

In the spotlight...

Dog registration

It's almost that time of year again. Dog registration notices for the 2019/2020 year will be sent out to known owners around the end of June with payment due by 31 July. See inside for details on what your dog registration fee pays for.

Refuse ties

Vouchers for the next lot of refuse ties will be sent out at the end of June. If you have run out of ties, you can purchase more from Council offices until your new allocation arrives.

Follow us and stay up to date

Want to get the latest updates on Council news such as job vacancies, refuse collection changes, road closures, public consultations, funding rounds, water reports and much more? Then follow us on Facebook or visit our website. Here you'll find everything you need to know!

www.facebook.com/GreyDC | www.greydc.govt.nz

Welcome to our newest citizens

Welcome to our newest New Zealand citizens who attended a citizenship ceremony at Council offices in April 2019.



Mayor's comment



Cultural respect

It was great to see a large gathering in the new Town Square for the annual Rotary Fare in February but it was even more pleasing to be part of the cultural change which has been happening over the last 15 years. So many

ethnic groups were present, showcasing and serving up tasty dishes from throughout the world. Greymouth is fast becoming multi-cultural, which is a transition we can be proud of.

New Coasters Inc., a local organisation for all people new to the West Coast, is promoting ethnic diversity and doing a great job helping immigrants settle in to this place they now call home. With the exception of a minority, the unhealthy racial attitudes of previous generations are giving way to a more tolerant society. Racism has no place in the world we live in today.

Many people from other countries are keen to settle in the Grey District, bringing with them skills such as medical, trades and multicultural links which are vital in the global workplace we now work in. This brings me to the point

that we must now re-examine our relationship with the indigenous people of Aotearoa. Maori are our 1840 Treaty partners. They first settled in New Zealand around the 13th century and are the tangata whenua which is the original inhabitants of New Zealand. Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu is the principle Maori iwi of the South Island.

Ngāi Tahu from Canterbury went to the source of pounamu (greenstone) in the Arahura and Māwhera (Greymouth) regions of the West Coast and fought with the local people, Ngāti Wairangi. The final defeat of the Ngāti Wairangi took place in the Paparoa Range, after which a meeting of Chief Tūhuru and his party was held at Runanga, close to Māwhera. Chief Tūhuru and his people established a new pa at Māwhera and settled there. They are known as Poutini Ngāi Tahu, the Ngāi Tahu people of the West Coast.

Tūhuru was the Chief of Ngāti Waewae, a hapu of Ngāi Tahu. The hapu is a sub tribe of Ngāi Tahu and is well-established here in the Grey District. The Chairperson is Francois Tumahai and today Ngāti Waewae has an eligible membership of 5,500 people, with 600 living within the Karamea to Hari Hari area.

The time has come for all of us to be in the waka rowing in the same direction. Recently I have asked both Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Waewae

and Māwhera Incorporation if any apologies are due from Council for past grievances. All three have stated that they have no grievances and are keen to develop new pathways for the economic, cultural and social wellbeing of West Coasters.

The pre-European history of the West Coast is a rich part of New Zealand heritage which must be celebrated so it is overdue for Maori to be represented at the decision-making table of the Grey District. The Chairperson of Ngāti Waewae has been formally invited to be a member of the Grey District Council with the right to attend and participate in all Grey District Council meetings.

Having Maori representation is in keeping with the United Nations Declaration on the rights of indigenous people. It represents a true spirit of partnership and mutual respect by the Grey District Council. Initially there will be no voting rights in the Memorandum of Understanding put forward because the Local Government Electoral Act states that a representation review can only happen in 2020 when this agreement is formally ratified. Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae has no problem with this interim arrangement because discussions and debate leading to voting will be fully inclusive, involving Ngāti Waewae.

Tony Kokshoorn

Digital literacy classes

The Grey District Library has teamed up with the 2020 Communications Trust to deliver these very popular FREE digital literacy classes to the community. Here is the class schedule for **Term 2 of 2019**.

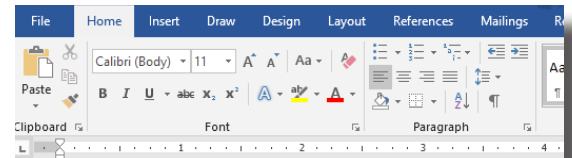


DATE	TOPIC
Thursday 9 May	Introduction to tablets
Thursday 16 May	Internet safety and security
Thursday 23 May	Computer basics - including hardware, software, operating systems, files and folders and basic trouble shooting
Thursday 30 May	Basic Word - including creating, editing and formatting documents
Thursday 6 June	Mailchimp (e-newsletters)
Thursday 13 June	Pinterest
Thursday 20 June	Email - including sending, receiving, forwarding emails and attachments, creating folders for groups and recognising spam
Thursday 27 June	Smartphones

All classes are from 2pm to 4pm in the West Coast Room at the Grey District Library.

Classes are open to all ages and registering is easy - either phone the Library on 03 768 5597 or go to <https://2020.arlo.co/upcoming-courses> and select 'West Coast Region'. You need to register for each class you wish to take.

For further information about the Stepping Up programme, please visit <http://steppingup.nz/>.



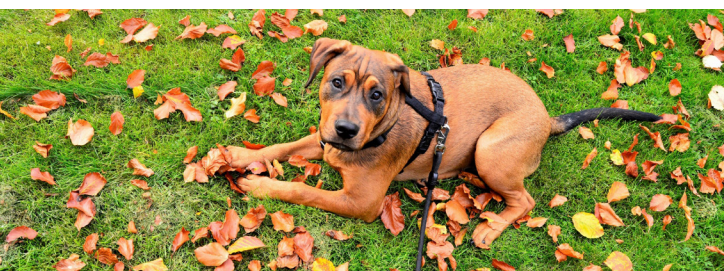
Microsoft Word

ANIMAL CONTROL

It's almost dog registration time again and a question often asked is "What do my dog registration fees pay for?".

Uncontrolled dogs not only present a nuisance but also a threat in the form of attacks on humans and other animals. We deliver a 24 hour service to deal with dog and stock control and our staff are very busy during the day as well as at night, attending after-hour call-outs. These incidents are dealt with on a user pays basis as much as possible and your dog registration fees pay for the balance of the dog and stock control services we deliver, including:

- Promoting better care and control of the dogs in the District.
- Promoting community safety by dealing with aggressive dogs and irresponsible owners.
- Protecting dogs by encouraging responsible dog ownership.
- Responding to complaints about dogs.
- Re-uniting lost dogs with owners.
- Providing a pound facility (impounding fees pay for pound operation).
- Providing the community with information on dogs.
- Implementing dog control policies and monitoring and enforcing bylaws on dog control.
- Taking legal action against owners of unregistered or problem dogs.
- Advocating on dog matters.
- Protecting dog lovers' rights to own dogs and dealing with dog related problems.



Civic Awards

Civic Awards are presented in recognition of a person's service of a voluntary nature benefiting the Grey District and its people. Nominations are restricted to individuals with at least 10 years' community service.

The qualifying categories include recreation, youth activities, social welfare, education services, cultural affairs, religious affairs and community affairs. Individuals must be nominated by at least two other people.

Nominations open each year around May and up to five awards are presented each year by the Mayor at a ceremony held in the Council Chambers.

We will shortly be calling for nominations for 2019 Civic Awards. When we do, you will be able to download a nomination form from our website, www.greydc.govt.nz, email info@greydc.govt.nz or call into Council offices.

Nominations will close on 30 June 2019.



UPCOMING SPECIAL:

**Get 15% off all
Pay Upfront memberships
during the month of July**

83 High Street, Greymouth
P: 03 768 9076
E: westlandrec@greydc.govt.nz
F: www.facebook.com/WestlandRec



RESIDENT SATISFACTION SURVEY

Council received the results from the independent 2018 Resident Satisfaction Survey earlier this year and this time around we included some questions related to the Town Square and events in the District.

Many thanks to everyone who participated in the survey. Here are some highlights from the report.

- Three quarters (74%) expressed satisfaction with the overall performance of Council in the last 12 months, which is similar to 2017 (76%) and marginally lower than earlier years (79-90%).
- Satisfaction with the performance of the Mayor and Councillors (76%) is also similar to 2017 (77%) but lower than in earlier years (83-91%).
- When contacting the Grey District Council in the last 12 months, 81% expressed satisfaction with the overall service from Council Offices. These findings are similar to earlier years (82-88%).
- Satisfaction (79%) with the information received from Council in 2018 is at a similar level to earlier years. Our quarterly newsletter continues to be a popular option for receiving information, 60%. Other methods mentioned include letter/bulk mail out (44%), via social media (31%), email (30%) and newspaper (30%).
- With regards to Council services, residents are most likely to have used or visited a park or reserve (73%), followed by the Council offices (63%), a rubbish dump/recycling facility (63%), a cemetery (59%) or a public toilet/rest room (58%) in the last 12 months.
- Satisfaction with Council services in 2018 is similar to 2017 levels. Parks and Reserves – 90%; Cemeteries - 89%; Libraries - 84%; Swimming pools - 85%; Fitness centres/gym - 73%. Overall satisfaction is lowest with the maintenance of footpaths (52%), the same as last year's result.
- Most participants (86%) agree the District is a great place to live, however, this proportion is lower than in previous years (91-94%).
- Half of respondents (51%) agree they feel a sense of pride in the way their District looks and feels. This proportion is lower than in previous years (59-65%). It appears that this shift in perception is primarily related to a sense that the District is run down, untidy and in need of better maintenance and that the CBD is dying with lots of empty shops.
- 82% have visited or spent time in Greymouth Town Square since it was opened December 2017 and 57% have attended an event in the Grey District community in the past 12 months.
- In terms of the types of events people would like to see more of, Family, Fun based & Music concerts and Festivals type events were mentioned.

Read the full report on our website, www.greycdc.govt.nz/surveys.



The new Moonlight Tops hut

Paparoa Track & Pike29 Track

The new Paparoa Track and Pike29 Memorial Track are 65% complete and work is continuing apace. Both new huts, the Moonlight Tops Hut and the Pororari Hut, are finished but are not yet open to the public as they're occupied by track construction crews for the duration of the track build.

The opening date for the Paparoa Track has been changed to 1 December 2019. This is to allow more time to complete the 55km track safely as crews working on the track have encountered more difficult terrain than expected on the Paparoa Tops.

Project Director Tom Hopkins says the new date still allows the track to open for the 2019/2020 summer season. People will be able to book their visit online when bookings open in June 2019.

The Pike29 Memorial Track will open once re-entry efforts have been completed and the site is transferred from the Pike River Recovery Agency to the Department of Conservation (DOC) to manage.

The Paparoa Track will be New Zealand's 10th Great Walk – it's a purpose-built, shared-use walking and mountain biking track traversing the Paparoa Range from Blackball to Punakaiki.

To keep up to date with track progress, visit the Paparoa Track and Pike29 Memorial Track Great Walk page on the DOC website. You can also subscribe to their newsletter via this page.

www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/west-coast/places/paparoa-national-park/things-to-do/tracks/paparoa-track/

Sign up for email rates invoices AND direct debit - be in to win!

Sign up to BOTH receive your rates invoices via email AND pay your rates by direct debit and you'll go in the draw to **win a prize pack worth \$200**.

If you're already on direct debit OR registered to get your rates invoice by email, sign up for BOTH services to get an entry into the draw. If you've already signed up for both services, you will be automatically entered.

We'll be drawing a lucky winner on Friday 28 June 2019 so head to www.greycdc.govt.nz/rates today.



Heart of the West Coast

2019 Local Body Elections

Elections for elected members of all local authorities (city/district/regional councils) throughout New Zealand are conducted by postal vote every three years. The next local body elections will take place on **Saturday 12 October 2019**.

Electors have until mid-August to get on the roll before the rolls close for the local elections. Contact your local electoral office if you're unsure.

Timeline

Nominations will open on 19 July 2019 and close on 16 August 2019. Candidate names will be published on 21 August 2019 and voting documents will be delivered to households around 20-25 September 2019.

Preliminary results will be available after voting closes on Saturday 12 October 2019 and all of the ordinary votes have been counted. These will be displayed on a noticeboard at Council offices and uploaded to our website. Confirmed results will be declared a few days later once all special votes have been included and the results finalised.

Ratepayer roll

If you live and vote in one council district, but also pay rates on a property in another district, you may be eligible to enrol as a non-resident ratepayer elector in that other council district. See below for more information. Enrolments for the ratepayer roll close on 16 August 2019.



**WHEREVER YOU
PAY RATES IT PAYS
TO VOTE**

DO YOU LIVE IN ONE AREA AND PAY RATES ON A PROPERTY IN ANOTHER?

Then you may qualify to vote more than once at the local authority elections on 12 October 2019

- If you live and vote in one council district, but also pay rates on a property in another district, you may be eligible to enrol as a non-resident ratepayer elector in that other council district.
- If your council district has community or local boards established, and you are a residential elector in one community or local board area and pay rates on a property in another community or local board area, you may be eligible to enrol as a ratepayer elector in that other community or local board area.
- A firm, company, trust, corporation or society which pays rates on a property may nominate one of its members or officers as a non-resident ratepayer elector, provided that the nominator and the person nominated are both registered as Parliamentary electors at addresses which are outside the council district within which the property is situated.
- In the case of partners, joint tenants and tenants in common, who collectively pay rates on a property, one of the group may be nominated to be entered on the ratepayer electoral roll. Again, the nominated person and the nominator must be registered as Parliamentary electors at addresses which are outside the council district within which the property is situated.

Note: The term 'council district' includes a city, district and regional council area.

Eligibility to enrol or be nominated will depend on individual circumstances

In each case only one ratepayer elector can be nominated, irrespective of the number of properties owned by the firm, company, society, trust, partnership or ratepayer in a council district.

New Ratepayer Electors

If you think you may be eligible to enrol or to nominate a person for the ratepayer electoral roll, you will need to obtain an Enrolment Form for Ratepayer Electors from the city or district council to which you pay your rates.

If you are on the Parliamentary electoral roll you will automatically be on the local authority residential electoral roll

If you want further information please phone toll free

0800 54 8683

0800 LG VOTE

(from 15 April 2019 to 30 August 2019)



**ENROL NOW –
THE RATEPAYER
ELECTORAL ROLL
CLOSES ON
16 AUGUST 2019**