

IN touch



South
Waikato
District
Council

A bi-monthly newsletter from your local Council - Issue 31 - November/December 2016

Kia itai!
Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori
MĀORI LANGUAGE COMMISSION



NGĀ TOHU
REO MĀORI
2016



Te Toa Reo Māori
Kaunihera ā-Rohe

Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o
Te Tonga o Waikato

Council Wins National Te Reo Māori Award

South Waikato District Council has come away with the Kaunihera ā-Rohe (Local Government) award at this year's Ngā Tohu Reo Māori Awards (National Te Reo Māori Awards).

"We are absolutely thrilled with this result and incredibly proud," commented Council's Chief Executive, Craig Hobbs. "Council would like to acknowledge Raukawa Charitable Trust, not only for the nomination they put forward on our behalf but for the guidance they continue to provide on any and all te reo matters."

Council was nominated for its efforts towards strengthening the use of te reo Māori in our district over the past year. This included work such as the creation of our bilingual signs at our leisure facilities, our Waiata group, and the work towards demarcating sites of cultural significance to our mana whenua.

As a district, South Waikato came away with two other awards on the night, presented to

Te Karaehe Kaumātua o Tirau in the Hapori (Community), and Aaron Koopu in the Rangatahi (Youth).

"We extend our congratulations to all of the night's winners, but especially to our local winners," said Mayor Jenny Shattock. "It's exciting to see the South Waikato involved in the revitalisation of te reo in so many different areas, and we are very proud to be a part of that."

Council is excited to continue with this positive work and looks forward to seeing the use of te reo in our district go from strength to strength.

Poihaere and Wiremu Barrett of Te Karaehe Kaumātua o Tirau were nominated in the Hapori category for their Tirau Kaumātua Classes. These classes have provided a space for people to come together to listen, speak and learn under the auspices of te reo and tikanga Māori.

Aaron Koopu was nominated in the Rangatahi category for the contributions he makes to the Wharekura. Aaron is helping to shape our young men and women into positive role models for their marae, hapū, community and iwi.

Open Public Forums

Come on in to the Open Public Forum... newly introduced!

The sessions will start at 9.30am at the beginning of every Council meeting day, which is every third Thursday.

These informal sessions are for people in the community to raise matters - be they positive or negative, bring ideas to Councillors or even just update Councillors on community groups and what they are doing in the district.

The sessions are half an hour long and have been created to foster regular face-to-face opportunities direct with Councillors.

Open Public Forums will not occur on the days that Council has Citizenship Ceremonies.

"It is unlikely decisions on introducing new initiatives will be made at the forums," said Mayor Shattock.

"However any potential ideas that Council is really keen on exploring further will be taken up by staff and progressed, likely in conjunction with the person who raised the idea."

IN brief

- The Tokoroa Trade Training Centre is being renamed South Waikato Trade Training to capture all courses offered and all local industry that is involved. The training facilities continue to grow in success.
- People continue to replace old heating appliances with energy efficient ones. During the first four months of this financial year, eight people have taken up the On the House Scheme, 21 for Split the Bill and nine for Buy Now Pay Later.

IN side

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IN house

Produced in-house for the South Waikato community by the South Waikato District Council.

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Getting to know our 2016-19 Mayor and Councillors

We thought we would spend a little of this issue of In Touch introducing our community to our Mayor and Councillors for the 2016-19 triennium. We identified eight possible questions with an option of answering four and some lighter more fun details thrown into the mix. We hope you enjoy learning a little more about your new Mayor and Councillors - covered on pages 2-5.

Jenny Shattock

Jenny returns to Council serving her seventh term, but this time as Mayor! A true Tokoroa'n at heart, Jenny is a familiar face, having grown up here, raised her family here, managed TANGS and a local business here and she has been our Deputy Mayor for three terms.



"I have worked in local government for eighteen years and I still love the involvement with the community and working in it. I want to make a difference to the community here. I want to leave it in a better place than it was when I first went in to local government and I want to finish the projects that we are still working on.

In the next three years I hope to lead a Council that is an effective team, that is cohesive and positive, that has robust discussion with respect for each other and that will work with and for the people, making sound decisions based on fact and fairness and focussed on the future.

I would also like to see the pensioner housing project completed, the new skatepark completed, a dog park in each of our towns, new and appropriate dog bylaws, more appropriate levels of service in maintaining our footpaths and roads, a plan to address derelict buildings, a solution

to the mobile black spots and ultrafast broadband available to Putaruru and Tirau residents. I would like us take the lead in growth activities that will benefit our district including new residential subdivisions, purchase of industrial/commercial land and re-zoning areas of land. I want to see Te Waihou and Blue Spring well managed and becomes an economic success story. I want to see Putaruru Moving Forward go ahead and implement some of their ideas, Tokoroa to finish Leith Place and Tirau to have their walkway complete.

I want to see us grasping opportunities that arise and I want to see a safe unified sustainable district with more jobs and a better reputation so that people want to come and live, work and play here.

My favourite things about the South Waikato are the friendliness of the people, the diversity of cultures that live here and the central location.

My key strengths are leadership skills, wide district knowledge, relationships with the community and that I get things done. I have been here for a long time, been on numerous groups, organisations and boards over the years and am currently still on many so I hear the voice of the people."

And the fun stuff:

- *First paying job ever* - working in the Rainbow Valley dairy at 12 years old, starting work at 8am until 5.30pm and earning \$5.95 for the whole day.

- *Something many people wouldn't know* - I was a Ballet teacher in a past life!

- *Favourite childhood memory* - playing hide and seek with my Mum and Dad and my five siblings at dusk!



Jeff Gash

Jeff is in his second term and has been appointed as Deputy Mayor. Jeff is a well-known face in Tokoroa, having served in the Police force here and in recent years as a local business owner.



"I stood for Council again for two main reasons, the first being unfinished business. Three years just isn't long enough to learn all there is to know as well as get things done. The second is the people here, my family and having lived here for 15 years - this place has been good to us, so this is my way of saying thank you and doing what I can to help.

I would like to achieve two main goals for Tokoroa over the next three years, the first being the Leith Place/CBD upgrade, this project has taken way too long, but we do need to get it right. The duration of this phased project will be more than three years, but we will make significant headway within this term. The second is the new Skate Park development. This project is well into the planning and design stage so we will see a great facility in the not too distant future. I am also eager to see what comes out of both the Putaruru Moving Forward projects and the Tirau Traffic Plan.

My favourite thing about the South Waikato is the people. There are many characters

and a lot of history here, from sporting legends and academics to everyday people. South Waikato is a friendly place with wonderful people and it is their stories that need to be highlighted and shared in order to change the rest of the country's perception of us.

On improvements - our housing stock needs enhancing, particularly in Tokoroa, but also Putaruru. We need more quality housing options, whether that be new residential subdivisions or rejuvenation of existing areas. This will help bring new residents and retain and enhance the lives of existing ones. We have many challenges as a district and as a Council, not all of them are negative."

And the fun stuff:

- *First paying job ever* - working on a large sheep and cattle station during school holidays.



- *Something many people wouldn't know* - after school I completed a butchery apprenticeship.

- *Favourite childhood memory* - great rural upbringing so many wonderful memories, like being high up on a hill, mustering sheep, above the clouds watching the sun come up. Magic.

Gray Baldwin

Gray is a first time Councillor who represents the people in the Putaruru Ward. Gray is a dairy farmer whose family has been farming in Putaruru since 1955.



"I stood for Council because I genuinely believe that the South Waikato is poised for some really good growth given the pressures building in the big cities to the north and east of us.

I am interested in business development, job growth and ensuring that Tirau, Putaruru and Tokoroa get more than their fair share of the emerging industries of logistics and tourism. This will complement the dairy and forestry we have here already and will require Council to be pro-active and business friendly.

I like the peace and quiet of the South Waikato. We are handy to big cities and hustle and bustle, but we can enjoy a bit of refuge from the rat race. Our water here is fantastic despite all the fuss about improving water quality both nationally and in the Waikato. I would happily (and do) swim in and drink the water from the two rivers that meet at the back of our farm, Ngutuwhera and Pokaiwhenua. That said, I am highly motivated to keep them that way, we all need to play our part, Council included, to ensure we don't 'mess in the nest'.

A strength I bring to Council is big picture thinking which I have learned from a number of other boardrooms where I serve shareholders rather than ratepayers. Governing a district does have differences to a corporate entity, but also important similarities. Among these are holding the management team to account and coming up with a good vision and strategy to achieve goals. I look forward to contributing to both functions."

And the fun stuff:

- *First paying job ever* - taking billy tea and sandwiches to the shearing gang on our farm.
- *Something many people wouldn't know* - I once wrote a thesis about winter milk production on dairy farms - for my M.Agr.Sc at Massey.
- *Favourite childhood memory* - being taken out onto the front lawn at night by my father - he pointed at the moon and said, "There's a man standing on that moon right now, isn't that amazing...!"

Peter Schulte

Peter is a first term Councillor representing the Tirau Ward. Peter has lived in New Zealand since 1980 and has been a proud Tirau resident and business owner for 15 years.



"I stood for Council because my business - coffee roasting, and over the years several others - now allows me to give back to Tirau and the district. My focus for the next three years is to promote our tourist attractions to create jobs and investigate what can be done for our rural sector as dairying becomes more difficult due to legislation imposed on farmers through Government regulation.

My favourite thing about the South Waikato is the people. I consider the South Waikato to be paradise. We have got everything here like the lakes, reserves and walking trails. We're also very central to major centres like Tauranga, Hamilton, Rotorua and Taupo.

I am looking forward to progress on the Tirau Traffic Management Plan which will be implemented following continued input from the Tirau Community Board and Tirau Ward residents. We need more good quality accommodation in our district with the appropriate conveniences, so I would advocate for Council's continued business friendly philosophy to attract more businesses ventures for hotels and motels.

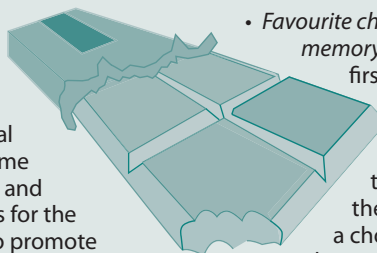
I am looking forward to making the South Waikato a better place to live than it already is, boasting a vibrant economy for residents and businesses and in particular I am keen to see the

development of the Tirau Walkway, railcrossing and bridge, alongside the TCB and Tirau Lions Club."

And the fun stuff:

- *First paying job ever* - work experience with a roofing company when I was 14... first day they sent me up a four storey building, getting up was easy, but I froze at the top; they used a crane to get me down, I was classed as 'not suitable for heights'... but at least they still paid me!
- *Something many people wouldn't know* - everything is black or white, yes or no, I don't do 'maybes'!

• *Favourite childhood memory* - my first day in school, when I got to class there was a chocolate bar on every desk; however I thought that was normal and was looking forward to the next day... what a disappointment, no chocolate bar.



Arama Ngapo-Lipscombe

Local lawyer by profession Arama is well known to many in the South Waikato. Perhaps something many don't tend to know about her is that one of her strengths is brevity; which is defined as an ability to write short and concise; hence why Arama's profile is exactly that... short and concise!

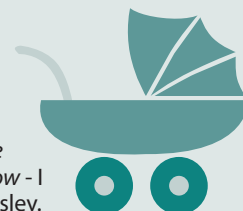


"I put my hand up for Council to be a voice for the community. I am especially looking forward to advancing the Leith Place development, ensuring that it is an asset to the South Waikato and meets the needs of both the local community and visitors. I am looking forward

to being part of a Council that will advocate fearlessly for its community at local and national levels and on all matters that affect our people. Another of my key strengths is my ability to analytically and impartially process and consider information quickly whilst being considerate and empathetic to all views around the table."

And the fun stuff:

- *First paying job ever* - babysitting.
- *Something many people wouldn't know* - I like Elvis Presley.
- *Favourite childhood memory* - being raised in a loving home.



Wendy Cook

Wendy is back for her second term on Council after a two term break. She has lived in Tokoroa most of her life and is a well-known business manager with a passion for teaching youngsters pool.



"I stood for Council as I have a passion for people and our district. You can't complain about what you see if you're not prepared to help and try to improve things.

I believe we have a responsibility to provide for people of all ages, like adequate education, employment, housing among other social aspects.

My favourite thing about the South Waikato is our diversity and the community support... when you see everybody come together for those people or families in their time of need it is really amazing and overwhelming and I sincerely love being a part of this.

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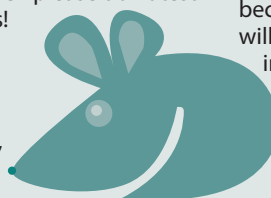
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In terms of improvements I think we need to somehow find a way to deal with derelict buildings in our district. I understand there is a process and this includes certain time frames, but we simply can't promote our district with the current state of some of our houses and buildings. We need to work to recreate pride in our community!

Over the next three years I look forward to working with a team that has our communities' best interest at heart! Meeting lots of new people in our community, being part of the team that leads us into the future with plenty of growth and development that ensures our district's economic sustainability and our community's wellbeing."

And the fun stuff:

- *First paying job ever* - a local sewing factory which I thoroughly enjoyed
- *Something many people wouldn't know* - I don't like spiders and a mouse can get me standing on the table quicker than you'd think I could move - please don't test me on this!
- *Favourite childhood memory* - family fun, playing games and sports together. We lived in the small community of Wiltsdown and everybody came together for fun and games. Back then you knew all the kids in the neighbourhood and felt safe wherever you were. Those were the days and unfortunately it simply is not like that anymore.



Herman van Rooijen

Herman comes from a dairy farming background, has lived in the district for 53 years and in his seventh term on Council, yes seventh (!), serving as a Putāruru Ward Councillor.



"I hope to be part of the team that builds on the many achievements of the previous councils. Our district needs to build a greater sense of unity where we all build together for the greater good and in an even handed manner.

I have an understanding of the issues, research and study them and am a decisive decision maker. I have many connections, particularly in rural and environmental areas and have built a lot of goodwill in our communities.

The most daunting issue for me will be Wai Ora Healthy Rivers. It is an issue we cannot dodge, it is a legislative requirement. It's impact will be on urban as well as rural. Urban because all sewage treatment will have to be to a higher standard, requiring very large expenditure and rural because all forms of farming will need to decrease their impact on the environment. This may lead to greater capital expenditure and lower production. In my view we will need to identify ways to get the best environmental bang for our bucks."

And the fun stuff:

- *First paying job ever* - bagging coal at the local farmer cooperative.
- *Something many people wouldn't know* - as a four year old I became a refugee after the battle of Arnhem, we were away from home for six months.
- *Favourite childhood memory* - sitting around a hot stove on cold winter nights, playing games.



Adrienne Bell

Adrienne moved to Putāruru in 1998 from Auckland. She serves in the Putāruru Ward and is in her third term on Council.

"I stood the first time after a number of people suggested it to me. Many people seemed to be unhappy with Council for various reasons and there was a shortage of people willing to stand. I considered that my background and experience would enable me to help build bridges between Council and ratepayers.



Most of the complaints one hears about Council is in relation to footpaths, parks and trees and I want to see Council continue to improve its communication with ratepayers so that they understand how rates are set and can then recognise the need to find a balance between rates and services.

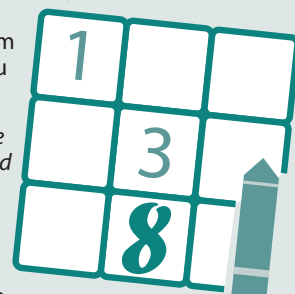
Other common complaints relate to health and building regulations and again I want to see Council communications put to work so that people know what the rules are at the start and so that where there are problems these are communicated clearly and in writing so that they can be worked through in a professional and mutually respectful manner.

A large part of my background has been in communications and it seems to me that this is an important factor in most of the issues Council deals with. My wide work experience – I have worked in a legal office, in banking, hospitality, advertising and social services – allows me to relate to people from all walks of life.

Many of my connections are still in my hometown Auckland where I continue to extol the virtues of the South Waikato. In Putāruru I belong to Rotary and attend meetings of many groups including the Putāruru Council of Social Services, Business After 5, the South Waikato Arts Trust, the Town and Country Ladies Dinner Club and the NZ Timber Museum. I attend most local events and support our local hospitality venues.

And the fun stuff:

- *First paying job ever* - a junior conveyancing clerk in an Auckland law firm.
- *Something many people wouldn't know* - I'm a Sudoku addict.
- *Favourite childhood memory* - Xmas holidays at Gisborne and the often eventful ten hour trip to get there from Auckland.



Thomas Lee

Thomas is proudly Tokoroa born and bred. He works at the mill and has done for over 40 years. Thomas is in his second term on Council for the Tokoroa Ward.



"I stood for Council because I want to serve the community and district and to make a difference. I also want to be part of the decision making that improves our economy, in jobs, education and general wellbeing.

In the next three years I hope to progress both the Tokoroa CBD upgrade and the Pensioner Housing projects. I would also

like to see extra courses added to our educational campuses to retain our young people. I also hope to achieve some more personal growth.

My favourite thing about the South Waikato is The People, The People, The People.

I feel the one thing that needs improving in our district, is the rest of New Zealand's perception of our beautiful, friendly district."

And the fun stuff:

- *First paying job ever* - as a 10 year old, working at Ivan Porters Wood Yard on Saturdays where I earned 50 cents an hour.
- *Something many people wouldn't know* - I'm the unofficial secretary for Random Riders Tokoroa.

- *Favourite childhood memory* - waking up on my 7th birthday, it had snowed overnight, what a birthday present!!



Bill Machen

Bill is in his second term on Council, representing the Tokoroa Ward. Bill has lived in Tokoroa for 60 years, worked for many years at Kinleith and has raised his family here.



"I stood for Council again because I wanted to put what I had learnt in the previous term to good effect this term. I want to improve the profile of the Council.

We take too long to complete projects like the pensioner housing and the Leith Place upgrade; it is true there are a number of factors that have caused delays, but time is money and the longer we muck about the more things

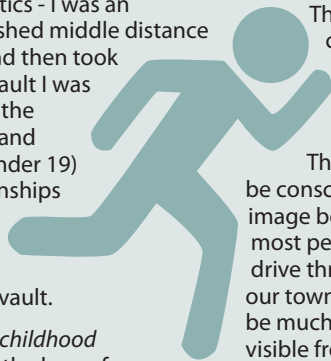
cost and people get frustrated with Council. This applies when people have to work through existing Council process, whether it be getting a dog or liquor licence, or building permit. We need to be efficient and customer focused - I do not think our processes are broken, many of them are very good, but we can be better.

For people living out of district or who pass through we must improve our image by getting good news stories out about our community, our facilities like sports grounds, the Events Centre, Plaza Theatre etc and we need to tidy up the roadside approaches to our towns from all directions.

New land for house building in the district and working to eliminate the degraded houses in Tokoroa are areas I will promote and support."

And the fun stuff:

- *First paying job ever* - Eric Anderson's Grocery shop in Pentland Terrace where I learnt customer service, value for money and how to treat people respectfully.
- *Something many people wouldn't know* - I love all sports. When young it was athletics - I was an accomplished middle distance runner and then took up pole vault I was placed in the New Zealand Junior (Under 19) Championships in the 400 meters and pole vault.
- *Favourite childhood memory* - the love of my parents for their children.



Marin Glucina

Marin is in his second term, representing the Tokoroa Ward. He has lived in Tokoroa since 1980 when he arrived here to start work at a local law firm.



"The South Waikato District needs a dedicated Council to look after the interests of its residents.

The reason I stood for Council was the acceptance by some of the previous Council that amalgamation with Hamilton was inevitable, so I stood to try to ensure that the South Waikato District Council does not get amalgamated or absorbed by our larger neighbours.

Council needs to continue with efforts to increase the population of its towns and the creation of employment in the district.

The South Waikato is close to everything and that's one of the reasons I like being here.

The whole district should be conscious of its highway image because this is what most people see when they drive through or bus through our towns. Overall we need to be much more tidy as we are visible from the highway.

Over the term of this Council I hope that there is more employment created by us

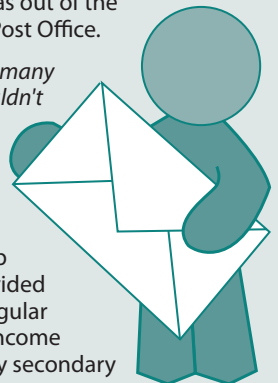
facilitating development and giving support to public private partnership.

The big challenge Council has over the next few years is to be find money to upgrade our services like the treatment of drinking water and also to upgrade our sewerage plants so as to comply with new regulations limiting phosphate and nitrogen discharge. This upgrade is important to preserve waterways and keep our residents healthy.

My job as a Solicitor gives me the skills to anticipate problems and make sure that Council follows legal process when making decisions. Over the years I have built up personal contacts with many residents who are key to the future development in the district."

And the fun stuff:

- *First paying job ever* - assistant post person during the Christmas holiday rush. I was 15 years old and used to help the postie deliver parcels and Christmas cards prior to Christmas out of the Avondale Post Office.
- *Something many people wouldn't know* - my first job turned into a telegram delivery job which provided me with regular weekend income through my secondary school years, even delivering telegrams to weddings.
- *Favourite childhood memory* - we had a large open area, an empty section with fruit trees, to play in, which became a gathering ground for children to play games such as Cowboys and Indians and Hide and Seek.



Our Councillors can be contacted via our website at www.southwaikato.govt.nz - Our Council tab - Mayor and Councillors. You can phone or use the online message form direct from the website.

Councillor contact details are also available on page 8 of every issue of In Touch.

WHAT'S HOT

The successful application to the Waikato River Authority towards riparian protection of waterways. Council received funding of \$78,000 to assist with native tree planting on seven farms in the district. The planting is for trees along stream banks and for wetland creation.

Support of police when Council staff are threatened.

Ratepayers who pay their rates - and on time!

Spring is in the air, days are getting warmer, sometimes drier and our district is looking fresh as a daisy!

Seasonal pools opening.

Summer Reading Programme at the Libraries - 5 December to 20 January. Taking enrolments now.

Scoring 23 out of 30 for the Customer Experience Mystry Shopper exercise conducted across all New Zealand councils. Room for improvement but overall great feedback about our lovely front line manner and expertise.

Jonathon Shannon and Christine Ngatai gaining their pools lifeguard practicing certificate.

Below: Mayor Jenny Shattock signing the White Ribbon Pledge with staff and Councillor support.



New, funky branding for the Animal Control vehicles

WHAT'S NOT

Earthquakes - South Waikato hearts go out to communities down south.

Tirau pool breakdown two days after opening for the season - possibly due to the earthquake.

Abuse - threats received via text and social media - of Council staff doing their job.

Potholes, damn this rain!

New and improved engagement

The Annual Plan is where Council confirms its plans and priorities for the upcoming financial year. The initial budget for our next financial year (2017-18) was set during the Long Term Plan 2015-25 (LTP) process. Councillors and staff are currently looking to update them for the 2017-18 year and we have started work on the next LTP (2018-28).

We have noticed that nothing much has changed from what was proposed (in the LTP for the 17-18) and what we're actually planning for the 17-18 year.

What does that mean?

It means we can be flexible about how we consult with the community. No significant changes means that we don't need to undertake a formal Special Consultative Procedure (ie, formal submissions and hearings).

Does that mean our community doesn't get their say?

No, definitely not! What it does mean is that we can be a little more relaxed and less formal about our consultation processes, which is a great thing. We can do more, better and less formal engagement with people earlier in the process before the draft plan is complete. We can also start talking about the LTP at the same time.

So how can our community be involved?

From 23 November through to end of January our community can give Council feedback or provide comments on Council and the services we deliver, so pretty much anything; but we're especially interested in hearing about any new projects or initiatives that can be considered for the upcoming budget rounds.

Drop-in sessions will be available in Tirau, Putāruru and Tokoroa where you can 'drop-in' and talk to staff and Councillors about what is important to you.

We are running the feedback period earlier than what we usually do because it means that it can feed into the necessary budget process and we have longer to research and determine costs for the ideas that our residents come back with.

During 2017, we will also be engaging with our community on specific topics in preparation for the Long Term Plan 2018-28.

How can you have your say?

We welcome your feedback. Here's how:

- Online: www.surveymonkey.com/r/annualplan1718
- Email: strategic@southwaikato.govt.nz
- Talk to: your local Councillor, contact details on back page
- Drop off: Tokoroa Office, Putāruru Service Center or the Tirau Information Centre (The Dog)
- Post: Freepost 201 South Waikato District Council, Private Bag 7, Tokoroa 3444
- Message us: www.facebook.com/southwaikatodistrictcouncil

When are the drop-in sessions?

- Tuesday 6 December - Tirau Hall *(at the time of delivery this will have happened)*
- Wednesday 18 January - Arapuni Hall
- Monday 23 January - Sport & Events Centre
- Wednesday 25 January - The Plaza

How can I find out more?

Visit our website, or phone Council on 07 885 1058.

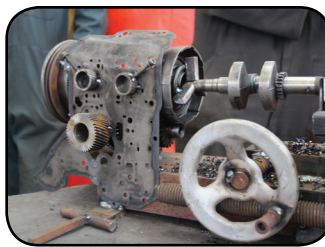
2016 Scrap Heap Challenge

This year's Scrap Heap Challenge displayed, yet again, what tremendous talent we have in the South Waikato.

This is the eighth year the challenge has been held and every year tutors, teachers, engineers and spectators are blown away by what the students are able to create out of a pile of scrap in just a matter of hours.

Congratulations to the boys from Tokoroa High School for taking away the win with their impressive model helicopter. But all the students came away proud on the day, as every piece left a lasting impression.

A big thank you to Bruce and Marty and the entire Holsters Engineering team for hosting the event, for the third year running. We can't wait to see what next year brings.



Council Christmas Closure Hours

The Council offices in Tokoroa and Putāruru* are closed from 3pm on Friday 23 December 2016 and will reopen again at 8am on Wednesday 4 January 2017. Council can be contacted for all queries on 07 885 0340 (water, sewerage, noise, building). For dog issues phone 07 885 0774. Environmental Health have a duty officer on call, please contact 027 490 5283.

* Putāruru Library opening hours are below.

	Fri 23 Dec	Sat 24 Dec	Sun 25 Dec	Mon 26 Dec	Tue 27 Dec	Wed 28 Dec	Thurs 29 Dec	Fri 30 Dec	Sat 31 Dec	Sun 1 Jan	Mon 2 Jan	Tues 3 Jan	Wed 4 Jan
SWSEC*	open <i>closes 3pm</i>	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	open
Tokoroa Library	open <i>closes 3pm</i>	closed	closed	closed	closed	open	open	open	open	closed	closed	closed	open
Putaruru Library	open <i>closes 3pm</i>	closed	closed	closed	closed	open	open	open	open	closed	closed	closed	open
Tirau Library Link**	open	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	open

*unless bookings arranged prior ** i-SITE open for WiFi access, no library service

Pools

The South Waikato Indoor Pools are open during the festive season from Monday to Friday from 5.30am to 8pm and on weekends and public holidays from 7.30am to 8pm, except for:

- Christmas Eve (Saturday 24 Dec) when we close early at 3pm
- Closed on Christmas Day (Sunday 25 Dec)
- Open on New Year's Day from 12 noon (Sunday 1 Jan)

The seasonal pools in Putāruru and Tirau are closed on Christmas Day and open every other day from 12noon to 6pm, except Christmas Eve when we close early at 3pm.

Refuse and Recycling

Collections for the Christmas and New Year period are NOT affected. The Tuesday collection will remain on Tuesday both after Christmas and after the New Year.

Residents - please note the Tokoroa Landfill, Putāruru Transfer station and the Croad Place Recycling Centre will be closed on Christmas and New Years day. District recycling centres are available for excess recycling. These will be cleared daily.

There is no change this year! Put your rubbish and recycling out as normal.



Council wishes residents a wonderful holiday break. Relax, bask in the warm weather, enjoy the beautiful walks we have in the South Waikato and above all drive safe, play safe and stay safe.

IN brief continued...

- 84 children participated in the Tokoroa Library's Book Treks programme.
- Council libraries continue to host Justice of the Peace sessions - Wednesday mornings in Tokoroa and Friday mornings in Putāruru.
- The SW Sport and Events Centre continues to host a wide range of functions, events and sports like training sessions, birthdays, wedding receptions, school holiday activities, an auction, amongst a multitude of sporting events.
- Pool tiles at the Putauru pool were replaced prior to the summer season. And a shade sail will soon be installed at the toddler pool.
- The second Perceptions Survey results were received. It is too early to identify long term trends, but it was pleasing to see that of the 45 areas surveyed, we rated higher than the previous survey in 35 of them, declined in satisfaction in just eight areas; with two areas remaining unchanged. Particularly exciting is seeing both the libraries and the SW Sport and Events Centre achieve a 100% satisfied rating. And it was also pleasing to see that two of the Reputation measures - Leadership and Trust - were higher by 19% and 13% respectively.

IN the know

You can keep up to date with Council information via:
www.southwaikato.govt.nz
[@SouthWaikatoDC](http://www.facebook.com/SouthWaikatoDistrictCouncil)
info@southwaikato.govt.nz

IN view

If you would like to receive this newsletter in electronic format please email kerry.fabrie@southwaikato.govt.nz.

urban CONNECTOR



Don't forget that your SuperGold card is now accepted on the Urban Connector between the times of 9am and 3pm*.

* Free SuperGold Card travel is for boardings between 9am and 3pm only, any travel times outside of this will incur the full fee.

A Supergold card (including Supergold Veterans card) held by the person named on the card must be presented to the driver for every trip to qualify for the free fare.

For more information, timetable and map you can call 0800 SWurbanC (0800 798 722) or visit our website www.southwaikato.govt.nz/our-services/UrbanConnector.



You Say...

"I have never been at an event where the venue had such supportive and engaged staff. They didn't just sit there making sure the venue was open and wait for everyone to leave. They truly owned it and showed how much they loved their jobs and our town!"

- Rob Leahy,
 Two Tones Catering - caterer for Tok Town Throw Down corporate boxing event held at the South Waikato Sport and Events Centre



SUMMER MOVIE SCHEDULE:

19 December 2016, 2pm – Robinson Crusoe – The Wild Life. *Times are good for creatures inhabiting a tropical island... until a sailor named Robinson Crusoe washes up ...*

21 December 2016, 2pm – Pete's Dragon. *Woodcarver Mr Meacham delights children with stories of a mysterious dragon. His daughter Grace believes these are just tales, until she meets Pete, an orphan who says he lives with a giant, friendly dragon...*

23 December 2016, 2pm – The Secret Life of Pets. *Max is a spoiled terrier enjoying a comfortable life in a New York building until his owner adopts Duke, a giant, unruly canine... and the adventures begin.*

We have some great regular events on at The Plaza that the community can get involved with:

- Mah Jong: Mondays, 1pm .
- Putaruru 50+ Group: Tuesdays, 1pm. Contact Leo Houben 07 883 8518.
- Putaruru Plaza Indoor Bowling Club: Thursdays, 7.30pm (March-October 2017). Contact Julie Still 07 883 3197.
- South Waikato Country Music: Fourth Friday of every month, 7pm.
- South Waikato Music Society: Contact Paul Bowers-Mason 027 364 9274.

Visit www.plaza.org.nz or The Plaza Facebook page for all our events and movies.

The South Waikato Arts Trust and The Plaza staff wish you a happy and safe holiday. The Plaza will be closed over the holiday season from 23 December 2016 to 31 January 2017.

See you in the new year.



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