

Scuttlebutt

THE QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWSLETTER // APRIL/MAY 2020 // ISSUE 136



COVID-19 – How we're uniting at a time of crisis

“We are a strong community and, now more than ever,
must work together for the common good.” – *Mayor Jim Boulton*

Read more about how Council and the community are coming together to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The information provided here is accurate at the time of publication. Because COVID-19 is an evolving situation, we recommend you keep an eye on [covid19.govt.nz](https://www.covid19.govt.nz) and www.qldc.govt.nz/covid-19 for the latest updates.

INSIDE

02

MESSAGE
FROM THE
MAYOR

04

WELFARE
SUPPORT

06

ROAD TO
RECOVERY

12

RECYCLING
UPDATES



Tell us if you want to save paper and read Scuttlebutt online. See page 21 for details.



Scuttlebutt is printed on paper sourced from sustainably managed forests.



Scuttlebutt is recyclable. Please recycle me.

Level 3

NZ is currently at Alert Level 3. We need to stay vigilant and stick to the rules as we continue to unite against COVID-19. For more on the current alert level visit [covid-19.govt.nz](https://www.covid-19.govt.nz)

We'll emerge stronger than ever

Like all of you reading this, I have experienced a range of emotions as the COVID-19 pandemic has evolved.

I have been shocked, heartbroken, anxious, apprehensive, frustrated and at times scared. But I have also been humbled, grateful and, more than ever, proud of the way our communities are uniting to fight this virus.

I have been saddened and concerned about the high number of cases we've

seen in the Southern region and impressed at the way health authorities have been able to scale up the response as the situation develops. We are all making sacrifices to keep each other safe. Whether that's providing an essential service on behalf of the community, volunteering to support those in need, or simply staying home and keeping others safe, I applaud the efforts you are making. I know it's hard.

For those who have lost their livelihoods and facing an uncertain future, I will work as hard as I possibly can to get you the help you need to keep afloat.

I am humbled by the tireless efforts of the Council team. From the many conversations I've had with government officials, medical service

providers and social agencies, our team is responding to this crisis with honour, empathy and a great deal of hard work.

Increasingly the focus of this work is on managing welfare needs in the district, particularly for migrants, and also supporting the efforts of Wellsouth to upgrade and expand medical support facilities in the district. This extends from helping with making facilities available and liaising with various health providers to coordinating transport and logistics. Alongside this is the work that is ramping up in the recovery space and we hope to be able to share more on that soon.

We all react to stress differently and I would like to wrap up this message with a reminder to look after yourselves and

others. Stay connected, eat well, only drink in moderation, get outside (locally, in your bubble) and be kind to yourself and others. And if you need help, it's there. Please reach out.

I have no doubt that our district will emerge from this crisis stronger than ever. Stay safe, stay home and save lives.



Jim Boulton
Queenstown Lakes District Mayor



Stay home, save lives

We are on the right track but we haven't won the fight against COVID-19 just yet.

Under Alert Level 3 we must continue to stay in our household bubbles whenever we are not at work, school, buying the groceries or exercising. You can expand your bubble slightly to bring in close family members or carers and you now drive within your town to exercise.

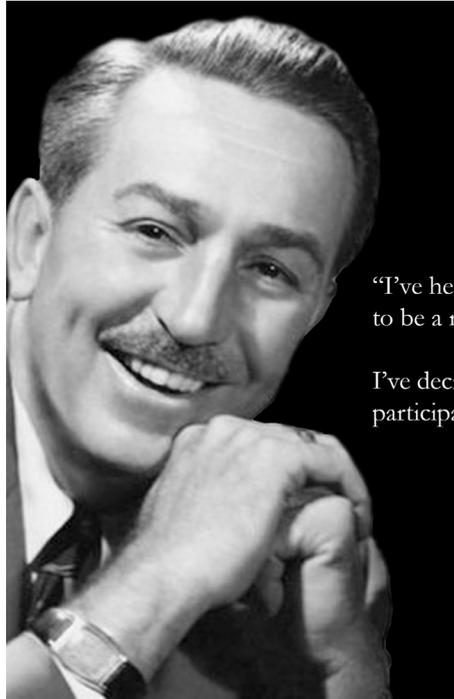
We've come too far to loosen our resolve now, please keep up the great work as we unite against this virus.

Head to **covid19.govt.nz** for a full list of restrictions under Alert level 3.

**Head to
www.qldc.govt.nz/covid-19
for full details of Council
services during Alert level 3**

Thank you

To all of the individuals and businesses who have offered support through this challenging time, a heartfelt thank you. All offers, whether it's volunteering to help those in need, support with our welfare efforts or providing a service like food deliveries or accommodation and transport for those self-isolating, make an enormous difference to those affected by COVID-19. This really is a district like no other – thank you for coming together when we need it the most.



"I've heard there is going to be a recession
I've decided not to participate"
Walt Disney

vivian+espie
resource management and landscape planning (03) 441 4189
www.vivianespie.co.nz

Defying the odds since 2004



A community unites - where to get help

Many people in our community are facing huge financial and personal pressures that seem to have come out of the blue. Our individual ability to cope will be different to others, and will vary over time with the ups and downs of this challenging new reality.

We have heard many amazing stories of landlords and businesses showing humanity and compassion and we hope to see more of the same support being wrapped around these people as time goes on.

It's important to know that help is available if you or somebody you know is in need of additional assistance, whatever form this takes. Please look out for your elderly neighbours and anyone else you think might need a bit of help by letting them know about these resources. This might include migrant workers and others from overseas for whom English is a second language.

What we can help with

- > We can provide information or refer you to specific support services
- > We can provide food assistance if deemed necessary.

What we can't help with

- > We don't provide direct financial assistance, for example for paying your rent
- > We can't provide a hardship grant
- > We can't provide assistance for student visa holders.

Register for help

Register for help using our online form at www.qldc.govt.nz/covid-19 or call **0800 322 4000** between 7.00am and 7.00pm daily.

Welfare at a glance



Over 10,000 applications
for welfare received so far.
This number is growing daily.



113 staff and volunteers
and many more social agencies
supporting the welfare needs of
our community.



An average of 415 calls
are being made per day to
determine welfare needs.

How are you going?

If you're feeling stressed, anxious, or you're not coping, please consider using any of the resources below for advice and guidance on maintaining your mental health and wellbeing.

I just need to talk to someone!

Freecall or text 1737 from a landline or mobile for 24/7 confidential support from trained counsellors (part of the National Telehealth Service – 1737.org.nz)

Other mental health support can be found at the following places:

- > Ministry of Health's website:
www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-health-advice-general-public/covid-19-mental-health-and-wellbeing-resources
- > Mental Health Foundation:
www.mentalhealth.org.nz/
- > Suicide Crisis Helpline:
0508 828 865 / www.lifeline.org.nz
- > Your GP or medical centre (medical facilities, including pharmacies and dentists, remain open but phone ahead to check opening times).

You'll find more useful resources at **www.qldc.govt.nz/covid-19**

There's help out there for all types of needs

As well as the social wellbeing agencies listed above, the following organisations can provide assistance for different needs.

Youth services:

The Lowdown P: 0800 111 757 / Free text 5626
www.thelowdown.co.nz

Youthline P: 0800 376 633 / Free text 234
www.youthline.co.nz

At home:

Family violence

P: 0800 456 450 / **www.areyouok.org.nz**

Alcohol Drug Helpline P: 0800 787 797

Free text 8681 / www.alcoholdrughelpline.org.nz

Central Lakes Family Services (Queenstown & Wānaka)

P: 0508 440 255 / **info@clfs.co.nz**

www.clfs.co.nz

Sexuality issues:

OUTline

P: 0800 688 5463 / **www.outline.org.nz**

Kia Kaha! Stay Strong!



The road to recovery

Mayor Jim Boulton said in a recent statement that we are entering what will undoubtedly be the toughest economic situation our district has ever seen and we need to start planning for the future.

Right now that seems daunting, especially in light of the challenges we all face as we do what we can to contain the spread of COVID-19 and break the chain of infection.

There have been many discussions on how to start down the road to recovery and there's one thing that's clear – this is not a task for any single person or organisation. The key is to facilitate and empower conversations which give locals, community groups, businesses and investors some pathways for how we will collectively rebuild this district and create a truly thriving community.

A Council recovery team has been established to coordinate these efforts and has started by creating a recovery action plan with initiatives to strengthen the social fabric of our community, create viable jobs and enhance the area for when things start to recover. Recovery will keep us on track to achieving Vision Beyond 2050.

'He waka eke noa' is at the heart of all recovery work. Everyone has a role to play so we can thrive as a district in the short and long term.

Along with the Council team both an Economic and Community Taskforce of influential local people is being established to further support and strengthen economic, social and cultural recovery. We hope to be able to share more on that soon.

'He waka eke noa' is at the heart of all recovery work. Everyone has a role to play so we can thrive as a district in the short and long term.



Volunteering during lockdown

Can volunteers still help in the response to COVID-19 when we're all being told to stay home?

YES!

That's the message from Gillian White, senior coordinator at Volunteering Central which has an agreement to support QLDC and the district's Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) team when needed.

"Any person or organisation tasked by CDEM is then considered to be an essential service. In our district this currently includes the Salvation Army and Community Networks Wanaka as well as Volunteering Central," said Gillian.

"Volunteers acting under the direction of an essential service provider are able to continue by following national COVID-19 health advice and their organisation's own operational guidelines."

More than 400 people have offered to help as a volunteer in Queenstown Lakes District which Gillian said was hugely gratifying.

"The number of volunteers currently outweighs the request for support, so if you have signed up please sit tight and we'll be in touch as the need arises. We're in this for the long-haul and there are likely to be more requests as time goes on," she said.

Her team speak to each potential volunteer to assess their skills and perform the necessary screening before inducting them in the correct process and ultimately connecting them with those in need.

"Whilst established support networks between neighbours and friends are able to continue, they must follow all national guidelines around physical distancing. Any new initiatives encouraging strangers to support strangers should come through the district's co-ordinated volunteer effort operating under the essential services provider banner. This ensures the safety of all involved and targets the areas of most need," said Gillian.

"Huge thanks to everyone who is supporting their community. Keep on being kind to everyone, regardless of their circumstance, situation or nationality."

You can find the Welfare Registration Form or offer your support at
www.qldc.govt.nz/covid-19

To read the regional volunteer guidelines during COVID-19 please head to
volunteeringcentral.org.nz/covid-19-volunteer-guidelines/

Next steps for the Annual Plan 2020-2021

When we kicked off the Annual Plan submission process in early March, life was considerably different to what we are all experiencing today.

COVID-19 has had a fundamental effect on all our lives and future plans, and at this stage it is hard to know what the coming weeks, let alone the coming year, will bring.

There have also been knock-on COVID-19 effects for our Annual Plan, meaning we need to reassess what the priorities are for our community for the next year and what the work programme should

look like in this time of uncertainty and change.

Part of this includes what it means for the rates you pay (which help QLDC deliver essential services and projects for the community) and making sure we're investing appropriately to support the economic and social recovery of the district. At this stage we are looking at a considerably lower rates increase than originally forecast – this will be finalised when the Annual Plan is adopted and the rates are struck.

Submissions are now closed and we're grateful to those who took the time to share their views.

We're collating and reviewing the submissions received and factoring them in to the changes that need to be made to the Annual Plan.

What about the public hearings?

While we're still planning to hold the hearings in late May, we'll be guided by Government advice closer to the time. We'll keep you updated.

Find out more at letstalk.qldc.govt.nz/annual-plan-2020-21

Your next rates instalment: options available

With many people in our community finding themselves out of work or on a reduced household income, there will naturally be questions about upcoming rates payments.

The good news is there are options available that may make paying the next rates instalment a little easier.

KEY THINGS TO BE AWARE OF:

- > While rates for instalment 4 are still payable (due on 29 May 2020) a deferred payment option to 31 July 2020 is available
- > There will be no late payment penalties applied if the instalment is paid in full before 31 July 2020
- > All direct debits will take place as normal unless you contact our Rates team by 30 April 2020

If you're still concerned that you might not be able to cover your rates, please let us know as soon as possible. Call our rates team on 03 441 0499 (Queenstown) or 03 443 0024 (Wānaka) to talk about your options.

WHY DO WE NEED TO PAY RATES RIGHT NOW?

Rates help pay for services essential to keeping our community healthy and safe during the Level 4 lockdown and beyond. These include:

We also need to make sure that our community and local economy are in the best possible place to recover from this current national crisis which means continuing to invest where appropriate.



Ensuring you have safe drinking water



The waste water system keeps operating



Public transport is available for essential workers



Rubbish is collected



Burials and cemeteries can operate



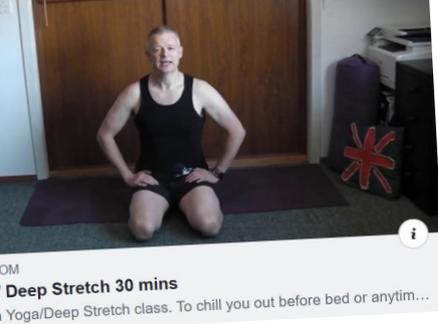
Essential roading and safety repairs are made



Emergency services (Civil Defence) are on hand



Flood protection is monitored



Deep Stretch 30 mins
Yoga/Deep Stretch class. To chill you out before bed or anytim...



Upper Body Stretch 20mins with Maria



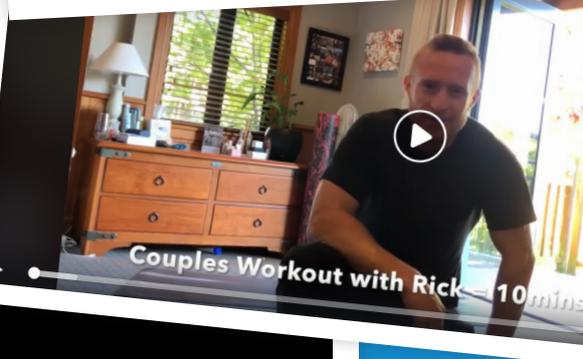
50 MIN FLOW
RACHEL LAND



Full Body HIIT Workout with Brian



Mobility Circuit Session with Oli



Couples Workout with Rick - 10 mins

KEEPING FIT AND WELL

While Council-managed sport, recreation and library facilities remain closed, staff members are coming up with ways to keep our community active and connected.

For anyone missing the familiar faces of our awesome group fitness and gym instructors, you can find specially adapted lockdown sessions of your favourite classes, including a beginner's guide to mindfulness video series, on **Facebook @QLDCSportRec**.

Our friends at Les Mills have also offered us free access to more than 100 online workouts. This streaming site is available to anyone and can be accessed via our website here: www.qldc.govt.nz/recreation/sport-rec-covid-19-info

Please remember to warm up for the gym classes and don't over-exert yourself – this is not the time for calling on our medical services for issues that can be easily avoided!

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

QLDC Sport and Recreation membership payments have been suspended and/or contracts extended so no current member at either Queenstown Events Centre or Wānaka Recreation Centre will be out of pocket. Cancelled QLDC Swim School and Rockatipu climbing lessons have also been held in credit for when things reopen. For more information email qec@qldc.govt.nz (Queenstown) or wrc@qldc.govt.nz (Wānaka).



Our librarians are available to take your calls and help out with library queries during our normal opening hours. Call your local branch today and have a chat, or visit our website where you will find lots of activities and recommendations to keep the whole family entertained <https://codc-qldc.govt.nz/>.



2 comments 1 share

Like

Comment

Share

Most relevant

Write a comment...



Author

Queenstown Lakes District Libraries this is Goldie from Wanaka. Loves her books and the occasional chick flick.

Like · Reply · 3d



Be a part of something special and share your Isolation Creations!
Every Friday during #lockdown we will share a selection of your creations on our blog and social media channels, and at the end of the lockdown period, we hope to bring all of these together into a booklet to share and remember this time.
We know that as a community in lockdown, our thoughts, journeys and creations will become an important part of the history of our district and we want to help celebrate and record this for future generations to see.
Art, letters, stories, poetry, photos of your crafts and life in lockdown, if you create it we want to see it!
Open to all ages and all creations! Entries can be submitted online via our Facebook and Instagram accounts or via email at libraries.online@qldc.govt.nz.
So help spread the word! Tag and share to those creative friends of yours.



8 comments 29 shares



Exercise your mind!

If you're looking to exercise your mind, the district's librarians are standing by to introduce you to heaps of eLibrary resources that will keep the whole family entertained at home.

The online services available 24/7 include hundreds of e-books to read and audio books to listen to, digital versions of newspapers and magazines from around the world, and more than 700 movies and documentaries to stream – all absolutely free.

For more information on these (and how to become a member if you aren't one already), please visit the libraries' website at codc-qldc.govt.nz or email cqlibraries@qldc.govt.nz (they'll get back to you as soon as they can).

You can also phone between 9.00am-5.00pm, Monday to Saturday to speak to someone in person:

- > Upper Clutha – 03 443 0410
- > Queenstown – 03 441 0600
- > Frankton – 03 441 3680.

With the libraries themselves closed, no items can be issued or returned (including via the book drops) and all items currently on issue are now due back on 17 September.

DON'T FORGET YOU CAN ALSO CONNECT WITH THE LIBRARY TEAM AND FIND OUT WHAT'S NEW VIA SOCIAL MEDIA



@qtlakeslibraries



@qldclibraries

Best wishes and kia kaha from everyone at QLDC Sport and Recreation and Queenstown Lakes Libraries. We look forward to seeing you in person when all this has calmed down.

Most relevant

Write a comment...



RECYCLING DURING LOCKDOWN

Solid waste collections are an essential service and we're grateful to the drivers who continue to pick up our rubbish and recycling bins as normal while we're fighting COVID-19.

As most of our readers already know, our mixed recycling is currently going to landfill, so if you've seen our drivers empty your yellow and red bins into the same truck recently, this is why. The safety of our staff working at the materials recovery facility is our number one priority. Because mixed recycling currently requires a lot of hands-on sorting, with staff working in close proximity to each other, the safest decision was to send it to landfill. We'll make a decision on whether the material recovery facility can operate safely under level 2 closer to the time.

Glass recycling is different. Uncontaminated glass recycling can be safely processed and sent to our glass reprocessor, O-I New Zealand, to be turned back into new bottles and jars.

Because glass recycling is extremely sensitive to

contamination, O-I New Zealand have very strict requirements on the quality of glass they accept. This means the only thing that might affect our ability to recycle glass during and after the lockdown period is people putting incorrect materials into the blue bin.

Our contractor Waste Management has noticed more contamination in the glass bins during lockdown, which sadly resulted in some glass being rejected for recycling.

Before the Covid-19 outbreak, our district was doing an amazing job of putting only glass bottles and jars in the glass recycling bin. To give you an idea of how well we were doing, an audit of the glass recycling bins in December 2019 found an incredibly low contamination rate of 1.2%. This is a fantastic result off the back of a



Uncontaminated glass recycling can be safely processed.

Our mixed recycling is currently going to landfill.

big community effort that has so far resulted in over 2,000 tonnes of glass being recycled since July 2019.

Let's keep our glass recycling going during this difficult and challenging time. Only glass bottles and glass jars go in the blue bin.



Waste Management driver Guri Singh collects rubbish and recycling in Quail Rise over the lockdown period. Photo credit: Dave Wethey and Lakes District Museum.

DON'T WASTE AN OPPORTUNITY!

While the lockdown period might be affecting our mixed recycling, it shouldn't affect our resolve to become a zero waste district. There's lots we can do at home to keep up the momentum!

TIPS FOR REUSING EVERYDAY ITEMS:

With all of us spending so much time around the house, it might be easier than usual to notice just how much stuff we use once and throw away. Here are a few tips to get the most out of some standard household items.



PAPER BAGS
Aside from being blown up and popped to scare people (not that we necessarily recommend that, but hey), the humble paper bag can do everything from ripening fruit to cleaning windows.

EGG CARTONS
Ever-useful egg cartons can be easily repurposed around the house. The cardboard cartons have perfectly sized compartments for growing seedlings. Once the plants are big enough to be transferred to your garden, just cut out the individual cups of the carton and place them directly into the soil. The paper will eventually break down as the plants grow. Or if you have kids in the house, egg cartons are great for arts and crafts!

STEEL CANS
Stocked up with canned food? Why not turn empty steel cans into fancy desk tidies or colourful wind chimes? You could even use a few as planter boxes and create an indoor herb garden.

PLASTIC MILK BOTTLES
With a little bit of kiwi ingenuity, the humble plastic milk bottle can be easily transformed into useful household items. In need of a watering can? Simply drill some small holes in the lid of a clean, empty milk bottle. Easy to fill, easy to handle and perfect for gently watering seedlings or indoor plants.

There are lots of ideas out there for reusing stuff around the house. Hop online, search out some tips, and give it a try!

UP YOUR COMPOSTING GAME!

Now's a great time to take a fresh look at the resources we have available around us, both inside and outside the home.

Composting food scraps and greenwaste is both good for your garden and an easy way to reduce your carbon footprint.

Ahead of International Composting Week from 3-9 May, Wastebusters' own Dr Compost shares some tips for what you can do to up your composting game.

DON'T FORGET THE CARDBOARD

Think outside the (cardboard) box! Cardboard can be shredded, soaked and mixed in with other ingredients to help boost your compost bin; can effectively smother weeds if placed over them; and, if shredded and dampened, can be super useful for worm farms.

LEAVE THOSE CLIPPINGS ALONE!

Instead of dumping them, your garden will be grateful if you leave grass clippings on the lawn, around trees, or use them to mulch flower beds. Small prunings (3cm or less) can be chucked under trees or in the compost heap, and larger ones can make great homes for insects and skinks.

GET DOWN IN THE TRENCHES

Don't currently own a compost bin? Easy, just make your own! Dig a hole or a trench 30cm deep and put all your food scraps in the hole, then cover with a minimum of 15cm of soil. If you have a dog, make sure to cover it well to avoid any midnight feasts!

DRY YOUR BOKASHI BUCKETS

If you use Bokashi buckets and want to avoid a legendarily bad smell, don't forget to remove the liquid every two or three days. This liquid can then be used as a fertiliser when diluted in a watering can.

KEEP THAT COMPOST HEAP DAMP

A dry compost heap is no good to anyone. Make sure moisture levels are 50%; if you squeeze a handful of compost and no water comes out then you'll need to add a bit more. Water around the edges once a week for good measure.



For more tips from the Dr himself, head to the Dr Compost Facebook page or www.wastebusters.co.nz

SHOPPING BETTER DURING LOCKDOWN

Navigating the supermarket during lockdown can be a bit daunting but there are a few things you can do to “shop better” that will save you money, save you time inside the supermarket and help you waste less food.

PLANNING IS KEY

Meal planning will reduce the number of trips to the supermarket and keep food waste down.

WRITE A LIST

Once you know what you're going to eat, make a shopping list. Again this will help you to buy only what you need and will make shopping quicker and easier.

BUY IN-SEASON FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

These will last longer than those that aren't and you'll save money.

STORE FOOD PROPERLY

How you store your food has a huge impact on how long it lasts.

DON'T OVERBUY

Items such as dairy and fresh fruit and vegetables have a shorter shelf life and you could just be throwing your money into the rubbish bin.

For top tips on meal planning, inspirational recipes, and the golden rules of food storage check out the Love Food Hate Waste website, lovefoodhatewaste.co.nz

GET CRAFTY!



Our awesome library team has recently launched 'Isolation Creations' – a way to provide a creative outlet, celebrate our talented people and have a positive effect on our mental wellbeing.

Whether it's art, letters, stories, poetry, photos of your crafts and life in lockdown, if you create it, we want to see it.

Every Friday afternoon during lockdown the team will share a selection of the finest creations from our community on the library blog and Facebook page.

And once this is all over, we hope to bring all of these Isolation Creations together in a booklet to share and remember this time. Our thoughts and different journeys during lockdown will become an important part of the history of our district and we want to help celebrate and record this for future generations to see.

So send your creations to libraries.online@qldc.govt.nz or tag us in your posts on Facebook [@qtlakeslibraries](https://www.facebook.com/qtlakeslibraries) or Instagram [@qldclibraries](https://www.instagram.com/qldclibraries) to submit an entry.

Full details at codc-qldc.govt.nz/

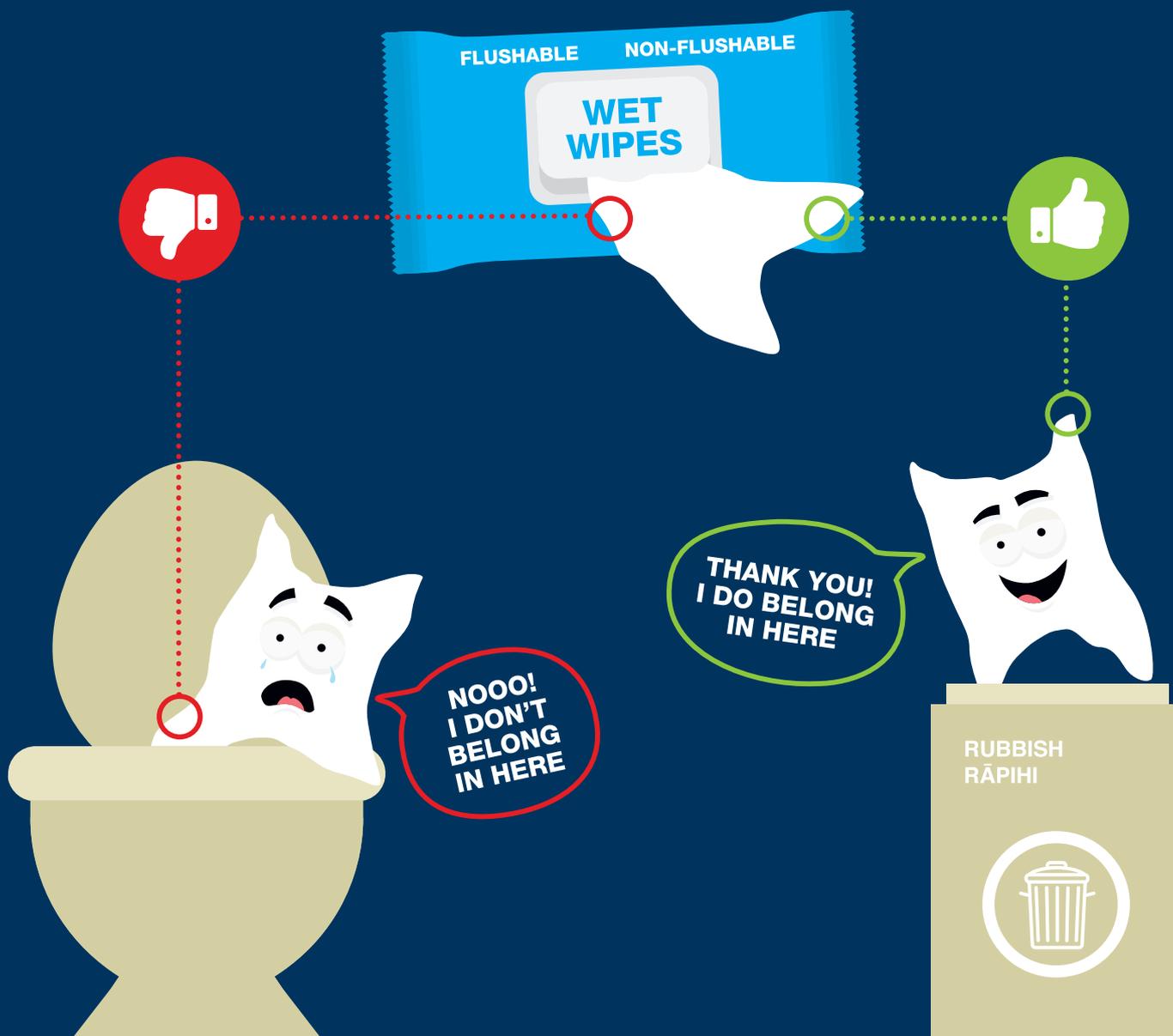
Keep wipes out of the pipes!

A large spike in the number of wet wipes being flushed down our district's toilets is causing concern.

Antibacterial wipes are currently in hot demand as people take extra hygiene precautions during the COVID-19 outbreak. While many of these products say they can be flushed, that is simply not the case.

The best approach is to keep a small bin next to your toilet to dispose of anything that isn't one of the three P's, that's poo, pee or paper.

Putting anything else down the toilet will ultimately cause blockages in the network and repairing these come at an unnecessary cost to the ratepayer.

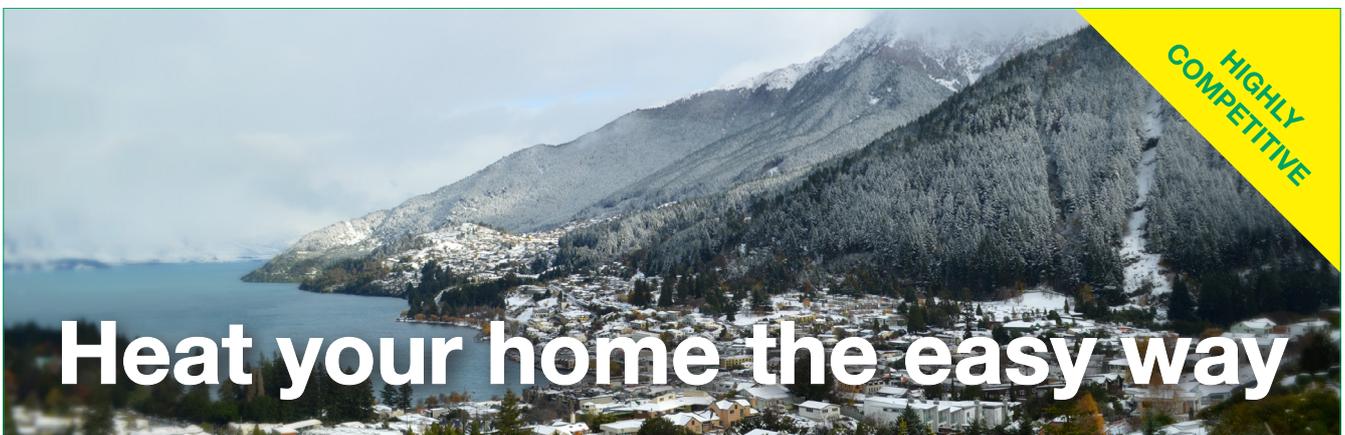


Event funding on hold

The 2020/21 contestable events funding round (due to open for applications from 1-30 April) is currently on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Events will play an important role in both the economic and social recovery for the district and we're currently looking at how we can best support them looking ahead at the next year.

Keep an eye on www.qldc.govt.nz/community/community-funding for updates.



Heat your home the easy way

Supplying the Lakes District with competitive home heating diesel

BONUS! With a new mini tanker based in Central we can service all your home heating needs.

BONUS! Discounted competitive pricing.

Call us today for your free comparison quote.



South Island wide

0800 44 00 14

www.rdp.co.nz

Way to Go Transport Update

Planning for growth and improving our transport network might not feel front of mind at the moment, especially during Alert Level 4.

The Way to Go group is busy working through some key opportunities that will help us get on the front foot as the district recovers from the impacts of COVID-19. These opportunities are being explored through the New Zealand Upgrade State Highway funding and other funding mechanisms to advance the Queenstown Town Centre improvements.

Infrastructure upgrades such as these will form a really important part of helping our district's economy to recover.

Your input will be invaluable as we continue this process and we are working on different ways to engage with you while restrictions are in place. We'll keep you updated when the details are finalised.

Stay up-to-date

For updates on the Way to Go transport projects, head to www.qldc.govt.nz/services/transport-and-parking/way-to-go

Ferry Trial – have your say!

Otago Regional Council is currently asking for feedback on how to fund a proposed subsidised ferry service. Much like the Orbus public transport network, it is proposed to be funded through targeted rates with support from central and local government.

For full details on how to provide feedback, head to yoursay.orc.govt.nz/wakatipuferryrate

Later in May we'll be asking for feedback on a range of options to improve how we travel between Frankton and Queenstown and around the Queenstown Town Centre. Keep an eye on letstalk.qldc.govt.nz/way-to-go for details

Progress on a Spatial Plan

While COVID-19 is likely to take our district's growth story on a bit of a detour, work is continuing to develop a draft Spatial Plan.

We're currently working through how the global pandemic will impact the work done so far and while formal community consultation may be happening later than expected, we're still aiming to have our approach to managing future growth in our district endorsed by the Government mid-year.

Part of our ongoing work includes planning more targeted conversations in areas that could be considered growth areas in the future. We'll keep you updated on this as our plans evolve.

In the meantime, head to letstalk.qldc.govt.nz/spatial-plan to read an early insights summary and a full breakdown of the feedback received at our workshops held late last year.

Keen to get updates on the Spatial Plan project? Go to letstalk.qldc.govt.nz/spatial-plan and click on the 'Stay informed' icon to register.

HOME & CO.

QUALITY PROPERTY MANAGEMENT - GUARANTEED

**90
DAY
MONEY BACK
GUARANTEE**

FOR ALL **PROPERTY OWNERS**
STARTING AT THE BEGINNING
OF TENANCY

IF WE ARE NOT DELIVERING **ON**
OUR PROMISES, WE WILL
REFUND YOUR PROPERTY
MANAGEMENT FEES - **SIMPLE**



- 14+ YEARS LOCAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE
- INDEPENDENT PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMPANY
- FREE, NO-OBLIGATION RENT APPRAISALS
- AWARD WINNING PROPERTY MANAGER

(03) 443 2273 • rent@homeandco.co.nz
www.homeandco.co.nz

THE CLIMATE IS STILL CHANGING – WHAT ARE WE DOING ABOUT IT?

Even though everyone in our community is rightly focused on the health and well-being of family, friends and businesses right now, our commitment to the environment has not been forgotten.

Back in March, Councillors adopted the revised Climate Action Plan (CAP). This means some of the local action needed to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change can be taken once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted and life starts to return to normal (or rather, a new normal).

THESE ACTIONS INCLUDE:

Establishing an independent, multidisciplinary Climate Reference Group that will agree priority action areas

Providing a dedicated QLDC staff member to ensure climate change risks and considerations are at the heart of all our decisions and processes

Setting targets and measures of success for Council and the wider community

Strengthening local networks to progress community-led initiatives.

Get more details at letstalk.qldc.govt.nz/climate-action-plan





ELECTION JOBS AVAILABLE

While it may seem a wee way off, preparations for September's general election are well underway.

Elections are big productions that need a large supporting cast to ensure things run smoothly. There are a host of short-term positions that will be available for those who'd like to get involved and help out.

There will be a wide range of jobs in electorate offices, in voting places, supporting enrolment and in the community. These cover everything from entering data to issuing votes on election day itself.

Advertising for positions will begin in June, but if you're curious about what's on offer you can head to elections.nz/jobs/work-at-the-2020-general-election/ for more information. You can also register your interest by filling out a form on the website.

By working during the elections you'll get to meet a lot of people in the community, contribute to the principles of democracy and have some fun!

Scuttlebutt online

Did you know that six times a year, we produce over 25,000 copies of Scuttlebutt to distribute to our local residents and out of town ratepayers. Given the current COVID-19 restrictions, we were unable to print this edition. But every cloud has a silver lining and no doubt the trees are thanking us.

You can help us continue reducing 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

**Rentals
Made Easy**

Great returns

Smart solutions

Sound advice



Mention this ad for 1 month's free management.*



Meet the team

Mark Blake
Stefan Amston
Lily Bolger

* conditions apply

P +64 (0)3 409 0480
W purepropertyrentals.co.nz
Top floor, 10 Athol Street, PO Box 1574, Queenstown 9300, NZ

Limes on lockdown

Due to the COVID-19 lockdown, the Lime scooter trial that was originally earmarked for an April start in Queenstown has been postponed.

Lime is not considered an essential service under the lockdown, meaning its scooters have to be stored away until things blow over.

QLDC General Manager Property and Infrastructure Peter Hansby said it was a shame the trial had to be put off, but given the current situation it was unavoidable.

“Under the circumstances it’s simply impossible to carry out a trial,” he said.

“It’s disappointing, but the reality is that many things have to be put on hold right now. The safety of people is paramount.”

Mr Hansby said that talks with Lime were continuing and the two parties would continue to work on plans going forward.

“We’re certainly not ditching the idea of a trial,” he said.

Lime’s pay-as-you-go electric scooters have been operating in cities across the country. After months of negotiations councillors agreed to a memorandum of understanding with Lime at last December’s council meeting. A six-month trial was tentatively due to begin in April.

A reserve management plan for Hāwea Domain

Are you a regular visitor to the Hāwea Domain? What are the things you love about it? Or if you don’t visit much, what sort of things would make you spend more time there?

We’re in the early stages of developing a Reserve Management Plan for Hāwea Domain and your views will help to shape what sort of activities will be allowed there in the future.

Head to letstalk.qldc.govt.nz to share your suggestions and comments. You can drop multiple pins on a map of the reserve online, marking elements and features that you want to see included.

Feedback closes on 17 May 2020 at 5.00pm. Following this, we’ll prepare a draft Reserve Management Plan and invite formal submissions.

From the chambers

Public meetings and COVID-19

Because restrictions on public gatherings are anticipated to be in place for some time we've introduced ways to ensure the public can still participate in meetings.

During this period, if you wish to address the Council in public forum, please present your comments in writing (max 400 words) at least 24 hours before the meeting date.

Email your comments to governance@qldc.govt.nz – all comments will be circulated to the Elected Members prior to the meeting, and the Chair will acknowledge submitters during the public forum part of the meeting.

The meetings will be held by video conference and streamed via our Facebook page.

If you'd like to watch a previous meeting, they're also available on the Facebook page – just click 'videos' on the menu at the left and take your pick!

Council Chambers 2020 'Refresh'

Speaking of meetings, for some time we've been aware that the facilities in our meeting rooms don't help the public with hearing the proceedings particularly well. We've taken some initial baby steps with the use of microphones for presenters at the Council Chambers, but we know that some of the other speakers around the table could do with a little amplification. This is just an early heads up that work is planned for later in the year to give the Council Chambers a refresh, with the ambition that these renovations will bring it into the 21st century. The Council will be based at Gorge Road for a few years yet, so we believe it's a good investment, especially in light of the numbers of you now watching our live streamed meetings.

A new home for local film office

A number of personnel changes at the end of 2019 in Film Otago Southland provided a good opportunity to review how QLDC supports the film industry. Film production is a hugely important industry to the district because it helps to diversify economic activity and employment opportunities.

At the 12 March 2020 meeting, Council agreed to create a Queenstown Lakes Film Office within the Council economic development team and to transfer the funding and staff in-house. It was felt that this structure would better support the work of the film office, providing direct access to other QLDC staff to enhance the level of service whilst also increasing the opportunity to explore cross-industry opportunities.

For meeting dates and agendas, head to www.qldc.govt.nz



SIGN UP FOR OUR DAILY WINTER ROAD REPORT!

One thing that isn't affected by COVID-19 is the cooler temperatures of winter!

While at this stage there are not many people out driving on the roads, we're still making plans to kick off the daily road report to help people make good decisions when driving in wintry conditions.

When you sign up for our daily email, we'll provide a general overview of the road conditions, as provided by our crews who are out monitoring the roads from the wee small hours.

Sign up at www.qldc.govt.nz/winter-road-reports

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
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
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

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

TO ADVERTISE CONTACT:

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

✉ rebecca.pitts@qldc.govt.nz
Feedback and ideas are welcome.

Sarah Douglas
✉ sarah.douglas@qldc.govt.nz

SCUTTLEBUTT // APRIL/MAY 2020 // ISSUE 136 // www.qldc.govt.nz

 QUEENSTOWN
LAKES DISTRICT
COUNCIL

ISSN 1177-133X