

Waitomo Way

COUNCIL NEWS - Thursday 22 December 2022



Season's Greetings from the Mayor

On behalf of Council I want to wish you all the best as another year comes to a close.

This year began with considerable concern over a new Covid variance. It ends with an equal amount of concern over inflation.

From a Council perspective, the 2022 year confronted us with additional challenges from damage caused to our roads by cyclone and storm damage. Most of our roads are now open, but millions of dollars of damage remain to be repaired.

The drier summer months will give us an ability to attend to some of the repairs needed on roads that have slipped away or slumped. Please take care on these roads, and look after those who work on them.

Ten months ago our Council appointed a new Chief Executive, Ben Smit. He replaced Chris Ryan who led Council for fifteen years. We welcome Ben and thank Chris.

Changes also occurred at the governance level. Four out of six Councillors elected in October are new. They are settling in well. I thank the Councillors who did not return for their service.

There is a lot of stress in our community at the moment. Partly due to Covid, partly due to work pressures, and partly due to the high cost of living.

Please take time over this festive season to have a break and to catch up with whanau. Where you can help others, do a good deed, please do so.

Merry Christmas, and all the very best for the New Year.



John Robertson
Mayor



Brook Park Committee seeks more support

Whether it is holding working bees, organising volunteer days or other events, or fundraising to provide fun activities such as disc golf and the annual fireworks display, the Brook Park Committee is always busy.

The small voluntary group are looking for more support, with several options available, including:

- joining the newsletter mailing list to keep up to date with news and happenings
- attend a working bee or volunteer day and give a hand with work on a particular project
- Become a life member (\$100 contribution)

If you wish to be part of an active and dedicated community voluntary group, feel free to contact Brook Park Committee Chair Guy Whitaker on guy@tekuiti100.co.nz

It's set to be a long hot summer and water alert levels may be introduced across the Waitomo District if necessary. There are lots of different ways we can be smarter with our water use.

For lots of handy tips and to find out more, visit smartwater.org.nz.



→ OUR HOLIDAY OPENING HOURS

WDC Customer Services -

Closes at 12pm Friday, 23 December and reopens at 9am Monday, 9 January 2023. Our call centre will operate 24/7. For After Hours services please call 0800 932 4357.

Waitomo District Library -

Closes at 12pm Friday, 23 December and reopens at 9am Wednesday, 4 January 2023.

Te Kūiti i-SITE Visitor Information Centre -

Closes at 12pm Friday, 23 December and reopens at 9am Wednesday, 4 January 2023.

Kerbside Collection -

Will operate with regular hours.

Waitomo District Landfill -

Open Friday, 23 and Saturday, 24 December 9am - 4pm. Closed Christmas Day. Open Wednesday, 28 December, Friday, 30 December and Saturday, 31 December 9am - 4pm. Closed New Year's Day. Regular hours resume.

Awakino Transfer Station -

Closed Christmas Day. Open Wednesday, 28 December 9am - 1pm. Closed New Year's Day. Open Wednesday, 4 January 9am - 1pm.

Maniaiti/Benneydale Transfer Station -

Closed Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Open Wednesday, 28 December 1pm - 5pm and Thursday, 29 December 9am - 1pm. Closed New Year's Day and Monday, 2 January 2023. Open Wednesday, 4 January 1pm - 5pm and Thursday, 5 January 2023 9am - 1pm.

Kinohaku Transfer Station -

Closed Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Open Wednesday, 28 December 9am - 1pm and Thursday, 29 December 1pm - 5pm. Closed New Year's Day and Monday, 2 January 2023. Open Wednesday, 4 January 1pm - 5pm and Thursday, 5 January 2023 9am - 1pm.

Piopia Transfer Station -

Open Saturday, 24 December 9am - 1pm. Closed Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Open Wednesday, 28 December 9am - 1pm. Open Saturday, 31 December 9am - 1pm. Closed New Year's Day and Monday, 2 January 2023. Open Wednesday, 4 January 9am - 1pm.

Marokopa Transfer Station -

Closed Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Open Wednesday, 28 December 1pm - 5pm and Thursday, 29 December 9am - 1pm. Closed New Year's Day and Monday, 2 January 2023. Open Wednesday, 4 January 1pm - 5pm and Thursday, 5 January 2023 9am - 1pm.

Waitomo District Council wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday!

Season of maintenance and pavement rehabilitation delivers for residents

Waitomo District Council's roading department is gearing up for a full season of works with road maintenance and pavement rehabilitation scheduled for the coming months.

WDC's maintenance programme will see around 4.2km roads receiving an upgrade between now and the end of May, including Waimiha Road, Te Anga Road and Taharoa Road.

Works include full pavement reconstruction with a new seal coat, pavement widening and other minor safety and drainage improvements.

General Manager Infrastructure Services, Shyamal Ram says pavement rehabilitation can last up to 25 years, depending on traffic volumes, with road selection based on the seal's condition and age.

"We've got more than 1000km of both urban and rural roads that we manage, and many have been badly impacted by severe weather events this year. This can prove challenging when we need to switch much of our focus to recovery," he says.

"Our annual work programme is about ensuring roads stay in good condition, with prevention being the key."

The contract for Waitomo District Councils pavement rehabilitation programme has been awarded to Inframax Construction Limited.

While the sites are under construction there will be traffic management in place which will cause some minor delays.

Work will start after Christmas and is set to be completed by May 2023.



More than 32km of resurfacing will also take place over several streets and roads throughout the district. The average life of a seal coat in our district, is approximately 7 years.

WDC's maintenance programme is 75% funded by Waka Kotahi – NZTA.

This year's pavement rehabilitation sites are:

- Waimiha Road - from State Highway 30 – 150m past the railway tracks
- Te Anga Road - from Speedies Road to Marakopa Road
- Taharoa Road - from the bottom of the hill at Te Waitere through to the Quarry

WAITOMO DISTRICT LIBRARY PRESENTS

SUMMER SAFARI

LITERACY CHALLENGE

19 December 2022 – 27 January 2023

COMPLETE 5 TASKS OF YOUR CHOICE FOR AGES 5-13 YRS

PICK UP YOUR BINGO BOARD FROM THE LIBRARY

GREAT PRIZES TO BE WON!

Library

SUMMER HOLIDAY FUN

Take part in our Summer Safari Literacy Challenge!

#FOILART 11 JAN
2pm - 3.30pm - 5 - 15yrs

16 JAN Make your Mark in Library History
e.g. How many smarties can you stack on top of each other? Come along and find out!
2.30pm - 4.30pm - 5 - 12yrs

Deano Yipadee 19 JAN
3.30pm - 4.30pm - 1 - 10 yrs

25 JAN Be a Creative Cookie
11am - 12.30pm - 5 - 15 yrs

20% OFF RETAIL STOCK!

NOW ON SALE SALE SALE SALE

TE KŪITI SITE

➔ Are you eligible for a Rates Rebate?

Council provides a Rate Rebate scheme, which offers help to low-income ratepayers with their rates account.

You could be eligible for a maximum of \$700. So, it's worth inquiring!

The entitlement amount is determined by a combination of your income, amount of rates you're charged and the number of dependents you have.

Applications for the 2022/23 rating year close 30 June 2023.

For more information or to apply visit our website

Waitomo
District Council

