



# Ōmārama Gazette

November 2022

## Good taste is in their genes

When it comes to good taste, it has to be in their genes. And father and daughter gardeners, Dave (Pop) and Heather Smith, also share that same easy and generous smile.

There can be considerable challenges to gardening in Ōmārama, especially to growing a veggie garden. But both Heather and Dave, together with partners Jill Crawford-Ferguson and Shona Smith, have not only met the challenges and coaxed a generous bounty of both flowers and vegetables out of their town gardens, they also have great tips for others facing similar hurdles. And for this collaborating whanau sharing comes as easy as those smiles.

Dave and Shona have been in their present home for the past 25 years but have lived in the town for 48 and 49 years respectively. The property had been a rental and was virtually bare ground when they moved in. They worked together on the landscaping, moving in plenty of topsoil to begin to build up the stony, river silt soils.

Dave is from a farming background and also from the generation where growing a substantial vegetable garden was part and parcel of putting a meal on the family dining table.

Now in early spring the raised veggie patch is already weed free, the seed sown into the newly warmed soil waiting to burst into crops of greens and carrots, beetroot, potatoes and parsnips “to get us through the winter”. Tomatoes and other tender plants are waiting safely under frost shelter for their turn in the sun.

The veggie garden is built on four ton of pig manure and bales of meadow-hay – replenished each season with blood and bone and sheep manure. Recently, bringing in mushroom compost has been a boost for the whole garden.

Strawberries – Pop’s speciality - are flourishing in the spring-time warmth in more raised beds along the retaining wall. They’re already frothy with white blooms - and already covered in netting to thwart greedy birds.

*-continued over*

## *Good taste is in their genes - continued*

Raised beds improved drainage and the warmth of the soil.

Dave digs the beds over when necessary because the silty soil base becomes easily compacted.

But he is mindful there is more knowledge nowadays about how digging can interfere with natural processes.

That's one thing about gardeners, they're lifelong learners, always ready to try something new.

Heather reckons gardening must be in her genes.

Not only Dave but both her Nana's - especially Nana Smith - were great gardeners.

Dave and Heather feed knowledge back and forth, and up and down the family tree.

Thanks to Heather kohlrabi - a low, stout relation of cabbage, with the appearance of a turnip - is now a staple crop in Dave's garden as is golden beetroot – Dave loves his beetroot.

Dave and Shona's flower garden boasts roses, lilies, trillium, hostas and peony roses; irises are blooming at the gate and pansies at the doorstep. Weeping Japanese maples grace sheltered corners with a lacy and delicate air.

But Shona's daphne has been knocked back by this year's snowstorm.

Heather and Jill's garden is comparatively new.

They began developing, what was also a relatively bare section, only four years ago.

Now deep 'doonas' of peastraw and mushroom compost are thickly embroidered with lush green foliage, and, like Shona and Dave's garden, scattered with eye-catching sculptures.

"We've always had a garden," Heather says.

Coming to Ōmārama from Australia, this the smallest garden the couple have built.

Consequently, there is no separate vegetable garden.

"We feed out of Dad and Shona's garden."

Nonetheless, in traditional cottage garden style, vegetables and herbs are popped in and thrive among the flowers and in pots on the sunny deck.

And fruit trees now ring the property instead of pine trees, each marking the resting place of a beloved pet.

Heather and Jill have built the garden from the ground up – following less backbreaking no-dig garden principles and letting "worms do the work".

And they revel in the fact water is more plentiful and free here unlike water use in Australia.

Both Heather and Dave recommend looking after plant health to keep the bugs at bay; though the damage caused by cabbage white caterpillars has deterred Dave from ever again growing cabbages.

The dominant nuisance in Heather and Jill's garden are a tribe of noisy blackbirds which have quite bossily insisted on squatters rights. Despite two burly feline security guards on the premises and every other legal attempt used to evict them the birds are happily raising more progeny to double the population.

Dave and Shona, Heather and Jill all agree on one thing.

The ultimate reward for all the effort that goes into a veggie garden is the harvest and "eating it".

They try to use everything they produce – they have plenty to share and freeze and to process into something more.

Shona makes the mint sauce, Jill makes a "beautiful sauce" for meats from the leaves of the golden beetroot.

They also agree there's something more than just a family connection that pulls people into gardening.

"If you want a healthy lifestyle, out in the sun, in the outdoors, how can you not be a gardener.

"You never see an unhappy gardener," Jill says.

*Coming soon:*

*Heather was involved in setting up community gardens when she lived in Australia.*

*Now, she and Jill are bringing their skills to our backyard.*

*Work is progressing to set up a community garden at the Community Centre – a project Heather is leading. We will keep you posted.*

*Father and daughter Dave and Heather Smith share a love of home grown veggies.*



# Process begins to 'dispose' of St Thomas's

*By Rev Lee Kearon, Kurow Presbyterian Church minister and ministry provider for St Thomas's, Ōmārama.*

At this year's AGM the future of the parish and its assets were discussed, and this motion was agreed to;

"That with a sad heart, the St Thomas's Management Committee move that the St Thomas's Church, Ōmārama, be dissolved and the property be dispersed with the appropriate processes being followed, and the agreement of the partner churches."

This decision has now been shared with our partner churches, and with the community.

As the church has not been the home of a worshipping congregation for some years now, it has become a sad, but realistic eventuality.

Over the years we recognize people have put a huge effort into keeping the church going, and we thank them for their faithfulness and endeavour.

Back in February 2017 representatives of Kurow Church met with the partner churches named in the St Thomas's Joint Use Agreement, 2011 to advise that the vestry of St Thomas's could no longer continue, and the management of the church was handed back into the care of a management committee formed at that time to administer the parish and its assets.

For the past five years the Church building has been leased out and rental income split between continued maintenance and ministry in the area as needed, and donations to community groups; school, search and rescue, fire service, and latterly the funding of Covid support and food parcels during the pandemic.

However, in spite of the Presbyterian and Anglican minister's best endeavours in visiting and taking services, initiating fellowship meetings, etc we could not turn around the fortunes of the parish.

During this time we have consulted widely on the future with the community, but in spite of regular visiting in the area, fellowship invitations and trying to maintain contact we were not able to garner sufficient support for a parish fellowship.

The primary function for church buildings is to provide a place of worship and gathering for the people of God in a community, and when they cannot do that, hard decisions have to be made.

While details have not been worked out at this stage I have written to you to share this decision.

*Yours Sincerely,  
The St Thomas's Management Committee.*



# The FAQs

## Those Five Awkward Questions with Richard and Margaret Webby

*Richard and Margaret Webby (former Nelsonians) moved to Ōmārama from Westport last month to take up the position of managers of Big Sky Motels. The Ōmārama Gazette caught up with the pair and by way of introduction to the community asked them those 'Five Awkward Questions'. Welcome, Guys.*

### **1. What is the best advice you have ever been given?**

Richard: *Always be honest (- you will always be found out!)*

Margaret: *Always listen to your wife!*

Both: *Treat others the way you would like to be treated*

### **2. What was your best impulse buy?**

Richard: *My 'properly fitted' golf clubs.*

Margaret: *A beautiful leather couch, very comfortable and the envy of my son. Unfortunately, it had to be sold before the move to Ōmārama.*

### **3. What is your best day outside the office?**

Richard's twin passions are golf and white-baiting. Once they are settled in, he plans to join the Ōmārama Golf Club.

Margaret and Richard both love sightseeing and "going out to lunch".

Although Nelson will always be 'home-base', living in different parts of New Zealand like Westport and now Ōmārama is allowing them to explore the country and meet new people. They are especially enjoying meeting the 'fun' guests cycling the Alps to Ocean Trail. And they are gradually making their way around the local eateries.

### **4. What is your wish for the world?**

Both: *Peace, more positivity, and patience, less anger.*

### **5. Ōmārama is the place to be why?**

They have come here for work but Richard and Margaret are taking in all that their new roles and life in Ōmārama has to offer. They are looking forward to experiencing a high country winter.

They heard about the position through a friend in Tekapo. Once they decided to make the move from Westport, "everything just fell into place", Margaret said.



# Thank you, everyone

This winter played its final hand (we hope) when its one last blast forced the postponement of the community get together held to share experiences of the worst floods in the district for several decades.

In the end a perfect afternoon was enjoyed by between 30 and 50, young and old, who came and went throughout the afternoon to relax, share flood stories and some stayed for tea.

Plus the bouncy castle was given a great workout.

The Ōmārama Shed Group 'manned' the barbeque (kindly loaned by the Ōmārama Fire Brigade) and, thanks to generous donations, cooked up a storm of meat patties, sausages and venison steaks - supplemented by pizzas generously provided by Hot Tubs Ōmārama.

The 'please bring a plate' antipasti and mains would have been the envy of any MasterChef.

Ōmārama Residents' Association chairperson Lindsay Purvis thanked the emergency services for their commitment to the community and their efforts throughout the flooding events and in the aftermath.

Special thanks for making the afternoon the success it was must go to:

Vanessa and Johnny Anderson

Bruce and Julie Dyson, Boots and Jandals Hotel

David and Karen Ellis

Jo and Travis Golder

Alona and Blair Shaw, Four Square Ōmārama

Stephen Grundy, for the technical assistance

Those who filled the goodie bags, made sandwiches, and washed and cleared and cleaned and took care of the little things - you make our world go round!

## We hope you all had fun!



# Campers dig deep for defibrillator

Going to the lakes camping to “get away from it all” will now be just that little bit safer thanks to an initiative of the ‘regulars’ at Sailors Cutting.

Between 70 and 100 campers at Sailors Cutting at Labour Weekend joined forces to raise funds to buy an automated external defibrillator (AED) to be stationed at the campsite.

“Instigator” Ross Butterick said the group thought it was essential an AED be installed at the campground because, there was an “older population” of campers and Sailors Cutting was about 15 minutes from help from either the Ōmārama or Otematata first response units.

As well, there were more cycling through the area, he said.

“It’s an important thing for us to do ... a no brainer”.

Ōmārama Volunteer Fire Brigade Chief Fire Officer Greg Harper was guest speaker at the fundraiser where campers set up a raffles table and provided some entertainment for the afternoon.

There were “a good number of people” who came along to listen and ask questions about how to use an AED and what benefit it would be to have one at the camp, Greg said.

He commended them on their initiative and starting the process to have an AED on site and the team of organisers for the “great job” they had done for their camping community.

The group was well on the way to raising all the funds needed thanks to the generosity of the campers and businesses and the contribution from volunteers who “were terrific”, Ross said.

The AED has been bought and will arrive any day with the hope it will be installed by mid-November

Ross hopes once this project is complete the campers may be able to buy more equipment to add to the emergency kit.

If people would like to donate please contact Ross: [butterick.family@xtra.co.nz](mailto:butterick.family@xtra.co.nz)

An AED is a lightweight, portable device that that analyses the heart’s rhythm and if necessary, delivers an electric shock, known as defibrillation, to help restore the heart’s natural rhythm.

*Photo: Greg Harper*



# Support Ōmārama's First Response

**IF THIS IS HOME, OR IT'S HOME AWAY FROM HOME**

or you are just visiting...

And you haven't done this already, please pop it on that to do list

Please sign this petition - and thank you, you're a life saver!

A petition requesting Parliament urge St John and Fire and Emergency New Zealand formalise their trial - a local agreement - and allow Ōmārama First Response to respond to all 111 medical and personal alarm calls in the Omarama call-out area, regardless of acuity, is available at any of these locations:

- \* Boots and Jandals Hotel Ōmārama
- \* Four Square Ōmārama
- \* GlenCraigs
- \* Heritage Gateway Hotel
- \* Mobil Ōmārama
- \* Ōmārama School
- \* Ōmārama Veterinary Services

Or go online now to: [www.parliament.nz/en/pb/petitions/](http://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/petitions/)

And search for the petition of Craig Dawson to allow the Omarama first-response to be dispatched to all medical 111 calls.



# Thank you from Hat

## Where Would We Be...?

I am sincerely grateful for the very quick turnout by the Ōmārama Fire and First Response teams, also the Twizel and Oamaru St John crews during a recent medical event.

It was very reassuring to know that there is such a highly motivated, respected, and well-trained group of volunteers who, when I was listening to the alarm sounding in the distance, were already putting down their tools, and coming to my aid.

A damned fine effort indeed.

Thanks for being there when we need you. Awesome, truly awesome.

*Yours most sincerely,*

*Hat.*

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## Glam group toasts 'Gold Trip' win



This glam group of Omarama-rites gathered in the afternoon sunshine at Boots and Jandals Hotel, Ōmārama ahead of watching Gold Trip charge home to take this year's Melbourne Cup at Flemington.



*Photos:  
Julie Dyson, Boots and Jandals  
Hotel*

# Covid-19 returns to town

Just to let you know, Covid-19 is back in town.

It's disappointing news, but we're old hands at this and we know what to do. We know it's a sneaky one and so there's a danger of infecting others before you know you've got it.

By doing the basics - wearing a mask, keeping our distance, washing hands - we can help care for those around us whose immune systems are not quite up to it.

If you are unlucky enough to catch the bug the up-to-date regulations and advice can be found on the **Unite against Covid-19** and the **Ministry of Health Covid-19 Health Hub** websites.

Our Covid Community Care group officially went into recess at the end of September and so we don't have access to the same volunteer or other resources that we did. But we are still able to help, so please do make contact if either yourself or a friend or neighbour need anything.

**We have - free RATS, free sanitiser, masks, gowns and face shields if you are caring for someone with Covid and need protection.**

**Only a phone call away:** Ruth Grundy 021 294 8002

**!! FREE !!**

## RAPID ANTIGEN TESTS

For self testing

**are available in Omarama**

Anyone can phone and ask for a RATs  
test and we will deliver the kit  
with instructions to  
your gate.

**To arrange for test kits to be delivered  
Phone 021 294 8002  
03 438 9766**



# Care in the community - this could help

This past year and its events - plague, snow, floods - has taught us much. Significantly, it has highlighted the lack of services available in Ōmārama which would be ordinarily available and within walking distance if you lived in town. \*\*\* We are extraordinarily blessed to live in the community we do. We look out for each other and step up to meet the need.

However, some of us have been working in the background to find out more about what is available and to encourage more outside agencies to consider isolated rural towns of the district in their planning and activities.

This is still a work in progress but here's what we know;

## **If you need any of these services this is what the Twizel Community Care Centre offers:**

*By Kristin Murdoch, coordinator*

- Work and Income – assistance with applying for benefits, helping with queries regarding superannuation, and any other financial assistance you may receive. Printing and scanning of documents.
- Inland Revenue – queries regarding anything IRD related, access to forms
- Twizel-Tekapo Community Car bookings – this is a community car that picks you up from your house and takes you wherever you need to go such as town here in Twizel or Timaru for an appointment, whatever you need. There is a cost involved depending on destinations.
- Home Delivered Meals – We have small roasts for \$10, Regular meals for \$8 and small snack meals for \$4. We can deliver to your home.
- Printing/scanning services
- Assistance with finding jobs in the area.
- Foodbank – donations, and supply people with food parcels when in need
- Any other government services – ACC, Department of Corrections, etc
- Arowhenua Health Clinic – Free health clinic on the first Wednesday of each month.
- Computer/cellphone assistance – needing help with something on your computer or cellphone
- Rat tests/Mask supply free of charge
- Assistance with filling in any forms or paperwork.
- Offer room hire to community groups and businesses.

**JOBS:** If you are looking for jobs a great place to start is follow the Jobs in the Mackenzie Facebook page. This is regularly updated so has the most up to date information. Also, Leaine Rush runs that Facebook page, and she is amazing if you are needing some assistance. Feel free to contact her via email - [leaine.rush@mackenzie.govt.nz](mailto:leaine.rush@mackenzie.govt.nz)

We are known as a one stop shop; we will always try our best to put you in the right direction or supply you with contact details of someone that can help further or printing of forms.

Currently, we are operating an appointment only system, we are open Monday – Friday 9am until 2.30pm. Please ring prior to your arrival to guarantee I'm not in a meeting or out of the office.

*-continued over*

## *Care in the community - this could help , continued*

Kristin Murdoch (coordinator)  
Twizel Community Care Centre  
Mount Cook St, Twizel  
Phone: 03 435 0687  
Email: [twizelcare@xtra.co.nz](mailto:twizelcare@xtra.co.nz)  
Hours of opening: 9.00am - 2.00pm  
Days of opening: Monday - Friday

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### **Finding transport can be quite a hurdle if you aren't able to drive**

Here's one solution and we subsidise this through our Environment Canterbury Rates

Twizel-Tekapo Community Car

Here's how it works...

Kristin (above) takes the bookings for this service.

Driven by volunteers, the car can be booked and used by anyone in Omarama to get you to nearby towns or cities for medical appointments or shopping visits – e.g to Twizel and back or Kurow and includes trips to Oamaru, Dunedin or Christchurch etc.

There is a minimal charge depending on the destination.

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### **Another organisation that does offer some limited help up our way is Age Concern (for people 65 and older).**

Kathryn Bennett is the coordinator for Age Concern Waitaki, based in Oamaru.

From February 14 she will run monthly coffee afternoons at the Omarama Community Centre.

She plans to bring guest speakers to these session. Topics for the first session are how to deal with elder abuse and setting up enduring powers of attorney.

Age Concern has agreed to help with funding to develop the community garden and has previously helped fund equipment for the weekly winter housie sessions.

Kathryn's contact details are:

03 434 7008

027 4347 089

[NthOtago@ageconcernotago.co.nz](mailto:NthOtago@ageconcernotago.co.nz)

Hours: Mon-Wed 9- 4.30pm / Thur- Fri 9-12.30pm

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**If you need emergency home help** – this is if you need cleaning done or the like in the short term, for example, if you are recovering from an illness - contact your GP for a referral.

*- we will keep you posted as more information comes to hand.*

# The Noticeboard

To have your community notice included here  
email: [omaramagazette@gmail.com](mailto:omaramagazette@gmail.com)

**Welcome to Shaun and Vivian**, who have taken up the lease of Merino Country Café and Gifts, Open daily 7.30am to 4.30pm.

**Sincere condolences** to the family and friends of Graham Wardell, who passed away peacefully at Terrace View Rest Home, Ashburton. A service for Graham will be held at the Ōmārama Community Centre at 2pm, Friday, November 4

**Coming up** - The Ōmārama Gliding Club Mountain Flying Course, from November 28 to December 2, at the Ōmārama Airfield.

**Community Housie:** There will be Christmas Housie at the Wrinkly Rams café, date to be confirmed....watch this space.

**Kurow Medical Centre** Ōmārama Clinic at the Ōmārama Community Centre, is open Thursdays, 8.30am to 12.30pm. To make appointments for all clinics, order repeat scripts or make enquiries please contact Kurow Medical Centre 03 436 0760 (Monday to Thursdays). [www.kurowmedicalcentre.org.nz](http://www.kurowmedicalcentre.org.nz)

**The Ōmārama Community Library** is open 9.30am to 11am, Wednesdays and Saturdays. Library hours can change. Contact Yvonne: 027 476 7473.

## **St Thomas' Ōmārama Church Community:**

chairperson: Ven Dr Michael Godfrey, phone 022 342 9977 or email [Dylanfreak@gmail.com](mailto:Dylanfreak@gmail.com); committee secretary (Presbyterian): Rev Lee Kearon, phone: 021 250 1060 or email: [lee.kearon@gmail.com](mailto:lee.kearon@gmail.com)

**The Ōmārama Golf Club** Saturdays cards in 12.30 pm, tee-off 1pm. Club captain James Moynihan phone: 027 215 8266; email [jwmoynihan@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:jwmoynihan@yahoo.co.nz) [www.omaramagolfclub.co.nz](http://www.omaramagolfclub.co.nz)

**The Ahuriri Community Catchment Group** meets once a month. For time and place contact facilitator Nicola McKerchar. Phone: 022 612 7570; email: [committee@ahuriricatchment.com](mailto:committee@ahuriricatchment.com)

**The Upper Waitaki Young Farmers Club** meets at 7.30pm on the first Monday of each month at the 'Top Pub' - the Blue and Gold pub, in Kurow. All welcome. Join the Facebook group.

**Ōmārama Playgroup** meets at 9.30am each Wednesday during the primary school term at the Ōmārama Community Centre. For more information phone president Nic McKerchar 022 612 7570 [rn.mckerchar@hotmail.com](mailto:rn.mckerchar@hotmail.com) or secretary Tarsh Bell 027 349 0016 [tomandtmarsh@mchoney.co.nz](mailto:tomandtmarsh@mchoney.co.nz)

**Bridge Club** - The Ōmārama Bridge Club meets on a regular basis and would welcome new members. If you are interested please phone Sylvia Anderson 438 9784 or Ann Patterson 438 9493.

**The Ōmārama Model Aircraft Club** meets on Saturdays from 9.00 am to 12.00 noon at its flying ground at the Ōmārama airfield. All welcome - Contact Don Selbie on 027 435 5516.

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## *The Noticeboard, continued*

**FENZ Ōmārama Volunteer Fire Brigade** meets 7pm each Wednesday and has its meeting at 7:30pm on the third Wednesday of the month. New members welcome.

**A gentle exercises** and social afternoon group meets at the Otematata District Club at 1.30pm Thursday afternoons. Gold coin donation and a cuppa after the exercises. The exercises are run with the guidance of personal trainer Lauren Maree. Gold coin donation and a cuppa after the exercises. Contact Ethel Gray 03 438 7764.

**Waitaki Newcomers Network:** For more information about this group and to subscribe to regular updates send contact details to E: [waitaki@newcomers.co.nz](mailto:waitaki@newcomers.co.nz)  
W: [www.newcomers.co.nz](http://www.newcomers.co.nz) F: [facebook.com/WaitakiNewcomersNetwork/](https://www.facebook.com/WaitakiNewcomersNetwork/)

Plunket Line: 0800 933 922

Ōmārama Plunket Committee: Aimee Snelgrove 022 350 5536  
[aimeesnelgrove@hotmail.com](mailto:aimeesnelgrove@hotmail.com)

To read more, enjoy more photos and watch our place 'come to life' check out our Facebook page and website.

[www.facebook.com/omaramagazette/](http://www.facebook.com/omaramagazette/)  
[omaramagazette.nz](http://omaramagazette.nz)

To receive email alerts between monthly editions of the Omarama Gazette sign up to our 'Local List'. Email [omaramagazette@gmail.com](mailto:omaramagazette@gmail.com) and put 'Local List' in the subject line.

Thank you to all who share your stories and contribute in other ways to the Gazette.

We all really appreciate what you do.

**The December Issue of the  
Omarama Gazette  
is Wednesday, December 7, 2022.**

**Please submit copy  
by Thursday, December 1, 2022**

# The Community Reports

## Omarama Volunteer Fire Brigade



*Kia ora,*

November, less than two months until Christmas, and Guy Fawkes night is on the 5th.

Please, if you choose to let off some fire works, make sure it is done safely.

Only adults should light them.

Keep all unlit fireworks in the box until you are ready to light them.

Don't light them on a windy evening.

Consider other people and their pets.

Keep a supply of water handy or fire extinguisher and make sure you are in an open area.

Or better, still head off to a public display somewhere.

We have now moved into a restricted fire season so please make sure you have a permit.

Go to [checkitsalright.nz](http://checkitsalright.nz) to obtain one or the Fire and Emergency website.

The grass may be green but there is a lot of dry material in among

*Stay Safe*

*Greg Harper and the team at the Omarama Volunteer Fire Brigade*

Chief Fire Officer , 021 293 1171 [greg.harper@fireandemergency.nz](mailto:greg.harper@fireandemergency.nz)

Facebook: /Omaramafirebrigade

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'The Community Reports' is  
dedicated to news  
from clubs, groups and sports teams.

Contributions are welcome.  
[omaramagazette@gmail.com](mailto:omaramagazette@gmail.com)

# Ōmārama Community Co-Response Trust

*The Omarama and Districts Community Co-Response Trust held its annual meeting at the Ōmārama Fire Station last month.*

*This year's committee is Lindsay Purvis (chairperson), Ken Rogers (secretary), Lynley Pryde (treasurer), Liz Komen, Craig Dawson, Bruce Dyson, Greg Harper and Georgie Robertson.*

The chairperson's report is below.

*Hi All,*

- a short update from the Ōmārama Co-Response Trust.

Again, thank you, to all of you who turned out for our very successful public forum. The outcome of that was an email from St John indicating that they had reinstated our trial enhancement to the Memorandum Of Understanding between St John and FENZ to enable us to attend all calls .

The key word in this statement was "trial", so the work continues to have this formalised officially so that we don't have to go through this again.

Since then we have had the AGM of our trust and I was elected Chair. We felt that by having someone who was in no way connected with FENZ it would give us more autonomy when fighting for the changes that we are seeking to the MOU.

The petition is still in circulation and it is our intention to present this to Parliament in February.

This will give us more time for negotiations if needed before the MOU is revised next November.

With this in mind we have set up a zoom conference with the 14 other trusts in the lower South Island who made a sub-mission in 2021 seeking the change that Ōmārama has had in the past.

Hopefully, from this we can gain their support to add submissions to our petition and push for an "opt in/opt out " clause added to future MOU's to enable Fire Brigade Co and First Response of other small rural communities to make the choice that best suits their needs.

We are meeting regularly to discuss other ideas to gain support from these small rural communities throughout New Zealand to help them have the medical support formalised along with us and to assist us in this 'David and Goliath' battle.

*Cheers everyone.*

**Lindsay Purvis**

**Chair**

**Ōmārama Co Response Trust**

**[omaramacoreponse@gmail.com](mailto:omaramacoreponse@gmail.com)**

**027 438 9630**

# Ōmārama Shed

The Ōmārama Shed group meets  
at 10am each Saturday and at other times, too.

For further information contact:

**Malcolm Cameron**

**022 476 2225**



## Justices of the Peace

JPs are available by appointment to:

- \* Witness documents such as applications for citizenship
- \* Certify copies
- \* Take declarations, affidavits and affirmations

The service is free of charge

To make your visit quick and easy:

- \* Do not sign anything beforehand
- \* Do take photo identification
- \* Remember to take the original as well as the copy to be certified
- \* Check that a New Zealand Justice of the Peace can complete your documentation



**Georgie Robertson**  
Omarama

03 438 9554 027 4861525



**Vicky Munro**  
Otematata

03 438 7855 021 438745



**Alona Shaw**  
Omarama

027 773 4214

# Ōmārama Playgroup

Ōmārama Playgroup meets at 9.30am each Wednesday during the primary school term at the Ōmārama Community Centre.

For more information contact:

president Nic McKerchar 022 612 7570 [n.mckerchar@hotmail.com](mailto:n.mckerchar@hotmail.com)  
or secretary Tarsh Bell 027 349 0016 [tomandtash@mchoney.co.nz](mailto:tomandtash@mchoney.co.nz)  
Plunket: Aimee Snelgrove 022 350 5536 [aimeesnelgrove@hotmail.com](mailto:aimeesnelgrove@hotmail.com)

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## Ōmārama Community Library

The Ōmārama Community Library is open 9.30am to 11am, Wednesdays and Saturdays, at the Ōmārama Community Centre. [omaramalibrary@gmail.com](mailto:omaramalibrary@gmail.com)

Contacts: Georgie 027 486 1525 or Yvonne 027 476 7473

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Coming up...

**\*! Christmas Housie !\***

at the

**!!Wrinkly Rams!!**

All the usual fun,  
plus so much more

Date to be confirmed



# Waitaki Newcomers Network

For more information about this group and to subscribe to regular updates send contact details to [waitaki@newcomers.co.nz](mailto:waitaki@newcomers.co.nz)

Contact: Paula Eatherley  
Waitaki Newcomers Network and Migrant Support  
Coordinator

[waitaki@newcomers.co.nz](mailto:waitaki@newcomers.co.nz)

[coordinator@waitakimulticultural.org.nz](mailto:coordinator@waitakimulticultural.org.nz)

027 325 6151 (business hours)

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

[www.multiculturalnz.org.nz](http://www.multiculturalnz.org.nz)

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## Waitaki Seniors' Survey

A message from Stronger Waitaki, Grey Power and Age Concern

In 2017 Stronger Waitaki, in collaboration with Grey Power and Age Concern conducted a seniors' survey to learn more about the barriers, needs and circumstances of older people living in our community.

Five years later the survey is being conducted again, with the same questions plus a few extra Covid specific questions.

"The comparative data we will be able to get from this survey will be invaluable to help inform future initiatives that will improve the health and wellbeing of our older people and continue us along the path of creating an age-friendly Waitaki," Waitaki District Council Community Development coordinator Yvonne Avis said.

To get the best data those in the 65+ age group are encouraged to participate. Paper copies are available at the Ōmārama Community Library.

There is a link to the electronic survey on the Waitaki District Council website

**The survey closes on Friday, November 11.**



**NOTICE OF OMARAMA GOLF CLUB INC  
2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.**

The Annual General Meeting of the Omarama Golf Club Inc will be held as follows:

**DATE:** Saturday 26 November 2022

**TIME:** 11.30 a.m.

**VENUE:** Omarama Golf Clubrooms

All members and interested individuals are welcome to attend.

**Items of Business for AGM:**

Confirmation of AGM Minutes 2021

President report

Financial Balance Sheet

Election of Office Bearers – President, Vice President,

Secretary, Treasurer, Club Captain, Course

Convenor and committee members

Approval of auditor for 2022/2023

General Business

# Ōmārama Golf Club

*By Christine Bowman*

The Golf Club held our Flood Relief tournament on the 22 October and it was a great success with a field of 66 players.

A big thank you to all the players, from 10 clubs around the South Island, for supporting the tournament.

Also, thanks to all our generous sponsors, our prize and raffle table was fabulous.

The funds raised will assist the club recover from the recent floods, with work still to be completed replacing fencing and continue repairing the course etc.

The main winners were:

Winner over the field 41 stablefords Phil Jackson (Waimate) pictured below being congratulated by Christine Bowman

Senior Men's 40 stablefords Brian Bedford (Kurow)

Junior Men's 40 stablefords Gav Giles (Mt Nething)

Ladies 40 stablefords Paula Goodman (Geraldine)

Twilight golf has commenced on Thursday evenings (weather permitting) from 5 p.m. If interested contact James Moynihan (Club Captain).



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If you are interested in joining the club  
please contact Christine 027 209 2320  
we have a couple of membership options.

Saturday club day, cards in 12.30pm, tee-off 1pm.  
Twilight golf has commenced on Thursday evenings (weather  
permitting) from 5 p.m.

Club captain James Moynihan, phone: 027 215 8266;  
email [jwmoynihan@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:jwmoynihan@yahoo.co.nz)

Secretary: Christine Bowman phone: 027 209 2320  
email [secretary@omaramagolfclub.co.nz](mailto:secretary@omaramagolfclub.co.nz)  
[www.omaramagolfclub.co.nz](http://www.omaramagolfclub.co.nz)

# Ōmārama Residents' Association

The next meeting of the  
Ōmārama Residents' Association  
will be  
**Thursday, November 17, 2022**

An invitation is extended to all

## Contacts:

**Lindsay Purvis, chairperson, 027 438 9630**

**Yvonne Jones, secretary, 027 476 7473**

(Minutes of the previous meetings are available from Yvonne)

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## **THE ASSOCIATION HAS ITS OWN POST OFFICE BOX**

Could all those who want to contact the association by mail,  
send accounts to be paid,  
or have correspondence considered at the monthly meetings  
ensure it is addressed to:

**The Secretary, P O Box 93, Ōmārama 9448.**

**The association's email address is [omarama.committee@gmail.com](mailto:omarama.committee@gmail.com)**

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## ŌMĀRAMA COMMUNITY CENTRE HALL HIRE

To make a booking for an upcoming event or for more  
information about hall hire and availability  
please contact Michelle Kitchen 027 280 5446  
or email [hallhire.omarama@xtra.co.nz](mailto:hallhire.omarama@xtra.co.nz)



## IN REMEMBRANCE - A SPECIAL MOMENT

A plaque representing a lone soldier reflecting on those lost in war was installed on the front of the Ōmārama Memorial Hall last month by volunteer builder Hank Verheul and Ōmārama Residents' Association chairman Lindsay Purvis.

The installation was the initiative of the Ōmārama Residents' Association and created by AcuCut, Oamaru.

*Photo: Lex Perriam*



## THANK YOU, GUYS

To all of those with stars in their eyes, we now have the technology so you can karaoke until the cows come home!

With thanks to a generous donation from the Foodstuffs South Island Community Trust General Grant of almost \$2000 the Residents' Association of Ōmārama has been able to buy a state-of-the-art sound system for the Ōmārama Memorial Hall.

The Association's grant application was sponsored by Blair and Alona Shaw, Four Square Ōmārama.

The purchase is part of a larger project to buy and install an audio-visual system at the Community Centre.

Hire conditions and rates are yet to be set by the Association committee.

# Ōmārama Gliding Club

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## 2022 OGC Mountain Flying Course South Island Regional Flying Competition

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### Fly the Dream

The Southern Alps, home to the world renowned Omarama Soaring Centre – best known for its remarkable wave flying conditions.

Chosen for the World Gliding Championships and the World Grand Prix Final – and home to the South Island Regionals.



**Learn** – Grow your pilot skills and learn to fly in the mountains with the Mountain flying course or with the two-seater ‘fly with an experienced pilot’ competition class.

**Experience** – Set in the heart of the Southern Alps, Omarama is an immersive mountain flying location with the freedom of flying large areas of uncontrolled airspace in all directions. Timed for great southern soaring weather.

**Compete** – whether you want to test yourself against the mountains or against some of New Zealand’s best mountain soaring pilots there’s a class for you.

**Soar in the mountains and share your experiences with fellow mountain pilots at the Pink Glider**



*OGC Mountain flying course: Mon 28th Nov - Fri 2nd Dec 2022*

*South Island Regionals Competition: Sat 3th Dec - Sat 10th Dec 2022*

*Register your interest here:*

[OGC Mountain Flying Course](#)

[South Island regional flying competition](#)

*Talk to us about group/club packages (bring your gliders or use ours)*

# The Directory



**Big Sky**  
*Bed & Breakfast*

**Kay & Hank Verheul**  
10 Ahuriri Drive, Omarama, New Zealand

Phone +64 3 438 9538  
Mobile 027 489 5149

Email [kay@bigskybnb.co.nz](mailto:kay@bigskybnb.co.nz)  
[www.bigskybnb.co.nz](http://www.bigskybnb.co.nz)

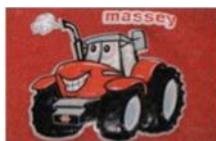
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erica@mcre.co.nz



**Karan MacDiarmid**  
Lead Salesperson  
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karan@mcre.co.nz



**Jess Mackay**  
Sales Associate  
0279025529  
jess@mcre.co.nz



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**027 432 6615**



**[gary.sutherland@tallpoppy.co.nz](mailto:gary.sutherland@tallpoppy.co.nz)**

# Kurow Medical Centre

8 Wynyard St, Kurow  
P: 03 4360760 F: 03 4360780

E: [info@kurowmedicalcentre.org.nz](mailto:info@kurowmedicalcentre.org.nz)

W: [www.kurowmedicalcentre.org.nz](http://www.kurowmedicalcentre.org.nz)

[www.facebook.com/kurowmedicalcentre](http://www.facebook.com/kurowmedicalcentre)

**Providing 24/7 health care and support to  
the people of the Upper Waitaki and Mackenzie**

**Kurow Medical Centre and its satellite clinic  
in Twizel Mackenzie Health Centre and  
Outreach Clinic at Omarama Community Hall**

**are proud to offer our registered and casual patients the following services:**

- \* Ultrasound performed by a qualified clinician (great for minor fractures, gall stones, kidney stones, heart and lung problems, foreign bodies, blood clots, detecting early pregnancy and much more!)
- \* Minor surgery
- \* Vasectomies
- \* Mole checks and removal
- \* Steroid injections
- \* Venesection
- \* Aviation, workplace and driving medicals
- \* Botox for Wrinkle reduction
- \* Workplace health screening
- \* Counselling
- \* Spirometry to diagnose asthma and COPD
- \* Hearing and sight tests for adults and children
- \* Ear syringing
- \* Liquid nitrogen for warts, verruca's, and skin lesions
- \* Cardiovascular risk assessment and diabetic checks (funded for eligible patients)
- \* Travel advice and vaccination
- \* Cervical smears (funded for eligible patients)
- \* Seasonal flu shots and shingles vaccine (funded for eligible patients)
- \* Childhood Immunisation
- \* Before school checks
- \* Postnatal and six-week baby health check

**And much more!**

**GP consult fees: Under 14yrs Free; Adult \$41.00  
Care Plus – Free to eligible patients only**

We also offer the following services from external Health Care Providers:

- \* Podiatry and Ear Health (Kurow only)
- \* Physiotherapy, Acupuncture and Massage (Kurow and Twizel)

## **Open**

Kurow: Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 5pm. Omarama: Thursday 8.30am to 12.30pm.

Twizel: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 8.30am to 5pm and Saturday 9am to 12pm

Please note: We provide 24/7 on call after hours cover by our doctors and PRIME nurses for all our registered and casual patients!

**If you require further information or an appointment, please contact us on:  
For Kurow 03 436 0760 or for Twizel 03 976 0503 - Dr Tim and Juliet Gardner**

*Look us up on our website or Facebook page for more information.*

**HERITAGE  
North Otago  
Charitable Trust Incorporated**

**SCHOLARSHIP/GRANT**

Direct descendants of service personnel from North Otago who served in New Zealand or Commonwealth forces during the **Second World War or in combat since**, may apply to be considered for a scholarship/grant for health, education or special needs. The applicant must have resided in North Otago for the majority of their life time.

Application forms are available from the Secretary, June Jones, 61 Wharfe Street, Oamaru. Phone 434-7267 or email: [junejonesnz@gmail.com](mailto:junejonesnz@gmail.com)

**APPLICATIONS CLOSE** with the Secretary **by 5pm FRIDAY, 11TH NOVEMBER 2022.**

**J.E. Jones  
HON. SECRETARY**

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## Situations vacant



**Omarama 4SQ are now looking to fill the following positions:**

Night fill

6pm to 9pm: Weekdays

FTG/Bakery

9am to 3pm: Weekdays



**If interested, please contact either**

**Blair: 0273840301 or**

**Alona: 0277734214**

**4**

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**Contact us for an application**

**Blair: 0273840301**

**Alona: 0277734214**

# The Last Page is Classifieds



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## The weather that was @ 44°29'30.1"S 169°58'20.3"E

October 2022

Highest temperature: October 23, 22.6C

Lowest temperature: October 8, -2.5C

Most rainfall: October 24, 10.2 mm

Total rainfall for October: 28.7mm

## The Ōmārama Gazette

Ōmārama's news delivered to your inbox  
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