

# Southlink

News from the South Taranaki District Council

## Sounds on the Sand

Come to Opunake Beach on Sunday and listen to Blue Monkey Racket



Blue Monkey Racket

Sounds on the Sand is back again! The South Taranaki District Council's events team is bringing music to Opunake Beach on Sunday 2 February from 2pm.

"It's going to be a great afternoon," says event organiser Jody Bloor. "Hopefully we get great weather like we did last year - so come along, bring the kids and a picnic. Sit back and relax enjoying the sounds from local band 'Blue Monkey Racket'.

The sound can range from rhythm and blues to funky boogies to sultry acoustic blues and jazz plus the traditional blues sound.

The band has played at many festivals such as Americarna, Urenui Rodeo's, the

International Guitar Festival and the Bay of Islands Jazz and Blues Festivals.

Three albums to date has kept band members, Nic Boheimer (guitar, vocals and harmonica), Calvin Campbell (drums and vocals), Peter Hickey (Tenor Sax and percussion), Ken Davies (Guitar) and Dominic Firkin (Base and Keyboards), extremely busy.

**If you enjoy the Blues then don't miss Blue Monkey Racket at Sounds on the Sand, Opunake Beach on Sunday 2 February from 2pm for an afternoon of fun and good times.**

### Upcoming Meetings

**Policy Development Committee**  
Monday 10 February, 1pm

**Special Environment and Hearings Committee**

Wednesday 12 February, 10am  
*To hear an application for resource consent for an oil and gas exploration site*

**Ordinary Council Meeting**  
Monday 24 February, 7.30pm

*All meetings, unless stated, are held at Council Chambers, Administration Building, Albion St, Hawera*



Keep up to date by liking us on **facebook**

Facebook is one of the best ways to get up-to-date news and event information. Like one of the Council's six Facebook pages - South Taranaki District Council, South Taranaki LibraryPlus, South Taranaki i-SITE Visitor Centre, TSB Hub, Aotea Utanganui and PowerCo Aquatic Centre.

## Two ways to help keep rates down

**Did you know that...** It costs South Taranaki District Council over \$32,000 each year to print and mail rate assessment notices and rate invoices?

### Rate Assessments and Rate Invoices By Email

Your rate assessment notice and rate invoices can be sent by email to help keep costs down. In addition to being a far cheaper method of delivery, an emailed rate assessment notice and rate invoices will reach you earlier and will create a permanent record that you can re-printed when required.

If you would like to receive future rate assessment notices and rate invoices electronically, please email [rates@stdc.govt.nz](mailto:rates@stdc.govt.nz) with your valuation number or property number and the email address where you would like the notice sent.

### Direct Debit

Our preferred method of rate payment is by direct debit. Currently over 14% of rate accounts are paid this way. Payments can be debited from the bank account of your choice, either weekly, fortnightly, monthly, at the due date for each instalment or yearly (pay the rates in full for the year by the due date in August and receive a 3% discount). With weekly, fortnightly or monthly debits you get slightly longer to pay as the payments are spread out over the whole rating year, (1 July – 30 June) rather than being required by each instalment penalty date. Direct debits also have a number of other advantages for both ratepayers and Council

- 1 No queues waiting to pay your rates and less processing time.
- 2 No having to withdraw cash or write out cheques.
- 3 No worrying about remembering penalty dates.
- 4 It is easier to budget ie regular smaller payments rather than having to pay a large lump sum each instalment.
- 5 Your debit is adjusted each year to account for any change in the amount of the rates (we will write to you prior to advise of any change).

If you would like to set up a direct debit, please visit the Council website at [www.southtaranaki.com](http://www.southtaranaki.com), phone us on 0800 111 323 or call in to our main office at 105 Albion Street, Hawera or any of our LibraryPlus Centres. Once you have completed the form, send it back to us and we will load the direct debit as per your instructions and confirm to you in writing.

### Rocking it with Weta workshops



*Children had a blast with Ned Barraud at Manaia LibraryPlus a couple of weeks ago when they made rock pool art with the illustrator from Weta Workshops.*

## \$3.4 million Opunake Water Treatment Plant Opened

South Taranaki District Mayor, Ross Dunlop officially opened the new \$3.4 million Opunake Water Treatment Plant yesterday. The work, which involved installing a membrane filtration system, gives Opunake a more robust water supply and means that the town will be fully compliant with the latest Drinking Water Standards.

The opening of the Opunake plant comes hot on the heels of a \$580,000 upgrade to the Rahoutu Water Treatment Plant.