

Scuttlebutt

THE QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWSLETTER // FEBRUARY 2016 // ISSUE 113



Sign up for text alerts

QLDC is refreshing our text alert system so we can give you information on the area you're interested in hearing about.

We won't bug you about rates or dog registration, but you will find out first-hand about things like water shutdowns or emergency updates relating to where you live or work.

You will also get any important district-wide alerts.

To sign up for community text alerts, go to www.qldc.govt.nz/text-alerts and enter your mobile number and select your area.

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Are we there yet?



Reducing congestion in downtown Queenstown and leading a “necessary shift away from reliance on private cars” are cornerstones of QLDC’s town centre transport strategy, adopted last year.

If you’re wondering exactly what that means, check out the short summary on our website that gives an overview of the main objectives.

They include:

CONNECT MELBOURNE AND HENRY STREETS

to improve access to future parking and a transport hub to be developed in Ballarat St

REMOVE ON-STREET PARKING IN THE TOWN CENTRE

and instead provide parking at the edge of town

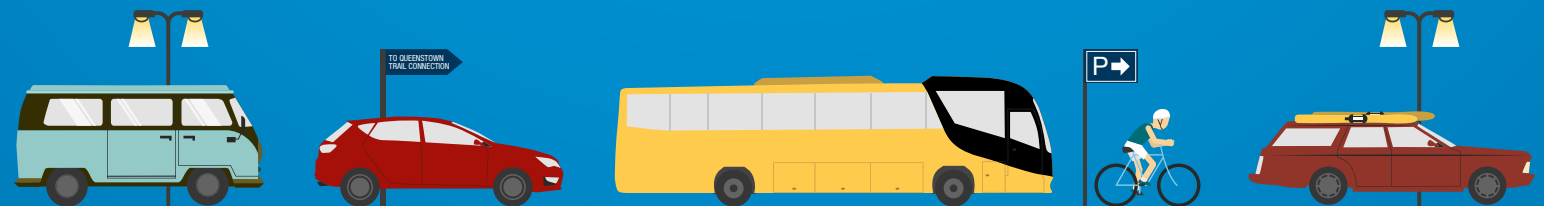
More controls on parking would also be linked to support for and improvements in public transport.

The results should be a town centre that was better for pedestrians, while also allowing good flow of traffic to and through Queenstown itself.

Changes won’t occur in isolation, with an increase in parking spaces on the edge of town an essential part of reducing parking availability in the CBD.

The future connection between Melbourne and Henry Streets was signalled as part of the “Inner Links” project, which the Council has had on the drawing board for several years. It already owns the properties needed to create the alternative route from Frankton Road into Queenstown, and is likely to include funding to accelerate detailed planning in this year’s Draft Annual Plan, to be released for public consultation next month.

Whatever happens in central Queenstown will also be related to other major projects, including some involving NZTA and the State Highway network. You’ll find a map showing these projects online as well, alongside the full transport strategy and the summary. Just go to www.qldc.govt.nz and type “transport summary” in the search box.



WANAKA LAKEFRONT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Have you had your say on the Draft Wanaka Lakefront Development Plan yet?

The draft development plan for the Wanaka Lakefront Area includes options for improved pedestrian and cycle ways, increased green space, new boating facilities and a potential events space. The final concept plan will direct potential future development of the lakefront area and we would love to hear your views about what you’d like to see (or not see) happen on the lakefront.

The draft plan can be viewed online, at Wanaka Library or our Ardmore Street office. The draft plan can be viewed online, at Wanaka Library or our Ardmore Street office. The plans will also be on display at the Wanaka A&P Show on 11 & 12 March.

Feedback closes on 14 March 2016: www.qldc.govt.nz/wanaka-lakefront-development-plan/.



NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Incoming Chief Executive Mike Theelen may be a newcomer to our district, but he's no stranger to local government and is looking forward to the challenges and opportunities ahead as he begins his new job.

Mr Theelen joins QLDC from the Christchurch City Council, where he was variously Chief Planning Officer and General Manager Strategy and Planning. Prior to that, he was Strategic General Manager at the Hamilton City Council.

"For me, the most exciting thing about QLDC is the dynamics of the community," Mr Theelen says.

"It's experiencing high growth as an increasingly significant destination for visitors in NZ and internationally. Some of the big challenges are in planning and development, and a lot of my background is in that area."

While the district is a magnet for visitors, whose needs must be catered for, it is the people who live here who are top of mind for the new CE.

As he starts to familiarise himself with the district, Mr Theelen says he already appreciates the diversity of our communities, stretching from Kingston and Glenorchy to Luggate and Makarora. "Local government is there to

serve the community – the residents and ratepayers, the developers and investors. I need to get out and about, meet these people and try to identify what their objectives and issues are.

"The Council needs to ensure that the people who live here are being looked after as well as the holiday home owners, the business people and the developers.

He already knows that this usually involves balancing competing objectives. "In any community, small or large, it's important to steer a middle ground."

As he settles in to his new responsibilities, Mr Theelen says he will be working closely with the Mayor, Councillors and senior staff to understand the ins and outs of the Council's core business and major projects, agreed through community consultation in last year's 10-Year Plan. "One of the key roles for the Chief Executive is to honour the commitment to do that important work," he says.

On a personal level, he and wife Janet are looking forward to exploring the district, with a love of the outdoors underpinning their decision to move here. "Queenstown Lakes District is a fantastic part of the country. One of the things that brought us to the South Island initially was the outdoors, the chance to go tramping and walking. Queenstown Lakes has that in spades.

"We are looking forward to making a home here and putting down roots."

DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN

You've heard about the cycle of life – in local government we have several life cycles, and one of the most important ones lasts for 10 years and relates to the production of our long-term plan.

In 2016 we are in Year Two of the 10-year plan cycle, and right now our staff and elected members are beavering away on budgets, activity plans and projections so we can present you a Draft Annual Plan just after Easter.

This is a proposal for how we will deliver on this year's portion of the work we committed to in the long-term plan.

It goes out as a draft so that you as residents and ratepayers can have a say on any proposed changes to major projects or strategic decisions. That includes how much we will spend on essential infrastructure and services.

We'll be sending you more information about this, and how you can have your say, at the end of March.



**845 Original Submissions
365 Further Submissions**

The District Plan Hearings are underway. Do you need expert assistance in being heard?

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www.vivianespie.co.nz

PROJECT SHOTOVER

You can see one of the Wakatipu's most valuable pieces of infrastructure taking shape right before your eyes if you glance downstream when crossing the Shotover River.

We're upgrading Project Shotover, which is the treatment plant that takes sewage and wastewater from almost the whole of the Wakatipu Basin, including Queenstown.

This \$23.6 million project will provide higher levels of treatment, a better standard of discharge, and greater capacity to deal with the waste from our growing community.

In recent weeks, the walls of the main reactor plant have been under construction, following the two largest concrete pours ever laid in the Wakatipu, to make the base – a staggering 920 cubic metres of concrete.

The photo shows the shuttering for the 6m high concrete walls, which will have been poured by the time this newsletter goes to print.

The large circle at the left of the photo is where the clarifier will be positioned. Concrete for the base should also have been poured by the time you read this.



KEEPING IT CLEAN

We've fielded a few queries lately about why some of our smaller water supplies aren't chlorinated all the time.

Chlorine is added to the water in Queenstown and Wanaka on a permanent basis because it is a reliable, robust way of protecting public health.

Chlorine persists in the network after it's been dosed, which means that even if bacteria get into the system from a mains break or through the supply tanks, they won't survive. Chlorine dosing is part of QLDC's commitment to meet the drinking water standards for large community water supplies.

The standards for smaller communities are different, allowing some discretion over whether or not chlorine is added to the tap water.

In the past, people living at Hawea, Arrowtown, Arthur's Point and Glenorchy have asked not to have chlorine in their water all the time, and the Council has respected

their wishes. Hawea, Arrowtown and Arthur's Point have an ultra-violet (UV) treatment system which most of the time is sufficient to keep the water free of the kinds of bacteria that make people sick, such as *E.coli*.

UV treatment is very effective at disinfecting water coming into the supply system through the intake, but supplies can still be vulnerable to bacteria being introduced into other parts of the network.

All the water supplies that the Council controls are sampled and tested frequently. If *E.coli* is found, QLDC begins chlorination straight away, to keep the community safe from waterborne illness. We also work with Public Health South staff, who monitor reports from doctors and chemists of stomach upsets that might be linked to contaminated water.

In January, routine testing detected *E.coli* in the Lake Hawea water supply and chlorination started straight away. People were also advised to boil their drinking water for a few days until the chlorine had time to circulate through the whole system of reservoir, pumps and pipes.

The Lake Hawea water supply currently comes from the lake but is about to switch to a new borefield at Scott's Beach, where the risk of contamination will be much lower. Chlorination will continue until the new water supply is fully commissioned, and then the reservoir will be cleaned, checked and refilled.

PARKS STRATEGY



It's 14 years since QLDC last updated our strategy for managing and developing the district's parks, so this year we're embarking on a total review.

Once the review gets underway, we'll be asking you what you think we could do differently, and what we do now that definitely should continue.

If you're interested in the detail of how we manage the future provision of our parks and reserves, the existing strategy is on our website at www.qldc.govt.nz – just search "Parks Strategy".

Then you might start thinking about whether or not there are enough public parks in your area; how they could be improved and whether they have the kind of space that you need for the things you like to do.

Keep an eye on the QLDC Facebook page, our website and your local library for an invitation to give feedback – coming soon!

DISTRICT PLAN HEARINGS

If you're one of the 840-plus people who made a submission on our Proposed District Plan, you may be wondering what happens next.

The answer is several months of hearings by Commissioners and Councillors, listening and considering what everyone has had to say.

The hearings start in March and are scheduled to go through to July. They will all be held in public, some in Wanaka and the rest in Queenstown, and if you're interested in attending then please keep an eye on our website for venues and details.

If you made a submission and you said you wanted to present your views to the hearing panel in person, our planning team will contact you to let you know the dates, times and places for the hearings on chapters that your submission related to.

HANDS UP FOR THE MOTATAPU

The Macpac Motatapu 2016, to be staged Saturday 5 March is one of New Zealand's favourite off-road sporting events. With thousands of athletes signed up, the Queenstown Trails Trust which owns the event is inviting locals to put their hands up to volunteer on raceday and be part of this iconic event.

The course starts at Glendhu Bay and finishes in Arrowtown, traversing the stunning Motatapu Valley on the way.

Funds from the race go towards maintenance and development of trails within the Wakatipu Basin.

Head to motatapu.com/contact/volunteers/ to sign up. Or contact Nicole for further information nfairweather@lagardere-unlimited.co.nz



TIME FOR A CHANGE?



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 **HOUSE MART**
HOW SMART

2016

The year of the election

There are a few things that make 2016 'special' – it's a leap year, it's an Olympic year – and it's also a Council election year.

In October the term of the current Council will end and elections will be held for the Mayor and 10 Councillors – six to represent the Queenstown Wakatipu Ward, three for the Wanaka Ward and one for the Arrowtown Ward. As well, people in the Wanaka Ward will elect four members of the Wanaka Community Board, and across the district there will be an election for three members of the Otago Regional Council.

As in previous years, voting is by post and takes place between 16 September and 8 October.

However, for the voting paper to arrive in the mail, you need to be on the electoral roll and if you're not sure about this, you've have shifted house recently, just arrived in the district or simply want to check, you can do so on line (www.elections.org.nz) or by calling 0800 36 76 56. (Overseas callers dial +64 9 909 4182.)

Voting is one part of the equation, but the other essential element for a successful election is having candidates to vote for, and standing for

Council is something that any New Zealand citizen aged 18 years or over who qualifies as a parliamentary elector can do.

Being a Mayor, Councillor or Community Board member offers lots of practical experience and opportunities for professional development – especially valuable if you are seeking to take your career in a new direction or expand on some existing skills.

NOMINATIONS OFFICIALLY OPEN ON 15 JULY but anyone interested in standing for election can attend a Council or Community Board meeting to get a feeling for the sort of business they deal with. There will also be pre-election workshops in Queenstown and Wanaka so that people who are interested in standing can find out more about

the practical aspects of being an elected member – things like how much paperwork is involved and the time commitment.

If you know that you are going to be away from home during the voting period, contact the Electoral Officer to discuss ways in which you can vote. The law requires votes to be made on the original published documents, so the options are limited – the electoral officer can't scan and email your voting papers to you, for example. However, if you arrange it in advance, the three week voting period does allow time to post a voting paper to a location elsewhere in New Zealand or overseas and its return before the poll closes.

LIVE HERE, VOTE THERE?

Do you own a property in the Queenstown Lakes District but live permanently (and vote) somewhere else? If so, you may be eligible for a vote in the 2016 Council election as a ratepayer elector.

This means that you will be able to vote for your local Council at 'home' and also in the Queenstown Lakes District. Where you vote as a parliamentary elector determines where your 'home' is deemed to be.

People who are already on the Queenstown Lakes District ratepayer roll will receive a letter during March advising them that they were on the roll for the previous Council election and asking them to re-enrol for the 2016 election. If you receive one of these, you must sign and return it to the Electoral Officer in the pre-paid envelope provided, in order to be included on the new electoral roll.

New enrolments for the ratepayer roll can be made at any time and the

form is on the Elections page of the Council's website.

If you are part of a company, trust or society which pays rates on a property in the Queenstown Lakes District, you can nominate one member as a ratepayer elector. The only requirements are that the person nominated (and the nominator) are both registered as parliamentary electors at addresses outside the Queenstown Lakes District.

BEACH ST PEDESTRIAN ZONE

People strolling down Upper Beach St in Queenstown will no longer be dodging moving vehicles, with the block between Camp St and Cow Lane now a pedestrian zone for 19 hours a day.

The move is a trial suggested by the Downtown Qt business group. Delivery vehicles have access to the street from 5am to 10am daily, after which time pop up – drop down bollards will keep the street clear for people to meander.

The trial runs until 25 September.



SHOULD DOGS GO "WALKIES" ON QUEENSTOWN HILL?

The Queenstown Hill track is a great place to go for a walk, and if you are a dog owner you will know how much your dog loves to go with you.

Before 2014, when QLDC brought in a new Dog Control Bylaw, dogs weren't allowed on Queenstown Hill's walking tracks at all. That's because the track goes through a privately owned farm, and roaming dogs were seen as a threat to stock and a general nuisance to the farming operation.

During consultation on the new bylaw, the Council talked to the property owner and reached an agreement that dogs could be allowed on the track provided they were on a leash at all times.

Anthony Hall, QLDC's Principal Enforcement Officer, says that was "more than reasonable" of the landowners. "They still had concerns but said they wanted to give people in the community the chance to experience this wonderful track with their dogs. The compromise was that dogs had to be kept on a leash all the time."

Most dog owners have been respecting the signs, but unfortunately there are still some who ignore the rule and let their dogs run free. That risks spoiling the relaxed regime for everyone.

Mr Hall says there have recently been further discussions between the Council and the landowner about whether the Bylaw should be amended to once again prohibit all dogs from Queenstown Hill. Any proposed change would have to be the subject of full consultation with the community, with the rights of the landowner taken into account alongside the preferences of dog owners.

We're not at that stage yet, so if you're taking your four-footed friends up to the "Basket of Dreams", please make sure they're always on a leash and encourage others to do the same.



Enjoy 7 day access to fuel at Arrowtown's new self-service pump

RD Petroleum's self-service station is open to the public seven days a week until late.



25 Wiltshire Street, Arrowtown | 0800 44 00 14 | www.rdp.co.nz

QLDC Town Custodians

While many of us are still tucked up in our beds in the early hours of the morning, QLDC's town custodians are up making sure the town is looking beautiful for our visitors and residents. Working 365 days a year, they are out in all weather, from the dry summer heat, through to cold icy winters.

Everyday work includes sweeping and cleaning footpaths, cleaning rubbish bins and picking up litter left around town. Responding to requests for service to clean up broken glass, dead animals and vomit are all part of the job too. Everyone would notice very quickly if they took a day off!

Our custodians don't just keep our towns clean, but they're also the eyes and ears of the community. They keep a look out for general town maintenance and report things such as pavers or blocked drains. Being out at that time of the morning means they see some interesting things, with one of our custodians once helping police catch a burglar.

On any given day of the week lost property will also be found around town including phones, cameras, passports and credit cards which are handed in directly to the local police.



Three of the town custodians from Queenstown Adriano Pedrosa (Supervisor), Brent Ryan and Giovanni Duarte Bran.

Being one of the public faces of QLDC, it's not uncommon to see our custodians helping visitors find their way around town. While it may sound like a thankless job, the custodian team often get praise from tourists and members of the community about how beautiful the town looks.

Queenstown has a team of five custodians, while the teams in Wanaka and Arrowtown take care of the gardens as well as carrying out custodian duties.



Town Custodian Giovanni Duarte Bran cleans rubbish bins with an environmentally friendly cleaner.



Town Custodians Giovanni Duarte Bran and Brent Ryan use the Queenstown sweeper to vacuum up material from the foot paths.



Our custodians are always happy to help visitors find their way around town.



You may have seen our footpath sweeper driving around the Queenstown CBD. This compact vehicle is used by our custodians to sweep and clean the footpaths around Queenstown. The sweeper is equipped with water blasting equipment and a leaf vacuum. Rubbish can also be stored inside the vehicle and during the winter a plough can be attached to the front to clear snow off footpaths.

EMERGENCY PLANS

With families all over the district settling into routine for the new school year, this is a great time to have a dinnertime discussion about how you will contact each other and gather in the event of an emergency when Mum, Dad and kids are all in different places during the day.

Schools are very well prepared and practiced for all types of emergencies and will take good care of your children until you can get there. It's worth asking the schools what those plans are.

What about if something happens while your kids are at sports practice, scouts, music lessons or just hanging out in town? Do they know what to do in these circumstances?

Contacting family, friends and whanau by phone, text, email, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or whatever could be severely limited in an emergency event like an earthquake, storm or even a wildfire.

Having a pre-agreed meeting point and contact arrangements will give you all confidence that your loved ones know what to do and where to go.

Simply making your way home is an option, but damage to roads and bridges by landslides or flood waters or security cordons could make this impossible. That's why everyone should know the location of the nearest Civil Defence Centre is the best option. Check on the QLDC website to find where they are: www.qldc.govt.nz/services/emergency-management/civil-defence-centres/

CUTTING IT FINE – OR NOT?

Have you noticed some of our green spaces looking a little scruffy recently?

That may be because we're running a trial at six reserves to see whether changing the frequency of maintenance would give some environmental benefits and reduce costs at the same time, freeing up funds for more maintenance at some of the high-use reserves like Earnslaw Park and Bridgeman Green.

The trial got underway in September and involves reserves at Whitechapel, Cardrona River Mouth, Cecil Road, Frankton Domain, One Mile and Lismore Park.

At the end of the trial, in June, we'll be asking you for the community's opinion about how it went, so please take a look next time you're out and about in any of these places.



ARE YOU COVERED?

Almost everyone has welcomed the long dry summer except the rural fire crews, who spend weeks on tenterhooks when day after day of warm and windy weather sends the fire risk soaring.

Jamie Cowan, Deputy Principal Fire Officer with the Otago Rural Fire Authority, says that many fires in rural areas are sparked by everyday activities like mowing or using a chainsaw. What people often fail to understand is that if their actions cause a fire, they are liable for the cost of putting it out, even if what they did was unintentional.

Under the Forest and Rural Fires Act, the Otago Rural Fire Authority must recover the costs.

Here are some examples of fire costs, based on real events.

EVENT	POSSIBLE COST
Your car loses a tyre and the sparks start a fire	\$100,000
You go camping and your gas cooker falls over and starts a fire	\$60,000
Your tractor catches fire and takes the hillside with-it	\$30,000
Your chainsaw exhaust starts a fire	\$2,000,000
Your mower hits a stone and sparks a fire	\$20,000
You go target shooting and your bullet sparks a fire	\$60,000
Your child is playing with matches on your lawn and starts a fire	\$30,000

"These are just a few examples, and the list goes on," he says. "The point is, do you have insurance that covers you for these eventualities? One event can have very large consequences so better to check with your insurance company now than have that difficult conversation afterwards."

ALGAE TRIAL

Wanaka township is currently experiencing challenges with algae in the water supply.

Algae is always present in the lake. The problem always gets worse over summer, partly because algal growth increases in hot weather and partly because of the dramatic spike in water use. Algae is invisible to the naked eye, tasteless and, according to laboratory testing, is not harmful to human health.

In Wanaka algae is affecting water pipes and water meters installed at sample properties. Additionally many households have faced the inconvenience of needing to clean appliances with filters.

QLDC and Veolia are running a three-month trial to try and minimise the amount of algae in the water network. The plant being trialled is an Actiflo Mini pilot system developed by Veolia.

The Actiflo pilot system has been containerised to allow Veolia to conduct the trial beside the lake and it has been set up near the Beacon Point reservoir. The Actiflo pilot system processes the water, which is monitored to check algae levels, and the water is then pumped into the reservoir. Algae removed in the process is pumped into a purpose-built sludge tank at the site.

At the end of the trial QLDC will assess the effectiveness of the equipment as a possible permanent solution.



LIFEJACKETS SAVE LIVES

There's plenty of warm weather left before autumn starts to chill the water, and if you're getting out on the water then remember that everyone aboard a small craft 6m or less in length needs to wear a lifejacket at all times. This applies to paddleboards, inflatables, kayaks, dinghies, trailer sailers, jetboats, jetskis and anything else that's under 6m long.



Nobody knows the local Wanaka market better

HOME&CO.
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Do you own or are you building or buying a rental property?

The H&C Property Rental Process provides a basis for decision-making. Free appraisals & discussion.

COLLEEN TOPPING

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• More than a decade of local experience

My Standards
• Personalised Service
• Professional qualifications
• Excellence is my minimum



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DR COMPOST

Queenstown Lakes composting guru Ben Elms (aka Dr Compost) is back with another free short course in growing your own vegetables. And guess what – you don't have to stop gardening over winter, even in our famously cold climate!

FREE GET GROWING WORKSHOPS

Yes, you can grow vegetables through winter using Dr Compost's tips from 20+ years of local growing experience. Best crops, cloches, optimal planting times. All welcome, novices through experts.

Queenstown Workshop

Shotover Garden Centre
150 Frankton Ladies-Mile Highway (SH6)
Wednesday 24th Feb
6-8pm

Wanaka Workshop

St John's Rooms,
4 Link Way
Thursday 17th March
6-8pm

FREE GET COMPOSTING WORKSHOPS

Reduce your waste to landfill and make compost to feed your garden. Find a composting system to suit you; traditional composting, worms and/or Bokashi buckets.

Queenstown Workshop

Shotover Garden Centre
150 Frankton Ladies-Mile Highway (SH6)
Wednesday 2nd March
6-8pm

Wanaka Workshop

St John's Rooms,
4 Link Way
Thursday 31st March
6-8pm

SAFETY FIRST AT WANAKA PRIMARY

Safer travel to and from school is the focus of a new joint initiative in Wanaka, launched earlier this month.

QLDC, Wanaka Primary School and Wanaka Police are working together to reduce congestion and improve safety for students travelling to and from Wanaka Primary.

QLDC School Travel Plan Coordinator Kirsty Barr says, "parents can be in a rush, particularly in the afternoons when picking up and want to get as close to the gate as possible. This can cause congestion and create safety issues for children."

The project introduces a new system in the 'Pick up/Drop off' area at the school and Safe Meet Spots for older students to walk to independently to meet parents after school. Fun activities and incentives to encourage active transport such as walking or biking to school will be organised for later in Term 1.

Staff will supervise children in the Pick up Drop off area every afternoon until 3.15pm which will be a no parking zone. Parents are asked to stay in their vehicles when picking up or dropping off their children.



More information about the project can be found at <http://wanaka.school.nz/news-info/transport-options/>

EITHER WAY IT'S



Now that the kids are back at school, we're partnering with the police and school bus operators to remind drivers to stick to the 20km/h speed limit when passing a stationary school bus.

"Every day, thousands of kids across the district are travelling to school by bus. It's what we do as adults and drivers that makes all the difference to keeping them safe," school travel plan coordinator Kirsty Barr says.

It's easy to remember, either way it's 20k.

TIPS FOR SAFE BUS TRAVEL:

- Teach your children about safe behaviour and practice it with them
- Encourage them to wait well back from the road
- If you pick up and drop off your child to the bus stop, try to park on the same side of the road as the bus, so they don't have to cross the road.
- If your child does need to cross the road, teach them to wait until the bus has moved away and they can see the road clearly, or cross the road with them.
- Teach your child the safest route between your home and the bus stop

You can get more tips and resources at www.nzta.govt.nz/safety/safety-for-children/bus-safety/



GREENGOLD GLENORCHY

Late last year, Glenorchy Primary became the first EnviroSchool in the Queenstown Lakes District to become a Green-Gold EnviroSchool.

Wanaka Wastebusters Facilitator Simon Williams says this is a real milestone for the programme in the district.

"When you're a Green-Gold EnviroSchool sustainability is woven into all aspects of school life and everything you do is connected. Before you even step foot into the Glenorchy Primary school grounds, you can see the involvement of the students in creating a place they want to be."

Glenorchy Primary was one of the original pilot schools when EnviroSchools was launched nationally in 2001. Simon has

worked with them for eight years as part of the EnviroSchools programme which Queenstown Lakes District Council funds for primary schools in the district.

Some of Glenorchy School's sustainable projects include:

- A variety of edible gardens and grow houses, which enable students to learn how to grow and cook their own food. A vegetable stall at the school gate sells excess produce to raise funds for other sustainability related projects.
- A native seed nursery, and native tree plantings along a popular walkway.
- Murals on the fence, painted by the students.
- Chickens deal with organic waste from school and from local cafes and families. Students have reared chickens themselves in incubators.



AFTER NEWS ON THE NEW KAWARAU FALLS BRIDGE?

For the latest information on the what is one of the largest transport projects seen in the Queenstown area go to www.nzta.govt.nz/kawarau-falls

24 Hour Freephone - 0508 KAWARAU (0508 529 2728)



**Toddler
fun**

**in Wanaka
and Hawea**

**Due to popular demand,
we've made some changes
to our Toddler sessions at
Wanaka and Hawea Library:**

HAWEA

Every Monday:
Wriggle and Rhyme,
10am-10.30am (0-2 years)

Every Monday:
Story Time and Activities,
10.30am-11.30am

WANAKA

Every Wednesday:
10-11am,
Storytime and Activity for 3-5's

Every Thursday:
10-10.30am,
Wriggle and Rhyme for 0-2's

libraries
Queenstown Lakes

TACKLING TREES ON CORONET

**The war on wilding conifers is moving to
Coronet Peak next month.**

Starting on 7 March, the Wakatipu Wilding Conifer Control Group will be taking out Douglas fir trees along Coronet Peak Road and above the carpark on Malaghan Road.

Mt Dewar Station has been fighting the wilding tree battle for many years. Back in 1954 there were only three wilding trees on the property, and now wildings cover many hectares, particularly over the Station's lower front faces.

This is the result of an increase in the seed source, and the gradual reduction in stock numbers over time. The rapid growth of wilding trees is now spreading through Devils Creek and threatening both Skippers Saddle and Coronet Peak. The Mt Dewar wildings are starting to dominate the landscape of the Wakatipu Basin.

Since 2000 the Station has spent a considerable amount of money trialling different types of chemical and ground control to contain the trees from spreading beyond the lower front faces of the Station. However the wildings are taking over and spreading far beyond the seed source.

Wilding trees are no different to gorse, broom, rabbits, possums, stoats and the other long list of pests we have in New Zealand. In the wrong place and at the wrong density they are a serious problem for native biodiversity and natural landscapes.

The operation will take about 11 days and the carpark will be closed while the work is underway.

NEW GROUP MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE

**Library membership has just got
easier for families at our libraries.**

Setting up a Group membership means your whole family can join the library using one simple form. Every person will get their own card and have their own separate membership, but it can all be managed by one person.

"This is a great option for families, it means Mum or Dad can see online what the kids are checking out, have on hold, make sure items are returned on time and manage any overdue fees," Library Services Manager Jo McElroy says.

MULTI-CULTURAL KIOSKS

**Our District is a melting pot of ethnicities and
cultures. What better way to immerse yourself
than at one of our libraries.**

We're committed to providing a well-resourced and responsive library service for everyone. One way we're doing this is by providing 20 language options on our self-check kiosks.

A recent look at our self-check kiosks stats showed that while English is the main language used, we're also getting customers asking the kiosks to speak in Mandarin, Japanese, Korean, German, Maori, Italian and Russian.



IT'S SHOWTIME!

Roll up, roll up ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls – the annual **WANAKA A&P SHOW IS ON 11-12 MARCH** and QLDC will be on site to entertain you, inform you and maybe even pick your brains!

Come and chew the fat with your community board and councillors; find out about progress on the new Sports Facility and the pool; get some sound advice on keeping yourself safe in an emergency, and share your thoughts about how your community is developing.

FRIEND FOR FREE FEBRUARY!

All February, Queenstown Teens (13-15) can bring a friend for free to our Les Mills Fitness Classes at Alpine Health and Fitness.

Health and Fitness Team Leader Petr Polivka says, "It's a great chance for teens interested in fitness to try a few different classes and see what they're into. It's also an affordable and social way to develop healthy fitness habits."

"And if they're keen to keep coming, they can take advantage of our TeenFit concession card, that's ten visits for just \$45," he said.

Teen Friendly classes don't include Body Pump and some RPM Classes. Check out sportrec.qldc.govt.nz for the full timetable.

SMASH IT

Join our **HIGH INTENSITY** interval-based training

4 week programme
+ FREE TRIAL WEEK!

Your brand new weekly training plan, led by dedicated coaches in a fun, small group environment.

Free trial week starts **MONDAY 14 MARCH**

More information including session times and prices available online at:

sportrec.qldc.govt.nz

Bookings essential: phone 03 450 9005
or email gym@qldc.govt.nz



Alpine Health & Fitness
QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL

Queenstown Events Centre | Joe O'Connell Drive, Frankton
f QLDC Sport & Recreation

WOULD YOU RATHER READ THIS ONLINE?

We publish Scuttlebutt six times a year, deliver it locally through the community newspapers, and post around 7500 copies to ratepayers who live outside the district – that's a lot of paper!

You can help us reduce the number of copies we print by switching to our email distribution list.

Just email services@qldc.govt.nz with the word "newsletter" in the subject line, and be sure to include

your name and postal address so we can cross you off the postal mailing list and send you the link to Scuttlebutt instead.

You'll not only receive Scuttlebutt earlier, but also help QLDC trim the amount we spend on printing and postage to keep you informed – that's a win for everyone.

Every issue of Scuttlebutt is also on our website www.qldc.govt.nz

COLOUR BURST

RUN • JOG • WALK

28 February
Tickets on sale now!

Get a group together and take part in Queenstown's first ever Colour Burst event!

We're transforming a short and easy 4km fun run (or walk!) into a colourful experience, inspired by India's Holi Festival. Everyone is welcome to enter and it definitely doesn't matter if you're fast or slow!

Events of this kind are proving hugely successful, with hundreds of thousands of people attending around the world. Colour Burst 2016 will be a Queenstown first.

There are only a limited number of tickets available – don't miss out. Get tickets and details from the EventFinda website.

sportrec.qldc.govt.nz



Sport & Recreation

QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL

Queenstown Events Centre | Joe O'Connell Drive, Frankton
E colourburst@qldc.govt.nz | W sportrec.qldc.govt.nz

QLDC CONTACT LIST AND HOURS

QLDC & SERVICE CENTRES

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Customer Services:
Phone: 03 441 0499
E-mail: services@qldc.govt.nz
www.qldc.govt.nz

Wanaka Office:

47 Ardmore Street
Wanaka
Phone: 03 443 0024
Office Hours:
Mon – Fri 8.00am – 5.00pm

QUEENSTOWN EVENTS CENTRE

Arrowtown Athenaeum Hall
Queenstown Memorial Hall
Lake Hayes Pavilion
Lake Wanaka Centre
Alpine Aqualand
Wanaka Pool
Sports fields

Phone: 03 450 9005

TRANSFER STATIONS

Wakatipu: End of Glenda Drive
Frankton Industrial Area
Phone: 03 4510106

Upper Clutha: Ballantyne Road
Phone: 03 443 6063

HARBOURMASTER

Phone: 027 434 5289 and 027 414 2270
Email: harbourmasterqt@smsl.co.nz

LIBRARIES

Arrowtown Buckingham Street Phone: 03 442 1607
Hours: Monday – Friday 10.00am – 5.00pm Saturday 10.30am – 12.30pm

Glenorchy Islay Street Phone: 03 442 4378
Hours: Wednesday 1.30pm – 3.30pm Friday 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Queenstown 10 Gorge Road Phone: 03 441 0600
Hours: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays 9.00am – 5.30pm
Thursdays 9.00am – 7.00pm Saturdays 10.00am – 5.00pm

Wanaka Dunmore Street Phone: 03 443 0410
Hours: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays 9.00am – 5.30pm
Thursdays 9.00am – 7.00pm Saturdays 10.00am – 5.00pm

Hawea 23 Myra Street Phone: 03 443 9371
Hours: Monday & Saturday 10.00am – 12noon
Tuesday & Wednesday 10.00am – 5.00pm

Kingston Phone: Queenstown 03 441 0600
Hours: Tuesdays 3.00pm – 5.00pm Saturday 10.00am – 12noon

Makarora Phone: 03 443 8342
Hours: Tuesday 11.00am – 1.00pm & Thursday 3.00pm – 5.00pm

Scuttlebutt is published bi-monthly by Queenstown Lakes District Council to inform ratepayers and residents of council activities.

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Feedback and ideas are welcome.

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