

OMARAMA GAZETTE – February 2012

This February issue is sponsored
by Lakes Electrical & Whiteware
Services LTD Otematata



Articles to e-mail address booman@xtra.co.nz (or to have you name added to the address list)
Arda Booiman PO Box 207 Omarama 9448. Next cut-off 28 Feb.
Gazette due out beginning of March 2012

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St Thomas' February Church Notices

Combined Churches Service

Sunday 26th at 3pm.

Lakeside Christian Centre

every Sunday but the 26th at 3pm.



You are welcome to attend any service held at the church.

Everyone is welcome

Bowls at St Thomas on the 23rd of February at 10am Every one welcome come for a laugh.

Ahuriri Issues:- 1st February 2012

Water / Sewerage Systems - Omarama

Over New Year we had a number of problems, the worst, having no water supply for several hours. This meant that we would be unable to fight a fire of any magnitude, not to mention all the businesses which had guests wanting showers and meals etc.

Whitestone Contracting have given me an assurance that they are contracting a 24 hour service provider that will alert WC the moment a problem is detected. This effectively adds another check level to the system which should improve service.

From this event, you will have noticed the very strong smell of chlorine, which I am assured will dissipate over time. I have heard of a few problems with clothes being bleached and complaints about the water being undrinkable because of the chlorine concentration. If you would like any clarification on this issue, please contact WDC 0800108081.

Omarama's water supply is due to be ungraded in the next financial year and I am hopeful that the new system would be able to operate without the use of chlorine. It would instead, use a UV filter system. Council Officers are currently looking for a suitable site for a bore.

Water Supply – Otematata

There have been two major stoppages last year with Otematata's water supply system. Both have left Otematata without water for a considerable time.

After discussions with Council Officers, I have been advised that when the new town supply comes on-stream, these problems will be drastically reduced. The main feeds into the town have become corroded and have been the main contributor to supply problems.

I have also received a number of complaints about the reduced pressure for the water supply. From information I have received, the town is running at a PSI of 69. This is in line with firefighting standards. I am also advised that if the pressure is increased this could cause problems with those houses that have older supply pipes.

If you are having problems with showers, it may pay to check the shower head to ensure it hasn't accumulated debris from flushing of the system.

Mowing for Kurow

I have had a meeting with Glenn Campbell (CEO – WCL), and have discussed the issues surrounding the mowing and the poor quality of workmanship. He has given me an undertaking that he will look at the way the contract is to be carried out and come back to me with solutions.

Additionally to that, Erik van der Spek (WDC) has confirmed that the mowing will be increased from 2 mows a year, to 6.

I believe we need to have a subcontractor carry out this work, who is preferably local and has "buy in" to what is happening in Kurow.

Rubbish Collection

This New Year's day, Omarama had rubbishing on the streets. I have raised this problem with WDC officers and the CEO of WCL and have advised that this is not acceptable and we expect this not to happen again.

Freedom Camping

Late last year WDC adopted the national legislation to deal freedom campers which are not self-contained. I was approached by a camper at Ahuriri arm campsite, who reported a fellow camper defecating by the river. He supplied a photo and registration number of the offender.

This was passed on to WDC, who proceeded to send an instant fine to the rental company concerned. Unfortunately, the legislation had been watered down. This means that the rental company does not have to pass this fine onto the perpetrator and WDC cannot fine the rental company directly.

I am informed that the initial rule simply allowed the rental company to be fined and they would recover their costs from the renter of the vehicle. As you can see above, this takes quite a bit of clout out of this legislation. I will be bringing this up at the next Community Board meeting to see if we can enact a change in our local bylaw to cover this situation.

Please, however, don't stop getting these details, because it is important we keep pursuing these itinerant sh...ers!

Roading Maintenance - Ahuriri

I have received varying comments about the roading network services, some have been complementary and many others have been highly critical of the maintenance standard.

The roading contract comes up for renewal in March this year, so it is very important that Council receives your feedback on roading issues, so that we can objectively assess what is happening in the valley.

If you wish to give us your feedback, please call 0800108081 to let us have your views.

Volunteer Community Groups

Before signing off, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the valley's volunteers, who unselfishly spend a lot of their own time making their town and the valley a better and more vibrant place to live.

The Waitaki Valley Community Society (Kurow), Otematata Residents Association, Omarama Residents Association and the Lake Ohau Alpine Village Residents and Ratepayers Association are doing a great job in pushing their town's interests, congratulations!

Also, the town fire brigades are the backbone of our towns and are very much appreciated by all.

There are a number of projects in the offing for the towns and with the Alps 2 Ocean trail picking up steam, the agricultural sector in a much stronger position, the wine industry and recreational tourism (both Kiwi & international) showing steady numbers, I think the valley is in a strong position to show positive growth.

This brings me to the conclusion that it is a must for our area to receive good service from Council and its contractors. I think we have plenty of room for improvement, so let me know of your concerns and I will push them at Council level.

Craig Dawson
Councillor - Ahuriri

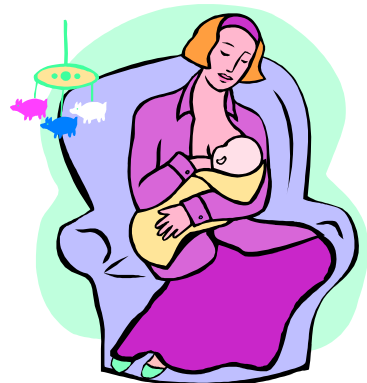
[Breastfeeding Works!"](#)

Having a baby? Already breastfeeding a baby of any age?

Then contacting a Volunteer breastfeeding counsellor will be positive for you.

These counsellors are mums, who have been trained to support breastfeeding mothers. "Breastfeeding Works!" counsellors are able to help you with the ups and downs of breastfeeding. No question is too small! There are four local Breastfeeding Works counsellors local to Twizel and Omarama. We are just a phone call away.

Sarah 021 326 909, Liko 0272 497 555 or Deidre 0276868879



Ahuriri Community Board News

After the town ran out of water recently the Board and Councillor Dawson have been working on performance issues with the Council Contractor. There has also been some minor sewerage issues when the light has been flashing on the sewage box in Omarama Ave by the entrance to walkway. If there is a an issue with water or waste after hours the number to ring is the WDC ; 03 4330300 and it will direct you to the contact for Whitestone Waste and Water. It has been great to see the town humming over the Christmas period with the great weather helping to bring lots of visitors to the businesses and accommodation places. Our next meeting(March) is going to be held in Omarama so it will be your chance to come along to public forum. More details in March Gazette.

Cathy Ferguson - Chair

OMARAMA SCHOOL Vacancy- SCHOOL SECRETARY

If you are a team player, well organised, computer literate and able to multi-task with a smile, we would like to hear from you!

A job description is available from the school office ph: (03) 4389815 or email.

Please apply in writing or by email to:

Secretary Position

Omarama School

c/- Postal Agency,

Omarama.

Email: principal@omarama.school.nz

Applications close on Friday 17th February 2012

Fun in the sun on DOC Summer Holiday Programme

Over 150 people enjoyed themselves on the annual Summer Holiday Programme run by Department of Conservation (DOC). The programme, based in Twizel, has been running for over 20 years and gives people the opportunity to explore new places with DOC rangers.



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Activities offered this year included mountain biking at Lake Tekapo and Lake Pukaki, walking at Lake Ohau, evening talks, craft workshop, 4WD trip and a navigation exercise. The 4WD trip through Oteake Conservation Park, starting from Kurow and finishing in Naseby, proved to be the most popular activity. Sixty people in 30 vehicles visited a couple of backcountry huts and the Mt Buster gold diggings while appreciating the stunning location!

If you would like to be included in the circulation list for next year's Summer Holiday Programme please e-mail your details to Ursula Paul at upaul@doc.govt.nz. The full programme will then be sent to you in December.

Kiersten McKinley | Community Relations Ranger | Te Manahuna Area Office | Department of Conservation |
Wairepo Road, TWIZEL, 7901 NZ | + 64 3 435 3185 | kmckinley@doc.govt.nz

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Ticketing link for 'The Bitches Box and Mel Parsons' Performing at Buscot Station Woolshed

Just thought I would sent through this link for anyone who wants to be in early for this fantastic event coming to The Buscot Station Woolshed, on Saturday the 25th of February.

Mel Parsons - Up and coming indi-country musician, and fantastic entertainer.
The Bitches Box - Is an all female comedy
Don't miss out!

Ticket link is here:

<http://www.eventfinder.co.nz/2012/mel-parsons/luggate/queenstown-lakes> (don't mind that the title says luggate!)

New Owner Wanted

The **Kahu Cafe** is a seasonal licensed cafe/restaurant with a unique character. Situated at the heart of the stunning Mackenzie Basin, on the **Omarama** Airfield - one of the world most renowned gliding venues. This established business is an exceptional lifestyle opportunity with limitless possibilities. For more information

Contact: 027 476 4956 or kahu.cafe@hotmail.com

Kahu Café - POBox 145 - Omarama - 9448



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Tailing

Phone Chris Chave on 027 211 2859 or after hours on 03 689 7000



UPPER WAITAKIZONE WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



NOTICE OF MEETING

The next meeting of the Upper WaitakiZone Water Management Committee will be held at Peppers Bluewater Resort, Lake Tekapo, on Thursday 9 February 2012 at 3.00 pm

Members of the public are warmly welcome to attend.

UPPER WAITAKI POLICE NEWS



Well my first Xmas in Omarama is over and done with. When I initially began writing this edition I began by saying it had been pretty non eventful. Then I went to Dunedin for a week's holiday. Unfortunately while I was away, there was a fatal glider crash and a fairly serious car crash near the Lindis pass. I would like to say a big well done to the Local Search and rescue guys who attended the glider crash and completed the body recovery, a job no one relishes, but well done nonetheless.

The remainder of the Xmas was pretty non eventful. I had a few car crashes, boat crashes and some clowns shooting something out of cars, but apart from that it was pretty good. The Rodeo and Bark up competition were both well organised events and I have no issues with either, I believe that's because both organisers took a great attitude towards their host responsibilities, so well done to both.

I am still working on signs for the School, thanks to those of you who have contacted me, with their views and suggestions. NZP have been more than receptive and are going to conduct a survey first, so we can come up with an appropriate plan of what signs to use, and where they should go.

There is a National operation "Op Back to School" which starts at the beginning of the school year and lasts for a few weeks which is aimed at targeting anyone speeding past the schools, so please keep the speed down, it won't only be me around. At the end of the operation it would be great to see that no locals were caught offending.

I noted in the Otago Daily times an article criticising Police for the handling of intoxicated teens at a campsite in Otematata. What the reporter should have been asking was PARENTS do you know where your children are? That's the more important question not blaming the Police! There are in my opinion, parental-supervision issues here, and the parents need a kick up the backside if they are allowing their children to get into the state the ODT's "source" describes. Also what about the camp owners what are they doing about the problem, was the issue even reported to them, all questions that should have been asked.

Yes this is still a Policing issue but only if those kids are committing crime, or are at risk. However in this instance I do not believe they were committing any crime. I know there were younger kids hanging around the site when I was there, however they were not drinking. The majority of the kids I saw at the site were all 18-21 yrs, so unless they were committing an offence, there is nothing stopping them from drinking, and certainly nothing the Police can do. Just my thoughts and I should mention not the views of the NZ Police.

Lost Property: During the break I have been handed what appears to be an expensive camera lens and bag, and a child's fishing rod located near Benmore Dam. These can be picked up from Omarama station.

Well, I will leave it there for the time being, enjoy the warm weather and keep safe.

Beano

Nayland Smith (*Beano*) | Sole charge Constable NSJ641 | Omarama
New Zealand Police | Po Box 101, Omarama
(03) 4389 559 | Station Cell 027-2304946 | Nayland.smith@police.govt.nz | www.police.govt.nz



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2012 UPPER WAITAKI R.S.A. PRIMARY SCHOOL ESSAY COMPETITION.

This competition is open to those students who reside in the Upper Waitaki R.S.A. region. It is also open to those students who reside anywhere in New Zealand who may have parents, grandparents or relatives who are or were members of the Upper Waitaki R.S.A.

TOPIC: What is meant by the “Spirit of ANZAC”?

The essay is to be no more than 600 words.

PRIZES: First Prize- “Dawson Trophy” plus \$50.00

Second Prize- \$35.00

Third Prize- \$20.00

The winner will be cordially invited to attend the 2011 Dawn Service at the Hakataramea Cenotaph to recite their winning essay. If you cannot or do not wish to recite your essay, this will be deemed okay and will have no bearing when selecting the winning essay.

The Executive Committee of the Upper Waitaki RSA will adjudicate on the essays.

Send your essays to: Upper Waitaki RSA
PO Box 57
Kurow

Please include your school and home contact details.

Closing date for essays: 4th April 2012.

For further information, contact: Michael Blackstock at
Phone (03) 4389481 or Fax (03) 4389482
Or email: r.j.riverside@xnet.co.nz

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Clay Cliffs Omarama

Please pay \$5 at the information centre (before or after) Thank you



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A sincere thank you to Donald Aubrey for giving the editor permission to publish out of the book "Omarama Place of Light", in honour of Marion Aubrey's legacy to us.

The Musterer's Farewell (To the tune of 'Tarpaulin Jacket')

A high-country musterer lay dying
And in his whare he lay,
To his mates who round him were yarning
These last solemn words did he say –
"Wrap me up with my swag and my blankets
And say the old beggar lies low,
Lay my old faithful dog 'round about me
'Neath the hills that we tramped long ago.

"If I had the wings of a kea
Far, far away I would fly
Back to the haunts of the red deer,
And there would I lay down and die.
"Wrap me up . . . etc."

"Then get you two bonny young poplars,
Plant them one at my head and my toe,
And get you a stout post and mark there
'Here lies an old shepherd below'.
"Wrap me up . . . etc."

"When shadows of evening are falling,
And the sun o'er the ranges sinks low,
Just pause there a moment, just sometimes,
And think of the shepherd below.
"Wrap me up . . . etc

"When you're up on the tops at the dawning,
Or in camp when the firelight dies low,
You will still hear my old voice a-calling
Like a far-echoed, faint 'Wayleggo'.
"Wrap me up with my swag and my blankets
And say the old beggar lies low
With his old faithful dogs 'round about him
'Neath the hills that he loved long ago."

1945Lloyd Kenyon

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UPPER WAITAKI RSA 2012 SECONDARY SCHOOL ESSAY COMPETITION.

This competition is open to those students who reside in the Upper Waitaki R.S.A. region. It is also open to those students who reside anywhere in New Zealand who may have parents, grandparents or relatives who are or were members of the Upper Waitaki R.S.A.

TOPIC: Le Quesnoy: France 1918.

The essay is to be no more than 1000 words.

PRIZES: First Prize- "Chum Cleave" Trophy plus \$150.00

Second Prize- \$100.00

Third Prize- \$75.00

The winner will be cordially invited to attend the 2011 Dawn Service at the Hakataramea Cenotaph to recite their winning essay. If you cannot or do not wish to recite your essay, this will be deemed okay and will have no bearing when selecting the winning essay.

The Executive Committee of the Upper Waitaki RSA will adjudicate on the essays.

Send your essays to: Upper Waitaki RSA

PO Box 57

KUROW

or to email address below.

Please include your school and home contact details.

Closing Date for essays: 4th April 2012.

For further information, contact: Michael Blackstock at

Phone (03) 4389481 or Fax (03) 4389482

Or email: r.j.riverside@xnet.co.nz

Relay for life

Being held in Twizel for the first time, Relay for Life is a combined effort to raise funds for the Cancer Society.

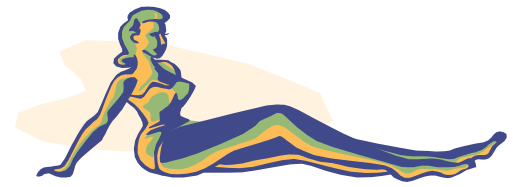
It's a celebration and awareness-raising event for cancer survivors, their carers, whanau and friends.

The event will take place from Saturday 10th March from 4pm and run through till 9am on Sunday 11th March 2012.

Live entertainment, activities and stalls will be based on the Twizel Area School field as entrants working in teams of ten run and walk around the track.

For more information contact: Gabrielle Hall, timaru@canty.cancernz.org.nz phone 03 688 0124, or see the website www.relayforlife.org.nz

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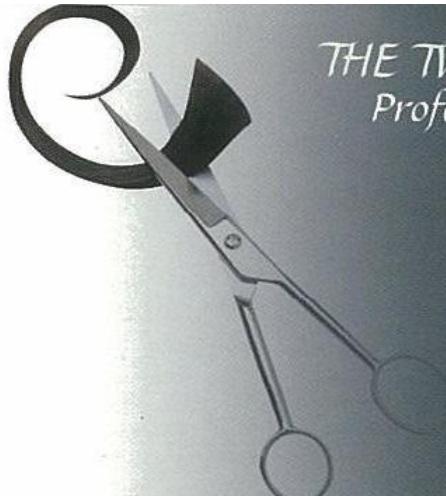
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We are now open for short term – and longer holiday stays. The former Medical centre has been nicely renovated as a two bedroom unit with a lovely outdoor area. It sleeps four and there is lots of room for boats etc in the large fenced section. Rental for this property begins at \$95 a night. Dew Drop Inn studio units are also available. These are suitable for singles or couples- Double Beds. They share a bathroom and rent is \$65 a night. One nighters welcome. Both units have cooking facilities, television and fresh linen is supplied weekly. There are special weekly rates.

For bookings phone Sally & Tony Fodie- at Totara Peak Gallery ph 03 4389757, home 03 4389767, 0272514380. Or email us at fodie@xtra.co.nz.

Call at Totara Peak Gallery for viewing



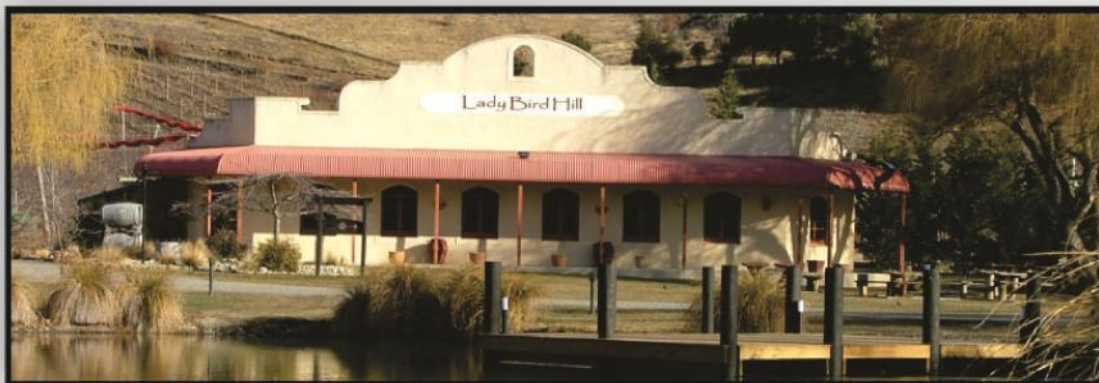
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