

Mayors choose deputies

WAITOMO and Otorohanga district councils have officially sworn in two new deputy mayors.

Second term urban ward councillor Guy Whitaker was appointed Waitomo's deputy mayor last Thursday, with fourth-term Kawhia ward councillor Deborah Pilkington sworn in as Otorohanga deputy mayor on Tuesday.

They take over from Pat Hickey and Sue Blackler respectively who both stood down.

Deputy mayors carry out the same roles as other elected members, but if the mayor is absent they assume all of the mayor's responsibilities and duties and may exercise the powers of the mayor.

Waitomo mayor Brian Hanna (a former rural ward councillor) says Mr Whitaker will provide an even rural/urban split between the two roles.

"Guy is a well respected member of the Waitomo community which

was highlighted during the election process as he was the highest polling candidate.

"He is a great businessman with a really good understanding of urban issues and I know we will work well together."

"I am very happy to have him on board as deputy mayor."

Mr Whitaker says it is an honour and a privilege to be appointed.

"I certainly hope I can do the job justice and I will put everything I have into achieving that."

"It is a great responsibility being deputy mayor but I like a challenge and I really look forward to supporting Brian throughout the next three years."

PERFECT FOR ROLE

Otorohanga mayor Max Baxter says Mrs Pilkington's knowledge and experience on council made her perfect for the role.

TO P2



TEAMWORK: Otorohanga mayor Max Baxter appointed Kawhia ward councillor Deborah Pilkington as deputy mayor at Tuesday's council meeting. PHOTO ANNE BURDON



RIGHT-HAND MAN: Waitomo mayor Brian Hanna has chosen second-term urban ward councillor Guy Whitaker (right) as his deputy mayor.

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EDITORIAL

We welcome your stories and story tips. If supplying photographs we require high resolution (a minimum of 1MB) jpgs. Please note that due to occasional space constraints, sports results/draws may not be published.

Please contact the editorial team
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LETTER & THUMBS RULES

No Letters to the Editor or Thumbs Up/Down will be published unless the name of writer, full address and daytime contact phone number are included for verification. Letters and Thumbs Up/Down are published at the editor's discretion and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Waitomo News. In general, Thumbs Up are to acknowledge random acts of kindness while Thumbs Down generally reflect the opposite – they should be 50 words or less. Should you have a complaint regarding a business, please address that with the owner/s rather than via these columns. The editor reserves the right to abridge letters and preference is given to letters not longer than 300 words and those without a pseudonym. Letters and Thumbs Up/Down can be sent to The Editor, Waitomo News, PO Box 279, Te Kuiti, fax (07) 878 1187, or email editor@waitomonews.co.nz

Mayors choose deputies

FROM P1

“I gave the appointment of deputy mayor a lot of thought but I couldn't ignore the wealth of experience Deb has got.

“With her focus and dedication to detail and support of everyone on council – she just couldn't be overlooked for the role.

“She has the maturity, understanding and in-depth knowledge of what's involved

in the running of council but most importantly she is a wonderful person.”

Mrs Pilkington says she is looking forward to representing Otorohanga district ratepayers at a “higher level”.

“Hopefully I can help continue with the good progress council has made in recent years with a ‘business as usual’ approach to the role.

“The deputy mayor's position also gives me the opportunity to represent and advocate for ratepayers on a district-wide basis with a district-wide focus.

“It is definitely a big challenge, but one I'm enormously looking forward to.”

Otorohanga District Council's next meeting is on November 19 while Waitomo's councillors meet again on November 26.

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IN BRIEF

Reader giveaway winners

CONGRATULATIONS to Alistair Brandon of Te Kuiti and Tamae Dimond of Waitomo who are the lucky winners of one Family Fun Ride pass each (one adult and two children) to the Maunga Cycle Challenge at Albert Park in Te Awamutu on November 10. Thank you to all the Waitomo News readers who entered. Enjoy the ride!

Digital countdown

NORTH King Country viewers have one month from tomorrow to sort their analogue television viewers. From December 1, the North King Country along with the rest of the Waikato region will switch to digital television. From that date, viewers will need

Freeview, SKY, IGLOO or Vodafone services to continue watching TV after your area goes digital. If you have more than one TV, you'll need to make sure each one can receive a digital signal.

WRA funding

THE Waikato River Authority will fund another 38 river clean-up projects in its latest funding round worth \$5,950,993 allocated from a possible grants pool of \$7 million. The largest of the projects is an eight kilometre riverbank clearance of exotic and pest plants between Huntly and Rangiriri Bridge on the lower Waikato River that will cost \$1 million over a two-year period.

THUMBS UP/DOWN



THUMBS UP to the kind lady who stopped and gave me an ice cream while I was fencing on Waitomo Valley Rd – it was very much appreciated.
Hugh Roberts
Waitomo Valley Rd

THUMBS UP to Te Kuiti Volunteer Fire Brigade for attending the call to remove our cat from a huge pine tree on Awakino Rd on October 23, it was very much appreciated.
Michelle Green-Collis & Neighbours
Te Kuiti

THUMBS UP to Ben, Leonie and the staff at Roselands for an excellent meal we had recently at your restaurant. We'll be back again.
AKJ
Te Kuiti

THUMBS UP to Nathan Pye of Otorohanga Timber Company for helping to source and cut it to length for our prep project.
Bennett Sanson & Josh Jolly
Kio Kio School

THUMBS DOWN – As a kaumatua I strongly object to a thumbs by an unknown writer (Waitomo News, October 15) who suggested a woman (they noticed trying to cross the Ward St crossing in Te Kuiti) needed the help of kaumatua services. The lady concerned has been approached by this service, but she prefers to keep her own independence, her mobility and do things her own way.
Kathy Martin
Te Kuiti

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CHAZ HAIR DESIGN – CUTS FOR CURE-KIDS

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Come in, get a great deal and donate to a great cause!

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday, Nov 1 'Luxury Lox' personalised hair & scalp treatment \$25 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday, Nov 4 'Blown Away' conditioning massage & dry off \$15 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday, Nov 5 'Kiddies Kuts' 0-12 year olds \$1 per year of age 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, Nov 6 Great deals on eyelash/brow tinting, waxing, plucking reduced just for today! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday, Nov 7 'Cupcakes & Cuts' 10.30am til sold out - artisan cupcakes from Kelly at Cake O'Clock and Kindy Kids Lauren is donating all proceeds from cuts today - book now!! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raffles of yummy things available all week - drawn November 7 @ 4pm
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All money raised from these great deals goes to Cure Kids - so book now!!

CHAZ HAIR DESIGN 183 Rora St, Te Kuiti Ph 07 878 8162