



HDC NEWS



vote!
2004 Local + DHB Elections

Don't Forget to Vote

Have you voted yet? Remember to open your ballot paper fully and to vote for all the things you are eligible to vote for. Then don't forget to post your voting papers back in plenty of time. The poll closes on Saturday the 9th of October and your papers must be in the hands of the electoral officer, in Paeroa, by noon on that day so don't leave posting your papers back until the last minute or they may not arrive in time. If you are unsure about whether they will get there in time you can hand deliver them to the Council Office, in Paeroa.

Please make sure you open your ballot paper fully to find all the things you need to vote for. They are:

Plains Ward	Mayorality	Regional Council	Health Board	
Paeroa Ward	Mayorality	District Council	Regional Council	Health Board
Waihi Ward	Mayorality	District Council	Regional Council	Health Board

Low Flying Swans

The Council's Works Committee were told recently that there has been a problem with power outages at the Mangawhero pump station. Apparently, the pole fuse has blown on a number of occasions because of shorts to the system cause by swans hitting the power wires. Environment Waikato is investigating the re-routing of the power supply from the west (Patetonga) side of the river. Hanging things from the wires has been ineffective in discouraging the birds or alerting them to the presence of the wires.



Personal Reminiscences of the Waihi Library

I do not use the library much at present - don't get much time for reading - but there have been periods of my life over the last 50 years or so when it has loomed large in the scheme of things - a life saver, almost, at times.

I remember the library was down the side of the Borough Council building when I was a child. We lived in the County so my parents had to pay an annual membership fee to be able to take out books. Thursday was town day for most farmers, because it was sale day. Each Thursday, after all the provisions for the week had been bought, both my mother and father took back the previous week's books and selected one or two new ones, then my mother chose one or two for me as well. I well remember the anticipation each Thursday of coming home from school to see what books were awaiting me. Reading was important in those pre-television days. On winter evenings we sat around the fire and read aloud, several chapters per night, until the book was finished.

In the holidays I was able to choose the books for myself from the children's section - just around the corner on the right as you came in the door. Although it was a building you had to be quiet in, I found it a welcoming place, although I was a bit nervous of the librarian, as I was essentially a shy child. Once there was a sale of books that the library did not want any more and my mother gave me sixpence to buy one. I carefully made my choice, plucked up courage to take it to the counter and handed over the book and the sixpence to the waiting librarian.

"You don't want that do you?" he said, the coin teetering on the tips of his fingers, rejected. "It's a dirty tatty old thing." "Yes please," I whispered timidly. "Well, if you're really sure." I was sure - 'Sue Barton, Senior Nurse' - dirty and tatty it may have been but I enjoyed it and still have it.

It was hard to imagine the library moving to the bank. The bank was also a place where you had to keep quiet but much more formidable. Ladies stood behind huge counters and you had to wait eternities in queues, but after a period away, when I returned to town, the library was situated in the old BNZ building and was still a welcoming place.

It again entered my life when, at the age of forty, I found myself with a hyperactive four year old son, a two year old daughter and pregnant again. With a history of high blood pressure I was ordered to rest. This is where the library came to my rescue. Each morning we took out four books from the children's section and each afternoon, while I rested, we read those books over and over again. I relaxed; the children absorbed knowledge and did not cause trouble. The hyperactive four year old has, 19 years later just graduated from university with a science degree and an enduring thirst for knowledge. The two year old, now 21, is also about to complete her science degree and has a passion for reading. The Waihi library, if not a life saver, was certainly a sanity saver as far as I was concerned and has set my children on a path of lifetime enjoyment of books.

The Waihi Library has left an enduring legacy in many people's lives. I thank it for its effect on mine. Has your library had an effect on your life? If not, why not? Give it a try. It might be the start of something good.

Let Them Eat Cake

The Waihi Library turns 100 years old on Sunday the 3rd October. A small ceremony will be held on the 4th involving the cutting of a birthday cake to celebrate the event and if you visit the library during that week you may be lucky enough to be given a commemorative book mark and a piece of birthday cake. \$600 has been allowed for the commemorations and councillors discussed the matter at length at the last Planning and Finance meeting. It was pointed out that it was not a \$600 cake but that the library would be decorated and the book marks would also be part of the expenditure. It is expected that more than one cake will be needed if everyone that comes to the library is to be given a piece.

How to Pay your Rates

Please keep in mind that the first instalment of your rates for the 2004/05 year will be due in October. You may like to think now about whether you would like to change the way you normally make your rates payments, for example, you might wish to consider paying your rates weekly, if you don't already. If you have any questions, please call our Customer Contact Centre on 07 862 8609 or 0800 734 834 (from within the District) and talk with the team about the options available to you.

SITUATIONS VACANT



Hauraki District Council is a progressive local government organisation serving the Waihi, Paeroa and Plains areas with a mission to be a successful and innovative provider of services and facilities for all who live in or visit the district. Situated at the base of the Coromandel Peninsula, the Hauraki District (population over 17,000) is centrally located within close proximity to several major cities including Auckland, Hamilton and Tauranga.

We are currently seeking to appoint a new permanent position based in our Corporate Services Department in the Paeroa Office

Property/Customer Information Officer

This position provides an opportunity to work as part of a team and be responsible for the management and review of service delivery to customers associated with Council's property system and GIS databases.

Reporting to the Information Manager, you would be responsible for:

- Managing corporate recording systems for customer and property records
- Verifying PIM, LIM, Resource and Building Consent applications to the correct land parcel
- Street and RAPID numbering systems, road naming and land ownership boundaries

This position will require someone who has:

- Practical experience in plotting land survey data and co-ordinating data from survey plans.
- Sound knowledge of local authority responsibilities and statutory obligations as set out in relevant legislation.
- Top keyboard skills particularly in computerised graphical systems and databases.
- Ability to read and interpret information in map and plan form.

Prospective applicants should first obtain the job description and application form from the Council's offices in Paeroa, Ngatea or Waihi, contact HR Advisors Sue or Julie (07) 862 8609, e-mail jobs@hauraki-dc.govt.nz or visit our website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

Applications close at 4pm on Friday 15 October 2004.

Hauraki District Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer

**LD CAVERS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Elected Members' Diary

Meetings for the week of the 27th September to the 3rd October 2004:
Thursday 30th September - final full Council meeting of the electoral term.



Sign Vandalism

The Works Committee was told recently that there has been a spate of sign vandalism in the Plains area resulting in damage to a large number of signs, sight rails and other hardware. Many of the signs, on both local roads and State Highways, have been pushed over by a vehicle. Damage was reported on Bush, Hopai East, Pipiroa, Rawerawe West, and Torehape East Roads.

Police have been working hard on the issue but have been unable to apprehend an offender. They need help from the general public to find out who is doing this senseless vandalism and to bring the person or persons to account. If apprehended, the offender will be asked for reparation. History would tell us that the offender is likely to be young and male. If you have any information that would possibly be of use to police please contact them as the actions are at best a nuisance and at worst downright dangerous. In addition they are costing you, the ratepayer, large amounts of money to repair. The estimated cost to the ratepayer of repairs and replacement of damaged signs is \$4500 over the past three months.