


## Mayoral Diary April 2018

<b>Tuesday 3 April</b>	<p><b>Te Aroha Racing Club Breeders Stakes Dinner</b> Rex and I joined the racing club for the annual dinner held before their biggest race day of their calendar.</p> <p>Guest speaker on the night was Graham Rogerson</p> <p>I always feel so welcomed by the racing fraternity and thoroughly enjoyed engaging with this group of characters!</p>
<b>Wednesday 4 April</b>	<p><b>Meeting at Matamata Intermediate</b> Council roading staff Mike Van Bysterveldt and I met with the principal and BOT reps to discuss safety concerns on Smith Street. Mike will work with the school board to help improve sight lines.</p> <p><b>Meeting at Te Aroha College</b> Te Aroha college were hosting an educational delegation from Taiwan, and invited me to be part of meeting. Representatives from the Ministry of Education were also present.</p> 
<b>Thursday 5 April</b>	<p><b>Volunteer Youth Ambassadors (VYA's)</b> I met with Te Aroha College deputy principal Sam Mortimer who is the teacher in charge of the VYA's this year. We discussed the programme and invited seniors from the school to be appointed this years VYA's.</p>
<b>Friday 6 April</b>	<p><b>Zone 2 meeting</b> This meeting was hosted by Thames Coromandel District council at the Whangamata Oceans Sports Club.</p> <p>Speakers included Hon Nanaia Mahuta - Minister for Local Government; Bruce Lochore - CE of the NZ Motor Caravan Association; Parekawhia McLean - NZTA Regional Director and Mayor Sandra Goudie - Mayor of Thames-Coromandel District Council.</p>
<b>Sunday 8 April</b>	<p><b>The Great Pumpkin Carnival</b> I attended the annual Waikato Great Pumpkin Carnival at Hamilton Gardens where back in September local MP's and Mayors were</p>

challenged to grow the biggest pumpkin.

Hamilton Mayor Andrew King, and MP's Jamie Strange, David Bennett and Tim Macindoe competed to see who could produce the heaviest pumpkin at the weigh in. I had unfortunately been given a miniature variety seed so never had a chance! So I submitted my basket of 32 beautiful mini's and took out the Celebrity Challenge of pumpkin self-portrait painting! I would like to acknowledge my EA's dad, who did me proud in supporting my entry as a 'pumpkin consultant'!

Congratulations to Tim Harris from our district who won with a record setting pumpkin of 808 kilograms!



Tim with his record pumpkin



Jan and her growing miniatures



Jan and her competitors



Pumpkin self portrait painting

**Monday  
9 April**

**Matamata Police**

The Matamata Police station is now manned 24/7 and I spoke at the launch with District Commander Waikato Supt Bruce Bird. Blair Hyde, the Matamata Police station commander was complimented on a well-run station.


**Meeting with community groups**

I met with representatives from the Waharoa community and Wintec to discuss the possibility of some training opportunities being commenced in Waharoa. We continue to work together to bring this idea to fruition.

**Tuesday  
10 April**

**Meeting with council staff**

I met with council staff and the exec team to discuss current projects, events and plan upcoming meeting topics.

	<p><b>Te Aroha Primary School</b></p> <p>I was invited by senior students of Te Aroha Primary School to meet with them to discuss what it means to be a leader. I talked about my role of Mayor and what that means to me.</p> <p>I was made so welcome and we had some excellent discussion, I thoroughly enjoyed my time with the students. Our future leaders are engaging!</p>  <p>Senior Students Sasha Ashton-Spraggon and Renae Meredith with Mayor Jan</p> <p><b>Long Term Plan consultation – Te Aroha</b></p> <p>Council is required to produce and update a Long Term Plan (LTP) every three years. This plan must be reviewed every three years, with an Annual Plan developed on the years in between. The LTP outlines Council's activities for the next ten years, providing a long-term focus for decision making.</p> <p>Once the draft document is completed Council consults with our community to hear what everyone thinks about the plan and gives feedback. They also have the opportunity to be heard at a hearing.</p> <p>Council hosted a Business After Five (BA5) event at Ironique Café to hear what members of our business community thought of the LTP and highlighted current local issues.</p>
<b>Wednesday 11 April</b>	<p><b>Volunteer Youth Ambassadors (VYA's)</b></p> <p>We had a meeting of our new VYA's in the boardroom at Te Aroha. Councillors were able to meet the students as they arrived for the Council meeting at 9am. Going forward these VYA meetings will be held in Te Aroha, Matamata and Morrinsville, at our student's request. A leader and deputies will be appointed at May's meeting.</p> <p><b>Council meeting</b></p> <p>Agenda items at this meeting included Reserve Acquisitions, Regional Land Transport Plan, Waharoa (Matamata) Aerodrome Reserve Management Plan and property development.</p>
<b>Thursday 12 April</b>	<p><b>Business Breakfast</b></p> <p>Twice a year Council meets with industry managers to discuss how things are going and how Council can work with them. A presentation was made by Waikato Regional Council on their LTP, and discussion was had around economic development, and youth employment/work readiness, our Council's LTP consultation and a promotion for World</p>

	<p>Challenge Day.</p> <p>This is an excellent chance for us to hear from industry, for industry to hear what challenges their colleagues are also facing and how we can all work collaboratively to solve problems.</p> <p>A sub group is to meet at their request regarding employment and housing.</p>
<p><b>Friday 13 April</b></p>	<p><b>Unveiling of Pou</b></p> <p>The Pou was unveiled at 7am in the morning, outside the new Te Whare Whakamaharatanga o te hāpori o Matamata-Piako with representatives from the three iwi involved taking part.</p> <p>We would have loved to had this unveiling coincide with the street party and open day but due to other commitments it wasn't possible.</p> <p>This beautiful carving represents the three iwi of Ngati Haua, Rakawa and Ngati Hinerangi.</p> <p>See attached at the end of my diary the meaning of the pou and it's background.</p> <div data-bbox="397 902 1000 1352" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="397 1386 1031 1700" data-label="Image"> </div> <p><b>Audit and Risk forum</b></p> <p>CEO Don McLeod along with Councillors Adrienne Wilcock and Paul Cronin attended a forum run by former Assistant Attorney General Bruce Robertson. There were a number of other presenters including Margaret Devlin who we will be having in our board room in May to give a short workshop to all of council. The panel of presenters were excellent.</p>

<p><b>Saturday 14 April</b></p>	<p><b>Firth Tower filming</b> The Museum at Firth Tower has had a makeover by Heritage Rescue (a programme on Choice TV) which helps Museums to upgrade their displays. The Matamata Historical Society were going to upgrade it for the 40th Anniversary of the Museum opening this year and instead were supported by Heritage Rescue. I was pleased to be interviewed on the tower.</p> <p>The big reveal of the upgrade took place with filming to go on the show at a later date.</p> <p><b>Matamata-Piako Civic and Memorial Centre open day and street party</b> The community attended the festival street party-style open day and had the opportunity to look around the new facility and all it has to offer.</p> <p>This will be an accessible community hub for the whole district. We will be able to offer improved library services, a range of flexible and affordable meeting spaces, as well as council services in one location.</p> <p>There was excellent attendance on the day with people making the most of the street stalls, exhibitions and workshops.</p>
<p><b>Monday 16 April</b></p>	<p><b>Waikato Mayoral Forum</b> Prior to the Mayoral Forum meeting we visited the new Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management offices which were opened by the Hon Kris Faafoi. A summary of the meeting is attached at the end of this diary.</p>
<p><b>Tuesday 17 April</b></p>	<p><b>Long Term Plan consultation – Morrinsville</b> The second of our Business After Five consultations was held at the Canada Street Craft Bar and Eatery with an excellent turn out of around 80 people.</p> <p>Our business community were well engaged and over all pleased with the LTP.</p>
<p><b>Wednesday 18 April</b></p>	<p><b>Long Term Plan consultation – Matamata</b> The last of our Business After Five consultations was held at our new Matamata-Piako Civic and Memorial Centre with another great turn out of around 60 people.</p> <p>There were familiar themes raised at the meetings such as parking, freedom camping and economic development.</p>
<p><b>Thursday 19 April</b></p>	<p><b>Herd of Cows?</b> Seven new cows were unveiled on Wednesday night and will join the herd around the streets of Morrinsville.</p> <p>All seven were outside the Wallace Gallery from 7am until later that day so members of the public could view them all together before they go their separate ways to their permanent homes.</p> <p>I was able to be a part of the 7am gathering and delighted to view the</p>



	<p>new girls!</p> <p>Congratulations to the sponsors and artists on the new arrivals, and of course to the committee of hard working people behind the scenes working to bring these works of art to our streetscape.</p> <p>We are a destination Morrinsville!</p>
<p><b>Saturday 21 April</b></p>	<p><b>Morrinsville Museum Mana Whenua O Piako exhibition</b></p> <p>The opening of this exhibition took place on Saturday morning and was followed by a lunch.</p> <p>Those involved with bringing the exhibition together included Bette Blanche (Secretary), David Sing (President) and Mike Gribble (committee member). Extensive consultation was had with iwi including Anaru Thompsen (Tumuaki O Kingitanga), Sonny Karena (Rukumoana Marae), Te Ao Marama Maaka (Kia-a-te-mata Marae), George Hopa (Tauhei Marae) and Glenice Wigg (Waiti Marae)</p> <p>This group covers three iwi – Ngati Haua, Ngati Wairere, and Ngati Paoa</p> <p>The display is very well put together and I recommend a visit! My highlight of the event was our kapa haka items.</p>
<p><b>Monday 23 April</b></p>	<p><b>Regional Transport Committee meeting</b></p> <p>Updates were given on the draft Regional Land Transport Plan and GPS submission process, the Regional Land Transport Plan 2015/45 variation, Regional Road Safety Monitor Report, Regional Public Transport Projects, Transport Choices report, and Regional Transport committee submission on the Land Transport Management (Regional Fuel Tax) Amendment Bill</p> <p>Full details of the minutes from this meeting can be found here:</p> <p><a href="https://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Minutes-of-the-Regional-Transport-Committee-meeting-of-23-April-2018.pdf">https://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Minutes-of-the-Regional-Transport-Committee-meeting-of-23-April-2018.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Morrinsville Grey Power consultation meeting</b></p> <p>Another of our LTP consultation meetings this time with our Grey Power members. Staff took back a number of queries to be looked into and findings will be reported back.</p> <p><b>Mental health meeting at Te Aroha Future</b></p> <p>Councillors Cornes and Cronin attended the hui. I was able to pop in towards the end of the meeting. Information is being gathered on mental health and addition. Morrinsville, Matamata and Waharoa to follow.</p>
<p><b>Wednesday 25 April</b></p>	<p><b>Anzac Day Services</b></p> <p><b>Matamata</b></p> <p>I attended the RSA dawn service which was held at the new Matamata-Piako Civic and Memorial Centre. Many of our returned servicemen and our uniformed personnel were present and there was good attendance</p>

from the community. Gary Dunseath, grandson of Gary Stanley addressed the crowd. I was pleased to march with the parade.



Dawn service at the centre

Deputy Mayor James Thomas lead the 9.30am Civic Service at new centre with the service being held in front of the Roll of Honour. Matamata Brass supported all services including Walton civic service on the day.

James Thomas was supported at the Matamata service by councillors Adrienne Wilcock, Brian Hunter and James Sainsbury.

Walton's Civic Service was lead by Councillor Adrienne Wilcock and the Walton committee.

### **Morrinsville**

I lead the Civic Service in Morrisville held at the memorial in Howie Park. This service also had good attendance by both servicemen and members of the public. Thank you to Councillors Paul Cronin, Donna Arnold and Neil Goodger for their support on the day.

Musician Marian Burns sang her composed Anzac song 'Beautiful Soilder' at the conclusion of my speech.



Mayor Jan and Marian Burns

	<p><b>Te Aroha</b> Councillor Ash Tanner lead the civic service in Te Aroha with our MP Scott Simpson giving the address. They were supported by Councillor Teena Cornes.</p> <p>Rex and I made our way over to call into the Te Aroha RSA on the afternoon of Anzac day to catch up with president Owen Passau and returned servicemen still socialising at the RSA's.</p>  <p>Wreaths laid at the town clock in Te Aroha</p> <p>Our students from all three colleges made outstanding contributions in their speeches.</p> <p>I would like to make special mention of our council staff Kathryn Johnston, Grace Bonner and Rachael Singh who supported our elected members on the day, worked with our RSA's to put so much effort into preparing these important annual civic services. Thank you team.</p>
<b>Thursday 26 April</b>	<p><b>Corporate and Operations Meeting</b> Agenda items included the Hauraki Rail Trail, the Te Aroha to Matamata cycleway and Government funding, Community Grants, Animal Control fees and reviewing of the Health and Safety Report and CEO report.</p>
<b>Friday 27 April</b>	<p><b>Firth Tower meeting</b> I met for a morning tea and discussion with Amy Martin our manager along with some ladies of the Historical Society.</p> <p><b>Meeting with Mayor of Western BOP</b> I met with Mayor Garry Webber along with our CEO Don McLeod and Group Manager Dennis Bellamy to discuss Economic Development and Regional Funding opportunities between our districts, especially at Waharoa and the Kaimai tunnel.</p>
<b>Monday 30 April</b>	<p><b>Staff meetings</b> I caught up with staff involved to debrief on our first VYA meetings and business breakfast to make sure follow up information is captured.</p> <p><b>New staff afternoon tea</b> CEO Don McLeod and I met with new staff who have recently started working at Council. It is a great opportunity to sit down with them over a cuppa and get to know them a little better.</p>



**Meeting with Wintec, WINZ, MSD Industry Training Solutions**

At their request I facilitated a meeting to discuss training opportunities and ready for work programmes in our district for youth. Keri Thompson from Ngati Haua Mahi Trust along with Vicki Black from council were also in attendance.

**Citizenship Ceremony**

14 new citizens were welcomed to the district at this ceremony in our council chambers in Te Aroha.

They included a doctor, driving instructor, angus beef farmer and a young man who wants to be the CEO of Subway!

Thank you to my councillors who supported our newest citizens at their swearing in, Adrienne Wilcock, Brian Hunter, Kevin Tappin, Neil Goodger, Donna Arnold, James Thomas, Ash tanner and Teena Cornes.

