

Mayor's Message



As I write this message, we are already well into Council business for 2017. This year as a Council we are strongly focused on our Economic Development Strategy and we plan to work alongside the community in this very important piece of work.

and very fitting that he has been recognised at such a high level for the many years of dedicated and tireless service working for the betterment of our district's rural sector.

Our district has some major events coming up early next month, including the March Hare followed closely by the Waimate Edwardian Society's heritage celebrations and this Easter the Waimate Main School are holding their 150th Jubilee celebrations. To all involved on the organising committees I wish you enjoyable and successful events. If you are a visitor, enjoy your stay in Waimate and I hope you are able to take the opportunity to get out and about and enjoy our picturesque district.

Crowley

Mayor Craig Rowley

There will be plenty of opportunities for you all to be involved as we produce a document that will take our District forward.

With our annual Civic Awards Function coming up next month, I am aware of the very good work a large number of our residents undertake in the voluntary sector. It is very fitting that I congratulate local Glenavy man, Robin Murphy, on receiving a New Zealand Order of Merit as part of the New Year Honours 2017 list, for services to land and water management. It is a huge honour

Here for the Long Haul



and exploring the District and intends to take a 'hands-on' role in all areas of Council operations. Returning to New Zealand after spending much of his working life in Australia, Stuart brings to this role considerable experience in leadership, local government, community engagement, asset management, town planning and project management.

Stuart is excited that Council has already signalled to the community its intention to produce an Economic Development Strategy, and he sees this important document is vital to the Waimate District moving forward in attracting new residents and business. There will be plenty of opportunities for Council to work closely alongside the community as this strategy develops, which the Chief Executive sees as a major step to Council forming stronger links and relationships with its businesses and private sector.

"It's time we let the cat out of the bag and promoted the Waimate District as a great place to work and live."

The new Chief Executive adds he is here for the long haul - and he feels like he's come home.

New Waimate District Council Chief Executive Stuart Duncan has hardly got his feet under the desk, and is already promoting what his District has to offer. Just a few short weeks into his role Stuart is already passionate about his location. He says there are so many opportunities in the Waimate District for people of all ages - employment, relaxed lifestyle, affordable housing - with the added bonus of the picturesque Waitaki lakes sitting right on his doorstep.

Stuart, his partner and 12-year old son have settled in quickly into the local community. He's already been out and about talking to residents

Council News

Council News

Community Grants Fund

Organisations within the Waimate District are advised that applications for grants from Council's Community Grants Fund are now being invited.

The fund is open to all organisations except those qualifying for grants under the Sports and Recreation Grants Scheme and the Creative Communities New Zealand Arts Funding scheme.

Further information and application forms are available from Waimate Information Centre, phone 03 689 7771 or can be downloaded from the Council website. **Applications close on Tuesday 28 February 2017.**

Rate Rebate Scheme

The Rates Rebate Scheme was established in 1973 to provide a subsidy to low-income



homeowners on the cost of their rates (see The Rates Rebate Act 1973 for more information). For 2006 the Government revised the Scheme and increased the rates rebate thresholds significantly, making more people than ever eligible for the rebate. These changes came into effect on 1 July of that year.

The Government, following a review of the Scheme's key settings, has further increased the rates rebate thresholds for the 2016/17 rating year.

The following change came into effect from 1 July 2016:

- Income threshold increased from \$24,440 to \$24,470

The maximum rated rebate will remain \$610 and the additional income allowance for dependants will remain at \$500 per dependant. This means the income threshold for a full rates rebate for the 2016/17 year is \$24,470 and is increased by \$500 for each dependant in the household.

Homeowners can apply for the new rebate from 1 July 2016, for the 2016/17 rating year. **The closing date for applications is 30 June 2017.**

Rural Water Scheme Meeting Notification

Otaio Makikihi Rural Water Supply Public Meetings

The Ordinary Meeting and the Triennial General Meeting will be held at the Waimate District Council on Monday 27 February 2017 at 8.30am

Hook Waituna Rural Water Supply Public Meetings

The Ordinary Meeting and the Triennial General Meeting will be held at the Waimate District Council on **Tuesday 28 February at 7.00pm.**

Meetings Agenda

Ordinary Meeting, Financials, General Business Triennial Meeting, Election of Committee.

All scheme users and interested persons are welcome to attend.

Heritage Fund

The fund is open to organisations and individuals who undertake heritage preservation and enhancement projects eg. Archaeological sites, buildings and sites with Historic Place classifications, other sites Council consider worthy of assistance, notable and heritage trees.

The fund is \$5,000 per annum. Applications are open throughout the year.

For further information contact Donna van der Byl at Information Centre.

Community Funding

Waimate District Council invites applications for financial assistance from clubs and organisations within the Waimate District.

Creative NZ Scheme

The purpose of the fund is to provide funding for arts and cultural activities within the Waimate district to groups, organisations and individuals.

Waimate District Council Sports (extra round) The sports fund assists with grants for club initiatives, equipment purchase, training programmes, judge's expenses etc.

Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund

The purpose of the fund is to provide a travel subsidy for sporting clubs and schools competing in local sports competitions.

Note; Accountability forms for previous funding must have been completed before applications considered.

Application forms and information regarding eligibility and funding are available from the Council, specific enquiries to Donna van der Byl, at Information Centre. Information and applications forms can be downloaded from the Council website. **Applications close Wednesday 3rd May.**

Automobile Association (AA)

Visits Waimate every three months, the next scheduled visit will be **Wednesday 19th April** at the Waimate District Council chambers.

Prior to these visits those wishing to apply for drives licenses, relicensing etc should ring the AA on 03 6884189 for relevant information and appointment (where necessary).

Temporary Road Closure

Goldsmith Street

Goldsmith Street between SH82 and John Street will be closed to through traffic on **Friday 3rd March 2017 from 10.00am to 12noon** for the Waimate Centennial School Mini Duathlon.

Paper4trees Waimate

Waimate District Council sponsors eleven Waimate schools and preschools to participate in the Paper4trees programme.

Since 2010 when the project started the participating schools have:-

- Recycled 104 tonnes of paper and cardboard.
- Saved 842 cubic metres of landfill space.
- Prevented 568 tonnes of carbon from being created in landfill.
- Planted 458 native trees either at their school or in the community.

Participating schools are Glenavy School, St Patricks School, Waimate High School, John Street Kindergarten, Rural Scholars Early Learning Centre, Waihao Downs School, Waimate Main School, Makikihi School, St Andrew's School, Waimate Centennial School, Waituna Creek School.



Waimate Event & Information Centre

Opening Hours

Monday – Friday 9am to 5pm – 6pm to 8pm
Saturday 10am – 2pm

Try out the sporting facilities including roller skating, table tennis or shoot hoops. Rock climbing by appointment.

Phone 689 7771 or 027 7037480



Upcoming Council and Committee Meetings

in the Council Chamber

Tuesday 14 March 2017 – Environmental Services & Finance, District Infrastructure and Community Services and Development Committee meetings beginning with Public Forum at 9.30am.

Tuesday 4 April 2017 – Council meeting beginning with Public Forum at 9.30am

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