Published by Kurow Information Centre as a service to our community Issue 512 Wednesday 2 June 2021



Thank You...



We would like to thank all the emergency services that attended Fred's accident, a tough call out when they are a local— Thank you.

To family, friends and the wider community— Thank you so very much for your overwhelming response, a true measure of a rural community, especially when it felt like our world had suddenly stopped.

Thank you to those who gave and offered in many ways, we are truly grateful.

A special mention to Daniel, Tim, Lex, Denise, Jack, Lynne, Relda, and the team who crutched our rams, absolutely brilliant.

Fred is responding well with his rehabilitation, we are sure your positive support has attributed in some way.

We cannot Thank you all enough.

Kindest Regards

David, Kerrie, Tom & Fred Sutton



We welcome the opportunity to offer you a review on your business, personal or farm insurances.

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BUGLE PUBLICATION:

The Bugle is at the Kurow Information Centre - Please send your pieces to kurowbugle@gmail.com and please ensure they are in by strictly 12pm on the Friday before publication or they won't be in until the following issue.

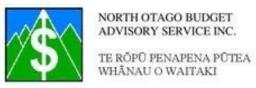
ST JOHN INFORMATIONAL COMMUNITY MORNING TEA:

Tuesday 8th June, 10am at the Kurow St John Ambulance Station. If you require a ride please phone Trish: 027 472 2674. Guest Speaker: Ostler Wines.

DUNTROON DDDA MEETING:

Next DDDA meeting is on 10th June, 7pm at Vanished World.





NORTH OTAGO BUDGET ADVISORY SERVICE:

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WAITAKI CREATIVE WELLBEING CHANGE OF LOCATION

The free art sessions will now be held in the side room of the Kurow Information Centre.

Waimate Regent Theatre Movies June 2021

Those Who Wish me Dead

Friday 11 June 7.30 pm

(R16) 1 hour 40 mins

James and Isey

Sunday 13 June 5.30 pm

(M)1 hour 31 mins

The Father

Thursday 24 June 2.00 pm

(M)1 hour 37 mins

Live Entertainment Rennie Pearson

Drawing on a repertoire that comes from all over the world, including Ireland Scotland, North America, Pakistan and India, Rennie will be entertaining at the Waimate Regent Theatre on.

> Friday, June 18, 2021 at 7:30 pm Tickets \$20 available at the door

Follow us on our Facebook page under Waimate Regent Theatre. Tom and Jerry

All tickets \$8

Saturday 12 June 2.30 pm Saturday 19 June 2.30 pm

(G) 1 hour 41 mins

First Cow

Sunday 20 June 5.30 pm

(PG) 2 hour 2 mins

Land

Sunday 27 June 5.30 pm

(M) 1 hour 29 min

Movie Ticket Prices unless stated

Adults \$12.00

Students and Super annuitants \$10.00

Children's movies \$8.00

SORRY NO EFTPOS

We will also be taking a break from the movies during July due to the Waimate Theatre Company holding a live show at the theatre.

Kurow Information Centre Meeting Room

The newly refurbished meeting room at the Kurow Information Centre is available for hire to all businesses and community groups.

It is equipped with kitchen and bathroom facilities, private outdoor access, board room table, whiteboard and a heat pump.

The cost is \$25 an hour up to 2hours \$60 half day or \$80 for a full day Free for community groups

Call in Mon- Fri, 9am-3.30pm and view, or call 4360 950 for more info

NEXT ISSUE: 16th June 2021 COPY IN: 12pm 11/06/2021

email: kurowbugle@gmail.com phone: 03 4360 950

or post it to: Kurow Museum & Info Centre, 57 Bledisloe St, PO Box 56, Kurow.



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River-T Vine News

Well it's nearly time to call it a wrap on the end of our first Cellar Door season and we can't thank you all enough for your amazing support! Despite the curve balls you naturally expect when going into a new business, we are absolutely loving this adventure and enjoying getting to know the locals.

Our Cellar Door will be closing from June the 8th for the Winter (after Queens Birthday weekend). This will give us a chance to spruce the cellar door up and get the winter pruning done in time for opening the doors again in September. Don't forget we will still be available for wine purchases through our website or email us on

info@rivertwines.co.nz

To say a huge **THANK YOU** for your support we are offering 15% off all wine bottle sales when you quote 'Local' at the Cellar Door or during checkout online. This offer is valid until the 8th of June 2021.

Cheers from the River-T Team!

KUROW TRAILS GROUP

KUROW HILL

The Kurow Trails group removed a chair from the hill that had passed its use by date and replaced it with a 'new' one. We have removed the dead wildings that are near the track so as not to become a danger in high winds. The last trim of growth overhanging the track before winter has been done. We had good publicity in the recent ODT newspaper and also through social media when All Black captain Sam Cane posted a photo of himself sitting on one the chairs up Kurow Hill on his facebook page. Was great to see. Incidentally the chairs (of which there are about 8) are given/sometimes bought cheaply from op shops Its a great way of old pre loved armchairs seeing out their final days overlooking Kurow and beyond. Some of them are from Rest Homes and due to the age of these chairs they were made 'back in the day' when everything was made of quality and craftmanship. We still have a chair up Kurow Hill that's been there for 4 years now. Well built weathering the seasons.

KUROW WETLAND

We continue to be involved with Kurow Island Group over our joint venture of signage panels for both Kurow Wetland and Kurow Island. 15 panels in total and 3 seats are part of the funding from Meridian Energy. To date the wording for the panels has been finalised with the photos for them being sorted with local graphic designer Dana Johnston.

Statement Trees Oamaru have kindly donated some natives which we planted in the last week. Weekly pre winter weeding around the existing plantings has

been happening over the last month.

Kurow Trails Group Karen Turner; Rosina Russell; Alistair Emslie.



Saturday 5th, Sunday 6th & Monday 7th June 9.30am-2pm



37 Gordon Street, Kurow

Electric Golf Trundler, Mobility Scooter, Lawn Bowls, Small Tallboy, Oak Tea Wagon, Oak Morris Chair, Cake Plates, Tupperware, Jigsaw Puzzles, Picnic Table, Children Books, Bags, Kitchenware, Wool, Patchwork Fabric, Crystal Glasses, Couch, Cocktail Cabinet, 2 Man Tent, Formica Table & Chairs, Weaving Loom, and many other odds and sods.

Cash payment preferred

Extracts from an interview with Peter Graczer, Stuff, NZ Herald.

How to Save an Island

On the border of North Otago and South Canterbury, the town of Kurow is tiny by most people's standards. Hugging the southern bank of the mighty Waitaki River, it is home to just over 300 people, many of whom trace their roots back to settlers and the original farming families in the region.

But Kurow punches well above its size with big and bold ideas. It was the birthplace of New Zealand's first social security system, set up amid the Great Depression to support workers at the Waitaki hydroelectric scheme.

Kurow is also home to one of the longest-running community-led island restoration projects in the country. Approaching from the north, Kurow Island emerges among the clear, braided waters of the river, with bridges on either side linking it to the mainland. It is an impressive gateway to the town with wetlands, walking tracks and a well maintained scenic reserve for recreation and events.

But it wasn't always so picturesque. Twenty years ago, the island was a neglected and pest ridden wasteland of overgrown gorse and scrub, and illegal dumping of wrecked cars, industrial and chemical waste and household rubbish had created an eyesore right in the middle of the Waitaki River.

The fortunes of Kurow Island have ebbed and flowed with patterns of human settlement in the area. A photo in Kurow Museum from the late 1800's shows picnics taking place on the island, showing it was prized for its recreational value by early settlers to the area.

In the early 1900's however, a decision was made to establish a district landfill on Kurow Island. This marked the beginning of decades of major environmental degradation that saw the loss of the island both as a place of pride for locals and as a site supporting rich land and marine biodiversity.

The Turning Point

The turning point for Kurow Island came in the early 2000's. Meridian Energy, which generates hydroelectric power from the Waitaki, had announced new plans to divert water from the river which included restoration of the island as a recreational reserve. The plans for diverting water into another hydro generation scheme were abandoned, but the idea of restoring the island had sparked the imagination of locals and Meridian Energy staffers alike.

Kurow local Sandy Cameron was at the frontline of the idea to reverse nearly a century of environmental damage on Kurow Island, but she knew the scale of the challenge was immense. "We had a toxic dump right in the middle of the braided river and we just thought that was appalling."

The dump had also created a serious fire risk for the town, with sirens sounding nearly every other day. Cameron says Meridian Energy's consultants and staff brought the resources and expertise they needed to get such a significant project off the ground.

"It all started from there. We really couldn't have done it without their support, DOC, the various agencies and the community"

Vision Meets Reality

Cameron and her group soon realised they were facing a lot more than a physical cleanup operation on Kurow Island. With District Council boundaries running straight up the middle and multiple government agencies responsible for aspects of the island, navigating layers of public bureaucracy added a huge amount of time and work.

"It was administered by LINZ with DOC ownership, Waitaki and Waimate District Councils and Environment Canterbury"

Meridian Energy helped the group establish a comprehensive landscape management plan including guidelines for every process that needed to be followed, from consultation and resource consent, to compliance, design management and financial reporting.

The scale of the project was such that Cameron says some locals doubted their ability to pull it off successfully, although this changed when the results of the physical restoration started to become apparent.

"Once they saw the bulldozers roll in and crush the gorse and broom, when the truckloads of clay and soil came in, suddenly it was just like 'oh my goodness!".

After the landfill was capped and progress was slowly made, it became clear to Cameron and her team that restoring the island could in fact become a lifelong project, and there were moments where they felt overwhelmed by the physical work.

"We used to say to each other - what have we started? How on earth are we going to get this done? It was just so rewarding to see the restoration progress and it gave us so much pride." It never would have happened without the support from the Kurow and Hakataramea communities, volunteers and local businesses.

An Island Restored

Today, no signs remain of the environmental disaster created by the landfill and dumping on Kurow I sland. Endangered Black fronted terns, which breed only on the braided river beds of the South Island, can be seen on the gravel islets around the island. New signs will soon educate visitors about local history, ecology, plants, birds and aquatic life. A wedding was recently celebrated here, and community events are taking place again.

In a town founded on principles of hard work and benevolence, Cameron and her group have achieved more than restoring the natural environment to an iconic and nationally important landscape. They have also restored the mana, pride and sense of place to an island that had been treasured by locals and visitors alike for generations.

The group has also ensured the island will continue to be cared for and maintained into the future. "The Councils and agencies we've worked with have all bought into it. We know someone will do the weed control. We know that tractors will come and mow the grass. You have to have things in place for when you can no longer be a part of it, you need a succession plan."

As well as being future focused, Cameron and her group say it's vital to go into a project of this scale with your sights set on the bigger picture.

"That's how we went in, boots and all and with very little knowledge. I'd say don't look at the small stuff first, you have to approach it with the heart, and a vision of how it will turn out in the end."

The legacy of the Kurow Island restoration is an asset which will continue to draw people to this special part of the country, defined by the braided river that flows from Aoraki/Mount Cook all the way to the Pacific Ocean.

"Walking around it, listening to the river and seeing the snowcapped mountains all around, it's wonderful to think 'we've actually done it. It was a rewarding experience that I would not miss for all the world."

The restoration would not have happened with out the overwhelming support of the community, Meridian Energy, DOC, the Councils and McConnell Dowell, NZTA, Waitaki Valley Community Society and local iwi.

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Salmon Journeys

Origins

We come from a mountain. The creator Olelbes created the earth. On Mount Shasta, there is a spring that is our genesis place. That little breaking of the bubble is just as it is for a human being when you leave your mother. You leave the womb, the water that's there and breathe your first breath of life. We start from there. We go all the way down to the Winnemem water-shed which runs all the way to the ocean.

When we came from that spring, we were the last of creation. Baer came out, eagle came out, elf came out, deer came out, squirrels came out, bats came out, gnats, fish of all kinds. Every one of them had a purpose; knew what it was doing when it exited out of there.

The creator sat there and was happy about it — watched all of these little spirits fly out of there and take their place and walk among each other. The four-legged and the winged ones and the ones who swam all spoke to each other and could talk to each other.

The last that came was two-legged. It came out of that and didn't know what he was going to do, was confused and wandered around.

The creator said: "What are you going to be?"

"Well, I guess I'll be a human being."

The creator looked at it and said, "You're going to need some help."

And the creator called back the bear spirit, called back the eagle, called back the water spirit, the fire spirit too.

The salmon volunteered to come back.

The salmon said, "This one is going to need to have someone help them because we can't understand what they're talking about, so we will give then our voice so that all relations can hear them and understand them."

So, salmon gave human beings their voice. Before the transaction was completed, they said, "But you will always have to speak for us because now we won't be able to."

That was the first agreement Winnemem made with salmon.

The above was the Winnemem Wintu (Middle River People) genesis story relayed to Ngāi Tahu by their headman Mark Franco during the visit to NZ of over 24 tribal leaders in April 2010. "We have come here, to your place, to your river [The Rakaia], to see those fish and to atone for our failure to them. This is not a ceremony for you [The media]. It is not a ceremony for the government of NZ."



As the eagle flies, Mt Shasta lies around 77 kilometres from the hydro lake created by the Shasta Dam, about 354 kilometres north of San Francisco. The McCloud River runs into Lake McCloud (created by a dam) then into Shasta Lake. Winnemem Wintu people have lived on the banks of the McCloud River for centuries. Theirs is a story of unspeakable loss, deprivation including their inexplicable removal from officially recognised Native American Tribes by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1985. At its height, the Winnemem people may have numbered up to 20,000 people. By the early 1900s, their population had dropped to

395. Mirroring this loss, the salmon (Nur in Winnemem Wintu language) on which they depended was also showing dramatic decreases. The two dams have all but destroyed the livelihood of the Winnemem Wintu peoples of Northern California.

Te Karaka Winter 2010 https://ngaitahu.iwi.nz/te-karaka/issue-47/

The Baird Hatchery was built on the McCloud River in the 1870s. In protest, The Winnemem Wintu staged a war dance. This had the effect of making the authorities sit down and listen to the tribes' cultural concerns. Sixty years later, worse would occur. During World War II, they completed a dam which blocked both the Sacramento and McCloud Rivers flooding 90% of their sa cred sites and prevented salmon returning to their spawning grounds. Coupled with this is the spectre of disease. Further north on the Klamath River, about 35,000 adult salmon died from a parasitic disease which thrives in the warmer waters created



by damming for irrigation and power. The consequences? Salmon in the Sacramento, McCloud and Klamath Rivers are staring down extinction. Compounding all this is the proposal to increase the height of Shasta Dam; in the process of which many of the remaining Winnemem sacred sites will be drowned.

But. Sometimes when all seems lost, hope appears from out of the blue. Roy Montgomery is a Senior Lecturer of Environmental Management and Planning at the University of Canterbury. Carrying out research into the origins of chinook salmon introduction into NZ rivers in the late 1800s, he could identify the tribal areas from where the fish originated. It was Montgomery's email to the Winnemem Wintu website stating in part; "we have your fish here" that set a ball rolling that reverberates today.



It was that email which the tribe

"...were praying for our fish to come back, away for the waters to open up and for them to come home."

The visit in 2010 was followed by the further visit in 2018 to the place where the first Chinook Salmon were released – The Hakataramea River.

During the visit to the site of the McHenry's Rd Hatchery, in April 2018, Nicholas Wilson threw a bucket of water into the river, symbolising the start of the journey back home to the McCloud River.

Winnemem Wintu tribe member Nicholas Wilson (foreground), his cousin Michael Preston (left), and Winnemem Wintu hereditary chief and spiritual leader Caleen Sisk. (Photo / Peter McIntosh)

The final part of Salmon Journeys will be printed in the next Bugle issue.

Wayne Reid for the Kurow Archives Group, kurowarchives@gmail.com



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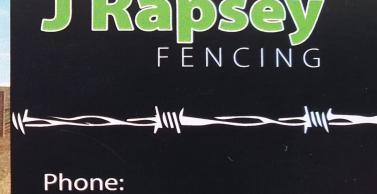
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Saturday 19th June 2021, 10.30am-4pm

Fun, family day out of rugby at the Kurow Domain



JAB

RIPPA GAMES AT THE
RACE TRACK FROM @ 10.30am
7/8s Big Clash Match @ 10.30am
9/10s vs Excelsior @ 11.00am
11/12s vs Valley 11.55am @ Main Ground

PRESIDENTS TEAM VS. EXCELSIOR @1PM

PREMIERS TEAM VS. EXCELSIOR @2.30PM

AT THE MAIN GROUND
Bumbles Bacon Butties from 12pm
One Smart Coffee Cart from 1pm
Bouncy Castle for the kids (Weather Permitting)



PRIZE GIVING FOR LAMB DRIVE WILL BE AT THE AFTER MATCH FUNCTION AT CLUB ROOMS