

## **WESTLAND RECREATION CENTRE**

Work has started on the new Westland Recreation Centre, a stage two development to the Grey District Aquatic Centre.

The new centre will replace the current ageing single court Civic Centre and provide our community with a new multi-purpose indoor stadium. It will have a double basketball sized court space, fitness centre, aerobics/activity/meeting space, a base for Sport West Coast and other codes and related indoor sport and community facilities.

Funding for the new stadium was kicked off with a Government grant of \$3.5 million to the Grey District community following the tragic events at the Pike River mine in November 2010 in which 29 men lost their lives. After much consideration, Council decided to use the Government grant towards a much needed new indoor community recreation facility for the District.

The centre has been designed to address sport and recreation, health and wellbeing, education and training, civil defence, community and economic development needs. Once completed, it will also provide a valuable asset for our District's young people. As well as this, with its large court spaces and amenities, the centre will provide a welfare base and back-stop communication centre in the event of a civil emergency.

The initial cost estimate for the new centre was around \$10-11 million. Council worked hard to fine tune the budget to accommodate the needs of our community in the most financially efficient manner and the final estimated cost is just over \$11 million. Council has had a tremendous response from funding partners, sponsors, gaming and other trusts and has been successful in raising the total amount required to meet design and construction costs.

The facility is expected to be operational in mid to late 2016.



*Artist impression of the Westland Recreation Centre*

## **Mayor's Comment**



The funding for the new Westland Recreation Centre is now in place.

It has taken four years to fundraise the \$11 million needed to relocate the Scouts and Girl Guides, reconfigure the croquet greens, reposition the croquet clubrooms and build the stadium with gymnasium, including new parking and entry for hockey turf.

Together with the \$11 million Aquatic Centre, the region will have a sports hub as good as any in New Zealand.

Most regions have used ratepayer funding totalling 70% of the building cost for a new stadium. In our case, only 8% direct funding

is needed with zero direct rating for the new stadium. Only \$1.5 million of the \$22 million total cost of the stadium and Aquatic Centre was direct ratepayer funded.

It has taken ten years to raise the money for both projects and together with other belt tightening has enabled the Grey District to move from the highest rates on the West Coast to now being the lowest rates charged on the Coast and we are under the average charged New Zealand wide. Believe me, it's not easy raising funds since the recession of 2008 but fundraising is not rocket science; it is continually making contacts and forming relationships with generous sponsors and organisations, about just being a squeaky wheel that gets the oil.

When we built the Aquatic Centre, many firms and individuals from the Grey District

volunteered time and money, which also created a great community spirit by working together building a complex that will serve many generations to come.

The Westland Recreation Centre will be built to Earthquake IL4 strength standard, which is the highest post-disaster strength resistance so will be used as an emergency welfare centre when needed. CYB Construction Limited has won the tender and the 60 week construction project has begun.

Thanks to everyone involved in making the complex a reality. I am looking forward to a sports hub that Coasters will be proud of.

**Tony Kokshoorn**  
Grey District Mayor

## GREYMOUTH CBD RENEWAL PROJECT

As part of our wider economic development activities, we have been working hard with our community since August 2013 on the Greymouth CBD Renewal project.

All of the work has been built on input, ideas, suggestions, projects, opportunities and challenges identified by people throughout our community. We have used all of this input so far to develop a Vision, Principles and Masterplan of projects for the Greymouth CBD Renewal.

We now have Draft Concept Designs to share and are looking again for your input and opinion. Check out our Greymouth CBD Renewal pop-up display on Mackay Street or take a look at the draft designs available at the Library, Aquatic Centre and our Tainui Street offices.

### Draft Concept Design for Tainui Street Gateway Entrance



### Draft Concept Design for Town Square



We would like to say a very big THANK YOU to all of the people who got involved in this project; your input will mean that the Greymouth CBD Renewal will proudly reflect our unique Grey District identity.

Stay up to date with this exciting project on our website, [www.greymouth.govt.nz/renewal](http://www.greymouth.govt.nz/renewal)



## VIRTUAL COOK STRAIT SWIM

The Grey District Aquatic Centre held a Virtual Cook Strait Swim in April, with all monies raised going direct to charity. The challenge was for each team to swim 29km, the distance of the Cook Strait (this is equivalent to 1,185 lengths of the pool).

Eight generous businesses (Crawford Refrigeration, Greymouth Seaside Top 10 Holiday Park, Mitre 10, Property Brokers, Scenicland Laundry, Subway, Smiths City and Recreation Hotel ) sponsored the following charities and their teams: Blue Penguin Trust, Breast Cancer Cure, St Johns, Life Education Trust, Cancer Society, SPCA, Surf Life Saving and Coast Guard.

While it wasn't a race, there was definitely some good competition between the eight teams. First to complete the Strait was Breast Cancer Cure in a time of 1 hour 23 mins. The furthest individual swim was by Warren Gilbertson, who swam 320 lengths (8km). Collectively the 105 participants, ranging in age from 6 years to 70 plus years, swam over 8,500 lengths.

Many thanks to everyone who organised and participated in this amazing event. The District is lucky to have a high class facility like the Aquatic Centre which could accommodate this event and the organisers are looking forward to doing it again in the future.

Here is a photo of some of the winning team - congratulations guys!



## AQUATIC CENTRE WINTER HOURS

On Tuesday 28 April 2015, the Aquatic Centre moved to winter hours. This means that during the week, the pool will now open at 6.30am instead of 6am.

Full opening hours and details of aquacise classes can be found on the Council website, [www.greymouth.govt.nz/pools](http://www.greymouth.govt.nz/pools)

## COBDEN LAGOON TRACK



Council contractors recently completed the Cobden round lagoon track. This gorgeous walk is now a loop track around the serene Cobden lagoon, which is home to a variety of birds. The track is wheelchair and pushchair accessible and already a popular destination for many recreational walkers. Why not check it out today?



## RATES REBATES

The Rates Rebate Scheme provides for a rebate on rates of up to \$605 to low income home owners. Applications for the current rating year (1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015) must be made by 30 June 2015.

If you have not already applied for your rebate for the current rating year or want to find out if you qualify for a rates rebate, pop along to see your friendly Rates staff at Council offices.

## CIVIC AWARDS

The Grey District Council gives out Civic Awards each year in recognition of outstanding service of a voluntary nature benefiting the Grey District and our residents.

Nominations are restricted to individuals, although clubs and societies will be considered in exceptional circumstances. Up to five awards per year are granted.

### Last year's winners were:

- Helen Sutherland for Services to the Community
- Valerie Williams for Services to Greymouth and Services to the Uniting Church and Community



## Looking for funding?

### FUNDING INFORMATION SERVICES

Council has a convenient service available for anyone looking for community funding or individual scholarships, grants and award funding. First established over 20 years ago, the Funding Information Service (FIS) lets all New Zealanders access comprehensive and accurate funding information via their **FundView** and **BreakOut** databases.

#### How to access these databases

Previously only available through the Department of Internal Affairs, these databases can be accessed on the public computers at the Grey District Library.

And to make things even easier, you can now access the funding databases remotely. Use the link below and your Grey District Council Library card number to login:

[www.fis.org.nz/library/19](http://www.fis.org.nz/library/19)

#### FundView

FundView currently holds more than 700 active records and is an essential database



tool for anyone searching for funding information for a community organisation. Funding information is provided from government, local authorities, statutory and philanthropic trusts, gaming trust and some service organisations.

#### BreakOut

BreakOut currently has 2100 active records available for students, teachers and



researchers from all levels to search, with new scholarships and awards being added each month.

The nomination period for the 2015 awards is now open and the qualifying categories include:

- Recreation
- Youth activities
- Social welfare
- Education services
- Cultural, religious or community affairs

Full details, including nomination criteria, can be found on our website, [www.greymouth.govt.nz](http://www.greymouth.govt.nz). Nominations close 30 June 2015.



### Live shows coming up at the Regent Greymouth

#### Queen - It's a Kinda Magic

Saturday 2 May 2015, 7.30pm

This show recreates Queen's 1986 World Tour concert, featuring over 20 of the band's greatest hits such as 'We Will Rock You', 'Bohemian Rhapsody', 'We Are the Champions', 'Under Pressure' and 'Fat-Bottomed Girls' - all performed live!

#### Turn Up the Heat 2015 Tour

Thursday 7 May 2015, 7.30pm

Come along and hear ARIA chart-topper Paul Costa and Country Music Channel star duo Baylou, along with Nashville recording artist, Kevin Greaves.

#### Fleetwoods Back

Saturday 13 June 2015, 7.30pm

An amazing tribute to Fleetwood Mac.

Tickets for all of these shows can be purchased online or at the Regent Theatre.

[www.regentgreymouth.co.nz](http://www.regentgreymouth.co.nz)

## HUSBAND AND WIFE MANAGEMENT SUCCESS

The Regent Theatre Greymouth cinema admissions are rapidly rising under new management, with numbers well above the previous year.

Patrick and Jacinda McBride were appointed as the new theatre management by the West Coast Theatre Trust towards the end of 2014, a move which has had a positive effect on the daily operations.

With Patrick's extensive marketing background, he says it's all about awareness, sourcing the good films and promoting the theatre as an enjoyable experience.

"We have a very loyal base that attend the movies and we want to build on this. It's great to see so many new faces, especially those that have not attended for years; the best thing is when you see them back the following week."

Their focus now moves to the main auditorium where there are some exciting projects in the pipeline.

"The space is underutilised and has loads of potential. We have a lot of outgoing and need to capitalise on the good shows touring

around. At the same time, we are sourcing entertainment and working on some alternative uses that we believe the public will enjoy," says Jacinda.

Husband-and-wife business management duos can work swimmingly—but it's kind of rare. "I wouldn't want it any other way; we are both very passionate about the theatre and its success and it's starting to show," said Patrick.

The public can look forward to a new look foyer in the coming month with renovations taking place which will include a repaint and new lighting.

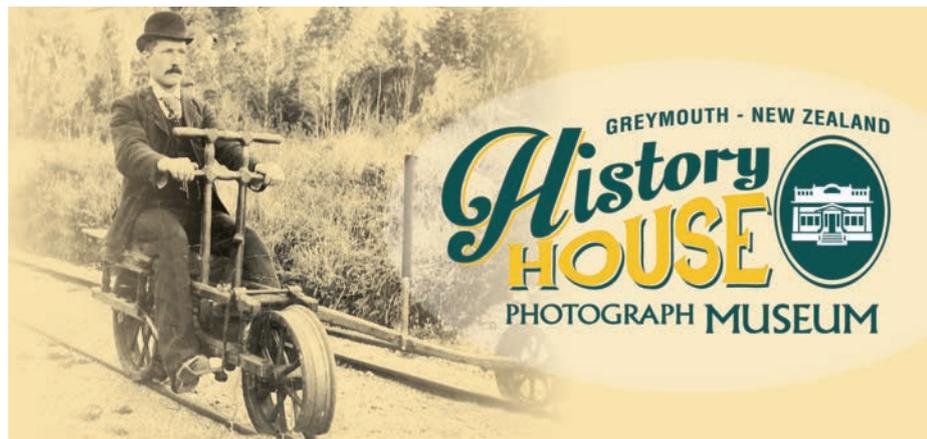


## DOG REGISTRATION

All dogs in the Grey District over the age of three months must be registered and all dogs first registered after 1 July 2006 need to be microchipped. Other dogs which must be microchipped include dogs classified as dangerous or menacing as well as dogs impounded as unregistered or dogs impounded more than once.

The annual dog registration time is coming up again and we'll be sending out registration notices to known owners around the end of June, with payment being due by 31 July. If you don't pay your registration by

the due date, you could be liable for a 50% penalty on your registration as well as a \$300 infringement for having an unregistered dog.



## HISTORY HOUSE MUSEUM

Did you know that History House Museum has over 20,000 items in their collection? Head on in today and take a look - new items are coming in and new displays are going up all the time.



History House Museum

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