

# Tuia Taitonga Southlink



Te Kaunihera o Taranaki ki te Tonga  
South Taranaki  
District Council

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

## Tickets out now for The Great Comedy Night

The Great Comedy night is back again - this time with four comedians heading to two South Taranaki hotspots. The show, annually hosted by local lad and nationally renowned comedian Ben Hurley, is heading to Eltham Town Hall on Friday 15 July and to Hāwera's TSB Hub on Saturday 16 July. Hurley, best known for his TV appearances on shows such as 7 Days and The Project, says he looks forward to hosting a comedy event at home in South Taranaki year after year. This time round he is bringing one of the most beloved comedians in the country, Dai Henwood. You'll know him from being a mainstay of kiwi TV for over 15 years including 7 Days, Dancing with the Stars, Family Feud and the brand-new Lego Masters NZ. Joining the lineup will be David Correos. Winner of the Billy T award in 2016, David then went on to be one of the stars of Taskmaster NZ series 2 and a regular on 7

Days. Liv McKenzie is also joining the mix. Having learned her craft in New York City, she is back in New Zealand and making appearances on 7 Days, The NZ International Festival of Comedy Gala, and Have you Been Paying Attention. South Taranaki District Council Events Co-ordinator Emma Vennell chose the Eltham Town Hall for the event this year, saying it is a stunning hall that is ideal for stand-up comedy. "It's a perfect venue for this type of event. Winter can be a slow time for events and getting out, so it is nice to be able to offer the community something like this." Emma has also decided to bring a second show to the TSB Hub due to the demand for in person events. "We would love to provide the opportunity for as many people as possible to sit down and enjoy a much-needed laugh," says Emma.

**FRI 15 JULY - ELTHAM**  
**SAT 16 JULY - HĀWERA**

**THE GREAT COMEDY NIGHT**  
**ELTHAM + HĀWERA**  
HOSTED BY BEN HURLEY

**FEATURING**  
DAI HENWOOD  
LIV MCKENZIE  
DAVID CORREOS

**TICKETS ON SALE 02/06**

TICKETS \$40 EACH OR \$350 FOR A TABLE OF 10

AVAILABLE FROM SOUTH TARANAKI I-SITE VISITOR CENTRE & ELTHAM LIBRARYPLUS

www.southtaranaki.com

**Tickets are on sale from today - \$40 each or table of 10 for \$350 at the South Taranaki i-SITE Visitor Centre and Eltham LibraryPlus**

**LYSAGHT WATT TRUST RONALD HUGH MORRIESON LITERARY AWARDS**

**FREE JUDGES WRITING + POETRY WORKSHOPS**

POETRY WITH ROBERT SULLIVAN  
THUR 16 JUNE, 5.30PM  
HĀWERA LIBRARYPLUS

SHORT STORY WITH AIRINI BEAUTRAIS  
SAT 18 JUNE, 10AM  
TSB HUB, HĀWERA

**COMPETITION OPENS WED 15 JUNE 2022**

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [SOUTHTARANAKI.COM/RHM](http://SOUTHTARANAKI.COM/RHM)

## Literary Award Judges announced

The wait is over! The Lysaght-Watt Trust Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards 2022 Judges have been announced. This year's Short Story section Judge is Airini Beautrais. Airini is a poet, writer and educator who grew up in Auckland and Whanganui. She studied ecological science and creative writing at Victoria University of Wellington and worked for several years as a science teacher. In 2021, she won the Ockham New Zealand Book Awards Jann Medlicott Acorn Prize for Fiction and \$57,000 for her collection of short stories, Bug Week. Robert Sullivan is the Poetry Judge for this year's competition. Robert belongs to the Māori tribes Ngāpuhi and Kāi Tahu. His eight collections of poetry include the best-selling Star Waka, first published in 1999. He co-edited three award winning anthologies of Pacific and Māori poetry. His new book, Tūnui | Comet, was published by Auckland University Press this year. He has

a PhD from the University of Auckland on the writing of four indigenous poets from the Pacific, and has led the creative writing programmes at the University of Hawaii and Manukau Institute of Technology. Robert is joining Massey University this year where he will be an Associate Professor of Creative Writing. The judges will be joined by Taranaki Daily News editor Matt Rilko, who will be judging the True Story section (previously known as the research section). The competition opens on Wednesday 15 June and workshops are being held during the week for secondary school students and open workshops in Hāwera. The Poetry Workshop will be held at Hāwera LibraryPlus on Thursday 16 June at 5.30pm and the Short Story Workshop at TSB Hub on Saturday 18 June at 10am. Award winners will be announced on Wednesday 19 October.

South Taranaki District Council  
THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:  
LYSAGHT-WATT TRUST, NORMANBY & DISTRICTS  
LIONS CLUB AND TARANAKI DAILY NEWS

Registrations for workshops are now open. Register for the free Writing and/or Poetry Workshops by calling 0800 111 323 or email [entries@stdc.govt.nz](mailto:entries@stdc.govt.nz). Limited numbers.

## Satisfaction with Council Services remains High in South Taranaki

The majority of South Taranaki residents are happy with the services their Council provides according to an independent survey. The Research First survey of 402 residents across all four South Taranaki wards found that 92% of residents were happy with the overall service the Council provides. 83% of those surveyed also felt the Council was moving in the right direction and 81% of residents were satisfied with the way rates are spent on services and facilities provided by the Council. The survey, which has been conducted regularly since 1993, allows the Council to assess its performance by finding out from residents what they think the Council is

doing well and areas where they could do better. Council services and facilities that residents were most satisfied with were the district's libraries (98%), the tidiness and maintenance of cemeteries (96%), parks and reserves (95%), playgrounds (91%) and halls (96%) and the kerbside rubbish and recycling service (95%). The services that had the lowest satisfaction rates were the condition of roads (58% satisfaction), stormwater services (73% satisfaction), the control of animals (76% satisfaction) and water supply (78% satisfaction). Council CEO, Waid Crockett, says he is pleased with the results of the survey, however, the Council is always looking to improve the services it provides.

"We don't always get it right but I know how hard our staff work for the people of South Taranaki and we are continually looking at ways we can lift the bar in terms of performance," he says. "But it is good to know that most people think we are moving in the right direction and understand we are trying to provide the best for our communities with the resources we have." The district-wide survey was conducted using a random selection method by independent research company Research First over January and February 2022. The survey results can be found on the Council's website [www.southtaranaki.com](http://www.southtaranaki.com).