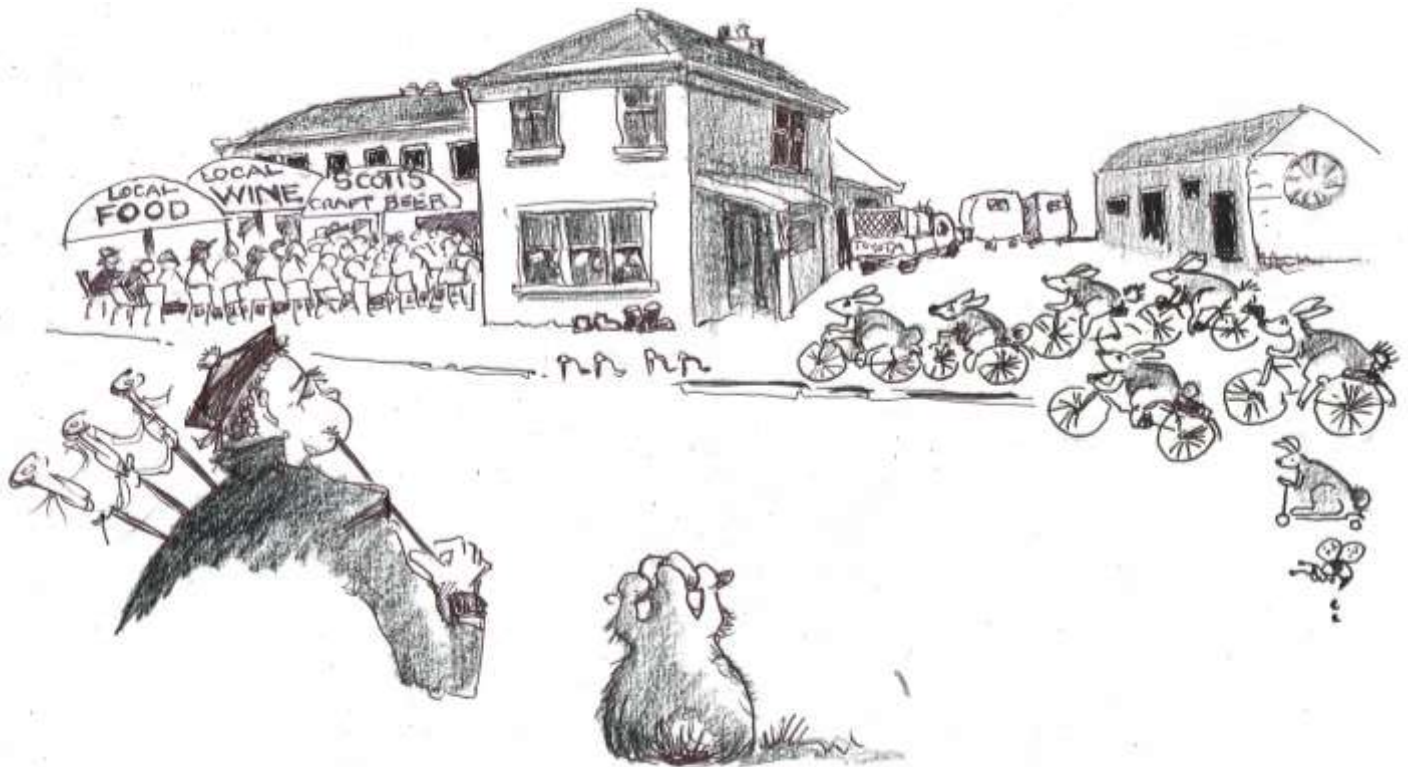




The DUNTROON DIGGER

March edition 2019

Editor: Mike Gray



Saturday March 2nd 2019 – The day the Duntroon Pub officially re-opened for business.

The word was out and the crowd gathered right on cue, outside the village smith in Duntroon. It looked like a Scottish affair with kilts, pipes and drums. The band was soon warming up the crowd, as the stragglers from the pub finally arrived. I asked the new publican, "What's going on?" He replied, "We have just closed the pub so that we can march right back again and open it." It sounded 'Irish' to me !

Then right on 4pm the North Otago Highland Pipe Band, in their 'Maclean of Duart Tartan', led the mob (a country term for a large group of animals) up the footpath towards the hotel. It was a very happy mob, laughing and joking as they strolled along behind the band. Even passing cars slowed, and passengers leaned out windows to photograph this unique event.





On reaching the pub door, it was obviously shut and held securely by a stout red ribbon! The band fell silent and stood 'at ease', and the crowd closed in to hear the speeches.

Ken Urquhart spoke of the need to mark this important historic occasion in a fitting way, as it was signalling a new era in the story of the Duntroon Hotel. Yes, this was the official re-opening of this grand village building – something that the locals had dreamt of for ages. Ken then went on to introduce Brent Murdoch, but this took some time, because it required the telling of a couple obligatory stories at Brent's expense.

Brent spoke glowingly of the "overwhelming support" from the local community. He and Ken were delighted to be able to restore the local pub and present it back to the community, in 'going order' once again. Brent spoke of being mystified as to the identity of the person who was continually mowing the grass around the hotel. And then when he went to put the rubbish bin out for collection, someone had done it for him. And the locals were always on hand to lend a hand, and even lend a fork lift, when a hand was not enough! With this, the audience 'put their hands together' as if to stress the meaning of community.

Local band member and Waitaki District Councillor, Bill Kingan congratulated the owners with a hearty "Well Done, and I hope you make a fortune".

Special mention was made of the support of their wives, Maire and Shirley and deep gratitude for the patience and skill of "Dave the builder". And the Waitaki District Council personnel were acknowledged as providing prompt and supportive help throughout the whole process.

Finally, it was Chef Damo along with Hayley and daughter Sofia who had the honour of cutting the ribbon. The audience of just over 100 people clapped and cheered and the band struck up "Amazing Grace".



Yes, it was a day to remember!

Duntroon Hotel – Phone 431 2045.

Next DDDA Committee Meeting

6:00 pm Thursday 14th, March at The Vanished World Centre.

Next Wetland Working -Bee

10:00 am Saturday 6th April. More plant release work and staking.

Please bring along grubber, gloves. If only we had a Pipe Band and 100 followers for the working Bee !!!!!!!

WDC District Plan Review – Duntroon Hall, March 22nd 4 -6 pm. See you there!



Photographs courtesy of Karan Lawrence, Duntroon.

Nicol's Blacksmith Shop, DUNTROON

Working Blacksmith 10 a m – 3 pm each
Saturday and Sunday

Tool Sharpening Days are

Sundays March 10th and 17th :

Bring knives + gardening tools. More
details: www.blacksmith.net.nz

Report from Duntroon Wetland working-bee held on 2nd March, 2019

More plants found and released from extra-long grass.
Sadly lost a number of plants out in the marshy area
up from the main boardwalk. It might be a result of too
wet of feet for survival.

Thank you to Katrina for planting out around the Info
centre.

A big thanks to the helpers on the day as always.
Katrina, Daniel, John, Owen. and Karan.

Owen King.



Have YOUR say!

What's YOUR vision for the future of Palmerston, Kakanui, Moeraki, Hampden & Duntroon?

WE ARE GROWING...

The Waitaki District is experiencing rapid growth - growth in the demand for housing, tourism and business.

How do we accommodate this growth over the next 10 years? Where should it go? What should we be protecting? What do we need to be improving?

WE NEED YOUR HELP...

Waitaki District Council needs your opinions, ideas and feedback to help us draft the new Waitaki District Plan - the rulebook for land use in the District

Some of the questions we have are:

Where should new housing, businesses, car parks, community and recreational facilities or visitor accommodation be located? Should we be increasing housing density in certain areas? How can we improve local streetscapes? What works well in your township? What needs to be improved?

SHARE YOUR IDEAS...

Use our online interactive maps and survey to share your ideas here:

www.waitaki.govt.nz

These will be available to access between 1st March - 31 March 2019

Hard copies can be found at Waitaki District Libraries and Council offices in Palmerston and Ōamaru during the same period.

Or talk to a planner or councillor about your ideas at:

KAKANUI COMMUNITY HALL
Thursday 14 March 4pm - 6pm

PALMERSTON SERVICE CENTRE
Friday 15 March 4pm - 6pm

MOERAKI COMMUNITY HALL
Thursday 21 March 4pm - 6pm

HAMPDEN COMMUNITY HALL
Friday 22 March 4pm - 6pm

DUNTROON HALL
Friday 22 March 4pm - 6pm

Questions? Contact the District Plan team on 03 433 0300 or districtplan@waitaki.govt.nz

Your valuable feedback will be used in the review of the District Plan. A discussion document will be released for public consultation in July 2019.

www.waitaki.govt.nz



Waitaki

DISTRICT COUNCIL
TE KAIHĪHĪRA A IOHĒ O WAITAKI