



Ōmārama Gazette

September 2022

Ōmārama Hotel makeover begins

After a bit of a stop go start, and now with new owners at the helm, the long-awaited makeover of Omarama's first hotel has begun.

David and Karen Ellis bought the Omarama Hotel and the adjacent land in July this year and the makeover began in earnest just one month later.

A temporary kitchen and other utility spaces were moved onsite – “Container City” as the excavators moved in, and the renovations have begun.

Trading as Boots and Jandals Hotel Omarama, the business will continue under the management of Bruce and Julie Dyson.

Previous owners had planned renovations in mid- 2021 but these were postponed with no definite start date because of unforeseen delays with compliance.

While substantially the same, the new plans had been adapted from the original a little, Dave said

The work was now urgent because the kitchen was close to being declared not fit for purpose, he said.

Parts of the hotel, including the kitchen, were more than 100 years old.

The new look includes a new dining area, a bigger kitchen and boutique accommodation, plus a garden bar.

Timaru-based Shore Construction will carry out the work.

The oldest part of the building – the front entrance and side wall have Waitaki District Council District Plan category B heritage status.

Dave said they were working closely with council heritage advisor Heather Bauchop and, while they wanted to preserve the feature, closer inspection had caused concerns.

The builders consider the wall and foundations could be unsafe and so engineers' reports have been commissioned to determine what needs to be done, he said.

“The wall is very brittle...I'd be more than happy to save it if it was safe.”

Another option could be to build a replica of the feature, he said.

Although it was going to be a “real challenge” the aim was to have the kitchen and restaurant completed by Christmas.

“The restaurant, with a garden bar and six rooms, initially.”

Full completion date is mid-May 2023.

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Ōmārama Hotel makeover begins, continued

The décor had yet to be decided but would continue to be in keeping – a country feel with a family atmosphere.

“We want it to be a place for locals and visitors to enjoy.”

And renovating the bar is on the longer term plan, he said.

The couple have not yet decided on plans for the adjacent section but had thought motels may be a good fit for the location, Dave said.

The Hotel has a licence to occupy the frontage on the corner of SH8 and SH83 from Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency.

Dave and Karen plan to make the garden bar family friendly providing a safer environment for children.

Again, with safety in mind, there has been an agreement made with the council to take the A2O cycle track away from the highway junction and divert it across the back of the property.

Dave hopes the makeover will “breathe a bit of new life into the town” and the couple are keen to hear any suggestions from locals.

“We won’t always get it right, but we want to get the right balance for locals and visitors alike.”

Patrons are asked for their understanding during the build as staff work to cater for the numbers using the much smaller container facility.

Boots and Jandals Hotel Omarama managers Bruce and Julie Dyson discuss progress with new owner Dave Ellis



Need to deliver on community mandate

It is still too soon to take the pedal off the metal, according to those pushing for a formal commitment to be made to call the Omarama First Response unit out to all medical emergencies.

Between 170 and 200 people including representatives from other South Island First Response units attended last month's public forum to discuss the withholding of 111 medical emergency calls from the Omarama First Response. The Omarama Residents' Association hosted the forum on behalf of the trust. Residents were concerned their fully equipped and community-funded First Response was not being used as it should, leaving residents to face long waits for an ambulance to be sent from other centres.

Last week, St John and Fire and Emergency New Zealand issued a joint statement. The statement said, following the forum, Hato Hone St John and Fire and Emergency New Zealand had taken action to make sure the 'enhanced first response trial' in Omarama was operating as intended.

An 'enhanced first response' means the Omarama first response unit can be dispatched to less severe medical calls than first responders in the rest of the country, who only attend life threatening or serious incidents.

It also said it would start the review of the current Memorandum of Understanding by November 1.

In order for the local agreement with the Omarama First Response to be formally recognised by St John and Fenz it must be included in this MOU.

This means the present arrangement is provisional.

It also applies only to the Omarama First Response and no other first response brigades.

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About 200 people attended a public forum at the Omarama Memorial Hall to discuss concerns about the ongoing operation of the Omarama First Response unit. Photo: Dan McCormack



Need to deliver on community mandate, continued

Omarama First Response Trust spokesperson Craig Dawson thanked the community for its support and acknowledged the statement issued by St John and Fenz.

“We are looking forward to [the] signing [of] a new MOU enshrining this process and look forward to seeing this revision work in practice.

“You will also be aware that we have a petition in progress, which has received a lot of backing from locals and travellers alike, showing strong support for our actions.

“In my view, we should pursue this to the select committee level to push for this standard to be enshrined in law,” Mr Dawson said.

Residents’ Association of Omarama chairperson Lindsay Purvis said the association planned to discuss the developments and its next moves at its upcoming meeting.

“Personally I think that the number of residents who attended [the forum sends us a direct mandate that we should continue to be involved, and, until we get some sort of assurance that the MOU will be changed in our favour in November, then we should keep pushing ahead with not only the petition but also trying to get as many of those other First Responders to send in their letters of concern to St John and Fenz as well.

In an interview with the Timaru Herald Mr Purvis said, although the community was pleased with “the traction they have made so far”, they would not relax until a decision to allow the town’s First Response team to attend less severe medical emergencies was formalised.

Mr Purvis said the association had received a letter of intent to make changes, but they would keep pushing for that to be formalised.

“We haven’t taken our foot off the throttle yet. We are quite pleased with the traction we made with this, but it needs to be done in a more formal way.

“It’s [the letter] fine for the meantime, but what we would like to see is a change in the MOU,” Mr Purvis said in the article.

Mr Purvis noted St John had taken steps to ensure its dispatchers understand the different criteria which applies to calls in the Ōmārama brigade area.

However, he said “with the passage of time, there will be new dispatchers, and we will have to do this all over again.”

The Omarama Gazette understands, since the public forum, there has been one medical call out – an orange call – and the First response was turned out to assist until the St John ambulance arrived from Oamaru.

The matter will be discussed at the next meeting of the Residents’ Association 7pm, September 7 at Omarama Community Centre.

A petition requesting Parliament urge St John and Fenz allow Omarama First Response to respond to 111 medical and personal alarm calls in the Omarama call-out area, regardless of acuity is available online here
The petition closes September 30.

A video of the meeting can be found on the Omarama Gazette YouTube channel.
<https://youtu.be/4fc6yvk9CrA>

Flood event - time for a debrief? part two

We left the Omarama Gazette August issue wrap about the management of the July flood by Waitaki District Council and its emergency management team with many unanswered questions.

Some answers have filtered in since – That first story with the updates is here:

<https://us3.campaign-archive.com/?u=f6fa543027a0ae76ab0106fb7&id=992c40943f>

Two fundamental questions were asked.

Why was a civil defence emergency not called in Omarama? and, What were the reasons behind that decision.?

As well, the Omarama Gazette made a Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act request for information pertaining to that decision because it is in the public interest to know how that was made.

The questions were addressed to council chief executive Alex Parmley and Waitaki District Emergency Management advisor Ewen Graham.

Its council response was that it was not called because no additional powers were required to respond to the event.

Ultimately, the decision is a “collective decision between several internal and external stakeholders, which includes emergency services”, was the response.

But it is the job of the management advisor to assess the information, get the ball rolling and assemble a team as the information of an ‘incident’ comes in.

In all cases, for reasons of accountability and liability it is standard practice that discussion is well-documented as a situation unfolds - hence regular 'sitreps' or situation reports.

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*The Omarama Stream flood waters continue to flow freely into the
Omarama Top 10 Holiday Park on the afternoon of Tuesday , July 19, 2022*



Time for a debrief? part two, continued

One could reasonably assume the information remains readily accessible for review. Which is why the council's response to the Gazette LGOIMA request for that information is surprising.

The council acknowledged receipt of the request on August 1 with a commitment to reply, as required, no later than August 29 being 20 working days after the day the request was received.

More than two weeks later, on Friday, August 18, the council advised it had "reviewed and decided to partially grant" the request.

Staff said the request included call recordings, which they refused to supply for privacy reasons. This was not part of the request.

"Given the amount of resource required to process the remainder of your request, we have decided to charge for making the requested information available.

"We estimate that the maximum charge will be \$330.00 for four hours of work (first hour free, then \$55 per half-hour, or part thereof) to extract the information you have requested...

"Before we proceed further with your request, please confirm your agreement to the charge and pay the full amount \$110.00.

"Once you have agreed to this payment Council will send you an invoice for you to pay. We will send you the information as soon as practicable after your payment."

In the reply sent the same day the Gazette request was 'clarified', a recalculation sought, and agreement made to pay \$110 on receipt of invoice.

The invoice arrived the following Friday and was paid.

Then, because of "work constraints" a time extension was sought.

Some material did duly arrive in the Gazette inbox Monday, September 5.

Curiously, there are no records of any conversations between the emergency management advisor and the Waitaki mayor, the Council chief executive or deputies as events unfolded on Monday, July 18.

Plus, despite specifying the documents sought were to be relevant to the Omarama July 18 Flood event some 25 documents produced were particular to other areas – Outram, Chatto Creek, Balclutha and more.

So, what does the documentation show?

The log of events shows alerts were raised with the Waitaki emergency management advisor– Mr Graham - just after 8pm Monday evening when flooding began affecting highways, streets and properties in Otematata.

Environment Canterbury had earlier issued flood warnings for the Ahuriri and Omarama Stream catchments and the advance warnings meant emergency services and those in low lying areas were somewhat prepared.

As the evening progresses information comes in from roading teams about damage and successive road closures through the district.

Several statements are made that despite rising water the Police and the community are managing.

At 21.12 the log records that Police advise the Lindis Pass is closed.

In the next entry at 00.36 Tuesday the log records that Omarama Police advise homes are being evacuated.
"All have places to go / stay bar one," is the note. That is the last entry for the night.
The next entry in the log for the Waitaki District is made at 9.59 am advising of the Bridge washout on Lake Ohau Rd.
The Emergency Operations Centre is activated and the first Incident Management Team meeting – council staff who will respond to the emergency - is called for 10.30am.

Meanwhile back in Omarama, according to the log provided to the Omarama Gazette by Omarama Police, events unfolded a little more dramatically through the night.

While checking the bridge on Broken Hut Rd at Berwen at about 11.20pm Senior Constable Nayland Smith gets a call to say the Omarama Stream has broken its banks and was flooding Omarama Top 10 Holiday Park.

About 60 people are evacuated from the camp with the help of the Omarama Volunteer Fire Brigade.

A welfare centre, staffed by those same volunteers, is set up at the Omarama Memorial Hall and the Heritage Gateway Hotel opens rooms to accommodate evacuees, most, but not all, of whom were holiday makers from the camp.

Snr Const Smith and Fire Brigade volunteers continue to alert residents along the Omarama Stream and negotiate swiftly flowing water in the dark to evacuate affected homes, completing the task sometime between 2am and 3am Tuesday morning.

In all, the Omarama Gazette has verified, a further 17 households were affected with 39 people 'displaced'. Not everyone evacuated, some chose to stay. All were safe.

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The Ahuriri River encroaches on a Quailburn Rd property . Photo: Trent Spittle



Time for a debrief? part two, continued

Residents woke to impassable roads, bridge washouts and debris – branches, roots, gravel, general detritus - backed up in properties and strewn for miles, garages and basements which had been inundated leaving tidemarks at about ¾ metre off the ground, and sodden carpets and furniture.

The town water supply was obviously compromised.

The hardest hit businesses were, first and foremost, the Top 10 Holiday Park, followed closely by Ōmārama Hot Tubs, as were other smaller and significant businesses along the path of the flood waters.

The first EOC 'sitrep' on Tuesday morning (time not noted on the document but likely to be around the time of the first meeting of the Incident Management team) noted the affected roads through the area, made mention of the 60 evacuated from the camping ground and the boil water notice for Omarama.

Entries regarding Omarama evacuees referred to a "couple of" or "a few" households in addition to those from the camping ground.

The Omarama sitrep carried out after midday on July 19 has this note:

"Overnight there were a number of evacuations from Omarama and Otematata including the campground with 60 people evacuated. There were also voluntary evacuations from some private properties. Our local Ahuriri Community Board Members, Emergency Services and Community Members have responded to localised flooding in Otematata and Omarama."

A task was set to check on the welfare of Omarama evacuees but was "stood down" when State Highways 8 and 83 opened on Wednesday, July 20 allowing travellers to continue their journeys.

In a later update which suggests the media team issue "more mental health posts" there is this entry;

"Disgruntled residence [sic] in Omarama – not sure on substance. Possibly already disgruntled before the event."

There is no note made of the subject of the complaint or request.

In stark contrast the logs show from Tuesday morning the Emergency Operation Centre prioritised the welfare and went out of their way to help the residents and holiday makers stranded because of the bridge washout on Lake Ohau Rd.

This was not the experience of Omarama Hot Tubs when owners sought help with its septic tank issue.

Following an event it is standard procedure to have a recovery plan – part of the emergency management role.

There is no evidence in the paperwork produced of a recovery plan for Omarama.

So, what luck with the debrief?

In response to the suggestion a meeting of council staff, Environment Canterbury, emergency services and members of the community be held to ensure future plans and protocols were fit for purpose and worked as they should, the council spokesperson said

"We have held a debrief from this event which includes planning for future events. Further to this, Ewen Graham is liaising with the Ahuriri Community Board for a debrief with emergency responders.

"We also conduct ongoing training for Council Staff who move from their regular positions to roles within the EOC."

Mr Graham and Mr Kircher held closed meeting in Otematata with emergency services volunteers from Otematata and Omarama, Omarama Police, and Ahuriri Community Board member, Otematata resident Brent Cowles.

Apart from the emergency services volunteers no representative of the Omarama community was invited.

However, Omarama Residents' Association chairperson Lindsay Purvis did attend.

After this meeting Mr Kircher posted on Facebook:

"August 10

We had a very good meeting last night in Otematata with representatives of both the Otematata and Omarama volunteer Fire Brigades, as well as 'Bean' Smith representing the police and Ewen Graham, Waitaki's Emergency Management Officer.

I don't know if any of us were expecting the meeting to run for two and a half hours, but there was a lot of very good information shared as we discussed the weather events that have occurred over the past four weeks!

This ranged from procedural matters such as what went well and what didn't, through to pinpointing where flood and safety issues occurred throughout the area. There was a fair share of criticism raised with how the response from the centralised Emergency Operations Centre was perceived in the communities, and there are a number of key actions which we agreed on. Comms is often an issue in widespread emergency situations such as we have experienced over the past four week, and we discussed a range of ways to improve this, particularly between the Emergency Operations Centre and emergency services, and also for the information being shared with the wider community. In some cases, it was a lack of information that was the problem, but in other cases the information was available but it wasn't getting to those who needed it most.

These types of emergencies often bring out the best, and sometimes the not-so-good, in people, and the response from our volunteers and police has been nothing short of outstanding! They have worked long hours to help their communities - something that is particularly special in rural districts like Waitaki. I know there are many people, myself included, who are grateful for all they have done. They are our local heroes and we couldn't do without them!"

In Omarama the following week the council held what was advertised as a Waitaki Economic Development Strategy briefing session for Ōmārama businesses.

Five Omarama people attended the presentation.

There was also a further 30-minute open session to discuss broader community concerns with Mr Parmley and Mr Kircher.

Surprisingly, also in attendance was Mr Graham... so was this Omarama's opportunity for a 'debrief'?

There were no agenda items published nor was the meeting advertised as an opportunity for an emergency management 'debrief' for the Omarama community.

- continued over, ECan responds to questions

ECan responds to questions

Environment Canterbury rivers manager Leigh Griffiths answers questions put to her by the Omarama Gazette about the catchment following the recent Omarama Stream flood events.

What is the present situation?

Flows in the catchment are still high, and ground is still very wet. As is the case across the region, any significant rainfall would impact the stream more than usual. From our observations during visits to Top 10 Holiday Park and Omarama Station, the stream is still finding its preferred bed. Downstream of the SH8 bridge where flow paths have changed, is old flood plain with channels going in many different directions and the stream is still settling down. The flood event of July 18 was the highest ever recorded flow at Wardells bridge.

When was the last maintenance work carried out and what was that?

ECan has a very small rating district from the confluence of the Ahuriri to SH8 bridge.

Upstream of the SH8 bridge to Wardells is outside of the rating district.

This is where the out-of-stream flows originated from which flooded the Top 10 Holiday Park and downstream properties.

The area benefiting from the small rating district is not large.

It is a long narrow rating district and as a result the ability of the rating district to pay for works is of modest proportions. Average maintenance expenditure is only in the order of \$1000 per year.

The last maintenance work was completed in January 2021 where a build-up of debris was cleared, and blockages removed in the active channel from the footbridge downstream to adjacent of the settling ponds.

River control works are constructed in a very high-energy environment with the purpose of resisting and absorbing some of that energy. No matter what the standard of maintenance, damage to such systems is inevitable.

What remedial work has ECan carried out since the flooding?

ECan has over \$20 million in damage to flood schemes across the region from the May 2021 flood event and the successive flood events in July 2022.

There has been no remedial work carried out on Omarama Stream so far due to prioritisation across the region, resource constraints and the funding challenges associated with the rating district.

Staff have however been in contact and have had site meetings with the leasees of the property downstream of the SH8 bridge, and the upstream landowner who were significantly affected by flood flows and have been discussing the work that needs to take place.

What mitigation efforts are planned given the likelihood of more heavy rain in the coming months? October, November and January are usually high rainfall months in Omarama.

We are currently gathering all the information related to the flood events of July and August 2022 to guide us on the next steps. We are also working on aligning with our partners and stakeholders that have an interest in Omarama Stream to collaborate

on works going forward. This may include investigating removal of old willows downstream of the golf course.

ECan councillor Peter Scott has sent this response

"The present situation is that part of the stream is outside the rating district where money would be available for remediation and also any maintenance of the stream. I am not aware of any work that has been carried out at this point."

As well Cr Scott has visited the stream and seen the damage.

He has since spoken with ECan's head river engineer and she has visited the site also, as have other rivers staff.

Cr Scott understands there are to be discussions with the Waitaki District Council about a possible fix and where the funds would come from.

The Omarama Stream bursts its banks for a second time in a month. ECan river engineers say the stream is still finding its preferred bed.

Photo: Gavin Wills



A wee bit of rock 'n' roll

There was a great turnout last month at the Omarama Community Centre to 'rock star' GNS Scientist geologist David Barrell's talk on the Ostler Fault. David's presentation was recorded and is on the Waitaki Whitestone Geopark YouTube channel <https://youtu.be/l-N2phH-np8>

Photo: Michelle Kitchen



Daffodil Day fundraising success

Daffodil Day in Omarama is always a harbinger of Spring.

Our smiling volunteers were stationed outside Four Square Ōmārama, and raised \$684.80 for the Cancer Society's Daffodil Day. All money raised goes towards cancer care for patients and their whānau, education and awareness programmes, and life-saving cancer research. <https://daffodilday.org.nz/>

Volunteers (from left) Michelle Kitchen, Greg Harper and Shona Smith collect for the cause. Photo: Adrienne Harper.



You won't want to miss this...

It has been a winter for the history books

We've done the work, it's time to play!

Time to haul off those gumboots, kick back and celebrate what makes this community great.

What: Time to relax together, family time, and fun

When: From 3pm onwards,
Friday, September 30, 2022

Where: The Omarama Community Centre

We'll take a special moment to thank our hard-working emergency services

Bring:

- A shared meal and stay for tea, byo refreshments
- Your flood photos, we'll share them on the big screen.
- There'll be a barbecue, bouncies, music and more.



Cost blowout on water supply upgrade

Last month the Waitaki District Council sent the Omarama Gazette the press release below - a brief update on progress with the township's water supply upgrade. It offers a glimpse into the council's plans. Here it is published in full.

Omarama Water Supply Upgrade Progress
Wednesday, August 17, 2022

Over the past several months, work has been progressing in the background on upgrading Omarama's water supply to meet the new Drinking Water Standards. The upgrade is also a chance to ensure the supply is more resilient to events like flooding – which is particularly relevant at this time.

With this in mind, Council purchased a block of land adjacent to the current treatment plant site to house the new plant and supporting infrastructure. This land sits outside the flood-prone area and will also provide better access for our plant operators and other contractors.

Land use and water take consents have now been obtained, and design work completed for the plant pipework and equipment, bores, electrical systems and treatment plant building. One of the key elements of the building design is ensuring it fits in well with the local environment.

Council will shortly be tendering for the civil and electrical works, and all going to plan, the new plant will be ready to operate before June next year. ENDS

If you're keen to follow the 'paper trail', and for a broader view and context than that offered by the press release Read on Dear Reader

In chronological order, beginning one year ago -

□ **Waitaki District Council media release August 25, 2021**

"Waitaki District Council has been granted \$3.73m directly and is likely to receive \$3.69m through the Canterbury Regional allocation, giving a total of \$7.42m to be spent in the 3 Waters area within the Waitaki.

Further to this, Waitaki District Council today agreed to approve a Programme of Works to spend the \$6.74m of infrastructure investment throughout the Waitaki district.

The work includes; \$1.5m for the replacement of water mains and \$1m for waste water treatment in Palmerston, \$1.4m for water treatment upgrades in Omarama, \$200k for more water storage in Duntroon and Otematata, \$500k for improvements to campground water supplies, \$500k each in Weston and Otematata for water mains, \$500k for various electrical upgrades, \$300k for water mains at Robbs Crossing, \$100k for a new tank liner at Omarama, \$100k each for wastewater planning at Duntroon and Moeraki and \$100k for sewer improvements at Ohau. ENDS"

□ **From the agenda for the additional council meeting October 26, 2021**

Public excluded: Omarama Land purchase for new water treatment plant.

RECOMMENDATION

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject matter of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter

Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution

7.1 - Ōmārama land purchase for a new water treatment plant

s7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)

s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7

From the council Assets Group update to the Ahuriri Community Board November 9, 2021

“The Ōmārama drinking water upgrade is ongoing, with Council resolving at its 26 October 2021 Additional Council Meeting to purchase land for the location of a water treatment plant in Ōmārama. Securing the new site will allow construction to commence and will position the water treatment plan away from the road edge and reduce the risk of flooding of the site. This project is also partially funded through the Three Waters Reform programme.”



□ **In the Omarama Gazette story published in November 2021** Council assets operations manager Joshua Rendell answers questions about the plans.

□ **Assets Committee meeting April 26, 2022, A request for additional funding Item 4.1 Page 10**

4 DECISION REPORTS

4.1 ŌMĀRAMA DRINKING WATER SUPPLY UPGRADE – ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUIREMENT

Author: Gareth Phillips, Senior Project Engineer - Water Services

Authoriser: Paul Hope, Acting Assets Group Manager

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Assets Committee recommends:

That Council:

1. Approves additional funding of \$1.62 million for completion of the Ōmārama Water Supply upgrade.
2. Agrees to loan-fund the additional \$1.62 million with long-term funding for loan repayment to be determined in conjunction with the 3 Waters Investment Programme 2022-24 projects.

Overleaf is the budget which was presented with the recommendation

□ **And the full media release about the increased costs, 20 April 2022**

Council looks to increase funding for Ōmārama water upgrade

Treatment plant upgrade first cab off rank for new Water Services Act

Waitaki District Council will next week consider putting an additional \$1.62 million towards the Ōmārama Water upgrade project, meaning a revised total project cost estimate of around \$3 million. Acting Assets Group Manager Paul Hope said the funding boost for the project, first approved in 2020, was necessary due to several issues. While the initial project budget remains fully funded through the government support programme which will make the upgrade more affordable for Ōmārama residents, the original estimate had been conservatively based on a similar project in Otematata and several significant changes have occurred since that time - including the new Water Services Act, stricter water treatment standards and significant increases in the cost of materials and professional services - which when combined with other factors, have had a substantial impact on actual project costs and estimates. "These factors have collectively added an additional \$1.62 million to the project budget," said Waitaki Mayor, Gary Kircher. "However, consumers on the water scheme can be reassured that the upgrade will give them a water supply that meets the new, tougher drinking water standards and that is significantly more resilient to weather and other events, reducing the likelihood of having the boil water notices that have occurred in the past. The long-term future of the Ōmārama water supply is protected and we think that is a very good thing indeed." This will be the first treatment plant upgrade completed under the new Water Services Act 2021.

ENDS

□ **As well, reportedly, Waitaki Mayor Gary Kircher and council chief executive Alex Parmley** raised the topic for discussion at the Waitaki Economic Development Strategy briefing session for Ōmārama businesses, held last month. Five people attended this meeting. No agenda items for this meeting were advertised.

From the Omarama Drinking water supply upgrade request for additional funding

Table 1: Revised costs for Ōmārama Drinking Water Supply Upgrade

| Additional costs | Reason | Cost/estimate |
|---|---|---------------|
| Additional treatment | Required to meet national standards. Includes pipework and valving, additional monitoring DP UVT, turbidity, FACe (not reusing existing chlorine system) – Filtec design. | \$328,000 |
| Extra electrical and control costs | Required for bore pump control and management. Combination of change in site (3 cables to 3 bore pumps) and original underestimate of these costs. | \$250,000 |
| Added civil costs – site access, fencing, landscaping | Ensures the new site is fit for purpose, safe, and has controlled access. | \$237,000 |
| Additional filters | Required to meet increased treatment standards. Recent experience with the Otematata Water Supply has shown that filters will be required to manage inconsistencies with quality of bore source water in order to meet treatment standards. | \$200,000 |
| Additional building cost | Larger area required than ordinarily planned and a specially designed building (including added filters, toilet, large switchboard room). Design to match other buildings in Ōmārama. | |
| Fluoride room | Allows for anticipated fluoride requirement from Government. | \$200,000 |
| Concrete block building with cladding to match typical residential style in this area | Chemicals require fire-resistant building rating. | |
| Project contingency | Additional funding to allow for unknown contractor and construction risks (e.g. cost increases). | \$147,000 |
| Added turbidimeters and control on bores for flow to waste | Desirable for automated poor water quality shut-off. | \$75,000 |
| Move transformer | Request from neighbour - move from current land to new WDC land parcel. | \$50,000 |

Cost blowout on water supply upgrade - continued

From the Omarama Drinking water supply upgrade request for additional funding - second page

ASSETS COMMITTEE
MEETING AGENDA

26 APRIL 2022

| Additional costs | Reason | Cost/estimate |
|---|--|-----------------------|
| Consenting and redevelopment of bores | Necessary bore development for improved water quality. | \$40,000 |
| New supply pipeline | Necessary - water supply to building located on new land parcel. | \$32,500 |
| Tree removal – after discussions with landowner | Required to protect the building, maintain safety and good customer relations. | \$25,000 |
| Wastewater connection – for toilet and safety showers | Required for staff/visitors. | \$20,500 |
| Safety showers | Health and safety requirement (emergency chemical washdown) | \$10,000 |
| | Total additional cost estimate | \$1.62 million |
| | Total project cost estimate | \$3 million |

SUMMARY OF OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Option 1 – Not approve funding as per Table 1 (not recommended)

The current budget for UV treatment only would be used, which would likely result in non-compliance with the new standards and would not deliver on the project objectives. Additionally, this option does not allow for removal of assets from private land and costs associated with upgrading the new treatment plant and site to the required standard.

Option 2 – Approve additional \$1.62 million funding as per Table 1 (preferred)

Under this option, Council would approve the additional budget required. This option is assessed further below.

Option 3 – Reduction of costs by approximately \$150,000

Some costs could be saved by not including the automated bores (\$75,000), not moving the transformer (\$50,000) and not removing the trees (\$25,000). Staff believe the cost saving from this option is not worth it when considering the benefits such as automated bore purging if contaminated, supply security from having the transformer on Council land, and the risks of not removing the trees (both safety and the relationship with the neighbouring property owner).

Farewell to an Omarama legend

OUR SINCEREST CONDOLENCES

To the family and friends of Lindis Courtney who last month passed away peacefully at Lister Home, Waimate, in his 98th year.

A founding member of the Omarama Volunteer Fire Brigade and Omarama community stalwart.

Your legacy lives on, Lindis. May you rest in peace.



Left: A photo from Lindis Courtney's family album of Omarama's first built fire truck, a Nissan, built in Washdyke, in 1974. Lindis Courtney is in the front seat, the driver is John Rogers, his son-in-law, and a young Jason Rogers is in the back.

Below: Lindis Courtney is presented with the Omarama Volunteer Fire Brigade life membership award by then Omarama Volunteer fire Brigade chief fire officer Howard Williams, in 2016



Community Care Group update

Hi all,

When we set out on this venture in February this year, we had no idea what would be ahead of us, and predictions looked mighty grim.

Forecasters said we could be overwhelmed by Covid-19 case numbers and in a short space of time.

Because hospitals and other health carers would be busy taking care of the most serious cases most people with Covid would be managed at home.

This raised a few alerts.

In Omarama we are isolated from many of the door-to-door services readily available in towns – just think, Uber eats – and although we are a caring community and each of us readily steps up to help we wondered if our usually reliable neighbourliness may also be overwhelmed by the sheer numbers of cases predicted.

So a few of us hastily got together – remotely when necessary and otherwise socially distanced and masked up - to lay out a plan for what had the potential to evolve into a slow-moving civil defence emergency.

The volunteers involved included Omarama Police, FENZ Omarama, Otago Rural Support Trust, Omarama Resident's Association and Omarama business representatives.

The team grew to more than 40 volunteers in a short space of time and over the past few months it has really encompassed the whole township as people have sought to 'pay it forward'.

I would dearly love to name everyone who has helped, but you know how that works! However, there is no need for me to tell you just how much love went into each of those care packages – from the beautifully crafted biscuits to the delicious soups and comfort meals, to the donations of much-loved toys and books - as we all wished each of you the very best as you went through the 'process' that is Covid.

No-one said 'no' to helping. I've said it more than once, the minute the Care Room started to look a little empty the tables and freezer were groaning with gifts once again.

Huge thanks must go to Four Square Omarama – Blair and Alona – and St Thomas's Church who stepped up in the initial stages to turn the plan into practical reality. Without their belief in the project, and practical support it would never have got off the ground.

As we moved further into the pandemic outside agencies also stepped up to make sure the group was funded and the township was well-stocked with Rats, masks, and gloves.

As the pandemic slowed Omarama was hit by two extraordinary flooding events and the care group stepped up again to be there for those hit hardest.

In all, since February this year, the care group has lent a helping hand to about 80 households.

And here we are after two review dates have come and gone looking at the practicalities once again and asking ourselves, where to from here?

We learned lessons along the way and, yes, when you're going through tough time Omarama is a million miles away from anywhere.

For some it can mean making the difficult choice to move away from a home of a lifetime. In practical terms, resources even 20 minutes away can be out of reach. So is there a way to take some of what we learned forward into a more permanent set-up?

Some of us are doing some more research into this idea.

The future of the Care Group and what shape it could take will be discussed at the Residents' Association meeting on September 14.

It will also be decided what should happen to remaining funds and other donations. If you would like to be part of the discussions or have suggestions please come along or contact myself, Ruth Grundy, or Residents' Association chairman Lindsay Purvis, secretary Yvonne Jones or any other member of the committee.

PS We know Covid-19 has not stopped knocking on doors yet, so please do give any one of us a call if you or a friend or neighbour get an unwelcome visit. We're still here to help.

Thank you from Marylou Blue

Hi Dear Team,

I am absolutely thrilled this small township is so thoughtful, kind, caring and has a team prepared for Covid 19.

Thank you so much!

I was extremely well looked after and I hope I wasn't too much trouble. My newspaper was brought to my door every day.. What more would you want! The beautiful gift basket was perfect..

I can't thank you enough for all the thoughtful kindness and caring.

- Marylou Blue



The Noticeboard

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

Sincerest condolences to family and friends of Lorinet Lynch who passed away last month after a long illness. Our thoughts go especially to Ella and Wency.

Condolences to the family and friends of Paul Hudson, who passed away in Dunedin last month following a stroke.

Congratulations to Greg Harper, Omarama Volunteer Fire Brigade fire chief, on the occasion, this Saturday, of your gold star presentation for 25 years service.

Annual meeting: St Thomas's Management Committee will hold its annual meeting 2pm Thursday, September 22 at the Wrinkly Rams, Ōmārama. Apologies by email; to the secretary, Rev Lee Kearon, lee.kearon@gmail.com

Community Housie has finished for winter.

There will be Christmas Housie at the Wrinkly Rams café, date to be confirmed.

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.

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 12pm, tee-off 12.30pm. Club captain James Moynihan phone: 027 215 8266; email jwmoynihian@yahoo.co.nz 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 tomandtarsh@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.

The Noticeboard, continued

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 and put 'Local List' in the subject line.

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

**The October Issue of the
Omarama Gazette
is Wednesday, October 5, 2022.**

**Please submit copy
by Thursday, September 29, 2022**

The Community Reports

Omarama Volunteer Fire Brigade



Kia ora,

Here we are in September. Let's hope the weather improves. I have been travelling the highways a bit lately and there are some pretty rough patches in all directions so please take care if you are traveling. Some of the speed limits should be less than what they are in my opinion.

We are still in open fire season but please check the weather conditions before you put a match to your slash piles etc.

Thank you to all that attended the public meeting at the hall about the First Response team not getting called to all the calls as was meant to be the case. Your support and comments were very well put

together and were extremely hard to disagree with.

If you have been following the media reports you will note both Fenz and St John have met and the things that were sometimes being done or not understood by dispatchers have been corrected.

Good news for anybody in our area that needs medical help.

Please, if you are unfortunate enough to have to ask for medical help, dial 111 and ask for ambulance. If there is a problem both Fenz and St John are monitoring the calls that come in so that any hiccups can be sorted.

Stay Safe

Greg Harper and the team at the Omarama Volunteer Fire Brigade

Chief Fire Officer , 021 293 1171 greg.harper@fireandemergency.nz

Facebook: /Omaramafirebrigade

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

**Contributions are welcome.
omaramagazette@gmail.com**

Waitaki Recreational and Boating Club

By Debbie Smith

The Waitaki Recreational & Boating Club
Are holding their annual motorbike rally .
“Thunder in the Valley”
It’s all go folks 23rd till 25th September.

Down Loch Laird road overlooking the dam . Bikes will be arriving 12.00pm on Friday onwards. Leaving by 11am Sunday . Bike competition, food stalls , bar , bands. If your keen on attending please click the link below. Small entry fee for public to take a look on sat . All proceeds made are going towards the Parsons Rock new floating wharf .

<https://www.waitakiclub.com/events>

It’s all go



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Ōmārama Golf Club

Ōmārama Golf Club gets hit again!!

By Paul Bowman

Many of you won't realise the golf club suffered flooding again. On three occasions the Ōmārama Stream has come across the drive and flowed across the course causing more damage.

We are lucky the car park kindly rebuilt by SouthRoads looks to have only minor damage.

With more rain predicted it is a concern to how much more flooding we might get. A big thank you to all those that have supported the club during the flooding.

Photos: Supplied



Ōmārama Golf Club report

By Christine Bowman

First a big thank you to everyone that has been helping with our on going clean up. Each week we are plugging away with working bees to remove the debris (see picture below). We are continuing to work through the insurance process re the clubroom repairs.

The course is open and playable, although with a few new water features. Playing has been entertaining, and the scores pretty average. One of members Tom Moore was determine to get his ball out of the water under the trees so off went the shoes and in he went. The funny part was the ball wasn't his, but Paul Bowman was grateful for Tom getting his ball out.

The club will be running a "Flood Recovery" golf tournament Labour Weekend, Saturday 22 October, to help with the on going costs of repairs not covered by insurance.

All welcome at tournament, including non golfers, come and have a fun day of golf.



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

Ōmārama School Board of Trustees

OMARAMA SCHOOL School Board Elections

Parent Election Results Declaration (no voting election required)

At the close of nominations, as the number of valid nominations was equal to the number of vacancies required to be filled, I hereby declare the following duly elected:

Names:

Ruby Milestone
Jemma Gloag
Nayland Smith

Signed

Megan Talarico

Dated

3 / 8 / 22

Megan Talarico
Returning Officer

OMARAMA SCHOOL School Board Elections

Staff Election Results Declaration (no voting election required)

At the close of nominations, as there was only one valid nomination received, I hereby declare the following duly elected:

Name

Clair Winslade

Signed

Megan Talarico

Dated

3 / 8 / 22

Megan Talarico
Returning Officer



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Ōmārama Shed

The Ōmārama Shed Group has begun work on its next project. The Ōmārama Residents' Association has commissioned the group to build a storage shed for the equipment which is regularly used on the Sports Courts.



The Ōmārama Shed group meets
at 10am each Saturday and at other times, too.
For further information contact:
Murray Stuart 027 432 7537

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 tomandtarsh@mchoney.co.nz
Plunket: Aimee Snelgrove 022 350 5536 aimeesnelgrove@hotmail.com

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

Ōmārama Residents' Association

The next meeting of the
Ōmārama Residents' Association is

!! 7pm Wednesday, September 14, 2022 !!

at the Ōmārama Community Centre

An invitation is extended to all
(note change of day)

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



Community Care Group - just give anyone of us a call.

If you must isolate and there's a few things you've not had a chance to do or get in, or you need to put your mind at rest over something, please feel free to call any of the numbers listed below. We're a bunch of volunteers able to help with most things. BUT we will not approach you unless invited to by yourself or a friend. And your privacy and confidentiality will be respected.

- Keeping connected - keeping in touch and getting the info
Ruth Grundy, ruthjgrundy@gmail.com 021 294 8002
Adrienne Harper, adrienneharper@gmail.com 021 139 2817
- 'Meals on wheels' and deliveries
Carolynne Grant, kevingrant@xtra.co.nz 03 438 9742 and leave a message.
Georgie Robertson, huntly@xtra.co.nz 027 486 1525
- Rural tasks (complementing the work of the Rural Support Trust)
Annabelle and Richard Subtil; subtil@omaramastation.co.nz
Annabelle 027 406 9522, Richard 027 208 9096
- Taking care of visitors and hospitality industry advice
(If you are accommodating guests in any way eg airbnb and have questions, give Megan a call) Megan Talarico, gm@heritagegateway.co.nz 021 545 566
- Drop-offs and deliveries (other than meals above)
Alona Shaw, Alona.Shaw@foursquare-si.co.nz 027 773 4214
- Pets and plants and necessary chores.
Tanya Humphreys tanyahumphreys5@gmail.com 022 611 7099

Staying mentally well: This bugger takes its toll. We are all feeling anxious or stressed about this, it's normal. Don't be afraid to reach out for help. You can call or text 1737 to talk with a trained counsellor for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

COVID-19 Healthline: 0800 358 5453

Healthline: 0800 611 116

Health advice about babies or children:

Plunket Line: 0800 933 922; Family Services: 0800 211 211

Work and Income: 0800 559 009

Alcohol Drug Helpline: 0800 787 797

Rural Support Trust: 0800 787 254

Business support: South Island 0800 505 096

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

Kurow Medical Centre: 03 436 0760 or Mackenzie Health Centre Twizel: 03 976 0503 kurowmedicalcentre.org.nz

Twizel Medical Centre: 03 435 0777 www.twizelmed.co.nz

Mackenzie Pharmacy: 03 435 0883 mackenziepharmacy.co.nz

Four Square Omarama: omarama@foursquare-si.co.nz

FOR WELFARE SUPPORT

Our Waitaki Community Connectors

These people are available to help with non-health-related welfare matters.

Mafa Alaloto mafa@oamarupacific.nz 021 107 8163 8.30 to 1pm

Oamaru Pacific Island Community Group Inc

Lauao Havili lauao@oamarupacific.nz 027 213 8939 1pm to 5pm

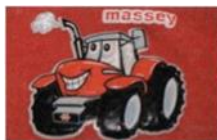
Oamaru Pacific Island Community Group Inc

A dedicated 0800 COVID-19 welfare support helpline (0800 512 337) is also available to those who need to self-isolate.

The Directory

For advertising rates
and guidelines

phone
021 294 8002
or email
omaramagazette@gmail.com



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for self testing are available in Omarama
Anyone can phone and ask for RATS
and we will deliver the kit with instructions to your gate.

To arrange for test kits to be delivered
Phone 021 294 8002
03 438 9766



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)

Apply now for Meridian's Power Up Community Fund

At Meridian, we only generate from 100% renewable resources: wind, water and sun. We're committed to doing good things with our energy. That means good for people, and good for the environment.

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With Power Up, your community has a say on what initiatives we support and fund. Managed by a panel of locals and Meridian staff, we're working together to build strong, sustainable communities.

Power Up Waitaki provides grants for projects in the Waitaki area, including Aoraki / Mount Cook, Twizel, Omarama, Otematata, Kurow, Hakataramea, Duntroon, Ikawai, Papakaio and Glenavy.

How to apply

Applications for the next funding round are open until midnight on 25 September 2022.

For more information and to apply:

- visit meridian.co.nz/powerup
- email community.fund@meridianenergy.co.nz
- call 03 357 9732



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Saturday 29th October 2022

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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.

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

Tanya and Dannie would like to thank all for their patronage





Change of Hours

As from this week, trading hours will be
8.30am to 7pm seven days a week

Alona and Blair Shaw



Due to staff illness, our workshop hours may vary but please ring Terry on 027 369-3724 any time and he will organise someone to help.

- really appreciate your patience in these trying times.

Regards, Terry and Michelle Walsh.



Possum Control – Poison Warning, Ahuriri River - Lake Ohau

Excell wishes to advise that a ground-based possum control operation will be taking place to prevent the spread of bovine tuberculosis (TB). This operation is being conducted as part of the TBfree New Zealand programme.

Area: This operation covers 11,088 ha starting along the western faces of Lake Ohau and extending south until the Henburn Road.

Operation date: August 2022 – July 2023.

Poisoning methods used on this operation include:

Potassium cyanide: Possum habitat will be targeted using Feratox cyanide capsules and Cynara50 cyanide paste. Feratox will be placed in a non-toxic peanut paste, either inside biodegradable blue bait bags or in bait stations. Bags and bait stations will be attached to trees or posts in suitable habitat. Cyanara50 paste will be laid by hand on the ground or contained within plastic bait stations.

Sodium fluoroacetate (1080): 1080 pellets have a cylindrical form, are dyed green and have an odour of cinnamon. Pellets will either be placed within plastic baitstations or hand broadcast in select areas of possum habitat.

Traps will be being used throughout the area in conjunction with poisoning methods. The public is warned to take care in these areas and not to remove carcasses or baits. Baits are toxic to people and animals.

General warning

- Do not touch poison bait or traps
- Poison bait or carcasses are deadly to dogs and cats
- Watch children at all times
- Follow the advice on the poison warning signs

If you suspect poisoning:

- Contact your local hospital, or dial 111
- National Poisons Centre 0800 POISON – 0800 764 766

In the case of a domestic animal being poisoned, contact a local veterinarian.

For further information (including maps of the operational area), contact the Southern South Island Project Supervisor on 0508 EXCELL (0508 392 355) or office@excellcorp.co.nz.

The Last Page is Classifieds

BREEN CONSTRUCTION

Building since 1939 - available for your all of your construction projects in the Upper Waitaki and Mackenzie districts. Contact our Area Manager Jason Pryde on 021 340 694 or email jason.pryde@breen.co.nz or www.breen.co.nz

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

August 2022

Highest temperature: August 5, 17.8C

Lowest temperature: August 12, -5.0C

Most rainfall: August 18, 30.2mm

Total rainfall for August: 127mm

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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