

More to your local library than you might realise...



Open 24/7

Even if the doors to your local library in Central Otago are closed, you can still have round the clock access to an ever growing range of your favourite titles through our online digital media services, the South Island Downloadable Zone for e-Books and e-Audio and the Bolinda Borrow Box for e-Audio. Find out more by jumping on to the libraries website or have a chat to one of your friendly librarians to find out more.

eAudio

More than 570 downloadable audio books are available to Central Otago library customers as part of a collaboration between public libraries in Otago and Southland.

The collaboration involves eAudio books available through Bolinda Audio, using the free Borrow Box app that can be installed on smart phones, tablets and computers.

The eAudio books are free to borrow by anyone who belongs to a public library in Otago and Southland. If you are not yet a member, contact your local public library and sign up today.

Whether you are driving a car, truck or tractor, or whether you are jogging, cooking or just relaxing, listening to an eAudio book by a bestselling author, read by a professional narrator is now only a few clicks away.

New Look Catalogue

Please try out our new online catalogue and let us know what you think.

You can still search, login to manage your account, renew items and place holds.

New functions allow you to view any fines or charges you might have and you can now also view a history of what you have previously checked out.

Note: your default login and pin is your library card number found under the bar code.

Self-Checkouts

Have you tried the new self-checkouts at Alexandra and Cromwell libraries to issue your own books?

The units, introduced earlier this year, are another way of responding to customer need, and incorporating new technology to keep our district libraries relevant.

Self-check will also be available at Roxburgh Library by the end of July.

Facebook

You'll find 'Central Otago District Libraries' on Facebook. Like the page to receive updates on events, new books and other library news.



<http://libraries.codc-qldc.govt.nz/>



From the Mayor's Desk

The environmental consequences of our occupation and use of the land in Central Otago is currently a very topical issue. There is nothing like a "dairy cow" to galvanise opinion and get people out on a cold winter's night.

Many of us realised a long time ago that things needed to change. I have watched the progress on water use and the change in the attitude of the people who use water closely for many years. It was acceptable only a few years ago for rivers like the Fraser to run dry all summer long with all the water being taken for irrigation. New rules have been progressively introduced by the Otago Regional Council (ORC) and these practices have almost disappeared. Environmental flows are now normal practice.

The ORC has now turned its attention to water quality and with the recent passing of Plan Change 6A the quality of our rivers and streams should be maintained and improved. Farming practices will change as new standards must be met. Like water usage rules the transition phases for water

quality improvements are practical and achievable. That's what happens when all parties are involved in the process of creating plans – differences are ironed out through mediation and while everyone may not be entirely happy sensible change happens.

The Central Otago District Council has played an important part in both these plan changes. We have submitted, we have negotiated and we have represented the interests of landowners and the ratepayers of Central Otago. Like all affected parties we have not sat back and watched. We have been actively involved in seeking solutions to problems that affect all of us.

What I find interesting is that I have to spend time explaining the environmental advances that ORC is hoping to achieve. It is obvious from some of the discussions that I see and hear that people have no real understanding of the difference between the two forms of local government. There is little understanding or interest in some of the different plans each council brings out. For instance ORC is currently working on a Regional Policy Statement. By law our plans must have regard for what's in the Regional Policy Statement.

If I wanted to influence change I would be taking a far greater interest in the work being carried out by both councils. I would be taking an interest in the work being put in and the results being achieved by all elected members. To achieve this everyone needs to dig a bit deeper into what is going on. With all the new ways of reporting and involving yourself in meaningful discussion there is no excuse for not being informed and taking part early in the decision-making process. I look forward to catching up with you all, possibly via the web or any one of the social media spaces.

Tony Lepper
Central Otago Mayor

Views on voting sought

All local authorities currently have the opportunity to review the electoral system ahead of the next local body elections in 2016. Any decision to use a different electoral system for the next election must be made by mid-September this year.

Your Councillors are keen to hear from you. Does our voting system need to change? Our current system is First Past the Post (FPP) and the other option is the Single Transferable Vote (STV) system. There is an option to hold an official poll of all electors and Council would like some early feedback as to whether there is sufficient interest in changing the way we vote.

To find out more about these two voting systems go to www.codc.govt.nz/elections and look out on our website, Facebook page and in local papers for information on how you can let us know what you think.



Sport NZ Travel Fund

CODC has \$9,500 funding to distribute to local junior sporting clubs and organisations to assist with travel costs for regular local sporting competition.

The Travel Fund aims to encourage participation in sport by young people living in rural communities.

Applications are now invited and close on Friday 24 October. Request an application form from your nearest Council service centre.

Visit Sport New Zealand's website www.sportnz.org.nz for more information or contact Judith Whyte on (03) 440 0618 or judith.whyte@codc.govt.nz.

Dog Registration Reminder

Dog owners in Central Otago are reminded that they need to register their dog by 31 July to avoid receiving a 50% penalty. Registration fees can be paid at all VetEnt Clinics.



About 120 people attended a public meeting held in Alexandra last month to gather community views on land intensification.

Central Otago needs your help



What did you do in the war Daddy? That simple question has undoubtedly sparked a raft of memoirs and novels which have raised our consciousness of what war actually means. Likewise, similar questions from children to their grandfathers have resulted in stories which are now part of family legacies handed down to following generations.

The Central Otago Heritage Trust considers that such memories add colour and texture to the rich tapestry of Central Otago's history but Chairman Graye Shattky says "regrettably, there is no organised effort to collect stories, impressions and experiences of the past while they are still remembered by Central's older residents".

The Heritage Trust, with financial assistance from the Central Lakes Trust, has already established the Memory Bank – www.memorybank.co.nz – an online digital

repository where photographs, letters and documents may be deposited by the owner and shared with all those interested in Central Otago's history. Now, the Heritage Trust intends to facilitate the formation of an oral history group in Central Otago which might add to that repository.

"The first step will be to call a meeting where interested citizens can listen to experienced practitioners explain what oral history is all about," says Mr Shattky.

"I understand it is no longer just a matter of anyone taking up a recorder and beginning a conversation. A variety of skills and some training is necessary and therefore may require a team approach which, like a military operation, requires planning, research, technical input and, after an interview has been concluded, transcription for storage and archival purposes."

The Central Otago Heritage Trust AGM

The Central Otago Heritage Trust is an overarching body responsible for coordinating Heritage outcomes in Central Otago.

The Trust will formally report on progress to its members and the public at an AGM to be held on Friday 15 August at the Alexandra Community House on Centennial Avenue at 2pm.

For further information

For further details on the above initiatives contact Graye on exemplar@scorch.co.nz or phone (03) 447 3744.



Export Forum

Monday 4 August, 4-6.30pm
Community House, Alexandra
The focus will be on China.

Vincent Community Board By-Election

Delivery of voting papers 11-16 August
Election Day Tuesday 2 September

The Nappy Lady workshops

The next round of workshops with Kate Meads aka 'The Nappy Lady' will be held in early October.

1 October	Cromwell Alexandra	12noon 7pm
2 October	Alexandra (related professionals in the Early Childhood sector) Roxburgh	1pm 9am
3 October	Ranfurly	10am

Venues still to be confirmed. Please register your interest at zerowaste@codc.govt.nz

Find out more:

To find out more details about these and other events, and keep up to date with Council news and events check out:



Our website – www.codc.govt.nz – the home page news and spotlights are regularly changing highlighting what's topical.



Council's Facebook page
www.facebook.com/centralotagodistrictcouncil



Our weekly CODC Noticeboard published in the *Central Otago News*.

HAVE
YOUR SAY

Central Otago District Council's Draft Local Approved Products Policy (LAPP) is out for consultation. The Draft LAPP regulates the location of premises from which approved products may be sold under the Psychoactive Substances Act 2013.

Submissions close on 8 August.

Find out more by going to www.codc.govt.nz/consultation

The statement of proposal and the Draft LAPP are also available from the Council's Cromwell, Roxburgh or Ranfurly service centres and the Alexandra office.

Winter Road Report

Are you following our winter road reports? We post early morning updates of road conditions on our Facebook page and on Council's website at www.codc.govt.nz/roadreport. You can also sign up to follow @RoadSafety_CO on Twitter to receive roading updates.



Cool those hot ashes

Remember that putting hot ashes in your wheelie bin is a recipe for disaster. Put your ashes in a metal container with a lid. They will take at least 10 days to completely cool down. Once you are sure they are cold, you can dispose of them directly at your local transfer station or wrap and place them in your wheelie bin.

What does the new Food Act 2014 mean to you?

The Food Act 2014 is here and will mean significant changes to all registered food operations in the district.

The new Food Act (passed in June 2014) aims to give food businesses the tools to manage food safety themselves based on the level of risk associated with the kinds of food produced and in a way that suits their business.

The central feature of the new Act is a sliding scale where businesses that are higher risk from a food safety point of view will operate under more stringent food safety requirements and checks than lower risk food businesses.

The new law recognises that each business is different and is no longer a one-size-fits-all approach to food safety.

Businesses that prepare and sell meals or sell raw meat or seafood will operate under a written Food Control Plan (FCP) where businesses identify food safety risks and steps they need to take to manage these risks. The FCP can be based on a template or businesses can develop their own plan to suit their individual business.

Other medium and lower risk businesses will come under National Programmes which will require the operators to register their business details and maintain minimal records to establish that they have safe foods practices in place.

Unlike the old Act, the new Act provides a clear exemption to allow Kiwi traditions like fundraising sausage sizzles or home baking at school fairs to take place. The only rule will be that food that is sold must be safe. Food handler guidance will be provided for these operations.

The Kiwi tradition of "Bring a plate" will not be affected by the Food Act. The Act only covers food that is sold or traded.



Photo supplied: Central Otago Polytech Kitchen

From now to Commencement

For all existing and new Businesses who operate before 1 March 2016, the option of complying under the Food Hygiene Regulations will still be available to them. However to allow businesses time to become familiar with the new requirements, there is provision to opt into the new regime at an earlier stage through a Voluntary Implementation Scheme.

Upon Commencement

When the new Act comes into force on 1 March 2016 all new businesses that start operating from that date will be required to operate under the appropriate Food Control

Plan or National Programme. The Food Hygiene Regulations will not be an option for these businesses.

Transition Period

There will be a three-year transition period from 1 March 2016 for existing businesses to move onto the appropriate FCP or National Programme. Food sectors will be required to move to the new regime at different times, with the higher risk sectors being required to move earlier. The food sector your business falls under will be clarified by the regulation which should be available later this year.



Prizes and praise for our Zero Waste Heroes

Councillors' toes were tapping in Council Chambers late last month when CODC hosted prizewinners from our Central Otago Schools' Zero Waste Challenge for a special prizegiving.

CODC teamed up with Central Otago WasteBusters, EnviroSchools Central Otago and sustainable living group MAD4CO to run the competition, which involved children conducting a home or school waste audit and sharing their learnings via multi-media entries.

Two of our prizewinning "Zero Waste Heroes" (Arlia Murphy and Emily Wellstead from Clyde School) even gave a live performance of their catchy original song "Go Green" during the special presentation. Check out their song and all the other fabulous entries on our website at: www.codc.govt.nz/zwchallenge

And thanks again to all our fantastic sponsors – you'll find them listed on our website too.



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