

NEWS FROM YOUR WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCILLOR OCTOBER 2017

I hope you all managed to get a break during the long weekend. The weather where I was in the Bay of Plenty wasn't very warm but it was dry enough to get out for some fresh air and enjoy a change of scenery.



Are you aware that for the last decade Waikato District Council has had an arrangement with Waipa District Council and Hamilton City Council to allow our ratepayers to have **free access to all their libraries**? That arrangement costs more than \$300,000 a year.

Council is now reviewing this arrangement and recently sent out a "Future of our Libraries" survey to all ratepayers. **If you would like to retain this service I urge you to complete the survey, Option 1 being the status quo, and return it to Council by 8pm on 3 November**

I have mentioned previously that we have been preparing the **draft of our District Plan**. This is now ready for feedback, so we are holding a series of drop in sessions to talk about the key issues that may effect your property, community and / or the whole district. The session for Eureka and Tamahere Wards will be held at the **Tamahere Community Centre on Wednesday 6th December – any time between 2pm and 7pm**. I will remind you of the date and time again in next month's Express.

If you travel along Gordonton Road to Rototuna you will have noticed the temporary speed restrictions in the area around the **Gordonton / Thomas Road intersection**. This is a major black spot for accidents with 12 crashes in the first nine months of 2017.

I noticed yesterday that the temporary speed signs have now been replaced with a variable sign which appears to change the speed limit down from 80km when traffic is approaching the Thomas Road end of the intersection – similar to the system that alerts Holland Road drivers that cars are approaching from Telephone and Marshmeadow Roads. Hamilton City Council are responsible for Gordonton Road and are working on a permanent solution to this black spot.

Please slow down when driving anywhere near this intersection.

Reminder - the official opening of the Te Awa River Ride's new Perry Bridge is on Thursday 2nd November from 3:30pm – 6:30pm. All ages are welcome and admission is free.

Timeline for the event is:

- 3:30 – 4:00pm procession by bike from The Point in Ngauawahia to the Ngaruawahia Golf Club
- 4:30- 5:30pm Main Event at the Golf Club with food stalls, bike demonstrations, entertainment and spot prizes
- 6:00pm Official bridge opening



The Department of Corrections Springhill Prison has partnered with Council to build 30 **free "little libraries"** for rural communities across Waikato district.



We are taking the free little libraries concept on a road show to engage with communities where these will be installed. There are three designs from which each community can choose and then decide on how these should be decorated and located. The concept is to stock the little library with 20-30 books that can be borrowed or exchanged.

Council is offering a free little library to Eureka Ward residents and I encourage you to come along to the **Matangi Community Hall on the 30th of October between 6.30 – 8pm**, to discuss this concept with our staff and residents from other neighbouring communities.

Contact me anytime -

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