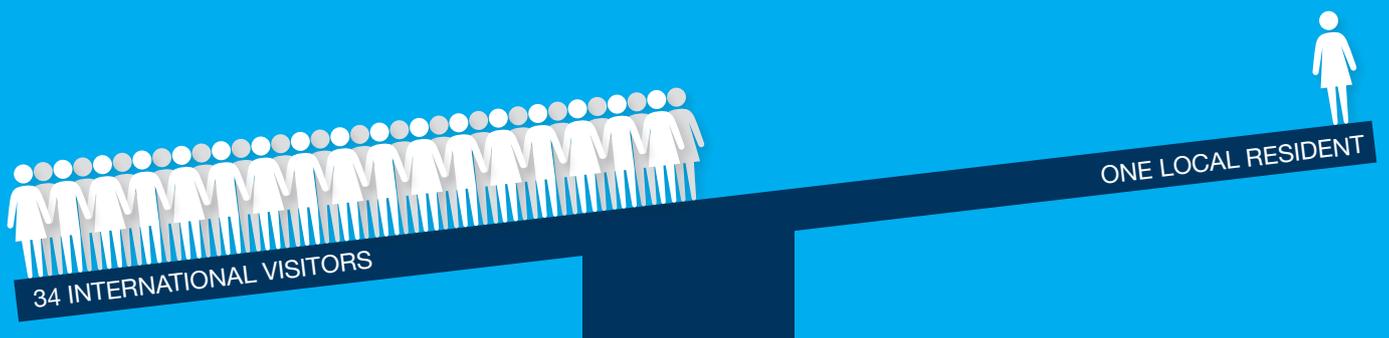


# Scuttlebutt

THE QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWSLETTER // APRIL/MAY 2019 // ISSUE 131

## EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE VISITOR LEVY REFERENDUM\*



“As a district we have a chance to be heard and send Government a clear and compelling message.”

MAYOR JIM BOULT

**\*THAT WE KNOW SO FAR.** Full details available soon.

[Read more on page 2 >>](#)

### INSIDE

07

STEP UP  
FOR YOUR  
COMMUNITY

08

WĀNAKA  
WATER QUALITY

14

ADDRESSING  
OUR CHANGING  
CLIMATE

24

DOG  
REGISTRATION



Tell us if you want to save paper and read Scuttlebutt online. See page 2 for details.



Scuttlebutt is printed on paper sourced from sustainably managed forests.



Scuttlebutt is recyclable. Please recycle me.

# VISITOR LEVY REFERENDUM

7 March 2019 was a big day for the Queenstown Lakes District. After more than two years of championing the cause with both current and former governments, Queenstown Lakes District Mayor Jim Boulton was finally able to announce a significant step towards a desperately-needed alternative funding stream.

This step is a non-binding referendum on whether QLDC should implement a Visitor Levy to help fund visitor-related infrastructure and services.

Whether you live here or are just visiting, everyone's flushing the toilet and driving on the roads. So it's only right that everyone shares the cost rather than it being primarily funded by our small ratepayer population. This alternative

funding stream will help QLDC keep up with the investment needed for roading, water, upgrading our town centres, transport and facilities that will ensure living and visiting here remains a high-quality, positive experience.

This is the strong case we have made to Central Government and it has agreed. Our situation is exceptional in Aotearoa New Zealand. No other

location in the world experiences the quantum of our visitor ratio (one local resident per 34 international visitors). On this basis Central Government has agreed that the response to the Queenstown Lakes unique challenge will need to be an exception and this has led to the development of the Queenstown Lakes Partnership and the referendum.

## The Preferred Option

The preferred option at this stage is a targeted levy which includes all expenditure on short-term accommodation in the district, and that this will include providers using platforms such as Airbnb which is already happening in other places around the world. This is a levy that would be paid by people staying in the accommodation, not the accommodation providers.

The proposed model is based on existing international models and would complement, but not replace, existing cost-recovery methods such as user charges and targeted rates where these are more efficient devices.

"We want the final model to be as fair as possible on end-users and have minimum effect on accommodation providers with regards to administering the levy. So we are proposing a percentage-based levy rather than a fixed fee. At this stage we anticipate a potential levy in the region of 5-10%," Mayor Boulton said.

"Although yet to be confirmed, we anticipate the levy would be collected through a partnership between Central Government and QLDC, with Central Government acting as the collection agency."

Details regarding the exact percentage and collection method will be outlined in materials that will accompany the voting papers and will be available at [www.qldc.govt.nz](http://www.qldc.govt.nz)

## Referendum timeline

<b>7 MARCH</b> Referendum announced	<b>8 MARCH</b> QLDC Electoral Officer instructed to initiate the referendum	<b>12 MARCH</b> Electoral roll opened for inspection	<b>9 APRIL</b> Electoral roll closed	<b>14-19 MAY</b> Voting papers delivered
--	--	---	---	---

## The Referendum – what we know so far

-  To vote in the referendum, people must be registered on the residential electoral roll or as a non-residential ratepayer elector
-  Voting will be by postal vote
-  Although non-binding, the referendum is needed to inform a decision by Central Government to change the necessary legislation
-  The preferred option is a 5-10% levy on short term accommodation
-  The levy will be paid by the visitor **NOT** the accommodation provider
-  The proposal is for the levy to be collected through a central government agency as a charge like GST so it will be clear it's not part of the accommodation provider's costs
-  The levy will also apply to providers using a peer-to-peer platform such as Airbnb and Bookabach. Many platforms already do this internationally and have indicated their willingness to incorporate this additional charge into their software.
-  The visitor levy won't be collected from anyone freedom camping. However, we are already looking at alternative options to ensure freedom campers contribute.
-  If implemented, a levy is likely to be collected from 2021 at the earliest
-  The current differential rate for accommodation providers will be reviewed to ensure they are not paying for costs to be funded from the levy

Details of the referendum can be found on the QLDC website: [www.qldc.govt.nz/proposed-visitor-levy](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/proposed-visitor-levy)

### 5 JUNE

Voting closes at noon (12.00pm). Preliminary results announced as soon as practicable.

### 9 JUNE

Public declaration / notice of final results



Tell us if you want to save paper and read Scuttlebutt online.

We publish Scuttlebutt six times a year, deliver it locally through community newspapers, and post around 7,500 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](mailto: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 a website 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](http://www.qldc.govt.nz)

QLDC has released the Decisions on Stage 2 of the District Plan.

This will set all zoning within the Wakatipu Basin for the next decade.

Cut-off date for appeals is 7 May 2019.

Call us for up front expert advice.

Speak now  
or forever



**vivian+espie**  
resource management and landscape planning

(03) 441 4189  
[www.vivianespie.co.nz](http://www.vivianespie.co.nz)

# WHEELIE BINS ARE LANDING



THE NEW THREE-BIN RUBBISH AND RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICE IS ONLY MONTHS AWAY NOW AND BINS ARE BEING DELIVERED TO RESIDENTIAL HOUSEHOLDS DISTRICT-WIDE.

If you haven't already, one day soon you'll find three wheelie bins outside your place with your house number on them. They are yours to keep for so long as you live at your current address.

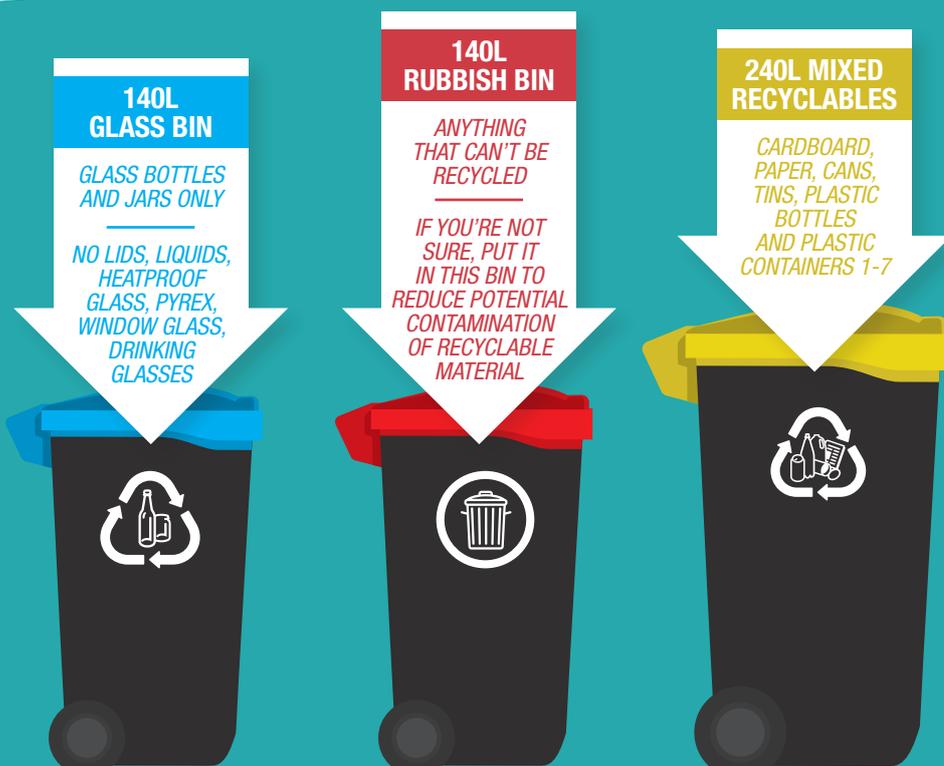
Getting your bins is the first step in our switch to a three wheelie bin system for rubbish and recycling and our collective journey towards zero waste.

## WHEN YOUR BINS ARRIVE:

- » check that you've got the right bins because each bin is coded to a specific property.
- » help out any absentee neighbours by taking their bins off the street.

## HOW TO USE THE NEW SERVICE

We'll deliver a collection calendar and 'how-to' leaflet with the bins. If you need any further info, check out our FAQ's on the website or call us on 03 441 0499 (Queenstown) or 03 443 0024 (Wānaka).



Rubbish bins will be collected every week. The glass bin and mixed recycling bin will be collected on alternate weeks.

## HOW BIG IS TOO BIG?

The size of the 140L rubbish bin was given careful consideration. A 140L rubbish bin will be a struggle for some families, while others may place very little in it. A smaller rubbish bin may encourage those who generate more waste to fill the recycling bins once their rubbish bin is full.

Successful recycling relies on the whole community doing the right thing and reducing contamination in both the glass and mixed recycling bins.

The size will also allow for less frequent collections if a kerbside organics collection is introduced in the future (without needing to replace the bins).

**THE NEW THREE-BIN  
RUBBISH AND RECYCLING  
SERVICE STARTS 1 JULY.  
KEEP USING YOUR EXISTING  
BINS, CRATES AND BLUE  
BAGS UNTIL THEN.**

*The team from Waste Management will be out delivering bins across the district over the coming months.*



*The first bins were delivered in Kingston back in March.*

# PLAN YOUR SWIM SESSIONS

Weekly timetables for Alpine Aqualand (Queenstown Events Centre) and the pools at Wānaka Recreation Centre are now available on the QLDC Sport and Recreation website.

Click the tabs for each day to see how many lanes are free and what activities are on at different times (kayak rolling or early morning triathlon training anyone?)

Visit [sportrec.qldc.govt.nz/swim](http://sportrec.qldc.govt.nz/swim) and click your preferred pool venue to find the timetable links.

You can also call the pools before setting out to see how busy they are:

Alpine Aqualand – 03 450 9005

Wānaka Recreation Centre – 03 443 9334

## MORE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AWARDS

than you can shake a stick at?



**Now that's smart!**

Have your property managed by the best!  
Contact Housemart for a rental appraisal today.



Ph: (03) 442 3815

[www.housemart.co.nz](http://www.housemart.co.nz)

# Smarter journeys, together

A huge thank you to everyone who has shared their views to help us plan safe, accessible and connected transport solutions for everyone in Wakatipu.

KEEP UP TO  
DATE ON PROGRESS.  
SIGN UP FOR  
OUR REGULAR  
WAKATIPU WAY TO  
GO NEWSLETTER AT  
[WWW.QLDC.GOVT.NZ/  
WAKATIPU-WAY-  
TO-GO](http://WWW.QLDC.GOVT.NZ/WAKATIPU-WAY-TO-GO)



*Taking in the view at the recent Motatapu event where the Active Travel team joined forces with the Queenstown Trails Trust to talk about a preferred walking and cycling network.*



*Around 60 people came along to a presentation and group session co-hosted with Shaping our Future earlier in April.*

The Wakatipu Way to Go group has been out and about at public sessions, pop-ups and market days over the past month getting feedback on a number of key transport projects.

We've had conversations about your priorities for a Frankton Masterplan, what facilities and trails would encourage you to walk or cycle more and what the future of public transport could look like.

The group will be working through all the feedback and sharing some key themes soon. Keep an eye on [www.qldc.govt.nz/wakatipu-way-to-go](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/wakatipu-way-to-go) for more details.



# STEP UP FOR YOUR COMMUNITY!

Have you ever thought about running for Council or the Wānaka Community Board?

Choosing to play a significant role in your local community is a big decision. If it's something you've been considering, check out the new videos on our website. They'll give you an idea of what's involved in being an elected member and how Councils' work.

## KEY DATES

Whether you're keen to step up for your community and run for Council or the Wanaka Community Board or you just want to make sure your vote counts, there are a number of key dates you should be aware of.

Candidate nominations open on 19 July and close

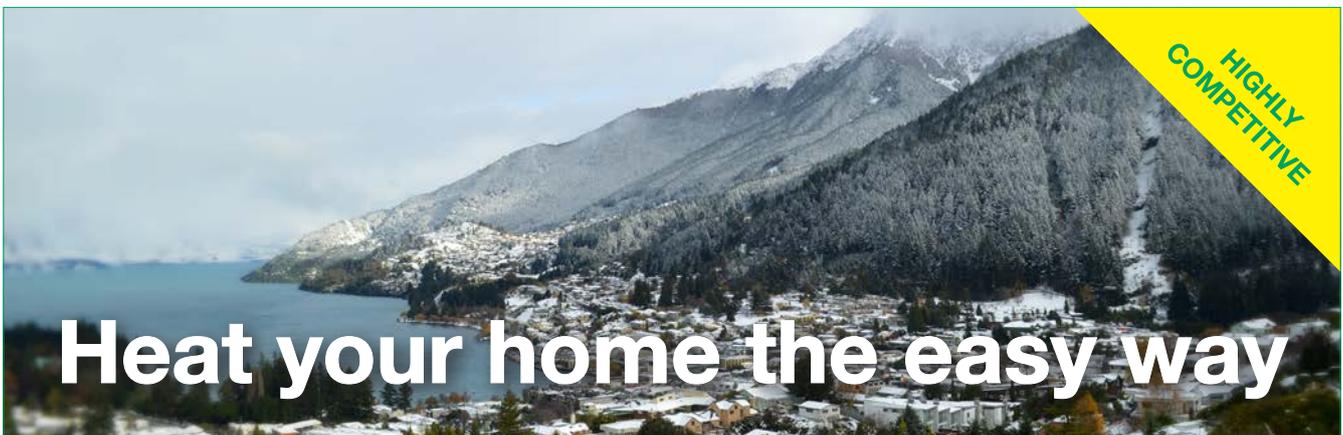
at 12 noon on 16 August. We'll be sending out voting documents between 20-25 September and Election Day is 12 October.

To take part in the postal vote you'll need to check your details on the electoral roll are correct by 12 noon on 16 August. If you're not on the roll by 16 August, you may be able to complete a special vote if you're eligible.

Head to [www.qldc.govt.nz/2019-elections](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/2019-elections)

Our local election will be held on 12 October 2019

There's a full list of key dates on our website. Head to [www.qldc.govt.nz/2019-elections](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/2019-elections) for more.



## Heat your home the easy way

Supplying the Lakes District with competitive home heating diesel

**BONUS!** With a new mini tanker based in Central we can service all your home heating needs.

**BONUS!** Discounted competitive pricing.

Call us today for your free comparison quote.



South Island wide

0800 44 00 14

[www.rdp.co.nz](http://www.rdp.co.nz)

# WĀNAKA'S FOCUS ON WATER QUALITY

Our Wanaka community are doing some amazing work to shine a spotlight on water quality issues and have a positive influence on how our waterways are managed. Here's a snapshot of some of the projects underway:

## Wānaka Water Project making headway

Just nine months into a five year project, the Upper Clutha Lakes Trust (UCLT) is making good headway into the Wānaka Water Project, a community-led effort to help maintain and improve the quality of our waterways.

The project, which is the only one in Otago to receive funding from the Government's Freshwater Improvement Fund, is made up of three key workstreams:

**Integrated Catchment Management Plan** – the community-led water management plan is just kicking off and will see collaboration across many organisations and individuals including urban residents, tourism operators, visitors, farmers, scientists and regulators (Otago Regional Council and Queenstown Lakes District Council). As well as targeted community conversations and workshops, a wider community survey has just been completed to understand how people think water should be managed and various other opportunities for engagement are coming up soon. A draft plan is expected to be complete by October 2019.

**Applied Research support** - through the project, partial funding is being provided to Masters students to undertake research on stormwater runoff, particularly into Roys Bay, Lake Wānaka. The research will assess the effects of urban development on lake health and recommend appropriate management approaches.

**Riparian planting** - Planting trees around local waterways to improve water quality. The goal is to plant 4,500 trees by June 2019. If you have an idea for a potential planting site, please get in touch with the trust **community@uppercluthalakestrust.org**. If you would like to donate, please go to: <https://millionmetres.org.nz/open-project/love-lake-wanaka-2>

**Get involved** - The UCLT is keen to connect with local residents who have a background or interest in freshwater management and are keen to get involved in the Wānaka Water Project. Contact **community@uppercluthalakestrust.org** or head to the website for more details [www.uppercluthalakestrust.org](http://www.uppercluthalakestrust.org)



Riparian planting in the Upper Clutha.

## The Touchstone Project

The Touchstone Project is a local initiative aimed at raising awareness of how people can play a role in improving the quality of Lake Wānaka. There are a number of projects underway, including:

**Freshwater Beasties on Drains** – An innovative replacement to the painted blue fish by stormwater drains, the 'beasties' are creatures made of steel with the words 'only rain' engraved on them. The designs are all species living in Lake Wānaka (Rainbow Trout, Koaro, Eel and Grebe). The goal is to educate people that only rain should go down the drain.

**Down the Drains** – This is a citizen stormwater monitoring programme. The idea is to undertake a water quality survey of some of the drains flowing into Lake Wānaka and work to tidy up the source of any identified issues.

Through these projects, Touchstone has been working with the Lake Wānaka Swimmers Club, children from Wānaka Primary School and students from Mount Aspiring College. The kids have been investigating rubbish sources at Bremner Bay including what's being found on the beach and via stormwater drains. They have also been investigating ways to fix any issues with the drains.

To find out about more of the projects underway or to get involved head to [www.touchstone.org.nz](http://www.touchstone.org.nz)



New 'Beasties' next to a stormwater drain in Wānaka.

# DISCOVER YOUR RIGHTS

Understanding your rights and the support services available to you can be a tricky path to navigate sometimes.

The Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) is here to help. With over 2,600 trained volunteers in over 80 locations nationwide, help is just a click or a phone call away.

The local CAB is in Queenstown and provides free, confidential, independent information and advice to anyone. They can help you to know and understand your rights and obligations, and how to use this information to get the best solutions.

## HERE'S HOW TO DISCOVER YOUR RIGHTS:

- > visit your local CAB branch (they're at 44 Stanley Street, Queenstown - no appointment needed)
- > Phone 03 442 6799
- > Go online: [www.cab.org.nz](http://www.cab.org.nz) – from here you can chat online, browse information or send an email.



# COMMUNITY NETWORKS WANAKA

While there's no CAB branch on the other side of the hill, Community Networks Wanaka is a locally-operated social well-being hub that works within the community connecting people to the information and support they need.

Community Networks is located at 73 Brownston Street. Drop in for a visit, call 03 443 7799 or email [info@communitynetworks.co.nz](mailto:info@communitynetworks.co.nz)

## Rentals Made Easy



Great returns

Smart solutions

Sound advice

**Making renting easy for property owners and tenants is our priority.**

Innovative, market-leading systems and a solutions-based approach set our experienced team apart.

Speak to the property management purists about how to maximise your investment – Pure Property.



P +64 (0)3 409 0480  
W [purepropertyrentals.co.nz](http://purepropertyrentals.co.nz)  
Top floor, 10 Athol Street, PO Box 1574, Queenstown 9300, NZ

# BE A GOOD TRAIL USER

Our district has more trails than you can shake a stick at, and all of them are iconic in their own special way. And while we encourage everyone to get out there, get active and to enjoy what's on offer, it's important to remember to use them the right way.

## Keep to the left!

Just like when you're driving on the road, always keep to the left! There's always the chance you'll come across other people out and about, and it's important you share the trail with them.

Pass on the right only when safe to do so and give other trail users plenty of space. It's also a great idea to let people in front of you know if you're coming. A friendly ring of that bell on your bike works wonders, but a simple "Hello", "Coming through" or "On your right" is fine too.

## Let people in front of you know you are coming:

> Ring your bell

> Say "Coming through"

> Say "Hello"

> Say "On your right"

We've also got to stress the importance of staying on the trail you're on. If you're not familiar with the area, heading off the beaten track might be the difference between arriving home safely as expected or hours later via a Search & Rescue helicopter.

If you're on a longer hike carry plenty of food and water with you. Always take your rubbish with you, and leave the trail as you found it.

Finally, please follow all signage on the trails. If the trail requires your dog to be on a leash, then it has to be on a leash, and if you're not meant to be on a bike, then don't be. If the trail is shared by walkers and cyclists, walkers should always have the right of way, and while trails might be better with music, keep it low so you can hear others approaching.

Special mention for E-bikes and E-scooters: If you're on a busy path, put your contraption into a low power mode and travel at a speed consistent with others. Give way to pedestrians and if a trail is particularly busy, please consider hopping off and walking.



# NEW LIBRARY MARKS NEW CHAPTER FOR FRANKTON

Hundreds of local bookworms, film buffs and culture vultures are enjoying an expanded service at Frankton Library at Remarkables Park.

Around 800 members now have Frankton set as their home library with more than half of these brand new members having never previously been registered at any of the other seven QLDC libraries around the district.

Amazingly, more than 17,000 individual items have been issued since the library opened its doors just before Christmas.

Frankton Library was officially opened in March by Queenstown Lakes District Mayor Jim Boulton and local resident Pat Paulin, a long-time advocate for such a facility serving the Frankton community.



Children enjoying a craft session at the newly opened Frankton Library.

and Red Oaks Drive. It will provide a comprehensive service to the fast-growing local community for at least three years while a permanent plan for a Frankton Library is confirmed.

For a full list of services and opening times please call the team on **03 441 3690** or visit [codc-qldc.govt.nz](http://codc-qldc.govt.nz)



The ribbon is cut and the children are let loose!

Also in attendance were Ngāi Tahu kaumātua, Darren Rewi who performed a blessing, Craig Smith of 'Wonky Donkey' fame, fellow children's author Kyle Mewburn, plus Ockham NZ Book Award nominees Annabel Wilson, Erik Kennedy and David Eggleton who all read from their shortlisted poetry collections.

Now fully operational, the library has started a programme of regular activities kicking off with Wriggle and Rhyme (music and movement for parents and bubs aged 0-2) on Wednesdays from 10.30-11.00am, and Story Time for pre-schoolers on Thursdays from 10.30-11.30am. All sessions are free and run during school terms.

Frankton Library is located on the ground floor of Remarkables House, on the corner of Hawthorne Drive

## HOME & CO.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Nobody knows the local Wanaka market better!

### WHO WOULD YOU TRUST TO MANAGE YOUR RENTAL PROPERTY?

Only South Island Finalist 2017  
NZ Property Manager of the Year

**COLLEEN TOPPING & TEAM**

- More than a decade of local experience
- Personalised Service
- Professional Qualifications
- Excellence is my minimum
- FREE rent appraisals and advice



**021 255 RENT | 443 2273**  
[rent@homeandco.co.nz](mailto:rent@homeandco.co.nz)

[www.homeandco.co.nz](http://www.homeandco.co.nz)

# THE NAME'S REPORTS. WINTER ROAD REPORTS.

Winter is on the way! Time to dust off the ice scraper and put the snow chains in the boot. Our Winter Road report is also here for you with one sole purpose: to keep you informed on conditions before you head out on the roads this winter.

For those of you who haven't heard of our Winter Road Reports, they're an email our team sends out early every morning during the winter months (and then some), delivered fresh to your inbox with details about road conditions across the district. And, they're entirely free.

During the snowy months, our roading crew is up and about, gritting roads and checking conditions from as early as 4.00am. And while they're doing that, they're letting us know which roads are safe,

which roads are icy, where slips are and what people need to watch out for.

This all feeds into the Winter Road Report, so you can be sure any morning of the week, the details delivered to your desktop or screen may as well have come directly from up on top of the Crown Range itself.

And if we haven't sold the service to you just yet, why not check out some reviews left on our old friend Facebook:

And for balance:

"Thanks for the awesome updates team, so glad I took the Kawarau Gorge instead of the Crown Range."

"Why did you close the Crown Range, it isn't even snowing. You guys are idiots."

"Thanks Team for the wonderfully informative and entertaining reports this winter – as always, I enjoyed reading every single one and had a good giggle and learned some interesting facts (and trivia!) along the way. A big thumbs up too, to Downer for braving the winter conditions every morning and keeping our roads safe."

It's easy to sign up – head to [www.qldc.govt.nz/winter-road-reports](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/winter-road-reports) then give us your name and email address and we'll do the rest.

## Community Text Alerts

While you're in 'sign up' mode, we'd like to plug the good old fashioned Community Text Alert system.

Just like the Reports, it's free to sign up and means we can fire you a text in case of an emergency, or if there's something dangerous we think you need to be aware of. All you've got to do is give us your phone number and pick which areas of our district you want alerts about, and we'll do the rest.



# WARBIRD WINNERS!

Congratulations to Warbirds Over Wānaka International Airshow, who recently won big at the New Zealand Event Association annual awards dinner in Tāmaki-makau-rau Auckland.

The 2018 airshow was judged the Best National Event and also picked up the People's Choice award for New Zealand's Favourite Event. Warbirds Over Wānaka Event Manager, Mandy Deans was also named as a finalist in the Event Professional of the Year category.

Warbirds Over Wānaka General Manager (and community board member), Ed Taylor and Mandy Deans were on hand in Tāmaki-makau-rau Auckland to accept the awards.

Ed says the awards belong to everyone who has ever been involved with helping stage the biennial event including staff, volunteers, sponsors, pilots, aircraft owners, suppliers and exhibitors.

"These awards are for the hundreds of people who have helped out over the years to make Warbirds the world-class event it is today. We have always believed we deliver one of New Zealand's premier events but it's great to get that endorsed by your peers. We are proud to still be this region's biggest event after 30 years in business and to provide so much economic benefit to the whole region. Along with our sponsors we're also very grateful for the support we get from our community funders including the QLDC, Central Lakes Trust, Otago Community Trust and Lion Foundation."

The next Warbirds Over Wānaka International Airshow is being held at Wānaka Airport from 10-12 April 2020. Tickets are already sale, phone 0800 224 224 or head to [www.warbirdsoverwanaka.com](http://www.warbirdsoverwanaka.com)



*Ed Taylor accepting an award at the New Zealand Event Association annual dinner in Tāmaki-makau-rau Auckland last month. Event Manager Mandy Deans far left.*

# ADDRESSING OUR CHANGING CLIMATE

## Climate change is often associated with rising sea levels.

At a local level research is saying it could mean a wetter, windier and warmer climate, resulting in fewer frosts, less snow, more frequent extreme rainfall events, and a greater risk of fire, fallen trees and drought.

In the face of these potential changing climate conditions, we are developing a Climate Action Plan to help current and future generations living in and visiting our district be as safe and resilient as possible.

As a first step in developing this draft plan, we gathered ideas from the community about what should be considered and included (through the recent My Place workshops and online through 'Let's Talk').

When the draft Climate Action Plan is ready in July, we'll be seeking your feedback to ensure we've got it right.

**Stay tuned!**

## Take your own action!

Wondering how to measure and reduce your carbon footprint? Here are a couple of tools that can help:

To measure your household greenhouse gas emissions, head to the following websites for free easy to use tools:  
[www.enviro-mark.com/calculators](http://www.enviro-mark.com/calculators)  
[www.futurefit.nz](http://www.futurefit.nz)

Another good source of information is the Ethical Consumer website: [www.ethicalconsumer.org](http://www.ethicalconsumer.org), which shows how to use your spending power to help change the world for better.

There are lots of ways to help reduce your household emissions – take a look at the graphic below and think about what you could try at home.



# AMBASSADORS TAKE THE SPOTLIGHT



*Our Responsible Camping Ambassadors (pictured here) played a huge role in improving camper behaviour over the recent summer period.*

The camping trials have only just wrapped up for the summer season but Council is already working on its approach for next year.

The trials saw vastly improved education material and signage, two overnight camp sites, two daytime service hubs, and close collaboration with partner agencies and the motorhome industry. But the real stars of the show were the twelve Responsible Camping Ambassadors employed to roam the district with a vital mission: educating campers on appropriate behaviour and changing attitudes.

QLDC General Manager Community Services Thunes Cloete said the ambassadors spent their busy summer monitoring temporary camp sites, service hubs and known hot spots across the district.

“Our ambassadors had an incredibly positive effect on the camping trials this summer. They handed out over 16,000 pamphlets, answered questions, collected data and guided campers on our expectations for behaviour and appropriate places to camp,” he said.

“They also fielded questions from locals and were often able to address their concerns in person resulting in fewer complaints being placed with Council this year,” he said.

While the trials have been a great starting point, there’s still work to do. Over winter before reapplying for funding through the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, the Council will be taking some time to work through the approach for next summer. This includes considering things like how the overnight sites could be better resourced and monitored, and how to further improve our education material so it’s very clear to campers what is expected of them.

In the meantime, we will be working on implementing the actions identified in the Responsible Camping Strategy: [www.qldc.govt.nz/responsible-camping-strategy](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/responsible-camping-strategy)



relaxaway

...in your Queenstown holiday home

Proactive property management – personalised service

Contact us for a complimentary appraisal of the holiday letting potential of your home.

T 03 442 7013 W [www.relaxaway.co.nz](http://www.relaxaway.co.nz) E [queenstown@relaxaway.co.nz](mailto:queenstown@relaxaway.co.nz)



# CULTURAL MASTERPLAN UNDERWAY

Three Lakes Cultural Trust is developing the district's first independent Cultural Masterplan and wants to hear from you. Your input will help the Trust develop an arts and cultural strategy for the whole district reflective of and responsive to our community.

Get involved and have your say by taking the short online survey. [www.research.net/r/qldculturesurvey](http://www.research.net/r/qldculturesurvey)

# AN UPDATE ON EARTHQUAKE-PRONE BUILDINGS

Over the last few months we've been making good progress on identifying potential earthquake-prone buildings across our district.

Initially we had 46 buildings on the list as being potentially earthquake-prone (using MBIE methodology) but after already receiving seismic assessments from a number of building owners, this number has dropped to 37 buildings.

We expect to receive information from the remaining building owners in the coming months - they have until January 2020 to provide QLDC with a seismic assessment.

As our district is in a high risk seismic zone, we have also been identifying priority thoroughfares and buildings. Four thoroughfares and eight buildings have been identified and will be confirmed in the near future.

Keep an eye on [www.qldc.govt.nz](http://www.qldc.govt.nz) for updates.

# POOL SUPERVISION POLICY

According to Water Safety NZ, on average six infants under the age of five drown each year with a further 34 hospitalised. 87 per cent of these incidents are attributed to inadequate adult supervision.

So it's important to remind anyone visiting our pools with young children about our supervision policy.

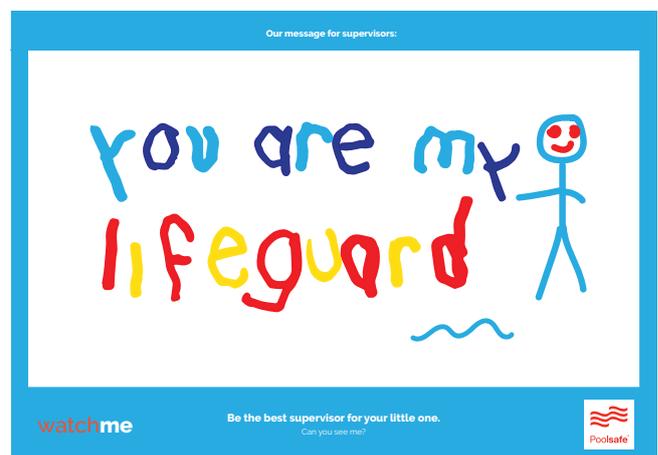
In line with national industry best practice, the policy requires that all children under the age of eight must be actively supervised by a parent or caregiver over the age of 16 at all times, regardless of their swimming ability.

Actively supervised means watching the children in your care at all times and being able to provide immediate assistance if required.

All children under five must be within arm's reach of a parent or caregiver over the age of 16 at all times (a maximum of two children under five per adult over 16).

Please limit mobile phone use on poolside and support the lifeguards by giving kids your full attention.

Thanks for your co-operation on this essential safety issue.



# THANKS FOR COMING TO MY PLACE!

A huge thank you to everyone who shared their ideas on climate change, housing, and future development (and for our smaller communities, the Townships chapter of the District Plan review).

We had approximately 350 people attend our My Place facilitated workshops throughout the district and received lots of great feedback and ideas online through our interaction maps and surveys.

This was the first step on our journey towards strategies for housing, future development, and climate change. The feedback gathered is now being assessed by our policy and planning teams and the drafts they prepare will be available for formal consultation later in 2019.

If you'd like to read the key themes from each workshop, head to [www.qldc.govt.nz/my-place](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/my-place)

To stay in the loop on when the formal consultations are happening, please head over to [letstalk.qldc.govt.nz](http://letstalk.qldc.govt.nz) to register, or email [letstalk@qldc.govt.nz](mailto:letstalk@qldc.govt.nz) with the topic you would like to be notified about.



*My Place session in Glenorchy.*



*My Place session in Kingston.*



**Your next  
environmental step**

Reusing your empty ink and laser cartridges at **Cartridge World** reduces your environmental footprint and saves you money.



**Cartridge World**<sup>®</sup>

Call 03 442 6878 - Free delivery!  
Shop online : [www.cartridgeworld.co.nz](http://www.cartridgeworld.co.nz)  
Queenstown and Wanaka shops

 **REFILL — NOT LANDFILL**<sup>®</sup>

# CARING FOR OUR TREES

QLDC  
CURRENTLY  
MAINTAINS OVER  
**18,000 TREES**  
ON OUR STREETS,  
PARKS AND  
RESERVES

Do you have a tree on the street outside your property? Here are some things you might like to know about how we look after them:

## PRUNING:

All Council trees are protected under the 'Reserves Act' and should only be pruned by our arboriculture contractor. The exception to the rule is if specific works are agreed with the Council and an approved arborist undertakes the work.

## IRRIGATION:

Where possible, we irrigate trees for the first three to five years of life. This allows their roots to establish and seek naturally occurring moisture. However, in the hot summer months they appreciate a soaking every now and then so please feel free to give them a welcome drink.

## STAKES FOR NEWLY PLANTED TREES:

We maintain the supporting stakes on newly planted trees until such time as the tree is able to support itself. Early removal of stakes results in a stronger and more resilient tree.

## ONGOING MAINTENANCE:

Your tree will be visited by our contract arborist team on average once every three years for routine maintenance. But if you have a concern we welcome your observations and feedback so please let us know.

Let us know about any tree issues:  
[www.qldc.govt.nz/fix-it](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/fix-it)  
phone 03 441 0499  
or email us at [services@qldc.govt.nz](mailto:services@qldc.govt.nz)

# AUTUMN LEAVES – NATURE’S NATURAL COMPOST

Most of our trees are deciduous species which means a beautiful show of colour in the autumn.

This is followed by a load of lovely leaves for the winter compost heap. Nature’s natural compost is ideal for eventually spreading around the base of trees and recreating a forest floor environment together with a natural moist atmosphere which encourages fungi beneficial to the health of the tree.

When autumn arrives, our contractors tirelessly collect leaves in the CBD areas of our towns and a few key areas where we have large historic avenues of trees.

Outside of these areas some leaves find their way from Council trees on to private property. We know this might be a nuisance sometimes and we appreciate and welcome the tremendous community spirit shown by many across the district by collecting these errant leaves and dealing with them appropriately.

# DISPOSAL TO LAND NOW UNDERWAY AT PROJECT SHOTOVER

The recent completion of a disposal field at the Shotover treatment plant means wastewater will drain naturally through the ground and will no longer be discharged directly into the Kimiākau Shotover River.

The new system, which is in place four years ahead of schedule, was designed to ease concerns from local iwi and others while meeting our own key objectives of valuing the environment and providing efficient and effective infrastructure for our community. The innovative new drainage technology also resulted in a massive cost reduction from an estimated \$21m to \$4.3m.

## How it works:

The newly upgraded sewerage treatment plant treats water from the Queenstown, Arrowtown, Lake Hayes, and Arthur’s Point communities. The raw sewerage moves through three different treatment tanks before the processed clear water is UV treated and pumped to the dispersal field. The field will be monitored closely to ensure that predictions undertaken during the consenting process are accurate and the environment is protected.



*Aerial view of position of disposal field. Around 2000 native species were planted to ensure the area is keeping with the surrounding landscape.*

# LOCAL GOOD SORTS - PLANTING SEEDS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

The Wakatipu Reforestation Trust (WRT) is the brainchild of Neill and Barb Simpson who over the course of 15 years, and thanks to countless volunteer hours, turned the once bare and weedy Pigeon and Pig Islands into a haven for native birds.

Inspired by the achievement, and with support of several external funders the Wakatipu Reforestation Trust was formed to protect and restore the native biodiversity of the Wakatipu Basin through revegetation projects, collaboration, education and advocacy.

Every day there is weeding to be done, general maintenance and work in the nursery potting up plants. Then, of course, there's planting. Volunteers run all of this - they are the potting mix and compost helping the Trust flourish, with volunteer hours estimated at approximately 2,500 hours per year.

Thanks to that contribution by everyday people sharing their time, effort and skills, over 30,000 plants have taken root in the Wakatipu Basin in the last four years.

It all starts at the WRT's Nursery (Jean Malpas Community Nursery), where volunteers run everything from seed collection and propagation to growing high quality eco-sourced plants before they eventually end up

planted on public land during community planting days. Five key planting sites are managed, each one strategically chosen to cover different ecosystems while remaining in close proximity to various Wakatipu communities.

Education Officer with the Trust Jo Smith points to the Earnslaw slipway as one of the five sites, explaining how the area was once covered in wilding conifers. They have since been removed and within three years native plantings have flourished.

The Trust follows these efforts up with an education booklet called "Growing Natives in the Wakatipu Basin" – created as a result of frequent questions from the public seeking advice as to what natives to plant, and where. The booklet tells the story of the region while providing helpful tips on how to adapt a site to cope with challenging micro-climates in the district, covering all aspects of planting and maintenance. These booklets are available in QLDC libraries for a \$10 donation.

Then of course, there are the volunteer potting sessions and planting days.

Every Wednesday the WRT host volunteer potting sessions at the Jean Malpas Community Nursery from 12.30pm – 3.00pm. Winter might be on the way, but the nursery

is a beautifully sheltered suntrap, great on a winter's afternoon. As for planting days – they're already in full swing - ready, willing and waiting for anyone to head along to help.

So, what are you waiting for? Get involved by participating in a planting day or a potting up session now. You'll find all the latest details on facebook.com or [wrtqt.org.nz](http://wrtqt.org.nz), or you can email [volunteer@wrtqt.org.nz](mailto:volunteer@wrtqt.org.nz)



*Peace Park – before: A Wakatipu Reforestation Trust planting day in full swing at Peace Park, Frankton.*



*Peace Park – after: The result of a day's planting at Peace Park, Frankton.*

## PLANTING DAY DATES

**Saturday 27 April, 9.00am-12.00pm:**  
Feehly Hill with the Akarua Arrowtown Autumn Festival

**Saturday 4 May, 9.00am-12.00pm:**  
Lake Hayes West with DOC

**Saturday 11 May, 9.00am-12.00pm:**  
Mill Creek at Slope Hill with BBQ

# WĀNAKA MASTERPLAN UPDATE

If you want to start a conversation, close a street or two!

That was certainly the case last month in Wānaka when we closed part of Ardmore and Helwick Streets to traffic for four days as a trial.

Whichever side of the debate you are on, the response from the Wānaka community was outstanding. The weather played ball over the four-day activation period and the lakefront was buzzing with people young and old enjoying the car-free space and talking about the future.

Over a two-week period we heard from over 1,000 people on the Wānaka Town Centre Masterplan concepts.

While there is still a lot of work to do to further develop and refine the Masterplan options, the feedback received so far has given the project team a good steer on what the community wants for the future. We'll keep you in the loop as things progress.

All of the feedback can be read online at [www.qldc.govt.nz/wanaka-masterplan](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/wanaka-masterplan)



*There was a great vibe down on the Wānaka lakefront during the town centre trials with people of all ages enjoying the car free space.*

## SPEAK UP, STAND TOGETHER AND STOP BULLYING

**Pink Shirt Day**

**Friday 17 May**

**Join the movement!**

Pink Shirt Day began in Canada in 2007 when two students took a stand against homophobic bullying, after a peer was bullied for wearing a pink shirt.

Here in Aotearoa New Zealand Pink Shirt Day aims to create schools, workplaces and communities where all people feel safe, valued and respected. In light of the recent tragedy in Christchurch, this effort is more important than ever.

Here at QLDC we have a zero tolerance to bullying. So we'll be joining the movement and encouraging all of our staff to speak up, stand together and wear pink on 17 May. We encourage you to join in too.

Help stop bullying and spread kindness at work or school! There's lots of info and great resources available at [www.pinkshirtday.org.nz](http://www.pinkshirtday.org.nz)



---

# SHANAHAN'S COTTAGE RESTORATION UNDERWAY

---



*Current status (Stonemasonry work complete March 2019)*



*Before*



*After (artists impression)*

Did you know the Council has a Heritage Incentive Grant? This fund is available to assist with the financial costs of maintaining, protecting and preserving the natural and built heritage of the district.

Last year, we approved a \$2,500 grant to help fund professional advice for the restoration and maintenance of Shanahan's Cottage ruins situated at the 11th hole of the Arrowtown Golf Course.

Thanks to further support from other external funders and a contribution from the Shanahan family, the piled up stone walls and unstable sections are being rebuilt to reaffirm the ruin's presence and place in local history.

IF YOU'D LIKE  
TO FIND OUT MORE  
ABOUT THE HERITAGE  
INCENTIVE GRANT,  
CHECK OUT  
[www.qldc.govt.nz/  
heritage-incentive-  
grant](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/heritage-incentive-grant)

---

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF SHANAHANS

---

The Arrowtown Golf Club is situated on land which was originally settled by the Shanahan family. Thomas Shanahan was born in 1879 and resided in the Shanahan cottage until 1899 when, with 12 other young men, he sought selection to represent the Lakes District at the Boer War. Thomas died in 1965 aged 86 years.

The cottage is now a ruin but is still maintained by the Arrowtown Golf Club. Located at the 11th hole, the ruins of the cottage are classified as an archaeological site as it is associated with human activity that occurred before 1900 and will be able, through investigation by archaeological methods, to provide evidence relating to the history of Aotearoa New Zealand.



# ARROWTOWN AUTUMN FESTIVAL

The Akarua Arrowtown Autumn Festival honours 35 years in a five day festival from 23 – 28 April.

Queenstown's iconic autumn event brings together locals from all over the region for this lively seasonal celebration. The charm of the festival lies in its grass roots community focus which also attracts visitors nationwide and from overseas.

The festival celebrates the vibrant autumn colour which provides a stunning backdrop to the town's charming historical buildings. And it creates a platform for local artists and musicians.

Most events are free. Locals love Saturday's Festival Parade and Arts & Crafts market where they can see busking, vintage cars and community floats, all in a friendly, welcoming atmosphere. There's the popular and free outdoor movie, competitions, workshops for the kids and a dog show including

dog barking and agility competitions. Dog owners are encouraged to dress up their dogs to look like their masters... should be fun. The Senior Citizens Afternoon tea, a free event, includes delicious food and entertainment. Young and old delight in the children's scarecrow competition on display on Buckingham Green. The festival reaches back to Arrowtown's gold mining roots with the New Zealand Gold Panning Championships held each year.

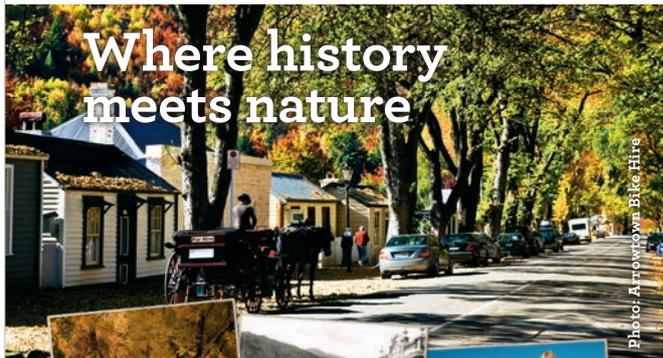
The Art Exhibition and Photography Competition are on display throughout the festival in the Lakes District Museum. The new La Nuit d'Extraordinaire adds a night of comedy and intrigue to the ever popular quiz night and country music concert. It's no wonder people come again and again to enjoy the old and the new.

A huge thank you to the 50 loyal volunteers who work hard to help bring this iconic event to the community.

For more details head to [www.arrowtownautumnfestival.co.nz](http://www.arrowtownautumnfestival.co.nz).



**ARROWTOWN**



**Where history meets nature**



**Our warm welcome awaits you this autumn in Arrowtown.**

Celebrate Arrowtown's Autumn Festival from 23-28 April - [www.arrowtownautumnfestival.co.nz](http://www.arrowtownautumnfestival.co.nz). Stroll historic avenues, bike the hill trails, visit the Lakes District Museum, find vibrant stores, pubs, cafes and restaurants.

Visit our website. [ARROWTOWN.COM](http://ARROWTOWN.COM)

# REGISTER YOUR DOGGO!

Dog registration time is just around the corner.

We'll be sending invoices out to all registered dog owners soon. If you have a dog and your details have changed, please let us know. This means you'll get your invoice on time and keep your doggo on the right side of the law. It also means our animal control team can get in touch directly if your pup is found wandering the streets – we always prefer to drop them home when we can rather than a costly visit to the pound.

For more details about the dog registration process head to [www.qldc.govt.nz/dog-registration](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/dog-registration)



## Dog Control Bylaw

This year we'll be reviewing our Dog Control Bylaw which sets the rules for dog ownership in our district. Keep an eye out for more details coming soon.

## QLDC CONTACT LIST AND HOURS

### QLDC & SERVICE CENTRES

**Queenstown Office:**  
10 Gorge Road  
Private Bag 50072, Queenstown  
Phone: 03 441 0499

**Wanaka Office:**  
47 Ardmore Street, Wanaka  
Phone: 03 443 0024

E-mail: [services@qldc.govt.nz](mailto:services@qldc.govt.nz)  
[www.qldc.govt.nz](http://www.qldc.govt.nz)

*Office Hours:*  
Weekdays 8.00am–5.00pm

### QUEENSTOWN EVENTS CENTRE

Arrowtown Athenaeum Hall  
Queenstown Memorial Hall  
Lake Hayes Pavilion  
Lake Wanaka Centre  
Alpine Aqualand  
Sports fields  
Phone: 03 450 9005

### WANAKA RECREATION CENTRE

Wanaka Pool  
Indoor Courts  
Phone: 03 443 9334

### TRANSFER STATIONS

**Wakatipu:** 110 Glenda Drive  
Frankton Industrial Area  
Phone: 03 451 0106  
**Upper Clutha:** Cnr of Ballantyne  
& Riverbank Roads  
Phone: 03 443 6063

### HARBOURMASTER

Phone: 027 434 5289  
and 027 414 2270  
Email:  
[harbourmasterqt@smsl.co.nz](mailto:harbourmasterqt@smsl.co.nz)

### LIBRARIES

For library opening hours  
and locations please head to  
[codc-qldc.govt.nz](http://codc-qldc.govt.nz)

EDITOR: REBECCA PITTS

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

✉ [rebecca.pitts@qldc.govt.nz](mailto:rebecca.pitts@qldc.govt.nz)  
Feedback and ideas are welcome.

TO ADVERTISE CONTACT:

Sarah Douglas  
✉ [sarah.douglas@qldc.govt.nz](mailto:sarah.douglas@qldc.govt.nz)