



HDC NEWS



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Rex leaves legacy of words and actions

A Council identity of more than 23 years will be sadly missed, following his passing on August 12. Corporate Services Manager Rex Leonhart died after a sudden but short illness, just shy of his 56th birthday.

Rex started his career with us as Finance Manager in May 1991. However his association with the Council began even earlier, when he audited it (and some of the preceding borough councils) during 15 years of service with the Audit Office.

His first audit of the Hauraki District highlighted a need for a significant improvement in Council's financial affairs. So when the Finance Manager role was created, he threw his hat into the ring and was the right man for the job. Mayor John Tregidga, then Deputy Mayor, says Rex's thriftiness saved the Council a great deal of money and even potential disaster, and has continued to be a huge asset since.

In 1995 Rex became Corporate Services Manager, a newly established position combining oversight of finance and information technology. And although ardent about both, he would lend his hand to anything: from manning the Council reception counter taking rates payments, to hiding behind a screen at public meetings ensuring the technology was working, to representing the District at high-level forums in Wellington.

Over the years Rex became known for his analytical mind; for being extremely knowledgeable, capable, and hardworking; and for complex reports of processes and recommended actions. The length of his emails was legendary, and there was no such thing as a brief conservation with him. As Council's Chief Executive Langley Cavers shared at Rex's memorial service last week, "The definition of an accountant is someone who solves a problem you didn't know you had in a way you don't understand – something we can all relate to with regard to Rex. We sometimes had no idea what he was saying, but we knew that it was right."

Rex loved technology, and associated hands-on tasks that went well beyond his responsibilities – whether wiring up the computer network, dissecting computers and servers, setting up new equipment or loading software. He not only did this at work but for schools, community organisations, friends and family. But Council staff were thankful that anything Rex pulled apart at work (unlike at home!) had to be back up and running by 8.00am the next morning.

He was also respected as a 'people person', with a heart as big as his physical presence. Rex was hugely loyal and had a strong sense of care and concern for his colleagues and members of his staff team. He recognised and nurtured potential in others, giving hours of his own time to assist or mentor them.

Outside his work – though the line was often not clearly defined – Rex was extremely proud of his family, especially his wife Raewyn and daughter Sandra. Another passion was competitive golf, including mentoring young golfers.

The Mayor says Rex was a popular, effective and highly intelligent manager, with a unique if sometimes difficult to understand reporting style. "He always had time for any councillor, and made time to get involved with the Paeroa community he lived in – especially through the golf club and Tirohia School."



SITUATION VACANT

POOL SUPERVISOR AND LIFEGUARDS FIXED TERM 4 – 5 MONTHS

Hauraki District Council's three heated swimming pools in Paeroa, Ngatea and Waihi will be open from November 2014 to March 2015 and we are looking for Pool Staff now.

If you have a positive can-do attitude, the ability to deal with a variety of situations and would like to be part of our team to ensure our community swimming pools are monitored and safe for our swimmers to enjoy, we would love to hear from you.

We are looking for a Pool Supervisor whose main role will be to ensure the pools are staffed and ready for the public to enjoy a safe, clean and fun environment. You will need to be able to motivate your team and ensure a high standard of customer service. Computer skills and a current driver's license are essential.

We also require 15 Pool Lifeguards who are prepared to work variable hours under a rostered shift to cover 7 days per week.

The fixed term period would be from mid November until mid March, however if you could be available for all or part of this time we will consider your application. This could suit a university student or someone who would be able to work flexible hours.

For further details or to apply electronically please visit our website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz, or contact Sue Greenville on 07 862 5024 or Julie Sweeney 07 862 5023.

Applications close 12 September 2014

"At Hauraki District Council ...
Its More than Just a Job!"

PUBLIC NOTICES

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Council is inviting Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the lease or purchase of the Old Waihi Library building situated at 37 Seddon Street, Waihi.

An information pack with details on the EOI is available from Council's Service Centres in Waihi and Paeroa, or by phoning the Property Manager, Dennis Lees on 07 862 8609.

All EOIs should be sent marked for the attention of: The Property Manager, EOI Old Waihi Library, Hauraki District Council, PO Box 17, Paeroa, or hand delivered in a sealed envelope to the Paeroa or Waihi Council.

**Closing date of EOI is 4.00pm
Friday, 19 September 2014.**

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Pursuant to Section 46 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, public notice is hereby given that the following meetings will be held during the month of September in the Council Chamber, HDC Office, 1 William Street, Paeroa.

Consultative Water & Waste Committee
Tuesday, 2 September 2014 - 10.00am

Paeroa Rural District Drainage Committee
Tuesday, 30 September 2014 - 1.30pm

LD Cavers
Chief Executive
Hauraki District Council

Award will be toasted with water

The Kerepehi Water Treatment Plant upgrade was always going to be challenging – not least because the works had to be accomplished without interrupting the existing Hauraki Plains water supply. But the challenge was more than met, in a project that has won the Council and its consulting engineers Harrison Grierson an Innovate NZ silver award.

Mayor John Tregidga, who was presented with the award at this week's Council meeting, says it's a significant honour. "These are premium professional awards made by the Association of Consulting Engineers, recognising innovation and excellence in predominantly large-scale engineering projects of a very high calibre."

The plant upgrade completed last year was ranked alongside five other silver-winning projects including the Auckland University of Technology's Sir Paul Reeves Building, Fonterra's Clondeboye Lactose Evaporator in South Canterbury, the Milford Road Homer Tunnel Portal Rockfall Risk Management project, the Tahuna Wastewater Treatment Plant stage 2 upgrade in Dunedin, and the Milford Sound Freshwater Basin Harbour Redevelopment.

Even fewer gold awards were presented: to the Auckland Art Gallery, the Christchurch International Airport Mechanical Services and Artesian Heating and Cooling project, the High Voltage Direct Current Pole 3 Upgrade to the power link between North and South Islands, and the Wairakei Bioreactor to remove hydrogen sulphide from the power station cooling water.

The Mayor says the accolade for our \$10 million water treatment is a credit to the co-operation between Harrison Grierson and Council staff. "Not only was this a major project for the Hauraki District, it came in on budget and on time."

The purpose of the upgrade was to meet the drinking water standard, increase the capacity of the treatment plant, and make it better able to treat the wide range in quality of the river water caused by king tides. During a king tide event in February 2013, the new plant successfully treated muddy water 40 times dirtier than normal.



New chapter beckons

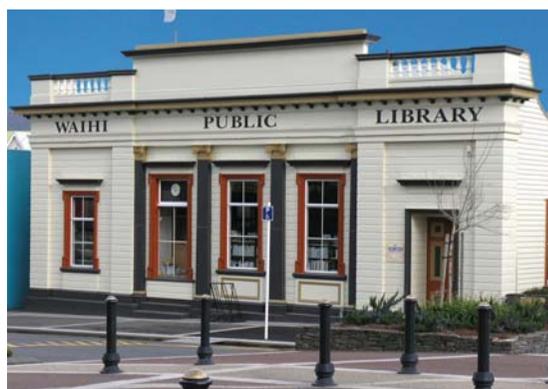
Do you have a great idea for the use of the old Waihi Library building in Seddon Street?

Now that the library has a new home, the Council is calling for expressions of interest from prospective building users. Information packs are available from our offices, including details of the building and related District Plan rules.

We intend arranging the equivalent of 'open homes' for viewing and inspection by potential applicants, with Council staff being present to answer any questions.

All proposals will be considered, from renting or leasing part or all of the premises, to interest in purchasing the facility or suggestions for its alternative use.

No decisions will be made until the Council can weigh up all the options and all public feedback is received.



OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS: The old Waihi Library is now empty, with interest from potential users invited.

Toilets to get makeover

The two public toilets at Ohinemuri Park – colloquially known as Bottle Park for its landmark L&P bottle – are expected to be refurbished during the first week of September, weather permitting. A two to five-day closure of the facilities will be necessary, for work that will include repainting the exterior, repairing some 'wear and tear' and weather damage, and replacing inside fittings and tiles.

The overhaul was originally scheduled for earlier in the year, but delayed due to fit in with contractor availability. We also wanted to avoid school holidays and other peak-use periods.

While the work is in progress, signs will be in place directing people to the nearest other toilets at Paeroa Domain and in Marshall Street.

