

Southlink

News from the South Taranaki District Council

Shared Library Service proves popular



A new shared service agreement between South Taranaki and Stratford libraries has proven popular with around 200-300 books a week moving between the two districts. In December last year the two district's combined their library catalogues so users now have more than 116,000 items available to choose from online. South Taranaki library users also benefit with an extended loan period from three to four weeks to align with Stratford's which was already four weeks and in return Stratford has dropped many of its reserving fees to match South Taranaki's 'no fee' policy.

The combined catalogue can be viewed online from either the South Taranaki District Council (www.southtaranaki.com) or Stratford District Council (www.stratford.govt.nz) websites. Library users can reserve books online regardless of which library they belong to and can also return issued books to any of the seven South Taranaki libraries or the Stratford Library.

While reserving items is free, overdue fines stay the same. Library members are notified by email or a phone call when reserved items are ready to collect. South Taranaki District Council libraries and cultural services manager, Lynne Walker, says the initiative is just another example of Taranaki Councils' working together to provide an improved service for their residents.

"This (Shared Service) agreement extends the services we offer our residents while the libraries themselves remain autonomous and continue to be run by their respective council. It's a win – win," says Ms Walker.

"Residents of both districts have previously had to belong to both library services and have a card for each, but now they only need one membership card which keeps it simple," she says.

Stratford District librarian, Jonet Moore says establishing shared library services between South Taranaki and Stratford Districts has been a great success. "All our residents have a wider range of resources to choose from, and for the almost 800 people who currently have a card for both library systems it has become easier and more convenient to manage borrowing on our combined system" she says.

If you would like to know more about the online catalogue service or if you'd like to become a member of the South Taranaki or Stratford District Libraries just visit the Council websites or ring 0800 111 323 for South Taranaki and 06 765 5403 for Stratford.

TV Takeback is back again!

Got old TVs lying around the place? Be sure you take advantage of the TV Takeback scheme! Several components of televisions are dangerous for the environment, so it is far better if you recycle them - and here is the opportunity to do just that. Simply get your television, take it to Egmont Refuse and Recycling (19 Scott St, Hawera) between 8.30am and 3pm, Monday - Friday and pay a subsidised fee of \$5. Thanks to the TV Takeback subsidy, you save \$15 on what you would normally pay.

Upcoming Meetings

Ordinary Council Meeting
Monday 24 February, 7.30pm

Eltham Community Board
Tuesday 11 March
Eltham Community Centre, 10.30 am

Hawera Community Board
Tuesday 11 March, 4pm

Egmont Plains Community Board
Wednesday 12 March, 9.30am
Sandfords Event Centre, Opunake

Patea Community Board
Wednesday 12 March, 3.30pm
Patea Old Folks Hall

Environment and Hearings Committee Meeting
Monday 17 March, 4pm

Iwi Liaison Committee Meeting
Wednesday 19 March, 10am

Policy Development Committee Meeting
Monday 24 March, 1pm

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

Recycle your old TV

at **Egmont Refuse and Recycling**

19 Scott Street, Hawera

\$5 per TV (households)

Full charge for businesses

Monday - Friday
8.30 am - 3pm

For more information visit:
www.wecan.org.nz

We Can Recycle

Limited time



Eltham Sports Fields Reallocation

Eltham Associated Football Club (AFC) has been given the green light to relocate from Taylor Park to use Taumata and Saunders Parks as its playing base for the 2014 season. The recommendation, made on Monday at South Taranaki District Council's (STDC) Policy Development Committee Meeting, means the Eltham Rugby Club, who have been historic users of Taumata Park would have to shift to Soldiers Park. South Taranaki Mayor, Ross Dunlop says it was a difficult decision.

"The fact is that soccer in Eltham has much higher playing numbers at all levels and has done for some time. The soccer club, plays 40-50 games a season in Eltham and with only one field simply don't have enough room. However Eltham Rugby Club host only 2 senior teams (combined with Kaponga) and last year only played five games at Taumata Park have an oversupply of fields," he says.

"I appreciate the historic connections Eltham Rugby Club have with Taumata Park but

we have to decide on what is the most efficient and fair use of our facilities and do what's best for the wider Eltham sports community. Eltham soccer needs more fields while the fields at Taumata Park are underutilised," says Mayor Dunlop.

Councillors also agreed that further investigation was needed into the potential development, funding, and ownership of a new 'clubroom' type facility at Taumata Park and whether lighting improvements needed to be made at Soldiers Park for night time rugby practices. The long term future of Taylor Park will also be investigated at a later date.

The decision was supported by the Eltham Community Board who originally put the plan to reallocate the fields to Council.

The Council's Policy Development Committee recommendation will be ratified at its ordinary meeting on 24 February.

Third Rates Instalment due at the end of the month

Ratepayers are reminded that the last day for payment of the third rates instalment for 2013/2014 without incurring a penalty will be Wednesday 26 February 2014.