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Keeping you up to date with news from Buller District Council

Season's greetings – Mayor's message



Council has been very fortunate to have such a positive community that has achieved a great deal this year through the efforts of numerous volunteers.

The Sculpture Symposium, the floating pontoon at the lagoon, John Bougen's passion for Reefton working with the community to build on prior community work to embrace a large clean-up and create vibrance with a number of local volunteers, the new Granity School playground, the restoration work on the Lyric Theatre and the standout community

development of 2016 in my opinion – the development of the Kawatiri walkway/cycleway – Millennium Track. These are only a few of the numerous activities that reflect the adage *it is not just what the community can do for you, but what you can do for your community.*

2016 has been a year of change for Council. Elections have brought four new councillors to the table and retirements, along with promotions, have meant we have three new senior management personnel.

I know 2017 will be a year of key decisions. The Tai Poutini West Coast Growth Study will develop the 'action plan' and at that point we will have to make a commitment to projects that will have long term benefit for the Buller District and the West Coast. We need to acknowledge now that it will be at a cost, as it requires partnerships with Local Government, Central Government and private enterprise. Investment will be required to create a stronger economy which may take three to five years before the real benefits can be seen.

Key projects will include the Punakaiki Dolomite Point redevelopment, Karamea's limestone arches and the Westport to Charleston Kawatiri Trail. On the business front the development of EPIC Westport, Waste to Energy WC Ltd, Phoenix Coal (Stockton) and a number of smaller enterprises will impact on employment. Te Kuha-Rangitira Developments Ltd, decommissioning Holcim, and the factual

investigation of the Northern Link road proposal will have considerable implications on the more immediate and long term future for Buller.

In February 2017 the Local Government Commission will continue the work on determining the best governance structure for the West Coast including what efficiencies can be obtained while improving services throughout the Coast. The process will demand considerable time and good community engagement to gain benefit from this process.

Council will have an increased workload as it facilitates and works through the above along with 2015-2018 Long Term Plan commitments. These include the Westport Cultural Hub which potentially includes the Town Clock development, water projects, district plan review, the Reefton swimming pool and very careful consideration to the affordability in retaining the Kawatiri dredge. These can be contentious and it is essential that we have the very best information to make appropriate decisions.

Flood mitigation of Westport and coastal erosion that is affecting so many areas of our coastline and rural communities will require several community meetings as we work with West Coast Regional Council.

2017 will be a year where we must ensure a high level of community engagement and communication. Council, management team and the community will need to consider the immediate 10 and 50 year outcomes of decisions. It will be important to acknowledge the effect of making a decision and the consequences of not making a decision. At a recent training session we were encouraged to think of governance like driving a car, *spend most of your time looking ahead and a far smaller amount of your time looking in the rear view mirror.* It was noted that Council agendas dedicate most to compliance, looking in the rear view mirror. So there needs to be a balance between good accountability data and reporting that allows for planning ahead.

These are exciting times and we will need plenty of *Em's Power Cookies* to get through!

Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year, take care and give some consideration to how you can contribute to the decisions of 2017.

Launch of free wifi internet service

A free public internet service is being trialled at a few hotspots around Westport this summer. A number of towns around the country provide free internet in shopping areas to encourage visitors into the town centres. Council plans to expand this service to other locations around the district if the trial is successful.

Current hotspots are located outside the Coaltown i-Site, the garden seating area beside Subway, and the airport. The service is currently available from 7.00am to 9.00pm and is limited to one hour per day use with a data cap.

The ongoing viability of the service requires sponsorship and we hope that local businesses will get onboard with their support. Businesses who choose to become sponsors will have their logo appear on the splash page that all users go through when connecting, as well as the option of your logo appearing on a sign at a hotspot location.

To find out more about the wifi service or to become a sponsor, please contact Kelly Langford, Community Services Officer, on 03 788 9683.

Chief Executive's update



Christmas is nearly upon us and it also signals that we will soon be starting a new year. My first four months here have gone very quickly and I expect that 2017 will go even faster as we work towards developing the 2018-2028 Long Term Plan. In actual fact work has already started on this with the recently launched Buller Values Project. Council staff and elected representatives have been workshopping this utilising the input

we have received from community surveys and a clear picture of what our shared values are is starting to emerge. We hope to finalise these by January at the latest. For those of you who attended the 'Love your Town' workshops facilitated by Inspiring Communities Trust and organised by Buller REAP, you will know

that the values is only stage one of the Long Term Plan journey. In the first quarter of 2017 we will be engaging with our communities further to refine and develop the shared vision for our District as well as refining our community outcomes. Personally, I am very excited about this prospect, and what we might achieve together as a district. Buller District Council is only the facilitator of the process – the really important players are our community members, businesses, service agencies, community groups, and schools etc. We really hope you will all get involved in setting the pathway towards a positive future.

On a personal note, I would like thank everyone who has helped make my family and I feel welcome and a part of this wonderful community. I wish you all a safe and enjoyable holiday season with your families.

Ngā Mihi,

Andy Gowland-Douglas

Library news

Our eBook platform – Overdrive – has just had an app and website refresh. For those of you who already use it, you probably won't notice a lot of difference but it is fresher and clearer. For those of you who don't, now is the time to check it out!

- eBooks are free to borrow.
- eBooks do not attract overdue charges because they return themselves
- You can borrow 5 titles at a time and can place holds on unavailable titles
- You can borrow and download titles from wherever you are in the world – you just need your library borrower number and your pin. Check with the library for those.
- You can borrow using a computer or any mobile device – and the titles will sync across devices

Come in and ask us to show you. Or have a look for yourself online at <https://southisland.overdrive.com/>



Find us on 

Changes to public notification of alcohol licences

When an applicant applies for a new alcohol licence or to renew an existing licence they must publicly notify that they are applying and this has historically been by a notice published in the local newspaper. As from 1 January 2017, public notices will no longer be required to be advertised in the local newspapers but instead they will be published on Council's website for 15 working days. Many other New Zealand Councils have already changed to electronic notices via the internet and dispensed with the need for newspaper advertising. The Grey District Council and the Westland District Council have also chosen to adopt the electronic notice practice.

Please visit our website, www.bullerdc.nz/liquorlicensing or phone Council on 03 788 9111 if you have any queries. If you'd like to be notified when new or renewal applications are made, please provide your email address to Council.

Hours for the Holiday Period



	23 DEC	24 DEC	25 DEC	26 DEC	27 DEC	28 DEC	29 DEC	30 DEC
Council Office	8.30am-12pm	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Westport Transfer Station			CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	10am-5pm	CLOSED	10am-5pm
Reefton Transfer Station			CLOSED	CLOSED	1pm-4pm	CLOSED	1pm-4pm	CLOSED
Westport Library	9.30am-12pm	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	9.30am-5pm	9.30am-7pm	9.30am-12pm
Reefton Service Centre	9am- 1pm	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	9am-4.30pm	9am-4.30pm	9am-1pm
Reefton Library	9am- 1pm	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	9am-4.30pm	9am-4.30pm	9am-1pm

www.bullerdc.govt.nz | Ph 0800 807 239 | info@bdc.govt.nz

Funding opportunities

SPORT NZ RURAL TRAVEL FUND

The Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund is open to rural sports clubs and school teams with young people aged between 5 and 19 years. This fund is designed to subsidise the cost of travelling to regular local sporting competitions. Buller District Council distributes this funding on behalf of Sport New Zealand.



Application forms for the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund are available now from the Council Offices in Westport and Reefton and from our website www.bullerdc.govt.nz/funding.

If your group or organisation would like to be considered for the Rural Travel Fund, you need to complete an application form and return it to the Council by Friday 3 March 2017. Late applications will not be accepted.

For more information on the funding Buller District Council has available, please visit our website or contact us on 03 788 9111 or email info@bdc.govt.nz.



ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND TOI AOTEAROA

CREATIVE NEW ZEALAND
CREATIVE COMMUNITIES SCHEME

FUNDING FOR LOCAL ARTS

Applications for financial assistance under the Buller Creative Communities Scheme are now being invited.

Funding assistance is available for groups and individuals to assist with projects taking place in the Buller District that focus on participating in the arts. Applicants must be able to show that their projects will be of benefit to the Buller community.

Application forms and further information are available from the funding page of our website www.bullerdc.govt.nz/funding or at either of the Council offices in Westport or Reefton.

Applications close at 4.30pm on Monday 6 February 2017. Late applications will not be accepted.

Staff and management at Buller District Council wish you and your family a happy and safe festive season.

31 DEC	1 JAN	2 JAN	3 JAN	4 JAN
CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	8.30am-4.30pm
11am-4pm	CLOSED	CLOSED		
1pm-4pm	CLOSED	CLOSED	1pm-4pm	CLOSED
CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED		
CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	9am-4.30pm
CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	9am-4.30pm

For noise and animal complaints please call 0800 807 239

COMMUNITY GRANTS

Applications are now open for the next round of Community Grants, to be allocated in March 2017. The Community Grants Fund was set up to support the work of community groups and volunteer organisations, which 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.

In addition to Community Grants, Council will have an extra \$130,000 available for community projects that benefit the Buller District.

Application forms for the Community Grants Fund are available now from Council offices in Westport and Reefton and from our website www.bullerdc.govt.nz/funding.

If your group or organisation would like to be considered for a Community Grant, you need to complete an application form and return it to the Council by Friday 3 March 2017. Late applications will not be accepted.



Christmas at the NBS Theatre

We are open every day except Christmas Day (25th December) and New Year's Day (1 January 2017) for normal operating hours.



Movies

Sing 2D & 3D	Moana 2D & 3D	
Red Dog: True Blue	Monster Trucks	The Catch

Pop into the NBS Theatre to get a movie schedule.

Call us for details on ticket sales 03 789 4219

www.nbstheatre.co.nz

Find us on f

solidenergycentre

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR OPERATING HOURS

Saturday 24 th December	8am – 5pm (Christmas Eve)
Sunday 25th December	CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY
Monday 26 th December	8am – 12pm (Boxing Day)
Tuesday 27 th December	8am – 5pm (Public Holiday)
Wednesday 28 th December	6am – 9pm
Thursday 29 th December	6am – 9pm
Friday 30 th December	6am – 8pm
Saturday 31 st December	8am – 5pm (New Year's Eve)
Sunday 1 st January	12pm – 5pm (New Year's Day)
Monday 2 nd January	8am – 5pm (Public Holiday)
Tuesday 3 rd January	8am – 5pm (Public Holiday)
Wednesday 4 th January	6am – 9pm
Thursday 5 th January	6am – 9pm
Friday 6 th January	6am – 8pm

Have a great Christmas and New Year from SEC



Public Notices

Ministry of Health

The Ministry of Health has asked Councils to remind residents that some plumbing fittings have the potential to allow minute traces of metals to accumulate in water standing in the fittings for several hours. Although the health risk is small, the Ministry of Health recommends that you flush a mugful of water from your drinking water tap each morning before use to remove any metals that may have leached from the plumbing fittings.

The Ministry of Health recommends this simple precaution to all households, including those on public and private water supplies.

Rural Town Water Supplies

The Buller District Council wishes to advise and/or remind all consumers on the rural town water supplies at Little Wanganui Subdivision, Mokihinui, Ngakawau/Hector, South Granity, Waimangaroa and Inangahua Junction, to boil all drinking water for at least three minutes.

These water supplies are untreated and originate from bush catchments where there is always a potential for the water to be contaminated from a variety of animal and bird life.



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. Meetings are held at the Council Chambers in Palmerston Street, Westport unless otherwise stated.

COUNCIL

- 25 January 2017 starting at 5pm
- 22 February 2017 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 or 03 788 9642.

INANGAHUA COMMUNITY BOARD

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

- 14 February 2017 starting at 5pm

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 or 03 788 9618.

FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE

- 8 February 2017 starting at 5pm

RISK COMMITTEE

- 8 February 2017 starting at 6.30pm

GRANTS COMMITTEE

- 8 February 2017 starting at 3.30pm

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- 13 February 2017 starting at 1pm

News from Animal Control

Unregistered dogs

There are currently 180 unregistered dogs in the Buller District. Council's Animal Control officers are following up with property visits to sight these dogs and speak with owners regarding their outstanding registration.

If you are the owner of an unregistered dog please come in or call us on 788 9111 to discuss registration, you could avoid getting a \$300 infringement.

Reminder

Dog owners are reminded that your dog is not allowed to foul any place or any land other than that occupied or owned by you. You must remove the faeces immediately and if you use a public litter bin or similar receptacle to dispose of the faeces, they must be suitably wrapped or contained to prevent the bin from being fouled. There has been an increased amount of faeces left around the Kawatiri Beach Reserve and River Trail. A new dispenser with bags has been installed for the purpose of keeping the area clean and tidy. Please be respectful and pick up after your dog, it is an offence not to pick it up.



Buller Beautification Awards 2017

It's that time of the year again to consider entering the annual Buller Beautification awards. Hopefully you have your summer garden planting underway.

The awards will be run in the same format as last time and are open to urban and rural properties, non-residential gardens, public spaces, and pensioner housing gardens. They were initiated by the Council some years ago to encourage residents to take pride in the appearance of their property. Judging is done from the street only, as the awards are all about what the residents or visitors can see as they pass by. People can nominate their own garden, or the gardens of others they think deserve recognition.

All nominees will be contacted to confirm that they are happy for their

garden to be entered prior to judging time.

Entry forms will be available from the Buller District Council offices in Westport and Reefton, Karamea Information & Resource Centre, selected retailers and can also be downloaded from Council's website www.bullerdc.govt.nz. Entries close Wednesday 18th January 2017.

The Westport and surrounding areas will be judged the first week of February 2017, however at the time of printing of the newsletter a date is yet to be confirmed for judging of the Reefton/Inangahua area.

So, if you have established a new garden within the last two years, made over an existing garden or generally have a well-kept and maintained garden, and you think it worthy of an award, we would love to have you enter.



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

www.bullerdc.govt.nz

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

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