Tuia Taitonga

HALLANG





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



Te Matatini, Aotearoa's premier Māori culture event, is coming to Taranaki on 25 February - 1 March.

55 teams from across Aotearoa and Australia will participate in a celebration of Māori culture and Māori performing arts

Held every two years, it is one of the most highly anticipated events for performers, their whanau and the mass of passionate Kapa Haka fans throughout the world. Over 40,000 visitors are

expected to the region. The festival is a whanau friendly, smoke and alcohol-free event where all people are welcome to come and experience the timeless tradition of Kapa Haka. Find out more, and buy tickets from www.tematatini.co.nz

Te Matatini ticket holders can ride the Connector buses for free to get to the event. Simply show the driver your wristband. Find out more at www.trc.govt.nz/buses-transport/te-matatini

AmeriCARna in Hāwera on Friday

the sites and sounds, a market day, live music and of course the cars parked throughout the CBD! Please be patient as it may take a little more time to navigate road closures and travel on this day.

AmeriCARna is coming to Hawera on Friday 21 February. Come into town between 1.15 - 5.15pm to enjoy

Visit Te Ramanui o Ruapūtahanga for Council Services

Just a reminder that Council services are operating out of Te Ramanui o Ruapūtahanga while the main Administration Building in Hawera is closed for earthquake strengthening. Council chief executive Fiona Aitken says the Hāwera Administration building needs to be strengthened as it is the District's Civil Defence emergency operations centre and has to meet higher structural requirements than other buildings. For all Council Services, please go to Te Ramanui o Ruapūtahanga, the District's new home for Hāwera LibraryPlus, isite Visitor Information Centre and gallery on the corner of High and Regent Streets, or ring (06) 278 0555 to set up a meeting.

Looking for leaders to join EmpowerYouth

South Taranaki's Youth Committee EmpowerYouth is looking for the next generation of leaders to represent the District's rangatahi.

The committee aims to inspire and connect rangatahi throughout South Taranaki, encouraging them to speak up, voice their opinion, and contribute to the betterment of the District, as well as organise events, participate in community projects, support Council's community events and work closely with schools. Committee representative Evita Morellon says joining EmpowerYouth is an opportunity for young people to

develop their leadership skills and start networking.

"EmpowerYouth is run by youth, for



youth. It's a great opportunity to get out there in the community, help run activities and learn new skills. It's a really fun thing," she says.

One of the committee's most successful

campaigns is Let's Get Active, a programme designed to give South Taranaki Youth the chance to learn and participate in sporting activities. "For our next Let's Get Active campaign

we are introducing sports like dance and squash. We have support from local clubs and work with Sport Taranaki to make these happen. It's all about giving young people the opportunity to give new things a try," says Evita.

EmpowerYouth is currently looking for new members who are aged between 12-24 years and live in South Taranaki. For more information on how to apply, email EmpowerYouthST@outlook.com before 1 March.

Upcoming Meetings

Public are welcome to attend

Eltham Drainage Committee Monday 24 February, 10am Taumata Recreation Centre, Preston Street, Eltham

Extraordinary Council Purpose to confirm consultation options for Local Water Done Well Wednesday 26 February, 1pm

District Plan Committee Wednesday 26 February, 3pm

Ordinary Council Monday 3 March, 4pm

District Plan Committee - Plan Change 3 Hearing (Papakāinga) Tuesday 11, Wednesday 12 and Thursday 13 March, 9am

Unless specified, meetings are held at Camberwell Lounge, TSB Hub, Camberwell Road, Hāwera

Rates Instalment Due

Ratepayers are reminded that the last day for payment of the third instalment of rates for 2024/25 without incurring a penalty will be Wednesday 26 February 2025.



District-wide partial water restrictions now in place on Odds and Evens system.



No sprinklers or irrigation systems allowed.

Watering of lawns is now banned



Hand held hoses allowed after 6pm, for up to 30 minutes

The Odds and Evens System Houses with an odd number can use hand held hoses on