

TEN YEAR PLAN IN FINAL STAGES

The Southland District Council is putting the final touches on its 2006-2016 Long-Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) before it is released for public comment on 22 April 2006.

The plan, which takes a long-term look at Council activities and projects, has been a significant undertaking to bring together 10 years worth of information into one planning document. Council's Corporate Planner Nicole Taylor said that there are a number of new additions to the plan this year which readers will need to be aware of, in particular the inclusion of inflation in the projections.

"Central government auditors are looking to see whether we've developed sound projections and if these are realistic and adjusted for inflation," she said. "As you can imagine, projecting inflation is not an easy task in itself and applying it has also been difficult".

A further difference this year is in the way that increased costs have been dealt with. Usually the Council would have year-by-year rates increases which vary according to the amount of work programmed and any increases in materials or contracts in each year. However in this plan, the Council has looked across the whole ten years and averaged out the rates increases.

Council's Group Manager Customer and Financial Services Phil Culling said that this approach has also been used in local estimates meetings, where it had been received favourably by local community representatives.

"What we have found is that the community can look ahead 10 years and see what projects are needed over that period. They can then look at the affordability of these projects and can spread the costs over a longer period than just one year. This means that we can smooth out the ups and downs of rates changes each year and make it easier for the community to absorb," he said.

The document also has more information on the community outcomes from the *Our Way Southland* project and how the Council's activities are linked to the outcomes.

It includes information on the level of service that the Council will provide for each of its activities. The service levels were reviewed last year using information gathered from a series of workshops with various community groups and Council. The information has been used to determine what kind of service the community wants, what is important to them and at the end of the day, what the cost of the activity will be as a result.

The public will get their chance to read the draft 10-year plan from 22 April when it is formally notified for public comment. Copies



Council Group Manager Customer and Financial Services Phil Culling reviewing the Long-Term Council Community Plan

of the draft plan will include details of all the currently known issues and copies will be available from Council offices and the Council website www.southlanddc.govt.nz

A discussion forum will also be available online for interested residents to submit any comments or questions they have about the plan. Formal submissions will be accepted until 22 May 2006. Once submissions close, the Council will hold a hearing for any submitters who wish to speak and then make changes to the plan before the start of the new financial year on 1 July 2006.

Miss Taylor said that the 10-year work programme was significant, particularly with the maintenance planned on the existing roading network to keep it to a good standard, continuation of new sewerage schemes and upgrades of existing sewerage schemes. While these projects are still subject to community consultation and confirmation of subsidies from the Ministry of Health, the Council

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The Mayor's Desk

Frana Cardno



Councillors, Community Boards, Community Development Area Committees, Water Supply Committees and staff are all putting in a tremendous amount of work at this time of year on the long-term community plan.

Ten year projections for Southland District are being developed in a great level of detail. Though it might sound quite a while, ten years is a relatively short time

period for some assets such as water reticulation.

Currently we face some significant issues including aging networks, road reconstruction, water reticulation at Blackmount, Otautau and Thornbury and Winton's stormwater system. These may tend to be taken for granted, but the need for these services is often only noticed when something goes wrong.

While this exercise must be undertaken to comply with the Local Government Act 2002, everyone has approached the process to ensure maximum value is gained from all this hard work.

Solutions to these projects are not just a matter of engineering, but funding is a key component. Another key consideration is intergenerational equity, what services are needed now and for future generations.

The whole process is community driven, both through the "Our Way" process, which identified key community outcomes and through the Levels of Service project.

None of this can be viewed in a vacuum, it is totally dependent upon partnerships between Council and the community. Likewise there is always a trade-off to be considered between the level of service provided and the cost met.

Sometimes we forget the value of our services and the role they play in our well being:

- roads – social, economic
- water – social, cultural, economic, health
(cheaper than Sky TV, telephone or electricity)
- sewerage – social, cultural, economic, environmental, health
- library – social, cultural, economic, education
- planning – environmental, economic, cultural, social

Not to mention the myriad of other services such as building control, animal control, health inspections, beautification, resources, litter collection, public toilets, grants, civil defence, parks, advocacy, solid waste, airports and playgrounds.

We believe we have put together a responsible plan, but we would love to hear from you with your input. Please take the time to read/submit on the summary or full document released at the end of this month.

Frana Cardno

Community Plan

Continued from page 1

believes that it is prudent to include these projects in the plan to allow public comment to be made. The Council is also looking at a number of improvements to water supplies and construction of new water schemes which are also subject to further consultation and confirmation of new Ministry of Health subsidies.

The plan will be audited this year, which is the first time that a forward planning document has been audited.

Miss Taylor said usually auditors come in at the end of the financial year and check that the financial transactions, operations, accounting and performance has been reported correctly.

However, this time they will be checking that the process of developing the plan has been fair and that the estimates and projections are a reasonable reflection of the Council's intentions.

"This is something new for both the Council and our auditors and it requires us to explain the approach we have taken and why," Miss Taylor said. "We're hoping that the audit will show up areas where we can improve and give readers an assurance that our process of developing the plan has been robust and that our projections and assumptions are reasonable".

Long-Term Council Community Plan

Timetable

Draft plan adopted	12 April 2006
Draft plan open for submissions	22 April 2006
<i>Draft plan available and summary distributed</i>	
Submissions close	22 May 2006
Submission hearing	13 June 2006
Submissions considered	14 June 2006
Council amend and adopt plan	28 June 2006
Plan becomes operative	1 July 2006

Climate Award

Presented to Council

Council was awarded for its commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the Communities for Climate Protection® - New Zealand Programme on Monday 27 March 2006 at a special event in Wellington.

Group Manager - Services and Assets Peter Higgs received the award on the council's behalf.

"Southland District Council is actively engaged in the protection of the global climate which not only has benefits for the environment, but also results in positive impacts on the local quality of life in our community.

We have discovered that implementing actions such as reducing waste, using energy efficient products and encouraging alternative forms of transport, not only reduces greenhouse gas emissions, but has multiple financial and social benefits too", he said

Appointments

TEMPORARY ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Kinsley Sampson



Former New Plymouth District Council Chief Executive Kinsley Sampson has been appointed temporary Southland District Council Chief Executive.

The appointment is to provide cover for David Adamson for two months while he is recovering

from heart surgery and assist senior managers at this very busy time of the year.

Human Resources Manager Henry Pipkin said Kinsley would be based in Invercargill weekly from Tuesday to Thursday during his time at Council.

He brings a wealth of experience in local government to Southland, including several years as president of the International City/Council Managers Association.

Kinsley will commute between his home in New Plymouth and Invercargill each week and be contactable outside his usual three days on site here if necessary, Mr Pipkin said.

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Kerry Dohig



Second time in Southland for new Communications Officer.

Kerry Dohig is the new Southland District Council Communications Officer, replacing Michele Poole, who has moved to a similar role at Environment Southland.

He returns to Invercargill after eight years in the North Island, including time at the New

Plymouth District Council and several communications positions in Wellington.

My wife and I wanted to be close to family and we think Southland is the best place to bring up our young family, he said.

“Our three year old son Nikolas just loves the outdoors and enjoys catching up with all his cousins down here.

“It is great to be back in Southland, my family and I are looking forward to renewing friendships and getting reacquainted with the abundant seafood and glorious natural beauty.”

Originally from New Plymouth, he still supports the Hurricanes, but has always followed the Highlanders and hopes that both teams do well in this year’s Super 14. “Kerry is a fairly popular name for boys born in Taranaki in the sixties, I was named after winger Kerry Hurley, who scored a try to retain the Ranfurly Shield.

“I first came here to study journalism and now I see that my old boss at New Plymouth Kinsley Sampson is heading down here soon to sample some southern hospitality and at least we can both shout for the canes”.

Meanwhile, at the time of writing, he was on standby awaiting the birth of his next child due this month.

Chief Executive

It's the little things



Rudolph Giuliani in his book “Leadership” headed a section “Always Sweat the Small Stuff”. In New York, Sweat the Small Stuff came from the “broken windows theory”, this was used by the New York Police Department to prevent senseless lawlessness. The “broken window theory” holds that a seemingly minor matter like broken windows in abandoned buildings can lead to a far more serious deterioration in neighbourhoods. Someone who would not normally throw a rock at an empty building is less reluctant to break a second window in a building that already has one broken. This culminates in the additional windows being broken as people sense that no one is there to prevent this damage and its escalation.

Council staff and contractors are trying to address the small stuff. We often get comments such as “we do the big stuff well but fail to follow up on the small stuff”, whether it be a leaking toby, a rocky manhole lid, a bit of uncut grass, or the failure to reply to a letter. While in the big picture each of these items is not significant the lack of attention to them portrays the possibility of not caring.

It is important for ratepayers and residents to understand that Council contractors and staff do care about the services and infrastructure which they have guardianship over on behalf of the ratepayers. Collectively we are trying to address the small stuff in an efficient, cost-effective and timely manner to ensure the small stuff does not portray a non-caring image.

Within the Council’s Long-Term Council Community Plan there are some new service levels being proposed and one is based around graffiti and vandalism. Both these issues are similar to the broken window where graffiti can attract more graffiti and people become blasé and bold if they feel that no one is caring or the chances of them being caught are minimal.

It is interesting that recently a number of successful prosecutions have been upheld over vandalism and graffiti with the court forcing the criminal to pay back Council the cost to rectify the damage. We however have a number of incidents where the culprit cannot be caught. We need to rely on the people in our communities to help prevent the problem by being vigilant, or at least standing up for their community by reporting offenders.

For those who do a lot of travelling the small things can make the difference between an outstanding visit and a visit to an outstanding place. Small things such as litter, broken facilities, not to mention clean toilets can either provide the icing on the cake or deliver that slightly sour flavour depending on the experiences encountered. With increasing tourism both domestic and international throughout the district, Council, contractors and staff are trying to dot their “I’s” and cross their “T’s” to deliver on the small stuff.

Through submissions in the LTCCP Council would welcome your input regarding your thoughts on the small stuff. So in the long-term, I hope our residents and ratepayers can say that Council not only is good at dealing with the big stuff but is also seriously “Sweating the Small Stuff”. A timely reply, a clean toilet and a clean environment for which we can all take pride are some of the objectives we hope to help deliver to our communities.

David Adamson
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Sister Cities

Southland to host 2007 Conference

Southland District Council will host next year's Sister Cities New Zealand Conference in Te Anau. Friendship Committee Chairman Cr Paul Duffy said that the conference will be held from 28 to 31 March and is expected to attract around 300 people from around the world.

The Sister Cities movement was founded after World War Two, to encourage understanding between different nations around the world. Around 46 Councils throughout New Zealand have active Sister City links.

Last year Southland District Council officially renewed its Sister City relationship with Wyong Shire at a ceremony in Australia. The ceremony included the presentation of a sculpture of famous Australian outlaw Ned Kelly, which is now displayed in Council's Invercargill office.

Wyong Shire is around two hours drive north of Sydney on the main highway to Brisbane. It has many beautiful beaches and is increasingly moving from a rural to urban location. "We have regular staff exchanges and find there are great mutual benefits in the relationship between Southland and Wyong Shire", he said.

The theme for next year's conference is based on a Ngāi Tahu proverb *Mō tātou ā mō ngā uri a muri ake nei* - **For all of us and for the generations that follow.**

Like Sister Cities New Zealand, the Southland District Council Friendship Committee seeks to foster a spirit of peace and understanding between all people. It is our responsibility to instil these values into our citizens and our children so that they will pass them onto future generations.



Surprise Visit

From Ned's 'Dad'



Council staff had a surprise visit in February from one of the two men who made the sculpture of famous Australian outlaw Ned Kelly.

Council's Liz Anderton said Gary Dmytryk had done some detective work to locate his piece of art.

"He certainly did a bit of hunting, he began asking around once he was in Queenstown and eventually made his way

down to us here after a couple more stops".

Ned was presented to the people of the district to mark the re-signing of our sister cities relationship with Wyong Shire in New South Wales. He was made by Gary alongside his son.

After tracking him down, Gary took a few photos with Ned and continued on his travels around the South Island, she said.

RAPID Numbers

New Address Standards

New Zealand Post is implementing a new address standard for mail deliveries.

The most important difference to many ratepayers will be that now your RAPID number and road name must be included in your Rural Delivery address, in addition to your RD number.

If you *don't* have a RAPID number, please contact Dave Joll at the Invercargill office or email him at david.joll@southlanddc.govt.nz, and he will arrange for one to be installed.

Your address should look something like this:

Joe Bloggs
123 Rural Road
RD 1
Winton

When your next rates demand is posted out, please check that the postal address Council has used shows the correct road name and RAPID number.

If it doesn't, please fill it in where it says "*Please note any change of address*" on your remittance notice.

We don't want to have to guess, because we might guess wrong!

Manapouri

To become only Fiordland Airport

The Te Anau Community Board proposes developing the Manapouri Airfield to make it the main air gateway to Fiordland.

Currently there are two airports operating in the area, Manapouri and Waiiau at Te Anau. Both are publicly owned, although Manapouri was only purchased from the Mount Cook Company in 2002. Since 2002 Council has prepared a scheme change to the Southland District Plan that will allow for the development and operation of one airport for the Te Anau Basin.

It is the Board's intention to decommission the Te Anau Airport - Waiiau and sell the property with proceeds contributing to the development of the Manapouri Airport.



Current runway with proposed outlined changes.

Community Service

Awards

JOHN YOUNGSON

Edendale ward member John Youngson received a community services award at a special ceremony at Edendale last month.

Southland District Mayor Frana Cardno said it was a pleasure to see John receive his award. John served his community board for 26 years, including seven years as chair. "Both John and Robyn (his wife) have given so much to the community and Edendale will always have a part of John and Robyn and there will always be a part of Edendale in them.

"John oversaw some difficult times in Edendale's development, including the loss of its post office, bank and some other services, but he has always maintained that it is a good place to live and bring up a family".

John Youngson said the town has stabilised and is set for a positive future with Fonterra and the community working together, new businesses growing and opportunities for improved services being offered to the community. He went on to say that the current sewerage scheme proposal is possibly the most significant event in his time on the Board and he hopes that the community endorse it. "I'm sure in the future, that people will look back and say they are pleased it is done and out of the road". He and Robyn are retiring to Timaru to be closer to family.



John Youngson with his wife Robyn receiving his Community Service Certificate from Mayor Frana Cardno.

JIM GUYTON

Many years of community service were marked when Jim Guyton received a community service award for his outstanding contribution to Mossburn. Cr Sue Anderson said the award was made at a special ceremony at the 50th anniversary celebrations for the Mossburn Fire Brigade on 25 March at Mossburn Community Centre. Jim Guyton spent 33 of the past 35 years as Mossburn chief fire officer.

He has had a long history of community involvement including six years on the Mossburn School Committee, 12 years on the Centre Hill Cemetery Trust, 22 years with the Mossburn RSA, six years as the Mossburn Community Centre Volunteer Custodian, 16 years on the Mossburn Community Development Area Committee, with 10 years as chairman and five years on the Lumsden Community Board of which he is the current chairman.

"I wish him well and would like to thank him for all his community support over the years", she said.



To make recycling as convenient as possible, many of the Council's community recycling facilities are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Recycling Centre Opening Hours

- LUMSDEN** – Oxford Street, open 24 hours, 7 days per week
- MANAPOURI** – Hillside Road, open 24 hours, 7 days per week
- MOSSBURN** – Mossburn Lumsden Highway, open 24 hours, 7 days per week
- OTAUTAU** – Transfer Station – Otautau Drummond Road, open Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday 10-12 noon, (daylight saving hours – Thursday 6-8pm)
- RIVERSDALE** – Community Centre Carpark, open 24 hours, 7 days per week
- RIVERTON** – Transfer Station – Havelock Street, open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday 3-5pm and Saturday 11-1pm and 3-5 pm.
- TE ANAU** – Public place bins – Bligh Street (outside school) and Lion Park, open 24 hours, 7 days per week
- TE ANAU** – Transfer Station – Te Anau Manapouri Highway, open 2-4pm daily (Easter to Labour weekend) and 2-6pm the rest of the year
- TOKANUI** – McEwan Street, open 24 hours, 7 days per week
- TUATAPERE** – King Street Domain, open 24 hours, 7 days per week
- WINTON** – Transfer Station – Florence Street, open Monday, Wednesday 2-5.30pm, Friday 12-5.30pm, Saturday 1-5pm or 11-5pm (daylight saving hours) and Sunday 2-5pm or 1-5pm (daylight saving hours).
- WYNDALE** – Transfer Station – Wyndham Edendale Highway, open Monday 11-1pm and 4-6pm. Wednesday 4-6pm. Thursday 7-8pm (daylight saving hours only). Friday 4-6pm. Saturday 11-12.30pm and 4-6pm.

Recycle

SQUASH

Recycle Reduce Reuse



Quarterly Averages 2005 (tonnes)

Paper	8.05
Cardboard	5.75
Glass	14.05
Plastics	0.64
Cans	1.16

and other plastic items such as buckets. Glass can be crushed and used as aggregate in footpaths and roads and cans are reprocessed into more cans for our consumption.

The Recycle Centres are not the only places where you can deposit your recycling. The district's Transfer Stations located in Otautau, Te Anau, Winton, Riverton and Wyndale also have areas where recyclables can be placed when the stations are open.

Meanwhile, Stewart Island has a recycling system in place. The Rakiura Resource Recovery Centre and kerbside recycling have operated on the island since December 2003. The centre is open 1.30pm to 4.30pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday for residents to drop in any items to be reused or recycled. On Tuesdays kerbside collection takes place around the Island where the residents household recycling bins and food scrap buckets are emptied. The food scraps are taken to the centre and used to feed the Island's worm farm. The recycling is sorted and baled at the centre which is similar to the Southland Enterprises operation yet on a smaller scale. The bales are then sent over Foveaux Strait and then on to Full Circle for further processing.

Sarah Dowling said when you recycle you do need to sort your items, take lids off and make sure they are generally clean; therefore when you arrive at your local centre you can just insert them into their allocated slot.



There are more and more places all the time being set up by the Council where you can recycle. Two new centres are soon to be set up at Mokotua and Ohai.

Check out the following website to find your local Recycling Centre www.southlanddcwaste.govt.nz

Nightcaps

Abandoned Properties

All but one of the 37 abandoned land properties tendered by Council prior to Christmas have been sold.

Council Property Officer Virginia Dillon said 30 were sold via the tender process and six sold more recently.

Properties are determined to be abandoned when the rates on them have been unpaid for three or more years and the location of the property owner is unknown.

The Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 sets out the process that Council must follow to obtain a court order declaring the land abandoned. The Act also determines how the sale is to be conducted. The sole property remaining is at 18 High Street East, Nightcaps she said.

For further information contact Virginia Dillon on 03 218 7259.



Winton

Children's Librarians Conference

Southland icon Suzanne Prentice gave a lively and informative keynote address at the South Island Children's Librarians' Conference in February.

Winton Librarian Sharon Lang said the local singer and author spoke candidly of fame, family and food and left a lasting impression of a woman who has achieved so much on the international stage yet resisted the temptations that are on offer.

Co-hosted by the Gore and Southland District Libraries, this year's conference was held from 23-24 February and covered learning disabilities, story telling and a wide and interesting range of speakers and topics.

Southland District Mayor Frana Cardno revealed herself to be a tireless supporter of library services and although she alluded to her background of kindergarten teaching few were prepared for the unrestrained zest she brought to her storytelling session. With her puppets Badjelly and Billy Goat Gruff she was quite the star, delighting her audience and setting the mood beautifully for the three remaining storytellers: Liz Miller, Kaitrin McMullan and Margaret Ellis.

Two more sessions followed which were targeted specifically at librarians and the daily issues they face in their duties.

The final session was an open forum chaired by Cynthia Smith, Advisor to Schools from the National Library's Invercargill Service Centre. It was generally agreed to have been a very busy two days, the success of which was made possible by the generous support of the many sponsors and the attendance of over 100 librarians, Sharon Lang said.



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If you've got a chance to promote Southland, the Spirit Shop has the tools to help you do it in style!

Not that everything costs money at the Spirit Shop – you can borrow the big Southland Spirit of a Nation flags at any time or help yourself to the paper versions.



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- Bag tag/key ring
- Tattoos
- Sting Scarves
- Classic tee
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03 214 3317
 Open 10 – 4 weekdays

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN

DO YOU NEED ONE?

ANY EVENT that takes place on a public road will need a Traffic Management Plan.

For further information please phone
03 2187 259

Mobile Library Timetable

29 March 2006 - 7 July 2006



		Maintenance	Mon	10 April	15 May	12 June			
Athol	Shop	1:00 - 3:00	Mon	3 April		8 May		29 May	3 July
Balfour	Tavern	9:30 - noon	Tues		*		23 May		
		6:00 - 8:00	Tues	4 April		9 May		6 June	4 July
Blackmount	School	11:00 - 12:00	Mon		24 April		22 May		19 June
Colac Bay	Foreshore	12:30 - 2:00	Thurs	6 April		11 May		8 June	6 July
Dacre	School	11:00 - 12:30	Fri	7 April		12 May		9 June	7 July
Drummond	Tavern	3:30 - 5:00	Thurs	30 Mar		4 May		1 June	29 June
Edendale	Car Park	2:00 - 4:30	Fri	7 April	28 April	12 May	26 May	9 June	23 June
Feldwick	Hall	9:30 - 10:30	Mon		24 April		22 May		19 June
Five Rivers	Hall	3:30 - 5:00	Mon	3 April		8 May		29 May	3 July
Fortrose	Picnic Area	2:30 - 4:00	Thurs		13 April		18 May		15 June
Garston	Main Street	10:30 - 11:30	Mon	3 April		8 May		29 May	3 July
Glenham	Hall	11:30 - 1:00	Thurs		13 April		18 May		15 June
Gorge Rd	Hall	9:00 - 11:30	Tues		11 April		16 May		13 June
Hauroko Valley	School	1:30 - 4:00	Mon		24 April		22 May		19 June
Hedgehope	Hall	10:00 - 11:30	Fri	31 Mar		5 May		2 June	30 June
Longbush	Kindergarten	9:00 - 10:00	Fri		28 April		26 May		23 June
Mokoreta	Hall	9:30 - 10:30	Thurs		13 April		18 May		15 June
Mossburn	RSA	2:00 - 4:30	Tues		*		23 May		20 June
		2:00 - 4:30	Tues	4 April		9 May		6 June	4 July
Orepuki	Main St	2.30 - 4.00	Thurs	6 April		11 May		8 June	6 July
Otara	Hall	2:00 - 4:00	Wed		12 April		17 May		14 June
Pukerau	School	9:30 - 11:30	Wed		26 April		24 May		21 June
Rimu	School	9:00 - 10:00	Fri	7 April		12 May		9 June	7 July
Riversdale	Hall	2:00 - 5:00	Thurs		27 April		25 May		22 June
		11:00 - 1:30	Wed	5 April		10 May		7 June	5 July
Roslyn Bush	Playcentre	1:00 - 2:00	Fri	31 Mar		5 May		2 June	30 June
Ryal Bush	Church	2:30 - 4:00	Fri	31 Mar		5 May		2 June	30 June
Te Tipua	School	11:00 - 12:30	Fri		28 April		26 May		23 June
Thornbury	Shop	9:30 - 11:00	Thurs	6 April		11 May		8 June	6 July
Tokanui	Main St	1:30 - 4:00	Fri		21 April		19 May		16 June
		10:00 - noon	Wed	29 Mar		3 May		31 May	28 June
Waianiwa	Hall	1:30 - 3:00	Thurs	30 Mar		4 May		1 June	29 June
Waikaia	Hall	11:00 - 12:30	Thurs		27 April		26 May		22 June
		3:00 - 5:00	Wed	5 April		10 May		7 June	5 July
Waikaka	Main St	2:00 - 4:00	Wed		26 April		24 May		21 June
Willowbank	School	12:30 - 1:30	Wed		26 April		24 May		21 June
Waikawa	Hall	10:00 - noon	Fri		21 April		19 May		16 June
Waimahaka	Hall	10:00 - noon	Wed		12 April		17 May		14 June
Wallacetown	Com Centre	9:00 - noon	Thurs	30 Mar		4 May		1 June	29 June
Wendon	Hall	9:00 - 10:30	Wed	5 April		10 May		7 June	5 July
Wendonside	Hall	9:30 - 10:30	Thurs		27 April		25 May		22 June
Woodlands	Shop	2:00 - 4:00	Tues		11 April		16 May		13 June
		2:00 - 4:00	Wed	29 Mar		3 May		31 May	28 June

Any queries, requests or renewals: please telephone the Winton library (03) 236 0476. Note: the following areas have fortnightly visits: Balfour, Riversdale, Waikaia, Mossburn, Edendale, Tokanui, Woodlands. Renewals can be made by email to: wintonlibrary@southlanddc.govt.nz

Your Elected Representatives



Cr Rodney Dobson
Riverton Ward

I recently walked part of the proposed "Ports Race" walkway - this is a 9 km section of the water-race from the Pourakino Valley to the gold fields at Round Hill. Sections of the track will eventually be part of the "Te Araroa Trail", which is a linking of walkways from North Cape to Bluff, a distance of 3000 km. A small group of locals who wish to promote some of our disappearing history in

Western Southland have developed a 2 km track to give access to the water-race from the public road.

There is considerable interest in suitable land for a subdivision in Riverton and surrounding coastal areas. It is good to see community members actively involved in the submission process. Southland District Council and Environment Southland are jointly funding a coastal study to identify areas suitable and unsuitable for development.

Construction work on the Riverton Heritage Centre is well under way and on target for the complex to be opened in November 2006. This project is testament to Riverton's community spirit with \$250,000 being raised locally. Other significant contributions have come from Southland District Council, The Community Trust of Southland, Lotteries Board, Private Trusts, Gaming Machine Trusts, Riverton/Aparima Community Board and the newly formed Regional Heritage Trust.

SDC Website

Update

Council is currently working on a revamped website which will offer enhanced features to the public. The layout and navigational features will also be changed to provide a cleaner and more intuitive experience for visitors.

The new site will have the following features progressively added as they are completed:

- Property Search
- GIS (Geographical Information Systems) Maps and Aerial Photography
- On-line forms for common applications - such as LIMS, PIMS and further down the track Resource and Building Consents
- On-line payment of rates and/or other payments for services
- Library Book reservations and requests
- On-line Customer Service Requests
- A refined Questions and Answers section
- Access to the Long Term Council Community Plan and what Council is planning to do over the next 10 years
- Specialised Local Interest Areas for special communities - this will be a community initiative which would allow local communities, groups etc. to have their own part of the Council website.

Website content - we will always endeavour to ensure that the website has the most up-to-date information, but if you do come across any information which is incorrect please let us know - email us on webmaster@southlanddc.govt.nz or contact one of our offices.



Cr Lyall Bailey
Winton Ward

At this time of year the Council and Community Board are setting their estimates for the coming year. One issue that is having considerable impact on this year's process is the \$200,000 reduction in the government subsidy of the Southland roading network at a time when the cost of maintaining the 5,000 km of Southland's roads is increasing.

In Winton the community board is currently having to deal with the replacement of the water mains and upgrading the sewerage services within the township, fortunately these renewals and the associated loan repayments will be staged over the next 25 years, thus reducing the impact on current ratepayers.

Now for something on a brighter note, in January Lenore and I took part in the Vero International Car Rally and were fortunate enough to meet up with many vintage car enthusiasts from around New Zealand and overseas.

These visitors were very impressed with the wonderful scenery and favourable comments about the quality of our roads and rural townships with their shops, cafes and gardens, "especially Winton" with our main street, ANZAC Oval and band rotunda being frequently mentioned. Most visitors found it hard to believe that our wonderful gardens were created and maintained by one lady with some casual assistance, but then most of them had never met that special lady Peg Leach.

Fastest Indian *Taking Southland to the world*

When *The World's Fastest Indian* ousted *Once Were Warriors* as the best selling film ever in New Zealand, we shouldn't have been surprised. Burt Munro loved breaking records. Through the movie, the Southland speed demon is providing a boon of regional promotion for Southland that he would have loved.

The movie puts our Southland landscape and personality on the world's silver screens. At the recent Australian launch of the film, Venture Southland used the occasion to promote the region, running a competition for travel to Southland that attracted hundreds of entries through www.southlandnz.com. The launch was also an opportunity to promote Southland food and migration opportunities.

The promotional strategy for Southland is to concentrate visitor and migration opportunities around big events such as the movie and the Bluff Oyster and Southland Seafood Festival. When the DVD version of *The World's Fastest Indian* hits the video shops, it will include a promotional scenic tour of Southland.

Since the movie release we have had an increase in filming, including a Castrol Oil advertisement shot at Oreti Beach and Croydon Airfield. This is bringing people and money into Southland. So what can the average Southlander do to help this promotion of their region? Certainly, talk up *The World's Fastest Indian* to all your overseas friends - the more who see it, the greater the benefit for Southland.

Secondly, use the merchandise to promote the movie and Southland. Buy the *Fastest Indian* t-shirts, caps and pens and send them on to friends overseas while they are hot items.



“When a vehicle stops suddenly from just 40km/h the impact on an unrestrained passenger is the same as if they had plummeted on to concrete from a two-storey building”...



Police staff will be deployed this month at various times and locations throughout Southland monitoring seatbelt compliance and will be taking a zero tolerance approach at the time.

Southland road safety partners Road Safety Southland, the Royal New Zealand Plunket Society, New Zealand Police, ACC and Nga Kete Mataruanga Pounamu Charitable Trust have been active to promote the “Belted In The Back” campaign with one goal and that is to increase the seatbelt wearing rates, rear seat passengers being one of the lowest nationwide at just 74% compliance in Southland.

Invercargill Police Snr Sgt Kerrin Price said “One hard to deal with problem is the high proportion of vehicle occupants killed or injured who are not wearing proper restraints at the time of impact.

“Of the six fatalities in our province in 2005, four of these were not wearing seatbelts”.

Southland Road Safety Advisor Jane Ballantyne said the main focus of the campaign is on the extreme danger to front seat vehicle occupants from unrestrained rear seat objects.

These objects range from people to grocery items. If they are not restrained they can be transformed into deadly missiles if a vehicle brakes suddenly, inflicting serious or fatal injuries to the driver and front seat passenger.

Ms Ballantyne said people seriously underestimate the force that is applied in a crash, with life changing head or brain damage being one of the most common injuries suffered by victims.

When a vehicle stops suddenly from just 40km/h the impact on an unrestrained passenger is the same as if they had plummeted on to concrete from a two-storey building.

“Get belted in the back”

Road Vests for Southland Schools

After a successful trial period fluorescent high visibility safety vests are being made available to all Southland schools.

Community Advisor-Road Safety Southland Jane Ballantyne said the scheme aims to make it safer for all children on their way to and from school whether they walk, cycle, take the bus or are driven.

The scheme, an initiative from the Mataura Lions Club which is sponsored by The Community Trust of Southland and the Wellington Road Safety Trust, has been so successful in Southland that it is set to be adopted nationwide.

“There’s no problem getting the kids to wear the vest, they’re cool because more and more adults wear them too”, she said.

However, it is important that every child in the school wear the vest because there is a fear that drivers will become conditioned to seeing students with them on, so a child not wearing one may become invisible on the roadside and therefore be put (once again) in danger.

Schools interested in adopting the vests should first contact their local Police Education Officer or Jane at the Southland District Council’s Invercargill office, as the vests are being issued in association with the Police.

Because the programme aims to target children at greatest risk, rural schools are receiving a subsidy bringing the cost for them down to \$3.25 per vest, while vests cost urban schools \$7.50 each.

“Ultimately we would like to see every primary aged child in Southland wearing a ‘hi viz’ vest when travelling to and from school, but for this we need to raise more than \$130,000. So in the meantime we are working with one school at a time until we get there”, she said.



Children at Knapdale Primary School wearing the new vests.

Contact Details www.southlanddc.govt.nz

	You can ring any Council Office 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
Invercargill	(03) 218 7259
Lumsden	(03) 248 7307
Otautau	(03) 225 8069
Riverton	(03) 234 8508
Stewart Island	(03) 219 1049
Te Anau	(03) 249 7178
Winton	(03) 236 7291
Wyndham	(03) 206 4330

Emergency messages will be passed on immediately.
Other messages will be passed on the following morning.

Get belted in the back

When everyday objects become lethal weapons

Consider these facts before leaving everyday objects unsecured in your vehicle or allowing anyone to ride in the back seat without a safety belt:

- When a vehicle stops suddenly from only 40 km/h the impact on unrestrained back seat passengers is the same as plummeting onto concrete from a two-storey building.
- An unsecured 10kg bag takes on the force of half a ton, if your vehicle stops suddenly at 50km/h.
- At 50km/h in a head-on crash, a child who isn't wearing a safety belt is propelled forward with the equivalent weight of a baby elephant.
- Research shows that the risk of death to front seat occupants who are wearing safety belts increases by 400% when someone in the back seat isn't wearing their safety belt.



“The front passenger seat had twisted and buckled forward, while the driver’s seat was ripped from its mounting”.

This is a crash investigator’s description of the inside of a car where two people were killed, after being crushed by two large heavy unsecured suitcases.

The suitcases were hurtled into them, when their vehicle was hit in the rear end by another vehicle.

“Get belted in the back”