



# HDC NEWS



## Summit Day

Recognising a remarkable achievement by a remarkable man!

Recently you may have read in this column about Summit Day the 29th May when we celebrate the fifty-year anniversary of Sir Edmund Hillary's ascent of Everest. Sport Waikato has taken up the challenge and has organised the following events for our district.

Walk, cycle or run to the towns' highest points:

Paeroa: Meet at the Information Centre and walk to the top of Primrose Hill.

Waihi: Meet at the end of Clark St (near Gilmour Lake) and walk to the top of Black Hill.

Ngatea: Meet at the Millennium Bridge and walk the block to the Domain Grandstand.

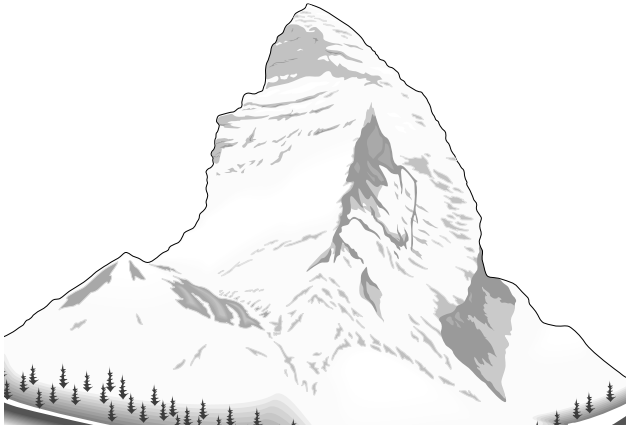
All walks start at 11:00am and a gold coin donation to the Edmund Hillary Trust is requested (more if you like).

In addition to these walks a District Summit Walk is planned for Sunday 1st June starting at the Karangahake Reserve at 10:00am and taking the walk of your choice. These will range from climbing Mt Karangahake to easier grades depending on your fitness. Again a gold coin is requested to donate to the trust.

Unfortunately for councillors the Thursday event comes bang smack in the middle of their monthly Council meeting but they are not going to get away with non participation as the Mayor has suggested that the meeting be adjourned at the appropriate time and the councillors take the Primrose Hill walk.

Council wishes to encourage all residents to participate in at least one of the walks to show our support for both Sir Edmund Hillary and the valuable work his trust does in our community and in the Himalayas.

Please bring with you at least a gold coin, which will go to the Sir Edmund Hillary Trust to carry on his life's work. For further information contact Julie Stephenson (Hauraki District Sport Coordinator), Ph 07 867 7011 or 025 864 955 or Councillor Mike Hayden, Ph 07 863 7292 or 025 247 8057.



## Dog Policy

The draft of the Council's Dog Control Policy, which went out to public consultation recently, was approved by the Planning and Finance Committee for Council to adopt at the end of the month. The policy, which differs little from the previous policy, will need to be reviewed within a year in view of the proposed changes in the Dog Control Act. No submissions were received from the public during the consultation phase.

It is important to note that, while the laws and policies are in place to control unruly dogs, it is difficult for Council to take any action on dog issues without formal complaints from the public, which means making a sworn statement before a JP. Anecdotal evidence of out-of-control dogs is insufficient to take legal action on. If a member of the public makes a sworn statement about the aggressive behaviour of a dog Council normally acts immediately to declare the dog dangerous. At that point, certain procedures are put in place which obligate the owner to have the dog fenced in, muzzled when in public, neutered and to pay a higher registration fee. Failure to observe these regulations can result in infringement notices or prosecution. After a series of infringements the owner can become a probationary dog owner or eventually, if the offences continue, a disqualified dog owner.

## Training our Elected Members

It is always helpful to get an idea how other councils work and to see if we can learn from them and councillors need to look outward and take every opportunity to train for the role for which they have been elected. One of the points government is looking at in relation to reviewing the Resource Management Act is the training of councillors and commissioners for their roles in hearing consent applications. Hauraki has been selected as a sample council for researchers to look at to evaluate the training needs and possibilities for implementing the Resource Management Act. Recently the team of researchers from Auckland University visited the council and spoke to the Mayor and members of the Hearings Committee.

The team from Auckland had several possible scenarios for training to suggest, and were interested in the opinions of our elected members on each. Four-day intensive courses were favoured by our members with some sort of test at the end for councillors to evaluate their progress. It

was, however, stressed that the courses and qualifications could not be considered a prerequisite of sitting on a hearing as ultimately it was the democratic process which must determine who is elected to the Hearings Committee. The team also saw a role for short, less intensive courses for all elected members to get an overview of the resource management process.

At present members attend short courses, which are usually held at the beginning of an electoral term, and the annual Planning Institute Conference as training. This year's Planning Conference was held in Hamilton on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th May. It is customary for the members of the Hearings Committee to have the opportunity to go to the annual Planning Conference but this year, as it is so close, the opportunity was opened up to those members of the Planning and Finance Committee who wished to attend. Participants not only had the chance to listen to informative keynote addresses and participate in workshops and field

trips centred on current issues in the planning scene but they had a valuable opportunity to meet and share experiences with planners and councillors from other areas.

This year topics included: environmental education, coastal planning, waste strategy, protecting Lake Taupo, transportation, conservation of indigenous biodiversity, wind power generation, heritage provisions in plans, vegetable growers' fertiliser applications, GIS, planning for tourism, road safety and a number of others.

The difficulty was selecting which workshops to attend as there were such a variety of interesting topics. Field trips included the Firth of Thames bird sanctuary and marine farms, Raglan harbour degradation and erosion, waste management sites, Waipa Delta trip up and down the Waikato River to observe the pressures on the river, and the State highway 1 expressway. Members had to choose one of the above.

Three staff and councillors Carmine and Hayden attended the conference.

## Conservation Boards

Council has nominated three councillors for positions on Conservation Boards. Keith Trembath has been nominated to the Waikato Board and Mary Carmine and Mike Hayden to the Bay of Plenty Board. The Boards are advisory groups to the Department of Conservation and were recently calling for nominations to fill vacancies. It is understood that there are usually many nominations to these positions. The councillors will find out in August whether any of them have been successful.

## Elected Members' Diary



Meetings for the week 26th May to the 1st June:  
Thursday 29th May, morning: full council meeting.

## PUBLIC NOTICES



### TO ALL DOG OWNERS REGISTRATION 2003/2004

Pursuant to Section 37 of the Dog Control Act 1996 the Hauraki District Council by resolution of Council on 24 February 2003 fixed the dog control fees for this registration year 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004.

	FEES	DESEX REBATE (Certificate Required)	MINIMUM FEE	PENALTY IF PAID AFTER 31 JULY 2003	MAXIMUM FEE
Working Dog	\$38.00	\$12.50	\$25.50	\$17.00	\$55.00
Rural Dog	\$38.00	\$12.50	\$25.50	\$17.00	\$55.00
Urban Dog	\$76.00	\$12.50	\$63.50	\$35.00	\$111.00
VOL Dog	\$38.00	\$12.50	\$25.50		\$38.00
Replacement Tag	\$4.00				

(Note: Failure to register by 31 July OF ANY YEAR DISQUALIFIES VOL STATUS)  
Fees include GST

L D Cavers  
GENERAL MANAGER

## PUBLIC NOTICES



**RATEPAYERS ARE REMINDED THAT A 10% PENALTY WILL BE INCURRED ON ALL THIRD INSTALMENT 2002/2003 RATES UNPAID AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY 28 MAY 2003."**

### LIQUOR BANS 2003

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 709A Local Government Act 1974 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 Beach and Reserve areas  
\* The roads - Fishermans Bend, Kon Tiki Road,

Tuna Place and Moray Place

Dates and Times

### QUEENS BIRTHDAY 2003

During the Queens Birthday public holiday period being Friday 30th May 2003 to Tuesday 3rd June 2003 inclusive, and the hours of 4:00pm to 4:00am daily.

**PENALTIES: ANY PERSON WHO COMITS AN OFFENCE AGAINST THE PROHIBITION MAY BE CONVICTED AND FINED UP TO \$500.00**

**POWERS OF POLICE: ANY CONSTABLE MAY ARREST ANY PERSON ACTING OR ABOUT TO ACT CONTRARY TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS PROHIBITION.**

**ANY CONSTABLE MAY SEARCH ANY PARCEL, PACKAGE, BAG, CASE OR OTHER CONTAINER IN POSSESSION OF ANY PERSON INTENDING OR ABOUT TO ENTER ANY PLACE DESCRIBED IN THIS PROHIBITION.**

L D CAVERS  
GENERAL MANAGER