

Community heroes *recognised*

Our quiet achievers were recognised on Wednesday, 31 August 2016 at the 10th annual Citizen and Young Achiever Awards in Waihi.

The annual awards ceremony acknowledges the service of Hauraki residents who have committed substantial personal time and effort to benefit their community, and our high achieving local 13 to 25-year-olds making a mark in their communities.

This year's Citizen Award recipients included volunteers who have made a difference through event coordination, community publications, social and health work, services to children and young people, celebrating local heritage, sport, and club roles, to name just a few ways.

Our Young Achievers have led the way in academics, the sporting arena, arts and culture, social initiatives, leadership and community spirit.

The award recipients were selected from public nominations by a special panel

Congratulations to all of these awardees who make a real difference to our Hauraki community.

of Councillors. Mayor John Tregidga said "It never ceases to amaze me the talented and committed people that we have in our community who so freely give their time to make a difference to everyone's lives."

Awards organiser Hauraki District Council community development officer John McIver says Hauraki must be full of high achievers and outstanding citizens because every year they just keep coming.

"It's heart warming to hear about all the great things people in our communities are doing and the many ways they're giving back. Young people especially can receive a lot of negative press, so it's nice to acknowledge the valuable contribution many of them are making," he said.

After accepting their awards from Mayor John Tregidga, each young achiever presented a Citizen Award winner with the added Council gift of a kowhai seedling.



THIS YEAR'S YOUNG ACHIEVERS:
 Left-Right; Adam Keane; Cameron Gordon (representing Brylie Gordon); Duncan Plesse; Hugh Budge; Gus Barrier; Crystal Scown; Ezra Thompson; Claudia Garcia; Alyssa Thurston; Bianca O'Connor; Courtney Collier; Mayor John Tregidga.



THIS YEAR'S CITIZEN AWARD RECIPIENTS:
 Left-Right; Lesley Gordon; Brian Atger; Lorraine Hayward; Cheryl Harris; Valerie Wallis; Jane Robinson; Judith Cotton; Frances Flaherty; Valerie Sparks; Mayor John Tregidga.

Dog-gone *facts*

Here at the Council we provide animal control services because we have a responsibility to protect the public from dangerous and nuisance animal behaviours as well as promoting animal welfare. As part of this service, we register dogs on the national dog database, provide education about safety around dogs and control dangerous, nuisance and wandering dogs and stock. At present we provide contracted animal control services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The most frequent animal that we deal with is man's best friend – the dog.

We have just lodged our report to central government on our dog control policy and practices for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 and we thought you might be interested in the facts. Over the last year, we have had a grand total of 4361 dogs registered, and 536 dog-related complaints, which is a reduction of 15% on the complaints received last year. For the 2015/16 period:

- we've inspected 300 properties to locate unregistered dogs
- we've had 220 complaints about roaming dogs, compared with 283 in the previous year
- there's been a 7% decrease in barking dog complaints
- there's been 13 reported attacks on people, compared with 22 the previous year
- we've investigated 41 dog bites on animals, compared with 39 the previous year



We still continue to see roaming dogs as a district wide issue. These dogs can frighten, intimidate or annoy others, in addition to attacking other animals and people. Although it's great to have a reduction in serious attacks on people, we think 13 is still too many. We will continue to provide educational resources and incentives like the Responsible Owner License (ROL) to assist owners in ensuring their furry friends are safe and secure. While the ROL application period closed in July this year, owners will be able to apply again in June 2017 – mark your calendar now!

If you have any animal control issues such as wandering dogs, contact one of our Council offices and we will ensure your issues are dealt with by the contractor and Council staff as necessary. For more information on dogs within the district, including the ROL scheme, check out <http://www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/dogs>.

Rocket Park toilets closed by *fire*

Once again the toilets at the Victoria St Park in Waihi have been damaged by fire.

Both the men's and women's toilets have been damaged and will be closed until later this week.

Did you notice anything?

The fire occurred about 5pm on 31 August, a time of day when people are out and about possibly heading home from work.

If you noticed anyone around the toilets at that time that might be able to help us with our enquiries into finding the culprits, please contact us at the Council.

