



New refuse & recycling contractor for Greymouth

Keen eyed residents may have noticed a new kid on the block collecting their refuse and recycling bins and bags.

Subloos, who held the Grey District Council Waste Management Contract, have sold their business to Smart Environmental and the new contractor took over on Monday 3 July 2017.

Smart Environmental is New Zealand's largest Kiwi owned and operated business in the waste management and environmental services sector, delivering contract services to twelve Territorial Authorities in waste management and parks and reserves activities. The new business has offered all existing employers of Subloos positions with their firm.

The only change residents and ratepayers will notice is new Smart Environmental collection trucks, complete with Council logo. Refuse and recycling collection, as well as the operation of the McLean's Pit Landfill and Recycling Centre, will continue as normal.

We're looking forward to working with Smart Environmental.



Mayor's Comment

Our economy has experienced tough times over the last six years but there are signs that we are finally turning the corner.

It has been a painful transition from extractive to sustainable industries. Gold was the reason people came here in 1864 but it was coal and timber that sustained our economy over the last 150 years. The recently closed Spring Creek mine is the last underground coal mine in New Zealand. We only have 30 or 40 people now working on the coal fields in the Grey District.

In the year 2000, the Government stopped the supply of native timber from Crown land administered by the Department of Conservation. Eighty five percent of the entire West Coast region is Crown land. We know that our forests are a jewel in the environmental crown, which is why they are still intact here more than anywhere else in New Zealand.

Coasters are resilient so we will diversify to sustainable industries. Over the last ten

years Council has embarked on a huge infrastructure renewal programme which will place the District in a good space for economic change and growth into the future. We have constructed new sewerage schemes throughout the District worth \$48 million, spent \$33 million on roading, \$10 million on water supplies, \$3 million on stormwater systems, \$2 million on refuse and recycling and \$25 million on aquatic centres and new stadium. This all adds up to \$121 million. We have fundraised much of this in order to keep rates rises to a minimum.

Council debt stands at \$30 million. It was \$15 million ten years ago and we have \$10 million in cash reserves. As a lot of money has been spent in recent years investing in infrastructure upgrades and new capital works for our District, it is now time for Council for look to the future. Our Long Term Plan was based on decreasing debt from this year, which we are on track with.

We are now in a position to build a sustainable future. Coal will have its place but gold and rare earth minerals will play a larger role in the Grey District. Tourism employs over 600 workers throughout the Grey District, fish processing is growing, agriculture is our

backbone, horticulture has potential and the \$80 million new hospital together with new housing is fuelling the construction industry.

New ultra fast broadband will underpin growth in business, health and education services. Development West Coast is being restructured so that it becomes more relevant to the region's future. The West Coast councils are finally collaborating with a shared goal for the region.

It was disappointing to get over 14,000 written submissions from people outside of the West Coast telling Coasters what to do with our forests when the same hypocrites from polluted cities with no forests and polluted waterways challenge the 100% pure reputation our West Coast Region has thanks to the guardianship and sacrifices by those who work here.

We love our environment - that is why we live here. There is still lots to do but with hard work and good planning, Coasters are on the right track for a sustainable future.

Tony Kokshoorn



Trustpower Community Awards

Congratulations to the winners of the 2017 Grey District Trustpower Community Awards, where community groups are recognised for the great work they do.

This year's Supreme Winner will represent the Grey District at the next Trustpower Community National Awards.

SUPREME WINNER

Paparoa Wildlife Trust

Heritage & Environment

1st	Ahaura History Park
2nd	Coast Heritage & Community Trust
Commended	Greymouth Lions Club

Health & Wellbeing

1st	Coastguard West Coast
2nd	Greymouth SPCA
Commended	Kaiata Community Centre

Arts & Culture

1st	Barrytown Settlers Hall Inc
2nd	Rotary Club of Greymouth

Sport & Leisure

1st	Greenstone Speedway
2nd	Greymouth Motorcycle Street Race Inc

Education & Child/Youth Development

1st	St Johns Youth
2nd	Greymouth Parents Centre

Youth Spirit

Angus Wallace, John Paul II High School



AgFest is coming to Greymouth in 2018

After much deliberation, the team behind AgFest West Coast have made a unanimous decision to move the 2018 event to the Greymouth Aerodrome.

This is a very exciting opportunity for Greymouth and the wider West Coast region and Council are pleased to be working with the AgFest crew on this event.

AgFest's decision to move was motivated by wanting space to grow their event. They have had indications from existing exhibitors that they want to grow their current site and have also received interest from a considerable number of new businesses wanting to come to AgFest.

The AgFest West Coast crew are committed to holding a fantastic event next April, showcasing the West Coast and all it has to offer through AgFest West Coast's extensive nationwide marketing campaign.

Given that AgFest West Coast will be held on a bigger site, the 2018 AgFest promises to have more entertainment for children and will offer all West Coasters a trade fair element.

Save these dates in your diary: 13 & 14 April 2018.

For more information, please visit the AgFest website, www.agfest.co.nz.

DID YOU KNOW that all these paper products can be recycled?

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| BOOKS | Magazines |
| Cardboard (flattened) | NEWSPAPERS |
| CEREAL BOXES | Office paper |
| Computer paper | PAPER |
| EGG CARTONS | Phone books |
| Envelopes (including window) | SHREDDED PAPER |
| GLADWRAP ETC ROLL INNERS | Tissue boxes |
| Greeting cards | TOILET ROLL INNERS |
| JUNK MAIL | Wrapping paper |



YOUR RECYCLABLES
Make sure they are clean & empty

Community funding

The following funding rounds are available to groups in our community. Funding rounds for all schemes are in September and March/April each year. The full criteria for each scheme can be found on our website and application forms will be available online or at Council offices when funding rounds are open, www.greycdc.govt.nz/funding.

Creative Communities Scheme

Funding for arts and cultural projects that increase participation in arts and benefit local communities.

Recent recipients include:

Grey District Youth Trust, Sandra Quick, Pou Mahi A Iwi and MJ Dance Academy

Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund

Grey District school and sport club teams can apply for Sport NZ Rural Travel funding.

Recent recipients include:

Suburbs Rugby League, Paroa Junior Soccer Club, Waro-Rakau Rugby League Club, Marist Rugby League Club, Greymouth Marist Rugby, Greymouth Hockey Club



West Coast Amateur Sports Trust

This fund assists sports people in the Buller, Grey and Westland Districts who have been recognised by their sports body to have potential to reach national representative level. The monies granted help our talented youth to participate in training and/or competition that will help them towards reaching a goal in line with the Trust's objectives.



Development West Coast Amateur Sports Trust



The Westland Recreation Centre is the sports and recreation hub of the West Coast, offering a gym, group fitness classes, swimming pool facilities, a sports stadium and more.

With a wide variety of Les Mills fitness classes and membership options available, why not sign up to our gym today.

We also have aquacise classes and swim lessons, as well as multiple sporting codes using our world class stadium.

Follow us on Facebook for the latest information, updates and giveaways!



Westland Recreation Centre



Rates

By now you should have received your first rates bill for the 2017/2018 rating year. Your rates are made up of **General Rates** (to fund activities such as roading, refuse disposal sites, stormwater, parks, community services, district planning, flood protection and much more) and **Targeted Rates** (to pay for services such as refuse/recycling collection, water and sewer, or to fund specific activities, ie district promotion).

Your rateable land value, the area of the District you live in and what the property is used for helps determine how much rates you pay towards Council services and activities.

If you have any questions about your rates, you can visit our website, www.greycdc.govt.nz/rates or call 03 769 8605 and talk to our friendly Rates staff.

Paying rates

There are many easy ways to pay your rates, including:

- **In person:** cash, cheque, EFTPOS and Visa or Mastercard.
- **Other methods:** cheque, direct debit, telebanking, internet banking, automatic payment or by credit card over the internet.

Rates rebates

The Rates Rebate Scheme provides for a rebate on rates of up to \$620 to low income home owners.

Applications for the current rating year (1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018) can be made from 1 August.

Head on into Council offices to collect an application form.



Pool roof repairs

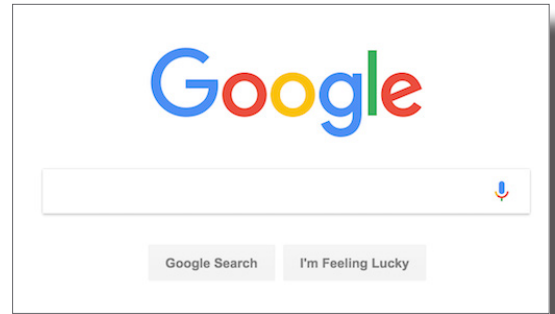
Council is currently working with the engineer and contractor to replace the roof beams in the Westland Recreation Centre pool.

At the time of printing this newsletter, a date for the works had not been set, however Council is hoping the work can be completed in the off season this year, ie sometime between August and mid-October. This will affect the pool but not the rest of the Centre. We're also investigating other local facilities for delivering our swimming programme whilst the pool is closed.

The beams are structurally safe and are being replaced for aesthetic purposes. Follow Council's website or the Westland Recreation Centre Facebook page for updates.

Free computer classes!

The Grey District Library has partnered with the 2020 Communications Trust to deliver free digital literacy classes to the community as part of the Stepping Up programme. Previous classes have proved very popular and here is the schedule for Term 3.



DATE	TOPIC
Thursday 27 July	Computer Basics
Thursday 3 August	Trade Me
Thursday 10 August	Google and the Internet
Thursday 17 August	Microsoft Word - Text Formatting
Thursday 31 August	Digital Photos
Thursday 7 September	Facebook
Thursday 14 September	Microsoft Word - Editing Documents
Thursday 21 September	Publisher - Digital Design
Thursday 28 September	Work and Income - My Account (MyMSD)

All classes are held in the West Coast Room at the Library and run from 2pm to 4pm.

Classes are open to ALL AGES and registration 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'll need to register for each class you wish to take.

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



The Grey District Library are very pleased to be a partner in **Spark Jump**, an initiative of the Spark Foundation working with the 2020 Communications Trust.

Families with school-aged children who don't have internet at home but have access to the 4G network are eligible for a free modem and can pay \$15 per month for 30GB of data on a pre-pay plan.

Come along to an information session at the Grey District Library at **2pm on Thursday 24 August** where you can find out more and sign a *Kawa of Care*. Just phone the Library to register your attendance on 03 768 5597.

To find out more about the programme, visit www.sparknz.co.nz/what-matters/foundation/sparkjump/

Safe winter driving

We want our community to be safe on the roads during the winter period so here is some good information and advice from the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA), whether you're driving around town or crossing the alpine passes.

- Do you need to travel today? If you do, think about the best route to take and build in extra time.
- Ensure your vehicle is safe for winter driving.
- Drive to the road and weather conditions.
- Slow down and be prepared for unexpected hazards.
- Allow greater following distance between you and the vehicle ahead.
- Make sure your cell phone is well charged - check your car charger also.
- Have blankets, snacks and bottles of water ready in case of an emergency or breakdown.

Note that a change has been made to the way the Lewis Pass, State Highway 7, will be managed over the winter months. It will either be 'open' or 'closed' rather than having the usual restrictions of 'chains essential' and 'no towing'. Extra Police presence will be on the route over the winter months.

Stay up to date with road conditions:

www.nzta.govt.nz/traffic or www.facebook.com/nztasouthisland

Phone 0800 4 HIGHWAYS (0800 44 44 49)



Photo of Lewis Pass, July 2017 (from Nelson, Marlborough, West Coast Police Facebook page)