

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A MEETING OF THE  
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD IN  
THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE, ON  
TUESDAY 15 JUNE 2010, AT 4 PM.**

**Stephen Parry  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**9 June 2010**

## ***A G E N D A***

1. Report of the District Arts and Heritage Curator  
(Pages 1-2)
2. Report of the Library Manager  
(Pages 3-4)
3. Report of the Gore I-Site Visitor Centre Manager  
(Pages 5-7)
4. Report of the Parks and Recreation Manager  
(Pages 8-14)
5. Report of the Aquatic Centre Manager  
(Pages 15-19)
6. Report of the Community Development Officer  
(Pages 20-32)

## COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENDA

15 JUNE 2010

### 1. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT ARTS AND HERITAGE CURATOR

#### Eastern Southland Gallery

During the winter months we notice a decline in tourist numbers, but we have steady numbers of local and regional visitors. Our winter exhibition calendar will focus on textiles – in order to complement the forthcoming Hokonui Fashion Design Awards and Riversdale Arts Festival programmes. Planning is well underway for 2011 and with the help of Te Papa and the John Money Endowment Fund we have been able to negotiate some very special touring exhibitions for next year's summer season.

The final exhibition on the Gallery's official 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary programme was Mirek Smisek – "60 Years – 60 Pots" - a survey exhibition of one of New Zealand's pioneer studio potters. It not only featured 1950s works from the Czech born artist's first studio, but also more recent vessels produced for Peter Jackson's "Lord of the Rings" film trilogy.

#### Exhibitions and Activities

*"Mirek Smisek – 60 Pots – 60 Years"* (from 12 April to 6 June)  
*"Recent Acquisition"* (from 12 April to 6 June)

#### Hokonui Heritage Centre

The Museum hosted a very successful event with Te Papa National Services this month, which involved a two day specialist conservation workshop for Museum staff and volunteers from throughout Otago and Southland. This brought four specialists from Wellington – funded by Te Papa - to provide training in the care of vulnerable cultural property. Special thanks to Stephanie Herring for co-ordinating this.

#### General

Staff members continue to work with groups on a variety of project funding proposals and submissions. Liaison continues with a variety of local community development and event initiatives.

#### Talks and Tours

Gore Probus Club  
Inner Wheel Southern Convention  
Scenic Circle National Famil.  
West Gore School (x 5)  
Northern Southland Arts Group

#### Meetings and Representations

Southland Regional Heritage Advisors Group

Mataura Development Board  
2010 NZ Country Music Awards  
Supervision of Southland Roving Museum Officer

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the report be received.**

## 2. REPORT OF THE LIBRARY MANAGER

### New Zealand Post Book Awards

One of the biggest events ever organized by Gore District Libraries was held at the James Cumming Wing on 13 May. Gore libraries hosted a visit by Craig Smith in association with the New Zealand Post Children's Book Awards, as part of the nominated finalists touring author visits. Craig, author of *The Wonky Donkey*, was a finalist in the Picture Book category.

Approximately 660 school children, plus teachers and parents, from 13 schools, travelled to hear Craig sing and talk. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves, singing along with Craig, especially to the *Wonky Donkey* song. Each school was able ask him a question and there was book signing session at the end.

Craig's book "*The Wonky Donkey*" went on to win the Children's Choice Award, which is voted for solely by the children of New Zealand.

### St Mary's School

Jenny and Jane visited the staff at St Mary's School to give a presentation to staff about the benefits to the school, pupils and teachers of regular class visits to the library. This was favorably received and would run in a similar vein to the arrangement with East Gore School.

### Winter Warmers

Preparation is underway for this year's Winter Warmers Reading Programme. The theme is mountain hopping, with participants reading their way around the North and South Island. Information packs have been sent to all schools in the District and the programme begins on 21 June.

### Sunday opening

Sunday opening got off to a quiet start at the beginning of May. On average 65 people visited on each Sunday in May, a slight increase on 2009.

### Toddler Time

Toddler Time at Gore has had an average of 13 children attending each session so far this term. Numbers at Mataura are averaging 3 children.

### Talks/Visits/Displays

Willowbank School  
Mataura School  
East Gore School  
West Gore School (5 classes)

Magazine Marketing Company  
Scholastic Books  
Bateman Books

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the report be received.**

### 3. REPORT OF THE GORE I-SITE VISITOR CENTRE MANAGER

#### Gore i-SITE Visitor Centre

With the colder months now looming upon us visitors to the Centre have decreased, which is expected for this time of the year.

The Centre is receiving enquiries on a daily basis from overseas and domestic travellers through the [www.gorenz.com](http://www.gorenz.com) website. Enquiries include accommodation, bus and train services, and information about Gore. It is great to see an increase in enquiries which indicates overseas and domestic tourists are visiting the GoreNZ website.

#### Fiordland Cruises

Real Journeys statistics for April show a sales increase of 12.8% to-date, compared to last year's figures. The Centre had many bookings/enquiries regarding Fiordland Cruises over April and May.

#### Training

Two staff members have currently completed several Unit Standards towards gaining their qualification in National Certificate in Tourism Level 3. All staff have also completed a day's training in Advanced Customer Service.

#### Gold Guitars

The Centre is looking forward to welcoming visitors to Gore over Gold Guitar week. Many enquiries have been received regarding accommodation and the schedule of Gold Guitar events.

#### Young Farmers

The Centre is currently fielding enquiries regarding the Young Farmers Contest. Over the past two weeks we have been busy creating Gore information packs for this event.

#### Tourism New Zealand

The early Easter break and volcanic ash cloud over Europe resulted in a dip in international visitor arrivals in April, with total arrivals down 4%, compared with April 2009.

Although much of the decrease can be attributed to the earlier Easter break and Australian school holidays, which saw a larger number of visitors arrive in New Zealand, last year's economic downturn is still impacting travel from long-haul markets.

Tourism New Zealand, Chief Executive, Kevin Bowler says reversing the downward trend in key long-haul markets including the US and China will be a priority this year.

Australia also remains a focus for Tourism New Zealand. Although visitor arrivals were up only 0.4% in April, arrivals from our biggest market were up 10% for the months of March and April combined, compared with 2009.

Total visitor arrivals were up 2% in March and April combined, compared with the same months last year. *(Source Tourism New Zealand)*

Customer Survey Form Results

Survey forms are based on approximately 30% of visitors to the Centre.

***How did you find our location?***

Signage (15) another i-SITE (2) brochure (3) travel guides (12)

***Country***

New Zealand (35)/ Australia (11)/ other (12)

***What most impressed Tourists when visiting Gore***

Museum/i-SITE (11) flowers and gardens (8) clean and tidy (5)

***Impression of the appearance of the Visitor Centre***

Excellent/great/very good/good (22)

Well organised/clean/neat and tidy (17)

Surprised at how great it was, very professional, but personal.

***How helpful was the Visitor Centre's staff?***

Excellent/great/very good/good/ (45)

Very friendly and patient, unlike Auckland.

**International Visitor Arrivals April 2010**

	<b><u>April 2010</u></b>	% Change	<b><u>April 2009</u></b>	% Change	<b><u>April 2008</u></b>
Australia	90,888	0.4	90,508	22.8	73,704
UK	14,184	-20.9	17,930	1.0	17,760
US	12,288	-14.6	14,388	1.4	14,184
China	10,272	-3.7	10,670	-6.0	11,352
Japan	5,328	-12.3	6,072	-15.7	7,200
Germany	2,808	-23.1	3652	31.2	2,784
Korea	5,136	34.9	3,806	-45.5	6,984
Canada	12,288	-14.6	14,388	1.4	14,184

**Visitor Numbers**

<b>Visitor Numbers and Inquiries Gore i-SITE Visitor Centre</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
July	1167	1307
August	1340	1163
September	1534	1490
October	1614	1585
November	1033	635
December	1472	1426
January	1929	2695
February	2189	4531
March	1857	2703
April	1733	1540
May	1296	1129
June	1076	
<b>Total</b>	<b>18240</b>	<b>20474</b>

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the report be received.**

#### 4. REPORT OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER

##### Parks and Reserves

As we move into winter and experience the start of the southerly polar blasts the autumn leaf-fall, which has been slow to occur, has started to pick up momentum. Frosty mornings have also aided leaf-fall with the additional weight of ice and cold temperatures triggering trees into dropping their leaves. Lawn growth has ceased and there is a noticeable reduction in the growth of weeds the parks and reserves areas. The new season's annuals have grown well throughout autumn and are now ready to cope with a few cold months while continuing to slowly grow and eventually flower.

Spraying and mowing staff, along with the gardening teams, are currently undertaking daily leaf clean-up duties. Our specialised leaf collection equipment is being fully utilised, as we collect as much leaf as possible to add to our compost heaps.

Turf renovation has been undertaken during autumn on our numerous lawns, using spiking and verti-draining.

Most of the Bannerman Park driveway has been resealed and is ready to provide users with a good firm footing when walking through the park. A short section will need to be reconstructed however, as it has been weakened by water getting into the pavement.



*“A truckload of donated bulbs thanks to the generosity of the public”*

### Funding

Over the past month the Council has been the recipient of several funding grants, as follows:

- Southland Rhododendron Association - \$2,000 for Dolamore Park rhododendron signage.
- Southland Rhododendron Association - \$500 for Bannerman Park, rhododendron plants.
- Gore Pakeke Lions - \$500 for Richmond Street cycle park for provision of two picnic tables.
- Gore Garden Club - \$500 for daffodil bulbs for the public picking area at Bannerman Park.
- The public at large generously donated approximately 3,000 bulbs to the Bannerman Park bulb picking area. This was organised by the Gore Garden Club as a continuation of its project started last year.

The Parks and Reserves division thanks these clubs and organisations for their contributions towards beautification within the Gore District. It should also be noted that the bulbs were all planted by periodic detention workers under the supervision of the Council's Parks Officer, Vic Herring.

### Property

Work is continuing on various building maintenance tasks listed in the building maintenance schedule. Contractors have undertaken the majority of works scheduled. There will be another work schedule going to contractors in late winter for tasks that require fine weather to complete. The funding for these items will be carried over to the 2010/11 financial year.

The tiling work inside the new doors leading into the James Cumming Wing has been completed. While there were some delays, an excellent outcome was achieved.

- ↳ The War Memorial in Mandeville underwent a facelift recently with painted surfaces cleaned and repainted. Granite surfaces were also cleaned. A photo of the completed work is attached.

### Mataura Pool Working Party

The Council is working through issues and instructions from the working party. Consultation with the Mataura community is underway and information is being collated and prepared for the next working party meeting.

### Non-Financial Performance Targets

- ↳ Attached is an updated report on progress towards achievement of the parks and recreation non-financial performance targets based

upon the levels of service in the Council's LTCCP. At this point we are on track with the results.

#### Other Community Interaction

Interaction with groups, clubs and organisations over the past month:

- Mataura Pool Working Party - officers meeting
- Mataura Community Board walking track project - liaison works continue.
- Gore District signage issues - work in progress
- Southland Rhododendron Association - meeting
- Gore Garden Club - meeting
- Eastern Southland Equestrian Park Trust
- Department of Conservation - consultation
- Young Farmer of the Year - organising committee meetings
- Sport Southland - meetings attended
- A& P Joint Management Committee - meeting
- Planning consent - site meeting
- Environment Southland - consultation
- Numerous site visits relating to operational issues
- Police Liaison Group

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the report be received.**

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>LEVEL OF SERVICE</b>	<b>SPECIFIC TARGET</b>	<b>YEAR TO DATE</b>
<b>Aquatic Services</b>	To provide safe, accessible swimming pools with good opportunities for learning.	To increase annually by 1,000 swims toward a target of 100,000.	85,628
	That pools are available for use.	Gore pool – 360 days Mataura pool – 205 days	On target Target will not be met due to boiler issues.
	The community is proud of its facilities.	80% satisfaction as measured in resident's survey.	Gore 97% Mataura 89%
	Ensure that facilities are safe for public use.	Maintain Poolsafe accreditation.	Poolsafe Accreditation is current
	Ensure that facilities are safe for public use.	Maximum of three health and safety incidents per year.- Serious Harm	0
	Ensure that facilities are safe for public use.	Maximum of (TBA) health and safety incidents per year. – Potential Harm	14
	Ensure that facilities are safe for public use.	Maximum of (TBA) health and safety incidents per year. – Minor / Slight	88
	Increased participation in swimming lessons.	>1900 swim lessons per year.	1850
<b>Parks and Reserves</b>	To provide playgrounds and reserves that are accessible to the community.	>75% of urban homes located within 500 metres of a playground or reserve.	Gore 87.8% Mataura 98%
	Premier parks are accessible and meet the needs of users.	>90% of residents are satisfied as measured by resident's survey.	Survey yet to be completed.
	Playgrounds are accessible and meet the needs of users.	>90% of residents are satisfied as measured by resident's survey	Survey yet to be completed.

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>LEVEL OF SERVICE</b>	<b>SPECIFIC TARGET</b>	<b>YEAR TO DATE</b>
	Provision of sports fields and reserve land for other recreational facilities that meet the needs of the major field based sports.	<5 complaints per field per season on quality and availability.	No complaints
	Play areas are safe.	>75% of playgrounds that meet the NZ playground standard.	Annual report from Vic Herring.
<b>Cemeteries</b>	Cemeteries are provided that meet the needs of users.	<3 complaints per year regarding the standard of cemeteries. 95% of residents and ratepayers are satisfied with cemeteries. 0 annual reported public safety incidents at the cemetery.	No complaints  99%  None reported
<b>Property</b>	All buildings maintained in a healthy and safe condition over the life of the asset.	100% of buildings requiring a warrant of fitness are compliant.	All comply
		<3 complaints received annually relating to Council owned buildings.	7 complaints (All of a minor nature)

## 5. REPORT OF THE AQUATIC CENTRE MANAGER

Holiday programmes have finished but were not as busy as expected. However, the children that did participate in the programmes had a lot of fun. The pool staff organised an awesome obstacle course which was enjoyed by those participating, as well as the staff laying the course out. There were also some very interesting characters who dressed up and visited the complex on "Fairy Day". The pool side staff also enjoyed dressing up, bringing a smile to some little faces.

The reception team has been very busy, especially from after school, right through until closing. There are a higher number of people visiting the complex now with all facilities running this term, the benefits of which are showing up in merchandise sales, where we are experiencing increasing turnover.

Staff have been busy with preparations for the upcoming netball season, which kicked off on 1 May. Due to the expected high volume of patrons visiting the different sectors of the complex, we will be rostering on two receptionists throughout the day, every Saturday, over the netball season.

There has been a lot of retired people bringing visitors to the complex. They are very proud of it and enjoy showing it off. This positive feedback is good for staff morale as well.

The uptake on the extended pool hours is gradually increasing as customers realise we are open later. Feedback from customers is that "its great, it better suits our timetable, and it's quieter".

Aquarobics numbers are still increasing, with 18-20 in each class.

Masters hockey players are using the spa after their games and love it. Apparently they get a bit upset when their games are not at the new turf. This type of "spin off" will continue to grow in all sectors of the complex.

There have been a number of comments regarding lack of car parking on Saturday's. Customers are having to park as far away as West Gore School, with others parking on the grass area, assembly point, disabled parking areas and the drop off zones. During the week after school hours, car parking is also limited. Drop off zones, disabled parking and entry/exit areas have recently been re-painted.

### Mataura Pool

The Mataura Pool, although quieter at the start of April, enjoyed a boost to numbers due to the free swim trial, which was enjoyed by the local and wider community.

Again, the holiday programmes were quieter than normal, but those that participated, enjoyed their visits. There were many happy faces as spot prizes and prize winners received their bounty from competing in the programmes. The staff at the Mataura Pool organised some brilliant activities and enjoyed delivering them to the public.

There were no bookings for the month of April.

The staff have had the final big clean up and are waiting to gear up for the new season.

### Bookings

There were 17 bookings in April and 15 bookings in May at the Gore pool, with most of them being multiple bookings, 22 bookings in April and 56 bookings, including many multiple bookings for the event centre.

### MLT Event Centre

Staff have been busy preparing for the upcoming netball competitions, making sure everything is ready to go.

The New Event Centre Supervisor, Dan Winkel started on Monday 3 May. His first week was straight in to preparing the Southern Steele bye game.

The Southern Steele vs Dunedin invitational game went well, with only a handful of empty seats. With free spectators access and limited seating, this did cause a bit of a panic, with a couple of issues arising from the evening, including:

- Congestion in the reception foyer area made it difficult for pool and ice skating patrons to get through the crowd.
- Extra staff were required to usher spectators to the seating area.
- Lack of car parking
- Probably 60%-70% of spectators were elderly,

Hot and cold recovery was setup for the Southern Steel team. The players thought setup was good and not as much ice was used as anticipated. The Steele thought the wood court was good to play on.

Stadium bookings are still coming in on a daily basis, with lots of changes to bookings as well.

### Leaping Frogs Swim School

Holiday lessons went well. The biggest problem was illness again which meant we had 15 people pull out at the last minute.

Gore Main School lessons commenced. Initially they requested no instructors in the morning and two in the afternoon, however we ended up helping out in the morning. With response from the parents we now have two instructors in the morning and three instructors in the afternoon. I believe this is due to the quality we deliver and the parent's pressure that followed, after seeing the difference in class delivery.

Two new supervisors have been training to become swim instructors. By the middle of next month they will be confident enough to run their own classes.

The Leaping Frogs Swim School enrolments have increased this term compared to this time last year. There has been growth in customers requesting private lessons, so we have created more private lessons over more days and added private lessons on to the end of some instructor's lessons. We have received positive feedback on all of the swim school instructors, that there has been a greater consistency of lesson delivery.

Classes have been created ready for July holiday lessons and we have had a couple of enrolments for the July holidays already. Also, we are in the process of creating the term three lessons, including looking at running a five week term on Tuesday and Thursdays to hopefully encourage customers who are busy with farming, to continue lessons with their children, instead of pulling them out for the term.

There has been slight concern with Saturday morning swimming lessons, regarding the parking situation. Customers have to walk further in the cold weather. A couple have pulled their children out due to having to walk their children from Robertson Street. The Swim School Co-ordinator has advised the children to wear beanies and will also put an article about keeping warm after lessons in the next swim school newsletter.

A Swim School meeting was held in May to go over health and safety, training and the new assessment process. The Swim School Co-ordinator is looking into ongoing development of lesson delivery and swim school standards.

<b>Gore holiday lessons</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
Week one	53	51
<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Term two lessons</b>		
Group lessons	314	308
Private lessons	40	55
<b>Total</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>363</b>

<b>Visitor Numbers Gore</b>		
<b>Month</b>	<b>July 08 - June 09</b>	<b>July 09 - June 2010</b>
July	5927	6825
August	5111	7165
September	6606	6562
October	6850	8500
November	8145	9835
December	6528	7920
Janauary	7955	8307
February	6727	7724
March	8041	9593
April	6861	6251
May	6224	6641
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>74975</b>	<b>85323</b>
June	6200	
<b>Total</b>	<b>81175</b>	<b>85323</b>

<b>Stadium Patronage</b>			
<b>Types of bookings</b>	<b>1st March - 31st March 2010</b>	<b>1st April - 30 April 2010</b>	<b>1st May - 31st May 2010</b>
Tennis	75	78	239
Basketball			8
Soccer			272
Netball	1170	1078	6307
Cricket	5		
Dodgeball	100		
Volleyball	223	24	140
Preschool activity	110	159	188
Holiday programmes		70	
School Groups	470	586	1296
Youth Group		46	30
Fitness training	20	32	16
Shooting hoops	31		
Non paying spectator	68		
Adult paying spectator			
<b>Total</b>	<b>2272</b>	<b>2073</b>	<b>8496</b>

<b>Mataura Term One Lessons</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
Group	42	16
Privates	9	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>24</b>

#### Visitor Numbers Mataura

	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2009-2010</b>
September	121	Closed
October	491	Closed
November	445	Closed
December	1638	402
January	1110	1423
February	892	1391
March	1919	2386
April	765	703
<b>Total</b>	<b>7381</b>	<b>6305</b>

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the report be received.**

## 6. REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

### Youth Council

This has been a very busy period for the Youth Council, having hosted the Regional Youth Council on 27 April, which included the Southland District and Invercargill City youth councils. The Councils took this opportunity to participate in a Leadership Skills Workshop facilitated by Trystan Swain, advisor for the Ministry of Youth Development, followed by an afternoon of planning for the upcoming “Our Way Southland Youth Forum”.

- ✦ The Youth Forum is supported by the Gore District, Invercargill City and Southland District Councils. The organisation of the event will be assisted by the “Our Way Southland” project (a collaborative project to identify and achieve community outcomes in Southland). The Southland Youth Forum is a follow-on from a Regional Leaders' Forum which was held in Invercargill last September (for details, please see: [www.ourwaysouthland.org.nz](http://www.ourwaysouthland.org.nz)).

The idea of the Youth Forum is to elucidate Southland's youth perspectives of the key regional issues of today. We plan to bring together approximately 200 young Southlanders for the day, present them with a variety of speakers, and then workshop them with the purpose of documenting, weighting, prioritising and short-listing the issues relevant to them.

2-30 May was Youth Week. Councillors organised two events, an outdoor movie and a sports day. The movie group was supported by Youth Link Co-ordinator, Jan Goulding and the sports day group by Sport Southland Programme Co-ordinator, Matt McFadyen. Their ongoing support of the Youth Council is very much appreciated.



*Fundraiser during Youth Council Sports Day  
for Tori Batt's Girl Guide trip to England*

Both groups did an excellent job in planning and promoting their events. They exemplified good community development, sourcing other young people to design posters. However, even the best planning cannot account for the weather and unfortunately the much anticipated Movie Mania night was cancelled due to bad weather.

The sports event at the MLT Event Centre was a little slow in the morning but picked up traction over lunch with families and children coming along and relishing the opportunity to participate. Our young and fit Councillors organised and played soccer, volleyball and basketball matches that were competitive and inclusive regardless of age or ability, once again showing their ability in community development and leadership. It was great fun and we would look at offering this again from lunch time onwards rather than the morning.

#### Alcohol Strategy

The meeting of the Gore District Alcohol Strategy Advisory Steering Group was held on 20 April. As part of this ongoing work I met with ALAC's newly appointed Southern Regional Manager, Jim Hauraki. He was very supportive of the group's collaborative approach towards reducing alcohol harm in our District.

Further to this, a liaison group including members of Gore District Council management, Police and local business owners have met twice to discuss and explore options regarding the issues highlighted in the Police Report "Mobil Gore".

As you may recall Sergeant Steve Gregory was in attendance at the February meeting of the Community Services Committee to brief Councillors regarding issues of concern to policing what is now a 24 hour precinct surrounding McDonalds and Mobil. To date the Police are working with Active Alarm Services on various proposals regarding existing surveillance and possible upgrades of equipment. Council staff are addressing any immediate issues, such as signage options and street lighting. We are currently exploring collaborative approaches with services and organisations. A more comprehensive report will be provided once final proposals are available.

#### Mataura Taskforce

- Interest in the development of the community has increased markedly. The Community Trust of Southland announced it's commitment to Mataura. The Trust stressed a focus on community led grant making to address the needs more holistically, rather than concentrating on single issues. This approach was paralleled in the Inspiring Communities Forum

whose goal is to promote and share information regarding community led development.

Alongside these hints that shape the future of community development in the area, activity has been concentrated on continuing to maintain and improve existing projects and services. Many of them are becoming well established, for example: the community gardens, market days, business development and business support. Planning is also well in hand by the events committee for the inaugural Mataura Swede Fest.

One Taskforce member, the Mataura Development Trust, along with Gore District Council community development support, continues to gather information via surveys on local business health. Thank you to His Worship and all the volunteers for involving themselves in this process. We are looking forward to the research outcomes from the collated information. It will likely show us the current business health and provide indicators of areas of development potential.



*B.E.A.R Programme volunteer training at Mataura Senior Citizens Centre*

Project Mataura, co-ordinated by David Wilson of Heritage Futures, recently received the Signal Management Group report. This report assesses building conditions on Bridge Street properties and will be discussed by the Project Board when it meets on 9 June. The Board will also be discussing the proposal for a part time co-ordinator to steer the project to fruition, if the decision is to take rejuvenation of Bridge Street forward.

Work continues with the Mataura Youth Centre Trust. It recently received a very substantial private donation which will allow much needed repair work of the leaking roof to take place. Currently it is urgently seeking funding for operational costs – this is ongoing.

The Maitara and Districts Marae continues to go from strength to strength. The Kapa haka (Maori performing group) has up to 25 children attending. This is driven by the talent and passion of local resident and vice-Chairman of the Marae, Rocky Crown and his support person Mrs Christine Tamou.

Planning is well under way towards the completion of the Wharenui (main meeting house), which has been sitting dormant for many years.

Celebrations of Matariki (Maori New Year) will be held over the weekend of 25 June. Matariki also sees the Marae host an invitation only meeting of all tribes with a vested interest in the completion of the meeting house. Celebrations will include Wananga (tribal knowledge, learning) of Marae protocol, how to prepare hangi, and kapa haka demonstrations. All those interested are encouraged to attend.

Many thanks to the Southland District Health Board, Maitara Licensing Trust, and Community Trust of Southland for their ongoing support.

#### Smoking Affects Lives


I was approached by Health Promotion Advisor, Mandy Murphy to participate in the "Smoking Affects Lives" project developed by the Cancer Society, Heart Foundation and Public Health South. I agreed to participate in the promotion as "the smoker" and share a little of my experiences from over the years to quit. A variety of people including those who have smoked, given up, never smoked or had family members who died as a result of cigarette use were involved.

Posters of each of our stories were developed and are part of an exhibition that will go to schools and various locations throughout Eastern Southland. The launch was held at the Maitara Community Centre on May 10. This has been a very rewarding project to be involved with.



Colleen Te Au

I am a strong, unique individual. A person who makes her own path in life and works hard to get what I want both personally and professionally. So when I step back and analyse my cigarette use and addiction to smoking, it is pretty much mortifying that something so small can cause such hypocrisy in my life. Because when it comes to smoking, it turns out I am weak and not unique at all. I'm just another statistic at risk of some disgusting illness. I have made several attempts to quit but I will try again. Yes, my goal is to be auahi kore for both me and my whanau.



Meetings/Seminars/Forums/Working Party's attended:

- Mobil Police Liaison Group
- Matura Pool Working Party
- Community Trust Of Southland
- Department of Internal Affairs
- Venture Southland - Impact consulting community organisation assessment regarding availability and support of volunteers
- Settlement Support Steering Group
- Eastern Southland Newcomers Network - limited time for set up of internet site has also supported three different families with immigration and residency issues – referred on
- Hokonui Time Bank - met with Chairman and attended launch
- Inspiring Communities - meeting and forum
- Voluntary Community Co-ordinator Office of Seniors for Ministry of Social Development – meeting regarding International Day of the Older Person
- Sport Southland – International Day of the Older Person
- Matura Taskforce
- Matura and District Marae
- Youth Council, Regional Youth Council and Our Way Southland Youth Forum planning meetings
- Business Expansion and Retention Training - interviews with businesses

- Alcohol Strategy Steering Group
- Training – Chamber of Commerce
- Maitauna Youth Trust Meetings
- Community Development meetings at Hokonui Runanga
- REAP – Community Development
- Invercargill City Council Community Development
- Immigration Seminar – Venture Southland
- Community Connections Centre - regarding funding, youth initiatives networking with agencies

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the report be received.**