

Scuttlebutt

THE QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWSLETTER // MAY 2016 // ISSUE 114

SHOULD CORONET FOREST BE HARVESTED EARLY?

WILDING
SEED
SOURCE

QLDC IS
CONSULTING ON
THIS ISSUE NOW

Please share your views before
27 May by going online to
www.qldc.govt.nz and
following the Coronet Forest
link off the homepage.

Coronet Forest is the 173ha block of Douglas fir trees growing on the lower slopes of Coronet Peak, close to Arrowtown. It was planted between 1984 and 1996 and has been managed with

a view to providing a commercial return.

The forest is owned jointly by QLDC and our neighbours, Central Otago District Council. QLDC has a 75 percent stake and CODC has 25 percent.

QLDC owns the land that the trees are planted on. It is designated for the primary purpose of planting, tending, managing and harvesting trees for timber production.

If the forest were left to grow to maturity, the trees would be harvested between 2029 and 2041, when they were 45 years old. That remains an option, but the Council is also considering whether it would be advisable to harvest the trees earlier.



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NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE SETTLING IN

Two months into the job, new Chief Executive Mike Theelen says he is still falling in love with his adopted district as he familiarises himself with its diverse communities and challenges.

"I wake up every morning and pinch myself," he says.

“Each day when I walk to work I think this must be the most beautiful place in the world, and long-time locals tell me that the feeling never wears off.



"I've been made very welcome wherever I go, by the Council, the staff and the wide variety of community leaders and groups I've come into contact with already. People who live here seem to have a huge passion for the community and a big desire to keep Queenstown Lakes as a very special place."

The district faces significant challenges and opportunities arising from the burgeoning growth and the expanding economic activity driven by the visitor industry.

Managing growth in a sustainable and cost-effective manner is high on the CE's agenda. There has always been a natural tension between making sure the district is inviting for visitors, who are its lifeblood, and ensuring that it is also a great place to live. "We do need to recognise that our backyard is the poster child for all that is fabulous about New Zealand. Our challenge is to keep it that way."

Mike Theelen says QLDC is facing up to those challenges, and thanked everyone who took the time to make comments on the proposed changes to programmes and activities for 2016-17 during the Council's recent consultation on its Annual Plan. Directed by its elected members, QLDC would continue to prioritise investment into improving key community infrastructure.

He describes the organisation he's inherited as "energetic, committed and friendly," and the staff are focused on providing excellent service to the community.

“I find Queenstown a fascinating mixture. It's small and friendly yet busy, active and full of exciting things to do."

Outside the office, Mike has already been out and about on his mountain bike and has been tramping in the back country. "It's amazing to be able to step out the front door and into such an exciting wilderness."

WE HEAR YOU!

Hearings are underway for the review of the District Plan.

Panels chosen from nine independent Commissioners, led by Chairman Denis Nugent, and seven QLDC Councillors sitting as Commissioners, are considering public submissions on each chapter of the Proposed District Plan, which was released for consultation at the end of last year.

The hearings will last until almost the end of this year. Rural topics are the subject of the hearings underway in May.

Each session is open to the public and a full schedule of dates, times, venues and submitters is on our website at www.qldc.govt.nz – just follow the link from the front page.

Don't worry if you don't have time to attend in person. All the evidence is on the website and each day's hearing is recorded and uploaded as an MP3 file, so you can listen to the bits that interest you at your convenience from the comfort of your own home or office.



LIVE THERE, VOTE HERE?

Local body elections are coming up in October and our electoral officer is hard at work already, preparing for this important three-yearly event.

If you live in the Queenstown Lakes District and you are on the parliamentary roll then you will automatically be on the electoral roll for the Council elections.

People aged 18 and over who own property in this district but live somewhere else may also qualify to vote here as a non-residential ratepayer elector.

Joint property owners, trusts and companies can nominate one member to vote on their behalf as long as that person is on the parliamentary roll at an address outside this district. Have a look at our website www.qldc.govt.nz for details – just type “elections” into the search box.

If you're on the ratepayer roll already you can expect to receive a letter confirming your details within the next few weeks.

Two for one FootGolf



**Present this voucher or mention
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WHEELIE BIN REMINDER



If you hire a wheelie bin for your household rubbish, then remember to pay your annual invoice to AllWaste by 20 June.

That way you'll get a valid 6/17 sticker for your bin and your bin will continue to be emptied at the kerbside every week.

If you haven't yet received your invoice, you've changed your contact details or have any queries, please call 034413620 or email sales@allwaste.co.nz



Who's up for it?

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BUILDING FEES

For the first time since 2009, QLDC is proposing to increase many of the fees and charges associated with building and resource consents, engineering approvals and inspections.

While the Council has held fees and charges until now, the costs of providing these services have increased as a result of inflation since 2009, compounded by increased legislative requirements and an increased demand for a broader range of services.

The proposed increases are needed to cover those higher costs and to meet the Council's policy requirement that 80 percent of the cost of providing building and resource consenting services should be met by those who use the services, with the remainder continuing to be met from rates.

Tony Avery, the General Manager of Planning and Development, says that the proposed increases cover the full range of services from building and resource consents through to PIM fees and subdivision certificates. This is not a complete list – check our website www.qldc.govt.nz for full details.

Mr Avery says that while QLDC is always reluctant to increase its charges, the proposed changes would bring the cost of building services in the district into line with what most other local authorities were charging. Despite the increases, the cost of obtaining building consents would remain a very small part of the cost of building or major renovations.

The Council is consulting on this proposal and would like to hear your views. You can make a submission using the online form on our website www.qldc.govt.nz – look for the “consulting on” link on the homepage.

WANAKA SPORTS FACILITY AND POOL

Activity on the site of Wanaka's new sports facility is about to get much busier, with work starting soon on the new pool to be built alongside the sports hall.

Cook Brothers Construction Ltd has been awarded the tender to act as main contractor building the pool.

The company is already building the sports facility.

QLDC Chief Executive Mike Theelen said the Council was working to a budget of \$11.8 million

to build the pool, and had identified potential savings in the order of \$125,000 from having one company build both facilities.

QLDC appreciates the significant fundraising contributions and grants received from local trusts and community groups to help reduce the cost to Upper Clutha ratepayers. Mr Theelen said that there was still significant fundraising work to be done to reach the \$2.77 million target the Council aims to raise for the pool.

The Wanaka Sports Facility is scheduled to be open this July, with the pool open next year.



ANNUAL SURVEY UNDERWAY

Our annual survey of residents and ratepayers is now underway.

The survey is run by an independent research house and is mailed or emailed to 4500 randomly selected residents and ratepayers.

So if you receive an invitation to take part, we hope you'll take 10 minutes to participate and give us your frank feedback on the services and facilities QLDC provides. Your views will help us identify any areas where we can up our game and also meet changing community expectations.

In return, everyone who takes part will go in the draw to have \$1000 taken off your 2016-17 rates account, or a \$500 grocery voucher.

The results will be published on our website.

VELVETLEAF

The name sounds soft but a plant called Velvetleaf is posing a hard problem for farmers, who are hoping to keep the invasive pest species out of the Queenstown Lakes District.

Velvetleaf grows among fodder crops, elbowing out the productive plants that stock will eat and competing for nutrients, space and water.

Otago Regional Council is working with farmers and the Ministry for Primary Industries to check fodder crops for signs of the plant. At time of writing, no properties in this district had been infested but it is a significant issue just over the fence in Southland so farmers are asked to be vigilant.

If you spot Velvetleaf among your beet fodder crop, please mark the spot and ring 0800 80 99 66. Experts will come and assess the plant before removing it safely so that it doesn't spread. Please don't try pulling out suspect plants yourself.

TIME FOR A CHANGE?



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HOW SMART

CONTINUING SWIMMING THROUGH WINTER



WINTER SWIM MYTHS BUSTED

It's cooling down outside – that's a fact - and there'll be snow on the slopes in no time. But Winter is a great time to keep your child enrolled in swimming lessons – they'll continue to grow all the important skills and water confidence that were developed over the summer months, avoiding regression and having to relearn forgotten skills.

Here we bust some of the more common winter swimming myths and provide you with some tips for swim lessons in the Winter months.

Myth: Swimming in winter spreads colds and flu.

Busted! Cold and Flu are viruses. Your family is at no greater risk of catching a cold from swimming lessons, than from any other public place such as schools, childcare, shopping or hanging out with friends. Do be sure that you're all warmly dressed when leaving the pool on wintry nights though.

Myth: My child could use a break from swim lessons, may as well be winter.

Busted! Most children have just one half hour lesson a week – this is a very small amount of time from which to need a break. Having a break could in fact be counter productive as skills are likely to deteriorate and need to be relearned when the child comes back to lessons.

Aqualand will start their term two lessons on 9 May and Wanaka Swim School on 2 May. If you're interested in finding out more, visit sportrec.qldc.govt.nz for all the details.

TIPS FOR WINTER SWIM LESSONS

- > **Warm Clothes:** It's really important to make sure your child has warm clothes to put on after their swim lessons, including a warm beanie.
- > **Don't stand around wet!** Get into your towel and changed as quickly as possible. Don't stand around wet or in any draughts.
- > **Keep baby warm:** Try wrapping your baby's towel in a hot water bottle so that it's toasty and warm for when they get out of the pool.
- > **Stick around for a coffee and a fluffy:** Why not have a nice coffee and treat the kids to a fluffy after your weekday lessons. It will give you and your kids a chance to warm up properly before heading out into those cooler temperatures.



We're getting a little bit arty at Wanaka library starting Term two. So if you've got a child aged 7-11 keen on art, send them along to our weekly 'creative free-range' drawing club, running every Thursday at 3.30pm during term time, starting on 5 May.

We'll encourage kids to express their imagination, learn different techniques and develop a love of drawing in a welcoming, relaxed environment. Did we mention it's all free?



Sign up at Wanaka Library today. Just pop in or call Wanaka Library on 03 443 0410.

CROWN RANGE UPDATE

You don't have to go far to find New Zealand's highest alpine route. It's the Crown Range Road, which is regularly affected by ice and snow through the winter and into spring.

QLDC maintains the road with partial funding from the Government through the NZ Transport Agency.

With winter approaching, we have reviewed the way the Council expects our contractors to maintain the road, particularly when it snows heavily or conditions are very icy.

Our intention is to always provide a safe route for motorists, balanced against the costs of keeping the road open and knowing that there is an alternative route through the Kawarau Gorge.

In practical terms, this means that sometimes the Crown Range Road will be closed for short periods so that our contractors can operate the snowploughs and grit trucks safely and efficiently.



At times, vehicles will be convoyed through the stretch of road between Eastburn Gates on the Crown Terrace and the passing lanes on the Cardrona side, following a snowplough. This will mean short closures at both ends until a snowplough is available to lead the convoy across the pass.

The alternative route between the Wakatipu and the Upper Clutha is SH6 via Cromwell and the Kawarau Gorge, which is seldom affected by snow and is maintained by NZTA's contractors as part of the national highway network.



Fuel up in Arrowtown

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



PLANTING NATIVE TREES

Whatever the Council decides, Coronet Forest will be harvested sooner or later and the intention is to replant the lower slopes of Coronet Peak in species that won't spread as wildings. This isn't just common sense – it's a requirement under our District Plan.

Income from selling the timber will be used to help pay for the replanting.

About 80 percent of the forest is classified as “non-Kyoto forest” under the Emissions Trading Scheme because it was planted before 1990. As long as the area is re-established in trees, the forest won't be responsible for any loss of carbon.

There are no firm plans yet but the Wakatipu Reforestation Trust has advised that land could be replanted in a mix of beech and exotic species that would look similar to the hillsides above Arrowtown and be spectacular in the autumn.

As a rule of thumb, replanting would take place about three years after harvest so that any Douglas fir seeds left in the ground would germinate and be controlled first.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH WILDINGS?

So what's the problem with wilding conifers, you may be wondering? Isn't any tree a good tree?

Douglas fir is a valuable source of timber. It grows quickly and is widely used by the building industry. So far so good.

It's also an aggressive tree that easily colonises ungrazed tussock land, which is why it's become a pest species in the Wakatipu.

Wildings spread in the direction of the prevailing wind and the land behind Coronet Forest is particularly susceptible to wilding invasion.

The effects of Coronet Forest are very visible already. As the trees get bigger and produce more seeds, their impact on the spread of wilding trees gets worse. Vast areas of native tussock grassland and beech forest are being invaded and as the wildings become the dominant species, they destroy the native ecosystem.

Although QLDC is already an active partner in wilding control, Otago Regional Council is taking a more forceful stance against wilding conifers and it's likely that QLDC will be required to do even more to mitigate the effects of wildings spreading from Coronet Forest.

It's foreseeable that the cost of wilding control would be far greater than the extra income we could gain by waiting until Coronet Forest was fully mature.

2040

2030

2029 – 2041:
Trees reach maturity if not harvested earlier

2020

2017 – 2018:
Possible early harvest, lasting 18 months

2015:
QLDC begins investigations into the costs and benefits of early harvest

2010

2008:
QLDC takes over management of the forest

2000

2000:
QLDC begins funding wilding tree control

1990

1984 – 1987:
Coronet Forest planted

1980

TIMELINE



SHOULD CORONET FOREST BE HARVESTED EARLY?

Here are the reasons why QLDC is considering early harvest:

WILDINGS

The Douglas fir trees in the Coronet Forest are a significant seed source for the spread of wilding conifers across the high country in our district. The Wakatipu Wilding Conifer Control Group spent \$1.2 million on wilding control last year alone.

QLDC has been helping fund wilding control since 2000. Is it sensible for the Council to be helping pay for the work done by the Wakatipu Wilding Conifer Control Group while at the same time contributing to the wilding problem by growing Douglas fir?

The bigger the trees get, the more seeds they will produce. We estimate that if Coronet Forest is left to grow to maturity, the cost of wilding control related to this seed source will be \$2.9 million between now and harvest.

COST VERSUS BENEFIT

We have crunched the numbers for both an early harvest and letting the trees grow to maturity. We used two models – one was based on a “conservative” forecast of income from the timber and the other used an “optimistic” projection.

Both sets of figures factored in wilding control, the costs of harvest, replanting the land and the expected income from selling the timber. Once the seed source is extinguished, the compounding effects of wildings are no longer factored in.

Under the conservative model, the outcome was neutral – ie there was neither an obvious financial benefit nor a disadvantage in harvesting the trees early or leaving them to grow to maturity.

Under the optimistic model, there is a \$450,000 advantage in harvesting early.

If the Council opts to harvest Coronet Forest early, the optimistic model projects a nett return of \$250,000 after revegetating the area in other species (see sidebar). The conservative model projects that there would be a shortfall of \$1.2 million when revegetation costs are included.

Harvesting at maturity, the optimistic model projects a shortfall of \$200,000 (including nett returns from the harvest, ongoing wilding control and revegetation costs at maturity.) The conservative model projects the same \$1.2 million shortfall for the “harvest at maturity” option as for the “early harvest”.

VOLATILITY

Investing in forestry is a long-term commitment and carries several risks, including the possibility of damage from storm and fire.

Wood prices can be volatile and Coronet Forest is located a long way from potential markets.

Until recently, prices for Douglas fir have been on a par with Pinus Radiata. Since March the premium for Douglas fir has increased. Coupled with historically low ocean freight rates and the low exchange rate mean that current Douglas fir prices are considered favourable.

That could change.

THE RULES HAVE CHANGED

When the trees were planted, commercial forestry was a relatively common form of investment for councils. The Local Government Act has been amended so that Council investment in commercial forestry is no longer consistent with the purposes of local authorities.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

Early harvest and replanting in non-invasive species would meet the District Plan's objectives for nature conservation and natural landscape values.

Here are the reasons why QLDC is considering letting Coronet Forest grow to maturity:

BIGGER TREES MEAN MORE TIMBER

Allowing the trees to grow to maturity will produce higher volumes of timber, which would provide more income.

In the next 15 years, technology for harvesting trees on steep slopes may improve, which would reduce the cost of felling and retrieving the trees and improve the expected rate of return.

Log prices may also increase.

THE GOOD OIL

QLDC supports the concept of finding beneficial uses for wilding conifers. One of these has been put forward by Wilding & Co, a company producing oil from Douglas fir.

QLDC recognises the potential for a significant commercial gain from these pest trees and is keen to work with businesses as we look for solutions to the wilding conifer issue.

Buy a bell from Council

All nett proceeds support the Queenstown Trails Trust

CAN'T WE ALL JUST GET ALONG!

Shared tracks and trails can often be an area of contention. But when you take a step back and look at what we have on offer in this district, you do start to wonder why we can't just all get along.

At this stage QLDC discourage horses on our shared trails. But the Council is in the early stages of working with the Wakatipu Riding Club to work out which trails could be safely used by horse riders in the future.

If you have any ideas to contribute, please contact Maddy Jones maddy.jones@qldc.govt.nz

We have so many stunning tracks and trails and these are for everyone. Not just the walkers. Not just the cyclists. Everyone. They're for kids learning to ride bikes for the first time, for people out walking their dogs, for athletes training for their next big event, tourists getting off the beaten track. Everyone.

So the most important thing to remember when using these trails is Share with Care. Always keep to the left and pass on the right. Always have a little patience for other users. Don't catch people by surprise and above all, enjoy the experience.



TRAIL CODE

Everyone is welcome to enjoy our trails, but please take care to follow some simple rules to ensure your safety and to help everyone get along.

- Share the trails with care! Keep to the left and pass on the right.
- Bikers, use a bell so other users know you're approaching.
- Always consider others.
- Bikers, please give way to walkers.
- Keep dogs on a leash at all times.
- Take your rubbish with you.
- Report all hazards.
- No Motorbikes.



*Audio
Books*

TRAVEL LONG DISTANCES?

Why not try audio books?
Available at the library

libraries
Queenstown Lakes

VOLUNTEERING WORKSHOP

Volunteering Central invites you to attend a workshop on “Advancing Volunteer Management” led by Andy Fryar.

The topics include the evolution of volunteer management, how to recognise when you’re using outdated methods to manage your volunteers, and practical advice.

It’s on Monday 9 May from 9.30am to 2.30pm at the Lake Wanaka Centre.

Register with Gillian White, 027 5065705 or email gillian@volunteeringcentral.org.nz

DROP IN ON YOUR COMMUNITY BOARD

The Wanaka Community Board holds a drop-in session on the first Wednesday of every month.

This is a chance for you to have a chat to your elected representatives, raise any issues or concerns, and float new ideas.

No need to make an appointment. Just rock up to the QLDC office in Ardmore St, Wanaka, from 11am – 1pm.

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Wanaka Operations and Maintenance Team Leader Diana Mason and Dr Compost Ben Elms, enjoying a well-deserved break during the Wanaka A&P Show last month. The pop-up library was very popular and kept the Council site buzzing all weekend!

FIT IN 5

Motivation for Winter Fitness

Our most popular fitness programme Fit in Five, is back this May. If you need a bit of extra motivation to keep fit over Winter, this is it.

Starting on Monday 9 May, running until Sunday 12 June, Fit in Five is all about aiming for 5 group fitness classes a week. So either get in a few extra of your usual favourites or take the opportunity to try something new, all with the added motivation of a bit of healthy competition and prizes to win. If you're keen to take part, register at Queenstown Events Centre.

This is a free challenge for all members at Alpine Health and Fitness. If you're not a member, why not join! We have a great 'no-strings' membership option in our open term contract. No joining fees, no cancellation fees and all the fitness you could want.



Alpine Health & Fitness
QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL

WALK N WHEELS IN WANAKA



Lily Ashe, a year 6 student at Wanaka Primary, and school crossing volunteer Shirley Armstrong dressed for the occasion.

Wanaka kids were encouraged to take a different approach to getting to school last term, with Wanaka Primary, Holy Family and Hawea Flat schools participating in Walk n Wheels Week.

Classes competed for the highest number of students walking or riding to school.

Holy Family School ran a poster competition and held a Fancy Feet / Whacky Wheels Day.

Students at Hawea Flat encouraged fun scootering at lunchtimes, ran a "cycle train" and students decorated their helmets.

At Wanaka Primary, police and QLDC ran safe scooting and biking sessions and the school held a Whacky Wheels / Fancy Feet day for the whole school community, including parents and staff.

Even students who caught the bus to school were able to take part by walking for 15 minutes a day, to count as their "walk to school".



A new drink wise campaign has been kicked off in 31 bars in Queenstown's CBD, under the catchy slogan "Don't be a Dick".

The initiative comes from the Queenstown Alcohol Accord, which was formed in late 2014 to help local bars better manage changes to the Sale of Liquor Act. Its goal is to help minimise the impact of alcohol related harm in

the community while maintaining the vibrancy of the local hospitality industry.

The "Don't be a Dick" campaign is designed to educate locals and visitors about acceptable behaviour standards and recommended responsible drinking practices while enjoying Queenstown's late night hospitality scene. The campaign includes flyers and posters displayed in licensed premises and other supportive businesses such as hostels, hotels, taxi companies and various other local businesses.

Members of the Queenstown Alcohol Accord meet quarterly with Police, QLDC and Public Health South to discuss ways to reduce liquor impacts and discuss liquor issues facing the town.

QAA is governed by a committee of seven, who are elected by the signatories to the accord. Mike Burgess is currently the Chair of the group.

LANDCARE RESEARCH DECLARES WAR ON RABBITS



Forget Peter Rabbit and the Flopsy Bunnies – wild rabbits are a major pest and QLDC is supporting a new research-based campaign to get their numbers back down to manageable levels.

Landcare Research has launched a crowd-funding initiative to raise \$80,000 by 9 May in order to develop an online mapping tool for Otago and Canterbury that will show rabbit numbers in detail.

Researchers say this is an essential first step in getting rabbit numbers back under control.

Traditional methods such as hunting and poisoning have not kept rabbit numbers to manageable levels

in many areas, including parts of the Queenstown Lakes District. Rabbit populations have also developed immunity to the haemorrhagic disease, which was released here in 1997.

As well as showing where rabbit numbers are high, the online tool will act as a forum for local communities and agencies working in rabbit control to identify and agree where more control efforts are needed, when it will be done and who should be taking part.

If you would like to contribute to the development of the mapping tool, please donate online at <http://pldg.me/waronrabbits>

DRESS WARMLY AND SEE QUEENSTOWN SPARKLE



*Field Apart by Angus Muir Design.
Photo Credit Jordan McNally Undersoul Photography*

After a successful pilot project in June 2015, the inaugural Southern Light Project 'LUMA' will light up Queenstown Gardens over Queen's Birthday Weekend.

LUMA is a free public 'light festival' showcasing a fantastic array of light sculptures, an open-air photography exhibition, an international short film festival and more.

Lighting up when the sun goes down, LUMA will switch on from 5pm-10pm each night over the long weekend. It's a non-profit event organised by the LUMA Light Festival Trust and assisted by a dedicated group of volunteers from Queenstown's vibrant arts community.

Event spokesman Luke Baldock describes LUMA as a "colourful light extravaganza" that will put the spotlight on Queenstown's creative scene.

The Queenstown Gardens will provide a magical setting featuring a curated collection of light sculptures, installations and projections, together with an 'art walk', outdoor cinema and lounge area.

Experts in setting up spontaneous film screenings in the most unlikely of spaces, the team behind Queenstown's Guerrilla Drive-In will deliver a free outdoor cinema showing a selection of short films and features each night from 6pm.

"Dress warm and come see Queenstown sparkle," Luke says.

After Queen's Birthday Weekend, LUMA Continues will see several light sculptures remain in Queenstown's CBD until late June.

MASTER TAI CHI VISIT



Late last month, we were extremely lucky to have Tamara Bennett, a Master Trainer of Tai Chi visit Queenstown and host workshops focusing on different practices of the art, including Tai Chi for fall prevention and arthritis.

Some of our Leisurely's members took part in a full day course, focusing on a particular style of Tai Chi called Sun 73, which incorporates long and challenging movements to allow students natural progression in their practice of Tai Chi.

Interested in learning Tai Chi? We hold a weekly Tai Chi class, every Monday at 10.45am in the Alpine Health and Fitness Group Fitness Studio.

Photographer Maja Mortiz (left) with Library Assistant Eve Marshall-Lee. Eve assisted in setting up the exhibition by coming up with an innovative and affordable way to display the photos, using foldable cardboard plinths.



43 NZ AUTHORS

Exhibition now on at Wanaka Library.

This stunning exhibition showcases 43 New Zealand authors as you've never seen them before. We know most authors by their cropped photo on the inside cover of their books. These beautiful images show some of our most popular authors up close and personal.

The photos are all taken by Photographer Maja Mortiz, who was commissioned to capture the writers representing New Zealand at the 2012 Frankfurt Book Fair, where NZ was the guest of honour. She has turned the portraits into an exhibition which has since been travelling all over the country.

43 New Zealand Author's is showing at Wanaka Library until 29 May.

MEET MAJA AND LEARN MORE ABOUT 43 NZ AUTHORS

On Saturday 28 May, Wanaka Library invites you to pop in and talk to Maja about the exhibition, her experiences working with all the authors, and find out about her other projects in the woodwork.

Saturday 28 May, 10.30am-11.30am at Wanaka Library. All welcome.

WINTER IS COMING!

You may be in denial after that long, hot summer but winter is coming.

That means it's time to check your snow chains and sign up for the QLDC winter road reports, which will begin sometime in May, depending on weather conditions.

We will send you an email around 6.30am every day with the latest information about road conditions across the network from Glenorchy to Mt Aspiring and including the State Highway network and the Crown Range.

It's easy to sign up – just look for the winter road report link on the front page of our website www.qldc.govt.nz or email services@qldc.govt.nz with "road report" in the subject line.

MONDAY 2 MAY TO SUNDAY 8 MAY

ANNUAL POOL SHUTDOWN

As you read this, Alpine Aqualand is about to reopen after our scheduled annual maintenance. This year the pools have all been closed for one week, from 2-8 May. This allows us to completely empty, scrub and deep clean the Leisure Pool.

All our pool facilities will be back open as usual from Monday 9 May.

Alpine Health and Fitness will also close on Friday 6 May for scheduled maintenance. The group fitness studio will still be open for anyone needing a workout on that day.

**ALPINE
HEALTH &
FITNESS**

**Will also close on
Friday 6 May**

QLDC CONTACT LIST AND HOURS

QLDC & SERVICE CENTRES

Queenstown Office:

10 Gorge Road
Private Bag 50072
Queenstown
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

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Feedback and ideas are welcome.

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