



MARKING THE PAST *three years*

It has been a busy and productive three-year term for the Southland District Council.

With local government elections in October, it is a good time to reflect on the events of the past three years.

Some of the highlights have included excellent resident satisfaction survey results, with more than 80% of those surveyed happy with Council decisions in the past two years. We have completed a sewerage scheme at Tuatapere, with funding from the Ministry of Health assisting greatly. We are nearing the completion of the joint Edendale-Wyndham sewerage scheme, and will be opening the innovative BioFiltro treatment plant soon. We also have purchased land in preparation for the possible new Te Anau scheme.

Equally important are our water improvement schemes, with the joint scheme at Edendale-Wyndham nearly complete and the new Lumsden-Balfour water treatment plant being opened by Deputy Prime Minister Bill English on October 22.

Roading has been and always will be our big test, with nearly 5000km to look after, but Council responds to the District's needs despite the challenges. The development of the Papatotara Coast Road was innovative and showed what all parties, including landowners, the New Zealand Transport Agency, contractors and Council, can do when working together. Council became part of the Aotearoa People's Network in our libraries, which means free internet is provided for one and all.

We also joined a consortia of libraries to work together on various systems to save costs and share ideas.

Other shared services in the three years include Civil Defence – Southland now has a joint emergency management service which looks after the whole province, rather than three local areas and a group. We have also worked with Environment Southland in the review of the District Plan and the Regional Policy Statement.

Several projects have focused on Stewart Island – the renewable energy trials continue in an attempt to find other ways to provide electricity to the islanders, Council has taken over responsibility for several of the jetties on the island and is also in the process of getting legislation passed that will allow a visitor's levy to be charged. This will provide more funding for infrastructural needs on the island.

We have many cemeteries in our District, and we are steadily working our way around them creating display panels of the history and the burials. We also provide a cemetery search service on our redeveloped website. As well, there are many more successful local projects that have been undertaken by our community boards and CDAs – too many to mention here.

Our mission statement of "Working Together for a better Southland" epitomises the work of Council, staff, boards, sub-committees and our community that has been and will continue to be done.





David Adamson

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

It's easy to sit back and wait for problems to arrive.

All of a community's time can be spent stamping out fires and apportioning blame to external parties. But it is worth recalling how positive it can feel for a community to control its destiny through the provision of insights into the problems, developing the potential of the community, and providing leadership to the solution of problems before they arise.

Community leadership is an issue that Council grapples with regularly. Community, of course, can be on a myriad of scales involving just a few from a common area or with a common interest to, in some cases, the whole of the district. The success or failure of a community project often seems to hinge on the presence or absence of good leadership. Leadership has been identified as one of the key projects in the Our Way project and it is also high on the agenda of a number of other major community organisations.

What is leadership? In the business world it is often the chairperson or CEO who delivers a successful course for his or her company, creating a strong work environment while building capital. But what does leadership mean in our communities as we look at planning for the future?

Some communities seem to lack the leadership needed to get innovative or positive projects off the ground. In many cases the workload falls on the same shoulders. But in some of our communities there is a support system that creates an environment conducive for people to step up, take risks, run with a project – in other words, become leaders.

In some towns there is such a feeling of ill will and mistrust, that there is no presence of progressive free thinking, and no sense of working together. This kind of environment can lead to conflict which can in turn create a community where there is no supportive atmosphere for

new leadership to grow and if this occurs where the old, traditional leadership is "dying out" we can experience a leadership gap.

In contrast, some of our communities have strong leadership. This has not necessarily come in the form of grandiose ideas, or specific projects, but from a constant presence, supportive manner, a calming influence, and a fair and honest dealer.

Through a good leader's perseverance, their willingness to share their knowledge and their ability to work with and teach others, an environment can be created that can comfortably deal with serious conflicts and major changes in a productive way.

Sometimes it takes just one person to step forward, take the reins, and begin building coalitions to make something work. Good leaders can have the reins for many years, providing they are adaptable, have good inter-personal skills, can respond to change and can always illustrate the positive of even the sourest situation.

Community leaders are almost always great simplifiers, who cut through argument, debate and doubt to offer a solution everybody can understand and remember. Every leader worth his/her salt is also a great teacher and a great motivator. The ideal community leader is one that wants to inspire the people around him/her to be amazing mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, friends, citizens, and employees, whether we are baking a cake, coaching the netball team or building a community centre, it doesn't matter.

Development of community leaders is a never-ending process and there are a large number of organisations willing to help. Community leaders who recognise the need to continually develop, are skilled communicators, encompass integrity, are collaborative, remain authentic and can rise to the challenges of continual change can have many successful years serving their community - beneficial to society.

So, what does this mean to small groups of residents trying to start a project or beginning a planning process? It means that leadership, an intangible, hard-to-describe thing, is a key ingredient to strong communities. It does not mean you give up if you cannot identify readily visible, well-known "leaders." All of our communities have an abundance of leaders but often they are not easy to see or they have been frightened due to a non-supportive atmosphere.

Leadership can come from unexpected places, from several different people -and can be disguised (as it often is) as steadiness and perseverance. It may be lurking in the young, or the mature, in the new or the old or in another culture. Leaders come from all sorts of economic, social, and ethnic backgrounds.

Look for diversity when identifying potential community leaders. This leadership may just be waiting for an opportunity for someone to give it some nourishment before it blossoms into a community asset. The key is giving people a chance to develop. You might be surprised.

Creative New Zealand Scholarships
Valmai Robertson Dance Scholarship

creative communities NZ
Southland District

All dance types are eligible.

Scholarships are available to Southlanders living or owning property within the Southland District Council area

Phone Bronwyn 03 211 1426

Application forms and guidelines are available from all Council Offices.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 15 DECEMBER 2010

ERIK BARNES New Group Manager

Southland District Council has a new Group Manager Services and Assets.

Chief executive David Adamson said Erik Barnes will replace Cameron McIntosh, who is moving to the Invercargill City Council.

Mr Barnes has been based in Christchurch as the Manager Antarctic Programme with Antarctica NZ for the past four years. In that role he has been responsible for managing Scott Base and its science and non-science programmes and so has oversight over a diverse range of contracts, including telecommunications, aircraft, engineering and services.

Mr Barnes holds tertiary qualifications in science, majoring in environmental science, and in electronics. He previously managed Western Washington University's Outdoor Centre, and also worked for the US Air Force and as a mountain guide.

He and his wife have two children aged four and one, so family is one of his key interests, along with running, swimming, skiing and climbing.

"Erik has shown with his previous positions strong decisive strategic leadership and has a raft of attributes suitable to this role," Mr Adamson said.

"It will be a steep learning curve for him coming into local government and we will ensure he has the appropriate induction programme to bring him up to speed as quickly as possible."

Mr Barnes said: "I am extremely pleased to be given the opportunity to work in local government.

"Southland's guiding principle of 'People First' and the focus of sustainability in



Erik Barnes

the vision are guiding principles in my own life.

"I am looking forward to the challenges ahead and am very excited to be working in such a wonderful environment and supportive team. I can't wait to move south!"

Mr Adamson was impressed with the quality of the 25 applicants for the group manager role.

Mr Barnes will be starting at the Council in mid-October.

ANOTHER FIVE YEAR TERM FOR CEO

Southland District Council chief executive David Adamson has kept his job for another five years.

Council human resources manager Henry Pipkin said Council resolved to reappoint Mr Adamson for another five years, starting from 22 January 2011, when his present contract expires.

The chief executive position has to be advertised every five years under the Local Government Act 2002.

Seven candidates, including Mr Adamson, from throughout New Zealand and including one from the UK, applied for the position, Mr Pipkin said.

Mayor Frana Cardno said she was pleased Mr Adamson was reappointed.

It was an easy decision because David's

application was of exceptional quality, portraying his vast experience in local government.

"Council is very happy with his performance and we feel things are going well under his leadership," Mrs Cardno said.

Mr Adamson said he was very pleased to be offered the position and greatly appreciated the confidence that Council had in him, the organisation and staff. He hoped the next five years will continue to build on those of the past.

He has been Southland District Council chief executive since January 2003.

Centennial Bursary Scholarship

For all students commencing their first year of study

Scholarships are available to Southlanders living or owning property within the Southland District Council area

Phone Bronwyn 03 211 1426

Application forms and guidelines are available from all Council Offices.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE WEDNESDAY 15 DECEMBER 2010



Southland

REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT AND DISTRICT PLAN *Reviews*

PROJECT UPDATE

In the past few months Southland District Council resource management staff have been working on the policy drafting stage of the District Plan review project.

This stage has involved the drafting of issues, objectives and policies focused on 22 key policy topics.

Council is continuing to work collaboratively with Environment Southland in this policy drafting stage with a combined approach having been developed for both the second generation Southland District Plan and Regional Policy Statement for Southland.

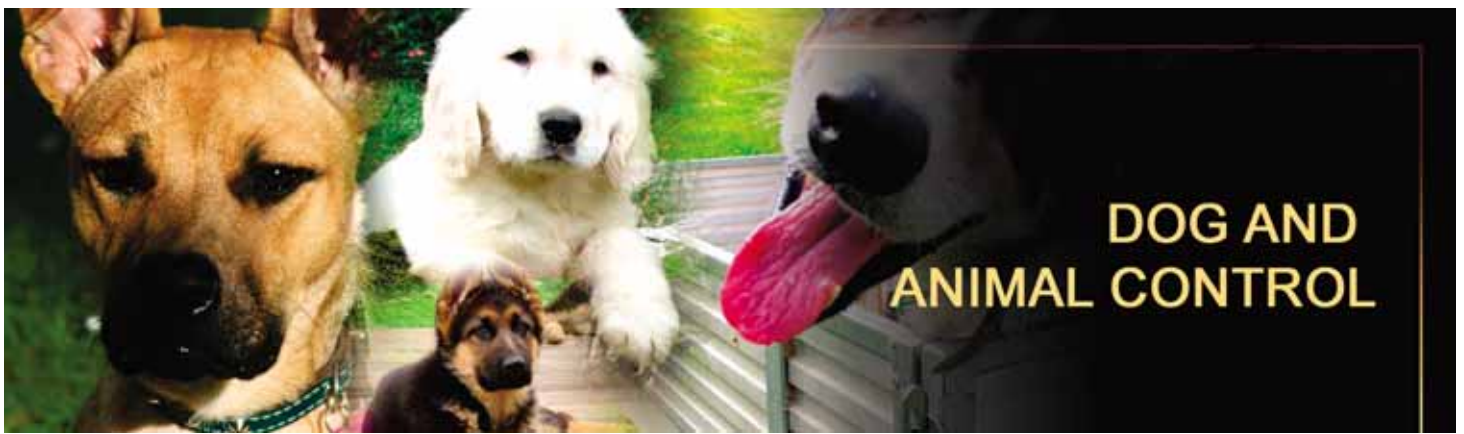
A series of four councillor policy workshops have recently been held. The workshops involved councillors from both Councils.

Subject to suggested changes and amendments discussed in the workshops, Southland District and Environment Southland councillors have endorsed the policy approach outlined in the draft policy documents.

The next step in the District Plan review process is the method drafting stage.

Discussions between both Councils on the potential for further collaboration in this stage will be held soon as there is likely to be a number of advantages in continuing this approach.

NUMBER	APPLICANT	CONSENT DESCRIPTION	DECISION DATE
53204	Southland District Council	Implement provisions of the Manapouri Foreshore Management Plan	18/5/2010
53226	Takitimu Coal Ltd	Soil disturbance activities associated with ongoing mining coal	1/3/2010
53231	Crowe Family Trust	Establish and operate premises for the production, packaging, distribution and retail of organic compost tea	1/4/2010
53244	Southland District Council	Construct, operate and maintain a water treatment plant	23/2/2010
53248	Peter and Jo O'Brien	Rotten rock extraction – 7000m ³	2/2/2010
53250	Roberto Lombardi	Land use consent to identify and utilise a building platform 30m by 30m, which differs from previously approved site	20/4/2010
53275	David Dumbleton Family Trust	Land use consent to extract 200,000m ³ gravel for off-site sales and 40,000m ³ of overburden for use in reinstatement	26/3/2010
53302	Fonterra Co-operative Group Ltd	Construct and operate a railway line to serve the Edendale dairy plant	15/4/2010
53025	D J and W P Carey	Gravel extraction – 60,000m ³	2/6/2010
53063	Nistaben Partnership	Two wintering barns linked by a covered corridor, exceeding the maximum height permitted	24/6/2010
53087	C E and J Allan	Rural subdivision – two-lot subdivision and land use consent to erect dwelling within building platform	29/6/2010
53119	Winton Park Investments	Develop existing depot of Sinclair Transport to locate two other businesses on the site	7/9/2010
53299	Sunrise Farms Ltd	Create seven new allotments and land use consent for six new dwelling sites	27/7/2010
53240	Kristi Faulkner	Two-lot subdivision and land use consent to construct a dwelling within building platform on Lot 2	8/7/2010
53073	Tony and Tracey Hall	Land use consent to extract 50,000m ³ of gravel for private and commercial use	21/7/2010
53002	Whyte	Land use consent to extract 150,000m ³ of gravel for commercial use	24/5/2010
53084	RD1	Land use consent to construct and operate a store	11/3/2010 (Environment Court)
53203	Energy 3	Erect a wind monitoring mast	14/2/2010



BYLAW REVIEWED

Council has reviewed the keeping animals, poultry and bees bylaw, and has added a new clause regarding the keeping of cats.

An Environmental Health officer may impose a limit on the number of cats which may be kept on private land (such limit being not more than five) where:

- A** the Council has received a complaint about the number of cats kept on private land; and
- B** the officer considers that the number of cats is creating a nuisance or is likely to create nuisance; and
- C** the person keeping those cats fails to comply with any reasonable request of the officer to abate or prevent the nuisance.

While Council has general powers under the Health Act 1956 to abate nuisance conditions, a bylaw gives cat owners guidance on what the community considers is an acceptable number of cats to keep in residential areas.

Complaints concerning the keeping of cats are rare in the Southland District. In the last 10 years Council has been notified of two severe cases where residential properties keep in excess of 30 cats on each, causing nuisance conditions for neighbours.

WARNING for dog owners

Dog owners are being advised to ensure their dogs do not wander during lambing and calving season, Southland District Council compliance officer Paul Bell says.

"We're giving dog owners the heads up to not let their dogs go wandering around their neighbourhood. If they are running among stock, they may be destroyed by the farmer or anyone he chooses as his representative."

Farmers have been known to destroy roaming dogs after catching them around their stock and "they are in their rights to do so."

"It has happened in the past," Mr Bell said. "Owners should keep an eye on their dogs or contain and confine them to their property so they cannot freely leave."

"There will be dog rangers constantly patrolling around the district." Mr Bell also reminds owners to make sure their dogs are registered for the 2010/2011 year, as rangers will be inspecting properties for unregistered dogs from the beginning of September.

"If any unregistered dog is found at a property, it can be removed, as well as the owner issued a \$300 fine for being in possession of an unregistered dog."

"Or alternatively, you can spend the \$30 and go into a Southland District Council office and register your dog," said Mr Bell.

SDC FREE DOG MICROCHIPPING DATES

AREA	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
EDENDALE FIRE STATION		9 th 4 - 5pm	
INVERCARGILL OFFICE		2 nd 11 - 12 noon	7 th 11 - 12 noon
LUMSDEN RAILWAY STATION			9 th 5 - 5.30pm
NIGHTCAPS -- FIRE STATION			16 th 4 - 4.30pm
OHAI -- FIRE STATION	21 st 4 - 4.30pm		
OTAUTAU OFFICE			4 th 11 - 11.30am
RIVERSDALE - ANDREWS TRANSPORT		2 nd 5 - 5.30pm	
RIVERTON OFFICE		6 th 11 - 11.30am	
TE ANAU OFFICE (AT REAR)		9 th 5 - 5.30pm	
TOKANUI FIRE STATION		2 nd 3 - 3.30pm	
TUATAPERE - OLD RAILWAY STATION		18 th 4 - 4.30pm	
WINTON OFFICE		4 th 11 - 11.30am	2 nd 11 - 11.30am

Economic

Lifelines

The cost of FLOODING



Extensive flooding throughout the Southland District during April is estimated to have cost around \$80,000 so far.

Southland District Council engineering manager Peter Thompson said much of the cleanup costs associated with the floods were able to be done as part of Council's regular contracts, with the bulk of the additional costs a result of the response to the flood, like calling contractors during the night to monitor the situation and putting signs up and down.

"About 55% of the costs were related to assessments, monitoring and signage and 45% of the total costs were repair based," he said.

The \$80,000, however, does not include bridges which "will have a much higher capital cost associated with it. We don't know the full extent of it as we are still being assessed by MWH," Mr Thompson said. "There will be some long term costs.

"We have a district that has a lot of waterways and streams and rivers and there are a number of roads that run very close to or across rivers and wherever that happens there runs the risk of damage from floodwaters."

"It was a reasonably full on event but the damage itself was fairly minor in terms of the roads" amongst other things, Mr Thompson said.

Roading PROGRAMME APPROVED

Southland District Council has approved its roading programme for 2010-2011, with the key driver ensuring the road network is developed and maintained strategically.

Council strategic manager transport Joe Bourque said \$26.8 million, including funding from the New Zealand Transport Agency, is to spent on Southland roads and related services this coming year.

The budget is split so that 39% will be spent on maintenance and 61% on renewals to maintain an agreed level of service. Council has approved some 17km of rehabilitation and approximately 138.3km of resealing, Mr Bourque said.

"The bridge renewal programme is still being developed at this time," he said.

"This follows on from a difficult 2009-2010 year, where funding was reduced by NZTA and budget constraints were made. In spite of that a carry forward of \$1.4 million into this financial year was from constrained spending and doing more with less."

"This is a remarkable outcome and affirms we are well on the road to recovery and can deliver a staunch capital recovery without compromising our service level performance," Mr Bourque said.

Council will undertake an economic network framework development to provide the ability to decide on how best strategically invest and support Southland's future.

"It is envisaged this will enable Council to make transparent decisions around investment in current levels of service and forecast growth. It will also work in with District planning and contingency planning to cover future risk," Mr Bourque said.

ROADING CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2010

Rehabilitation work with about 17km planned for the season.

Otautau-Tuatapere Road - two rehabilitations

Isla Bank Road - one rehabilitation

NOVEMBER 2010

Resealing work with about 178km planned for the season.



BIO ENGINEERING TO FIX SLIPS

Southland District Council is using a mixture of traditional and green engineering to fix the series of landslips on Stewart Island.

Area engineer for Stewart Island Irwin Harvey said the 11 slips affected several roads and occurred three years ago during a large storm.

“It has taken some time to actually carry out the work to fix the slips because of several reasons, not least funding. We also had to consult with the Department of Conservation and Environment Southland about the introduction of the willow being used in the living retaining walls and we had to get resource consent from both ES and SDC,” Mr Harvey said.

After geotechnical investigations, final designs were agreed on and six sites were approved for bio-engineering – the installation of brush-layer living retaining walls.

That work began in early August and is now close to completion, Mr Harvey said.

The traditional engineering solutions for the rest of the sites involve retaining and anchoring into base rock, with associated soil stabilisation and rehabilitation.

Meyer Construction Ltd was awarded the tender for this work and will begin in late September.

A total of \$900,000 has been allocated to complete the remediation work of all 11 slips and Mr Harvey is confident the end total will be within this budget.

SUMMER ISSUES And How You Can Help

DEALING WITH DUST

Another Southland summer is approaching, and in parts of the District this can see high temperatures, warm winds, dry ground and dusty roads.

With nearly 3000km of unsealed roads within Council’s network many residents can be affected by dust coming off the surface and it is for this reason Council permits the use of dust suppression tools, as long as you have a permit.

A dust suppression permit can be applied for between October and March annually, and is available from any of Council’s area offices or online.

There is a permit application fee of \$60 which is required to be paid with the application and Council requires information including the proposed location, length and application method.

Upon approval applicants will be issued with signs to be erected at start of treatment sites to identify the change in surface to the road user.

After the suppressant has been applied to the road surface, a record is kept with Council, which endeavours to restrict grading of treated sections. The applicant is responsible for the maintenance of the oiled section.

The roads will, however, be graded during winter when reshaping is carried out.



Call **0800 732 732** to speak to one of our Customer Service Officers or your local Area Engineer if you would like further information or have any questions, or go to www.southlanddc.govt.nz/assets/Roading%20Flyers/DustSuppressantFlyer.pdf

What we do now can make

a **WORLD**

of *Difference*

TWO BINS for Southland Ratepayers

Southland District Council ratepayers will move to a two-bin rubbish and recycling service in May next year.

At present all urban domestic ratepayers within a prescribed boundary have one bin for all their waste.

The current service is also available to rural ratepayers who can access designated pick-up routes on a voluntary basis.

In May two 240-litre bins will be provided – one for recycling and one for other waste, excluding green waste.

Council asset manager water and waste Ian Evans said Council agreed to award Bond Contracts the contract for the kerbside collection service and the operation of the transfer stations, recycling drop-off centres

and greenwaste sites at this month's APAC meeting.

Council also agreed to be part of the agreement between the Invercargill City Council and Southland Disability Enterprises for the procurement and operation of the Southland regional materials recovery facility.

These decisions follow several years of joint investigations with the other Southland councils about the options for recycling and at ways of reducing the amount of waste going to landfill.

In the 2011-2012 Annual Plan it was proposed to standardise the charge so both urban and rural properties using

the service would pay the same amount and that cost is likely to be \$236 a year excluding GST.

Staff are now working on establishing the urban boundaries and also setting out procedures and policies for how the new system will work.

Information on the two bins will be sent out to ratepayers within the next few months.

"Details on what can be recycled will be included in this information, but if anyone has any questions please do not hesitate to contact the Council water and waste team on 0800 732 732," Mr Evans said.

SOUTHLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL WHEELIE BINS

Dear Customer,

To make sure you receive the best possible service from us at all times,
Could you please follow the steps below on wheelie bin days.

1. Your bin is placed close to the kerb as possible
2. You have at least 1 metre clearance behind and either side of the bin
3. Your bin is facing the road side
4. Do not put anything in the bin that can cause damage to either the bin, the refuse truck or the operator, eg hot ashes, metal, medical syringes etc

← LEAVE 1 METRE CLEARANCE FROM ANY OBSTACLE, EG MAILBOX ETC

← 1 METRE FROM ANY OBSTACLE, BOTH SIDES OF BIN

→ 1 METRE FROM DRIVEWAY/ACCESS

→ BIN MUST BE FACING THE STREET

WHERE DO I LEAVE THE WHEELIE BIN WHEN IT NEEDS EMPTIED?

The bins will be collected, using a vehicle with an automatic collection arm.

This means the bins must be placed in a certain way, in order for the machine to successfully collect your bin.

DANGEROUS RUBBISH!

People asked to take care with what they throw out

Rakiura Resource Recovery Centre staff have had another near miss with dangerous rubbish.

Centre supervisor David Squire said a live 303 bullet was found lying on the ground beside the centre's skip. A forklift was operating in the area, loading a trailer.

"This is just another example of hazardous materials being discarded without any regard to our staff's safety," Mr Squire said.

"Please everyone be very very careful in what you are throwing out as rubbish."

The team at the centre has found knives poking out of rubbish bags and has had hypodermic syringes fall out of bags in the past.

"Please consider others and be safe."

DO NOT

**THROW OUT SHARP OBJECTS
OR ANY HAZARDOUS MATERIAL
IN YOUR RUBBISH BAGS PLEASE.**



**This knife fell out of a rubbish bag
being unloaded and could have injured someone.**

**Three hacksaw blades and two chainsaw files
have also fallen out of bags.**

THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE.

**YOU CAN DROP OFF ANY SHARP OBJECTS
TO THE RAKIURA RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRE.**

**PLEASE TAKE CARE WITH WHAT
YOU PLACE IN YOUR
RUBBISH BAGS.**



To make recycling as
convenient as possible, many
of the Council's community recycling
facilities are open 24/7.

Recycling Centre Opening Hours

GARSTON – 9 Garston-Athol Highway, open 24/7

LUMSDEN – Oxford Street, open 24/7

MANAPOURI – Hillside Manapouri Road, open 24/7

MOKOTUA – 12 Clearwater Road, open 24/7

MOSSBURN – Mossburn Lumsden Highway, open 24/7

OHAI – 10 Richmond Street, open 24/7

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 24/7

RIVERTON – Transfer Station – Havelock Street, open Monday,
Wednesday, Friday, Sunday 3-5pm and Saturday 11-1pm and 3-5 pm

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 24/7

TUATAPERE – King Street Domain, open 24/7

WINTON – Transfer Station – Florence Road, 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 – Edendale Wyndham Road, 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

The paper used in every issue of
First Edition is made up of 50%
recycled fibre, which consists of...

35% pre-consumer
and 15% post-consumer
recycled fibre.

50% of the paper used is
Elemental Chlorine Free (ECF)
and derived from
renewable resources.

In addition the bleaching
process for each page is chlorine
and toxin free.

And of course once you are
finished with this issue
why not recycle it.

You can't predict a disaster or know when one will hit and you can't comprehend the devastation a disaster can cause, but you can be there in some small way to help rebuild the lives of those affected when nature strikes.

The recent snow storms that ravished the stock of our Southland Farmers and the impact of the Christchurch Earthquake is a true test of survival and strength. The people of Southland are rallying together, while coming to terms with their own ordeal, to reach out and to help those in need.

Our Southlanders

Some of the many activities Southlanders have undertaken...



Otautau - \$552.50



Children at Otautau Primary School have been a generous bunch, holding a special mufti day and a BBQ during their Top Bike competition.

Their efforts raised a total of \$552.50 which was passed onto the Red Cross relief fund.

Stewart Island

The Stewart Island Promotion Association have come up with a novel idea and organised a list of businesses in the area willing to offer affected Cantabrians reduced or free accommodation and activities in the area.

Riverton

The Scouts and Girl Guide groups in Riverton have been busy organising fundraising activities in the area while local Riverton supermarket Supervalu has had a donation box in their store.

Workshops on CYCLE TRAIL

Operator workshops are being planned to inform and educate Northern Southland operators about the Around the Mountain Cycle Trail.

The success of the cycle trail will depend on developing the right products and services along the trail and having a cooperative approach to marketing the trail to target groups.

People who have an existing business along the trail or are interested in setting up a new business are being invited to the workshops being held in October and November.

The workshops are being run by marketing specialist Marijke Dunselman, in conjunction with Mike Barnett and Venture Southland.

The first workshop is on product development and is on 12 October from 6pm to 9pm at the Lumsden Community Hall.



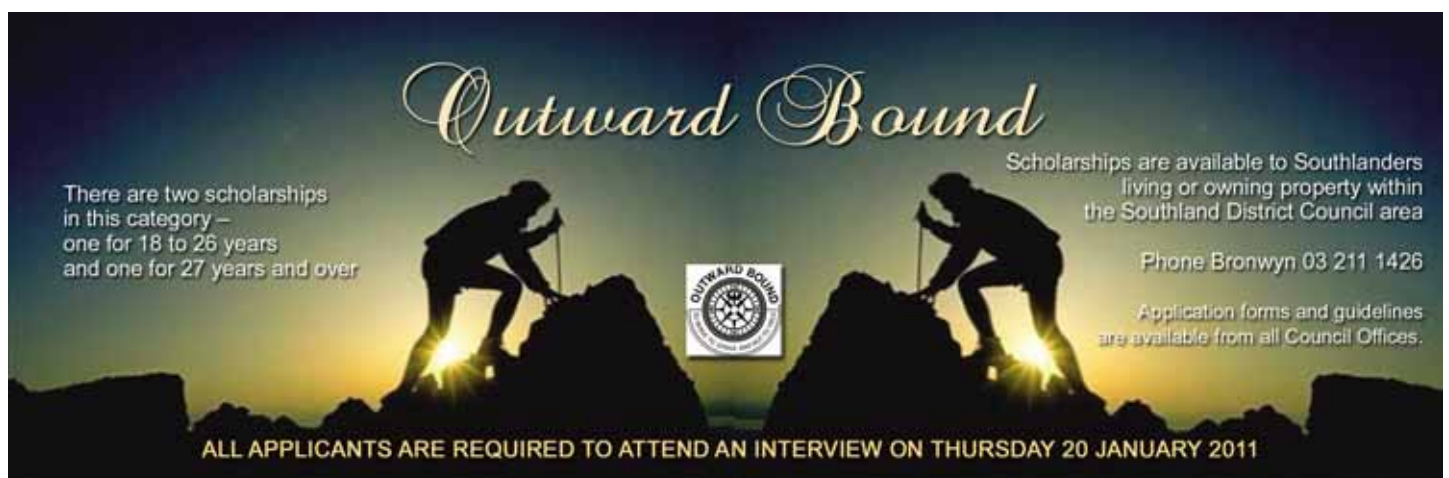
The first workshop will include the following topics:

- Around the Mountain Cycle Trail business plan
- What have we learned from other cycle trails?
- Cycling trends
- Target markets; where are they from, what are the numbers (segmentation)
- How do people research their holidays?
- Tourism forecasts
- Visitor expectations
- Opportunities for new and existing businesses along the trail (accommodation & services)
- How feasible is your business?
- Planning for success.

The second workshop is on marketing and will be held in November, with the date still to be confirmed.

Both workshops are free but registration is necessary – email marijke@strategiesmarketing.co.nz

All existing operators and those who are thinking about it are urged to come along on 12 October to hear about how it's going to work, the website and how to make the most of this unique opportunity for the community.



Outward Bound

Scholarships are available to Southlanders living or owning property within the Southland District Council area

There are two scholarships in this category – one for 18 to 26 years and one for 27 years and over

Phone Bronwyn 03 211 1426

Application forms and guidelines are available from all Council Offices.

ALL APPLICANTS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND AN INTERVIEW ON THURSDAY 20 JANUARY 2011



COURT CASE *highlights need for vigilance and responsibility*

A recent court case in Invercargill has highlighted the importance of being vigilant and responsible when lighting fires, Southern Rural Fire Authority principal rural fire officer Mike Grant said.

Southland farmer Murray Maxwell was left with a \$500,000 firefighting bill after a fire broke out on his property during December, 2008. As a result of the fire, 588ha of land was burnt including more than 250ha of significant conservation land and 4ha of neighbouring farm land, as well as some structures and fences.

Mr Grant said people need to plan for and be aware of numerous factors when lighting a fire, such as the length of time a fire could burn and what the weather is forecasted to be.

"We are coming up to the equinox, for example, which will mean the weather will tend to be windier, warmer and drier," which will increase the risk of a fire escaping.

The type of fire season is important too, with a restricted

fire season meaning a fire permit is required before lighting a fire in most cases, he said.

Mr Maxwell's permit, however, had expired several weeks previously, making the "fire unlawful," Mr Grant said.

This highlights the requirement for people to make sure fires are extinguished by the expiry dates of the fire permit.

"It is necessary for people to take full responsibility and plan ahead when lighting fires and in Mr Maxwell's case, he didn't."

"The person who lights the fire is responsible and liable for any damages and costs incurred if something goes wrong. Authorities and other affected parties can take action to recover costs and damages caused by a fire."

Although it was rare for the authority to lay charges, it was essential the public realised the importance of acting lawfully and responsibly, Mr Grant said.



Council gets a boost from COMMUNITY WORK

Community Probation Services staff have given \$16,000 to Southland District Council in funding assistance for Community Work placements.



"This provision of funding is part of a venture between the Department of Corrections and the Southland District Council which aims to develop community projects that give offenders the opportunity to give something back to the community," Invercargill Service Centre Manager Roger Scheele said.

The funding will go towards the purchase of tools, safety equipment and meeting some of the travel costs.

"Southland District Council is recognised as the largest local external provider of Community Service placements to the Community Probation Services (CPS) and this funding recognises our commitment to further developing our partnership with the Council."

"The Council undertakes work throughout Southland District, and CPS will be working with the Council to assist with providing various community work projects in all these towns and areas," he said.

Community Work sentences require offenders to do unpaid work in the community for non-profit organisations as reparation for their offending. Over the last year, 9,804 Community Work hours have been completed in the Southland region, including clearing recyclable material from collection points, maintaining track networks through Council managed reserves and clearing vegetation and track structures such as culverts, bridges and viewing platforms.

Council chief executive David Adamson says Council looks forward to working with Corrections in the future on new Community Work projects.

"Giving offenders the opportunity to learn from their mistakes and developing some work skills can help turn their lives around and help them become good citizens," he says. "Community Work projects are a great way for offenders to give something back to the community."

Community Probation Services Area Manager Monique Cunningham said she was very impressed with the work the two organizations do together – "It's a real credit to all involved."

Annually, New Zealand communities benefits from over 3.7 million hours of labour supplied through Community Work sentences.

creative communities NZ
Southland District

Art Scholarships

Open to all forms of art studies

Scholarships are available to Southlanders living or owning property within the Southland District Council area

Phone Bronwyn 03 211 1426

Application forms and guidelines are available from all Council Offices.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 15 DECEMBER, 2010

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Sally Macdonald



Volunteer Sally Macdonald received a Southland District Council Community Service Award recently for her outstanding work in the Te Anau community.

Spending many years easing the grief of the terminally ill and their families, Mrs Macdonald has been filling a much needed gap within the Te Anau community.

Mrs Macdonald said she had never expected any recognition for her work but was absolutely delighted with the award.

"The reward to me has always been to have people coming to our home and expressing their grief which is what helps them. All I really do is listen."

Mrs Macdonald was personally thanked and recognised by Mayor Frana Cardno at a special function held by the Te Anau Community Board.

RATES REBATE SCHEME REMINDER

Southland District Council wants to remind Southland ratepayers that some of them may be eligible for a rates rebate for the 2010-2011 year.

Council finance and customer service group manager Phil Culling said low income earners paying rates for their home could be eligible for up to \$570 off their rates. He is urging people who think they could be eligible to talk to Council rates staff to find out about the scheme.

"The rebate is calculated on the person's income, rates and number of dependants, with the income eligibility \$22,340. However, if you earn more than that, you still may be entitled to a rebate, depending on the total cost of your rates and the number of dependants you have," Mr Culling said.

Those applying must be living in the home they are paying rates for as of 1 July 2010 so they must be the legal ratepayer. The Government-funded rebate scheme is not available to those whose property is a farm or is used principally for commercial, industrial or business purposes or is a rental.

Applicants will need their verification of income including:

- An IRD Summary of Earnings and that of any spouse/partner or joint home owner who lives with them for the tax year ended 31 March 2010. This can be requested from IRD by phoning 0800 257778.
- Income from investments should also be supported by interest and dividend certificates.
- Rating information.

Application forms are available from Council Offices or can be downloaded from www.ratesrebates.govt.nz

Applications are through Council.

INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY Working Well

Good progress has been made on the action points included in the Southland District Council's Inclusive Communities Strategy.

Group manager environment and community Bruce Halligan said the strategy was created after submissions to Council's Annual Plan asked Council to look at issues relating to people with disabilities.

Council decided to widen the strategy from people with disabilities, to making our communities more inclusive for all, with the focus being on people with disabilities and ethnic minorities.

The draft strategy was sent out to various groups with positive feedback received and then staff set to work.



"We have put some good runs on the board, including the following:

- Incorporating disability awareness into the Council induction programme
- Reviewing Council's website for ease of use and e-government standards
- Including a list of Southland District walkways, parks and areas of interest that have wheelchair access on the website
- Gathering a register of interested people/groups to consult with regarding inclusiveness
- Undertaking an accessibility stocktake of townships, council facilities and community housing
- Training the building team on barrier free building
- Incorporating disability access into the parks and reserves policies
- Building a list of individuals and groups who can help communicate with customers in sign language, Braille and other languages, for example
- Reviewing disabled parking through the District

These items and more are either well under way or finished," Mr Halligan said.

However, it is important that Council continues to review the relevancy of both the strategy and the action plan, and after 18 months of them being in place, it is a good time to do so now, he said.

"We are looking at what we have done and what we could be looking at in the future and we want input from the community. Things we could consider are a seniors' council, getting grants for providing wheelchair-accessible swings, making equipment available or IT upgrades for a talking website. Obviously we don't have funding for everything, but we still want to hear from you.

"We want to hear from people and groups in the community about what they want and/or think Council could do," he said.



Mobile Library Timetable

October 2010 – 11 Feb 2011



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

Any queries, requests or renewals: please telephone the Winton Library 0800 732 542.

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

SMALL THINGS Have Huge Impact...

I'm standing in front of a NZ wide group of master Ten Pin bowlers, asking them who has come the furthest to the tournament.

A quiet woman says she's from Christchurch but others are further north, Tauranga and Auckland. Still it's the Christchurch woman who wins the Southland Spirit of a Nation boxed pen not for travelling the furthest but just for coming and for all they have suffered through the earthquake. We have a wee hug on stage.

Later, as I'm leaving she comes up to me: "Thank you so much for that Southland pen; it means so much to me. I suffered a heart attack and can't compete in the Ten Pin bowling but after all the fundraising I did, the others said I should come, and getting that pen is just marvellous!" A pen is such a small thing, but the thought behind it has the power to move people, to empower them! That is what Southland Spirit of a Nation is all about.

Recently I talked to the primary schools at Tutarau, Glenham, Waimahaka and Tokanui, inspiring the students to cherish their dreams and reach for the stars. After the Tokanui School presentation, a wee girl comes up to me with all the conviction of Donald Trump and says, "I am going to achieve my dream; I'm going to be a baker!" I want to taste that girl's baking because it will be the best.

I go outside to the schoolyard and there is a granddad, a retired builder, helping the senior students make planter boxes to grow their own veges. They were having trouble hitting the nails in, so he gave them a drill and suddenly they became professionals – that's empowerment! "And it saved on nails," he whispered to me.

No wonder Fonterra Edendale, the major sponsor of Southland Spirit of a Nation, rate the school presentations as a great way of encouraging a confident generation.

Where do the Southland Stags get their newfound power and confidence? From taking the Ranfurly Shield out to schools and community events and seeing it at weddings and funerals. They know now that when they are playing for Southland, they are really playing for the people of Southland – they have that community spirit, that reaching beyond ourselves for others, that is the greatest asset of Southland – Southland Spirit of a Nation.



The southland community spirit is the fire behind the Stags - as demonstrated by fire breather Adrian Buchanan with EH Ball owner Warwick Ball in charge of a fired up "log of wood"!



Brendan Burgess (far right), Burleigh Home owner with Southland Spirit of a Nation brand co-ordinator Gerry Forde, and the residents "achieving their dream" - a flounder and Deep South chocolate bomb - not to everyone's taste but what an empowering concept for rest homes! Photos above - Corrina Housham.



View from Mount Anglem, Stewart Island, the front cover for the Southland Spirit of a Nation Calendar available at H&J Smith and Quantum Print, Dee Street Invercargill.

SOUTHLAND SCHOOLS sign agreement with top Bangkok school

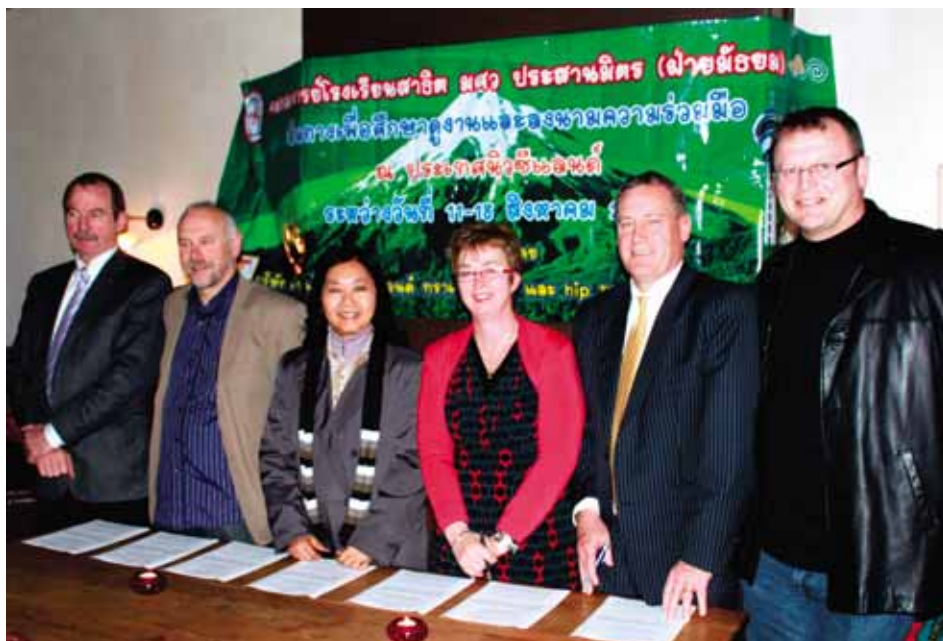
The old saying "The only place success comes before work is in the dictionary" rings true for Venture Southland and participating schools as part of the Education Southland international education marketing initiative.

Education Southland is a successful joint initiative led by Venture Southland involving up to eight Southland schools at any given time. It is also very well supported by Education New Zealand, New Zealand Trade and Enterprise, Air New Zealand, Real Journeys, Laker House of Travel and many Southland retailers who benefit from this initiative.

A delegation of ten representatives from Srinakharinwirot University Prasarnmit Demonstration Secondary School (SUPDS) located in Bangkok, Thailand was hosted by Venture Southland. The delegation identified four secondary schools they wished to partner with and took the opportunity to visit and see the schools working first hand. This culminated in the participating schools – Central Southland College, James Hargest College, Southland Boys' High School and Southland Girls' High School – signing an agreement with SUPDS on Friday evening.

The agreement allows for SUPDS to have up to 20 international fee paying students per year enrol at the four Southland schools. The deal was facilitated by Venture Southland and GET Education Agency from Bangkok – following initial communications in March of this year.

Venture Southland Group Manager Rex Capil said this is just reward for the Southland region and the four schools that were the catalyst for this initiative and have been involved since its inception.



SBHS rector Ian Baldwin, James Hargest College principal Andy Wood, SUPDS director Supapak Paramatikul, SGHS principal Yvonne Browning, Central Southland College assistant principal Peter Turnbull, Venture Southland group manager Rex Capil

"This agreement will be worth in the vicinity of \$400,000 per year of direct spend of new money into the Southland economy – supporting the fact that export education is one of the top five New Zealand export earners."

Central Southland College Assistant Principal Peter Turnbull said: "We couldn't do this alone – and this really is a coup for us as a rural Southland school being able to forge this relationship with a top Bangkok school." While in Invercargill the SUPDS delegation was not only

impressed by the schools visited, but also Stadium Southland, the Southland Museum and enjoyed some retail therapy supporting our local stores. They also visited Milford Sound and Te Anau.

This year has seen Southland grow as a quality education destination for international fee paying students. Interest continues to grow with Venture Southland and participating schools hosting over 30 education agents from Hong Kong, China, Vietnam, Thailand, Germany and Korea already this year.

Annual SOUTHLAND TOURISM INDUSTRY SEMINAR continues to attract good crowd

The annual Southland Tourism Industry Seminar took place on 14 September at Ascot Park Hotel, giving those in attendance a chance to hear from industry specialists.

The all-day event was run by Venture Southland and attracted more than 60 people, ranging from tourism veterans to students.

Venture Southland Tourism Marketing Coordinator Simon Henshaw said attendance numbers for the seminar

have been steadily growing over the years.

"There's a strong desire by our local tourism professionals to keep up with developments in this global industry – which is good to see because we're competing with other regions and other countries."

The hot topics at this year's seminar included Online Availability, Social Media, Coping with Seasonality and the Rugby World Cup 2011. Based on feedback, all the presentations by

invited speakers were well received and provided useful information and advice, Mr Henshaw said. "Very good – interesting and informative" and "Great day – very informative – the best Venture seminar so far" were 2 comments received.

Invited speakers included Kevin Gough, General Manager of Golden Chain Motels, Craig Garner of Magpie Media, Simon Casey of Seekom and Chris Larcombe of BookIt.



0800 732 732

Remember you can call Council FREE if you need to report a problem or speak to a Council officer.

The free 0800 numbers mean any customer can ring or fax Council for no charge, no matter where they live in Southland.

You can ring 0800 732 732 (0800 SDC SDC) and still be connected to your area office first.

The system is smart enough to identify where the person is calling from and put it through to the nearest area office.

It's only if that office line is busy, that the call goes to one of the other offices and in that case the telephonist can transfer the caller to any staff member or indeed office, with no cost to the caller.

This phone line is answered by a "real" person each time and the telephonists can tell the caller if the staff member they want to talk to is available, in a meeting or away on leave and when that person is next available.

It also means people should not be lost in the netherworld of phone systems and so abandoned calls are less.

All faxes sent to 0800 732 329 come to the Invercargill office and are emailed out to staff.

The library number - 0800 732 542 - is automated and allows customers to renew their books on the phone or contact any one of the District's library staff by push button options.

Rural Fire also has 0800 numbers and if staff are not available the calls come back into the Council 0800 number loop to be answered.

Previously Council paid for individual business lines into the offices and now the 0800 service incurs only one cost.

The 0800 number is also answered after hours by Everlert, which has set procedures for urgent

requests and has some information on Council activities as well.

The 0800 732 732 number is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. So anyone can ring up with a complaint or an issue and speak to someone about it.

Please ring 0800 732 732 with your complaints so we can work on fixing them and we encourage local committee members to get ratepayers to ring Council direct rather than ringing them all the time.

The sooner we know about a problem, the sooner action can be taken.



**CONTACT
DETAILS**



All Offices & Inquiries... 0800 732 732

Fax 0800 732 329

District Libraries 0800 732 542

Rural Fire Permits 0800 773 363

Email sdcsouthlandddc.govt.nz

Website www.southlandddc.govt.nz

15 Forth Street, PO Box 903, Invercargill 9840