
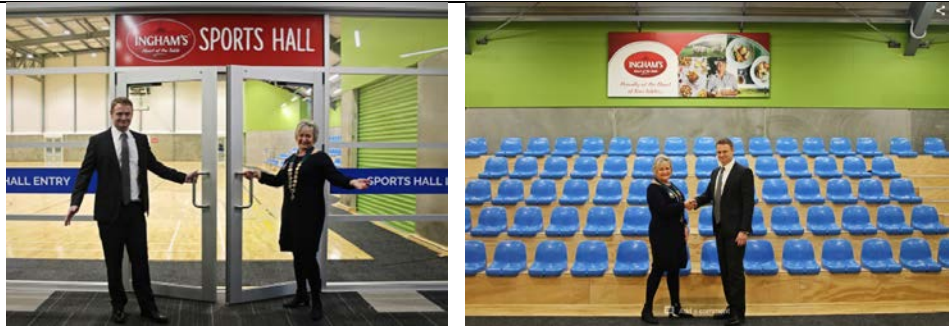


Mayoral Diary

August 2017



<p>Tuesday 1 August</p>	<p>Waikato Regional Council Piako river events Public Open Day The open day was held at Morrinsville Rotary Club and was an opportunity for people in the Piako Catchment to talk to river and flood management experts about how big the March and April storms really were, what work is being done post-flood, how flood schemes work and what WRC's job is in these areas. Councillors Donna Arnold and James Thomas were also in attendance.</p>
<p>Wednesday 2 August</p>	<p>Council workshop Long Term Plan workshops with staff continue with the focus being capital.</p> <p>Tuia presentation This year's Tuia candidate Hapairere King presented in the boardroom to give us an update on the wananga she has attended this year and how the journey is going for her. Council was impressed with her delivery and networking with Councillors over morning tea that followed.</p>
<p>Thursday 3 August</p>	<p>Hamilton & Waikato Tourism, breakfast briefing with Paula Bennett Hamilton & Waikato Tourism arranged a small round-table tourism breakfast briefing to share with the Minister the current state of tourism in our region and future plans for development. It was a great opportunity to discuss the specific needs, aspirations and drivers for tourism in our region such as Wairere Falls car parking and pressures of tourism.</p> <p>Graduate presentations Te Korowai Grab Group After the group did presentations of their individual journey, I presented certificates of achievement to the members of Te Korowai's Grab Group. Jewels Raharaha is the Prevocational Programmes Facilitator for Te Korowai and invited me to part of the morning. Jewels is doing fine work as a facilitator in our area.</p>  <p>New staff afternoon tea At the conclusion of the new staff tour, I met with MPDC's newest staff members to have a chat about what their jobs are within council and learned a little about them personally. I enjoy this opportunity to meet with staff that I might not get to see from day to day dealings in the council office and it is a chance for new staff to share and meet others.</p> <p>Meeting with Alan Pryor, Dean McNaught and Tuia Rangatahi Between us all a pilot opportunity has arisen to host pre-employment</p>

	<p>gatherings. I thank Te Hauora for their meeting room for our young people. Already the beginning of CV's are being prepared, driver licencing is to follow and Silver Fern Farms will facilitate pre-employment training.</p>
<p>Monday 7 August</p>	<p>Waikato Regional Transport Committee tour This field trip was an opportunity for members of the Regional Transport Committee (RTC) to travel and get first-hand experience of the work being undertaking in the northern Waikato region and to gain a better understating of transport connections and their importance.</p> <p>The focus was on the Waikato Expressway, possibilities for improving connections between Waikato and Auckland, and various commercial hubs encouraging growth and economic development in the Waikato region.</p> <p>We travelled to Tuakau in the north and Auckland City Council engaged with us and shared information.</p>
<p>Tuesday 8 August</p>	<p>Motor Home Association meeting Council Staff, Councillor Tappin and I met on site in Matamata with representatives of the Motor Home Association to discuss growing needs of Motor Home owners. Matamata is our one town that doesn't comply with being 'Motor Home friendly'.</p> <p>Thames Coromandel District Council launch I supported TCDC Mayor Sandra Goudie at the official release launch of the NZIER report on "The Economic Contribution of Marine Farming to the Coromandel and Wider Region".</p> <p>It is important we maintain good working relationships with our neighbouring councils and I had the opportunity to engage with a range of people at this event.</p> <p>Te Aroha Senior Citizens 60th anniversary I called in to catch the end of the Senior Citizens celebrations in Te Aroha. A strong and valued community group with good membership.</p> <p>Meeting re: Community Wellness I met with Pastor Jason Grainger to discuss bringing providers together in our community as a hub. This is work that has been progressing very slowly over time but is hopefully beginning to gain more structure.</p>
<p>Wednesday 9 August</p>	<p>Inghams Sports Hall Te Aroha I met with Ingham's NZ Manager Adrian Revell to look at the new signage in the Silver Fern Farms Event Centre for the Inghams Sports Hall. We are very lucky to have Ingham's come on board with sponsorship to help the Trust meet the fundraising shortfall.</p> <p>Ingham's have been part of the Te Aroha community for more than 25 years and we appreciate this sponsorship contribution. This is a wonderful asset for our community and district, and will be used for many years to come.</p>

	
	<p>Council Meeting & Workshop During the Council meeting lunch break Elected Members and I judged a staff 'Master Soup' competition. Soups were made by staff and sold during lunchtime with proceeds going to the three town's food banks. A collection of cans of soup was also gathered for those who didn't want to enter the soup making completion.</p> <p>At the conclusion of the council meeting Elected Members were involved in a Civil Defence workshop. This covered off the basics of Civil Defence, and what to expect during the course of a Civil Defence event.</p>
<p>Thursday 10 August</p>	<p>Matamata Chronicle I have continued to catch up with reporter Rexine Hawes to give updates from our council meetings.</p> <p>Meeting with Waitoa resident I met with a resident from Waitoa to talk about some concerns she has with the State Highway and the rest area in the township. Jan showed me other concerns she had in the area and we discussed some solutions. KVS Manager Lance Gwynne has already actioned these and I have passed on the requests regarding roading and speed issues to the police.</p> <p>Meeting with Council staff I met with council staff to discuss upcoming meetings and agendas.</p>
<p>Friday 11 August</p>	<p>LGNZ Excellence programme debrief in Wellington The purpose of this workshop was to review the first year of the Excellence Programme in order to incorporate the learnings and process changes into the second year of the programme, before LGNZ finalise and issue the year two prospectus. The pilot councils are helping to shape this very important programme for Local Government and our community.</p> <p>Participating councils took part in discussion and breakout sessions to feedback what worked well, and suggestions for change for the second roll out.</p>
<p>Saturday 12 August</p>	<p>Transition Matamata Kiwi Bottle Drive Transition Matamata organised the Kiwi Bottle Drive in town to raise awareness and encourage people to recycle more. The drive allowed people to swap an individual beverage bottle and aluminium can for 10 cents.</p> <p>The Kiwi Bottle Drive is supported by Transition Matamata, Matamata-Piako District Council, Smart Environment, Kiwanis and the Matamata Chronicle.</p>

	<p>Congratulations to Transition Matamata on this successful event. Councillors James Sainsbury, Donna Arnold, Paul Cronin and Adrienne Wilcock spent time supporting this event.</p>
<p>Monday 14 August</p>	<p>Meeting with Dave Cox Dave is an accredited NZ driving instructor who provides courses in driver licencing. Dave will work across our district as needed. He will deliver some workshops in Waharoa for obtaining a car licence.</p>
<p>Tuesday 15 August</p>	<p>Meeting with MPDC Staff To discuss meeting agendas and my upcoming schedule.</p> <p>Morrinsville BA5 This month's meeting was hosted by Telfer Young Valuers at the Morrinsville Museum. A great venue and excellent hosting and networking as usual.</p>
<p>Wednesday 16 August</p>	<p>Volunteer Youth Ambassador meeting Councillor Ash Tanner has joined the early morning (before work and school) meetings and has added valuable discussion around the table.</p> <p>The VYA's are working on their next project which is bringing the WILLSS Intermediate Leadership Programme to our intermediate aged youth in the district. As my diary went to print two out of the three intermediate aged students have had an opportunity to attend. A collaborative day will conclude bringing all together.</p> <p>Meeting with MPDC Staff I met with Mark Naude to discuss a potential project in Waharoa.</p> <p>Cuppa with a Cop Hosted by the Dew Drop Inn at Matamata, this event was well attended. The public seem to be enjoying these opportunities to meet and discuss topical issues. I fed in speed in Waitoa and other issues.</p> <p>On site meeting with KVS Manager I met with Lance Gwynne to discuss some issues in the district.</p> <p>Meeting with Tuia representative I met with Hapairere for one of our regular catch-ups and mentoring sessions. The next wananga for Hapairere is planned for September in Wellington.</p> <p>Matamata Cricket meeting Council staff and I met on site at Pohlen Park with Cameron Bishop to discuss the cricket needs at this location. A regional Waikato/Thames Valley rep was also present and a football rep has also had input.</p> <p>Matamata BA5 Hosted by Waterson's who are celebrating their 95th birthday being in business in 2017. What a great achievement from one of our local businesses. It was my pleasure to address and honour the family at this function.</p>

<p>Thursday 17 August</p>	<p>Te Aroha Hub meeting I met on sight at the old Te Aroha power board building to further discussions with members in our community who are interested in bringing together wellness agencies under one roof.</p> <p>Matamata Citizens Advice Bureau meeting At this meeting a life membership was awarded to Brian Searle, much to his surprise! I hear it was quite the effort to keep this a secret from Brian! Congratulations on this well-deserved award, the hours of hard work volunteering in our community is much appreciated. Well done CAB Matamata.</p>
<p>Friday 18 August</p>	<p>Meeting with Department of Corrections and Mayors Ray Smith, CEO and Terry Buffery, Regional Commissioner of Department of Corrections invited regional mayors to a meeting to discuss how we can work together to improve public safety and to provide an update to the happenings within our region, including the new facility being built at Waikeria Prison.</p> <p>I am having a follow up meeting with Terry and his staff and Silver Fern Farms next month to discuss post employment.</p>
<p>Sunday 20 August</p>	<p>Steamfest at Otorohanga with Mayor Max Baxter I was delighted to support our neighbouring council and engage with King Country MP Barbara Kruger, Mayor Max Baxter and Otorohanga Councillors.</p>
<p>Tuesday 22 August</p>	<p>Volunteer Youth Ambassador meeting The VYA's are putting the final touches on their project of the WILLSS Intermediate Leadership Programme which launches next week.</p> <p>Meeting with MPDC staff I met with staff to discuss the Waikato Plan implementation groups.</p> <p>Meeting with Petersen family representatives CEO Don McLeod and I met with Wayne Petersen, Terry Magill and Bruce Magan to discuss the Petersen Fountain.</p> <p>Meeting with WRC Susanne Kampshof, councils Asset Manager Strategy and Policy, and I met with Andrew Wilson from Waikato Regional Council to discuss Public Transport from our district to Hamilton, specifically the Morrinsville College issues.</p> <p>Susanne and I then went on to meet to discuss roading issues and projects in the district.</p>
<p>Wednesday 23 August</p>	<p>Corporate and Operations meeting We had two presentations during this meeting, the first for "Spotlight on Safety Award" to Nerida Turner, KVS Workflow Officer. Nerida constantly thinks "health and safety" and lives our vision and values of ensuring everyone gets home safe every day. I am impressed with her anticipation for fellow teammates.</p> <p>The second presentation was to Mr Wayne Petersen who is a volunteer member of the Tom Grant Drive Society and has held all positions of office</p>

	<p>over the last 15 years. Mr Petersen was accompanied by his wife Beverley who was presented with a bouquet of flowers. The Petersen's ongoing support for the Tom Grant Drive Society is very much appreciated.</p> <p>Meeting regarding business opportunity Councils Group Manager Community Development, Dennis Bellamy, and I met with a property owner who lives along the proposed Te Aroha to Matamata Rail Trail route. This property owner had ideas about a business they could operate from their home, and we talked about what options there were and steps that could be taken. Staff will continue to advise and support.</p>
Friday 25 August	<p>Meeting at Hauora This meeting was with our pre-employment group with Alan Pryor. Progress is continuing.</p>
Sunday 27 August	<p>Matamata College Rotary Youth Launch This event was held at the Matamata fire station and it was a delight to be present along with Councillor Brian Hunter (Rotarian) and our VYA Chair Kaleb Reid.</p>
Monday 28 August	<p>Hauraki Rail Trail Trust AGM Mayors, CE's and representatives from Hauraki, Thames-Coromandel and Matamata-Piako District Councils met in our boardroom for the Annual General Meeting of the Hauraki Rail Trail Trust.</p> <p>Citizenship Ceremony 28 Matamata-Piako residents officially became kiwis at their citizenship ceremony held in Te Aroha. There were a few extra cute citizens who were very excited to chat with me!</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-end;">   </div> <p style="text-align: right;">A future mayor in the making?!</p>
Tuesday 29 August	<p>Catch up with NZ Police In catching up with Waikato District Commander Superintendent Bruce Bird I have been given confidence that our district is well serviced with on duty police numbers. This was a debrief conversation after the gunman incident in Morrinsville earlier in the month.</p>
Wednesday 30 August	<p>Council workshop Topics at this LTP workshop included capital discussions, Te Aroha Cemetery, Boyd Park irrigation, Howie Park development, Wairere Falls, Morrinsville river walk and splash pads, Rubbish bags/solid waste funding,</p>

	Financial Strategy and Infrastructure Strategy, Mayoral Forum, Developer Agreement template/policy and Q & A with CEO Don and I. Another full day around the boardroom table!
Thursday 31 August	<p>Meeting with Business Associations and I-Sites This is the second scheduled monthly meeting with the Business Association Chairs and I-Site managers so Council can understand what these groups are working on, what are their issues and priorities and where Council is putting its efforts. This meeting was held in Morrinsville and information was shared.</p> <p>Interview with Nga Iwi FM Today Rino and I discussed the recent Hauraki Rail Trail Trust AGM, and the upcoming opening of the completed section of the Hauraki Rail Trail in the Hauraki and Thames-Coromandel Districts.</p>