

Looking South

October 2013



A Message from the Mayor

With the elections now behind us South Wairarapa District Council is now looking to the challenges of the next triennium with old and new faces around the Council table. The most pressing matters before us remain the same however, regardless of the Council makeup. To the forefront are upgrades to all three urban waste water plants and work here is progressing at quite a rapid pace. Our aim is to have environmentally friendly plants that are affordable for the communities they service. It's pointless having an environmental gold plated sewerage system that nobody can afford to pay for to run.

Another matter that has been gaining attention in the press recently is public safety in our towns due to the behaviour of a few groups of youths. While this mostly affects Martinborough and Featherston and is primarily a police problem to deal with, Council is looking at ways we can contribute to make all our towns and settlements safer. One way is through the installation of security cameras. Masterton are upgrading their camera system and the opportunity is there for us to have our cameras monitored through their base. This opportunity arose after our budgets were set however with the next round of planning about to commence we will be able to evaluate their cost.

No doubt many other matters will challenge us and I look forward to working with the new SWDC team over the next three years.

Adrienne Staples
The Mayor



Water Storage

The SWDC Council office in Martinborough are selling 200L emergency rainwater Tanks on behalf of Civil Defence for \$105.00

Key features:

- ◆ Easy installation
- ◆ Easy transportation
- ◆ 10 year warranty for the tank and 1 year warranty for the diverter kit

For more information on emergency rainwater tanks go to:

www.emergencywatersupply.co.nz



Local Government Commission public meetings

Residents and ratepayers are being invited to public meetings to share their views on the future shape of local government in the region. The Local Government Commission is considering applications to change the structure of local authorities in Wellington Region, including Wairarapa districts.

Your views are important to the Commission as it determines the best options and prepares its draft proposal for public release early next year.

The Commission is holding the following meetings in Wairarapa:

Tuesday 19 November: Masterton, Masterton Town Hall, 11.00am to 12.30pm, and 7.00pm to 8.30pm

Wednesday 20 November: Martinborough, Martinborough Town Hall, 11.00am to 12.30pm. Carterton, Carterton Events Centre, 7.00pm to 8.30pm

The Commission is also holding meetings in Wellington City, Upper Hutt and Lower Hutt see www.lgc.govt.nz.

For further information on the meetings call Karen McNamara on (04) 460 2227 or email info@lgc.govt.nz.

Swimming Pools

All the South Wairarapa District Council Pools open for the summer on Saturday 30 November. Pool opening times are posted on our website www.swdc.govt.nz.



South Wairarapa District Council E-Waste Recycling Charges 2013

Items may be dropped off at the Martinborough, Greytown and Featherston Recycling centres during their normal opening hours. See

www.swdc.govt.nz/rubbish-and-recycling for details.

Description	Retail
Desktop Computer	\$5.00
Laptops and Batteries	\$5.00
Computer Server	\$5.00
Monitors CRT	\$25.00
Monitor LCD	\$15.00
TV CRT	\$25.00
TV Plasma and LCD	\$25.00
Network Equipment	Free
Switches, Hubs	Free
Keyboards, Mice, Cables	Free
Printer Ink-jet	\$10.00
Printer Laser	\$10.00
Photo copier	\$40.00
Photo copier Large	\$70.00
Cell Phones	Free
DVD	\$5.00
VCR	\$5.00

Callouts and Customer Service

As part of a drive to provide a better customer service to those with solid waste issues, Council diverts all incoming daytime queries direct to our contractor Earthcare. Having subsequently reviewed the customer service reports from Earthcare all the indicators show that the new system is providing faster and more accurate service to our customers.

Council has also moved to using City Care Ltd as our afterhours call centre. The centre is based in Christchurch and manages all calls to council that are made outside normal working hours. The transition to this system has been successful and there were no apparent concerns arising from the call centre's management of our recent flooding and road closure events.

Cape Palliser Road/Kupe Sail

The storm over 27-28 July resulted in emergency works requiring immediate repairs to the boulder beaches at Te Kopi on the Cape Palliser Rd. The repair work at Kupe's Sail which commenced in the week beginning 12 August 2013 was classified as a permanent repair rather than the temporary repair solution that was initially proposed. Kupe Sail officially re-opened to normal traffic on Friday 20 September 2013.

Refuse & Recycling in Featherston

It seems that refuse and recycling days are an invitation for it to get windy. We ask that residents make a judgement call that if it is too windy to avoid putting out recycling or ensure it is secure to avoid littering or losing bins. To assist with this Earthcare has arranged for the recycling truck to follow closely behind the refuse truck in an effort to remove the opportunity for the recycling to take flight.



About the new

The supply and sale of alcohol has been the subject of community concerns from time to time. In 2012 significant changes to the previous regime for deciding who could sell liquor and from where were made by the Government.

To assist our community to understand these changes and how they affect both what Council does and how citizens can engage in licencing processes, a brochure has been prepared. This brochure is available from Council.

Often asked questions – what types of Licences can be applied for?

On Licence – allows sale for consumption on site

Off Licence – allows sale for consumption off site

Club Licence - allows sale for consumption by members, guests on site at a club

Special Licencee – allows sale for consumption at special events.

On the Dog Front

Well done to the 97% of dog owners who have registered their dogs for the 2013/14 year. Microchipping of dogs is also an important part of dog ownership. All dogs registered in NZ for the first time from 1 July 2006, except working dogs, need to be microchipped. Microchipping is a simple, lifelong way of identifying dogs and linking them to their owner. If your dog gets lost this is a simple and effective way for you and your dog to be reunited.

NEW Off leash Dog exercise area for Greytown

Greytown should be getting their long awaited off leash dog park soon. Planning is well under way for the new off leash dog exercise area to be located at the end of Cotter Street Greytown. Council is working jointly with the Greytown Lions Club on this project to provide a fully fenced exercise area. Watch this space.

Dog Control Policy and Bylaw 2013.

The recently adopted Bylaw and Policy are now operative. Some of the key changes are that they

- ◆ Amend the dog control fees by removing the approved and general owner categories.
- ◆ Provide clear policy about dog exercise areas.
- ◆ Amend the classification of menacing dogs by dog breeds or type of dog to align with the Dog Control Act.
- ◆ Change to the wording to neutering and disability assist dogs to align with the Dog Control Act.
- ◆ Update Schedule A (Areas where Dogs are prohibited) and Schedule B (Dog Exercise areas).
- ◆ Provide the ability for Council to make changes by resolution to the schedules.
- ◆ Allow for dogs taking part in an organized event (which has council approval) such as a dog show to be an area where dogs are prohibited or where dogs must be on a leash.

You can view the Policy and Bylaw at the Council offices or at www.swdc.govt.nz/policies-plans-and-bylaws

Bag a Bargain: And last but not least, an opportunity to bag a bargain. You can now buy specially designed poo bag dispensers that attach to your dog's leash. The dispenser includes 13 biodegradable "ezebags" so you can clean up after your dog when you are out and about. The dispenser is only \$4 and is available at the Council office and service centres.



Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act

Do I have a say?

Members of the public can make objections to applications for new and renewal of licences. If you object you need to show that you have a greater interest than an ordinary member of the public. This could mean you live nearby a proposed outlet. You cannot object simply because you oppose the idea of the sale of liquor generally.

How and when can I object?

An objection has to be written and submitted to the local district Licencing Agency where the application was lodged within 15 working days after the first public notice is placed in the newspaper.

It must identify the particular application (the proposed premises), give your reasons for objecting, be signed and provide your name, address and contact details.

An objector can attend and speak in support of their objection at the hearing of the application.

What can I object to?

There are specific criteria listed in the Act and anyone intending to lodge a submission should obtain more details. However in general terms an objection can cover the suitability of the applicant, hours of operation, design and layout of premises, other goods for sale onsite, other services onsite, amenity and good order in the neighbourhood and the systems, staff and training required. If the application is for a renewal a further matter is included which covers the manner in which alcohol has been sold, displayed, advertised or promoted by the licensee previously.

Rebates 2013/14

The Rates Rebate Scheme provides a rebate of up to \$595 for low income earners who were paying rates for the home in which they were living on 1 July 2013.

- ◆ Your rebate will be calculated based on your Income, from 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013, rates and the number of dependants. The income eligibility for a rebate is \$23,870
- ◆ However if your income exceeds this amount you could still be entitled to a rebate depending on the total cost of your rates and number of dependants. You must provide proof of income from your income provider for ALL forms of income, including interest & dividends.
- ◆ Application forms are available from the Featherston and Greytown Libraries as well as the Council office.

Would you prefer to receive your rate demand by email?

We now have the facility to send rate demands by email. If you wish to receive your rate demand by email please email rates@swdc.govt.nz, and we will add your details to our database.

We encourage you to take up this option, some local authorities have up to 20% of rate demands delivered by email and at 70c per envelope the savings are considerable and of benefit to all.

Rates 2013/14 Instalment Two

Enclosed with this newsletter is the second rates assessment/invoice for the rating quarter 1 October – 31 December

The last day for payment is 20 November 2013

Please pay by this date to avoid the 10% penalty.

Further information about rates are included in "Part B" insert which accompanies this instalment.

Payment by direct credit is welcomed. Please help us to process these payments by including the property (RID) number for all properties you are paying.

Direct Debit Forms

We included with a previous Rates Notice a direct debit form hoping to encourage ratepayers to consider this method of rates payment, if not already signed up. Direct Debit is the cheapest way to pay your rates as we withdraw the funds directly from your bank account at the very last minute. That way you get the benefit of your funds for the longest possible time.

If you have not had the opportunity to do so but would like to pay by Direct Debit please complete

and return that form to us. If you have not kept the form we sent, just contact us by phone or email/post or drop in to one of our service centres to arrange to complete the required form.

We are very pleased with the response to our last notice about paying by Direct Debit with 200 additional ratepayers signed up. Our thanks to all those who pay by this method as administratively it is easier for us and means you not having to stress about paying on time.

GET IT SORTED

To South Wairarapa District Council, P.O. Box 6, Martinborough 5741

From:

Name

Surname

What's the Problem

Where Exactly?

Street, Road, Number