

Tarras Fire Brigade



The quiet patch that we were in over the spring months is well and truly over with 8 call outs since the 17th December. We attended 3 MVAs included a car v truck and a 4 car nose to tail, 4 vegetation fires of which 1 was a false alarm and 1 ambulance assist.

As of the 15th of January we have been in a **TOTAL FIRE BAN**

This means what it says and includes burning drums and rubbish holes; in fact the only thing that can be lit in the open is a gas barbeque. Just because your burning drum is surrounded by irrigated pasture does not mean you can ignore the ban. The total fire ban is a state of law and with the spate of wildfire this spring patience in Dunedin is wearing thin. It is only a matter of time before someone is made an example of and prosecuted.

It should be noted that the FENZ national budget for helicopters for this season was blown before Christmas, a large proportion of it in Otago.

With the growth resulting from the wet patch in late November/early December now drying off, the fuel load in places that aren't regularly grazed and in particularly some lifestyle blocks is quite high.

The fire at ruffell road although only around 4 Hectares still took 4 hours to put out with 2 appliances and 2 tankers and 15 firefighters and a helicopter on standby for the first hour.

The high fuel load and the hot dry conditions forecast for the foreseeable future means that fires will ignite easily and may be difficult to contain especially if helped by wind.

So I ask you all to be careful and think about what you are going to do beforehand, i.e. mowing in the early morning while the humidity is higher and even consider where you park in dry grass. The fire at Long Gully was started by a hot exhaust and is not the first fire we have attended in recent years with the same cause. Chainsaws and weed eaters with metal blades are other likely culprits.

Another negative comment is that our new appliance that was to be delivered in December has been held up and as I write this I have no word as to a likely delivery date.

Be safe and enjoy the summer.

Announcements

Congratulations to Joe and Jess on the birth of Bridie who was born just before Christmas.



Happy Birthday : To anyone celebrating in February

****Remember if you know someone celebrating a birthday email Tarras Talk to let them know so we can all share in their excitement!****

Tarras Talk



TARRAS COMMUNITY CHURCH

Monthly Service

11am Sunday 9 February 2020.

Led by Rev Damon Plimmer.

Spin Lucas and Anne Rive on duty.

All denominations welcome.

Tarras Community Church Charitable Trust

Now that the community has purchased the church the Trust is calling a meeting at 7pm on Monday 17 February at the church to discuss the future direction of the church. We are looking for other enthusiastic members of the community to become trustees and/or to help the Trust promote the church for weddings, concerts and other events. If you have any questions please call Felicity Hayman on 0274 372137.

Please continue to email tarrastalk@gmail.com by the last Saturday of the month. If you too would like to be included in the reminder email, send me an email and I will add you to the list.

We are still online at www.tarras.org.nz

Tarras Talk is sponsored by: **TARRAS RURAL WOMEN**

Book Club

Meeting on Saturday 15th February at 12.30pm will be hosted by Mary, 76B Golf Course Road Wanaka. Phone 0212026348.

Please Prepare Recycling Like This!

Recycling is only useful if food scraps, plastic bags, etc. are not in with the items. If they are the items become rubbish, defeating the point. Most folks are preparing items beautifully. Thanks for proper preparation!

Also, a gold coin in the honesty box per trip to deposit recycling is appreciated, and best practice. You will find the box on the container nearest the wheelie bins.

Cheers Jen and Bonar

Tarras Community Hall

**DUE TO COUNCIL WORKS
THE HALL WILL BE CLOSED
TO ALL USERS FROM
MONDAY 16TH MARCH
THROUGH TILL SUNDAY
5TH APRIL.**

**THE INTERIOR OF THE
MAIN HALL IS BEING
re-CLAD**

**NO BOOKINGS WILL BE
TAKEN FOR THIS TIME**

Playgroup

We start back on Wednesday the 12 of February from 9am - 12 noon. Every Wednesday during term time.

Tarras Rural Women

Meeting on February 19th
7.30pm

Supper Room
General Meeting and catch up

New members always welcome



TARRAS SCHOOL



School starts back for students on Friday 7th February.

This year we welcome Mel Fisher to the teaching team. Mel will be working Tues - Thurs alongside Rachelle. It is a big thank you to FOTS for helping fund this extra teacher to ensure our students really get the best education available to them - what a wonderful opportunity. Mel brings a vast knowledge of play based learning and a huge enthusiasm for teaching in general - she worked with our year 1 students in Term 1 2019 so is looking forward to being back at Tarras School.

We have lots of sporting events planned for term 1 including Challenge Wanaka right at the start of term!

The school pool remains open for this term - keys are available for \$60 from the school office on Mon, Wed and Fri - pop in and see Letitia.

Our fruit trees are growing well so watch out for the stall to be brimming with fruit in the next few weeks - plums, apples, peaches with potatoes are being sold already.

Staff will be onsite on Wednesday 5th February. Letitia will be in the office for parents with any questions from 11am - 1pm. The teachers will be in planning meetings so will be unavailable on the day.

We welcome pre-schoolers to the pool on Mondays from 11.45 - 12.30 for the pre-school paddle

Looking forward to another amazing year of learning Rachelle, Mel, Chrissy, Letitia, Gae and Pete