

Southlink

He karere tā te Kaunihera ō Taranaki ki te Tonga
News from the South Taranaki District Council

New Elected Members sworn in

Newly-elected South Taranaki District Mayor Phil Nixon has chosen third-term Pātea ward councillor Rob Northcott as his deputy.

He announced the choice at the Council's inaugural meeting on Thursday 24 October, where Mayor Nixon and his Council were officially sworn in.

"Rob and I have worked together for the past six years, and he's a very good councillor. He's been on a range of different committees than I have been, and that's important; it's good for diversity."

Rob is a local Pātea businessman and, as well as being one of two Pātea Ward councillors, he is a member of the South Taranaki Coastguard and chairman of the Te Mahana Trust, which runs a rest home in Pātea.

The new Council was welcomed first with a pōwhiri, before the ceremony where the mayor, councillors and community board members made their official declarations in front of a crowd of families, friends and community leaders at the Hāwera Community Theatre.

Mayor Nixon says he looks forward to working with all the councillors and community board members.

"Each councillor and community board member bring a



separate skill-set and when they're combined, they make a really great team."

The new Council's first official ordinary meeting will be held on December 9, but it will meet on November 4 to set appointments to various committees the most senior role being the chair of the Environment and Hearings Committee.

Mayor: Phil Nixon

Deputy Mayor: Rob Northcott

Councillors: Andy Beccard, Mark Bellringer, Gary Brown, Celine Filbee, Aaron Langton, Steffy Mackay, Rob Northcott, Jack Rangiwahia, Diana Reid, Bryan Roach, Brian Rook and Chris Young

Eltham-Kaponga Community Board: Karen Cave, Sonya Douds, Alan Hawkes and Lindsay Maindonald

Pātea Community Board: Jacq Dwyer, Maria Ferris, Dianne Lance and Joanne Peacock

Taranaki-Coastal Community Board: Bonita Bigham, Sharelee Mareikura, Liz Sinclair and Andy Whitehead

Te Hāwera Community Board: Wayne Bigham, Raymond Buckland, Russell Hockley and Nikki Watson

Upcoming meetings

Extraordinary Council

To confirm the appointments and remuneration for the Councillors
Monday 4 November, 1pm

Extraordinary Environment and Hearings Committee

To consider a notified resource consent
Monday 4 November, 4pm

Eltham-Kaponga Community Board

Monday 11 November, 10.30am
Taumata Recreation Centre, Eltham

Te Hāwera Community Board

Monday 11 November, 1.30pm

Taranaki Coastal Community Board

Tuesday 12 November, 2.30pm
Sandfords Event Centre, Ōpunakē

Pātea Community Board

Wednesday 13 November, 4pm
Hunter Shaw Building, Pātea

Unless otherwise specified, meetings are held in the Council Chambers, Albion Street, Hāwera.



DAME FIONA KIDMAN

AUTHOR TOUR - FRIDAY 1 NOVEMBER

10.30AM @ WAVERLEY LIBRARYPLUS
2PM @ MANAIA LIBRARYPLUS

Virtual Reality Comes to LibraryPlus

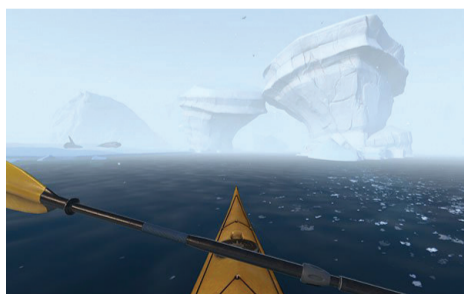
Ever fancied kayaking in the breath-taking environment of Antarctica?

Well with the latest virtual reality technology you can do just that without having to leave the district.

As part of the Council's ongoing commitment to innovation and technology, the South Taranaki Libraries recently purchased three of the latest Virtual Reality headsets to use across the district.

The devices represent the latest in VR technology says Council's Libraries and Cultural Services Manager Cath Sheard.

"These headsets, which have only been available in New Zealand for a couple of months, do 'full-body-tracking' which makes the virtual reality experience so much more lifelike," says Cath. "There is a huge range of experiences and scenarios that people can choose - from manoeuvring in zero gravity on the International Space Station, swimming with sharks and dolphins, taking a hot air balloon ride, surfing, diving or even experience a ride in a Star Wars



rebel fighter. People can even walk through Anne Frank's House in Amsterdam which is a fully interactive app," she says.

"90% of jobs that our young people will work in don't even exist yet so it's really important they are familiar and comfortable with technology. People with physical limitations can get a lot out of the VR goggles. Three of NZ's greatest walks are just one of the programmes available so anyone can now explore and enjoy these new experiences. There are just so many things you can do with the devices.

We can make our own 3D video experience, they are great for low impact, high intensity, fitness too."

As well as being available for community plus school groups to use, the Virtual Reality devices will be rotated around the district's LibraryPlus centres.

Keep an eye out and ask your local LibraryPlus when they will be in your area, because once you've tried them you will become hooked.



~ Scale Ship ~
REGATTA
KING EDWARD PARK LAKE HĀWERA
SATURDAY 2 + SUNDAY 3 NOVEMBER



elektra
A COMMUNITY LIGHT EVENT
KING EDWARD PARK HĀWERA
FRIDAY 8 NOVEMBER, 6 - 10PM
COME AND ENJOY THE PIXIE PATH AND GLOW ZONE, LAUNCH OF 1000 LANTERNS STARTS 7PM, HIGHLY FLAMMABLE PERFORMING ALL NIGHT WITH A CIRCUS ZONE, GLOW BUTTERFLIES, GRAPHIC POI AND MORE!
BRING THE FAMILY – BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC OR PURCHASE DINNER THERE.

Find out more at www.southtaranaki.com
For any enquiries, call 0800 111 323 or email events@stdc.govt.nz