

MAYOR'S COLUMN



Mayor Craig Rowley

I trust you all had a wonderful long Labour Weekend, the Waimate District was certainly bustling with activity and it's great to see Kiwis travelling and spreading the domestic tourism dollar. Speaking of growth, it's particularly pleasing to see our district booming and with that, our population increasing.

Late last month, the eagerly awaited Waimate Bakery opened on Queen Street, and feedback around the town from both locals and visitors has been extremely positive. This was part of the main street rejuvenation, and along with other key developments and new retail business, has been supported as a welcome addition to the town.

A recent report on the district's growth has outlined some promising trends, showing a noticeable rise in the number of 45-65 age category choosing to relocate to Waimate and take up work, follow business opportunities or enjoy retirement. We'll continue to look into this pattern of growth and reflect these trends in our Long Term Plan process, as we put down a vision for the district's future.

Elsewhere, our thoughts go out to all farmers in the Waihaorunga area, with news recently surfacing that the area is seriously concerned to be on the precipice of a drought. While it may look green and lush in and around Waimate, it's incredibly dry around the foothills and as a community, we've very aware of it.

For those affected by this, I would strongly encourage you to reach out and use any or all of the support channels in place, such as the 0800 RURAL HELP, or the feed planning service run by Beef & Lamb New Zealand - and of course, Council will be on hand to assist wherever we can.

Looking ahead to the weekend, it's fingers crossed for third time lucky as we officially unveil the Ted d'Auvergne Sculpture outside the Waihao Forks Hotel on Saturday 7 November. Due to COVID-19 delays, this hasn't been possible on the two prior occasions, therefore it will be fantastic to finally commemorate all those that served in World War II. If you're interested in coming along, please be seated by 4.45pm.

We hope to see you there for this special day.

BELL TOWER REFURBISHMENT COMPLETE



After several weeks of maintenance and landscaping, Waimate's Bell Tower has received a new lease of life, with Council's parks and reserves team recently completing the landscaping surrounds and pathway to the tower.

The project, commissioned by the Council's Economic Development Steering Group (EDSG), forms part of the beautification work throughout the Waimate District, and has now become a key talking point among the community.

As part of the project, restoration work at the site has involved resurfacing the concrete steps, painting the Bell Tower and four surrounding fluted iron posts, exposing the marble cross and restoring the lead lettering within the plaque.

In addition, the fluted posts that were once raised above the ground, have now been lowered and levelled out to create a stunning symmetrical look from all angles of the Bell Tower.

The beautification work will continue in the coming months and through to 2021, as the EDSG now turn their focus to another key project.

SPLASHING IN TO SUMMER



With the weather warming up, and Labour Weekend now behind us, it can only mean one thing . . . the swimming season must be here. That's right Waimate, the Norman Kirk Memorial Swimming Pool is officially open again for the 2020/21 season and we can't wait to see you.

Opening hours are 6.30am to 5pm (Monday to Friday) and 11.30am to 5pm (weekends and public holidays). Standard prices are \$5 per adult and \$2.50 per child, with various season tickets and bulk swim pricing also available. Preschool children and 80+ swim at no cost.

The pool facilities feature a canteen, plenty of seating, a grassed area, shaded toddlers paddling pool and a barbeque area, including free gas barbeque facilities - all making for a fantastic day at the pool. For more information and other pricing options, visit the Council website at waimatedc.govt.nz

HAVE YOUR SAY AND BE HEARD

The District Plan is put together every 10 years, and contains Council's objectives, policies, rules and maps for managing activities and development in the Waimate District. The District Plan sets the framework for managing and addressing key resource management issues such as the effect of land use and subdivision, noise and traffic. The District Plan sets out what activities you can do as of right and what activities you'll need resource consent for. It is a vital tool for putting rules in place for everyone to live, work and play in the Waimate District. In the coming months, the District Plan is set for review and we want you to have your say. Simply take a few moments to complete the survey (below), and help us better understand how you see the district's future. Survey closes at 5pm, Friday 13 November 2020.

Survey link: (copy into web browser):
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/H7S7Y2V>



**ONE-STOP
SHOP EVENTS**
Rural waste recycling



Waimate District

- Tuesday 24th November
(Registration closes 17th November)

You **CAN** recycle or safely dispose
of your rural waste.

**GET
INVOLVED!**

For more information visit agrecovery.co.nz
or call us on 0800 247 326