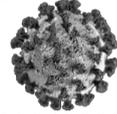


Dunstan News

Aug/Sept 2020

Volume 8 Number 2

We're Back!!! It's been a long time since our last issue. It's not our fault. A miserable little virus called Covid-19 conspired against us! But, now that it is squashed (hopefully permanently) we can once again grace your letter box.



Drop-in Session Over Future Clyde Settlement

Clyde residents are invited to air their views on matters associated with the growth and spread of Central Otago townships at a drop-in session later this month. The district council is launching its Vincent Spatial Plan which will provide direction for future planning and development in and around Clyde as well as for Alexandra, Omakau and Ophir.

Topics for discussion include the conversion of rural land to lifestyle blocks, increasing the spread of townships, smaller sections and apartment-style living. The project is looking at growth projections for the next 30 years so that the plan allows for future demand and compatible land use.

A masterplan for Alexandra airport is also part of the planning process.

The council's executive manager for planning and environment, Louise van der Voort, says it is important to meet with people so the council can understand how and where communities want development to occur and to protect what is important to them.

Council staff and the spatial plan consultants will be at **Clyde Bowling Club on Thursday, August 20 between 4.30pm – 6.30pm.**

Little Bags of Sunshine for Pensioners

Boxes of semi-tropical fruit have taken over a Clyde garage awaiting distribution to pensioners in Clyde and Alexandra.

The fruit is a project carried out by the Clyde & Districts Lions Club and will provide winter cheer as well as a compensation for those over 70 who were advised to shut themselves away during the covid-19 lockdown.

New Club president Sue Noble-Adams says the tonne of oranges, limes, lemons, grapefruit and tangelos in her garage came from Whangarei.

"We located a Lions Club which agreed to gather unwanted fruit. Mainfreight delivered them to us free of charge," she says. "Our members are doing their best to spread a little bit of sunshine around everyone."

A case each of mixed fruit will be delivered to Ranui and Castlewood Homes and a working bee was planned to bag the fruit.

There is only one problem: grapefruit is off the menu for many pensioners because it interferes with certain medications. So it could be another working bee will be making marmalade as a fundraiser.



Clyde & Districts Lions Club president Sue Noble-Adams sorts through fruit in her garage. Sue was thrilled to become president in July of the club which she says is a happy, vibrant and friendly group and gaining new members all the time.

**Talking It over with Russell Garbutt
Vincent Community Board member.**



It seems a while since I last jotted down a few thoughts but there have been quite a few things happening in our lovely town. Firstly, the on-going saga with Aurora and its inability to provide a safe and reliable supply of power. The outage on the coldest day of the year was preventable and would not have happened if Aurora had been doing its job over the years. But it is what's to come which should be of deep concern. Aurora's plan to hike up their already steep prices is outrageous and I urge everyone to attend the Commerce Commission drop in session at the Alexandra Memorial Hall on Monday, August 10, at 3pm to let them know what you think. The Commerce Commission will approve or decline Aurora's plans. I looked at my latest power bill and one-third was the cost of the power and the rest was the cost of getting it to my house. That is not unusual despite Aurora's claims that their costs are below average.

A quick note about the state of the sealing on some Clyde roads. A resident came to me concerned about chip coming away leaving a very poor surface. I am informed that the affected roads will be resealed by the roading contractors at no cost to the council when the weather warms up. We may not be through the worst of the weather but the days are getting noticeably longer and the buds on the fruit trees are on the move. Roll on summer.

If there is anything you would like to discuss, call me on 449 2254 or 020 4039 0424.

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Parking Restrictions

A part of Sunderland St in Clyde's historic precinct is now displaying parking restriction signs (P120) which the Central Otago District Council decided were necessary.

It is now looking at extending the 120-minute parking restrictions to Lodge Lane and Holloway St. The reasons given are the increased demand for parking and, allegedly, calls from the public to restrict parking. It has, of course, nothing to do with the tractor that the council could not legally shift, that was parked there for some weeks in a fruit-less protest.

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See page 5 for double page item

Further Delays Likely in Wastewater Scheme

Rising costs and the Covid-19 virus might further delay the installation of Clyde's wastewater reticulation scheme which was to have started last autumn.

The latest update on the project by the Central Otago District Council says it will meet at the end of August to consider the final design and costing before construction work can begin.

Some business owners in the historic precinct have been consulted by council and as a result work in that area will be delayed until after the tourist season and will start next winter. However that will not prevent work on stage one in other parts.

The Clyde-Alexandra water and wastewater connection project made it to the short list for the government's "shovel ready" projects but the council is still waiting to hear if it has been accepted. The council's Capital Projects Programme manager, Patrick Keenan, says his team will contact Clyde residents, businesses and property owners in the central Clyde area before the works begin.

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New Clyde Subdivision Application

Public submissions are about to close on a proposal to rezone about 13ha of land on Mutton Town Rd from rural residential to residential so that a consortium can develop a subdivision for up to 150 houses. The move was signalled at a public meeting last February when the consortium presented its plans for a private land change it intended to lodge with the Central Otago District Council.

The driving force behind the development is the demand for housing in Clyde. Clyde's population grew by 16.2% between 2013 and 2018 and the supply of vacant lots is close to running out. But the main push is the construction by the district council of the public waste-water network in Clyde to replace septic tanks which has opened up major development possibilities.

A report by Auckland consultants, Market Economics believes the plan change will meet predicted growth over the next ten years and will contribute to economic growth.

An evaluation by the Paterson Pitts Group employed by the consortium to oversee its application says comments by locals in the Clyde Community plan in 2010 wanting to keep growth within the existing urban boundaries have been overtaken by events in the 10 years since the plan was formulated.

Two written submissions against the subdivision are included in the proposal but there might be more to come.

Submissions to the council close on Monday, August 10.

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Family Fun at Glow Festival in Earnsclough

The second Glow Festival held in July in the gardens at The Packing Shed was a visual wonder which enthralled children, parents and others who came in their hundreds to look at the lights.

The first festival was inspired by the then 12-year-old Jack Farrell who saw the light festival in Queenstown and wanted to do something similar in the garden of his grandparents, Kathi and Lex McLean.

Its success prompted Jack and his mate, James Avenall, to hold another festival this year and with the support of his parents, Bec and Barry Farrell, \$8000 worth of lights were hired to add to their own collection. The pair spent a week assembling the lights as well as creating their own bicycle display.

In addition to the lights, food stalls and live music were enjoyed by well over 1500 people who visited during the three-night festival.



New Master Mason

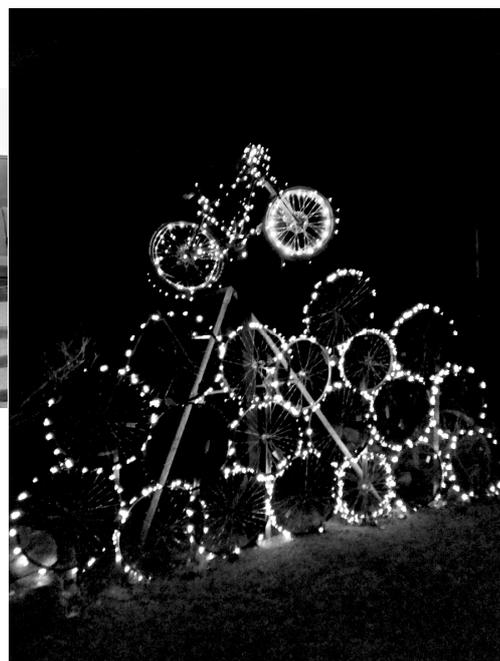
Lodge Dunstan's newest member, Bro Duncan Anderson was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in Clyde recently. He was welcomed by master of the lodge, Worshipful Brother Alisdair Au-Yong.



It was an amusing moment for the brethren as Duncan is actually Alisdair's boss at a dental surgery in Alexandra.

Right Worshipful Brother Pat Cooney, who spoke during the ceremony, commented afterwards that it was a pleasant change to be able to speak to Duncan without having Duncan's fingers in his mouth.

The ceremony was supported by the Manuherikia Masonic Choir who provided harmony.



This huge light display was designed and built by both Jack McLean and James Avenall.

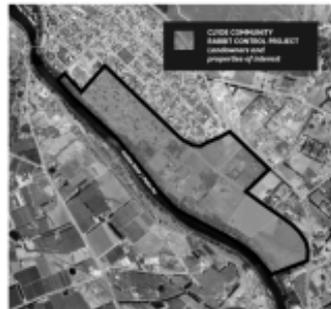
Warning Issued Over Rabbit Poisoning Project

A major rabbit control project is underway in a large part of Clyde, including the golf course and hospital grounds, and residents are being warned to keep children and dogs away from the poisoned bait.

Carrots have been dyed green and laced with the poison pindone and are being laid over four weeks across multiple properties, most of them bordering the Clutha River in Clyde. The area includes Clyde's dog exercise area and dog owners are advised not to let their pets eat carcasses in the area or within 2km of it. The poison is also toxic to humans and

warnings have been issued to people to watch their children and not to handle the bait.

The carrots will not be laid within 20m of a building or dwelling, and tracks and reserves near the operation area are clearly signposted. The project is being overseen by the Otago Regional Council and will end in about eight weeks. See the map on the right for the poison drop area in Clyde.



The Clyde Wine and Food Festival was one of the many victims of Covid-19 BUT it will return next year (unless the pandemic interferes again) on Easter Sunday, April 4.