

# Tuia Taitonga Southlink

**Summer  
-blast-**

Raumati Manawawera

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

Registrations open in person from 5 - 9 December.  
Don't miss out on the Blast Off Launch Parties at 3.30pm on Tuesday 5 December at each LibraryPlus.



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

## Moving to fortnightly collection in October '24

South Taranaki District councillors agreed on a fortnightly urban kerbside collection service, with weekly food scraps collection, at Monday's (27 November) Extraordinary Council meeting. The decision, which won't be implemented until October 2024, was made as part of adopting the Council's Waste Management and Minimisation Plan and followed public consultation which saw 777 submissions received.

South Taranaki Mayor Phil Nixon was pleased with the large number of submissions made, but added that the decision wasn't any easier given the near even 50/50 split between those wanting weekly and fortnightly collection.

"Ultimately, we felt the fortnightly option provided the best balance between keeping costs down while encouraging people to send less waste to landfill," says Nixon. "We are simply sending too much waste to landfill, which is not sustainable either environmentally or financially."

Currently, South Taranaki residents send around 120 kgs of waste per person to landfill each year, which is 30 kgs more per person than New Plymouth residents.

"Part of the reason for that is New Plymouth's kerbside waste is only collected fortnightly, with food waste collected weekly. We

also know that about 60% of what we're putting in our rubbish bins could be recycled or composted. We simply must change our behaviour and do better."

Mayor Nixon says managing the District's waste is only going to get more expensive due to government levies being placed on all waste sent to landfill and increased costs for the kerbside collection service such as fuel and new collection trucks.

For every tonne of waste sent to landfill, the Council must pay the government a \$50 levy, which goes up to \$60 next July. Government legislation also requires all councils to have a kerbside food scrap collection in place by 2030.

"By changing the bin sizes for our kerbside recycling and general waste and moving to a fortnightly collection and introducing a 25-litre food waste bin collected weekly, we expect to be able to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill and keep cost increases to a minimum."

The new kerbside service doesn't start until October 2024. Other initiatives in the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan include establishing a regional organic waste facility, a regional approach to push for Building Act changes for waste reduction in construction, pushing for government mandates on product packaging and working with community groups and repair businesses to expand 'repair cafes' throughout the region.

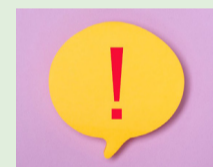


### Upcoming meetings

**Ordinary Council**  
Monday 11 December, 4pm  
Council Chamber, Administration Building, Albion Street, Hāwera

### Can I swim here ?

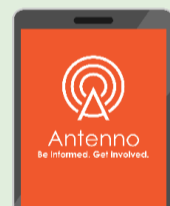
People heading to our lakes, rivers and beaches this summer are encouraged to first check whether the water is safe to swim in. Until March 2024, Taranaki Regional Council will monitor water quality at 41 sites across the region's popular recreational hot spots. Weekly results and warnings are available on [www.trc.govt.nz/can-i-swim-here](http://www.trc.govt.nz/can-i-swim-here).



As a rule of thumb you should always avoid swimming for three

days after heavy or prolonged rainfall. If the water doesn't look or smell right, it's safest to not enter the water.

### Keep up-to-date



Report issues and get notifications sent directly to your cellphone. Download the Antenna App.

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

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Registrations open on Tuesday at Blast Off Launch Parties!

Summer Blast, our Summer Reading Programme, is kicking off on Tuesday 5 December with Blast Off Launch Parties happening in each LibraryPlus centre from 3.30pm.

These parties are the official launch of the registration period (3.30pm on Tuesday 5 December to when the LibraryPlus closes on Saturday 9 December) and registrations need to be made in person this year.

All participants have to do is read for at least 15 minutes a day from a book issued by the library, record what they're reading in their reading log (which they'll get upon registration) and 'check in' with their local LibraryPlus three times over the six weeks to have a chat to a librarian about what they've read. There are also fun activities to do and entertainers to go and see. The programme is free for 5 - 12 year olds to join, and all of those who complete it get a free book at the end.

Find out more at [www.southtaranaki.com/summerblast](http://www.southtaranaki.com/summerblast) and we look forward to seeing you all at the Blast Off parties!

## Arts in the Park this Saturday



KING EDWARD PARK | HĀWERA

SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER  
10AM - 3PM

Come along to our premier Arts and Crafts market

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

Due to the TSB Hub being booked on Saturday, there is no wet weather venue this year. Please keep an eye out on our Facebook page or website for updates on the event.

If you are looking for that perfect Christmas gift or a new piece of art, then this is just the day for you. With everything from handmade jewellery to garden art, woodturning to knitting, there is sure to be something for everyone.

Various performers will fill the park with music to keep you entertained throughout the day as well as activities for the kids.

**ARTS IN THE PARK – King Edward Park, Hāwera, Saturday 2 December, 10am - 3pm**

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

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