

Cleaning Up Rubbish A Never-Ending Effort

It is not a pleasant job cleaning up rubbish and broken bottles but that is a task a group of volunteers feel they must do in an effort to keep local roadsides clean.

The annual clean up of Earnsclough Rd took place earlier this month and more than two dozen members of Keep Alexandra Clyde Beautiful and the Clyde Off-Road Walkers collected at least 20 bags of rubbish. What is most exasperating is that it need not happen.

"I find it disgusting, the amount of rubbish – glass, plastics, food containers and wrappers – that is thrown from car windows," says Ann Wills, chair of KACB. "We clean up and have been doing it for years now, but the responsibility for it has got to turn around."

The "not to litter" message, which has virtually been a mantra for decades, is somehow not getting through. It is to be hoped that children at today's enviro-schools which emphasis caring for the environment will change the attitude of our younger



Ann and Barrie Wills with the rubbish they collected near the Alexandra end of the Earnsclough Rd.

Wanted – New Home For Indoor Bowls Equipment

Indoor bowls at Clyde are on the same sized rinks as outdoors, with the same bowls. Earnsclough Hall has some smaller indoor bowls which are available to a good home. Phone Louise 449 2119 or email lojo.rico@extra.cxo.nz

Museum Opening

Clyde's Historical Museum in Blyth St will reopen on Tuesday, September 27. The museum is run by volunteers and if you would like to help please phone Carol Haig on 449 2557.

The current hours are between 2pm and 4pm although more volunteers could mean opening times are extended. The Railway Museum at the Railway Reserve at the top of Fraser St is open when the bike company based there is open.

TheatreFest Champions!

They did it! Congratulations to Joy Ramsay, president of the Clyde Theatre Group and Barry Gibbons of the Alexandra Musical Society for winning the TheatreFest one-act play national final. Thirty-three groups throughout the country entered the competition and the finalists battled it out in Invercargill on September 10 with Joy and Barry winning for their performances in *Carol and Nev*.

Local Body Elections

The elections take place on Saturday, October 8. Candidates for the Community Board Earnsclough-Manuhierikia Ward are : James Armstrong (sitting member from Lauder), Nadia Fodie (Earnsclough) and Russell Garbutt (Clyde). Two members are required.

"Keep Clyde As It Is" : Survey Results.

Clyde residents have overwhelmingly declared that what they value most about Clyde is its peace, character and its small size.

This is one of the results from a survey of the community and district plan by the Central Otago District Council in November last year.

The council's district plan is now under review and the results will help the council gauge future zoning requirements.

Other high-ranked values are the strong sense of community, local history and heritage, services, natural environment and recreational facilities and activities.

The most commonly mentioned reply to a question on people's vision for Clyde was that the town should remain as it is – a small, safe place where people want to live and visit – and not become another Wanaka or Queenstown. The second most popular answer was that the town's growth should be thoughtful and controlled and retain its unique character. Good infrastructure such as footpaths, street lighting and public transport was third ranked, followed by no heavy traffic in the main street and the preservation and protection of heritage buildings.

A majority favoured residential growth exceeding the current boundaries, but no further than the Alexandra end of Muttontown Rd. A few wanted it to go further.

A majority answering the question on section size did not want any change with many commenting that large sections were important for space and privacy, providing green areas, trees and gardens. A number believed large sections were great for extended families and holidaymakers because there was space for caravans, tents and extra vehicles. Fewer thought the sections were too large to look after, particularly for the elderly, and that the increased cost of water made large sections too expensive.

The need for a retirement home or village featured prominently in the responses.

Survey forms were sent to all Clyde residential property owners (about 900) and 251 were completed and returned. The 25% return might appear low but the experts say it is a good return. **(More survey stories, see pages 2 and 3)**

Renaissance Romp in Clyde

More than \$300 was raised for the upkeep of Clyde's Anglican Church, St Michael's and All Angels after a stirring performance by a group of experienced actors and actresses.

Under the direction of Rozena Hallum, a *Renaissance Romp* played to a near full church with poems, songs and scenes from renaissance plays with a few modern, irreverent versions thrown in for good fun. It is the second such event staged at the church and more will be held.



From left : Barry Gibbons, Louise Joyce, Juliet Clark, Rozena Hallum and Kelly Keenan



Clyde Sewage – A Future Issue

The current sewage system for Clyde residents is shaping up to be one of the big challenges the town will have to face.

A common thread in all the replies to the community and district plan questions in the survey related to sewage. All Clyde properties use septic tanks but many people who responded to the survey said that if the demand for sections grows the sewage system would have to be addressed first.

"The council would have to look at zoning. If there is residential growth beyond Sunderland St, the question is, how do we deal with effluent," Louise Van Der Voort, the council's planning and development manager said.

Clyde's sewage is already a subject of discussion by the Otago Regional Council which has involved local iwi and Southern Public Health. Discharge permits are issued by the regional council and testing the ground water is a regular practice carried out by both the district and regional councils.

But there have been major issues. Dunstan Hospital is experiencing difficulties with its sewage system and, last summer, it was impossible to miss the odour from Oliver's septic tanks which local butcher, Tony Tohill, described as "an embarrassment to the town". Owner, David Ritchie, who invested in an expensive sewage system when Oliver's was rebuilt and restored, says experts he called in think they have solved the problem.

"They are not sure what caused the odour, but we have changed various chemicals and we think we've fixed it."

The yeast from the brewery, which has continued to brew beer, was not an issue and the historic precinct was odour-free during the winter months.

Clyde Survey: What the Town's Youth Say

The council considered the views of people under the age of 18 were important and included three questions in the community part of the survey. Fifty-two responded.

In reply to the question on what they love to do in Clyde, more than half of the comments involved recreational activities such as bike rides on trails and to school, swimming, boating and fishing, and walking the tracks. Playing sport was important and going to the movies, cafes and restaurants also popular.

Nearly half of the comments in response to the question on what they would like to see in Clyde in future related to recreational activities. Upgrading the playground, improving the camping ground and a bigger park were mentioned. There were suggestions for new activities such as a skate park, an outdoor basketball court, a go-cart track, a BMX track and zip wire across the river. Some wanted more shops and an ATM.

The third question looked at the one thing they would change about Clyde. The majority replied there was nothing to change, that the "town is great as it is". The oddest comment was wanting "snow settling on the ground".

However, a common theme across all the responses was the lack of a swimming pool in Clyde. It seems our young people miss the pool and would like a new one.

Market Days In Clyde

Historic Clyde (formerly Clyde on Sunday) will be holding three market days over summer: Monday, October 24 (Labour Day) as part of the Cuisine @ Clyde event, Monday, January 2, and Sunday, February 5. (Waitangi Weekend). The markets run from 10am until 2pm. For inquiries phone Chris Cockcroft on 4492 287

Understanding Council Plans

District Plan: A policy document which assists the CODC carry out sustainable management of the district's natural and physical resources under the Resource Management Act. It includes managing the use and development of land and contains policies, rules, and objectives to ensure future management. It covers hazardous substances, noise, water activities and subdivisions and determines whether or not resource consents are required for an activity.

The Long Term Plan (LTP): A long term strategic planning document updated every three years. It sets council's budgets and capital projects for the next 10 years along with strategic policies and service levels developed in consultation with local communities.

Community Plan: A set of objectives and projects identified by the local community at public workshops and meetings to improve their town and provide a guide to protect what people value about their town. The plan is facilitated by the district council but is driven by local people interested in the future of their community.

Survey results are available at the council offices and at www.codc.govt.nz

Prize Giving at Winter Bowls

Winter is over, as is indoor bowls at the Clyde Bowling Club.

Ant McLean won the championship singles and combined with Mayor Tony Lepper to win the pairs and, again, with Les Wilson, Russell Dennison and Neville Kemp for the fours title.

Steve Archer won the junior singles. Club secretary Lynn McArthur and Trevor Robinson won the veteran pairs and Des and Ray Paulin and Leon van Boxel the championship triples.



The worst! From left, Ric Oram, Barbara Cruikshank and Verdun Burgess with their wooden spoon.



First-year bowler Kathy Richards with her two singles trophies.

Whew! Made It To The Top

Peter Robertson and Tim Paulin, members of the Clyde Volunteer Fire Brigade, raced up the 28 floors of the Crown Metropol Hotel in Melbourne this month. They were among 386 competitors. Peter finished in 5.04 minutes in 54th place, and for his age group (40-49), 14th out of 87. Tim finished just a tad behind at 5.20 minutes and was 89th. In his age group (40-49), he finished 25th. About 15 New Zealand fire fighters took part in the event to raise funds for the Murdoch Children's Research Institute.



Peter Robertson and Tim Paulin at the top