

# Connect

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Keeping you up to date with news from Buller District Council

## From the Chief Executive...



It is great to finally be here in the beautiful Buller District! It was very special to have a welcome to the region at Arahura Marae and the weather could not have been better for the occasion.

It is officially only day four in the job as I write this but thought it was a great opportunity to introduce myself to you all.

I was attracted to this role because I believe local government can make a real difference, provided of course

that councils work in partnership with their communities, understand their aspirations, share their values and have a clear vision for the future. I really look forward to working in true partnership with the Buller District community, to discover the shared values, and to set a direction for the future. A future where we all benefit, and no one is left behind.

My role here as I see it, I believe can be summed up in three words: understanding, translation, facilitation.

The understanding comes from engaging with community members, interest groups, councillors, and council staff and listening to their dreams and aspirations for their whanau, their community and this district.

The translation part is about taking these dreams and aspirations and translating this into a tangible, actionable vision.

The facilitation part is all about facilitating the actions that will realise the vision, and developing and unleashing the potential of the people and resources that need to be involved in making things happen.

Throughout my professional life, and indeed my personal life too, my core purpose and motivation has always been about developing potential – in individuals, in teams, in organisations, and in communities as a whole, so I am very excited about the opportunity to use my skills and experience to make a meaningful and tangible difference for the people of this district and region.

I am keen to give community members an opportunity to come and meet me and share their aspirations, so in the next few weeks we will be organising some community meetings around the district to give as many people as possible that opportunity. At these meetings I look forward to sharing with you the 'Buller Values' project that I will soon be instigating, to discover our shared values as a district and to ensure that all Council services and projects are delivered in a way that is consistent with this. I will then be instigating a similar project for our vision. I hope to see as many of you as possible involved in both of these, because as I said above, this is critical to creating a desirable future for all of us.

I would like to finish with my favorite Whakataukī (Māori proverb) which to me sums up what brought me here, and what has always driven me to make a difference.

**He aha te mea nui o te ao?**

**He tangata! He tangata! He tangata!**

**What is the most important thing in the world?**

**It's people, it's people, it's people!**

– Andy Gowland-Douglas



New Buller District Council Chief Executive Officer Andy Gowland-Douglas was handed over to Ngāti Waewae from Ngāti Rangi at Arahura Marae earlier this month.

Andy is pictured centre, and is joined by Ngāti Rangi and Ngāti Waewae representatives, Buller District Council mayor, councillors and staff, and representatives from Westland District Council, Grey District Council, West Coast Regional Council, Te Hā O Kawatiri, Buller REAP, Development West Coast, West Coast District Health Board and the Department of Conservation.

# Gold awards presented to Reefton women

Young Reefton women Katy Kennedy and Casey Bland were recently presented with their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Award confirmation certificates at a ceremony with the Inangahua Community Board.

Established 50 years ago and run in over 140 countries, the Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Awards require participants aged between 14 and 24 to show sustained commitment in four different areas. They are: learning or improving a new skill, giving voluntary service to the community, developing well-being through participation in physical recreation and training, and running their own adventures with others. There are three levels to the awards – bronze, silver and gold. Gold award achievers are also required to participate in a five day residential project which involves working with other youth on meaningful activities.

Recipient Katy Kennedy started her Duke of Edinburgh journey in April 2012 and has since successfully completed her bronze and silver awards. Katy has developed her artistic and creative skills in music and art, served the Reefton community by being the water girl for the Reefton senior rugby team and helping out with the local youth group and primary school. Her physical pursuits included swimming, golf, horse riding and walking activities and she has taken part in camps and tramping activities around the district. Katy's Gold Residential Project included work on an historic hut in the Lewis Pass. She has achieved her Gold Section Certificates in skill, service, physical recreation and adventure.

Recipient Casey Bland started working towards her Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Award in June 2011 while she was a student at the Reefton Area School and like Katy, has also been awarded the bronze and silver awards. She chose motorcycle riding as her skill and has since developed into an enthusiastic and competent motocross rider. Along with motocross, she has demonstrated her abilities across a wide range of sporting activities including netball, running, motocross and circuit training. Casey has served the Reefton community by running activities with the Reefton Scouts, trapping and track/hut maintenance in the Lewis Pass, being on the committee of the Reefton School Ball, as a recorder for the Reefton Rodeo and helping out with events for Westland Motorcycle Club.

She has completed bush-craft training and then helped run her own tramping adventures in the Lewis Pass region, including running an



Garry Howard and Justin Blacklock at rear with, left to right, Casey Bland, Katy Kennedy and Silvia Blacklock at the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award certificate presentation prior to the Inangahua Community Board meeting in Reefton on Monday night.

expedition completing the St James Walkway.

Casey's Gold Residential Project was as a member of the 2013 Youth to Everest team from New Zealand, spending two weeks in Nepal living with sherpas, working alongside them in a nursery, visiting monasteries, playing sport with the locals and visiting the Hillary hospital, school and house Sir Edmund Hillary spent much of his life in. The two women were members of the registered Duke of Edinburgh Award Unit, *Search The Way*. The unit is run by Justin and Silvia Blacklock who have been working with Buller youth and children for 10 years. The Blacklocks coordinate the *On Track* leadership programme in which over 80 local youth aged 12-24 participate each year.

In October, the Governor General of New Zealand will present Ms Kennedy with her Gold Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Award at a special ceremony in Christchurch. Mayor Garry Howard presented Ms Bland with her Gold Award as she is unable to attend the ceremony in Christchurch as she will be overseas at that time.

## MBIE declares ban on retrofitting and repair of foil insulation

The Chief Executive of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) has declared a ban, under section 26 of the Building Act 2004.

The ban is specifically on the installation of foil insulation into residential buildings with an existing electrical installation (retrofitting foil insulation), and the repair of foil insulation in residential buildings with an existing electrical installation (e.g. stapling ripped or damaged foil back onto the floor joists of a building).

The risk with retrofitting foil insulation is that the person installing it could accidentally pierce a live electrical cable with the fasteners (e.g. staples or nails) that they are using to attach the foil to the building structure. The foil, being metallic, conducts electricity and can become live if it comes into contact with live electrical wiring – potentially enlivening the entire underfloor of a building. To date, there have been five reported deaths in New Zealand caused by electrocution associated with foil insulation in a residential building, as well as one reported non-fatal electric shock.

The changes to the Residential Tenancies Act are expected to require about 180,000 properties to be insulated by July 2019. This will result in much more widespread insulation activity over the next few years –

which could increase the use of foil insulation and therefore the chance of injury or fatalities. As the Residential Tenancies Act will require landlords to assess the extent of insulation in their buildings, we expect landlords and tenants will be getting under their floors to conduct checks on existing insulation. This could pose an electrocution risk as there could be cases in existing buildings where previously installed foil insulation is electrically live (e.g. if foil insulation has been installed with the power off and not tested for safety once power was restored).

MBIE considers that a ban is necessary. The ban comes into force on 1 July 2016 and will remain in place until amended or revoked by the Ministry. It is an offence under the Building Act to breach a ban and anyone who breaches the ban may be liable to a fine of up to \$200,000.

WorkSafe NZ has also developed some guidance, as part of its functions as the regulator of electrical safety under the Electricity Act 1992. Its Electrical Code of Practice is publicly available and sets out how to protect people and property from harm due to improperly installed foil insulation. The Code of Practice will enable building owners and the industry to better manage electrical safety risks associated with existing foil insulation. Anyone concerned about how to work around foil insulation should consult WorkSafe's guidance or engage the services of a licensed electrical worker.

# Community grants round open



Applications are now open for the next round of Community Grants, to be allocated in September 2016.

The Community Grants Fund was set up to support the work of community groups and volunteer organisations, who are providing community and social projects and services

within the Buller district. Funds are available in recognition of the wide range of organisations whose efforts enhance the wellbeing of our communities.

Application forms for the Community Grants Fund are available now from the Council Offices in Westport and Reefton and from our website [www.bullerdc.govt.nz/funding](http://www.bullerdc.govt.nz/funding).

If your group or organisation would like to be considered for a Community Grant, complete an application form and return it to Council by Monday 5 September 2016. Please get your applications in early as late applications will not be accepted.

## Library news

### Lego Club: First Thursday of each month, after school in the Library

As part of the school holiday activities in the Westport library, we had a very successful launch of our Lego club. This will run after school on the first Thursday of every month with heaps of Lego for free building.



**Why Lego in the library?** Libraries embrace all forms of learning and creativity. Lego certainly has applications in both areas.

It teaches 3 dimensional visualisation; it involves problem solving, organisation and planning; it improves fine motor coordination; it promotes critical thinking; and it is FUN.

### DVD Collection

Don't forget that we have a good collection of DVDs for hire, including a great range of popular and more obscure television series.

### DVD scratched and not playing?

We are able to clean and resurface your discs for you.

### Lifelong Learners for Curious Minds

Robyn and Don Abbey have returned to the Coast after their epic cycle journey to many wonderful places. Come and share their experiences on Thursday 25 August at 7pm in the Westport Library.

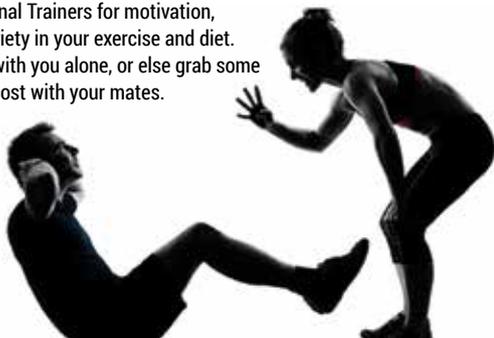
– *Clenda Wockner, Library Manager*

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## Short on time for exercise?

Maximise the benefit from the time you do have by using one of our Personal Trainers for motivation, direction and some variety in your exercise and diet. Our trainers will work with you alone, or else grab some friends and share the cost with your mates.

Call in and talk to our reception team to see how we can help you keep fit, healthy and active through winter.



**solidenergycentre**  
Supporting the Buller District and Westport Area

Cnr Pakington & Domett Streets, Westport  
[www.solidenergycentre.co.nz](http://www.solidenergycentre.co.nz)

t. 03 789 8316  
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## Coming up at the NBS Theatre



### Movies

Star Trek Beyond 2D / 3D    Suicide Squad 2D / 3D  
Absolutely Fabulous    Jason Bourne  
Chasing Great (*Ritchie McCaw Documentary*)

### Shows

August 29    Operatunity – *When Irish Eyes are Smiling*  
September 13    ACCA DACCA – from Australia with all your favourite AC/DC songs (see below)  
October 20-23    NZ Navy – Pantomime for the kids and evening show for the adults

### ACCA DACCA

**Australia's internationally acclaimed AC/DC Show**  
*Plus special guests SKELTER*

ACCA DACCA hit NZ in September 2016 for a 9 date national tour supported by Christchurch Rock outfit, Skelter.

YOU AIN'T SEEN NOTHIN' unless you've seen ACCA DACCA!

ACCA DACCA is AC/DC reincarnated!!

Not a tribute not a cover band this is a full blown SHOW!

What will you take home from a night with ACCA DACCA?

Just the feeling that you've just witnessed AC/DC. Not only at present but the AC/DC of the Bon Scott era as well, covering the early days of High Voltage to Highway to Hell and the best of the Brian Johnson era from Back in Black to the present day. This is a monster of a show! See for yourself!

**When:** Tuesday 13 September 2016

**Where:** NBS Theatre, Westport

**Restrictions:** (None) - All Ages Show

Tickets available from NBS Theatre, phone 789 4219

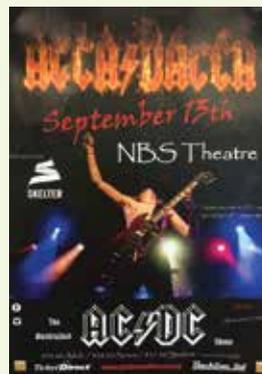
Adults \$47.50, Students & Children \$30, Gold Card Holder \$41, Standing \$42.50 (All prices include service charge).

*Tickets also available from [www.ticketdirect.co.nz](http://www.ticketdirect.co.nz)*

**Call the NBS Theatre for details on ticket sales 03 789 4219**

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

Find us on 



# Buller District water supplies

All water supplies around the district operate at different pressures so it's important that residents who receive water from a town reticulation scheme are aware of the operating pressure of their particular water supply.

There are a variety of house plumbing fittings available at a wide range of suppliers and prices. It is important to ensure that the fitting is suitable for your water supply. Fittings that are not correctly matched to the town operating pressure, run the risk of failure leading to leakage and potential internal flooding.

Westport and Waimangaroa water pressures vary from 1100 to 1200 kilopascals (kPa), or 160 to 170 pounds per square inch (psi). Reefton pressures are typically 700 kPa or 100 psi.

If you are unsure whether the fitting you have is suitable, or for any other information regarding water supplies, please contact Buller District Council staff for advice.

## How well are you recycling?

Recycling is easy, helps save money and reduces our impact on our environment. But is everything you and your family put into your recycle bins being recycled? Or is it ending up in a landfill?

Council is very pleased with the recycling efforts being made by residents in Buller with the district's recycling scheme, but there is still room for improvement.

At present our district produces around double the national average of contaminated recycling. Contaminated recycling cannot be processed by the recycling plant and ultimately ends up in the landfill. Not only does it include

items that have not been rinsed out properly or scraped clean, but also all plastic lids (including milk bottle tops) and all plastic bags. These items need to be disposed of in your general household rubbish. Remember that you can take your recycling and rubbish down to the transfer stations yourself if you miss your collection day. The Westport transfer station is open daily except Tuesdays, Thursdays and public holidays, and the Reefton transfer station is open in the afternoons on Tuesdays, Thursdays and the weekend. For more information on recycling and refuse including transfer station opening hours and rubbish and recycling collection days, visit Council's website [www.bullerdc.govt.nz](http://www.bullerdc.govt.nz).

## Meetings

You are warmly invited to attend the Council meetings listed below.

Please note some venues are yet to be confirmed or maybe subject to change. Please contact Council to confirm venues closer to the meeting date.

### COUNCIL

Meetings are held at the Council Chambers, Palmerston Street, Westport

- **28 September 2016** starting at 5pm
- **26 October 2016** starting at 5pm

If you have any queries about the above Council meetings, or would like to indicate your interest in speaking during the public forum, please contact Linda Pablecheque, [linda@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:linda@bdc.govt.nz) or 03 788 9642.

### INANGAHUA COMMUNITY BOARD

Meetings are held at the Reefton i-Site Visitor Centre, Broadway, Reefton

- **4 October 2016** starting at 4pm

If you have any queries about the above meeting, or would like to indicate your interest in speaking at the public forum, please contact Mary Wilson, [mary@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:mary@bdc.govt.nz) or 03 788 9618.

### FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE

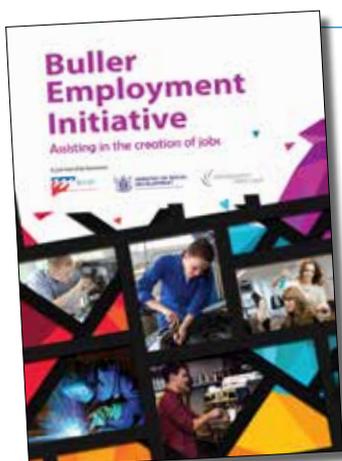
Meetings are held at the Council Chambers, Palmerston Street, Westport

- **14 September 2016** starting at 7pm
- **12 October 2016** starting at 5pm

### RISK COMMITTEE

Meetings are held at the Council Chambers, Palmerston Street, Westport

- **14 September 2016** starting at 5pm



Looking to take someone on?

Looking for work?

Talk to us today and find out if you qualify for the Buller Employment Initiative

A partnership between



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT  
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIAHO ORA



Following on from a recent exterior repaint, the public toilets beside the NBS Theatre are now sporting new murals to brighten up the internal walls.



Westport office 6-8 Brougham St, PO Box 21, Westport 7866  
Reefton office 66 Broadway, PO Box 75, Reefton 7851  
24 hr Noise Control Services – t. 03 788 9115  
After hours Operations emergencies – Westport 03 788 9119

t. 03 788 9111 or 0800 807 239  
t. 03 732 8821 or 0800 808 821  
24 hr Animal Control Services – t. 03 788 9115  
Reefton 03 732 8092

[www.bullerdc.govt.nz](http://www.bullerdc.govt.nz)

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