

Thursday, 28 August 2014

# Waihi Ward Reflections

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## New chapter beckons for the old Waihi Library building

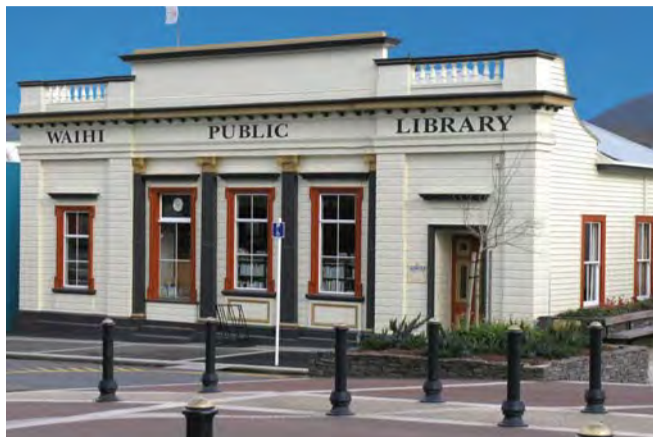
### Do you have a great idea for the use of the old Waihi Library building in Seddon Street?

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.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### 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.**

LD Cavers  
Chief Executive  
Hauraki District Council

## Bike parking need is in the spotlight

### More bike racks in the Waihi town centre, please!

Several such requests have been received from retailers and members of the public, to cut the number of cycles being left against shop windows or across the footpath.

The need for bike parking has grown since the Waikato to Waihi leg of the Hauraki Rail Trail opened last year; and we want to make the town centre as user-friendly as possible – for cyclists to feel welcome and for our footpaths to be clear for pedestrians.

Council staff will work with Waihi Ward Councillors to identify suitable sites for further bike racks – offering sufficient space without impeding pedestrian movement or inhibiting the sightline of car drivers. We also need to determine the best method of receiving and approving applications for cycle racks, and investigate funding options.

In Paeroa, a similar process was carried out last year, and four new racks have been installed in a joint project between the Council and Positive Paeroa.

Some Waihi business owners have already invested in their own moveable bike racks, in consultation with the Council.

An additional option may be for a private entrepreneur to set up a secure 'paid parking' facility for Rail Trail users and other cyclists.



## JP Clinics off to a good start

Weekly Monday JP clinics are up and running steadily after starting at the Council's Waihi library and service centre in June.

To date, up to seven clients each week have taken the opportunity to make appointments with a JP or just drop in between 11.00am and 1.00pm. Like all JP services, the clinics are offered free of charge, and response from users has been very positive, says Hauraki JP Association registrar Kris Purden. "Most requests have been for taking statutory declarations or having documents witnessed, and people have been happy to get this done at the Council offices."

Previously, residents have needed to make direct individual contact with JPs – who may not be available at a given time, or who can be inundated with requests at their homes or workplaces. So the aim is to provide easy access for the community, and at the same time take some pressure off JPs in town. It's hoped the clinics will become increasingly used as locals get to know that someone is always there.

Appointments are welcome, though not required. Times can be booked by calling the Council on 0800 734 834 (from within the District) or 07 862 8609.

## Race yachts set for Waihi battle

A fleet of up to 30 or more yachts is set to race in Waihi next month – in the International One Metre class Bay of Plenty Championships. Radio controlled vessels and their skippers from around the country and as far away as Australia are expected at Gilmour Lake for the September 20-21 regatta.

Waihi, Katikati and Tauranga entrants will also be in trophy contention. The first race is planned for 10.30am on the Saturday, followed by alternating A and B fleet races on a windward-leeward triangular course. The slowest four boats in the A fleet and the top four in the B fleet will change places throughout, until the final battle at about 3.00pm on Sunday.

"This a national event, run by the New Zealand Radio Yachting Association, and we're lucky to have such a wonderful lake venue so close to town," says organiser Dave Hemsley. "The foreshore stage area is a perfect race HQ, and the Council has really come on board to support the champs by raising the level of the water, and tidying up the path at the back of the lake to provide easy competitor access."

The visiting skippers and their supporters will enjoy the hospitality of Waihi motels; and lunches for the two days are being locally catered.

Entries are open until September 13, to any registered International One Metre class boats whose owners belong to a nationally affiliated radio yacht club.

Spectators are very welcome to come and enjoy the action, too, just as they do most Sundays at local sailing events on the lake. "We race from 1.00pm to 4.00pm, but the skippers usually arrive in the morning for a bit of practice, and keen onlookers often have the controls thrust into the hands," says Dave.



Above: Waihi's Gilmour Lake will host next month's International One Metre class Bay of Plenty champs.