



Bulletin



your update on Council news

30 October 2013



Bulletin FOCUS

Neighbourhood Parties



The Neighbourhood Parties are back! These parties proved popular so we're holding six more, three this side of Christmas in Tokoroa and three in January/February in Putaruru and Tirau. The purpose of the parties is to provide an opportunity for neighbours to meet whilst using local Council parks and reserves, promote community spirit, meet local social and service organisations and for families to enjoy some good old fashioned games, kiddies bouncy castle fun and a sausage sizzle. It's a real community event. Watch out for information in the local paper so you know where your Neighbourhood party will be held and look out for the flyers and posters around town!

SWIF consultation closes

Consultation on what to do with the SWIF, Council's \$25 million, closed last Friday. Council received over 80 submissions. Thank you to all those who submitted. These submissions are being collated and the hearing will be held on Wednesday 13 November.

Welcome to the new Council

The election period is over and by now you will all have heard who our new Council is. We welcome back Mayor Neil Sinclair, Tokoroa Councillor Jenny Shattock and Putaruru Ward Councillors Adrienne Bell, Anne Edmeades and Herman van Rooijen. Our new Tirau Councillor is Terry Magill and we have five new Tokoroa Councillors, Jeff Gash, Marin Glucina, Bill Machen, Thomas Lee and Tua Numanga. Our new Councillors were sworn in last Wednesday evening. Councillor Jenny Shattock was appointed Deputy Mayor.

Bulletin BRIEFS

During the months of November and December each year Council undertakes chemical spraying of its urban kerblines. This activity is to prevent vegetation growth over the kerblines. If you wish to maintain the kerblines in front of your property yourself, without chemical spraying, you may choose to do so. Please contact Council on 885 0340 by Friday 15 November so that your property can be excluded.

The South Waikato Sport and Events Centre is hosting another Ladies Only programme starting Thursday 14 November and running for six weeks. Sessions run from 6 to 7pm and cost only \$20 for six weeks of fun with netball, volleyball, futsal, dance or gymnastics... anything and everything. All ages welcome.

The seasonal pools in Putaruru and Tirau open for the summer season on Saturday 9 November. The opening day is FREE entry and both pools are open from 12noon.

Council decided at its inaugural meeting to retain the three weekly meeting schedule on Thursdays; and keep the two key committees: Corporate & Environment and Community & Assets. These committees are made up of full Council and have full decision making powers. 32 teenagers completed the Odyssey Reading Programme through the libraries. Over a six week period they collectively read 492 books! Only 39.1% of eligible voters voted during the recent elections; a slight drop from 39.4% for the previous elections three years ago. This is on a par with the national average. Low voter turnout has sparked discussion on the election process and how to engage the New Zealand populace more effectively.

There has been 150 applications to Council's Heat Swap Scheme. This scheme sees clean heating appliances installed. This is then paid by Council and the ratepayer pays the amount back by targeted rate over nine years.

The hearing stage of the District Plan Review is now complete. The Hearings Panel will deliberate on all submissions before a decision is notified.

