

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

Tātari atu Taranaki ki te Tonga **Sort it out, South Taranaki**



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More patrols with enhanced Animal Management Service

More patrols and better response times are just two areas the South Taranaki District Council (STDC) is looking to improve with its enhanced animal management service.

At the same time, with the addition of two extra staff, the Council is able to bring its after-hours animal management service in house.

STDC group manager of environmental services, Liam Dagg says the changes are designed to better respond to the needs of the district's dispersed communities and increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the animal management service.

"From today (1 October) we'll no longer use contractors after hours, over weekends or public holidays, but will deliver the animal management service in-house 24/7, seven days a week." "Because South Taranaki is so large geographically it can be a real challenge responding in a timely manner, especially if we get call outs at opposite ends of the district at the same time. However, the extra resource will enable us to do more things like patrolling problem areas, educating owners, responding to calls and taking enforcement action when needed," he says. Mr Dagg says the changes introduced were in response to resident surveys and other feedback where residents wanted to see more resources put into an improved animal management service.

Upcoming Meetings

Te Kāhui Matauraura Wednesday 9 October, 10am

District Plan Committee (CHANGE OF MEETING TIME) Wednesday 9 October, 2pm

Environment and Hearings Committee Wednesday 9 October, 4pm

Extraordinary Council To hear submissions on the Cemeteries Bylaw Monday 14 October, 11am

Policy and Strategy Committee Monday 14 October, 1pm

Extraordinary Council To make a decision on the preferred option for Water Services Delivery Monday 14 October, 3pm

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

Lysaght-Watt Trust Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards 2024

The wait is over! Finalists for the Lysaght-Watt Trust Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards have been announced.

Over 180 entries have kept this year's judges busy since the competition closed in August.

There are five categories in the Awards: Poetry

(Open and Secondary School), Short Story (Open and Secondary School) and the True Story – Research Article (Secondary School only).

Short Story judge David Hill commented on the number of entries received this year in the Short Story competition. This year the Open category for short story almost doubled in entries.

"The number of short story entries this year shows that many local people appreciate and make use of the opportunity this competition affords," he says. Research article judge Matt Rilkoff commented on this year's entries being relatable and unique compared to previous years. "The entries in this year's True Story section were instantly relatable and yet absolutely intimate and unique."

Short Story judge Tracey Slaughter commented on the entries this year and the Taranaki connection with the theme.

"It was perhaps not surprising that a competition based in Taranaki was dominated by the maunga's presence in the landscape, and it appeared numerous times," she says.

Everyone is invited to attend the Awards Ceremony at the TSB Hub, Hāwera on Wednesday 23 October, where the judges will comment on their respective categories and highlight the works that won them over. The doors will open at 6.45pm and the awards will begin at 7pm. **RSVP before Thursday 17 October with numbers attending to** *entries@stdc.govt.nz*



The kids should have plenty to do these school holidays - especially if you've got the latest edition of the South Taranaki Happening Holidays programme. Find out more by heading online to www.southtaranaki.com/happeningholidays

LYSAGHT-WATT TRUST RONALDHUGH Finalis & RIESON LITERARY AWARDS

Finalists (all categories)

Ami Kindler Bethany Gyde Brenda Nejme Fawkner Celia Gribble Evita Morellon Evyn Sorensen Garth Jones Gerald Torres Jahnee Walker-Withers Kaia Silver Karen Nicholas Lauren Kalin Michaela Stoneman Molly Sears Monique Hayes Oliver Marsh Pip Harrison Thomas Hooks Willow Noir