

This advertisement is authorised by the Hauraki District Council

Here's to our senior citizens

We like to recognise our special golden oldies every day. But 1st October is the International Day of Older Persons – and more than 100 senior citizens turned out to a celebration of positive ageing in the Paeroa Memorial Hall, hosted by the Council in partnership with community groups.

Some of the VIP guests were rest home residents who have long lived in the community, while others like recently retired business development manager Gus de Vries and his wife Carol were new arrivals. The couple moved to Paeroa a month ago and say it's given them the best of both worlds – an affordable property in a friendly community but also proximity to family still in Auckland.

Like all of the event-goers last Thursday, they enjoyed musical and quiz entertainment; received safety and wellbeing tips from police, fire service and Sport Waikato representatives; and were treated to a light lunch. Also on the menu was an expo of local activities and services catering to seniors.

Councillor James Thorp, himself a SuperGold Card holder, said he was "staggered" to see the number of services on offer.

That realisation was a main purpose of the event, said co-organiser Margaret Raddatz of Presbyterian support network Enliven. "We want people to know what's available."

In Waihi, over 65s were invited to a similar programme of information and entertainment on Friday.



Fire safety golden rules

Tips from the International Day of Older Persons event – but not just for seniors!

- **Keep an eye on what you fry**
A third of New Zealand house fires are caused by unattended cooking. It's easy for your attention to be diverted while you answer the phone, chat to a neighbour, or pop out to the veggie garden.
- **Check your smoke alarms**
Half of our fire deaths occur in homes where there are no functioning smoke alarms. You can't smell smoke while you're asleep, so for 24-hour safety, check your smoke alarm battery. Or buy a new model smoke alarm – these are more effective, easier to use, and have a 10-year battery life. If you need help, contact your local fire brigade to arrange free battery check-up or alarm installation.
- **Hearing loss?**
Specialised alarms are available for people who have a hearing loss. District Health Board funding may be available for these.
- **Have an escape plan**
In case a fire does occur, plan two ways to get out of your home. Your first route may be blocked by flames and smoke.
- **At the first sign of a fire**
Get out and call 111. There's no cost for calling the fire brigade, and it can take just three minutes to lose your home in a fire.

We're ducking for cover

What will you be doing next Thursday at 9.15am?

If you happen to be calling into one of our offices on Council-related business, don't panic when someone shouts "Earthquake!" and all the staff drop under the counter or a desk and hold on.

We encourage you to do the same: Drop, Cover and Hold, as part of the world's biggest earthquake drill.

The aim of ShakeOut is to have 1.5 million New Zealanders practise the actions we would take in a real earthquake, and at the Council, everyone from the Mayor down is taking it seriously. After all, we can't predict when an actual big shake will occur and whether we'll be at work, school, home, or elsewhere.

In Paeroa, the Allens United team of liquid waste contractors will also be joining in the drill. Owner Ted Milne says it's very important for workplaces to be prepared for when an emergency does occur. "We could be anywhere. It's easy to think it's not going to happen, but we need to know what to do in an earthquake situation."

By last week, almost 4500 people in the Hauraki District had registered to participate in ShakeOut – and individuals, families, workplaces, schools, preschools, and groups can still sign up at www.shakeout.govt.nz. Even if you can't do the drill at 9.15am on 15 October, you can choose another time within two weeks of that date.

The website has lots of tips and information not only for doing the drill, but how to be ready for an earthquake and its aftermath. ShakeOut is a great opportunity for everyone to check their plans and their knowledge of how to get through. Businesses and farmers can assess their continuity plans, families can stock up on their emergency supplies and refresh their household plans, and schools can remind children and parents of their processes during an emergency.

Talk to your family, neighbours, colleagues and workmates now about getting prepared!



Taiwan, here we come

International audiences aren't new for rangatahi (youth) from Ngāti Tāwhaki Kapa Haka. This year, they've performed at the Formosa Cultural Experience at Waihi Academy, and entertained and hosted official delegations from Taiwan and China at Ngahutoitoi Marae.

But a week-long tour to Taiwan this month will be a first for nine of the rangatahi, aged from 11 to 20. Accompanied by three whanau supporters and Hauraki District Council delegate John McIver, their itinerary will include the Indigenous Peoples Cultural Park and a number of schools.

The focus will be on nurturing young ambassadors and leaders in the making, who will build on our international cultural partnerships through the vehicle of kapa haka. "They will represent not only their iwi and Hauraki, but New Zealand," says Mayor John Tregidga.

"Taiwanese cultural exchanges have particularly developed since the Waihi Academy opened. Visits by some very good cultural groups from Taiwan have been well received, and we've been keen to send a kapa haka group there. The preparations have been in progress for over 12 months, and this will be a huge and life-shaping experience for our young people. Building understanding and respect for other cultures in this way is very relevant to living in a multicultural society."

Tuatea Chapman-Watarawi, one of two tutors in the travelling roopu, says the trip is an opportunity for "rural kids in the small town of Paeroa to step outside New Zealand and experience the wider world. It's not so much [about] the destination, but more so the journey. To see just how hungry these kids are, and how dedicated to this kaupapa, shows just how valuable this is to them."

Tuatea looks forward to the smiles and sense of awe that will result from the realisation that "there's a much much bigger world out there. These kids don't get to fly out of the country every day, but I hope it will inspire them to do many great things in the future."

While a Council grant has assisted toward the group's travel, most of the costs are being met through personal contributions, fundraising events and community sponsorships. "We would like to thank Hauraki whanui. The support from everyone in our community has been amazing and overwhelming," says Tuatea.

PUBLIC NOTICE



Liquor Ban 2015 - Labour Day

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the Hauraki District Council Consolidated Bylaw that the consumption of alcoholic liquor, the bringing of liquor or of empty liquor containers and the possession of liquor or empty liquor containers in the public places identified below is hereby prohibited during the periods identified below.

LIQUOR BANS - WHIRITOA

All public places including roads, beaches and reserves are included in the prohibition for the Labour Day weekend public holiday.

Dates and Times – Whiritoa Liquor Ban

During the Labour Day weekend public holiday being from 4:00 pm Friday, 23 October 2015 to 4:00 am Tuesday, 27 October 2015 inclusive.

LIQUOR BANS – PAEROA, NGATEA AND WAIHI

That the consumption and bringing into and possession of liquor in all public places including, roads and reserves are prohibited at all times within areas of the townships listed below:

Waihi

- Within the 50 kilometre speed limit areas of Waihi township, and
- Within the 70 kilometre speed limit of Seddon Avenue, East from the Margaret Street/Toomey Street intersection to the 50 kph speed limit sign East of the Martin Road/Baber Street intersection.

Paeroa and Ngatea

- Within the 50 kilometre speed limit areas of the Paeroa and Ngatea townships.

PENALTIES

Any person who commits an offence against the prohibition may be convicted and fined up to \$20,000.

POWERS OF POLICE

The Hauraki District Council Consolidated Bylaw authorises any member of the New Zealand Police to act under sections 169 and 170 of the Local Government Act 2002, including the exercise of the power under section 170(2) to immediately and without further notice search a container or vehicle.

Langley Cavers
Chief Executive
Hauraki District Council