

# Mayoral Diary

## May 2018

<p><b>Tuesday 1 May</b></p>	<p><b>Morrinsville College Anzac day commemoration</b> Morrinsville College held a special assembly to commemorate Anzac Day. I attended and spoke to the students, and Marian Burns (who sang at the Morrinsville Civic Service) accompanied me and sang her composition Beautiful Solider.</p> <p><b>Morrinsville Youth</b> I spoke with Jade Lynn who is a volunteer youth mentor in the community. We discussed youth in Morrinsville and how I can support them and connect these youth to our VYA's.</p> <p><b>Meeting with Morrinsville Chamber of Commerce</b> CEO Don McLeod, Group Manager Dennis Bellamy and Council's Asset Manager Susanne Kampshof and I met with the members to primarily discuss parking in the CBD, the parking survey and the Long Term Plan (LTP).</p>
<p><b>Friday 4 May</b></p>	<p><b>Meet and greet</b> I attended a meeting hosted by Tim Van de Molen at our new Civic Centre in Matamata for the leader of the opposition, Simon Bridges. A good turnout of community members.</p> <p><b>Opening of Tim Van de Molen Electorate office</b> Simon Bridges opened the new electorate office of MP Tim Van de Molen. I spoke on behalf of the community.</p> <p>Tim has chosen well setting up an electorate office in our main street, in the very vibrant community of Morrinsville. This is the first time there has been an electorate office in Morrinsville.</p> <p><b>Meeting with Wintec representative</b> I met with Kim Linklater to discuss the programmes Wintec will be running in our district in Matamata and how I can include iwi and industry requirements for employment.</p>
<p><b>Monday 7 May</b></p>	<p><b>Morrinsville Senior Citizens</b> I met with three committee members and lawyer Sean Mason to discuss the Senior Citizens building and property and how it could be secured for the community going forward.</p>
<p><b>Tuesday 8 May</b></p>	<p><b>Kaimai Valley Services staff meeting</b> I joined KVS staff for an early morning breakfast meeting where staff member Ben Huch was recognised for 30 years of long service to Council and its former authorities.</p> <p>It was great to acknowledge this achievement for Ben in front of his peers in his place of work as per his wish. Well done Lance Gwynne on highlighting Health and Safety and Skip Keepa from NZ Police speaking on secure loads.</p> <p><b>Meeting with staff</b></p>

	<p>Planning is underway for our annual Business Night Out held in October each year. I met with staff to go over some of the preliminary work that needs to be done this far out.</p> <p><b>CEO review panel meeting</b> Members of the CEO review committee met informally for a part year discussion on how our CEO is tracking and what projects should be focused on going forward. We have a good robust process to follow.</p> <p><b>Waikato Regional Council hearing</b> MPDC put through a submission to Regional Councils Long Term Plan and I spoke to it at their hearing held in Paeroa.</p> <p>I also heard neighbours Haruaki and Thames Coromandel present their submissions and caught up with Mayors Tregidga and Goudie afterwards.</p>
<b>Friday 11 May</b>	<p><b>Waikato Regional Sports Facilities Plan 2018 Review</b> Mayors, CE's and other stakeholders from throughout the Waikato met to partake in this review session.</p> <p>Thank you to Councillors Donna Arnold and Adrienne Wilcock who supported MPDC. It was a well facilitated review of the current plan. We fed through our views for a regional vision that will ensure value is added to regional sports facilities in the Waikato.</p> <p>The draft revised plan is due out in June with the final revised plan due for release in July.</p> <p>MPDC is to workshop the draft plan with Sport Waikato.</p>
<b>Monday 14 May</b>	<p><b>Wintec meeting</b> Further to my meeting with Kim Linklater earlier in the month I met with her again, this time to progress a visiting Finish engineer who is interested in different topics in our district. Also planning for a training site in Matamata Piako along with future planning.</p> <p><b>Meeting with Council staff</b> I met with Acting Strategic Policy Manager Sandra Harris to go over the agenda for the LTP hearing the following week.</p> <p><b>Te Aroha Business Association AGM</b> This meeting saw Shaun O'Neill step down from the role of Chairman.</p> <p>In his past eight years as chair, we have seen the committee accomplish some fantastic events and promotions for Te Aroha. The reintroduction of iconic events such as the Christmas Parade. Exposure at a national level of the artistic talents we have amongst us and your active involvement in campaigning alongside Council for the Hauraki Rail Trail Extension just to name a few. Embracing the support and help of local schools, community, cultural and sports clubs.</p> <p>I'm sure there were countless emails, calls and meetings to make these</p>

	<p>things happen and be the success they were, and for that I thank you Shaun.</p> <p>It is enthusiasm like your own that makes our district what it is. Matamata-Piako District, the place of lifestyle, opportunities and home, to which I am very proud to be Mayor of.</p> <p>The new chair of the committee is Kelvin Forsman. This is such an exciting time in Te Aroha and the Matamata-Piako District. The recent announcement of the Hauraki Rail Trail Extension through to Matamata will bring a lot of potential business opportunities and growth to Te Aroha. The Te Aroha Business Association have many iconic events in place and with the new committee and enthusiasm I'm sure Kelvin will continue to build on the success of these events along with potential for new ones.</p>
<b>Tuesday 15 May</b>	<p><b>World Challenge Day</b></p> <p>With just under two weeks to go I continued to follow up with businesses and groups to encourage them to register for the big event on 30 May.</p> <p>We need 18,000 people to be registered online to have chance at winning and by the time this diary goes to print we will know how we got on competing with Kitakami Japan! Come on MPDC, lets' win this!</p>
<b>Wednesday 16 May</b>	<p><b>Long Term Plan hearing</b></p> <p>The long term plan fielded 202 submissions, of which 37 requested to present personally to council.</p> <p>We heard from these submitters from 9am to 4.30pm in the boardroom at which time we reconvened until the following morning for deliberations.</p>
<b>Thursday 17 May</b>	<p><b>Long Term Plan deliberations</b></p> <p>Decisions were made regarding the LTP and submissions. The plan will go to council for adoption at the meeting on 27 June.</p> <p>We thank our community for engaging with us and the many good points raised, thank you.</p> <p><b>Meeting with workshop presenter</b></p> <p>On Thursday evening in Wellington I met with Margaret Devlin, Chair of the Waikato Plan to discuss the review workshop being held next Monday.</p>
<b>Friday 18 May</b>	<p><b>National Council board meeting - Wellington</b></p> <p>The Minister of Tourism, Hon Kelvin Davis, attended the beginning of the National Council meeting to discuss mutual priorities in the tourism portfolio including Freedom Camping and funding of tourism infrastructure.</p> <p>Minister of Local Govertment Nanaia Mahuta also engaged and spoke to us.</p>

<b>Saturday 19 May</b>	<p><b>Royal Wedding event</b> Local Royalist Angela Thompson of Te Aroha organised a mass vowel renewal in the Domain to coincide with the marriage of Prince Harry and Megan Markle. Angela was on national radio to highlight our town for this event.</p> <p>It included a 'Royal Procession' followed by the renewal ceremony and a shared picnic.</p> <p>There was a band playing, mini train rides for the kids and a sausage sizzle. All appropriate royal china was of course used! News media covered the event.</p> <p>Angela is truly passionate about everything royal, and of our little town under the mountain of love. Well done on bringing this event together Angela.</p> <p>All exposure is great promotion for our district.</p>
<b>Monday 21 May</b>	<p><b>Presentation at Te Aroha College</b> Earlier in the month the mother of one of the college students had a cardiac event while waiting outside the school gate.</p> <p>Thanks to the quick actions of her daughter, teacher Virginia Carney and two other students who performed the initial CPR until emergency services arrived the life of this parent was saved.</p> <p>I presented Civic Service awards to commend them for their actions. We are thankful that situations like these have good outcomes for everyone involved!</p>
<b>Tuesday 22 May</b>	<p><b>DHB mental health hui – Te Aroha</b></p> <p><b>Business Night Out meeting</b> I met with council staff and those involved in judging the annual event to discuss awards and categories. I am excited about the changes we are making to this year's format, watch this space!</p>
<b>Wednesday 23 May</b>	<p><b>Volunteer Youth Ambassadors (VYA)</b> I attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting this time held at Matamata College at 7.30am - before school starts for the day - where we discussed the event the VYA's are collaborating on which will be held later in the year. President elected is Patrick Roskam chaired the meeting and the years plan forward was mapped out.</p> <p><b>Corporate and Operations meeting</b></p> <p><b>Audit and Risk workshop</b> Margaret Devlin led councillors in a short workshop covering risk and other topics.</p>

<b>Thursday 24 May</b>	<b>DHB Mental health hui - Matamata</b>
<b>Sunday 27 May</b>	<p><b>RSA district meeting</b> I attended the annual meeting of RSA's from Waikato, BOP and King Country areas, including representatives from the National office.</p> <p>I opened the meeting for them and engaged with them over a cuppa.</p>
<b>Monday 28 May</b>	<p><b>Meeting with Fonterra</b> CEO Don McLeod and I met with Philippa Fourie, Manger, Regional Relations North Island for a general catch up on Fonterra activity in the district, including the latest NZIER economic impact data.</p> <p><b>Morrinsville Grey Power AGM</b> At Grey Powers's invitation, I attended the AGM and was able to report back on some questions they left with me and staff after our LTP consultation meeting with them in April.</p>
<b>Tuesday 29 May</b>	<p><b>Circular economy presentation</b> An opportunity to host an international guest speaker presented itself at the 11th hour after a networking conversation with Kim Linklater from Wintec.</p> <p>We held the breakfast presentation in partnership with WINTEC and Transition Matamata, at the Matamata-Piako Civic and Memorial Centre, where Heikki Ruohomaa shared his experiences on successful sustainability, circular economy systems, rural revitalisation and agritourism models in Finland.</p> <p>Heikki talked about his experience with minimising waste generation and waste management.</p> <p>It is apparent at how passionate we are about the future and sustainability by the number of people who were able to make the meeting at short notice, not just corporate and local business, but passionate groups and individuals who when work together we know we can make a real difference.</p> <p>Matamata-Piako District Council have a strong stance on raising the bar both nationally and internationally recycling and sustainability initiatives.</p> <p>At the conclusion of the presentation we took Heikki on a short tour of sites around the district that promote sustainability.</p>
<b>Wednesday 30 May</b>	<p><b>World Challenge Day</b> After much coordinated effort Wednesday 30 May was upon us and our challenge from Kitikami Japan was under way. We were competing with Kitakami to see who could get the most percentage of residents involved.</p> <p>There were a number of organised events throughout the district to</p>

promote residents to engage in 15 minutes of movement at any time during the day.

I managed to get around to the following events:

Matamata  
8:30am – New World – Dancing in store  
9:15am – Swim Zone Aqua Size Class - Swim Zone Matamata  
10:00am – Candy Gillespie Walk  
10:30am – Innate Energy – 15 minute inversion class  
10:45am – Golden Oldies at Pohlen Hospital

Te Aroha  
11:30am– Fire Brigade Te Aroha  
12:00noon – Kapa Haka (Whitaker Street)

Tatuanui  
12:30pm – Live Cross to Japan Te Wharekura o Te Rau Aroha

Morrinsville  
1:35pm – Morrinsville Intermediate – 15 minute exercise  
2:30pm – Total Rehab Plus – Mountain Trike experience  
3:00pm – Morrinsville Events Centre – Exercise circuit with Sport Waikato with Sport Waikato  
4:00pm – Morrinsville Community House – Community Walk

Thank you to my Councillors who got on board and led the way with their participation in 15 minutes of movement with the various groups they are involved with in the community.

I commend Anna McLoughlin, councils World Challenge Day coordinator for the organising effort she has put in over the past six months. We managed to get to our target of over 18,000 participants on the day!

There were plenty of photo opportunities throughout the day, here are a selection...



**Thursday  
31 May**

**Pink Ribbon Breakfast**

In support of breast cancer awareness, I attended the breakfast hosted by NZTA's Parekawhia McLean in Hamilton.