



David Clapperton

Message from the Chief Executive

The 2016 Local Elections voting period begins later this month.

This is your opportunity to have your say on who should be the Elected Members taking a leadership role and representing the views of our District and communities, and contributing to Council's vision - "working together to take Horowhenua from good to great".

We encourage you to read our Pre-Election Report booklet. It provides an overview of what Council does, what has been achieved in the past three years, what we're working on in this financial year, goals in place for the next three years, as well as challenges and opportunities. The Report also outlines key projects and outcomes, as well as Council finances and financial strategy. More detailed information can be found in the 2015-2025 Long Term Plan. Both documents are available from Council's customer service centres or can be downloaded from www.horowhenua.govt.nz



DM Clapperton

Inside this issue:

- Clean Up Week 2016
- Apply for a Rates Rebate
- Local Elections
- What's happening

Vibrant mural to enhance Shannon pride

Horowhenua has another mural masterpiece, thanks to the artistic talents of Jonny 4Higher, who led the team that produced the Levin Adventure Park mural in April.

Horowhenua District Council commissioned Jonny to co-create a new mural for the Shannon Domain basketball court.

Jonny worked with a small group of local youth aged between 12 and 20 (found by the Shannon Domain Users Group), who helped with the design. Then, they all had a go at helping paint, learning about the graffiti art-form and how it can be used for good.

The new mural incorporates the local saying "2 Live and Die in Shannon" ('2LADIS') and for the young people involved in the project it was the ultimate testament to pride in their town.

While in Shannon, Jonny also touched-up an old mural that had been hit with tagging, again with the buy-in from the community and with the aim that they take strengthened guardianship of the artworks



Jonny 4Higher





Help keep Horowhenua beautiful during NZ's largest litter clean-up

Horowhenua residents are encouraged to adopt the 'Be A Tidy Kiwi' philosophy and pick-up litter during national Clean-Up Week starting next Monday 12 September.

Via the Keep New Zealand Beautiful website www.knzb.org.nz/cleanupweek, people can join an already-registered local event. Otherwise, create one with a group of family, friends, or work colleagues; or a group from a school or other organisation.

Simply 'adopt a spot' such as a street or other stretch of roadside; a playground, park or other reserve; an area at a stream, river, lake or beach; an area in a town centre or any other public space, and clear it of any litter. The more people who take part next week, the more effective this year's clean-up will be.

Rubbish and recycling bags, gloves, health and safety guidelines will be provided.

On Saturday 17 September Keep Levin Beautiful members will be at the Levin Adventure Park car-park from 9.00am to 3.00pm to collect the filled KNZB-branded bags - black for rubbish and clear for recyclables. Green waste will not be accepted.

For more info, or to find your nearest clean-up event and register, visit www.knzb.org.nz/cleanupweek. Otherwise, phone Keep Levin Beautiful chairperson Victoria Kaye-Simmons on 027 601 1014.



Apply now for a Rates Rebate?

Council's Levin office will be open this **Saturday 10 September from 9:00am to 12noon** for people to pop-in for rates rebates enquiries and applications. No appointment necessary.

Residential ratepayers with a household income up to \$24,470 may be eligible for a rates rebate up to \$610.

Ratepayers who earned more may still qualify for a rebate, depending on the level of their rates and number of dependants. The rebate is based on total income for the year ending 31 March 2016 and the amount of rates for both Horowhenua District Council and Horizons Regional Council.

Finance Manager Jeff Paulin encourages ratepayers to enquire to see if they may be eligible to take advantage of the Rates Rebate scheme.

Mr Paulin says the process is not complicated and Council staff can meet with ratepayers and help them complete their applications.

Council's Levin office will be open this Saturday 10 September from 9:00am to 12noon for people to pop-in for rates rebates enquiries and applications. No appointment necessary.

Otherwise, to make an appointment phone 06 366 0999 or email ratesrebates@horowhenua.govt.nz.

The only information applicants need to provide is proof of household income (before tax) for the tax year ended 31 March 2016, including any interest received.

Application forms are available online at www.horowhenua.govt.nz/ratesrebates or from Council's customer service centres at the main office building in Levin, Te Takere and the Foxton and Shannon community libraries.

On the spot with one of the staff: Ian Tate -



Ian Tate

Team Leader Land and Information Management, and Deputy Electoral Officer

I've been with Council since 1999, although I have left and returned a couple of times.

I've worked in a few roles, starting as the Operations Controller in the Engineers Department; then as Administration Officer, Customer Services

Manager, Corporate Projects Manager, and as the GIS (Geographical Information System) Officer.

Now I lead the Land and Information Management and the Records Management teams. I'm also Deputy Electoral Officer, so at the moment I'm wearing two hats. My family and I have lived in Levin for the past 16 years, having moved here from Wellington.

I have a great team who look after a diverse range of systems and information - LIMs, spatial mapping, property and customer records, archives, process improvement, and application development. Our job is to make sure the records Council creates or receives are kept safely and can be accessed when needed.

I'm probably classed as one of the 'old-timers' and over the years I've seen a lot of change. I see working for Council as working with the community. I am really looking forward to the opportunities that will arise as we look to meet the challenges that come with the growth expected in the coming years.

Finally, with my Electoral Officer hat on - make sure you exercise your democratic right and vote. If you're not enrolled, it's not too late to do so. Then we can look at issuing you with a special vote. Go to the Elections page on Council's website for more information.

Local elections voting period approaches

2016 Local Elections candidate profiles are now available. While they will be supplied along with voting papers to be mailed out from Friday 16 September, the profile booklet can be downloaded from the Elections page of Council's website.

Any registered voter who has not received their voting papers by Wednesday 21 September should contact Deputy Electoral Officer Ian Tate on 06 366 0999 or ianct@horowhenua.govt.nz

The latest statistics show that of the 24,370 eligible voters in Horowhenua, 22,735 (93.29%) have enrolled to vote. The estimated 1635 eligible voters who have not enrolled can still do so, however they will need to request special voting papers as electoral rolls have closed. People can enrol, or check and update their details, at www.elections.org.nz or at any NZ Post Shop.

The Horowhenua District Council and Foxton Community Board voting papers will use the First Past the Post (FPP) system, where voters are required to put a tick alongside the candidate(s) they wish to vote for.

Included in the election pack will be the MidCentral District Health Board voting papers which will use the STV system, where voters are required to rank the candidates in order of preference.

There will be clear instructions on the voting papers, but people should read them carefully before casting their vote to ensure they are using the right method.



Voting closes at midday on Saturday 8 October. For more information, visit the Elections page on Council's website www.horowhenua.govt.nz

Desire for positive change in Levin's town centre

A strong desire for positive change has been revealed during the first stage of the Growing Levin town centre development project.

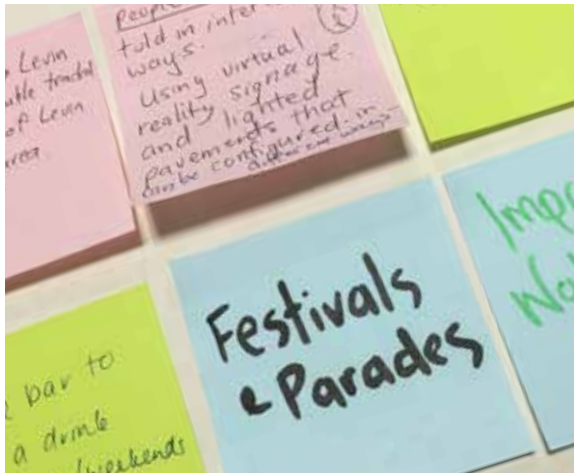
Throughout July and August a series of public input sessions, pop-up displays, online forums, and discussions with local community groups, businesspeople, iwi, and school students enabled the Levin and wider Horowhenua community to share ideas and aspirations for the future of Levin's town centre.

"Ideas ranged from planting more flowers in public gardens to creating futuristic tourist attractions - and everything in between. However, amongst all this, a very clear consensus emerged - a strong desire for positive change, to make Levin's town centre a vibrant place and attractive destination," said Council's Urban Designer Anna Wood.

"We would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the project so far. People have been very engaged, providing a huge spectrum of comments and ideas, while also considering those suggested by others."

Now, Council's project team will work through all the feedback, in order to produce a draft Levin Town Centre Development Strategy by the end of this year.

"This is an exciting opportunity for positive-minded people, energy and ideas to come together. Let's stimulate buzz and create something great here in Levin,"



Levin assistant restaurant manager Richard Collis, who attended two of the community input sessions, says the project is an exciting opportunity and the results will also encourage young people like himself to stay in the town, and attract others to come.

"This is an exciting opportunity for positive-minded people, energy and ideas to come together. Let's stimulate buzz and create something great here in Levin," he said.

Levin architectural designer Terry Hart said he and a few colleagues in the building, property and engineering fields attended one of the community input sessions and were encouraged by the generally positive attitude and variety of concepts outlined.

"There were great ideas bouncing around the room, designed to enhance Levin, and we should all get on board," he said.

Levin Neighbourly member Marie Buzan described the town centre development strategy as "forward thinking".

"The community input sessions helped to spark our imaginations and inspire ideas. They helped to generate community conversations about what we, as residents, would like our town centre to look like in 20 years' time."

Nominate someone for a Civic Honours Award or Youth Excellence Scholarship

Nominations for Horowhenua District Council's Civic Honours Awards and Youth Excellence Scholarships are now open.

Civic Honours recognise outstanding voluntary service by individuals and also



community groups. Service categories include Community, Conservation, Cultural, Education, Recreation/Sport, Religion, and Social. Nominations close on Friday 16 September.

Youth Excellence Scholarships are awarded across four categories; Community Service, Excellence in Academia, Excellence in Art and Culture, and Excellence in Sport. To be eligible, nominees must be aged between

12 and 24 years-old. Nominations close on Friday 23 September

For more information, including criteria and nomination forms, visit the Civic Honours Awards page or Youth Excellence Scholarships page at www.horowhenua.govt.nz or visit Council's customer service centres in Levin, Te Takere or the Foxton and Shannon libraries.





What's happening

For further details and events visit www.horowhenua.govt.nz/events

Meet the Candidates

Before you tick the voting box in this year's 2016 Local Elections, hear what prospective candidates have to say at Meet the Candidates meetings:

8 Foxton, Thursday 8 September
5.30pm, at the Masonic Village hall, south end of Main Street, Foxton. Organised by Horowhenua District Ratepayers and Residents Association.

10 Foxton Beach, Saturday 10 September
3.30pm, at the Senior Citizens Club Hall, Seabury Ave, Foxton Beach. Organised by Horowhenua District Ratepayers and Residents Association.

12 Shannon, Monday 12 September
7.00pm, at the Shannon Old Folks Hall, Venn Street, Shannon. Organised by the Shannon Old Folks Club.

14 Foxton, Wednesday 14 September
7pm, at the Manawatu College hall, Ladys Mile, Foxton. Organised by the Rotary Club of Foxton.

15 Ohau, Thursday 15 September
7pm, at the Ohau School hall. Organised by Muhunua East Rural Womens.

16 Levin, Friday 16 September
1.30pm, in the Hudson Room at Levin Cosmopolitan Club, Oxford Street. Organised by Horowhenua Greypower, this meeting is invite-only for Greypower members and guests.

A Levin public meeting, organised by the Horowhenua Chronicle and Rotary Club of Levin, was held on Tuesday 6 September.

15 Thursday 15 September
Thursday Night Street Feast

5:00pm - 9:00pm in the Levin Mall carpark in front of Te Takere. A variety of gourmet dishes available from a selection of high-end food trucks. This monthly pop-up global food village demonstrates the power of food to bring a community together. All welcome.

16 Friday 16 September
Alzheimers Manawatu Memory Walk

10:15am at the Levin Adventure Park. Take part in a short walk from the Adventure Park to Te Takere in Bath Street, Levin. Participants can begin their walk from anywhere in Levin, but the official walk leaves the Adventure Park at 10.15am. Join thousands of people throughout New Zealand, all walking with one common goal; to raise awareness of dementia and the services available locally. To register, contact Kate Malone on 06 357 9539, 0800 004 001 or kate-manawatu@alzheimers.org.nz

30 Friday 30 September
Age on the Go Expo

10:00am - 3.00pm at the Horowhenua Events Centre, Victoria Street, Levin. An expo to provide information, education and entertainment, promoting positive ageing by showcasing activities and services that focus on good health, fun and support for older people in Horowhenua. Free entry. Community Health Shuttle transport available, leaving Te Takere at approximately 10am, 11am, 12noon, 1pm and 2pm. The expo, organised by Horowhenua District Council and with funding support from MidCentral District Health Board, is also held to mark International Day of Older Persons on Saturday 1 October.

Council Meetings

Horowhenua District Council

7 The next meeting is on Wednesday 7 September at 4:00pm in Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin. All welcome.

Foxton Community Board

19 The next meeting is on Monday 19 September at 6:30pm in the library at Manawatu College, 18 Ladys Mile, Foxton. All welcome.

Finance, Audit and Risk Subcommittee

28 Wednesday 28 September at 4:00pm in Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin. All welcome.

Horowhenua District Councillors



Brendan Duffy
(Mayor)

Garry Good
(Deputy Mayor)

Wayne Bishop



Ross Brannigan

Ross Campbell

Michael Feyen



Victoria Kaye-Simmons

Jo Mason

Christine Mitchell



Tony Rush

Piri-Hira Tukapua

Foxton Community Board



Janine Smart
(Chair)

David Roache
(Deputy Chair)

Tricia Metcalf



Amanda Street

Basil Vertongen