Dogs on the move? Please let us know

This ‘Gypsy Day’ – the traditional June 1 start of the new dairy season when farms change ownership and sharemilking and grazing contracts begin – farmers, sharemilkers and herd owners won’t be the only migrants hitting the road. Dogs are part of the big move, too.

If you are a dog owner shifting home, please contact us so we can update your details now, before the 2014/15 dog registration year begins on 1 July. This means your dog registration notice will be sent to the right address!

If you are moving to another district, both Councils will need to be informed as soon as possible.

To farmers and their families who are leaving our District, we wish you the very best for the future. To new rural residents, a warm welcome.

If you have any questions about dog registration, please call one of our friendly Customer Services Advisors or Dog Control Officers on 0800 734 834 (from within the District) or 07 862 8609. Alternatively you can email info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz; or contact us via our website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz (on-line service request) to advise your change of address.

Come and hit the Trail
Need an incentive or three to get out and get active this winter?

Now’s the time to pull on your training shoes and conjure up some friends, family or workmates for Sport Waikato’s series of Sunday fun runs or walks on the Hauraki Rail Trail in the ‘off peak’ season for cycling, and as always the ‘Share the Road’ courtesy will apply.

The trail will be open to relay teams or individuals, with some shorter distance options also on offer for the latter.

What’s provided? Everything from race numbers, timing chips, drink stations, toilet facilities, and marshalling to spot prizes and a gear van. For anyone who needs transport to the start line or from the finish line, there’s even a shuttle service available by prior booking.

While the cycle trail will remain open and runners and walkers need to give way to bikes, the races promote the use of the Rail Trail to be a ‘walk’ or ‘bike’ only option, and as always the ‘Share with Care’ courtesy will apply.

As well as attracting visitors to run or walk on the Trail – a facility in which the Council has invested significant resources – it’s hoped that the Trail may give locals an opportunity to use it in a different way.

The events will go ahead rain or shine, unless extreme weather poses a risk to participant safety. For more information or to enter online, visit www.sportwaikato.org.nz.

New carpark gets green light

Councillors have approved the construction of a new public carpark next to the Paeroa swimming pool, subject to funding being available.

The grassed Council site on the corner of Princes Street and Arney Street is already used as an informal parking area, to the extent limited by its topography. Building a retaining wall along the eastern boundary would allow it to be re-contoured to create a more useable 13-bay carpark.

This would benefit people accessing the swimming pool, the Paeroa Medical Centre, current and prospective nearby businesses, and a small conference facility planned as part of an adjacent motel development. The motel developer has proposed to contribute by constructing the retaining wall.

The cost of designing and constructing a sealed, kerbed and drained carpark on the site is estimated at $31,000.

Potential funding from the district-wide roading budget will be investigated through this year’s draft Annual Plan process.

We’re front page news in Tokyo

It’s not every day that our District gets headline acclaim in Japan. However, it happened last week when the Tokyo Shimbun acknowledged the recent opening of the Japan Library: Pukapuka in the Mackaytown home of Jillian Yorke and Hitoshi Morishita.

Jillian lived in Japan for 32 years, and a 2009 article in the same newspaper about the planned library, published just before she moved back to New Zealand with Hitoshi, resulted in donations of almost 2000 books – about two thirds of the library’s collection.

This month’s article paid tribute to the generous support which has enabled the library to become a reality, and to Jillian and Hitoshi’s commitment even to the extent of strengthening their house foundations to bear the combined weight of the books and custom-made kauri shelves.

Journalist Naofumi Kuchiki also reported Mayor John Tregidga’s hope expressed at the April 26 official opening, that the library will help communicate Japanese culture not only to Hauraki but New Zealand – promoting mutual cultural understanding and respect, and fostering relationships with Asia that are vital to New Zealand’s future.

The Tokyo Shimbun (literally ‘Tokyo Newspaper’) has a daily circulation of more than 500,000 copies and is part of the fourth largest newspaper group in Japan, so the library article is likely to be reprinted in regional publications.

“It’s nice publicity for the Japan Library, the Hauraki District, and Paeroa,” says Jillian. “We’ve already had several emails from Japan in response to the story. Several people have said they intend to come here and visit our library soon, and one quite famous Japanese novelist is sending some books.”

Meanwhile, interest within New Zealand has come from Japanese people living here, Japan Friendship Society members, a Kiwi former teacher of Japanese, local residents wanting to borrow books, and the Mercury Bay Library offering to donate a number of Japanese books.

Anyone is welcome to visit and use the Japan Library by appointment, and enjoy free public access to Japanese and English language titles spanning a wide range of genres. Anyone can be contacted by emailing japanlibnz@gmail.com.

PUBLIC NOTICES

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 June 2014 at Council Chambers, 1 William Street, Paeroa unless stated otherwise.

Consultative Water & Waste Committee
Tuesday, 3 June 2014 - 10.00am
Judicial Committee (if required)
Monday, 9 June 2014 - 9.00am
Monday, 23 June 2014 - 9.00am
Ward Committees - Tuesday, 10 June 2014 Plains Ward - 9.00am Paeroa Ward - 12.30pm Wahi Ward - 2.30pm
Operations Committee
Wednesday, 11 June 2014 - 9.00am
Extraordinary Meeting
Friday, 13 June 2014 - 9.00am
• Hauraki Long Term Plan Workshop
• Final consideration of submissions (if required) and discussion on changes to the Draft 2014/15 Annual Plan
Western Plains District Drainage Committee
Tuesday, 24 June 2014 - 9.00am at the Plains Service Centre, Orchard West Rd, Ngatea.
Eastern Plains District Drainage Committee
Tuesday, 1 July 2014 - 9.00am at the Plains Service Centre, Orchard West Rd, Ngatea.
Ordinary Meeting of Council
Wednesday, 25 June 2014 - 9.00am
LD Cavers
Chief Executive
Hauraki District Council

HAURAKI DISTRICT CHANGES KERBSIDE REFUSE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION

QUEEN’S BIRTHDAY CHANGES

Due to Monday, 2 June 2014 being a statutory holiday, all Hauraki District kerbside refuse and recycling collections will be carried out one day later than normal.

Please see the schedule below showing the changes to collection days for the week of 2nd to 9th June.

Township Collection Day
Whitiora Tuesday, 3 June
Karapoti Tuesday, 3 June
Ngatea Thursday, 5 June
Turu Thursday, 5 June
Waiomaramu Thursday, 5 June
Kaiata Thursday, 5 June
Wahi Friday, 6 June
Wakino Friday, 6 June
Karangahake Friday, 6 June
Mackaytown Friday, 6 June
Paeroa Friday, 6 June
Ken Thompson
District Engineer
Hauraki District Council

Paeroa Domain’s No.1 field back in top shape

The recent work done on Paeroa Domain’s No.1 sportsfield may have looked like fertiliser spreading, but an Auckland-based turf specialist was renovating the drainage ready for winter.

The ground was ‘spiked’ to a depth of 200mm, before sand was dispersed over it and then swept into the holes. The sand allows excess surface water to flush into the drainage lines, says parks and reserves manager Steve Clark. “It needs to be replenished periodically for drainage and irrigation systems to maintain their effectiveness.”

The one-day job was timed for midweek to allow the field to settle without disrupting weekend fixtures.

Above: The Tokyo Shimbun headline reads: A small Japan Library in New Zealand. The pictures include a photo of ‘Morishita-san, Yorke-san, and Mayor Tregidga having a chat at the opening ceremony’, and a map showing Paeroa/Mackaytown in relation to New Zealand’s biggest city and its capital.