

Mayor's Message



2009 is treating us to a very hot dry summer which is drying out our district and pushing up the fire risk. Victoria in Australia is experiencing terrible fires with a staggering number of people losing their lives as I write this article..

Water Restrictions

For the first time in eight years the Waimate water supply has been under severe pressure with the pumps working twenty four hours per day, this necessitated water restrictions to consumers on the urban water supply.

Overall, Council's water schemes, whether in Waimate or in the rural areas, are posing real concerns about how long it will be before we will have to find another source of water to supply the growing demand.

Timaru Road Sewer Line Extension

To date a total of thirteen residents have agreed to sign up to connect to the new sewer line extension. Council's water engineer will now put

together a detailed design contract calling for expressions of interest for this tender. I would like to think that this work would be carried out within the next few months and anticipate we may have good interest from contractors.

I would like to thank all those who have responded positively to make this sewer line extension happen.

Government changes to various Acts

While the Government has made some overdue changes to the Resource Management Act, the Hon. Rodney Hide looks like he is going to make changes to the Building Act.

"One size" does not fit all councils, and our Council is facing ridiculous costs brought about by the "leaky homes" problem, which mainly affected buildings in the big cities. Councils are too involved in a lot of small building matters, which I think could be very easily handled by our experienced trades people. It is ridiculous that a large part of the cost of a small alteration or refurbishment is in Councils consent fees.

John Coles
Mayor

Local News

Staff Profile – Mike McTigue



Nice to be back in Waimate after a six year absence previously spending three and a half years with Council as Water & Wastewater Engineer returning now as Water & Waste Manager.

In my field there is much work to be undertaken including:

- Upgrading of Councils Urban and Rural water supplies.
- Processing of development projects around the district
- Proposal to let a new combined contract to streamline the collection processing and disposal operations of solid waste.

I have over 30 years of employment in local government in the field of engineering, running water supplies and sewage systems including design and project management with the last six years as operations engineer for Opus International Consultants .

For those of you who don't know me, I am a mainlander, 56 years young, married to Kathy with a combined family of four adult children. We have purchased a home in Waimate and intend to stay.

A lot of our spare time is spent in the outdoors with activities such as Road Cycling, Mountain Biking, 4WDing, Tramping and Camping.

I see a busy time ahead for the Waimate District with the Meridian Tunnel Power project closely followed by the Hunter Downs Irrigation scheme finishing in about 2025.

Regards, Mike

Water Restrictions

High water consumption in late January forced Council to impose water hosing restrictions to ensure a continued supply to Waimate consumers as well as ensuring there was sufficient storage in the reservoir for fire fighting purposes.

As a result of the restrictions and some cooler weather in the last few days water consumption in the town has reduced to manageable levels. Council staff continue to monitor excessive water usage in and around the Town. Please Note that water restrictions are still in place. Properties with odd street/rapid numbers can water on odd numbered calendar days during daylight hours, while properties with even street/rapid numbers can water on even numbered calendar days during daylight hours. We thank you for your support in helping to reduce water usage.

Roading Works Programmed

The following roading works and improvements are programmed for the next month:

- Dust Seal* - a 265 metre seal on Mitchells Road
- Safety Projects* - footpath on Allan Street, High Street and Browns Road
- Seal Widening* - parts of Woolshed Valley Road, Pakihi Road, Mt Harris Road, Gumtree Flat Road
- Pavement Marking* - in progress throughout the district
- Pavement Repairs* - minor overlay on Dog Kennel Road and Maytown Road, and seal repairs Pareora River Road

Solid Waste Proposal

Council will shortly be reviewing the rubbish and recycling options with the intention of creating a more efficient operation at a lower cost to the ratepayer. We will be asking for your thoughts during the Community Plan submissions.

Local News

Rates Rebates Reminder

The Rates Rebate Scheme provides a rebate of up to \$530 for low income earners who are paying rates for the home in which they live. The rebate will be calculated based on income for the 2007/08 financial year, rates, and the number of dependants. If your household income was less than \$29,000 in the last financial year, you may qualify for a rebate.

If you think you may meet the criteria, or if you are unsure and would like to check, please contact the Waimate District Council, on 03 689 8079 to make an appointment. Alternatively you can go to www.ratesrebates.co.nz for more information.

Community Plan 2009/19 Draft

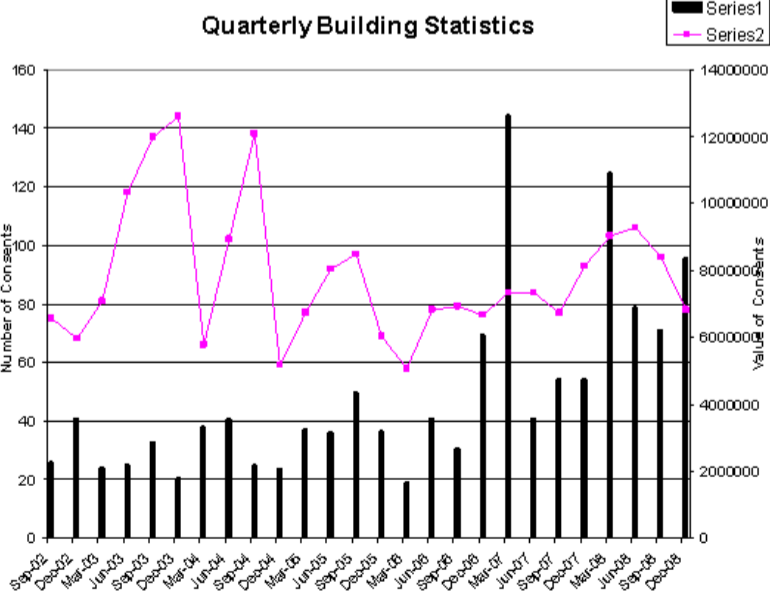
Time is coming to have your say! Council's job is to listen to what the community wants and needs and to put all of the information into a

plan to take our district 10 years into the future. A colourful newspaper format summary will be delivered to all households in the Waimate District in the free issue of the Waimate Advertiser on Wednesday 29 April. It will show how Council will help achieve the community's aspirations for the future, as well as deliver of a number of services required by law.

Some of the topics for discussion will include:

- rubbish and recycling options
- library extension
- new sport and leisure centre
- cemetery extension
- construction of new pensioner housing
- swimming pool changing rooms upgrade

We are interested in knowing whether you think Council have made the right choices in the services and projects planned for the next ten years and will be encouraging your feedback.



Building Consents

Above is a graph of building consents issued three monthly in the Waimate District since September 2002. The last period, ending 31

December 2008 had the third highest value on recent record covering consents in both the private and business sectors.

Waimate District Council Meetings

held in the Council Chamber

Council Workshops – 1.30pm Tuesday 3rd March & 7th April
Council Meetings – 9am Tuesday 17th March & 21st April

Agendas will be available for inspection two days prior to the meetings at the Council reception area or on www.waimatedc.govt.nz

Public are invited to attend workshops and meetings. At Council meetings a public forum time of 1pm is allocated for anyone wishing to speak. If you require assistance or further details please contact Margaret on 689 8079 ext 838.

Community Grants close Friday 27th February

The Fund is open to all organisations except those qualifying for grants under the Sports & Recreation Grants Schemes and the Creative Communities N.Z. Arts Funding Scheme.

Further information on the fund and eligibility is available from John Larcombe during normal office hours or on the website.

Refuse & Recycling Info

Opening hours of the Resource Recovery Park (RRP) are
Monday to Friday 2.30pm to 4.30pm
Saturday 9.30am to 3.30pm
Sunday and Public Holidays closed

Charges range from \$5 to \$40 for car and trailer loads of waste (higher charges apply for large trailers and trucks)

Charges apply to drop off Greenwaste

Recycling is free



Reminder

Rates payments due by Friday 27 February, 4.30 pm

