

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



My new term as Mayor has started with a thrill. I was delighted to be invited to be a passenger in a brand new Porsche 911 in the Dunlop Targa Rally. This really set things up for a fast and furious term.

The new Council is made up of a good mix of the new and enthusiastic and the older and wiser. I'm really pleased that Alex Ballantyne has agreed to be Deputy Mayor. Alex is an experienced Councillor who connects with lots of different people. He has a good understanding of the issues that smaller communities face and those on lower incomes.

The first Council meeting gave all of us plenty to debate including a request from the police for an extension of the liquor ban for the Push Bike Pub Crawl.

Other significant events in the district include;

The Taranaki Art Awards are a must see on the art calendar. This year's awards were as good as ever. What a line up of talent. Congratulations to the Opunake community for staging such a quality event.

It's 40 years since gas and condensate started flowing from New Zealand's first gas production well. This was something to celebrate and thanks to Vector for inviting me to this important milestone.

Jan and I enjoyed a lovely visit to Harriet Rei's very productive garden in Patea. Harriet has been nominated as the Taranaki Representative in the New Zealand Gardener Best Garden Awards, so all the very best to her.

What a great night for South Taranaki at the Taranaki Business Awards held at the TSB Hub. Three South Taranaki businesses received prizes. Eltham's Carac Couplings, Hawera's Robertson's Pharmacy and Tairoa Lodge. Congratulations and well done.

I'm so proud of this Council getting into the finals of the JRA Best Places to Work Survey. This is the second year that we have made the final, and no we are not overpaying our staff, they just like working for the good people of South Taranaki!

All the very best looking forward to seeing you sometime soon.

PUPPY NEEDS A HOME



Loulou is a very obedient 5-month-old English Pointer X Heading dog.

Give the STDC Animal Services team a call on 0800 111 323 if you are interested in giving her a home.

SECOND RATE INSTALLMENT DUE

Ratepayers are reminded that the last day for payment of the second instalment of rates for 2010/2011 without incurring a penalty will be **Wednesday 24 November 2010.**

UPCOMING MEETINGS

All meetings are at the Council Chambers, Administration Building, Albion St, Hawera – unless otherwise stated.

Hawera Community Board – 15 November at 4pm

Egmont Plains Community Board – 17 November at 9.30am
Sandfords Event Centre, Opunake

Patea Community Board – 17 November at 3.30pm
Hunter Shaw Building, Patea

Eltham Community Board - 22 November at 10.30am
Eltham Community Centre, Eltham

Environment and Hearings Committee - 22 November at 4pm

Iwi Liaison Committee - 24 November at 10am

Policy Development Committee – 29 November at 1pm

ARTS IN THE PARK

On Saturday 4th December, Hawera's picturesque King Edward Park will come alive with Arts in the Park. The day is filled with arts and crafts people as they come from far and wide to display and sell their work.

This year is set to be bigger and better with a dedicated food area, childrens area and an entertainment programme – including the Travelling Tuataras. Jill Walker and Brian Potiki are community artists, song-writers and performers from Rotorua. With a widely-coloured suitcase full of storytelling magic, the Travelling Tuataras are legendary art adventurers, funmakers and performers who have enchanted thousands of children (and the young at heart!) with their unique way of bringing stories alive. The Tuataras ignite the creative spark wherever they go, taking either inspiration from Maori mythology and the natural world to produce extraordinary sculptures and artworks which are then worked into an array of performances and processions. They have a full package of vibrant, stimulating activities to engage children with fabric art, wind-sculptures, flower-making, story-song adventures and bucket drumming!!



So pop the date in your diary now and we will see you there!!!