



Ōmārama Gazette

May 2023

Gliding club pioneer leaves living legacy

By Ruth Grundy

Trevor Mollard, an Ōmārama Gliding Club pioneer, dedicated volunteer and advocate for soaring skies, died in Christchurch last week.

Almost 60 years ago – in 1966 - as a young RNZAF recruit he signed up for his pilot's course at Wigram and at the same time joined the Wigram Aviation Sports Club which later became the Ōmārama Gliding Club.

He flew gliders within two weeks, began his Air Force flight training the day after and made his first visit to Ōmārama the following year. It was to become his special place.

While flying helicopters out of Hobsonville, Auckland and he joined the Auckland RNZAF Aviation Sports Club and became its Chief Flying Instructor.

A subsequent change of jobs and move to Wellington in 1975 saw him swap gliding roles, relinquishing CFI duties for a role with the New Zealand Gliding Association's executive.

- continued over

Former Omarama Gliding Club chief flying instructor Trevor Mollard at the airfield for his last glider flight with pilot and long-time friend Justin Wills. Photo: Supplied.



Gliding club pioneer leaves living legacy, continued

On its technical committee, he was responsible for overseeing all operational procedures of the association for just over 10 years. This experience proved significant for what he would later bring to Ōmārama.

Later Trevor moved into an airline flying career in New Zealand and overseas. It wasn't until 2010 Trevor and wife Jenny bought their holiday home for their Ōmārama base.

But it was earlier, in 2005, Trevor became the Ōmārama Gliding Club's CFI a role he held for 15 years until his ill health forced him to pass on the role to Gavin Wrigley (Grizz) in late 2020.

Friends Youth Glide New Zealand director Roger Read and former New Zealand Association of Women in Aviation president Yvonne Loader, both with a long time association with the Ōmārama Gliding Club, said Trevor's ability to instruct and teach was second to none.

"He was often called upon to mentor experienced pilots in developing their mountain flying skills and Trevor always helped out with the annual Youth Soaring Development Camp at Ōmārama.

Everyone learned something. His calm and patient manner was extraordinary and he always checked the pupil was understanding the information being imparted. He particularly enjoyed passing on his extensive knowledge of mountain soaring."

Roger and Yvonne, who have written the Gliding community's tribute to Trevor (see over), recall a vital but not necessarily well-known role Trevor held as Gliding NZ Airspace Committee chairman.

He fought tirelessly against the ever-increasing demands for more controlled airspace and its inevitable restrictions on gliding access.

"It was hard going but the big win was overturning the decisions that had been made to make controlled airspace over the Mt Cook area... Fortunately, it remains uncontrolled airspace to this day and provides world class soaring for all to enjoy."

In 2016, he was awarded the highly prestigious FAI Paul Tissandier Award for his outstanding services to aviation and gliding in particular.

"He has left an ongoing legacy through his passing on of his extensive knowledge and gliding skills to many glider pilots. He will be sadly missed but remembered as someone we were privileged to know and share precious time with; an accomplished aviator and a thoroughly good person who made our lives all the richer for his friendship and support," the tribute says.

Trevor's outstanding volunteer contribution extended outside of gliding community. Not long after he and Jenny more or less permanently settled in town, Trevor joined the Ōmārama Residents' Association committee where he played an active part during his short membership.

Trevor had been ill for some time and passed away peacefully in Christchurch on Monday, April 24.

- *Read the full tribute from Roger and Yvonne overleaf*

Murray's train that goes to nowhere

It was a photo he came across on the internet that lit the flame of inspiration for Murray Stuart.

And he certainly had all the bits and bobs around the place to pull off the project. With his background in engineering – Murray ran his own gas engineering company in Dunedin – Murray Stuart Engineering, now Gasco & Pipeline Ltd, and his love of auto restoration, his creativity was piqued when he came across the photo of an indoor fireplace crafted to look like the front of a steam locomotive.

His idea was to modify the design and build a similar outdoor fireplace at his and wife Sharon's home, Omaradise.

"I thought, what a cool idea...I love trains."

Growing up, he lived at Port Chalmers and would catch the passenger steam train - the last one in operation - to school in Dunedin each day.

[According to Wikipedia, suburban passenger services were run from Dunedin on the line for more 100 years until the end of 1979.]

Murray started work on the fireplace project in his expansive workshop in June 2021 and unveiled the 'almost' finished work in March, this year.

Part of a B47 Baler was used to create the cowcatcher. The smokestack/chimney was an old irrigation pipe. A water valve drilled with bolts became a smoke box 'door'.

An old square central heating diesel storage tank was repurposed as the fire box. A headlight from a vintage car reached the heights of its humble ambitions to now grace the front of the 'locomotive'

And the finishing touches were provided by a pressure gauge and old brass valves, "I had in the workshop for years", and brass bar footrails and handrails.

Since its debut various additions have been made to fine-tune the outdoor fireplace. Murray continues to talk enthusiastically about modifications.

Which begs the question; Is it still a work in progress then?

"It's always a work in progress," he says laughing.

Engineer Murray Stuart contemplates his creative outdoor fireplace at Omaradise



A day to get in the spirit of things

There may be Coronation Quiche on the menu on Saturday in some parts of the Commonwealth but here in Ōmārama our red-blooded Southern Kiwis are more likely to be sitting down to a roast duck dinner.

As the sun rises here on His Majesty's day of pomp and glory, maimais around the district will echo to the sound of somewhat different gun salutes.

Rumour has it the Palace was alerted by loyal subjects in Ōmārama that the date for the King's big bash did clash with the opening of duck shooting but to no avail. Both will go ahead as planned. Perhaps, the Palace realised the duck hunters would be well and truly 'in their cups', their big day almost done by the time the King is brought his golden slippers and Coronation Day breakfast tray on the other side of the globe.

Still, some in town will make a bit of an effort for his big do. Some will have dug out old photos, like the one below, and the memories attached, in observance of the occasion and maybe also a posh hat, the fine china and a bit of bunting in readiness for an all-nighter in front of the telly.

As well, officialdom does have a few things in store to mark the day even in lil' ol' Ōmārama. The coronation of the King of New Zealand will be marked by tree planting ceremonies across the nation, including here. Waitaki Deputy Mayor Hana Halalele will plant a totara at 10am, on Saturday at the Ōmārama Memorial Hall. Photos of planting ceremonies will be displayed during the national ceremonial event hosted by the Deputy Prime Minister in Auckland, on Sunday. GPS details from all tree plantings nationwide will be added to a webpage so members of the public will be able to find the King's trees for years to come. There will also be gun salutes from Devonport in Auckland and Point Jerningham in Wellington at midday on Sunday.

So, if I could just make a wee suggestion for those royalist duck hunters who wish to acknowledge Charlie's big day – perhaps you could tuck a beautifully folded purple silk neckerchief in the top pocket of your swannie? Perhaps a bit of bunting for the maimai?

Prince Charles acceded to the throne on 8 September 2022, on the death of Queen Elizabeth II who had reigned for 70 years, the longest of any British monarch.

Prince Charles visited the New Zealand Electricity Department's Twizel control room in 1981 and pushed the button to remotely start a generator. Twizel area operator Ray Dyer (left) and Otematata area superintendent Dave McBride (Right) Meanwhile on the far right is young operator Ken Rogers, now an Ōmārama resident talking to Minister of Energy Bill Birch. Photo: Supplied



Aopa pays a flying visit

Small aircraft from all over the country flew into Ōmārama Airfield last Friday for the 2023 Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) Autumn fly-in event.

About 75 planes and three helicopters flew into town for a bit of a catch up and to go exploring. Ōmārama supplied the stunning Autumn weather.

On Saturday, the visitors broke into small groups and took off for a day's excursion following five different itineraries around the region, "flying as far west as Longslip Station, as far south-west as Galloway, as far east as Kokonga, as far north as Clayton Station and all parts in between", Murray Paterson, one of the organisers, said.

"Thanks to the generosity of landowners" the group was given permission to access more than 60 airstrips, Murray said. Friday night had been a great time to catch up and "sit round and have a bit of yak," Murray said. The Pink Glider Café catered for the group's two evening meals and the packed lunched for the day trip.

Murray said the fly-in featured a strong gathering of Bearhawk aircraft– experimental owner-built aircraft – with six of the seven in the country at the fly-in.

Aopa members came from as far away as Keri Keri, Night Caps and Feilding.

Graeme and Marie Donald, who had flown their GlaStar from Feilding to Ōmārama, planned to continue their adventure and head across the Tasman to Australia following the event.

Simon Nicholson, Paloma Serville, and daughter Indie had flown their red Bearhawk, which Simon had built, down from Hamilton.

Paloma said they had loved every minute of the trip and the autumn weather.

Flying with a small child was not so different to a long drive in a car – except the plane was noisier, Paloma said.

And Indie had made a new friend her own age and travelled back to Ōmārama with them and their family in their plane after Saturday's adventures.



Visitors of all ages arrived in Ōmārama on Friday to enjoy a weekend of flying in the region. Photo: Paloma Serville

Ōmārama Remembers, 2023

Many gathered in sunshine at the Ōmārama Memorial Hall to honour those from this community and its districts who have served in war.

Continuing its legacy of respect, this year marked a special moment in the community's history as the service returned to the Memorial Hall for the first time since the 1970s.

The Ōmārama Volunteer Fire Brigade, led by Chief Fire Officer Greg Harper and flagbearers Michaela Kennedy and Glen Smith, marched from the Fire Station to the Hall where about 200 people had gathered for the service.

Upper Waitaki Returned and Services Association president Indi Gard said Anzac Day was the day to "celebrate the courage" of all those who had "stood up for the country" and to remember all New Zealanders who had served in war.

"The spirit of Anzac runs deep within our heritage – a shared heritage between two nations," Mrs Gard said.

Waitaki District Council Ahuriri Ward councillor Brent Cowles gave the address urging the community not to forget all who had sacrificed, not only those who had gone to war but also those who remained at home.

"We owe them a debt of great gratitude," Cr Cowles said.

Padre Karen Hofman prayed for strength to discard "the bonds of hatred" and the "power of revenge" that the emotions of war can bring.

She read out the names from the plaques of those from the area who had lost their lives in WW1 and WW2.

Alice Griffiths read the Ode of Remembrance and bugler John Sturgeon played the Last Post and Reveille.

Flag orderly was Bill Wallace.

*Ka maumahara tonu tātou ki a rātou
We will remember them.*





St John, Fenz and our First Response

- the May update

The Ōmārama and Districts Community Co-Response Trust continues to wait for news that its request to have its Fire First Response unit be turned out to all medical emergency 111 calls has been formalised. following Fire and Emergency New Zealand and Hato Hone St John's review of its Memorandum of Understanding. The review began in November last year.

Last month, Fenz acting national manager, response capability, Aaron Waterreus told the Ōmārama Gazette St John and Fire and Emergency hoped to "be at a point to have a draft document out to our key stakeholders for review and comments in May".

The Trust's petition to Parliament asking it to urge Fenz and St John to consider the Ōmārama request as a local agreement in the MOU has also taken several steps forward. Last month, it was handed to Waitaki MP Jacqui Dean and it was presented to the House by the Clerk of the House on Tuesday.

In response the Petitions Committee has asked the Trust if it wants to be heard at an oral hearing. Trust member Craig Dawson is at present preparing for this and the group is waiting for a hearings date.

On a separate issue. St John have confirmed with the Ōmārama First Response it will be holding two two-day training sessions for new First Response volunteers in November and December.

Farewell, Trevor Mollard

By Roger Read and Yvonne Loader

Although expected, as Trevor had been ill for some time, it still came as a shock when he passed away peacefully in Christchurch on Monday, April 24.

It was 57 years ago when Trevor joined the RNZAF's No 44 Pilots' Course at Wigram. He joined the Wigram Aviation Sports Club (WASC), which is now the Ōmārama Gliding Club, in the January and was flying gliders within two weeks. In July he went solo in a glider and commenced his Air Force flight training the day after. Trevor's first visit to Ōmārama occurred in 1967.

In the Airforce, Trevor graduated with his Wings and flew helicopters based out of Hobsonville, Auckland. He joined the Auckland RNZAF Aviation Sports Club and, when they purchased a Skylark 2 (a hot ship in its day), he was up and away soaring again. Within months, Trevor took over as president of the club, and also became the Chief Flying Instructor (CFI). After completing the eight years the airforce required as a "return of service", Trevor left the RNZAF.

In March 1975, Trevor took up employment with the Ministry of Transport's Calibration Flight based at Paraparaumu and promptly joined the Wellington Gliding Club. Trevor said he was saved from CFI duties as he was snaffled on to the NZ Gliding Association's Executive. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, Trevor was one half of the New Zealand Gliding Association Technical Committee, being responsible for overseeing all of the operational procedures of the Association for just over ten years.

Having moved on to an airline flying career, he flew in New Zealand for Newman Airlines and Ansett, then overseas in Switzerland with Cross Air (joining a locally based gliding club), then in the UK with Go Fly (a subsidiary of British Airways) finishing his airline career in 2014 with Easyjet UK who had taken over Go Fly.

By then, Trevor and Jenny had invested in their first property at Ōmārama in 2010 and were regular visitors when over escaping the Northern Hemisphere winters. In 2005, Trevor took on the role of CFI of the Ōmārama Gliding Club (previously the WASC). He was often called upon to mentor experienced pilots in developing their mountain flying skills and Trevor always helped out with the annual Youth Soaring Development Camp at Ōmārama. He served as CFI for 15 years before health problems forced him to hand over to Griz (Gavin Wrigley) the year before last.

Trevor's ability to instruct and teach was second to none – everyone learned something – his calm and patient manner was extra-ordinary and he always checked the pupil was understanding the information being imparted. He particularly enjoyed passing on his extensive knowledge of mountain soaring.

Trevor took on the onerous task of being chairman of the Gliding NZ Airspace Committee, fighting the ever-increasing encroachment on gliding access to airspace. When he was not flying, Trevor monitored the ever-increasing demands for more controlled airspace over New Zealand. In his role as chairman of the Airspace Committee, he analysed such proposals in detail and worked hard at providing rebuttal evidence, often succeeding in modifying the proposals to minimise their impact on gliding operations. It was hard going but the big win was overturning the decisions that had been made to make controlled airspace over the Mt Cook area.

This had made the area very restricted for gliding so when the decision was overturned it was well celebrated. Fortunately, it remains uncontrolled airspace to this day and provides world class soaring for all to enjoy.

Trevor's personal soaring achievements included gaining his three Fédération Aéronautique Internationale/ World Air Sports Federation (FAI) Diamond badges, the 1,000 km Diploma, participating in numerous competition events with a highlight being winning the Club Class championship held at Ōmārama flying the club's single seat Discus C glider.

In recognition of everything, Trevor had achieved in aviation, in 2016 he was awarded the highly prestigious FAI Paul Tissandier Award for his outstanding services to aviation and gliding in particular. A very fitting tribute to acknowledge his dedication and the many voluntary hours freely given to the gliding movement in his various roles.

Trevor enjoyed more than 50 years of flying and instructing and logged a total flying time of 23,600 hours of which 3,000 were gliding hours. It was a lifetime filled with a variety of flying experiences; with a passion and dedication to aviation that he generously shared as he made an outstanding contribution to the Ōmārama Gliding Club. He has left an ongoing legacy through his passing on of his extensive knowledge and gliding skills to many glider pilots.

In January, several club members and friends were fortunate to enjoy a wonderful "pot luck dinner" evening with Trevor and Jenny in the Soaring Centre cookhouse to celebrate Trevor's contribution to the club and to recall entertaining stories from his aviation adventures. Trevor's love for Ōmārama was founded on it being his "special place" where he wanted to be. He will be sadly missed but remembered as someone we were privileged to know and share precious time with; an accomplished aviator and a thoroughly good person who made our lives all the richer for his friendship and support.



Ōmārama Gliding Club chief flying instructor Trevor Mollard and Twizel school pupil Tuulianna Laukkanen, 13 at the time, return to the airfield after a flying lesson in November 2020. Photo: Ruth Grundy

The Noticeboard

To have your community notice included here
email: omaramagazette@gmail.com

The Ōmārama Gazette has a focus on our 'Noticeboard' section and community group with contributions welcome. Let us all know what you are up to, and any little snippets such as congratulations or farewells.

Sincere condolences to Lorraine and Mike King and the family on the death of Lorraine's mother Nancy Fluit last month.

Age Concern coffee afternoons in Ōmārama from 1pm to 3pm at the Ōmārama Community Centre on the second Tuesday of each month.

Kurow Medical Centre Ōmārama Clinic at the Ōmārama Community Centre, is open Thursdays, 8.30am to 12.30pm. To make appointments for all clinics, order repeat scripts or make enquiries please contact Kurow Medical Centre 03 436 0760 (Monday to Thursdays). www.kurowmedicalcentre.org.nz

The Ōmārama Community Library is open 9.30am to 11am, Wednesdays and Saturdays. Library hours can change. Contact Yvonne: 027 476 7473.

The Ōmārama MenzShed Group meets each Saturday at 10am and at other times too. For further information please contact Malcolm Cameron 022 476 2225

St Thomas' Ōmārama Church Community:

chairperson: Ven Dr Michael Godfrey, phone 022 342 9977 or email Dylanfreak@gmail.com; committee secretary (Presbyterian): Rev Lee Kearon, phone: 021 250 1060 or email: lee.kearon@gmail.com

The Ōmārama Golf Club Saturdays cards in 12.30pm, tee-off 1pm. Club captain Adrian Tuffley phone: 027 347 8276 www.omaramagolfclub.co.nz

The Ahuriri Community Catchment Group meets once a month. For time and place contact facilitator Nicola McKerchar. Phone: 022 612 7570; email: committee@ahuriricatchment.com

The Upper Waitaki Young Farmers Club meets at 7.30pm on the first Monday of each month at the 'Top Pub' - the Blue and Gold pub, in Kurow. All welcome. Join the Facebook group.

Ōmārama Playgroup meets at 9.30am each Wednesday during the primary school term at the Ōmārama Community Centre. For more information phone president Nic McKerchar 022 612 7570 rn.mckerchar@hotmail.com or secretary Tarsh Bell 027 349 0016 tomandtash@mchoney.co.nz

Bridge Club - The Ōmārama Bridge Club meets on a regular basis and would welcome new members. If you are interested please phone Sylvia Anderson 438 9784 or Ann Patterson 438 9493.

The Ōmārama Model Aircraft Club meets on Saturdays from 9.00 am to 12.00 noon at its flying ground at the Ōmārama airfield. All welcome - Contact Don Selbie on 027 435 5516.

FENZ Ōmārama Volunteer Fire Brigade meets 7pm each Wednesday and has its meeting at 7:30pm on the third Wednesday of the month. New members welcome.

A gentle exercises and social afternoon group meets at the Otematata District Club at 1.30pm Thursday afternoons. Gold coin donation and a cuppa after the exercises.

The exercises are run with the guidance of personal trainer Lauren Maree. Gold coin donation and a cuppa after the exercises. Contact Ethel Gray 03 438 7764.

Waitaki Newcomers Network: For more information about this group and to subscribe to regular updates send contact details to E: waitaki@newcomers.co.nz
W: www.newcomers.co.nz F: facebook.com/WaitakiNewcomersNetwork/

Plunket Line: 0800 933 922

Ōmārama Plunket Committee: Aimee Snelgrove 022 350 5536
aimeesnelgrove@hotmail.com

To read more, enjoy more photos and watch our place 'come to life' check out our Facebook page and website.

www.facebook.com/omaramagazette/
omaramagazette.nz

To receive email alerts between monthly editions of the Omarama Gazette sign up to our 'Local List'. Email omaramagazette@gmail.com

Thank you to all who share your stories
and contribute in other ways to the Gazette.
We all really appreciate what you do.

**The June Issue of the
Omarama Gazette
is Wednesday, June 7, 2023.**

Please submit copy
by Thursday, June 1 2023



When circumstances beyond your control lead to a rural business crisis be it financial, climatic or personal the Rural Support Trust is ready to assist. Services are free and confidential.

0800 RURAL HELP (0800 787 254)

Urgently in need of Rental Accommodation

Wanted to Rent
2 - 3 bedroom house by tidy mature tenants.
Anywhere from Georgetown to Twizel,
looking for long term rental, keen gardener.
References available.

Please phone:

Michael Gavin 021 0895 6807

or Trish Neary 021 0829 9572



ECHOS OF THE UNSEEN CAMPBELL PARK ESTATE 2016

Within Reach

THE HISTORY OF THE UPPER WAITAKI

An invitation to a mysterious past.

In 2016, skeleton key in hand, Dana Johnston took the opportunity to unlock unseen corners of Campbell Park Estate.

Sunrise to sunset, Dana documented the emptiness and solitude of a historical landscape stripped bare of all its chattels.

For the first time 'Within Reach' and Feliz & Sage artspace combines to bring this glimpse into a massive body of work, captured as a passionate project documenting history with hopes that someday these intricacies would see the light of day.

Join us for the Opening Night
Monday 1st May from 4.30-6pm

Feliz & Sage ArtSpace
18 Bledisloe Street, Kurow 9435
May 1st to 31st, 2023



Omarama 4 Square are now hiring to fill the following positions:



***Store-person/Grocery**

2x days a week (8am to 3pm, Mon and Tue)

***Retail/FTG**

4x days a week (9.30am to 2.30pm, Tues to Fri)

If interested, please contact either

Alona: 0277734214 or

Blair: 0273840301

OMARAMA AIRFIELD MAINTENANCE MANAGER

Omarama Airfield Limited have a vacancy for an airfield maintenance manager. The position is seasonal with up to 120 hours work per month between late October 2023 and the end of April 2024.

Responsibilities are for the maintenance of the airfield and its infrastructure so experience with tractors, mowers and irrigation equipment is an advantage but not essential because the company will have a full induction process for the successful candidate.

Daily working hours are generally split between early morning and late afternoon in order to fit in with airfield operations. The workload could expand to full-time five days a week depending on the weather and the irrigation schedule.

There is the potential for job sharing over seven days per week.

The Omarama Soaring Centre operate the camping facilities on the airfield. A further 25 hours per month of work is required to maintain this area which includes the privately owned chalets.

The maintenance manager reports directly to the board of the airfield company and the chair of the Omarama Soaring Centre. The manager is expected to have a high level of self motivation and responsibility.

The position is ideal for any glider pilot who wants a season of South Island soaring combined with a job.

**Further information, a full job description and a sample contract are available from: Clive Geddes Omarama Airfield Limited +64 27 229 4860
clivegeddes@xtra.co.nz**

The Community Reports

Upper Waitaki Police News



Hi all,

Crikey another month done already. How time flies, won't be long, and it'll be halfway through the year. I'm still getting used to writing 2023 on my reports!

What's the saying, best laid plans, never go to plan. That describes my intentions about concentrating on school speeds. I have had the opportunity to patrol a little, but not as much as I would like. Of course, school holidays didn't help either. So far the highest speed I've clocked is

83km/h that's 33k's over the speed limit. I'd hate to imagine the carnage if that person had hit a small child. It would end up in heartbreak for all involved. So, I'll be concentrating on this area for the next month or even longer until I get enough statistics to prove my case.

'Lowest of the low'...maybe 'Dumb and Dumber' is a better description? Either way it's how I would describe a gentleman and his mate who I got to meet last week. This was after I received a complaint from the Four Square after the FENZ book trolley's honesty box had the money stolen.

Unfortunately for this Einstein his actions were caught on CCTV cameras. Although I was unable to get a registration of the vehicle he and his mate were using, I was able to get a good view of the vehicle itself. Long story short, after checking some areas, I located the vehicle in Twizel.

Unfortunately for both numbskulls, who had spent their loot on booze, it also resulted in the driver being processed and charged with driving with excess breath alcohol. Because his result was over 650mgms he was also slapped with an immediate 28-day driver's licence suspension.

Not to mention of course, his passenger was arrested for the theft from the honesty box. Both will be appearing in court in early May. I've since found out that the driver was apprehended two days later in Christchurch boozed and driving so is now facing further charges including driving whilst disqualified. Think I'll go with 'Dumb and Dumber'!

So far, it's been a fairly mild winter, but I'm sure there's a lot worse to come. I have attended a couple of crashes. One of these was because the driver, who was wearing a purse of sorts, decided to try to take it off while driving. This of course didn't end well, and she ended up in the farmer's paddock upside down. Fortunately for her and her passenger their injuries were minor. It does go to show that a moment's distraction can lead to serious consequences. My message would be to stay focused and concentrate on the job at hand. If you do need to do something such as answer the phone or remove your handbag then pull over. It only takes a moment - rather than you crashing.

Search and Rescue

The guys and girls from SAR recently conducted an exercise on the A20 cycle trail

between Sailors Cutting and Otematata. This was to hone their skills with what we call “the stretcher rope management system” which is a fancy term for a stretcher attached to ropes going down a steep bank where they’re required to rescue a patient that’s come a cropper. Of course, along that section of trail there’s quite a few areas which are a bit hairy if you were to come off.

We couldn’t have asked for a better day! A special thanks to our patient, Angela Smith, who for once didn’t have much to say, Haha! (Due to the fact that she was meant to be unconscious). No doubt I’ll pay for that comment!!

Duck shooting is almost upon us, if you are shooting please make sure that you follow the seven cardinal rules*, be especially wary of leaning your shotgun up against the wall of your maimai, make sure it’s not loaded, safety’s on etc, and if you are going to have a couple of Fanta’s make sure this is after you’ve put your firearms away securely.

Don’t forget your sunscreen and sunglasses, although the forecast says different, I’ll believe it when I see it

That’s it from me.

Stay safe,

Bean

Senior Constable Nayland Smith

Sole charge Constable / Omarama / Po Box 101, Omarama 9448.

Phone: (03) 438 9559 / Ext: 34580 / mailto:nayland.smith@police.govt.nz

Below: Ōmārama Search and Rescue volunteers hone their skills using a stretcher rope management system in an exercise designed to simulate the rescue of a fallen cyclist on the Alps to Ocean cycle trail on Sunday. Photos: Nayland Smith



Ōmārama MenzShed

The Ōmārama MenzShed meets
at 10am each Saturday
and at other times, too.

**For further information contact:
Malcolm Cameron 022 476 2225**

Ōmārama Community Garden

We are a group of gardeners who work together to create something for everyone in our community.

The gardens are under construction behind the Omarama Community Centre and anyone is welcome to pop along and have a look, and also to put in any plants they may have ready to go in now.

Join the Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/742877880594146>

Contact Heather Smith, 027 330 0249

Waitaki Newcomers Network

For more information about this group and to subscribe to regular updates send contact details to waitaki@newcomers.co.nz

Contact: Paula Eatherley
Waitaki Newcomers Network and Migrant Support Coordinator
waitaki@newcomers.co.nz
coordinator@waitakimulticultural.org.nz
027 325 6151 (business hours)

www.newcomers.co.nz
www.multiculturalnz.org.nz

Ōmārama Community Library

The Ōmārama Community Library
is open 9.30am to 11am,
Wednesdays and Saturdays,
at the Ōmārama Community Centre.
omaramalibrary@gmail.com

Contacts: Georgie 027 486 1525 or Yvonne 027 476 7473



Justices of the Peace

JPs are available by appointment to:

- * Witness documents such as applications for citizenship
- * Certify copies
- * Take declarations, affidavits and affirmations

The service is free of charge

To make your visit quick and easy:

- * Do not sign anything beforehand
- * Do take photo identification
- * Remember to take the original as well as the copy to be certified
- * Check that a New Zealand Justice of the Peace can complete your documentation



Georgie Robertson
Omarama
03 438 9554 027 4861525



Vicky Munro
Otematata
03 438 7855 021 438745



Alona Shaw
Omarama
027 773 4214

Age Concern

Kathryn Bennett, Waitaki Coordinator

03 434 7008; 027 4347 089

NthOtago@ageconcernotago.co.nz

Hours: Mon-Wed 9- 4.30pm / Thur- Fri 9-12.30pm

**Age Concern Coffee afternoons are
on the second Tuesday of each month
at the Ōmārama Community Centre.
The next coffee afternoon is 1pm to 3pm,
Tuesday, May 9, 2023**

Ōmārama Golf Club

Saturday Club Day, cards in 12 noon, tee-off 12.30pm.

Club captain: Adrian Tuffley

phone 027 347 8276

Secretary: Christine Bowman

phone 027 209 2320

email secretary@omaramagolfclub.co.nz

www.omaramagolfclub.co.nz

Ōmārama Playgroup

Ōmārama Playgroup meets at 9.30am each

Wednesday during the primary school term

at the Ōmārama Community Centre.

For more information contact:

president Nic McKerchar 022 612 7570 rn.mckerchar@hotmail.com

or secretary Tarsh Bell 027 349 0016 tomandtmarsh@mchoney.co.nz

Plunket: Aimee Snelgrove 022 350 536 aimeesnelgrove@hotmail.com



AGE
CONCERN
OTAGO

Monthly Coffee Afternoon

Community Centre, 35 Chain Hills Highway,
Omarama

May's topic:

Energy Mates
Good Loans

Guest speaker:

Bruce Smith
Good Loans Advisor
Presbyterian Support Otago

- Second Tuesday of every month
- Featuring guest speakers
- Open to anyone over 65
- Refreshments provided

For further information:

Kathryn Bennett

P 03 434 7008

E NthOtago@ageconcernotago.co.nz



TUESDAY
9 MAY 2023

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Kurow Medical Centre

8 Wynyard St, Kurow
P: 03 4360760 F: 03 4360780

E: info@kurowmedicalcentre.org.nz

W: www.kurowmedicalcentre.org.nz

www.facebook.com/kurowmedicalcentre

**Providing 24/7 health care and support to
the people of the Upper Waitaki and Mackenzie**

**Kurow Medical Centre and its satellite clinic
in Twizel Mackenzie Health Centre and
Outreach Clinic at Omarama Community Hall
are proud to offer our registered and casual patients the following services:**

- * Ultrasound performed by a qualified clinician (great for minor fractures, gall stones, kidney stones, heart and lung problems, foreign bodies, blood clots, detecting early pregnancy and much more!)
- * Minor surgery
- * Vasectomies
- * Mole checks and removal
- * Steroid injections
- * Venesection
- * Aviation, workplace and driving medicals
- * Botox for Wrinkle reduction
- * Workplace health screening
- * Counselling
- * Spirometry to diagnose asthma and COPD
- * Hearing and sight tests for adults and children
- * Ear syringing
- * Liquid nitrogen for warts, verruca's, and skin lesions
- * Cardiovascular risk assessment and diabetic checks (funded for eligible patients)
- * Travel advice and vaccination
- * Cervical smears (funded for eligible patients)
- * Seasonal flu shots and shingles vaccine (funded for eligible patients)
- * Childhood Immunisation
- * Before school checks
- * Postnatal and six-week baby health check

And much more!

**GP consult fees: Under 14yrs Free; Adult \$41.00
Care Plus – Free to eligible patients only**

We also offer the following services from external Health Care Providers:

- *Podiatry and Ear Health (Kurow only)
- *Physiotherapy, Acupuncture and Massage (Kurow and Twizel)

Open

Kurow: Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 5pm. Omarama: Thursday 8.30am to 12.30pm.

Twizel: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 8.30am to 5pm and Saturday 9am to 12pm

Please note: We provide 24/7 on call after hours cover by our doctors and PRIME nurses for all our registered and casual patients!

**If you require further information or an appointment, please contact us on:
For Kurow 03 436 0760 or for Twizel 03 976 0503 - Dr Tim and Juliet Gardner**

Look us up on our website or Facebook page for more information.

Ōmārama Collie Dog Club

Congratulations to the Ōmārama Collie Dog Club triallists who have qualified for the South Island & New Zealand Championships. They are Ginger Anderson, Rick Aubrey, Todd Burke (president) and Scott Hunter. Ed Aubrey will judge Event I, the Long Head. The championships will be hosted by the Otago Centre at the Warepa Collie Club, near Balclutha, and begin on Monday, May 22.

*A picture paints a thousand words; Celebrations at the Stanley Hotel, Macraes, following the Farmlands North Otago centre championships at Waihemo last month.
Photo: North Otago Dog Trials Facebook page*



'The Community Reports' is dedicated to news from clubs, groups and sports teams.

Contributions are welcome.
omaramagazette@gmail.com

Lake Ōhau Conservation Trust

Avoca Forest planting day ...on Sunday May 7, 2023

What a fantastic day on Easter Sunday with 53 volunteers and 7 dogs coming along to help plant 753 plants in Avoca Forest (our legacy restoration project to create a native forest on the site of a plantation forest burnt in October 2020).

Please come along to help at our next planting day on Sunday, May 7.

When: Planting will be between 10am and around 3.30pm, with a break for lunch, with a BBQ sausage for everyone who attends

Where: Meet at 80 Ohau Drive, in the Village (there will be signs out to show you where to come)

What: Bring a spade/shovel if you have one and your gardening gloves.

Be prepared for all weathers – warm clothes and a sun hat! Wear sturdy shoes
Remember to bring some lunch and a hot/cold drink

Our planting in 2023 and 2024 is to acknowledge and thank the firefighters who fought the 2020 wildfire.

Please contact the Trust (ohauconservationtrust@gmail.com) with any queries. If a planting session is cancelled because of weather – it will be posted on the Trust's website (<https://ohauconservationtrust.nz/>) and Facebook page.

Viv, Katrina and Helen

Trustees of the Ōhau Conservation Trust

*Volunteer people and dogs at Easter Sunday
planting day at Avoca Forest, Lake Ōhau Photo: Supplied*



AHURIRI LINK

NEWS FROM COUNCIL & THE COMMUNITY BOARD

Upcoming Ahuriri Community Board meetings are scheduled for 2pm, Monday 8 May at the Kurow Community Hall and 10 July 2023 (venue TBC).

Public Forums will be held at the start of these meetings. Speaker registrations can be emailed by 3pm the day prior to govadvisor@waitaki.govt.nz with the following information:

- The meeting title, date and time (eg *Ahuriri Community Board Meeting, 8 May 2023*)
- Your full name, contact phone number and email address
- The topic you wish to discuss

FEEDBACK AND CONSULTATIONS

Feedback on the 2023-24 Annual Plan closed on 30 April. The Ahuriri Community Board has made a submission which it will be speaking to at the Council Hearings happening on 15 & 16 May - tune in to the livestream to watch.

Consultation on *'New ways to support economic growth in Waitaki'* closes soon on Sunday 7 May. Make sure you read all about it on the Consultation page of Council's website and get your submissions in.

CORONATION TREE PLANTING

All are welcome to attend three tree planting ceremonies being held in Waitaki on Saturday 6 May 2023 to mark the coronation of His Majesty Charles III, King of New Zealand.

Ōmārama Memorial Hall at 10am
Ōamaru Public Gardens at 10am
Centennial Park, Palmerston at 11am

MOOVING DAY

Farmers! "Mooving Day" is just around the corner...

Remember to apply for your Stock Droving Permit. It will help keep your workers, your stock and other road users safe. The permit is FREE. The application is easy, and more information can be found on the Waitaki District Council website: www.waitaki.govt.nz/stock-droving

WAITAKI BIODIVERSITY FUND

Funding to support landowners who are taking practical steps to protect and enhance indigenous biodiversity in the Waitaki District is open now for applications, closing 25 August 2023.

Find more info and application forms on Council's website.



www.waitaki.govt.nz



Waitaki

DISTRICT COUNCIL
TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WAITAKI

Ōmārama School

From the Ōmārama School newsletter...

Board of Trustees Elections/ Principal's appointment

Karl French and Shane Leopold have been elected onto the board. Thank you for taking the time to vote and supporting the ongoing governance of our school. An update about the principal recruitment will be forthcoming shortly.

We have some exciting things happening and are looking for some parental/ caregiver help.

- This term we are focusing on putting on our production of 'Splash'. We need some help with creating a large cut-out of a boat with portholes. If you can help then please let Whaea Gee or Ange in the office know.
- We are also on the look out for costumes, we need white caps that we can paint and turn into animal heads. If you know where we can get about 30 that would be fantastic.
- We have to fit out some pirates, ballroom dancer, chef, cleaner, rabbits, crew officers, Aussies, Americans, Mice, Mickey and Minnie Mouse, Armadillo's, Giraffes, Kangaroos, Monkey's, Dodo's, Seagulls, Parrots, Penguins.
- We also need props, suitcases, barrels (2), tankards, a large kipper, party hats, wine glasses, swords (play), ropes and chains.

Phone: 03 438 9815

Email: principal@omarama.school.nz, secretary@omarama.school.nz



Don't miss the boat!

Ōmārama School is about to make a huge 'Splash'!

Save the dates

for this 'wonderfully wet and wild' musical comedy

Two unforgettable performances; come to one, come to both!

- 11am Wednesday, June 28 - Matinee
- 6pm Thursday, June 28 - Evening performance
at the Ōmārama Memorial Hall



Ōmārama School Board of Trustees

Memorial Wall officially opened

By Jemma Gloag, chairperson Ōmārama School Board of Trustees.

Ōmārama School has completed a long-awaited memorial wall, thanks to the kind donations of Ray Menzies, and Ron and Christian Blackstock.

The funds were bequeathed to the school in 2015, with the original intention of building a stone entrance way.

However, the school had recently built a wooden entrance way, and the funds were instead used to create the beautiful memorial wall, along with plantings and two picnic tables that were built around trees near the entrance.

The project experienced several hold-ups, including a stonemason being injured, difficulty finding a stonemason due to high demand, and a no-show from a contracted stonemason. The COVID-19 pandemic also caused delays. However, the memorial wall is finally complete, and it is a stunning addition to the school's entrance. The wall can be used as a seat and will provide a place for future plaques to honour members of the community.

Ōmārama School would like to express its gratitude to the Menzies and Blackstock Families for their generous donation and their contribution to the community. The memorial wall is a testament to their generosity and will be enjoyed by generations of students and community members.



Thank you

The Ōmārama School Board of Trustees would like to especially thank the following, who in the past few weeks have donated their time, energy and machinery to complete various projects around the school, including the construction of the 400m bike track.

- Andrea and Ed Aubrey
- Kim and Mike Doree
- AJ and Patrina Paton
- Clair Winslade
- Dave Watson
- Christy and Ramon Zeestraten
- Jenni Hales
- Richard Gloag

Very special thanks must go to Nic and Rich McKerchar and super special thanks to Travis and Jo Golder

Left: Ōmārama School pupils (front row left to right) Amelia Harding, Toby Gloag, James Mason, (Back row, left to right) Eve McKerchar, Samantha Roulston and Eira Warnock admire the School's new memorial wall.

Below: Travis Golder of T and J Golder Ltd donates time and machinery to creating the new school bike track..



Ōmārama Residents' Association

The May meeting of the
Ōmārama Residents' Association
has been cancelled.

The next meeting will be
7pm, Thursday, June 15, 2023
at the Ōmārama Community Centre
An invitation is extended to all

Contacts:

Lindsay Purvis, chairperson, 027 438 9630

Yvonne Jones, secretary, 027 476 7473

(Minutes of the previous meetings are available from Yvonne)

THE ASSOCIATION HAS ITS OWN POST OFFICE BOX

Could all those who want to contact the association by mail,
send accounts to be paid,
or have correspondence considered at the monthly meetings
ensure it is addressed to:

The Secretary, P O Box 93, Ōmārama 9448.

The association's email address is omarama.committee@gmail.com

ŌMĀRAMA COMMUNITY CENTRE HALL HIRE

To make a booking for an upcoming event or for more
information about hall hire and availability
please contact Michelle Kitchen 027 280 5446
or email hallhire.omarama@xtra.co.nz



Care in the community

Omarama Community Care Group

NOW AVAILABLE...

Thanks to generous donations our group now has free emergency food supplies

- all the staples you may need to get you and your family through.

Be assured all requests and referrals are taken in confidence.

Please contact Ruth 021 294 8002.

Royal District Nursing Service New Zealand

is now operating in the Ahuriri and Waitaki valleys.

RDNS is a local home help specialist.

The organisation offers a range of home nursing and home support services to people of all ages and cultures in the comfort and security of their own homes.

Whether you need complex nursing care at home, support while recovering from an injury or just a bit of help with housework and grocery shopping, RDNS can support you. It accepts referrals from a range of health and home support professionals, including general practitioners, hospitals and other healthcare and support workers.

The Ōmārama Volunteer Fire Brigade has a fold-up mobility scooter thanks to a generous donation. This along with a wheelchair are available for loan. To find out about these contact Chief Fire Officer Greg Harper 021 293 1171 or any fire brigade member.

Covid Care

If you are unlucky enough to catch Covid-19 here is the link to the up-to-date regulations and advice.

Unite against Covid-19: <https://covid19.govt.nz/testing-and-isolation/if-you-have-covid-19/>

Ministry of Health Covid-19 Health Hub: <https://covid19.health.nz/advice/>

Please do make contact if either yourself or a friend or neighbour need anything.

We have - free RATS, free sanitiser, masks, gowns and face shields if you are caring for someone with Covid and need protection. Only a phone call away: Ruth Grundy 021 294 8002

Age Concern (for people 65 and older).

Kathryn Bennett is the coordinator for Age Concern Waitaki, based in Oamaru. Monthly coffee afternoons are held at the Ōmārama Community Centre.

Kathryn's contact details are:

03 434 7008

027 4347 089

NthOtago@ageconcernotago.co.nz

Hours: Mon-Wed 9- 4.30pm / Thur- Fri 9-12.30pm

-continued over

Care in the community, continued

Twizel Community Care Centre

Vicky is the new Office Manager at the Twizel Care Centre, replacing Kristin who has moved to Oamaru.



The Twizel-Tekapo Community Vehicle Available for bookings Monday to Friday through the Community Care Centre Phone 03 435 0687. New volunteer drivers are always appreciated. The car can be booked and used by anyone in Ōmārama to get you to nearby towns or cities for medical appointments or shopping visits – e.g to Twizel and back or Kurow and includes trips to Oamaru, Dunedin or Christchurch etc. There is a minimal charge depending on the destination.

If you need any of the services listed below please contact the Twizel Community Care Centre, Mount Cook St, Twizel, Phone: 03 435 0687 Email: twizelcare@xtra.co.nz Open: Monday to Friday 9.00am - 2.00pm

- Work and Income – assistance with applying for benefits, helping with queries regarding superannuation, and any other financial assistance you may receive. Printing and scanning of documents.
- Inland Revenue – queries regarding anything IRD related, access to forms
- Twizel-Tekapo Community Car bookings – this is a community car that picks you up from your house and takes you wherever you need to go such as town here in Twizel or Timaru for an appointment, whatever you need. There is a cost involved depending on destinations.
- Home Delivered Meals – We have small roasts for \$10, Regular meals for \$8 and small snack meals for \$4. We can deliver to your home.
- Printing/scanning services
- Assistance with finding jobs in the area.
- Foodbank – donations, and supply people with food parcels when in need
- Any other government services – ACC, Department of Corrections, etc
- Arowhenua Health Clinic – Free health clinic on the first Wednesday of each month.
- Computer/cellphone assistance – needing help with something on your computer or cellphone
- Rat tests/Mask supply free of charge
- Assistance with filling in any forms or paperwork.
- Offer room hire to community groups and businesses.

Jobs: If you are looking for jobs a great place to start is the Jobs in the Mackenzie Facebook page. Leaine Rush runs that Facebook page. leaine.rush@mackenzie.govt.nz

Ōmārama Airfield Ltd

The Ōmārama Airfield Ltd half-year report was presented to the Waitaki District Council at its meeting of April 26, 2023 along with its draft statement of intent for 2023-2024.

The Ōmārama Airfield Company is legally required to report to the council because it is a council-controlled organisation.

In the report, which covered the six-months to December 2022, Airfield Company chairman Clive Geddes said the company had traded "close to budget" for the six-month period and expected to "trade out the balance of the year within budget".

In other matters, the consent for the Nimbus Rd subdivision had been granted and the project would be "progressed as soon as practical".

And, despite lower than usual numbers entering the national gliding championships in January, airfield activity since "has been significant", the report said.

Points to note about the financial report for the period were that revenue had exceeded budget despite fewer soaring days and low entries in the regional competitions resulting in shortfall in budgeted income.

It had been offset by increased operator fees and percentage turnover and the actual result was a modest increase in revenue for the period.

Overall operating expenses were close to budgeted.

Power costs were lower because a wet spring and early summer meant irrigation was not needed as often.

Conversely, fuel costs increased because of the need to do more mowing plus the price of fuel went up.

Terminal expenses were "significantly lower" because of a change in service provider.

The company also produced its draft statement of intent – it's plans for the upcoming year - for consideration by the council.

In return, the council will provide the company with its "Letter of Expectation" which will explain what the council wants it to "reflect" in its final version.

The final Statement of Intent will be presented to the June 27 meeting of the council.

Coming soon from Neighbourhood Support...

Dates to be confirmed...

St John 'Three Steps For Life' Programme

at the Ōmārama Community Centre

- You'll learn how to take action by calling 111
- how to start CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation)
- how to use an AED (Automated External Defibrillator).
- Training sessions are for groups of 10 or more and run by a St John community educator.

Tall Poppy

REAL ESTATE

Gary is proud to be covering the Waitaki Valley - with **over three decades in the Real Estate industry** in the Waitaki, Central Otago and Mackenzie Country, using the traditional real estate model.

Living in Omarama, Gary is proud to offer New Zealand's **#1 FREE marketing package** and **fair flat fees**.

With one centralised national office, we keep overheads low and savings where they belong - in your pocket!

Thinking of selling? **Call Gary today.**



Gary Sutherland

Business Partner & Sales Consultant

027 432 6615

gary.sutherland@tallpoppy.co.nz

The Directory



Big Sky
Bed & Breakfast

Kay & Hank Verheul
10 Ahuriri Drive, Omarama, New Zealand

Phone +64 3 438 9538
Mobile 027 489 5149

Email kay@bigskybnb.co.nz
www.bigskybnb.co.nz



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or email
omaramagazette@gmail.com



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MOTEL
Your Hosts Kay & Hank Verheul

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bigsky.kiwi.nz

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Karan MacDiarmid

0275177959

karan@mcre.co.nz

Jess Mackay

0279025529

jess@mcre.co.nz



Mackenzie Country Real Estate Ltd Licensed REA (2008)



The café is now closed for the season
Re-opening Labour weekend

Tanya and Dannie would like to thank all for their patronage



The Twizel Bookshop

The Boy from Gorge River

From New Zealand's
remotest family
to the world beyond

CHRIS LONG

FREE
EVENT

Join us for an evening with

CHRIS LONG, THE BOY FROM GORGE RIVER

Chris Long grew up in Gorge River, 42 kms from the nearest road. Hear how his extraordinary childhood led to extraordinary adventures all around the world, from Antarctica to the Arctic and everywhere in between.

WHERE

Twizel Event Centre Theatre

WHEN

6pm Thursday, 11 May 2023

The Last Page is Classifieds

FOR SALE

Haier Dishwasher, model 15V3S1, stainless steel, brand new and still in wrapper. Won't fit in my new kitchen. Yours for \$ 910. Phone 027 477 8231 Omarama.

SITUATION VACANT - ŌMĀRAMA SCHOOL

There is an opening for a cleaner, this is 10 hours per week at \$23.70 per hour. Time is flexible any time after 3pm and before 8am. This is a permanent position with extra hours available during the school holidays. Email: principal@omarama.school.nz, secretary@omarama.school.nz



The weather that was
@ 44°29'30.1"S 169°58'20.3"E

April 2023

Highest temperature: April 4, 21.5 C

Lowest temperature: April 27, -2.4 C

Most rainfall: April 10, 10.2 mm

The Ōmārama Gazette

Ōmārama's news delivered to your inbox
the first Wednesday of each month

To subscribe email:

omaramagazette@gmail.com

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