

Tuia Taitonga Southlink

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He karere tā te Kaunihera o Taranaki ki te Tonga News from the South Taranaki District Council



Waka Tiwai returned to Pātea Museum

A powhiri led by Ngaa Rauru Kiihahi and Ngāti Ruanui was held on Thursday 13 June at Aotea Utanganui - Museum of South Taranaki to welcome the return of a waka tiwai which travelled from Aratoi - Wairarapa's Museum of Art and History.

The waka tiwai was used on the Waitōtara awa (river) before it was bought from one of the marae by EC Bradley of Waverley, around 1920. In 1969, the waka was taken to the Wairarapa, then somehow ended up at Cobblestones Museum, where it was exposed to the elements. It was loaned to Aratoi to help stabilise its condition. Last year the staff at Cobblestones and Aratoi contacted Aotea

Utanganui to see if South Taranaki would like the waka tiwai back. The staff at Aotea Utanganui then began the consultation process with Ngaa Rauru Kiihahi around repatriation.

Aotea Utanganui Tongarewa (Team Leader) Luana Paamu says, "The repatriation of this waka tiwai is a beautiful way to connect with our Iwi and the history of South Taranaki. We're proud to be the home for this taonga and will ensure it's displayed for all Ngāa Rauru Kiihahi and the people of South Taranaki, to enjoy for many years to come."

The waka is mounted in the *Waterways: Ngā Awa o Taranaki ki te Tonga* exhibition.

Upcoming Meetings

Ordinary Council
Monday 24 June, 4pm

Extraordinary Council
To adopt the Long Term Plan and consider Financial Contributions
Monday 8 July, 2.45pm

Risk and Assurance Committee
Wednesday 3 July, 10.30am

Te Hāwera Community Board
Monday 8 July, 11am
Ōhawe Town Hall, Karora Street, Ōhawe

Pātea Community Board
Monday 8 July, 4pm
Hunter Shaw Building, Egmont Street, Pātea

Eltham-Kaponga Community Board
Wednesday 10 July, 10.30am
START Taranaki, 9 Alamein Street, Kaponga

Taranaki Coastal Community Board
Wednesday 10 July, 2.30pm
Rāhotu Hall, 5781 South Road, Rāhotu

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

Doors Open in South Taranaki Business Park

One of Council's key economic growth initiatives that started three years ago, was the development of infrastructure for a business park on Waihi Road, on the western side of State Highway 3 in Hāwera. In this issue of *Southlink* we review one of the businesses that has set up in the western precinct of the Park.



UNO Windows is a large-scale aluminium window and door manufacturer, supplying end-to-end solutions for residential and commercial projects. While they are located in Hāwera, they have a reach across the entire North Island. A

family business started in 2006 by Peter Thomas, son Jonathan is co-managing director with his brother Reagan. Born and raised in Hāwera, Jonathan is proud to call the town home, citing its ease of access to everywhere.

"It is a great town with a lot to offer. You are 50 minutes to New Plymouth and then you can jump on a plane, 10 minutes to the coast and the mountain is just half an hour away." Originally located in Normanby, UNO operated out of an 800m² factory and were filling up the yard rapidly with their materials. "We needed to grow and get some decent sized facilities to bring it all back inside and function efficiently. It was also about future-proofing for our factory – we needed the ability to put more machinery in so we can expand our services into new markets and regions," says Jonathan.

The South Taranaki Business Park was a great solution for UNO and they were the first business to

move into the South Taranaki Business Park's West End Precinct in 2022. A big plus for UNO was the fact the developer CJ Mahony was willing to work with the team to customise the site to suit requirements.

"We're looking forward to seeing the results of the Council's proactive approach over coming years both in the residential and commercial sector, attracting people and businesses to town."

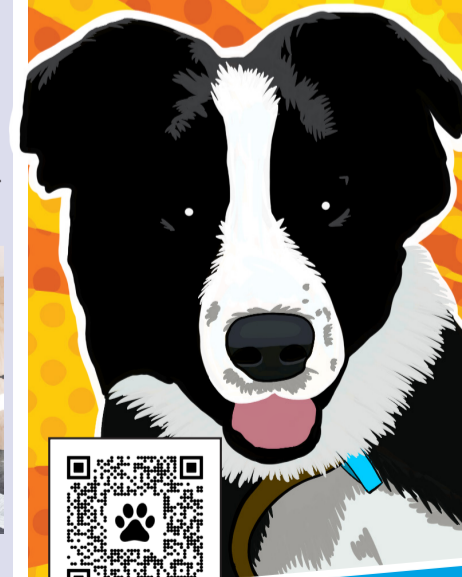
"It gives us the opportunity to grow, but not only that, we've got a professional image to showcase to the rest of the country – this opens up opportunities.

"Hāwera provides a perfect central location for us and this is key. We see the South Taranaki Business Park as a first-class area for growing local, and new businesses to locate their premises – rather than having to be located in pockets within residential areas across the District.

It's great to see the developer and Council working together to deliver a quality Park – the development of the roads and a purpose-built area for the region is fantastic. We're hoping it will attract more people, business, and opportunity to the region with a strong flow-on effect – more buildings coming to life means more opportunities for the local community and UNO," says Jonathan.



**DOG REGOS
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