

August | Whiringa aa Nuku
Ooketopa 2019

LINK TE HONONGA

WAIKATO DISTRICT NEWS
NGAA PAANUI O TE TAKIWAA
O WAIKATO



A 30km/h speed zone is proposed for
Raglan's CBD along the length of Bow St.

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SPEED LIMIT CHANGES PROPOSED

Making the streets where we live safer is the main driver behind the latest round of our proposed speed limit amendments.

This is the third year of a three-year plan to assess and consult on our district's speed limits and the main areas of focus are Raglan, the Newcastle Ward (Whatawhata and Te Kowhai) and Tuakau.

There are also other stretches of roads in the district being considered that haven't been captured in previous years.

We are following the same approach as last year regarding our urban residential areas – and that is the proposal of reducing speed limits from 50kmh to 40kmh.

If a driver reduces his or her speed from 50kmh to 40kmh, the likelihood of a pedestrian or cyclist fatality as a result of an accident reduces from 85% to 30%.

This is sobering information for all our communities but is particularly relevant when you look at Raglan and our proposal to reduce urban speed limits from 50kmh to 40kmh.

Raglan has a lot of people cycling and walking in town, especially during summer when the population explodes thanks to visitors heading there to enjoy what this special place has to offer.

Raglan has only one main road (SH23) and two minor roads (metal) entering the township and a whole-of-town approach is being proposed to support the extensive walking cycling community.

Additional walking cycleways are also planned for construction in 2019/20 and 2020/21 and the proposal from 50kmh to 40kmh will support these community facilities and help to encourage even more walking and cycling in town.

A 30kmh speed zone is also proposed for Raglan's CBD along the length of Bow St similar to what has been successfully operating in Hamilton's CBD. This reduction in speed would reduce death and serious harm risk from 70-80% to less than 10%.



Crash involving vehicle vs pedestrian/cyclist - difference between 50kmh and 40kmh.

In the middle of Whatawhata and Tuakau we are also proposing some reductions down to 40kmh and elsewhere, we'll be focusing on a reduction to 80kmh on rural roads where either development levels or road conditions would mean that 100kmh may not be suitable.

Submissions are open now on the 2019 Speed Limit Review. We encourage you to go to our website to give us your opinion. There you'll find an interactive map that has all the roads proposed for a speed limit reduction this year.

There are also a couple of drop-ins planned. Head to the Raglan Town Hall on 24 October from 3pm-7pm or the Tuakau War Memorial Town Hall on 30 October from 3pm-7pm.

And don't worry, these proposed speed limit reductions won't make you late for work or for an appointment – the areas that the proposals cover mean that changes in length of journey time is miniscule.



ANNUAL REPORT ADOPTED

In adopting the Annual Report at the last Council meeting of the triennium earlier this month, we're celebrating the great work done in the community over the past 12 months.

One such project is the Para Kore programme. Central Kids Huntly Kindergarten are keen composters. With their new Hungry Bin worm farm in place alongside their bokashi systems, the kindy's landfill volumes have reduced by half since the beginning of the year.

We've also continued to support the Enviroschools programme with the aim of fostering a generation of people who instinctively think and act sustainably.

The Enviroschools programme supports children and young people to plan, design and implement sustainability actions that are important to them and their communities. There are 18 Enviroschools in the Waikato district and highlights of the programme include:

Whatawhata students have been very engaged and created an edible entrance way to the nature trail, 'Kuhunga'. Kuhunga was officially opened with representatives from the local community and Council partners in attendance. The school front gardens were developed to provide local produce for the school lunches.

Tamahere School engaged in social and economic sustainability with the 'Change for Change' programme – in which classes picked a charity or organisation and identified ways to support them by holding a market day to raise funds and awareness of various charities. This included a school production of 'The Mauri of Pirongia' which raised awareness of the mountain and \$1,300

was donated to Pirongia Restoration Society. They have also sold their garden produce to the community and local café Punnet.

Tuakau School during Term 3 focused on a Te Awa inquiry which raised children's awareness of how their actions affect the health of the river and the fish in the river. They became aware of what small pieces of plastic can do and made connections between waste practices and water quality.

Horsham Downs and Horotiu schools are connecting with us through 'Water Day' and planting along the river.



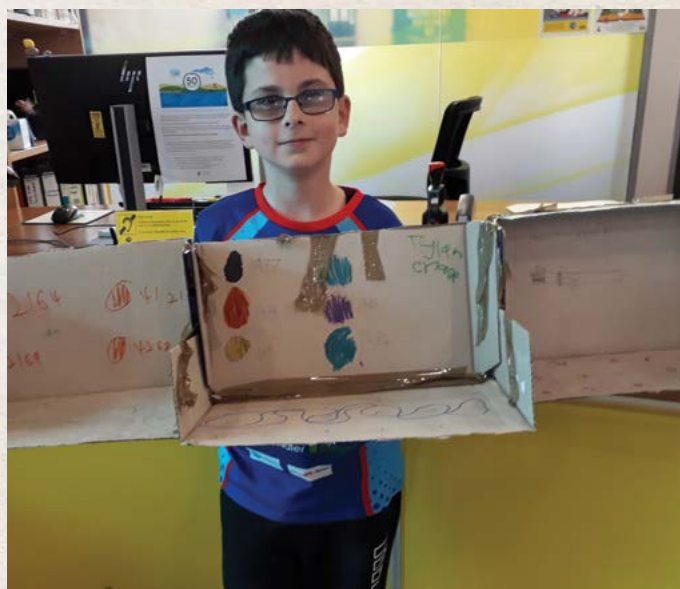
Central Kids Huntly Kindergarten are keen participants in the Para Kore programme.



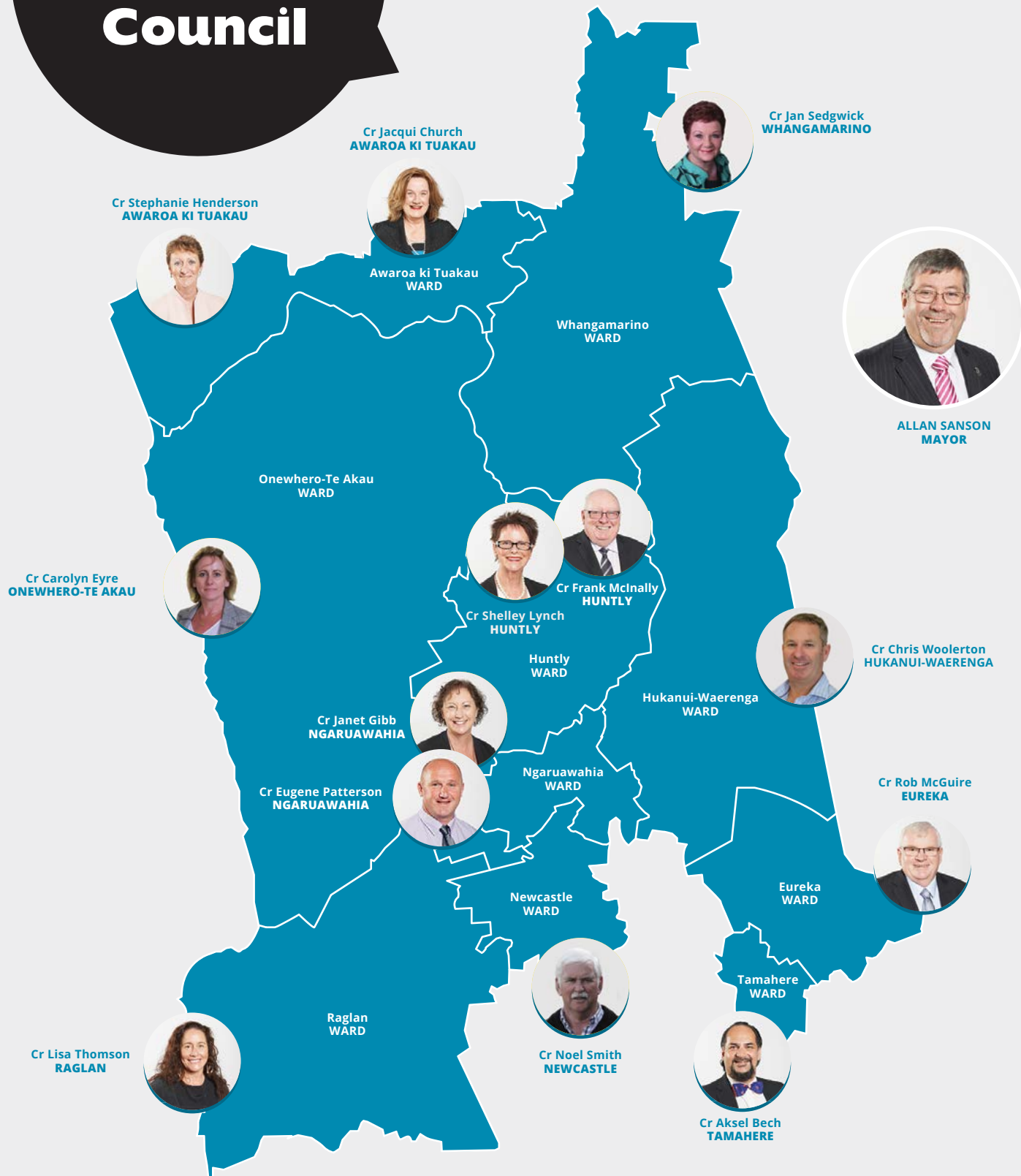
The Spring Library Challenge has been really popular with children around our district.

About 150 children have been completing fun activities. Each activity gives them a chance to win prizes.

The challenge started on 16 September and finishes on 25 October.



Introducing your new Council



THIS IS WHAT I DO

Anei taku Mahi

Kelly Newell

This is what I do is a feature that tells us a little more about Waikato District Council staff and what they do.

Name: Kelly Newell

Family: I live in Ngaruawahia with my partner and two children.

Role: Emergency Management Advisor, based in the Ngaruawahia Office. We have a team of two and I work alongside our Community Resilience Coordinator.

How long have you worked for Waikato District Council?
6 years

What does your role involve? Historically dealing with disasters has been focused on emergency response but the emphasis has become increasingly on the work we do before a disaster to develop the community's own ability to anticipate and resist events. We focus on promoting and encouraging disaster resilience in our communities by encouraging a personal and collective sense of responsibility to plan, prepare for and respond in a disaster and then recover. We also prepare our organisation to support the community in

an emergency through planning, training and exercises.

What's the most rewarding aspect of your role? Having the opportunity to work with our communities in a really unique way. When things go pear-shaped knowing who to connect with and how is really valuable when we are responding to incidents.



Kelly Newell is our Emergency Management Advisor.

What's the most challenging aspect of your role? The

unpredictable nature of the role. Deadlines go out the window when we are responding to an event.

Tell us something about your role that most people won't know about: We all have a role to play in an emergency. Being prepared is every individual, family/whaanau and communities responsibility to make sure we get through a major emergency.

Why is Waikato District Council a great place to work?
Great people who all genuinely want to do the right thing for our communities. I also really love being able to work close to home in a beautiful district like ours.

What's the weirdest customer complaint you've dealt with? Not really a weird one but I often get asked when the next earthquake is going to happen.

BRINGING THE WORLD TO THE WAIKATO

E Mauria mai ana te Ao ki Waikato

Juliene Calambuhay

Bringing the world to the Waikato is a feature that tells us a little more about Waikato District Council staff who are from around the world.

Name: Juliene Calambuhay

Job title: Project Development Team Leader

Country of origin and how long you lived there: I was born and raised in the Philippines until I moved to New Zealand in 2006.

How long have you been in NZ? It's been over 13 years since I moved to New Zealand.

What do you love about the Waikato District? Waikato has a rich cultural history and a community that made us feel welcome. The district offers unique and stunning landscapes and the location is an easy commute to Auckland and Hamilton.

What is the biggest difference between life in New Zealand and life in your country of origin? The space and sheer natural beauty of New Zealand. The Philippines is about the same size as New Zealand and has a population of 105 million, that's 100 million more residents than New Zealand!



Juliene Calambuhay moved to New Zealand in 2006 from the Philippines.

What do you miss most about home? Family, friends, food and shopping! I miss various tropical fruits and Filipino street food. I also miss shopping with my family and friends. Do you know that some of the biggest shopping malls in the world are found in the Philippines?

What's one thing about life in your home country that most New Zealanders would not know about? Filipinos are crazy about basketball! You'll see makeshift hoops erected on every street corner; always bump into someone wearing an NBA jersey, and see local teams playing in every community hall.

You need to convince someone to go on holiday to your country of origin. What do you say? The tourism slogan is "It's more fun in the Philippines". The Philippines have a number of incredible beaches and world-class diving and snorkelling sites. The locals are very friendly and hospitable and can easily interact in English with tourists and foreigners. The food is also affordable and has great variety.



Our Community Projects Team has been closing off jobs over the past couple of months. Here's a few examples from various places throughout the district.



Project: Raglan pump track edging

Problem: The Raglan Pump Track surface has been showing signs of degradation due to slumping in the banked areas and encroachment of kikuyu grass on to the track.

Cost: \$46,000 (\$5,000 under budget)

Result: Concrete edging has been installed along the sides of the track to create a barrier against the Kikuyu grass



Project: Wastewater pump station renewals

Problem: Twenty-six pump stations in Raglan, Horotiu, Ngaruawahia, Huntly, Te Kauwhata and Meremere needed upgrading or replacing.

Cost: \$450,000

Result: By replacing and upgrading existing pump stations in the network identified as undersized or in poor condition, maintenance costs decrease, reliability and efficiency increase and the pump life expectancy is renewed.



Project: Playground safety surfacing renewal

Problem: The existing woodchip-based safety surfacing in playgrounds decomposes over time and needs to be replaced.

Cost: \$120,000

Result: Four playgrounds were in this round of renewals and they are Te Wiata Reserve, Patterson Park and Centennial Park in Ngaruawahia and Papahua Domain in Raglan.



Project: Wastewater treatment plant wetland enhancements

Problem: The performance of the wetland environments at treatment plants in Huntly, Te Kauwhata and Meremere needed to be improved to ensure we met compliance requirements for our consent.

Cost: \$95,000

Result: Consent requirements are met and the enhancements have extended the life of the assets



GET READY, GET THROUGH: ARE YOU PREPARED?

Thousands around the country signed up to take part in ShakeOut 2019 on 17 October, including schools in Tuakau, Taupiri, Puketaha, Horotiu, Newstead and Whatawhata.

ShakeOut is held around the world to remind people of the right action to take during an earthquake – Drop, Cover and Hold – and to practice a tsunami hikoi (evacuation) if they are in a coastal area.

All of New Zealand is at risk of earthquakes and all of our coastline is at risk of tsunami. Emergencies can happen anytime, anywhere. It's up to you to take steps to make sure you're prepared.

You'll find lots of useful information on getready.govt.nz that will help you:

Make a plan for you and your family

- Make sure the plan covers all major disasters that could affect your family and animals. Discuss your plan, record it, and practice it with your family or household. Keep your plan somewhere prominent, like on the fridge or by the front door.

Think about ways to make your home safer

- Make sure heavy furniture is secured to the floor or wall. Take down any objects that may fall or cause damage.

Work out what supplies you will need

- Do you have enough water to last you for three days? Do you have long-lasting food? Do you have a 'grab bag'? Make sure it has medications you might need, a first aid kit, torch, radio and batteries

Stay informed

- For local updates, check out our website and Facebook page, as well as the local Civil Defence Emergency Management Group website and social media.
- If the power goes out, a solar or battery powered radio (or your car radio) can help you keep up to date with the latest news.
- Know your neighbours

Protecting your animals in emergencies

Your animals are your responsibility and failing to plan for them can put lives at risk.

You'll find some great checklists for pets and livestock on the Ministry for Primary Industries website: www.mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/animal-welfare/animals-in-emergencies/



Have you HERD? MOO-ving is the best way to get fit!

The Hakirimata Summit is one of our most popular hiking tracks in the Waikato district. So popular that these cows recently decided to break free and head for the stairs!

Our Animal Control team managed to round them up and return them to their owners. With summer around the corner, it's a good time to remind you to check your boundary fences to prevent your stock from wandering.



Do you visit Woodlands?

Council produce Reserve Management Plans (or 'RMPs') to outline the future use, management and development of reserves. As a unique historic homestead and garden area, Woodlands is one of several individual reserve management plans being prepared throughout the district.

Earlier this year we asked you for ideas and suggestions on what you wanted to see in the Woodlands RMP. We took your suggestions and included them where we could in our draft. A concept plan has also been prepared, and now we want to know if you think we got these right.

Did we miss something? Have your say and make a submission by **9 December 2019**.

You can view the draft RMP and concept plan on our website, copies are also available at all of our offices and libraries.

The Woodlands homestead and gardens are open daily to the public and are used by locals and visitors for recreation, play, relaxation, and events.

Changes made to cemetery bylaw

Earlier this month we approved an amendment to the Cemetery Bylaw which means plots can be pre-purchased at any time. A 2016 review of our Cemeteries Bylaw restricted the pre-purchasing of plots to only when a relative was to be buried. We received feedback from the public about this and have gone through the process to have this changed back. The number of plots that can be purchased at any one time remains at two.

Planning our growth

We're currently putting together an integrated growth management plan for the district, known as a Growth and Economic Development Strategy. We need to align land-use, employment, transport and investment decisions into one document so we can better respond to growth-related pressures and deliver improved community outcomes.

The strategy will help to identify the best and most cost-effective places for future growth. It will also prioritise job creation that lines up with the district's strengths and it will outline a growth pattern that will help preserve our natural environment and resources.

The strategy will be able to inform our communities about the likely changes to the district over the next 50 years and the steps we're taking to manage this growth. It will also provide information to other infrastructure providers so they can understand the location and scale of the district's growth which will help with their planning.

It is important to us that the strategy recognises, protects and enhances the features of Waikato that make the district such a special place. You will have the chance to let us know what you think about this strategy in late 2019/early 2020. Keep an eye out here and on our website for more details about this.

Celebrate sport in the district



Sport Waikato's annual awards are just round the corner and you're invited. The awards are a celebration of the sporting successes achieved by our local clubs, teams and individuals and recognise the hard work of community members in their roles as coaches, administrators and officials. The awards also acknowledge those who have supported sport in our district for many years through the Service to Sport category.

The awards are held on Wednesday November 20 at Waahi Paa Marae, Huntly. Doors open 6pm. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased through the Sport Waikato website (www.sportwaikato.org.nz) or enquire by emailing waikato@sportwaikato.org.nz. Dinner and dessert included.

GOT A QUESTION ABOUT COUNCIL BUSINESS?

/WaikatoDistrictCouncil

twitter.com/WaikatoDistrict

waikatodistrict.govt.nz

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Huntly

Ngaaruawaahia Office

Te Tari O Ngaaruawaahia
15 Galileo Street
Ngaaruawaahia

Raglan Office

Te Tari O Whaingaroa
7 Bow Street
Raglan

Te Kauwhata Office

Te Tari O Te Kauwhata
1 Main Road
Te Kauwhata

Tuakau Office

Te Tari O Tuakau
2 Dominion Road
Tuakau