

LINK

FEB-MAR 2015 ■ ■ ■

- 3 HOME IS WAIKATO DISTRICT
- 5 RAGLAN WHARF – SAFETY FIRST
- 7 HAVE YOUR SAY!

Water & Pipes **The Big Picture**

It's no surprise that Auckland's housing demand is driving interest in Waikato District Council's northern communities. But meeting the demand of the fast-growing Pokeno and Tuakau communities will place significant pressure on existing infrastructure systems.

One of Council's largest projects is construction of Pokeno's new wastewater network which will service the existing and future village community.

Phase One is now complete and Council is gearing up for construction of Phase Two which will service existing residential properties.

Service Delivery General Manager, Tim Harty, says Council and residents have discussed the need for the upgraded system over many months, and while residents appreciate the need for upgraded infrastructure, a common concern is the cost of connecting.

"Initial discussions indicated a strong interest in connecting to the new system but not if property owners had to pay one lump sum. Council considered those concerns and agreed to provide various payment options including a 50% subsidy reducing the connection to around \$10,000 per unit."

However Mr Harty says the subsidy is only available for existing property owners who agree to connect during the construction phase. "Staff are working with residents to determine the level of interest in connecting, whether now or in the long-term. For efficiency there needs to be a certain level of commitment before we proceed."



Development is booming in Pokeno. March 2012 compared to January 2015



The cost of connecting new properties to the system will be covered by development contributions (fees paid to Council for providing infrastructure to new developments.)

Expanding the existing infrastructure means other parts of the current network need to be upgraded and additional work is underway to upgrade Pokeno's current wastewater pump stations and to install (rising main) pipes. These will connect to Watercare's wastewater treatment facility in Tuakau.

"This project is one piece of the long-term strategy on water management across the district. Connection to the Watercare facility allows a more efficient wastewater system for existing residents and meets the growing demand on infrastructure as our communities grow."

Great news for Pokeno residents

The current water supply is being upgraded. Work is currently underway to connect the Pokeno supply to Watercare's Tuakau water treatment plant. The new supply will be connected later this month and will reduce the 'brown' appearance caused by iron and manganese in the current bore supply.



Mayor's message

How old will you be in
ten years from now?

Every three years Council produces a Long Term Plan (LTP). Our challenge is to look ahead 10 years to understand what our communities will look like, what services they'll need and how we're going to fund it.

The plan includes economic development projects, cultural grants, the development of cycle routes, improvements to public spaces and continued maintenance of our roading and water networks.

A big challenge for us is finding the balance between focusing on delivering core services to the community and being aware of ageing infrastructure, an increasing population, a demand for new developments and paying for growth.

Our LTP is about a common vision for the Waikato district, but we cannot achieve this vision on our own.

We are committing to work more in partnership with communities, businesses and other stakeholders. We want to involve you more in our decision-making, the delivery of services and the monitoring of progress towards our goals.

We want to connect with you. As a resident of the Waikato district you have made an investment in our future and this plan focuses on delivering good value for your money.

This is an exciting time for the Waikato District and I urge you to get involved when the draft plan is delivered to you in March.

Whether you attend an open day, chat to your local councillor at the supermarket or put pen to paper – we want to hear from you, are we on the right track?

Allan Sanson Mayor
mayor@waikato.govt.nz



Imagine it's 2025 and there are an extra 10,000 people living in the Waikato district ... this is the challenge facing Council as we plan for the next 10 years.

The 2015-25 draft Long Term Plan (LTP) looks at the bigger picture – what projects are we going to achieve? How are we going to pay for it? And what does this mean for you as a ratepayer?

Keep an eye out on our website, Facebook page, local papers, radio and your mailbox to see what projects are planned for your community and how you can get involved.

What do you want our district to look like in 2025?

Home is Waikato District

This year each edition of Link will feature different communities in our district. Let's take a visit to Awaroa ki Tuakau and Raglan

RAGLAN

the jewel in the crown

Raglan is the jewel in the crown of the Waikato district but the jewels that make up the crown are the people of the Raglan area.

Raglan is a community of diversity, with independent folk who are passionate about the arts and protecting its environment in a collective way. This is demonstrated in a variety of ways like world-class artists and high levels of waste minimisation, and more recently stopping sea-bed mining. These are its strengths.

It also has a long, rural history and a variety of land and water-based recreational opportunities.

Pure magic

Clint Baddeley

Raglan Ward Councillor
clint.baddeley@waikato.govt.nz



Don't miss

Pokeno Country Market
– every Sunday 9am-4pm

Raglan Creative Market
– every second Sunday 9am-2pm

Awaroa ki Tuakau Ward

Raglan Ward

Raglan

Raglan's world famous surf break Manu Bay was featured in the 1966 cult surfing movie "Endless Summer."

Avid surfer and environmentalist, singer/songwriter Jack Johnson owns a house in Raglan.



Welcome to the
wonderful ward I serve:

AWAROA KITUAKAU

Bordering the mighty Waikato River; running south of Auckland's border; we are proudly New Zealand's 'food bowl.' Spearheading this flourishing area are 'terrific' Tuakau and Pokeno 'our place.'

Here, our affordable lifestyles are enhanced by a healthy live, work and play environment. This is enriched by spectacular scenery, coastal and river pursuits, sport and excellent schools.

He Tangata, he tangata, he tangata – it is people, it is people, it is people – who create our robust opportunities. Fertile land, inter-generational relationships, rich heritage and cultural diversity are our economic and community strengths.

Come visit!

Jacqui Church

Awaroa ki Tuakau Ward Councillor
jacqui.church@waidc.govt.nz



Tuakau

Mountaineer and New Zealand icon, Sir Edmund Hillary, went to Tuakau Primary.

The first stock sales were held in Tuakau in 1899 and continue to this day.

Mercer

Notable ship owner/operator Caesar Roose was born in Mercer in 1886, later building the Roose shipping company from a £100 loan.

Our IDENTITY

Recently our Community Board has been talking about "Placemaking". This led to discussion about who we are, our identity. Are we Franklin? Are we Waikato? I believe we are North Waikato.

We need to find a focal point to identify our little part of the world. For me, this is what Placemaking is about.

Once we know who we are, we can build on it. If, for example, we became "the park" we could develop walkways, skateparks, sportsgrounds, riding trails, river recreation and swimming pools. We could promote ourselves as living in a great big park – which we already do.

Lionel Petersen

Awaroa ki Tuakau Ward Councillor
lionel.petersen@waidc.govt.nz

Pokeno

The ice-creams are legendary, so much so that the Waikato Chiefs stop for one every time they play in Auckland to try one of the 52 flavours.

Pokeno was an important site during the New Zealand Wars of the 19th century, being the site of the Queen's Redoubt, a major colonial military headquarters.



Raglan Wharf

Safety first

Providing safer areas for the community and their families is a key driver for installing a permanent barrier arm on Dolphin Pier and life buoys at Raglan Wharf.

Councillor Clint Baddeley says the two items were installed prior to Christmas to keep the public safe within what is a working commercial environment.

“In the past damage, removal and vandalism of safety items have put people at risk, while repairs and replacement have become an unfair cost to the ratepayer.”

Council is working with the Raglan community, including wharf tenants and commercial operators, to address this issue and to make the wharf a safe place for all to enjoy.



Councillor Clint Baddeley at Raglan Wharf

Raglan Liquor Ban

Did you know Raglan has a liquor ban covering Bow Street, Wi Neera Street, Bankart Street and a part of Wainui Road at all times?

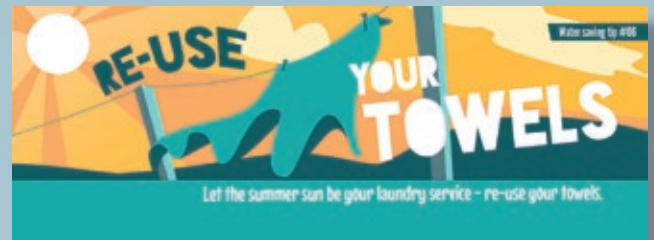
So, what does this mean for you? You can drink liquor on licensed premises or associated al fresco dining areas. You can also purchase liquor to take home, as long as the container remains unopened. But, you can't consume liquor in a public place which falls within the liquor ban area. You also can't possess or take liquor to public places which fall within the liquor ban area.

Remember, if you are caught breaching the Liquor Control Bylaw you may receive a \$250 fine. This policy is in place for public safety and to ensure the public's enjoyment of Raglan.



What uses 9500 litres of water and could be in your backyard?

It's been a great summer in the Waikato district. Long, hot days have meant a chance to relax and enjoy the sun. It's also meant we've had to think about how to be a bit smarter with how we use water.



We're currently using large amounts of water across the district with water use peaking at a combined 18 million litres of water in one day, that's over seven Olympic-sized swimming pools! This is much higher than normal and isn't sustainable. By making small changes to our water use further limits might not be needed.

A big user of water across the district is inflatable swimming pools. A 12 foot inflatable pool takes up to 9500 litres of water!

If you've got a pool in your backyard encourage users to dip their feet in a bucket before dipping their body, this will help keep the water cleaner for longer.

Chlorinate the pool every couple of days instead of emptying the pool and refilling it. Or make the most of our district's great beaches and enjoy a day out in Raglan or Port Waikato.

There's lots you can do inside and outside the home to help conserve water, visit www.smartwater.org.nz for great tips.

WWW.SMARTWATER.ORG.NZ

**SMART WATER
STARTS WITH YOU!**

Local Alcohol Policy & Gambling Venues Policy

Last November we talked with you about where, when and how alcohol can be sold in the district. We also asked you how many gambling venues and pokie machines should be allowed in our district and where they should be located.

We received a total of 56 submissions and in February people had the opportunity to present their submission to Council at a public hearing.

There's still a few steps before these policies become final. We'll keep you updated along the way on our website and Facebook page.



IT'S A dog's life!

A big WOOF to everyone who made a submission to the Dog Control Policy and Bylaw 2015 and the Keeping of Animals Bylaw 2007. Our K9 friends thank you for your input.

A hearing is being held on 18 March 2015 for everyone who chose to present their submission in person. Keep a paw on our website and Facebook page to stay informed about any changes for our doggy community.

SPEED LIMITS

in your community

Be quick to get your feedback in to us about proposed amendments to the Waikato District Council Speed Limit Bylaw 2011. Plans showing the proposed changes to existing speed limits, along with a submission form, are available on our website and indicate which areas we're consulting on. Remember feedback is only required on the proposed areas indicated on the index page and supporting maps.

Time's running out with the consultation period ending on 15 March – so go online, email us or grab a submission form from your local office.

All submissions will be presented at April's Policy and Regulatory Committee hearing.

Have your say!

Hop, skip and
a jump

Whether you want to hop, skip and jump or kick it and pass it – how we develop our sports parks and reserves is up to you! All you need to do is provide feedback on two different plans: the draft Sports Park Reserve Management Plan and the draft General Reserve Policies Management Plan. We're extremely fortunate to have an incredible number of sports parks and reserves available across our district so get your school, sports club and whanau involved and tell us how you might use them in the future.

Tell us what you think at www.waikatodc.govt.nz/sayit

Have you got a question about Council business you want answered? Email us communications@waikdc.govt.nz



Watch out, kids about!

School is back in full swing for the year which means increased traffic and pedestrian volumes around schools.

Children can be easily distracted as they meet up with friends before or after school. They can also have difficulty judging distances and often step out onto a crossing without warning, giving drivers little time to react.

Don't forget the speed limit is 20kph when passing a school bus that has stopped to pick up or let off children.



Anzac 2015

There will be a number of events around the district commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli Landing on 25 April 1915.

Check our website from the end of March for more details.

Tell us about yourself

If you've made a submission to Council lately you may have noticed that we've started asking a few more questions. We've added optional questions about your age and ethnicity to all our submission forms. Answering these questions will help us understand who's engaging with Council and whose voice we're not hearing. It's important we capture the views of all groups in our community.

Drinking water precaution

Some plumbing fittings have the potential to allow minute traces of metals to accumulate in water standing in the fitting for several hours.

Although the risk is minimal, the Ministry of Health recommends that you flush a cupful of water from your drinking tap each morning to remove any metals that may have dissolved from the plumbing fittings.

Being prepared

We're busy developing a Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan so if a disaster strikes we're in the best position to help you and your community.

This plan looks at potential hazards and risks in our district and how we can manage a major emergency. It also focuses on our communities' readiness and ensuring the public is well educated and informed.

Communities can have a lot to do in a disaster so stay tuned to see how you can step up and help lead your community through an emergency.

ARE YOU
PREPARED?

Be fire safe

It's time to be especially vigilant about the danger of fires.

Property owners are urged to ensure sections, especially vacant properties are maintained to reduce potential fire hazards. Long grass and rubbish pose a potential danger.

If you're considering lighting a fire make sure you check the fire status and whether you need a permit at www.waikatodc.govt.nz/Services/Rural-fires.aspx

Our next edition of Link will be distributed from 4-5 May. If you don't receive your Link during this period please contact communications@waikdc.govt.nz with address details by 15 May so we can look into the non-delivery.