

Ronald Hugh Morrieson judges announced for 2024

LYSAGHT-WATT TRUST

**RONALD HUGH
MORRIESON**
Judges
LITERARY AWARDS

The wait is over! The judges for the Lysaght Watt Trust Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards 2024 have been announced. Taranaki-based writer **David Hill** is the Short Story Judge. David is

a prolific and highly regarded New Zealand writer, playwright, poet, columnist, and critic. Best known for his highly popular and award-winning body of work for young people, ranging from picture books to teenage fiction, his novels have been published all around the world and translated into several languages. His short stories and plays for young people have been broadcast here and overseas.

Tracey Slaughter is the Poetry Judge for this year's competition. Tracey is a poet, fiction writer and essayist from Aotearoa New Zealand. Her work has received numerous awards including the Manchester Poetry Prize 2023, the Fish Short Story Prize 2020 and the Bridport Prize 2014. She teaches at the University of Waikato, where she edits the journals *Mayhem* and *Poetry Aotearoa*. Her recent books are *Devil's Trumpets* (2021) and

Conventional Weapons (2019) and her latest collection *The girls in the red house are singing* comes out later this year. She is currently working on a collection of personal essays and collaborating with Liam Hinton on a screenplay adaptation of her novella *The Longest Drink in Town*.

The judges will be joined by Taranaki Daily News editor Matt Rilkoff, who will be judging the research section. "We are very excited to welcome these three prestigious judges to South Taranaki's premiere literary competition this year," says South Taranaki District Council Community Outreach Librarian Katherine Bosworth.

The competition opens on Thursday 13 June with the kick off of the secondary school workshops. As always, open writing and poetry workshops taken by the judges are available to the public for free and will be held at Te W'anake | The Foundry in Hāwera

- Open short story workshop with David Hill on 15 June
- Open poetry workshop with Tracey Slaughter on 22 June

"Usually, these workshops are held on the same weekend, but due to the commitments of the judges, we've had to spread them over two dates this year," says Katherine. "We hope that this means that more people can come and soak up the knowledge these two can provide."

We are now taking bookings for the open workshops. Please contact your local LibraryPlus, email entries@stdc.govt.nz or phone 0800 111 323 to secure your space.

Upcoming Meetings

Te Hāwera Community Board
Monday 27 May, 11am
Hāwera Community Centre Hall,
Albion Street, Hāwera

Pātea Community Board
Monday 27 May, 4pm
Waverley Community Centre,
Chester Street, Waverley

Eltham-Kaponga Community Board
Wednesday 29 May, 10.30am
Taumata Recreation Centre,
Preston Street, Eltham

Taranaki Coastal Community Board
Wednesday 29 May, 2.30pm
Manaia Bowling Club,
48 Riemenschneider Street, Manaia

Extraordinary Council
Long Term Plan Deliberations
Tuesday 4 June, 11am

Te Kāhui Matauraura
Wednesday 5 June, 10am

Environment and Hearings Committee
Wednesday 5 June, 4pm

Policy and Strategy Committee
Monday 10 June, 1pm

Extraordinary Council
*To hear submissions on the
Ōpunakē Greenspace Proposal*
Wednesday 12 June, 3pm
Ōpunakē Town Hall

*Unless specified, meetings are held in
the Council Chambers, Administration
Building, Albion Street, Hāwera.*

Taniwha Trading Cards coming your way

South Taranaki Libraries are launching into winter with *Takuroa Toa*, *Winter Legends*, a reading programme that gives children the chance to collect Taniwha trading cards every time they use their local LibraryPlus.

Complete various quests (borrow books from your local LibraryPlus, attend one of the programmes, talk to a librarian about books you've been reading, log your reading or draw your taniwha) to earn a card or two. There are 15 Taniwha Trading cards in total to collect - 12 common and three super rare ones.

"Each card will be enclosed in its own mystery envelope to add to the surprise! The aim of the programme is to collect a full set of cards which will be available at any of the seven libraries in South Taranaki," says South Taranaki District Council Outreach Librarian Katherine Bosworth.

Takuroa Toa, *Winter Legends* will begin Tuesday 4 June and run throughout winter, ending on Saturday 31 August. The programme is completely free and aimed at children 5 - 12

years. There is no need to register, which means tamariki can join in at any stage throughout the three months it is running. "We would love to see whanau (families) getting involved in collecting trading cards and visiting their local LibraryPlus over the colder months," says Katherine. "The programme will run for the entire winter to give everyone a chance to collect all 15 cards and participate in the various activities our libraries have on offer."

Come into the Library to pick up a Welcome Guide from Tuesday 4 June, or you can head online to download it at www.southtaranaki.com/takuroatoa. *Takuroa Toa*, *Winter Legends* has been adapted from the Far North District Libraries Summer Legends Programme, *Raumati Toa*.

"We were fortunate Far North Libraries shared with us their hugely successful programme and have allowed us to adapt it to suit our South Taranaki community. This is the first time South Taranaki District Libraries have run a winter reading programme for children and it really is something quite special."

Scan the QR code
to find out more...



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www.southtaranaki.com/antenno



Rates Due

Ratepayers are reminded that the last day for payment of the fourth instalment of rates for 2023/24 without incurring a penalty will be Wednesday 29 May 2024.