

# Tuia Taitonga Southlink



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

We are at COVID-19 Alert Level 2 until 6 am Sunday. Please keep an eye on the Council's Facebook page and [www.southtaranaki.com](http://www.southtaranaki.com) for more information on Council facilities and services.

## Koha a gift for South Taranaki Libraries

Today South Taranaki Libraries celebrate ten years using the Kiwi made Koha Library Management System.

"We started looking for a new library management system (the software that keeps track of books, customers and special requests) in 2010," says South Taranaki District Council Libraries and Cultural Services Manager Cath Sheard. "After attending a conference in Wellington, staff were convinced Koha was worth implementing and customers got to experience the new system on 12 March 2011." Koha Library Software was the world's first free and open-source library system, having been created in 1999 in New Zealand by Katipo Communications for the Horowhenua Library Trust. It was first used in January 2000 and ongoing development is sponsored by libraries of varying types and sizes volunteers, and support companies worldwide.

"Our staff liked the way the software worked, the fact it was created in New Zealand and felt that it being open-source was a good fit with the ethos of libraries sharing information and skills. On top

of this there was a significant saving for the ratepayer, with Koha costing around a tenth of similar solutions," says Cath.

In 2013 the South Taranaki District Council shared the Koha system with the Stratford Library which has enabled staff to work more closely together and means customers can borrow from either district at no cost and with only one library card.

"Even as we celebrate ten years with Koha, we're already planning what we can do with it in the next ten years, as library services are always evolving. Koha is such a useful and cost effective tool and for our libraries it is certainly the 'gift' that its name implies." Koha is used in over 110 countries, from tiny libraries through to multi-city University libraries. One of the biggest installations is the Ministry of Culture in Turkey with 1,136 public libraries holding over 17,000,000 items available to approximately 2,000,000 active users. Here in New Zealand it is used by a number of local authorities, the Reserve Bank and Parliamentary Libraries and specialist libraries in accounting and law firms.

## Upcoming meetings

**Eltham-Kaponga Community Board**  
Tuesday 9 March 2021 at 10.30 am  
Taumata Recreation Centre,  
Preston Street, Eltham

**Te Hāwera Community Board**  
Tuesday 9 March 2021 at 1.30 pm

**Pātea Community Board**  
Wednesday 10 March 2021 at 4 pm  
Ngamatapouri Hall, 4325 Waitōtara  
Valley Road, Ngamatapouri

**Taranaki Coastal Community Board**  
Monday 15 March 2021 at 2.30 pm  
Ōpunakē Town Hall, Domett Street,  
Ōpunakē

**Iwi Liaison Committee**  
Wednesday 17 March 2021 at 10 am

**Audit and Risk Committee**  
Wednesday 17 March 2021 at 1 pm

**Environment and Hearings Committee**  
Wednesday 17 March 2021 at 4 pm

**Policy and Strategy Committee**  
Monday 22 March 2021 at 1 pm

**Extraordinary Council - to adopt the  
Consultation Document for the  
2021-2031 Long Term Plan**  
Monday 22 March 2021 at 4 pm

*If not otherwise stated, meetings are held in the Council Chamber, Albion Street, Hāwera*

## Road Closure

Part of Whareroa Road (from Manawapou Road travelling east for 200m) is closed from 8 am Monday 1 March 2021 to 5 pm Friday 14 May 2021 while a pipe is installed under the road.

The pipe is part of the construction of a new Waste Water Treatment Plant at Fonterra. Alternative routes are in place.

## Plumbo-Solvency

Some plumbing fittings have the potential to let minute traces of metals accumulate in water standing in the fittings for several hours.

Although the health risk is small, the Ministry of Health recommends that you flush a mugful of water from your drinking water tap each morning before use to remove any metals that may have dissolved from the plumbing fittings. We recommend this simple precaution for all households, including those on public and private water supplies.

## COVID-19 Brings Early End to Pool Season

The South Taranaki District free community pool season is ending a couple of days earlier than usual thanks to COVID-19, says Council Recreation and Facilities Manager Phil Waite. "Unfortunately, at Level 2 we have to close our free community pools because we can't safely meet the physical distancing requirements. We were scheduled to close the season on Monday 8 March, but because we aren't going back to Level 1 until Sunday 7 March at the earliest, we made the decision to call an early end to the community/rural pools season," he says. "While this is disappointing, we know that you will understand our first priority is public safety. Regrettably this also means our annual Dog Splash Day usually held at Kaponga Pool is cancelled," says Phil.

The Hāwera Aquatic Centre remains open but is restricted to lane swimming and structured programmes only.



## Ōpunakē Public Meeting - Emergency Management

A public meeting will be held at the Sandford's Event Centre on Wednesday 10 March at 7 pm for anyone interested in being involved in Ōpunakē's Community Emergency Management planning.

This community meeting will discuss ways the Ōpunakē community can respond locally to help each other and build community resilience.

If you have any questions or would like to be involved but can't make the meeting, please contact Glenn Hansen at 0800 111 323 or email [glenn.hansen@stdc.govt.nz](mailto:glenn.hansen@stdc.govt.nz).



**SOUTH TARANAKI MULTICULTURAL "Taste of the World" festival**  
Friday 12 March 2021, 5-9 pm  
Hāwera Community Centre and Carpark

On Stage	Food Stalls
5.00 pm Official Welcome	Hāngī and Māori kai
5.15 Kapa haka and Mau rākau	South African
5.50 Swiss Singing Group	Turkish
6.10 Filipino Group	Japanese/Korean
6.30 Rock n Roll/Piano	Infused Mobile Kitchen
6.50 Ron Scott - South American/Brazilian Guitar	Dusty Knuckle Pizza
7.10 Gypsophila Bellydance	Genuine Russian fudge
7.30 Hegli - Irish music	Mr Kool
7.50 Manawa Te Wiki Uptown Funk dance	Up n Joe Coffee Cart
8.10 Frankie Stevens	
9.00 Thanks and close	

Our MC for the evening is: **Frankie Stevens**  
International singer, entertainer and actor  
Not all food vendors will have EFTPOS, please come prepared with cash. Come and Taste the World in Hāwera (because flying there isn't an option).

[www.southtaranaki.com](http://www.southtaranaki.com)

## Applications Open for Rural Travel Fund



SPORT NEW ZEALAND IHI AOTEAROA

Applications for funding from the Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund are now open and close on Monday 15 March at 5 pm.

South Taranaki District Council Funding Administrator Jacinta Fitzgerald says applications to the Rural Travel Fund can be made by rural sport club teams and rural school teams

in South Taranaki, whose members are aged between 5 and 18 years. "The fund is available to support those in rural communities with financial assistance for transport so they can participate in local sports competitions," says Jacinta. Further information and application forms can be found on our Council website, from your local LibraryPlus or from the fund administrator at [funding@stdc.govt.nz](mailto:funding@stdc.govt.nz).

[www.southtaranaki.com](http://www.southtaranaki.com)

Ph: (06) 278 0555 or 0800 111 323