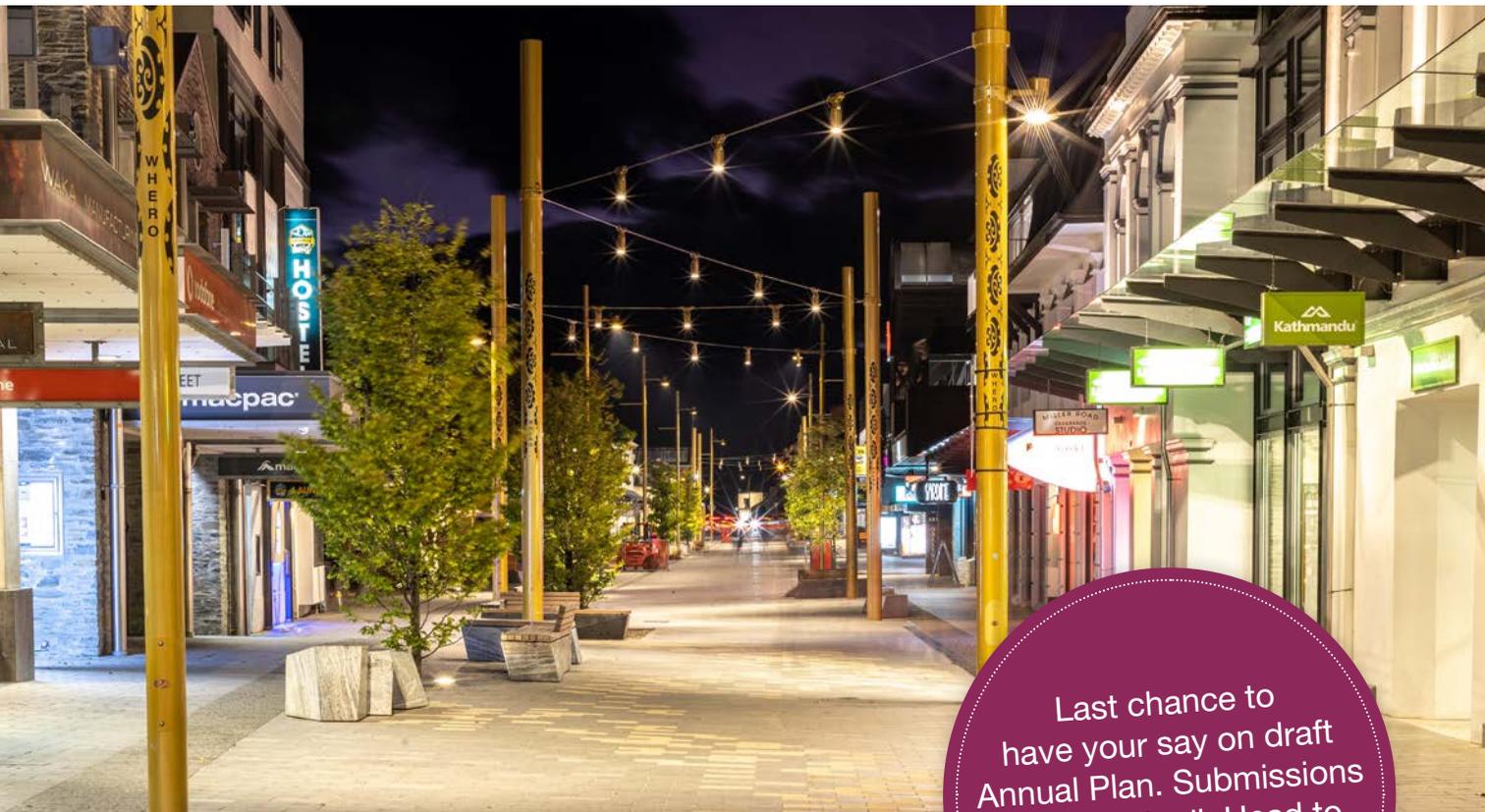


Scuttlebutt

THE QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWSLETER // APRIL / MAY 2023 // ISSUE 154



Learn more about the area's traditional values, stories and rich history by taking a stroll through the upgraded town centre streets of Tāhuna Queenstown. Read about the series of cultural design elements on page 2.

Last chance to have your say on draft Annual Plan. Submissions close 26 April. Head to letstalk.qldc.govt.nz

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LISMORE BIKE PARK UPGRADES UNDERWAY



Tell us if you want to save paper and read Scuttlebutt online. See page 3 for details.



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< Continued from cover >

Upgraded streets tell local stories

QLDC would like to acknowledge and thank its iwi partners for the time and care that has been given to bring a richness and sense of history and culture to Tāhuna Queenstown's upgraded streets.

Strolling through the upgraded town centre streets of Tāhuna Queenstown you can learn a lot more about the area's traditional values, stories and rich history, thanks to a series of integrated cultural design elements.

These really come to life through the paving and light poles.

'Whero' was used in the 1880's during the gold rush by Kāi Tahu referring to gold or more generally to indicate anything brightly coloured. The two words 'whero' and 'pounamu' were the basis for the motif designs on selected light poles. Produced by Kāi Tahu artists, the Kowhaiwhai design on the light poles represents travel in the form of waka. Traditionally mokihi waka were used to traverse lakes and rivers, transporting people, food and resources such as pounamu.



The pounamu narrative on Rees Street combines pounamu inlays with green granite paving and green light poles. This provides a contrast to the whero (gold) narrative along Beach Street which is accented with golden granite paving, gold light poles and bronze inlays.

At the crossroads of Rees and Beach Street, a paving feature of taniko pattern of overlapping pounamu and whero signifies the traditional Kāi Tahu trails and the intersection of both cultural heritages and two industries.

Stone stools and benches are located throughout, promoting the value of 'Oraka' meaning refuge, rest and recuperation. This design was inspired by the angles of rock formations and kōhatu (working stones).

New native trees that are endemic to Tāhuna Queenstown have been planted in Rees Street. These trees demonstrate the interwoven narratives of the Rees Street 'pounamu' theme, and exotic autumnal trees have been planted to reflect the Beach Street 'whero' / gold mining theme.

You can read more at qldc.govt.nz

We're putting the final finishing touches on Beach, Rees, Park and Lower Brecon Streets throughout April and May. Upper Brecon Street is expected to be complete later in the year.





There's a by-election on the way

As a result of the resignation of Councillor Neeta Shetty, a by-election will take place to fill a vacant seat in the Arrowtown-Kawarau ward on the Queenstown Lakes District Council.

Voting papers have been winging their way from mid-April to everyone enrolled in the ward ahead of election day on 5 May.

If you're eligible to vote but your name isn't on the electoral roll, you may be able to cast a special vote. Special votes are also available to those who received a voting paper that might have been damaged in some kind of hungry dog or food spill related incident! They'll be available between 14 April and 4 May at the Council office on Gorge Road (above the library).

More information about the by-election, including a list of candidates and how to vote, can be found at qldc.govt.nz/elections

Voting closes at midday on Friday 5 May.

Scuttlebutt online

Scuttlebutt is distributed to our local residents and out-of-town ratepayers six times a year. That's a lot of paper and postage. We're no longer mailing Scuttlebutt to overseas ratepayers. If this means you, and you still want to receive it, you need to switch to our email distribution list. Just email services@qldc.govt.nz with the word "newsletter" as the subject and be sure to include your name, overseas postal address and the address of your property in the district so we can cross you off the mailing list. We'll send you a website link to view/download all future Scuttlebutts instead. Anyone can do this even if you live in NZ. You'll be helping us reduce the number of copies we print and distribute. And remember, every issue of Scuttlebutt is also on our website qldc.govt.nz/scuttlebutt

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Artist's impression

Fit-out of Wānaka's latest community space underway

Another significant project for the Upper Clutha is a step closer with the fit-out underway at a new youth, community and sports facility in Wānaka.

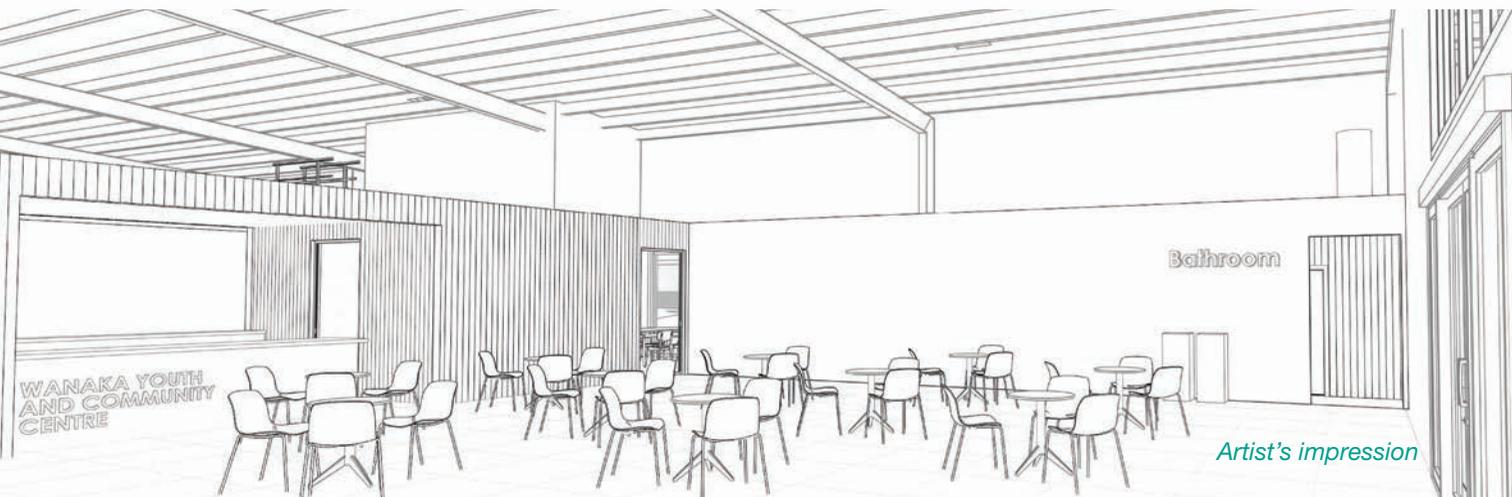
QLDC Sport and Recreation Manager Simon Battrick said the former Mitre 10 building on Plantation Road will be transformed with the creation of two multi-use indoor courts, a separate studio that could be used for dance, yoga and fitness classes, or as a meeting space, and dedicated areas for Kahu Youth and Aspiring Gymsports.

"Redesigning an existing commercial building for varied community uses has presented some challenges but we're really looking forward to creating an awesome additional space for recreation close to town, as well as a much-needed home for local clubs and groups," he said.

"We expect to complete the fit-out by the end of July but are working with our construction partner to allow Aspiring Gymsports earlier access to coincide with the end of the lease at its current premises."

QLDC began an initial ten-year lease with additional rights to renew on 1 May last year.

The new facility follows the opening of Luggate Memorial Centre | Whare Mahana in early December, and work starting in February on the Schools to Pool active transport route that will ultimately link Wānaka's primary schools and Mount Aspiring College with the Recreation Centre at Three Parks.



Artist's impression

Staying resilient in changing times

The Auckland floods and Cyclone Gabrielle earlier this year are sobering reminders about the value of community togetherness, preparedness and responsiveness in the face of emergencies.

Whilst we were spared the devastation suffered by our North Island cuzzies, we've seen one noticeable effect on our supermarket shelves. With affected areas like Hawkes Bay producing a huge chunk of our fruit and veggies, the question of local food security – already apparent after higher prices caused by global issues like the war in Ukraine – has become even more pressing.

Sustainability non-profit group Wao Aotearoa recently ran a survey to help identify our strengths and weaknesses as a district. The results will contribute to the creation of a Local Food Network which we hope to cover in a future edition of Scuttlebutt.

In the meantime, you might like to find out more or get involved with a number of community projects around our district. Here's a tasty selection:

Grow Wānaka – facebook.com/GrowWanaka
Hāwea Food Forest – facebook.com/groups/HaweFoodForest
KiwiHarvest Queenstown – kiwiharvest.org.nz
Queenstown Harvest Community Gardens – harvestgardens.nz

Did you know there are free food pantries around the Upper Clutha where you can donate surplus produce from your garden or homemade preserves?

Wānaka Community Hub
Wastebusters (Ballantyne Rd)
Wānaka Recreation Centre
Albert Town (Sherwin Ave)
Luggate (Hopkins St)
Lake Hāwea (Kanuka Corner Early Childhood Centre)

There are also fruit trees in some Council reserves often lovingly tended by volunteers. Have a look next time you're wandering through places like Albert Town lagoon and Wānaka Station Park.

Are you ready?

Sign up to Otago Gets Ready, a two-way communication tool which helps people better prepare for emergencies and be more resilient when they occur:

otago.getsready.net



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‘Postcards’ from recent events

We thought it would be fun to round-up some recent events around the district with a few photos to tell the story.



Twitchers in Te Kararo

Our annual Parks Week celebrations in March featured a series of free events in our local green spaces. QLDC Biodiversity Officer Helen Fairlamb hosted a session in Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens all about native birds. Those attending now know their kaka from their kea, and their tui from their tomtit!



Celebrating the global game

We joined forces with the Radio Central Central Otago Football League recently to host the district's first ever Multicultural Football Festival. Part of our Summerdaze series of events in conjunction with Welcoming Communities, teams representing Latin America, Europe and Vanuatu vied with homegrown talent in a wonderful celebration of the beautiful game. *Image credit – Tim Shultz.*



Welcoming hui

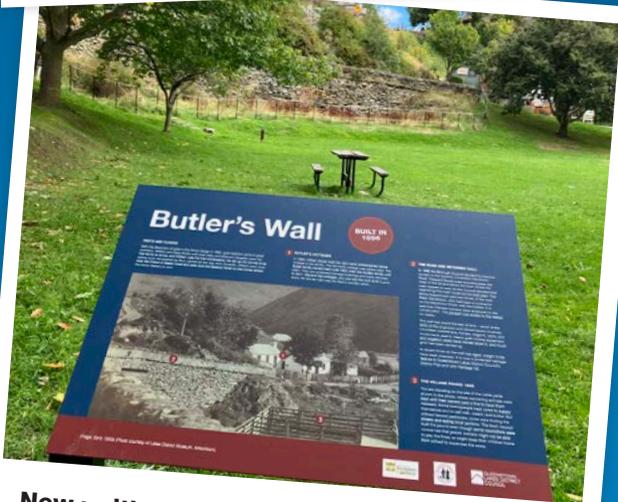
The local Welcoming Communities | Te Waharoa ki ngā Hapori programme achieved some significant milestones in 2022. Council staff and community leaders from Māori, Pasifika and migrant/ethnic groups recently gathered for a hui at Te Atamira in Frankton to acknowledge these and plan for the year ahead.



Slow fashion in the spotlight

Our good mates at Wastebusters spent March celebrating Slow Fashion Month, a time to think consciously about your clothing choices. Grant funding from QLDC helped them stage events like the ReFashion show in collaboration with Fabricate and Wānaka Community Workshop. Here's Pip O'Regan of Wānaka looking fabulous on the catwalk.

Image credit – Wastebusters.



New writing on the wall

A new information board in Arrowtown tells the story of William and Mary Butler, the first of many families drawn to the area after the discovery of gold in 1862. Storekeepers, hoteliers and house builders (nothing changes!), the family's name lives on in Butler's Green and the adjacent stone wall, now a protected heritage feature.

Lilliput Libraries launched!

A big thank you to everyone who helped bring the World Languages Lilliput Libraries project to life at the Frankton Library in March!

We had an amazing time at the launch event with cultural performances, traditional tea ceremony, salsa dancing, author talks, multilingual storytimes, and Chinese calligraphy.

The Lilliput Libraries are filling up with some great books in foreign languages. The team would love donations of books written in languages from Africa, the Middle East, Asia, South-East Asia and South America to share for free with the community.

Gracias, asante, salamat, xièxie, shukran!

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From the Chambers

'Tis the season for consultation, with Council approving four strands at its March meeting.

In addition to giving the go-ahead to open consultation on the draft Annual Plan 2023-2024, Councillors also green-lit consultation on the Class 4 Gambling and TAB Venue Policy Review, the Draft Alcohol Restriction in Public Places Bylaw and the Draft Activities in Public Places Bylaw.

Full details about all these proposals and how to have your say are at letstalk.qldc.govt.nz

FROM CONSULTATIONS TO SUBMISSIONS

On the other side of the coin, Council makes a large number of submissions itself. These are mainly comments to government select committees on draft legislation and policies so that decision-makers are aware of the issues and concerns relating to our district.

At its March meeting, Council approved four such submissions that covered a wide variety of issues:

- > Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Community Participation) Amendment Bill
- > Natural and Built Environmental Bill and Spatial Planning Bill (these are two of three pieces of legislation to replace the current Resource Management Act)
- > Water Services Legislation Bill and Water Services Economic Efficiency and Consumer Protection Bill
- > The Future for Local Government Draft Report.

HUB GETS THE NUDGE

A new community hub in Frankton is a step closer following a decision made at the March Council meeting. Council agreed to lease land adjacent to Queenstown Events Centre to the Whakatipu Community Hub Trust for it to build a hub for local social service agencies. The trust initially plans two double-storey buildings of 900m² plus accessways and carparking. Once these buildings start reaching capacity (expected in around five to ten years) a third and fourth building of the same size can be added. The hub will have a similar operating model as other successful facilities around Aotearoa New Zealand and will provide much needed affordable and secure space for the many social agencies that service the Whakatipu basin.

COMMUNITY BOARD SHORTS

- > The Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board (WUCCB) has agreed to implement new parking restrictions along the recently upgraded stretch of the lakefront in front of Pembroke Park. The new development created 144 new parking spaces in ten bays divided by turfed areas. Nine bays will have a four-hour limit whilst one will have a 30-minute limit to ensure sufficient parking for different users of the reserve.
- > In addition, the board agreed to name the newly created shared pathway along this part of the lakefront Te Ara Maumahara, meaning memory lane or path.
- > A request by Wānaka Golf Club to remove 65 trees of mixed wilding and exotic species and replace them two-for-one in line with the QLDC Tree Policy was also approved. The club made the request so it can develop two new reservoirs to store water for irrigation.

New funds help visitors share the love

The first action from the Queenstown Lakes regenerative tourism strategy Travel to a Thriving Future, unanimously endorsed by Councillors in February, has been launched.

Love Queenstown and Love Wānaka, in collaboration with the Wakatipu Community Foundation, will each raise funds for localised climate, conservation and biodiversity action by encouraging visitors and those involved in our visitor and events industries to make financial or in-kind donations. A portion will then be distributed annually to support organisations, volunteers and innovators across the community.

The goal is for invested income to grow over time enabling substantial funding opportunities to protect this place, now and for generations to come.

Interested? There are heaps of resources available to help businesses and individuals get involved and spread the word.

To find out more head to:

loveQT.co.nz

lovewanaka.co.nz

Love Queenstown and Love Wānaka make it easy for visitors and those involved in the visitor economy to give back to the community through the activities and experiences they enjoy during their stay.



Wildfire risk remains a hot topic

Things have really cooled off recently but the memory of a hot dry summer is still front of mind for many, including our friends at Fire and Emergency New Zealand.

The risk and impact of wildfire is increasing in Aotearoa New Zealand. Locally, there are several areas under a total fire ban due to dense fire-prone vegetation (Queenstown Red Zone, Coronet Forest, Mount Iron and Lake Hāwea).

This summer there have been a number of near misses, from a large grass fire at Skippers to a smaller but potentially catastrophic fire caused by construction activity in a residential area.

The common thread is us! 99% of wildfires in Aotearoa New Zealand are caused by people and there are simple steps we can all take to reduce the risk. The 'check it's alright' website has lots of info and resources for all types of properties and activities: checkitsalright.nz/reduce-your-risk

We're also doing a lot of work to understand and manage the risk of wildfire on Council-owned reserves and you'll start to see more information coming out soon on proposed actions.



Urban Design and Landscape Architecture

www.reseturban.co.nz

Community dog walks set tails wagging

Towards the end of March we hosted plenty of pooches and their humans at the Queenstown and Wānaka Dog Walks.

Both days proved an excellent opportunity to celebrate dog ownership in our district and mingle with those who hold the lead.

All dogs received their very own goodie bag and a whole lot of attention, with stall holders and dog experts sharing their wares and advice. Some lucky canines even left with paws-itively awesome prizes for best-dressed dog, most pimped-out lead and dog tag bingo.

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO CAME ALONG and all the amazing organisations and businesses that supported the events with donations, especially:

The Hound Hub | Scoop Dog | Remarkable Dogs NZ | Nichol's Pet Centre | FunDiggityDog | Mates For Life | Dogs Zone | Happypet | Feed My Furbaby | Taste of the Wild | Kōrure Pets | Odorable | Best for Pets | Pet Central | NZ Dog Photography | Animals Like Us | 4legged Kitchen | Mr Whippy

The Queenstown Dog Walk



Registration fast a-pooch-ing

We're quickly bounding towards the time to register your dog for 2023-2024. This year we're updating our systems to reduce waste and improve the service all our canine companions receive.

Council is making the move to electronic invoices following the permanent tags we introduced last year. To make sure you receive an accurate invoice please update your dog's details, your contact information and your preferred email address if anything has changed recently. You can do this by calling 03 441 0499 (Queenstown) / 03 443 0024 (Wānaka) or emailing services@qldc.govt.nz.

All dogs need to be registered by three months of age. Not only does this help Council staff identify them and bring them home safe if they take themselves for a walk, but it also means your pooch can enter fun local events like the recent dog walks and take part in free dog training sessions held throughout the district.

Rule #1: Pick up #2!

New dog poop bags and dispensers are coming to a reserve near you. The green bio bags can be composted at home using a separate compost system, or disposed of with general household rubbish.

Pet poop compost should not be used on vegetables or plants that are eaten by humans. We've got instructions on how to make your own pet poop compost system at qldc.govt.nz/poop-bag-dispensers

Dog poop bags and dispensers will be installed at:

WĀNAKA:

- > Roys Bay Recreation Reserve
- > Lakeview Terrace Esplanade Reserve
- > Clutha Outlet Reserve
- > Mount Iron

QUEENSTOWN:

- > Frankton Beach
- > Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens
- > Kingston
- > Sunshine Bay
- > Arrowtown Track (carpark)
- > Lake Hayes (Widgeon Place)



Handy guide to plan changes

To ensure the District Plan is up-to-date and consistent with other Council policies, plans and requirements, QLDC may initiate a plan change. The plan change process is set by the Resource Management Act and is used to amend the provisions and planning maps in the District Plan. We publicly notify all plan changes and it's important the community gets involved. Making a submission is one of the main ways you can influence the future of our district. Plan changes may affect what you and your neighbours can do on your properties or how you can run your business. We recommend keeping an eye on proposed changes in case they affect you.

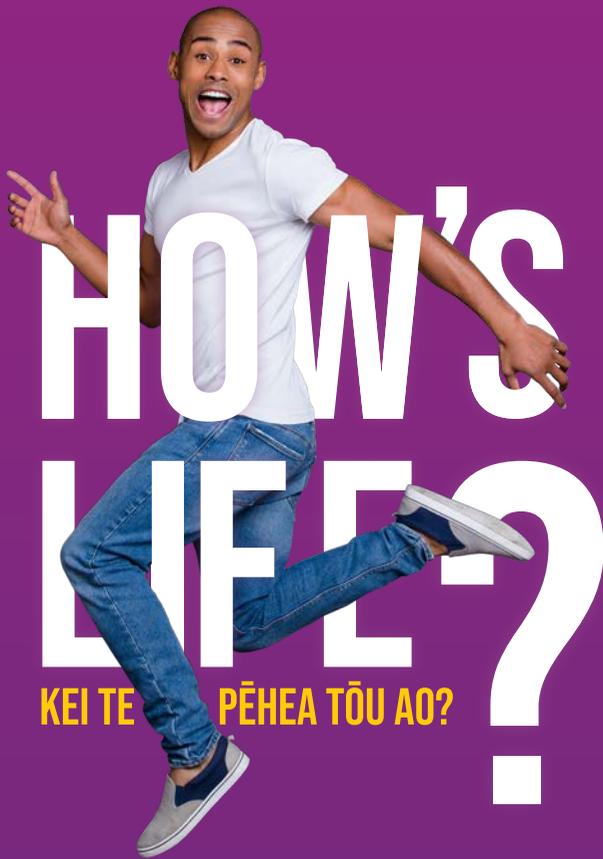
We've produced a handy guide that includes really useful info about the process and how to get involved. Check it out at qldc.govt.nz/district-plan

An advertisement for Home & Co. Property Management. The background is a scenic view of a lake and mountains. The text is centered and reads: "17+ YEARS EXPERIENCE IN PROPERTY MANAGEMENT IN WANAKA". Below this, it says "CALL US (03) 443 2273". At the bottom, the logo "HOME & CO." is displayed in large, bold letters, with "QUALITY PROPERTY MANAGEMENT - GUARANTEED" underneath it.

**17+ YEARS
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IN WANAKA**

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Last October nearly 1,500 residents provided valuable insights in our fifth annual Quality of Life survey on issues like housing, employment, health, the environment, transport and their satisfaction with Council services. Alongside this, an abbreviated non-residents survey drew 600 responses. The results have now been published in the 2022 Quality of Life Survey report.

QLDC and other organisations like Otago Regional Council (ORC), Destination Queenstown, Lake Wānaka Tourism and Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand are appreciative of those people who gave their time to provide a rich set of current insights into the wellbeing of people in our district.

LEARN MORE

Read the full report on our 2022 Quality of Life survey: www.qldc.govt.nz/community/community-research

HAVE YOU SEEN OUR WELLBEING

DASHBOARD? Bringing together local insights from a range of data sources, the dashboard can be used by anyone looking to inform decision-making that supports improved community wellbeing in our district. Check it out at qldc.govt.nz/wellbeing-dashboard

So, what did you tell us?

The headline statistic is that 77% of our residents rate their quality of life as good or better.

This is up marginally from 76% the previous year, but this figure alone does not paint a full picture of what life is like here.

Dig a little deeper and we also see our district's most pressing challenges reflected.

In recognition of the district's housing challenges, the latest survey took a special focus on this topic.

Residents with high life satisfaction were more likely to own their own home, have lived in the district long term and intend to stay here, and can afford to adequately heat their own.

Residents who rated life satisfaction lower were more likely to be newer residents with intention of only remaining in the district short term, be renters, and are worried about losing their secure accommodation.

A closer look:

5% of residents indicated they had accessed emergency accommodation or experienced insecure accommodation.

Of these, 54% said they had stayed in that accommodation for two months or more.

16% said they have a place to live today but are worried about losing it in the future.

20% indicated they needed to move in the last 12 months.

62% said they would be willing to live in either an apartment, townhouse or detached smaller house. Those that said they wouldn't live in these housing types already own their own home.

TAKE PART IN THE NEXT SURVEY!
The 2023 survey will open in October.

Nearly half of non-residents leave their properties vacant

- 49% of respondents in the non-resident survey indicated they do not rent out their property.
- 20% rent their property full-time to long-term tenants and 11% rent full-time to short-term tenants.

Financial security is a concern for 28% of respondents.

- In a new question for 2022, residents were asked how much they agree with the statement 'I feel secure about my financial future'.

Those indicating they disagree were more likely to:

- identify as female;
- be aged 25-39;
- be on an essential skills visa; and
- rent their home.

Our neighbourhoods and Council services and facilities received top marks.

- 91% of respondents agree or strongly agree that their neighbourhood is safe.
- Council-run community facilities and services such as our trails and cycleways, parks and reserves, and libraries attracted user satisfaction scores of 88%, 88% and 84% respectively.
- However, satisfaction with Council's overall performance and elected members decreased to 20% and 19% respectively.
- High levels of satisfaction with core Council services, but low levels of overall satisfaction warrant further exploration.

Insights from the survey gives direction and weight to action.

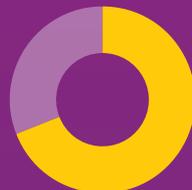
- The purpose of the survey is to provide a rich body of evidence that can be used to support improvements to community wellbeing made by QLDC and other local organisations. This also helps Council advocate on behalf of the community in partnership with other organisations including central government. For example, the latest results are being used to inform the Joint Housing Action Plan which will be out for consultation soon, and have also been provided to ORC to help its work on public transport.

QUICK-FIRE STATS:



19% of the district have lived here less than two years, and a further 19% between two and four years.

69% rated their physical health as good or very good, while 65% rated their mental health as good or very good.



79% exercised at least three times per week.

14% have a long-term health condition.



78% have at least some disposable income.

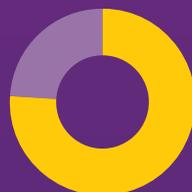
69% find their work fulfilling.



Only 12% agreed that public transport was meeting their needs.



76% are concerned with the effects of climate change.



PICKLEBALLERS FLOORED

New court markings at QEC

The floor of Queenstown Events Centre's (QEC) indoor stadium has been sanded, re-marked and re-stained much to the joy of local Pickleball players.

Pickleball – a fun all-ages mix of tennis, badminton and table tennis – is one of the fastest-growing sports around with rising numbers of regular players at QEC and Wānaka Recreation Centre (WRC).

So it was a no-brainer to include its specific court markings when renewing those for all the traditional sports our customers love like volleyball, basketball and badminton.

Anyone can hire indoor courts and equipment for private games, staff sports days and team building. Just drop by or give us a call:

QEC – 03 450 9005 / qec@qldc.govt.nz

WRC – 03 443 9334 / wrc@qldc.govt.nz

Did you know that a pickleball court is the same size as a badminton court but has a 'kitchen'?

What's your stake in Queenstown Lakes?

Give us your early ideas for our next Ten Year Plan

Next year we'll be drafting the QLDC Ten Year Plan 2024-2034. Prepared every three years these plans guide how we deliver and develop local services and facilities in line with the changing needs of a fast-growing resident population and visitor numbers.

We're aspirational and optimistic about all we can do but need to balance this with the practicalities of how we provide and fund projects, and take into account the big picture of compliance and legislative requirements.

This includes thinking about how we address transport, housing, climate change, resilience and the impacts of growth all the while considering affordability for our community.

It's important you have your say about what you'd like to see included in the next TYP. Your feedback will help inform how we propose to invest in the services and facilities that our community values most.

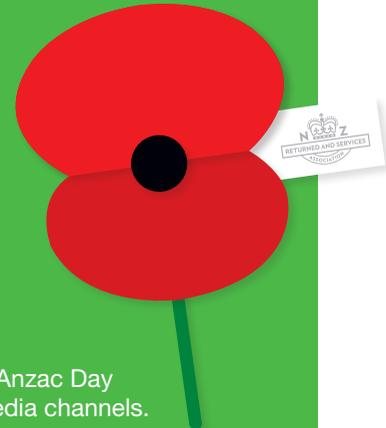
We're at the beginning so it's a great time to share your aspirations and ideas at this early stage. To make it easy, we've highlighted three broad questions to get you started.

Head to letstalk.qldc.govt.nz

Lest we forget

Council offices including our libraries will be closed to commemorate Anzac Day on Tuesday 25 April. Facilities at Queenstown Events Centre and Wānaka Recreation Centre will be open from 1.00-8.00pm.

We'll share a list of local Anzac Day services on our social media channels.



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INTERNATIONAL COMPOST AWARENESS WEEK

7-13 MAY 2023

International Compost Awareness Week is happening during May and we're celebrating this magic gardening ingredient. It's a chance to be inspired and learn how to make your own compost bin and transform your food scraps into organic goodness!

Compost feeds plants and boosts the microbial activity in soil, all the while helping soil hold moisture and resist drought. It's great for the environment too as it allows organic materials like food scraps to break down naturally in oxygen. This means it does not release harmful greenhouse gases like it would do if it were buried in landfill.

So, what composting system will suit you best?

**BEN ELMS
AKA DR COMPOST**



WE ASKED DR COMPOST

BOKASHI is great for all kinds of households including holiday homes, because the system is small enough to fit under the sink and is even subsidised by QLDC! Bokashi can cope with all your cooked and raw food scraps by fermenting them in a Bokashi zing that looks like sawdust. When it's full you'll need a garden to dig it into or why not share it with your neighbour, a community garden, or check on the Sharewaste App to find a composter who is keen to take your scraps.

HOT AND COLD COMPOSTING are traditional methods of adding equal amounts of nitrogen-rich (your food scraps) to carbon-rich (shredded cardboard, straw, leaves) material and a splash of water so it doesn't dry out.

For hot composting, you'll need to stockpile enough material to make a heap a metre high and a metre wide. Like lasagna, alternate equal amounts of nitrogen (e.g. food scraps, plants) and carbon (e.g. cardboard, straw, dry leaves), watering each layer as you go. This system is great for bigger gardens.

Just like hot composting, cold composting requires equal amounts of carbon-rich and nitrogen-rich material and a good sprinkle of water. The difference is the heap is built up over time when materials become available and takes longer to mature. This one works well if you're not in a hurry.

WORMS need a little love to keep them happy. But this pays off – once you've got a good population of those squirmy little creatures you'll reap the benefits of the most amazing vermicast and worm tea which will supply valuable nutrients for your garden! Queenstown Lakes residents can purchase QLDC-subsidised worms from Central Wormworx (03 445 0263) to help reduce food waste.

To dig deeper into these compost methods, check out Dr Compost's Garden Guides at wastebusters.co.nz/compost. We're proud to fund the Dr Compost home composting project which is delivered by Wastebusters to reduce organic waste in landfill. Get free advice from Dr Compost at events, workshops, via email (drcompost@wastebusters.co.nz) or on social media.

SHAREWASTE

If you want to compost but can't have a compost heap, you're in luck - there's an app to help with that. Sharewaste connects people who want to recycle their kitchen scraps with their neighbours who compost, have a worm farm or keep chickens. By bringing together hosts (who receive organic waste) with donors the app helps to keep kitchen scraps out of landfill. It's free to join as a host or donor by signing up sharewaste.org.nz or downloading the app from the usual places.

ZERO ORGANIC WASTE REACHING LANDFILL

Wānaka Primary School is a place where environmental consciousness is front and centre, with over 600 students, teachers, parents and community members working together to set up a school composting system.

They applied for funding through QLDC's Waste Minimisation Community Fund with the goal of diverting food waste from lunchboxes, the staffroom, as well as paper/card waste to use in their composting systems, so they could improve their soil to grow food for the school and wider community.

The school has set up collection buckets around the school, created leadership roles for students, and rostered shifts to upkeep the composting systems. Students and volunteers manage the systems, including recording temperatures and moisture content.

So far the new system has prevented 10kg of food waste a week from ending up in landfill. The school is now planning to educate the wider community and tamariki on food supply chains and finding new composting processes such as worm farms.



Ski touring on Roys Peak, Wānaka; credit - Gavin Lang.

Clip in for NZ's premier mountain festival!



A favourite event on the winter schedule for more than two decades, the NZ Mountain Film & Book Festival is back in Wānaka from 23-27 June and Queenstown from 29-30. If you can't make the live shows, you can catch the films online from 23 June to 23 July.

The films, books, guest speakers, art shows, and adventure film and writing schools promise to inspire and entertain with epic tales of travel and exploration from every corner of the globe.

Every festival attracts entries from world-class filmmakers as well as some exciting homegrown Kiwi talent. The finalists and winning entries make up the festival programme, ensuring action-packed and awe-inspiring viewing for festival audiences.

Meanwhile, the mountain book competition provides writers with a great opportunity to showcase their work. Some of the finalists and winners will be at the festival to share readings. The popular Old Fashioned Storytelling

session is also back on the schedule for 2023, where audiences can settle in for some hair-raising yarns told totally off-the-cuff.

Since 2012 the festival has operated as a charitable trust and raises money for key causes including training youth in outdoor adventure skills, helping people with disabilities to buy sporting equipment, and participating in environmental projects.

Organisers Mark and Jo Sedon are committed to minimising environmental

impact and are grateful for everyone's help. Last year, only one-and-a-half bags of rubbish were produced over nine days!

QLDC has supported the festival since its inception, helping to inspire our local community, shine a light on local talent and putting many thousands of adventurous eyes from around the world on our amazing district.



MINDFUL MAY

The team at Alpine Health and Fitness (Queenstown Events Centre) know that a healthy mind and healthy body are connected. So they've issued a 'Mindful May' challenge for members and the wider community to take on. Based on the five steps to wellbeing, here's what you're aiming for:

CONNECT

Call someone (not message or text!) you haven't talked to in a while once a week.

LEARN

Read ten pages of a book each day.

MOVE

Try to really move for 2.5 hours each week (that's less than 30 minutes a day!); it could be walking, dancing, going to the gym or gardening.

GIVE

Give someone a compliment every day (you're looking great today by the way).

TAKE NOTICE

Have one hour of screen-free time each day; put that phone away and connect with what's around you!

The team would love to hear how you get on – what you've completed and the difference it's making. Message them on Facebook @QLDCSportRec or email qecgym@qldc.govt.nz (after you've had your screen-free hour of course!)

Improve your finances

Frankton Library hosts ASB Community Banker, Shyla Hona, in this series of financial literacy and wellbeing workshops that will help whānau into the mindset of forming a healthy relationship with money. Create better financial habits through setting goals and actions. You do not have to bank with ASB to attend these workshops as they are purely educational.

THURSDAY, 27 APRIL - Getting Savvy with Savings

THURSDAY, 25 MAY - Borrow Smart & Pay Off Debt

THURSDAY, 23 JUNE - First Home Buyers

For more information, please visit codc-qldc.govt.nz/whats-on/financial-literacy-workshops-frankton

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Nau Mai Haere Mai, Aaliyah!

Introducing our new Rangatahi Māori representative

Aaliyah Fowler has started her year as our local representative on the national Tuia Programme. Designed to develop the leadership capability of young Māori throughout Aotearoa New Zealand, the programme involves local mayors selecting rangatahi (meaning youth or young person) from their district to mentor on a one-to-one basis. We grabbed a coffee with Aaliyah to find out a bit more.

TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF.

I grew up in Alexandra and left home last year to study for a Certificate in Health and Wellbeing (Level 4) in Dunedin. I'm reasonably new to Tāhuna as I moved here in January for my mahi at Uruuruwhenua Hauora. I've always had a passion for Māori health and wellbeing and wanted to combine this with my own experience of Māori culture and language to

help me make a difference in people's lives and support and guide our whānau. When I'm not at mahi I love to play rugby. I've been playing for around eight years now and have recently joined the Whakatipu women's team.

WHAT MADE YOU APPLY FOR TUIA?

I know a couple people who have been on Tuia in previous years and have

seen how much personal growth and confidence they've come out of it with. Seeing all the new connections they've made with people was a massive influence for me to go for it. My boss also gave me a little push!

WHAT HAVE THE FIRST FEW WEEKS INVOLVED?

We had our first wānanga in early March which has already left my kete



This year's Tuia Rangatahi at their first wānanga.

feeling full and I've met some awesome people. I've enjoyed my mentoring sessions with the Mayor who has been very easy to get along with and has listened to my ideas around pātaka kai (free open street pantries) and Kōanga Kai (a space for people to come together to learn about food and how to grow it) for our kaumātua to teach us rangatahi. He's also involved me in upcoming community events like citizenship ceremonies and sitting in on Council hui.

WHICH OTHER PARTS ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO THE MOST?

Definitely wānanga! Before going on the first one I was feeling extremely nervous and to be honest thought about not going but I'm so glad I did. Forming new connections and learning more about kaupapa Māori has already been so rewarding, and we already feel like one big whānau even after the first wānanga. I'm also looking forward to seeing a bit more of what goes on behind the scenes at Council and implementing some of my ideas around incorporating some more Te Ao Māori into our community.

WHAT SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE DO YOU HOPE TO GAIN?

One of the main reasons I applied for this kaupapa was because it's out of my comfort zone. If I was told about Tuia two or three years ago I wouldn't have even thought about applying, but I've learned that doing things out of my comfort zone is a good thing. I'm hoping to gain more confidence from Tuia not only in myself but also in my Māori culture, and also new leadership skills.

WHAT ARE SOME GOALS YOU HAVE FOR THE FUTURE?

Tuia is just the start for me and my journey in Te Ao Māori. Immersing myself and expanding on my knowledge in Te Ao is a massive goal of mine. I want to be able to share and help other people grow and become confident in themselves and their culture. Most importantly I want to be able to share my knowledge with my whānau who weren't able to or are wanting to learn more about our culture. I hope that by the time I'm 30 I'll be fluent in te reo Māori. And I think Tuia is a great place for me to start my journey.



The power to minimise waste

Do you have a great idea for a project that will help move our community towards zero waste?

Applications for this year's QLDC Waste Minimisation Community Fund are open now!

We're keen to support initiatives that reduce the generation of waste in our district and divert materials from landfill.

A total of \$50,000 is available to split between community projects that encourage lasting change in behaviour, plus up to \$10,000 for commercial waste minimisation or resource recovery projects.

Full details including funding guidelines and criteria plus profiles of previous recipients can be found at: qldc.govt.nz/wmcf

Applications close 19 May.

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Get pumped for bike park upgrades

The new Lismore Bike Park takes shape

Exciting developments are underway at Lismore Bike Park as local club Bike Wānaka get stuck into the first phase of a full rebuild.

Enabled through club fundraising, volunteer efforts, community backing and the generous support of various trusts

and local businesses in addition to council, this project will deliver a world-class biking facility just a short huck from the centre of town.

Old jumps are being rebuilt with a focus on safety and progression. Features will include bermed turns,

rollers and progressive jumps, along with a pump track and mini-pump track for wee ones. Also included is a freestyle area with a mulch jump and airbag creating a safe place to learn tricks. The rich history of BMX riding will be retained with progressive lines for these riders too.

The rebuild, led by Flux Trailbuilders, will really have taken shape by the time this issue of Scuttlebutt comes out and will be completed later in autumn.



Book club for blokes' brains

A few years ago, four mates got together to better understand the issues around blokes being able to communicate openly and honestly.

For Trev, Charles, Lee and Jase it was about coming up with ideas to create 'better men' in a different way to a conventional counselling service. The result was the Queenstown Men's Book Club (QMBC).

It's a safe, non-judgemental space where men can express their feelings openly and honestly about issues that affect all of us on a daily basis. Local venue Sherwood, which has provided the club with a free meeting space from its inception, matches the vibe perfectly.

QMBC has now been connecting with men in the local community every month for well over two years. With the help of a three-year QLDC Community Grant the club has developed a website, produced some branded merchandise to help raise funds and built a resource library for members to use and share.

Discussion topics change each month and the club has hosted a variety of guest speakers on issues including emergency action, individual mental health, physical health and wellbeing, community connectivity, and even relationship-based fraud and deception.

Members recently enjoyed a free GoodYarn workshop on mental health and wellbeing (as pictured above) delivered by Queenstown-based charitable trust Headlight.

Interested? QMBC usually meets at Sherwood on the first Thursday of every month. You can find out more at queenstownbookclub.co.nz

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Let's talk

Register and find full details of these projects and more at letstalk.qldc.govt.nz



An update on key consultation topics happening in 2023.

We're in the full swing of another busy year with plenty of topics and projects we'd love your input on. Get the latest status update on key consultation topics here. And remember, the best way to stay informed on what's coming up for consultation is to register on Let's Talk – it's easy, head to letstalk.qldc.govt.nz

CURRENT CONSULTATIONS:

DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2023-2024

The budget for the year, how key projects will be prioritised in the current financial setting and what it means for the rates and charges you pay.

Status:
Submissions open until 26 April 2023.

LONG TERM PLAN 2024-2034

An early opportunity to share your thoughts on how we should prioritise resources ahead of our next Long Term Plan.

Status:
Submissions open.

DRAFT ALCOHOL RESTRICTIONS IN PUBLIC PLACES BYLAW 2018

An updated bylaw aimed at maintaining a family-friendly environment in our busy town centre areas.

Status:
Submissions open until 5 May 2023.

DRAFT ACTIVITIES IN PUBLIC PLACES BYLAW 2023

An updated bylaw aimed at protecting the public from nuisance.

Status:
Submissions open until 5 May 2023.

PROPOSED GAMBLING AND TAB VENUE POLICY 2023

Minor amendments to a policy aimed at minimising the effects of gambling on the district.

Status:
Submissions open until 5 May 2023.

UPDATES ON RECENT CONSULTATIONS:

PARK ST TO CBD SHARED PATHWAY

A preferred option to deliver a key active travel commuter link between the Frankton Track and the Queenstown Town Centre.

Status:
Feedback closed, submissions being reviewed.

WHAT'S COMING UP:

TE PUTAHI LADIES MILE DISTRICT PLAN VARIATION
April/May 2023

NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT – URBAN DEVELOPMENT
June/July 2023

JOINT HOUSING ACTION PLAN
May 2023

QUEENSTOWN AIRPORT MASTERPLAN
May/June 2023

PUBLIC TRANSPORT BUSINESS CASE (VIA WAY TO GO GROUP)
Second half of 2023

DISTRICT-WIDE SPEED REVIEW

AND MUCH MORE

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Office Hours:

Weekdays 8.00am – 5.00pm

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Luggate Memorial Centre
Alpine Aqualand
Alpine Health & Fitness
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WĀNAKA RECREATION CENTRE

Wānaka Pool
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TRANSFER STATIONS

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Frankton Industrial Area
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Upper Clutha: Cnr of Ballantyne & Riverbank Roads
Phone: 03 348 6125

HARBOURMASTER

Report non-compliance of waterway rules by phone **03 441 0499** or email services@qldc.govt.nz

In an emergency on the water always **call 111**

LIBRARIES

For library opening hours and locations please head to codc-qldc.govt.nz

EDITORIAL & ADVERTISING CONTACT

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.