

Mayor's Message

Opening the Second Waitaki Bridge



Mayor Kircher, Jacqui Dean, Jim Harland, Mayor Rowley

It gave me much pleasure alongside Waitaki Mayor Gary Kircher, Waitaki MP Jacqui Dean and Jim Harland of NZTA, to declare the second Waitaki Bridge (between Hakataramea and Kurow) open on Saturday 7 June 2014. This was a significant and momentous occasion and I congratulate all those involved over the years in making these new Waitaki Bridges happen.

National Volunteer Week 15-21 June

Our district relies heavily on our volunteers and we are fortunate to have a number of very dedicated volunteers. To highlight the importance of our these people I'm going to be out in the community doing my bit during Volunteer Week repairing and repainting the diesel engine at Bushtown as well as working with the Archivist at the Waimate Museum. I encourage everybody to make an effort to get out and do something for a voluntary group or organisation!

Community Roothing Meetings

We have held successful community roading meetings in both the Hakataramea and the Maungati areas recently. These meetings involve a tour of local roads involving our roading contractor, followed by an opportunity for locals to get together and discuss roading concerns. We are planning meetings in the Lower Waihao and the Waihao Forks in the near future.

Morven Cemetery



Mayor Rowley, Planting heritage Roses

Thanks to a very generous donation from Heritage Roses South Canterbury, 16 heritage roses have been planted at the Morven Cemetery. This project also involves the children of the Morven School who have been actively involved in the care of the site. These roses will give visitors much enjoyment and appreciation in the many years to come.

C Rowley Mayor

The new Food Act - what does it mean for businesses

In a few days time the Food Bill which was passed by Parliament this week will become the Food Act 2014. The new Act intends to make it easier and less costly for many food businesses, while ensuring the food produced is safe.

The new Food Act aims to give food businesses the tools to manage food safety themselves based on the level of risk associated with the kinds of food produced and in a way that suits their business. Businesses do not need to make any immediate changes as the new Act is not the end of the law reform process. Over the next 21 months, MPI will be developing regulations, tools and guidance. There will be extensive consultation during the development time giving people the opportunity to have their say on the detail of the new food safety system.

The period of formal public consultation is likely to be at the end of the year or early 2015 and will be open for around three months.

When the new Act comes fully into force, which will be 1 March 2016 at the latest, it will replace the Food Act 1981. After this time, food businesses will transition in groups into the new rules over a staggered three year period. At the end of the three year period, the Food Hygiene Regulations 1974 will be revoked.

The exception to this are some specific sections relating to food recall and the ability to manage a food safety incident, these will come into force immediately.

The central feature of the new Act is a sliding scale where businesses that are higher risk from a food safety point of view will operate under more stringent food safety requirements and checks than lower risk food businesses.

The new law recognises that each business is different and is a positive step forward from the old Act and its one-size-fits-all approach to food safety.

Higher-risk food businesses - that prepare and sell meals or sell raw meat or seafood, for example - will operate under a written Food Control Plan (FCP) where businesses identify food safety risks and steps they need to take to manage these risks. The FCP can be based on a template or businesses can develop their own plan to suit their individual business.

Businesses that produce or sell medium risk foods - like non-alcoholic beverages, for example - will come under National Programmes. There are three levels of National Programmes, which are based on the level of food safety risk. They won't have to register a written plan, but will have to make sure they are following the requirements for producing safe food that will be set out in regulations. This includes having to register their business details, keep minimal records and have periodic checks.

Unlike the old Act, the new Act provides a clear exemption to allow Kiwi traditions like fundraising sausage sizzles or home baking at school fairs to take place. The only rule will be that food that is sold must be safe.

Growing food for personal use and sharing it with others, including 'Bring a plate' to a club committee meeting or a lunch for a visiting sports team or social group, is outside the scope of the Food Act. The Act only covers food that is sold or traded.

To make the process easier for businesses to know where they fit MPI is also developing a web-based tool where business owners can get tailored information about how the new Act will affect them.

Under the new law, individual operators will be able to influence their own compliance costs. Those businesses that are performing well will be rewarded with less frequent checks, while businesses not managing food safety well will receive extra attention.

Further information about the implementation of the new Food Act is available on the MPI website.

Council News

Winter Library Happenings

Several winter talks have been organised

Wed 2nd July 10.00am
'How to apply for Funding' with Steve Napper

Wed 9th July 10.00am
'Digital Protection 101; Identity fraud, Cyber-bulling, Internet safety' with Brent Herbert

Wed 16th July 10.00am
'Living more or less' with Sally and Miriam

Recycling of Cardboard and Paper



Lynn with baler

Paper and cardboard cannot be recycled if it is wet. With winter upon us and the wet season settled in, could you please put your cardboard and paper in plastic bags and tie the top. Or if you put a cover over your recycle crate eg a board with a brick on top the collection people will remove it to empty the bin and place it back for you.

Wet cardboard and paper when baled heats up and is liable to combust. Recently seven bales were returned, had to be opened and the wet material removed and re packed. The wet material has to go to the landfill which is a cost to Council. Thank you for your assistance.

Recycle Crates and Refuse Bins

When you putting your refuse bin and recycling crate out on collection day could you assist the driver of the truck by having a 1/2 metre gap between your bin and crate. This means he can pick up the bin without having to get out of the truck to shift the crate. There needs to be a reasonable gap to get the mechanical arm in to grab the bin. An easy measurement is an arm's length apart or put the bin on one side of the gate and the crate on the other. Again thanks for your assistance.

Creative Communities NZ Grant

The purpose of this scheme is to provide funding for arts and cultural activities within the Waimate district to groups, organisations and individuals. From a funding pool of \$6372.08 grants were allocated to the following recipients - Pro-Ject Waimate Inc. to help fund a photographic contest to publicly showcase the heritage architecture of the Waimate district, Nga Reo o Waimate to help support Kaupapa Maori and its integration into schools and early childcare settings in the Waimate district, Waimate High School for their production of 'Frankenstein the Pantomime' and the Waimate Historical Society to help fund their 'Kiwi' Christmas exhibition and craft afternoon for children. A Creative Communities NZ Scheme flag is also available for organisations to use at the time of their project or display. The next funding round for this scheme will be advertised in October 2014

Council News

Motorhome Friendly Waimate

Council has installed a new effluent disposal station in Hillary Street. This is part of working with the New Zealand Motor Caravan Association and the Friendly Town agreement.



There are broken yellow lines in front of the disposal station and Council request that drivers not park in this location.

Some Council Fees And Charges Rise From July 2014

Fees and charges apply to certain Council activities on a 'user pays' principle. These charges are reviewed annually commencing 1 July each year.

A full list of the fees and charges for 2014-15 are available on Council website.

www.waimatedc.govt.nz

The following are some of the activities where fees and charges are set to increase:

- Official Rubbish Bag - increasing to \$6.50 from \$6
- Waimate Resource Recovery Park - Some minor increases to rubbish disposal
- Camping at Waitaki Lakes - Site fee increasing to \$20 from \$15 (Season ticket remains at \$320)
- Liquor Licensing - new fee structure as set by the Liquor Licencing Authority
- Dog Registration - first dogs remains at \$54, subsequent dog/s increasing to \$27 from \$23

2014/2015 Dog Control Fees

Council has set the fees for the registration of dogs within the Waimate District for the 2014/2015 year WHICH MUST BE PAID BY THE 1ST JULY 2014.

Dog Registration

Fees for the 2014/2015 registration year are as follows (GST inclusive)

Registration Fee Per Dog 2014/2015

- Registration - First Dog - \$54.00
- Registration - Each Subsequent Dog Thereafter - \$27.00

Penalty

A penalty of 50% of the registration fee shall be imposed for each dog over three months of age, not registered by 1st August 2014.

All dogs over the age of three months must be registered. When a dog reaches the age of three months after 1 July 2014, the dog control fees will be a proportion of the yearly fee.

All dog owners with dogs ordinarily kept in the Waimate District must register with the Waimate District Council.

Dog registration forms will be mailed to all known dog owners in June. If you have not received your registration form by the 25th June, please contact the Council on 03 689 0055.

Waimate District Council Meetings

in the Council Chambers

Council MeetingTuesday 15 July 2014, 9am

Council MeetingTuesday 19 August 2014, 9am

PUBLIC FORUMS ARE HELD AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH MEETING.

Agendas available for inspection three days prior to the meeting from Councils reception area and website. Public are invited to attend meetings.

If you require assistance or further details, please contact Karalyn ext 838

Waimate District Council

Phone 03 689 0000 - 24 hours

Website: www.waimatedc.govt.nz



Reminder

Refuse Bags available at Information Centre

