

# NEWS FROM YOUR WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Last month I mentioned that the Matangi community and Eureka Express Committee members were knitting poppies to create displays for ANZAC commemorations that will be up until mid May. These displays are just two of many throughout NZ to recognise the sacrifice made by New Zealanders in WW1 and other conflicts.



*(Matangi Poppy Tree)*

WDC staff members Leanne and Betty have been driving this huge project in our district with an estimated 8000-9000 poppies being displayed in Waikato District on 30 trees in 21 townships, with 2000 more poppies displayed along the northern stretch of the Te Awa River Ride.

The Waiouru War Museum invited our district to decorate (yarn bomb) two tanks in the forecourt of the museum and the week before ANZAC



Day Mayor Alan and his wife Trish took Lianne and Betty down to Waiouru to do this.



*(Lianne & Betty with the 'yarn bombed' Scorpion tank)*

Jill and I were travelling to Wellington that day to attend a family wedding so took the opportunity to see the display on our way through Waiouru and have a coffee with the WDC crew.

*( <Rob next to the Centurion tank with its 'yarn bombed' barrel)*

I have previously mentioned the **'little libraries'** being constructed at the Springhill Correction Facility for use in our rural communities. The libraries are now completed and an artist has been commissioned to decorate them. The rural District Councillors will be travelling to Springhill sometime soon where the project will be launched before the libraries are distributed around the district.

Waikato District Council has been reviewing its **Waste Management Policy** for the five years. We are seeking feedback on the Draft Waste Management And Minimisation Plan and submissions close on 23 May 2018.

We have been advised by the Regional Council that the Rabbit biocontrol virus was released on 23<sup>rd</sup> April in Hamilton and Cambridge/Karapiro. (Please note, signs of the virus can take 3-6 weeks to occur.) If you require information on the virus the link to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the Landcare research website is <https://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/science/plants-animals-fungi/animals/vertebrate-pests/biological-control-of-rabbits/faq> The FAQs include what is the virus and how will it work best, is it safe, does it affect other animals, vaccines for pet rabbits, cost etc. Or you can phone the Regional Council 0800 800 401 for more information.

Work on the Hamilton Section of the **Expressway** is now well underway – A haul road crossing has been opened on Puketaha Road, dumptrucks are using the Ruakura/Ryburn Road bridge to haul sand north, The haul road now extends under the Morrinsville Road towards Matangi Road (low noise asphalt is now on the bridge), traffic lights control a one way section on the Matangi Road diversion and Ruakura Road reconstruction continues with the construction team hoping to reopen Ruakura Road to two-way traffic by the end of April on an unsealed surface. Get up to date news on all the Expressway sections on [www.nzta.govt.nz/waikato-expressway](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/waikato-expressway)

If you are building a new home or renovating your present home there is a useful article in this month's *Link* on the **building consent process**. There are rules and regulations around any building project, large or small and even if your project doesn't require consent it must meet the requirements of the building code – infringements can affect any insurance claims. If you can't find the information you require you can phone one of our building inspectors for advice on 0800 492 452



**Contact me anytime - Rob McGuire: Councillor Eureka Ward**  
Ph. 824 3696 / fax 824 3645 / Mob 0274 970 966 / WDC Council free phone - 0800 492 452.  
Email [rob.mcguire@waidc.govt.nz](mailto:rob.mcguire@waidc.govt.nz) or [robmcguire@xtra.co.nz](mailto:robmcguire@xtra.co.nz)