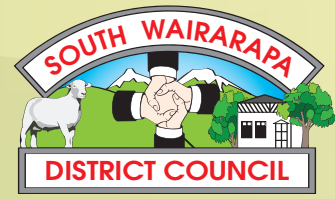


January 2014

Looking South



A Message from the Mayor

Coastal Camping 2013-14

The South Wairarapa coastline is prized for its wild rocky outcrops, beautiful beaches, coastal dunes, native flora and fauna habitats, surfing, fishing, diving opportunities and more! There are several Council owned camping areas along our coastline that are free for everyone to use. Camping on the Council's coastal reserves is governed by the Camping in Coastal Areas 2009 (Amended 2013) Bylaw, the Public Places Bylaw and the Coastal Reserves Management Plan. Basically, take your rubbish with you whenever possible, follow any fire bans, be kind to your fellow campers, and relax and enjoy everything the coast has to offer. For more camping information please see www.swdc.govt.nz/camping.



Campers are invited to stay for up to 21 days at the following locations:

- ◆ Ngawi Camping Area - On Cape Palliser Road, opposite Ngawi settlement.
- ◆ Ngawi Surf Breaks Camping Area – On Cape Palliser Road about 2.5km north of Ngawi.
- ◆ North Tora Camping Area - On Tora Farm Settlement Road, at the mouth of the Awheha River. Note: There is no toilet at this camping area yet.
- ◆ South Tora Camping Area - On the coastal side of Tora Farm Settlement Road, south of Awheaiti Stream (Note: campervans and caravans are not permitted on this fragile site).

In recent times Council has received criticism for granting a liquor licence which saw the Kia Ora dairy in Featherston close and the premises become a bottle store. Those who wrote to me and complained pointed out the problem with anti-social behaviour in Featherston and the fact that we don't need another liquor outlet in the town. While these may be valid points they cannot be considered by council when granting or declining a liquor licence. The Sale of Liquor Act is quite prescriptive with regards to what can and can't be considered when granting a licence. However daft this may seem to some, the wishes of the general public are not on the list. Council must take into account the suitability of the applicant, the trading hours and what else is being sold. Density of outlets is not a consideration. Please remember that Council does not write the law, we are simply obliged to enforce it.

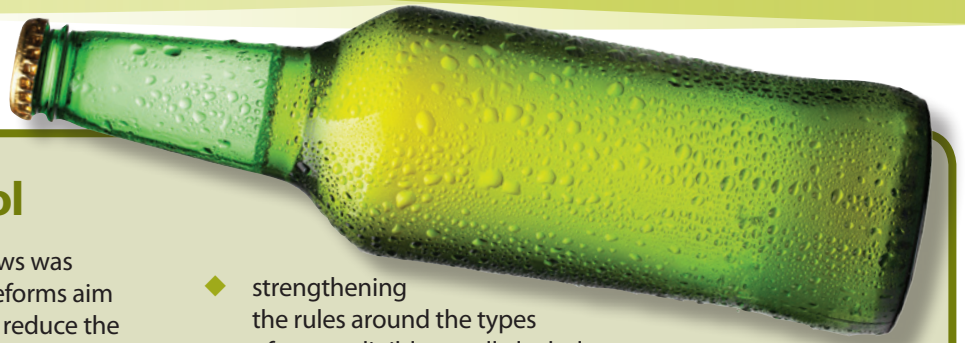
The good news is that changes to the Sale of Liquor Act which have just recently come into force do allow councils to develop Local Area Policies for the sale and supply of alcohol. These policies will allow communities to have influence on these matters. SWDC will begin work on our policies in the new year so look out for opportunity to have your say.



Adrienne Staples
The Mayor

- ◆ Te Awaiti Camping Area - On Te Awaiti Road at the mouth of the Oterei River.
- ◆ Lake Domain Reserve – While not coastal, this camping area is on the northern shores of Lake Wairarapa just outside Featherston. Follow the Wairarapa Moana signs from SH53 to Murphy's Line and Lake Domain Road.

Council's Coastal Ranger will be visiting the camping areas from December to March to make sure everyone has a fun and safe summer. So dig out the sunscreen and flip flops and hit the beach!



Sale and Supply of Alcohol

Legislation reforming New Zealand's alcohol laws was passed by Parliament in December 2012. The reforms aim to alter New Zealand's drinking culture so as to reduce the harm caused by excessive drinking.

The new laws replace the Sale of Liquor Act 1989 and come into full force on 18 December 2013. The key features include:

- ◆ enabling communities to have a say on local alcohol licensing matters
- ◆ allowing local-level decision-making for all licence applications
- ◆ requiring express consent of a parent or guardian before supplying alcohol to a minor
- ◆ requiring anyone who supplies alcohol to under 18-year-olds to do so responsibly

- ◆ strengthening the rules around the types of stores eligible to sell alcohol
- ◆ introducing maximum default trading hours for licensed premises
- ◆ restricting supermarket and grocery store alcohol displays to a single area.

South Wairarapa District Council is working collaboratively with Carterton and Masterton District Councils on the systems required to implement the new legislation and draft a Local Alcohol Policy (LAP). The Medical Officer for Health and New Zealand Police are also involved in this process with the 3 Council's. The LAP will be available for community comment as part of a wider consultation process during 2014. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact Bronwyn Johnson. Bronwyn.johnson@swdc.govt.nz or phone (06) 3069611 ext. 853.

Creative Communities Grants for Projects Commencing after 5 March 2014



Applications for South Wairarapa District Creative Communities grants are now open and will close on 21 February 2014. Applications will be considered on 5 March 2014 and applicants will be notified shortly following.

Application forms can be obtained from the Council office, all libraries in the South Wairarapa and the Council website www.swdc.govt.nz.

If you want advice on your application contact Suzanne Clark phone 06 306-9611 or suzanne.clark@swdc.govt.nz.

Creative Communities Assessment Committee Is Seeking New Membership

Funding is provided by Creative NZ for arts projects in the South Wairarapa. We are looking for community representatives who are familiar with a broad range of local community and arts activities to join our committee and provide input in the assessment of applications and allocation of funding.

If you would like to be a part of this committee, please contact Suzanne Clark (contact details above) for more information.

Mayor and Councillors 2013-2016

Mayor Adrienne Staples

Cr Brian Jephson

Cr Solitaire Robertson

Deputy Mayor Vivien (Viv) Napier

Cr David Montgomerie

Cr Max Stevens

Cr Margaret Craig

Cr Colin Olds

Cr Dean Davies

Cr Julie Riddell

If you wish to contact the Mayor or a Councillor you will find all their contact details on the Council Website , or you can phone the Council offices.

Healthy Homes 'The New Project'

If you are a homeowner with children under 17 or you are over 65 and have a Community Services Card (CSC), then you qualify for a FREE insulation install.

Also if you are a landlord with tenants who have children under 17 or are over 65 with CSC then you qualify for a heavily subsidised insulation starting at \$345.00.

FREE is an interesting word as people always think there are strings attached to anything FREE but in this case there are none. The installation is totally Free.

Talk to us now or book your free assessment with Lyn Tankersley, EnergySmart Wairarapa 06 370 1019.



Update on the Three Waste Water Treatment Plants

The district's waste water treatment plants operate under resource consents issued by Greater Wellington Regional Council. SWDC will apply for new resource consents by 31 January 2014 in order to continue the essential service of treating our waste water. The new applications will seek approval to operate for a 35 year term; the maximum available for discharge consents under the Resource Management Act.

Greater Wellington anticipate that they will publicly notify the resource consent applications on or before **28 February, 2014**, and anyone can make a submission.

Meter Reading

Water meters are now read annually for most properties on 30 June. It is recommended that all residents check their water meters periodically, to ensure that they are not exceeding their allocation if they wish to remain within the allowance of 350m³ per annum. Checking the water meter is also essential to ensure there are no leaks within the property, which can use large amounts of water if they go unnoticed. Instructions on how to read, and check water meters for leaks can be found in an earlier edition of this newsletter or online at <http://www.swdc.govt.nz/water-and-sewerage>

Refuse & Recycling in the Wind

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.

E-waste

The 3 main transfer stations now have facilities in place to take E-waste, which can be disposed of for a small fee. Prices can be found in an earlier edition of this newsletter or online at <http://www.swdc.govt.nz/rubbish-and-recycling>



Community Board Members 2013-16

Featherston

Lee Carter (Chair), Katie Beattie, Peter Jackson, Garry Thomas, Cr Dean Davies and Cr Solitaire Robertson.

Martinborough

Lisa Cornelissen (Chair), Pam Colenso, Adrienne (Adi) McMaster, Victoria Read, Cr Julie Riddell, and Cr Max Stevens.

Greytown

Christine Stevenson (Chair), Shane Atkinson, Leigh Hay, Cr Vivien (Viv) Napier and Cr Margaret Craig.

If you wish to contact a Community Board Member you will find all their contact details on the Council Website, or you can phone the Council offices.

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 Three

Enclosed with this newsletter is the third rates assessment/invoice for the rating quarter 1 January – 31 March.

The last day for payment is 20 February 2014

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