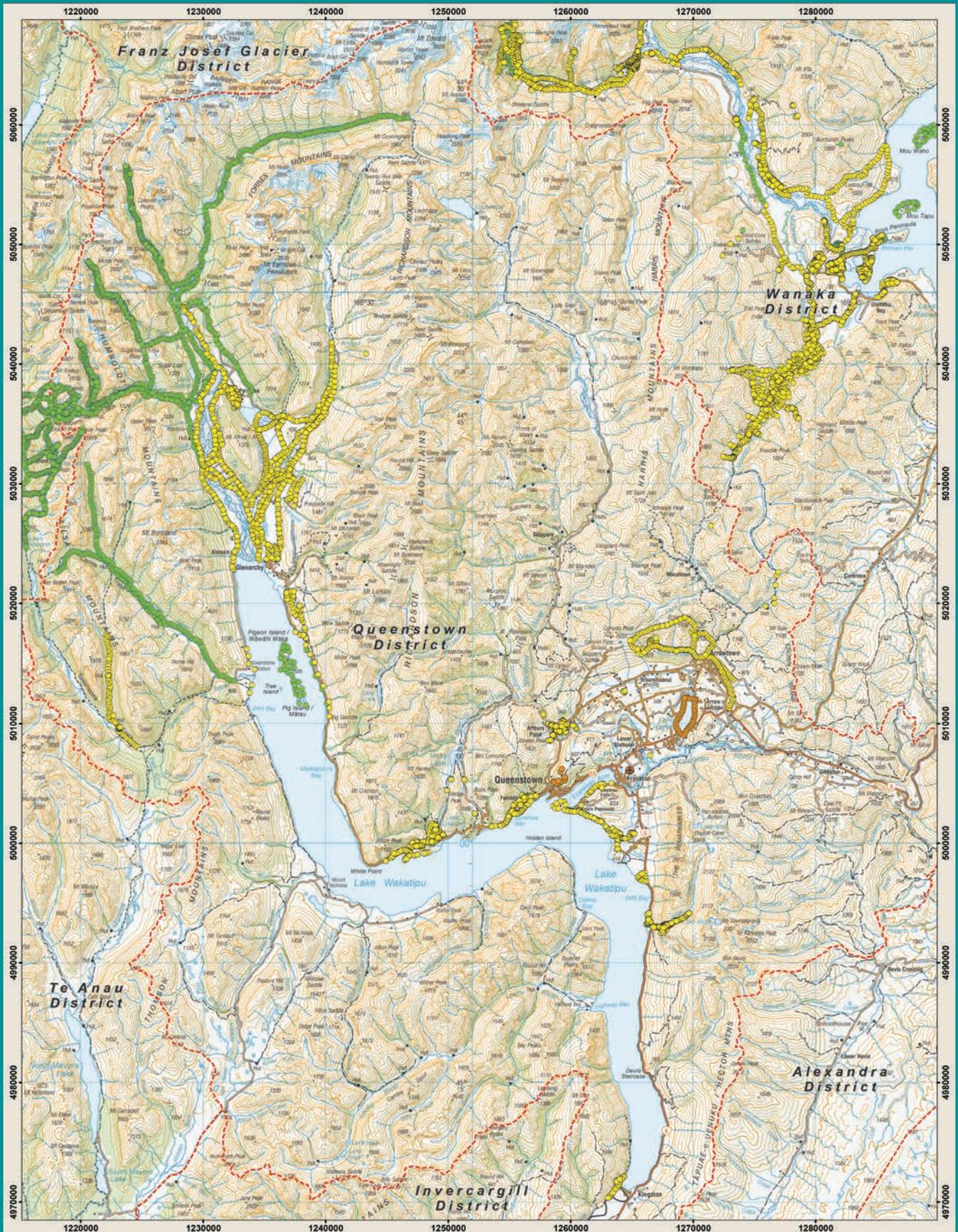
hello@wakatipuwildlifetrust.org.nz

Facebook: www.facebook.com/WakatipuWildlifeTrust

Leslie Van Gelder, Executive Officer, **027-748-9153**



Predator traps in Wakatipu area January 2019



SPEEDING UP YOUR CCC'S

Do you need a Code of Compliance Certificate (CCC) for a building project?

We've made some changes to the application process to make it faster for customers.

Since October 2018 you now apply for a CCC before you can have a final inspection. This helps to ensure all outstanding items are sorted and the relevant paperwork supplied before a final inspection can take place.

Once we have all the information we can approve a final inspection - and as soon as this is passed we can issue the CCC.

So far, the change in process has seen a huge decrease in the time taken for applicants to receive their CCC's. We've also been able to issue record numbers of CCC's in the last quarter of 2018.

There's more information on our website www.qldc.govt.nz/code-compliance-certificates-ccc

HOT TIPS FOR FAST CCC'S:

Use Form 6 to apply – this is available on our website.

Make sure you include a completed CS33 CCC Processing Checklist with your application (Applications with missing or incomplete CS33's will be returned).

Check you have had all required inspections and closed out any issues from previous inspections. (You'll find inspection records on eDocs).

Check you have supplied all the relevant documents, certificates, producer statements and records of work required (a good tip is to review your issued Building Consent which will have any conditions endorsed on it).

Make sure you submit the application in plenty of time. Under the Building Act 2004, we have 20 working days to process the application. If any further detail is required the clock is paused until it is supplied.

Final inspections cannot be booked until you receive approval from us – any inspections booked without an accompanying CCC application will be refused.

NEW CONTACT FOR COMMUNITY SPORT

Sport and recreation groups in the district stand to benefit from the appointment of Kelvin 'Tiny' Carruthers as Sport Central Community Sport Advisor.

The new role is the result of a community partnership between Sport Otago and Queenstown Lakes District Council with Tiny based at QLDC's Wanaka Recreation Centre.

Tiny spent seven years as Sport Clutha Regional Coordinator and, more recently, Director of Sport at Dunedin's John McGlashan College.

His primary focus in the new role will be supporting clubs to develop their capability, encourage collaboration, improve the quality and quantity of coaches and increase participation. Tiny will also act as a community liaison in the development of facilities in the region.

Wanaka Recreation Centre Manager, Jason Lawless welcomed the knowledge and experience that Tiny brings to the new role.

"Tiny's appointment has clear benefits especially for the Upper Clutha sport and recreation community and will help us achieve our goal of more people, more active, more often."

Tiny Carruthers can be contacted via email – tiny@sportotago.co.nz.



*Kelvin 'Tiny' Carruthers
– new Sport Centre
Community Sport
Advisor*

NEW SWIM PRICES AT ALPINE AQUALAND



Some entry prices at Alpine Aqualand are increasing following Council's adoption of a revised Community Facilities Funding Policy (CFFP) at its December meeting.

Changes to venues pricing – also part of the CFFP review – came into effect on 1 January 2019. The increases to aquatic facility pricing were notified to members before Christmas and apply from 1 March to allow for the two-month notice period in members' contracts.

Casual swim prices are increasing from \$8.00 to \$8.50 for adults, and from \$4.50 to \$5.00 for seniors and beneficiaries. There is no increase to children's casual swim prices which remain \$4.00. Hydroslide day passes remain \$5.00 for children and seniors/beneficiaries but increase for adults only from this flat rate to \$8.00.

A range of pre-paid and direct debit memberships remain available. For example, an unlimited use 12-month pass increases for adults from \$399 to \$425 but there are no increases to 3, 6 or 12-month passes for children, seniors/beneficiaries or families.

An increase in QLDC Swim School pricing from \$10.50 to \$11.50 per lesson will be introduced at Alpine Aqualand from Term 2.

The new aquatic facility at Wanaka Recreation Centre is excluded from these latest changes given prices were increased when it opened in June 2018.

For a full list of the new prices drop by Alpine Aqualand at Queenstown Events Centre or visit sportrec.qldc.govt.nz/prices

OUR QUALITY OF LIFE – WHAT'S NEXT?

Thanks again to everyone who participated in our first Quality of Life survey last year.

Students from Wakatipu High School have also added their voices into the mix through youth workshops held late last year. Over the coming months, we'll be talking to a range of community stakeholders about the key issues and opportunities highlighted through the survey.

To view the Quality of Life survey results, please visit: www.qldc.govt.nz/quality-of-life

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MORE WAYS TO KEEP ACTIVE

Did you know there's a regular weekly programme of fitness classes at Wanaka Recreation Centre?

Bring your dancing shoes every Tuesday at 6.15pm for a Zumba-style dance class that works thighs, tums and bums to the beat of the music. All ages and abilities are welcome as you can move within your own comfort zone.

On Wednesday mornings mums and dads are invited to get active along with their bubs at indoor 'Buggy Fit' classes at 11.15am. This is a great opportunity to join others and feel good after a full body conditioning workout in a safe space. Pushing the buggy adds fun and a bit of resistance to the session – it might even help the bubs get a nap!

Both classes are 45 minutes long and cost \$7.50 for adults and \$5.00 for seniors/beneficiaries. No registration or long term commitment is required – just rock up five minutes before the class starts and have a chat with our instructors if you have any questions.

Over in the pools, the Wanaka Recreation Centre crew also offers six aqua fitness classes through the week. You can usually choose between taking the same class in the lap pool or warmer, shallower learners' pool. These also last 45 minutes and cost normal pool entry – there's no extra fee for the session.

Class times and days can change so call Wanaka Recreation Centre on **03 443 9334** or email **wrc@qldc.govt.nz** to check before coming along for the first time. You can also keep up to date on everything happening at the Rec via our Facebook page **@QLDCSportRec**

New Group Fitness Timetable at Alpine Health & Fitness, Queenstown Events Centre

For a full timetable visit sportrec.qldc.govt.nz or drop by Queenstown Events Centre, Frankton (near the BP roundabout).

DESIGN CHARTER SIGNED

February marked a significant milestone in our ambitious 3 Waters Programme. The signing of a Design Panel Partnership Charter by all involved signifies a new way of working as we move from planning to delivery of a number of significant projects.



QLDC Senior Project Manager Caroline Dumas signs the Design Panel Partnership Charter back in February.

LUGGATE'S REPLACEMENT HALL

A new community hall for Luggate and the wider Upper Clutha is another step closer, with early site works for the temporary replacement set to start in March.

All going well, a temporary replacement of the original Luggate Memorial Hall (which closed in August 2017 after a seismic risk assessment) is expected to be open within six weeks of work beginning.

In the meantime, work on the permanent Passive House standard replacement building is progressing well. We'll be inviting feedback on some design concepts a little later in the year. Watch this space!

CALLING ALL SUPERHEROES

Queenstown and Wānaka are holding their very first Relay for Life events this March, raising money and awareness for the work of the Cancer Society Otago Southland.

Cancer will impact one in three of us in our lifetime. We all know someone who has had cancer or have had a personal experience with the disease.

The Relay for Life is an awesome, fun-filled community event where people from around the area come together to celebrate those people who have survived cancer, remember those loved ones that have been lost to cancer, and to fight back against cancer by raising funds for the Cancer Society's work and to fund much needed research.

There's a real festival atmosphere as teams camp out around a set track, and walk (or run) in relay style for 24 hours starting at midday, all to the backdrop of local entertainers and supporters.

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

It's as simple as '1,2,3'!

1. Get your team together. It could be a business, family, sports team, class or club. Teams are made up of many different people from all walks of life!
2. Go to www.relayforlife.org.nz and register for only \$25 per person. Each team member gets a T-shirt, free cooked breakfast, a candle bag and candle.
3. Start fundraising!



Queenstown Relay for Life

16-17 March, Lake Hayes Pavilion

Wanaka Relay for Life

23-24 March, Pembroke Park



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 REFILL — NOT LANDFILL®

“TORQUE” GROUP INVOLVES QUEENSTOWN TOURIST OPERATORS IN EMERGENCIES

The visitors who underpin our district’s economic prosperity also create one of Otago’s biggest challenges in planning the response to a severe earthquake or other major emergency.

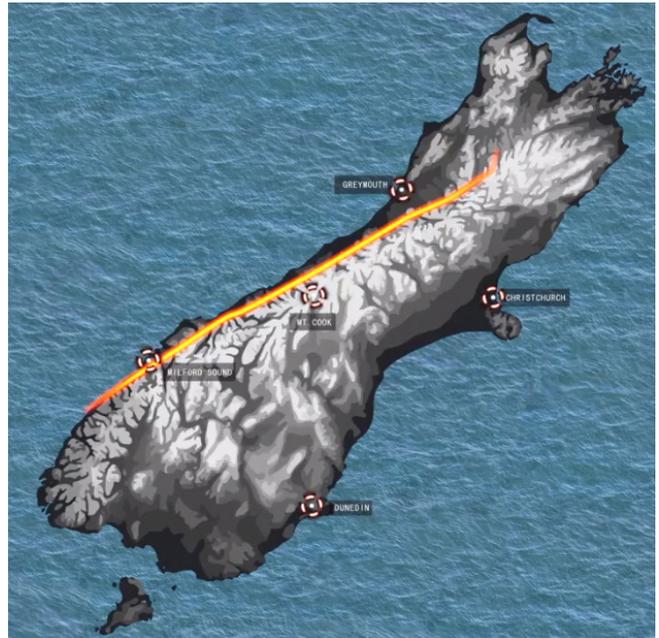
In peak summer and winter seasons, visitors, tourists and foreign nationals outnumber the 39,000 residents of the Queenstown Lakes District by as much as two to one. Even in the quietest periods there can be one visitor in the district for every two locals.

Providing shelter and food for potentially 75,000 dependent people for an extended period will be a daunting task.

Trevor Andrews, the Queenstown-based Emergency Management Officer with Emergency Management Otago, has enlisted the support of the local tourism industry to harness its resources in planning for the rupture of the Alpine Fault. While that’s considered the area’s maximum credible threat, the plans will hold good for any large-scale emergency that blocks roads, disrupts supply chains and prevents normal communication.

TORQUE stands for “Tourism Operator Responders of Queenstown” and includes the largest tourism companies operating in the district, as well as DOC, QLDC and Emergency Management Otago.

By signing up as members of TORQUE, they have committed to planning to look after their clients as well as their staff. That includes making provision to shelter clients “in place” if necessary and providing logistical support for moving and possibly evacuating affected people and



communities. This is underpinned by ensuring that their own staff are well prepared and trained for emergencies, and that their business continuity plans are thorough and well exercised.

The agreement also recognises the important role that the tourism industry would play in recovery.

Trevor Andrews says collectively, the partners who have formed TORQUE will contribute a formidable amount of logistics to an emergency response, particularly in helicopters, buses, boats, facilities, communications and staffing. Because they deal with large numbers of non-English speakers on a daily basis, their staff would also be valuable in helping the emergency response communicate critical information to a very vulnerable audience.

“This is a significant amount of surge capacity for our response capability in the Queenstown Lakes,” he says.

The founding members of TORQUE are AJ Hackett Bungy, Ngāi Tahu Tourism, Wayfare, Skyline Enterprises, Southern Discoveries, Tourism Holdings Ltd, Trojan Holdings, with the Department of Conservation, QLDC and Emergency Management Otago. Trevor Andrews says the door is open for other companies to become involved.

Providing shelter and food for potentially 75,000 dependent people for an extended period will be a daunting task.

WHEN THE WILD WIND TORE THROUGH

A deluge of wild weather back in January left its fair share of mess in the form of fallen trees, a number of road closures and a mass of branches strewn about the land. And yet, days later, it was as if nothing had ever happened – thanks to the response from contractors across the district.

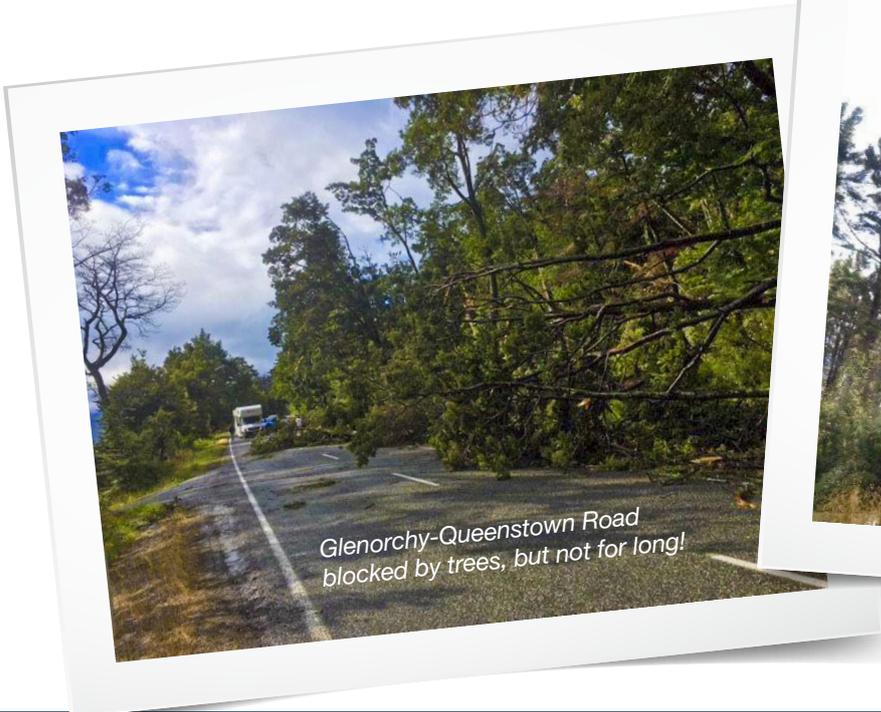
We'd like to acknowledge their amazing efforts and the rapid response to such an event. Without the dedication and hard work of teams from Downer, Delta, Recreational Services and QLDC's own internal Field team, we might still be dealing with detours and closed trails.

Speargrass Flat Road was literally coated in branches, but open again within a day or so. Glenorchy and Kinloch were cut off from Queenstown, and less than 24 hours later traffic was flowing between the two once again. Toppled trees on the Wānaka lakefront were removed from roads within hours, and more cordoned off straight away for public safety.

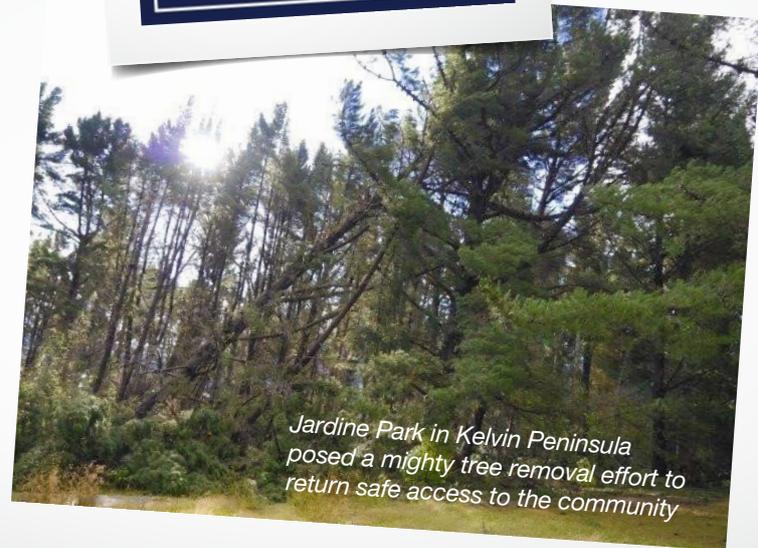
A week later, more wind – this time in the early hours of the morning, but the same result. Arrowtown's Bedford Street and Centennial Avenue bore the brunt this time, but response crews were onsite before the sun had time to rise. Normal service was resumed within the day.

We're sure you'll join us in thanking the awesome crews out there keeping our roads and trails clear, safe and in working order.

Our arborist is also out doing the rounds in Arrowtown, checking the Heritage Trees to ensure they are safe and healthy.



Glenorchy-Queenstown Road blocked by trees, but not for long!



Jardine Park in Kelvin Peninsula posed a mighty tree removal effort to return safe access to the community

NEIGHBOURS DAY AOTEAROA 22-31 MARCH 2019

There are so many great reasons to get to know your neighbours!

This March, Neighbours Day Aotearoa is recognising ten years of celebrating neighbours!

There are lots of ways to get involved, even just organising a BBQ or a cuppa or taking some baking (or a bottle of pinot) over for a catch up. You never know when you might just need each other.

Check out neighboursday.org.nz to find out more.

BREATHE IN THAT FRESH AIR

This summer, Queenstown Lakes District Mayor Jim Boulton has been putting his support behind a nationwide pilot which encourages businesses to make their outdoor dining environment smokefree.

The Fresh Air Project is being delivered by the Southern District Health Board and the Cancer Society and supports cafes and restaurants to make the move

to smokefree. This helps to protect the health of their customers and staff, and the environment while working towards meeting the goal of a Smokefree Aotearoa by 2025.

The Fresh Air Project pilot runs until the end of March so head over to participating cafes and let them know what you think through the feedback forms and via the Fresh Air Project Facebook page.

THE SEVEN PARTICIPATING CAFES ARE:

The Exchange
Odelay Café –The Landing Frankton
Café Society (within the Five Mile smokefree retail centre)
Provisions of Arrowtown
The Boatshed
Frank's Pantry
Frank's Eatery

SUPPORTER CAFES – SMOKEFREE CHAMPIONS*:

Vudu
Bespoke
Patagonia (Queenstown, Arrowtown, Wanaka)
Taste and Savour
Bonjour Arrowtown
Arrow Thai
Millbrook – Millbrook restaurant, Hole in One, Kobe, The Clubhouse
Soul Food Wanaka
Double Black – Albert Town

*Please let Emily Nelson at the Southern DHB know if you are or know of any others who are supporting smokefree outdoor dining (emily.nelson@southerndhb.govt.nz)





MAJOR UPGRADE TO THE WĀNAKA ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

Wānaka Councillor Ross McRobie helped Aurora Energy Chief Executive Richard Fletcher cut the ribbon at the newly completed Riverbank Road Substation in Wānaka back in November last year.

The substation, which took two years to complete is a major upgrade to the electricity supply for Wānaka and a \$10.5m investment in the region.

TAKE BACK YOUR MEDS!

We all get sick from time to time and need medicine to get us back on track. But do you know how to dispose of medicine safely so it doesn't impact our natural environment?

Many people are flushing leftover medicine down the toilet or pouring it down the drain. This pollutes our fresh water supplies, affects aquatic species and can contaminate our food supplies.

We also recommend that you don't put unwanted medication in the wheelie bin. Modern landfills are well designed for our standard household waste, but not for hazardous waste. Just as we do not put used motor oil or leftover paint thinner in the bin, we should not put these extremely potent pharmaceutical chemicals into unsecure kerbside bins.

So if you're left wondering what you should be doing with unwanted medicine, we recommend using a medicine take back programme. It's a simple, sensible way to reduce the amount of toxins entering the environment.

Please take all unwanted and expired medication to your nearest pharmacy for safe disposal.

Read more at www.qldc.govt.nz/hazardous-waste

MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT

It might be eight months away but preparations are already well underway for the 2019 Council elections.

We've already put out feelers for new ratepayer* voters to enrol but if you voted as a ratepayer voter in the last election, you will receive a reminder letter from us to re-enrol in April. It's important that you sign this letter and send it back to us to confirm your enrolment as a ratepayer voter because we prepare a new electoral roll for every election.

By contrast, if you live permanently in the district you don't need to worry about re-enrolling. That's all looked after by the Electoral Commission and you will receive a confirmation of your enrolment from them in July. If the details on this are correct, you don't need to do anything except to wait for your voting papers to arrive in the mail some time between 20 and 25 September. If you don't receive this letter or your details are wrong, you can correct them by contacting the Electoral Commission (elections.org.nz)

The other critical factor in any election is having candidates standing for the positions on the Council and the Wanaka Community Board. However, at the time of writing we don't know how many positions there will be and what areas they will represent. This is because the Council's representation arrangements were referred to the Local Government Commission at the end of last year.

The Local Government Commission must make its final decision on our representation arrangements by 10 April, after which we'll know if Councillors will be elected under the existing Ward structure or if the number of Councillors or Ward boundaries will change. Note that the position of the Mayor is not part of the representation review and will continue to be voted for by the district as a whole.

If you're interested in finding out about what life might be like as a Councillor or Community Board member we'll be running information sessions in the lead up to nominations opening on 19 July. We will advertise the times and locations of these sessions on our website and Facebook page in early winter.

**Ratepayer voters are people who own property in the district but live permanently and are registered to vote elsewhere in New Zealand. Look on our website www.qldc.govt.nz/your-council/elected-members/elections if you want to find out more about being a ratepayer voter.*

The 2019 election will be held by postal vote between 20 September and 12 October.



A NEW COMMUNITY VENUE FOR ARROWTOWN

Arrowtown Community Centre was officially opened by Mayor Jim Boulton in January.

The \$2.35m facility overlooking Jack Reid Park is the new permanent home of Arrowtown Rugby Club and Arrowtown Scouts. Representatives from both groups attended the official opening along with locals keen for a first look around.

The main function room is equipped with a kitchen and bar and can be partitioned three ways to provide a flexible space for events, functions and meetings.

If you'd like to book the new facility contact the QLDC Venues team based at Queenstown Events Centre.



*Ngāi Tahu kaumātua, Darren Rewi performs a blessing at the opening of the Arrowtown Community Centre.
Photo: Leigh Jeffery*

Vision beyond 2050 – A big thank you



Thanks to everyone who has taken the time to provide thoughts and feedback on the draft community vision. Five drop-in sessions were held before and after Christmas in Wānaka, Queenstown and Frankton, the vision has been available in Council venues, and online with the opportunity to provide feedback through all of these channels. We've received a range of interesting comments supporting many aspects of the draft vision and suggesting where changes could be made to reflect the diverse needs of our community in the future.

We've been working through all the suggestions and considering how this might be reflected in a final community vision that guides future decision making for Council and other organisations in our district. Look out for more information soon about what the final vision looks like and how it will be championed into the years to come.

EITHER WAY IT'S



Slow down for kids getting on and off a school bus.

QLDC CONTACT LIST AND HOURS

QLDC & SERVICE CENTRES

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

Wanaka Office:
47 Ardmore Street, Wanaka
Phone: 03 443 0024

E-mail: services@qldc.govt.nz
www.qldc.govt.nz

Office Hours:
Weekdays 8.00am–5.00pm

QUEENSTOWN EVENTS CENTRE

Arrowtown Athenaeum Hall
Queenstown Memorial Hall
Lake Hayes Pavilion
Lake Wanaka Centre
Alpine Aqualand
Sports fields
Phone: 03 450 9005

WANAKA RECREATION CENTRE

Wanaka Pool
Indoor Courts
Phone: 03 443 9334

TRANSFER STATIONS

Wakatipu: 110 Glenda Drive
Frankton Industrial Area
Phone: 03 451 0106
Upper Clutha: Cnr of Ballantyne
& Riverbank Roads
Phone: 03 443 6063

HARBOURMASTER

Phone: 027 434 5289
and 027 414 2270
Email:
harbourmasterqt@smsl.co.nz

LIBRARIES

For library opening hours
and locations please head to
codc-qldc.govt.nz

EDITOR: REBECCA PITTS

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

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Feedback and ideas are welcome.

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SCUTTLEBUTT // MARCH 2019 // ISSUE 130 // www.qldc.govt.nz



ISSN 1177-133X