

October 2017

# Looking South



## A Message from the Mayor



### Suggestions for Future Road Names

South Wairarapa District Council regularly considers and approves names for new roads within the district at the time of land subdivision. The SWDC seeks that these names be 'connected' to the land being subdivided, usually historically but also in terms of the original nature of the land or features of or on the land.

This connection is considered important to the heritage of our district. Your local community board has the opportunity to review any name suggested by a property owner and to make alternative suggestions.

This process can delay finalising a development so an alternative approach is now being discussed. It is proposed to develop a list of approved names that a property owner can use to name any new roads being created by their development (they could still suggest their own name which would follow current approval processes).

Council and your community board are keen to hear from you with any names you feel could be used in your town and be placed on a list of approved names.

If you are aware of particular land features, history and names associated with those, we encourage you to contact your local community board and provide names for future use. Your community board contact details are on our website [swdc.govt.nz/your-council/](http://swdc.govt.nz/your-council/) contact a community board member.

Alternatively you can contact the Planning Department as below and provide your suggestions.

[annabel.hobson@swdc.govt.nz](mailto:annabel.hobson@swdc.govt.nz) or [pamela.attrill@swdc.govt.nz](mailto:pamela.attrill@swdc.govt.nz) or telephone 06 306 9373.

No matter how you put forward a name it will be considered by Council for inclusion in the approved list and you will be advised of the outcome of this process.

In September the Local Government Commission (LGC) received a valid petition that called for a poll for their proposal to form a new Wairarapa Council. The poll result will be known on 12 December. Voting papers will be posted three weeks before. If you are an owner of a property in South Wairarapa but are not on the Wairarapa Electoral roll or the Maori Electoral roll for Ikaroa Rawhiti you are able to vote but need to register to do so. The forms are available from the Council offices and at both the Featherston and Martinborough libraries.

It is important that people take the opportunity to vote either for or against the proposal. We have had a lot of discussion over the pros and cons of how it will benefit the Wairarapa. It is also important that everyone familiarises themselves with the proposal so people understand fully the two options. You can access the proposal on the LGC or council websites.

It is hard to believe that it is now a year since I was elected Mayor along with our new council and the Community Boards. The year has been very productive. As a council, we have come together as a team, made some hard decisions and have begun the Long Term Plan process which will set the direction for South Wairarapa for the next 10 years no matter what happens with the amalgamation proposal.

I would like to thank all the councillors, Community Board and Maori Standing Committee members for their positive, enthusiastic and professional manner as they have worked with me, council staff and their communities over the past year.

Christmas is just around the corner, enjoy this time with family and friends. Be safe and have fun. I look forward to whatever direction we need to take in 2018.



Viv Napier  
The Mayor

## Water Update

Safe drinking-water, available to everyone, is a fundamental requirement for public health. The Drinking Water Standards New Zealand (NZDWS) defines the minimum standards for drinking-water in New Zealand. These standards attempt to protect public health, minimise unnecessary monitoring and ensure they are appropriate for large and small, publicly and privately owned water supplies.



Following recent contamination of the Havelock North water supply Local Authorities around the country have been reviewing their potable water supply systems to ensure all requirements are being met and suitable preventative measures are in place.

SWDC operates three separate water treatment plants (WTP) for the main towns within the district; these are Featherston, Greytown, Martinborough, and Pirinoa. This includes the reticulation systems in Featherston, Greytown, Martinborough, but the

reticulation in Pirinoa is community-owned. In total across the three supplies, there are 3939 connections to the system with a further 259 properties that can connect.

The plants are operated to the approved Water Safety Plans as required by the NZDWS, except for Pirinoa, which does not have a plan due to the size of the community.

### Featherston Water System

Featherston's main supply is from the Woodside near the Waiohine. The new ultraviolet (UV) light WTP feed from three bores has recently replaced the ultrafiltration plant and river water source.

The bores produce a more consistent water and have been tested to comply with the NZDWS so that the UV plant provides full treatment before the water is disinfected with chlorine. The treated water flows by gravity to Featherston via Boar Bush reservoirs, (**note: the reservoirs are not the dam supply**).

Featherston have two sources in an emergency: Tait's Creek and Boar Bush Gully dam with treatment by chlorine disinfection at Boar Bush reservoirs.

## Recycling Collection

Here are some helpful hints to managing your recycling collection:

- ◆ Place paper together in a plastic shopping bag in your bin to prevent wind-blown litter
- ◆ All recyclables must be placed in the bins provided for your property and excess recycling should be taken to your nearest recycling station
- ◆ If necessary, place a brick or weight on TOP of your recycling
- ◆ Think about whether it can wait for the next collection day if it is windy, or forecast for wind

## Greytown Water System

Greytown can be supplied from the Woodside plant with a gravity main down Woodside Road. For the last few years the majority of the town has been supplied from the Greytown bore, near the Greytown swimming pool. This bore supply has no storage and is only chlorinated.

Greytown has the Memorial Park bore for emergencies with chlorine disinfection.

## Martinborough Water System

Martinborough's main supply is from the Ruamahunga/Herricks bore source (three bores) near the Waihenga bridge. The bore water is treated with ultraviolet disinfection only. Chlorine disinfection systems are available at the plant or reservoirs however the Manganese in the water reacts with the chlorine to discolour the water.

Martinborough has a source in an emergency from the Huangarua River which will be treated with chlorine disinfection.

## Pirinoa Water System

Pirinoa is a small community scheme serving equivalent of 10 properties, about 15 people with 30 primary school children. The pipe network is owned by the community and the treatment was installed and is operated by SWDC. The water is filtered and ozone disinfected before storage and pressurised to feed the network.

## Water Monitoring

All the plants are remotely monitored and alarmed for key indicators. Depending on the treatment, the sites are monitored continuously for turbidity, pH, UV dose rate, and chlorine residual. The operators also manually check the turbidity and pH daily for all towns and a check on chlorine residual except in Martinborough. In accordance with NZDWS samples are tested certified at an independent laboratory for E. coli, Turbidity, pH, Total Coliforms, and HPC (heterotrophic plate counts). The frequency of this sample is:

- ◆ Weekly sampling at Featherston, Greytown treatment plant and at least three sites in the network
- ◆ Twice weekly sampling at Martinborough treatment plant (no chlorine) and weekly for at least two sites in the network
- ◆ Weekly sampling at Pirinoa treatment plant and school, (only monthly required by NZDWS).

Your neighbours, other residents, and visitors to your town, will thank you for it.

# Community Board Updates

## Featherston Community Board Update

**Brenda West, Chair**

Featherston Heritage Museum volunteers have worked closely with the Heritage Rescue Team. The outcome was recently shown on TV, outlining a taste of our history and colourful past. The Museum is well worth a visit to see and connect with our past.

Featherston Camp Sculpture has been very successful in raising funds to date; they are very close to reaching their financial goal and hope to be able to unveil their hard work that has spanned over five years.

As part of the Community-Led Development Programme, 'Fab Feathy' held a Community Plan workshop with the Department of Internal Affairs and a number of community stakeholders. This was a very enlightening event that showcased the passion our community has. 'Fab Feathy' are holding their breath for a successful outcome – our fingers are crossed as we wait.

The 'Welcome to Featherston' Sign has been assembled on State Highway 2 west of the town. This now completes two of our three signs. The Beautification group are working on gathering funds for their final sign to be constructed for State Highway 53.

## Martinborough Community Board Update

**Lisa Cornelissen, Chair**

Martinborough Community Board (MCB) has had a busy few months with the 13 and 14 July flooding event generating significant community feedback. We have been working with South Wairarapa District Council, sharing community concerns and working through options to improve communications during future road closures.

We have trialled a survey method to engage more closely with our Martinborough Ward community using Survey Monkey and a printed survey form in the Martinborough Star. We received 127 responses to our Town Beautification Survey (116 online and 11 printed forms were returned to SWDC). We will be using these results to guide our allocation of our Town Beautification budget. Expect to see more of this type of engagement from us, particularly as we head into the Long Term Planning process.

Cycle tourism and the safety of all road users on the popular vineyard routes has also been an issue that MCB is working with the community to address. Unfortunately the New Zealand Transport Industry (NZTA) criteria's for speed limits does not seem to take account of the community concerns in this area and we have had little success in our requests for lower speed limits. We will continue to work on alternative options for improving the safety and behaviour of all road users.

We hear a lot about footpaths from our community; new footpaths, repairs to footpaths, crossings, wheelchair accessibility, making it easier for prams and strollers, parking and more. We are currently working on the difficult task of assigning priorities for footpath work for the year ahead. We will take all feedback we've received into account but as we are working with limited funds this is one of those times we are not going to be able to make everyone happy. If you feel strongly about the quality and quantity of footpaths in Martinborough, we encourage you to take part in the Long Term Plan consultation and submission process.

## Greytown Community Board Update

**Leigh Hay, Chair**

Greytown Community Board (GCB) has been busy with a number of projects.

### **Tree Advisory Group (TAG), Arbor Day & Historic Tree Register:**

We have now signed the Terms of Reference for the TAG which puts us in a stronger position to continue to protect our historic trees and bush lands. TAG organised a successful Arbor Day planting, during which trees were planted at Greytown Cemetery and O'Connor's Bush. The Greytown Community Board and Tree Advisory Group successfully lobbied at annual plan (May 2017) to get Greytown's historic Tree register updated and included in LTP. We are now liaising with the community to identify new specimens for consideration.

**Chorus Project:** The Greytown Community Board have worked with local artist Janie Nott to design & paint the chorus box at 84 Kuratawhiti Street. Next steps await approval from Chorus.

**Best Small Town (pop less 5,000) in NZ:** We have submitted an application for Greytown for inclusion in 2017 judging. We identified 24 projects completed between September 2016-September 2017. The criteria included Environmental Action, Community Beautification, Heritage Conservation Community Engagement, Historical Beauty & Tourism and local community feedback.

**Greytown Hub Guide –Civil Defence Plan:** The Greytown Community Board began meetings with WREMO in March followed by public consultation with key stakeholders in Greytown to finalise our Civil Defence Plan. The plan is now final.

**Strategic Plan:** The Greytown Community Board has a draft strategic plan and are planning one further meeting to finalise this draft before taking it to public consultation.

**Kuranui College Project** GCB have worked with Kuranui College to facilitate knowledge of employment opportunities in different sectors in the Wairarapa by arranging workplace visits. The project had finished for the 2017 year, but will be run again in 2018. We are looking at a collaborative project with Marsden College & Kuranui College around their 2017 Saatchi Gallery Art Prize for Schools.

## Rebates 2017/18

The Rates Rebate Scheme provides a rebate of up to \$620.00 for low income earners. Ratepayers must have been living in the home they own on 1 July 2017.

1. Your rebate will be calculated based on your gross income from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017, your rates, and the number of dependants you have. The income eligibility for a rebate is \$24,000-\$42,000.
2. You must provide proof of income from your income provider for ALL forms of income, including interest & dividends.
3. Application forms have already been sent to those who received a rebate in 2016/2017 and are also available from the Featherston and Greytown Libraries, the Council office and online [swdc.govt.nz/rates-and-property](http://swdc.govt.nz/rates-and-property).

## Get Your Rates invoice by email

We now have the facility to send rates invoices by email. If you wish to receive your rates invoice by email please contact [rates@swdc.govt.nz](mailto:rates@swdc.govt.nz)

We encourage you to take up this option to allow Council to use the postage savings on projects to benefit the district.

## Having Trouble Paying your Rates?

Please contact us as soon as possible so we can work with you on a payment plan. Council's policy is to approach banks and legal representatives to assist us in recovering arrears at the end of the rating year.

For any queries regarding your rates, please contact our rates team at the following e-mail address: [rates@swdc.govt.nz](mailto:rates@swdc.govt.nz)

## Rates 2017/18 Instalment Two

Enclosed with this newsletter is the second rates invoice covering the period 1 October - 31 December 2017.

**The last day for payment  
is 20 November 2017**

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

Please help us to process payments by ensuring you include the property valuation number for all properties you are paying. If paying online please make a separate payment for each property.

## Payment by Direct Debit

Council encourages ratepayers to pay rates via Direct Debit as this ensures the correct amount is paid and you avoid paying penalties for late payment.

Based on feedback from ratepayers, we now offer **weekly, fortnightly, monthly or quarterly** direct debit options to pay rates.

Direct debit is the easiest way to pay your rates as we withdraw the funds directly from your bank account at the very last minute. That way you will get the benefit of your

funds for the longest possible time, and avoid penalties. If you would like your payments to be made by using this method the forms are available from the Featherston and Greytown Libraries as well as the Council office and on our website [swdc.govt.nz/rates-and-property](http://swdc.govt.nz/rates-and-property). All you need to do is complete the form and send it to the South Wairarapa District Council, PO Box 6, Martinborough 5741, or scan and email it to [rates@swdc.govt.nz](mailto:rates@swdc.govt.nz) or drop it off at either the Council office in Martinborough or at the Featherston or Greytown Libraries.

## GET IT SORTED

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

From:

First Name

Surname

What's the Problem?

Where Exactly?

Street, Road, Number

Your Phone Number *(Should we need to contact you to clarify the details)*