

HDCNEWS



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Recycling centre visit an eye-opener

What happens to your recyclable bin contents after they leave the kerb?

Councillors and Council staff who were keen to see for themselves recently visited the Materials Recycling Facility at Kopu. Known as the MRF (pronounced 'murf'), the centre is operated by Smart Environmental as part of its 10-year kerbside recycling contract with the Thames-Coromandel, Hauraki and Matamata-Piako District Councils.

The piles of recyclable material that arrive are further sorted into their types and grades using automated and manual processes, and sold to appropriate markets. Paper and cardboard are separated for re-processing at Carter Holt Harvey plants, and aluminium cans are sent to Auckland. Some products such as coke bottles go overseas, and could return in the form of high-vis vests.

However if residents put the wrong items in their recycling bins, the outcome can be quite different. A whole batch of recycling may be contaminated and need to be dumped.

For instance, not all glass is the same! A simple 'food rule' will help residents identify which glass can be recycled – basically, any item that originally contained food or drink. So clean jam jars, sauce bottles, wine and beer bottles can all be placed in your blue recycling crate – but not light bulbs, drinking glasses, or window or plate glass.

The food rule works in reverse for cardboard and paper. Magazines and newspapers, clean flattened cardboard packaging and unwanted documents should go into your wheelie bin – but pizza boxes, takeaway wrappers, disposable coffee cups and the like can't be recycled. Watch for more recycling hot tips on this page in the following weeks!



Photos: Batches of sorted recycled items at the Kopu Materials Recycling Facility.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

CREATIVE COMMUNITIES SCHEME

Funding For Local Artists

Applications for funding assistance to local arts projects and initiatives within the territory of the Hauraki District Council are now being received.

The scheme's three funding criteria are:

- Broad community involvement Your project will create opportunities for local communities to engage with and participate in arts activities;
- Diversity Your project will support the diverse arts and cultural traditions of local communities, enriching and promoting their uniqueness and cultural diversity; and
- Young people Your project will enable and encourage young people (under 18 years) to engage with and actively participate in the arts.

Application forms are available from Council offices at: William Street, Paeroa; Seddon Street, Waihi; Orchard Road, Ngatea.

Applications close 4:00pm Friday 26 September 2014

for further information contact:

Administrator - Creative Communities Scheme Hauraki District Council 07 862 8609 toll free within district 0800 734 834





CREATIVE COMMUNITIES ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

The purpose of the assessment committee is to make decisions about the allocation of funds from Creative New Zealand through the Creative Communities Funding Scheme. The assessment committee meets twice a year (usually March and September) to set local priorities, assess applications, and make funding decisions. Co-opted members must also be available to attend a Creative Communities briefing prior to taking up a position on the assessment committee.

We are currently seeking a representative who has a comprehensive knowledge of Hauraki District's community arts sector, to sit as members of this assessment committee. The committee will reflect Hauraki District's demographic diversity (especially cultural and ethnic). Your expertise needs to be broad-based, rather than confined to any one particular arts activity or organisation and you must also reside within Hauraki District boundaries.

For further information please contact the Creative NZ Administrator at the Paeroa office (07) 862 8609.

LD Cavers Chief Executive Hauraki District Council

New ute set to multi-task

Like most people, our Parks and Reserves Manager Steve Clark loves getting a new vehicle, and when he was given the keys to a four wheel drive Isuzu D-Max double cab utility at last week's Council meeting, everyone shared the excitement.

The replacement Parks and Reserves vehicle will be multitasking: supporting our Rural Fire and Civil Defence when needed. It's been equipped with flashing lights, a radiotelephone, public address system, and emergency gear including a tow rope, fire extinguisher, and first aid kit.

A mix of permanent and magnetic signage on the vehicle and promotion material such as a GET READY, GET THRU logo, will make it recognisable in different situations and spread an appropriate message.

"A four wheel drive like this would have been useful during the recent storms, for instance with getting through flooded sections of roads in Kaiaua," says Steve.

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It will equally be an everyday workhorse, mainly with Steve behind the wheel, but also available to other Council staff.

Councillor Max Mclean, who represents the Hauraki District on the Thames Valley Combined Civil Defence Emergency Management Group and has been an active Land Search and Rescue member for over 35 years, describes the new vehicle is a "double whammy". It fits well with the Parks and Reserves role, and has good multi-purpose capability," he says.

"While the likelihood of a major Civil Defence emergency like the 1981 floods may be remote, flooding and trees coming down are part of normal living. We expect that those things are going to happen – and the new vehicle can be part of a combined response, along with fire brigade and mines rescue resources. Its radio communication is a significant feature, providing for instant reports directly back to the Council."

Countdown to big night

The Oscars it's not, but our gala event of the year is just around the corner on September 24. We're rolling out the red carpet to honour some of Hauraki District's outstanding volunteers and young residents at the 2014 Citizen and Young Achiever Awards night in the Ngatea War Memorial Hall.



Last year, nine citizens were acknowledged for making a difference in the community through surf lifesaving, sports coaching, scouting, Search and Rescue, town promotion, service clubs and in many other ways.

Mayor John Tregidga recognised that such efforts often involve personal expense and sacrifice, and described volunteers as "the glue that holds our community together".

Since 2006, the awards night has also celebrated the achievements of local 13 to 25-year-olds. Thirteen Young Achiever Awards were presented in 2013.

The recipients of both sets of awards are selected from public nominations, which were invited in June and July.

JP Clinics off to a good start

Weekly JP clinics are up and running steadily after starting at the Council's Waihi library and service centre in June, and the Paeroa service centre in August.

To date, up to seven clients each week have taken the opportunity to make appointments with a JP or just drop in. Like all JP services, the clinics are offered free of charge, and response from users has been very positive, says Hauraki JP Association Registrar Kris Purden. "Most requests have been for taking statutory declarations or having documents witnessed, and people have been happy to get this done at the Council offices."

Previously, residents have needed to make direct individual contact with JPs – who may not be available at a given time, or who can be inundated with requests at their homes or workplaces. So the aim is to provide easy access for the community, and at the same time take some pressure off JPs in town.

In Waihi, they are held every Monday between 11.00am and 1.00pm. In Paeroa the same times apply every Tuesday – look for the flag flying at the office entrance opposite Countdown supermarket. Appointments are welcome, though not required.

■ Phone appointments for the JP clinics can be made by calling the Council on 0800 734 834 (from within the District) or 07 862 8609.