

MAINTENANCE AND MAKEOVER FOR GORE AQUATIC CENTRE

Major maintenance and refurbishment work on the Gore Aquatic Centre mean it will close at **9pm Friday 2 May** for about five weeks.

The will be the first time the aquatic centre has been closed for an extended period since it opened in 2002. Ice Sports Southland's ice skating rink is also affected while the MLT Event Centre will continue to operate as normal, except for Sundays and Queens Birthday Weekend. People wanting to use the event centre on these days need to make a booking.

Aquatic services manager Kim Peterson said the Council has extended the Mataura pool season to make sure there is somewhere for recreational swimmers, aquarobics and the Leaping Frogs Swim School.

It will begin Term 2 lessons at the Mataura pool on Monday 5 May, then transfer back to Gore when it reopens.

People with aquatic centre concession passes can transfer these to Mataura, just ask staff to assist, she said.

It is planned to reopen the aquatic centre on Monday 9 June although this may be subject to change.



The Mataura pool hours, from Saturday 3 May, are

- Monday to Friday 6am to 8pm
- Saturday 9am to 6pm
- Sunday 10am to 6pm

Kim thanked people for their patience while the work is carried out and apologised for any inconvenience it may cause.

If you have any questions please contact pool staff, phone 2039128.

MEETING SCHEDULE

The Gore District Council will hold the following meetings in April at the Council chambers, 29 Civic Avenue, Gore.

TUESDAY 1 APRIL

Gore District Council ordinary meeting, starting at 7.30pm.

TUESDAY 29 APRIL

The Council's four committees meet, starting at 4pm with the Community Services Committee, followed by the Operations Committee, the Regulatory and Planning Committee, and the Finance and Policy Committee.

Mataura Community Board

MONDAY 14 APRIL

The Mataura Community Board will meet at the Mataura Community Centre, in McQueen Avenue, starting at 5.30pm.

Agendas for these meetings will be available on the Council Business page at www.goredc.govt.nz Your Council, or the Council's offices and libraries.

Stephen Parry
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

VIC'S A JACK OF ALL TRADES



There are few who haven't seen Vic Herring around the District making sure the playgrounds are safe or keeping Dolamore Park looking pristine. But many probably don't realise just how many strings this versatile, long time Gore District Council staff member has to his bow.

Earlier this month Vic was named Bandsman of the Year, at the Southland Entertainer Awards, for his 14 years as a member of the Ascot Hotel Brass Band. Vic plays the tuba, has done so since he was about 17.

Not one to blow his own trumpet (or tuba, as the case maybe), Vic thinks it must be his commitment that earned him such an accolade. He travels to Invercargill twice a week for practice and is always willing to help out.

"I'm not the best player, there are high school kids who are streets ahead of me.

"I love the camaraderie. It's (the band) one of the few places where I'm a learner."

For much of his life Vic has been a teacher in the classroom of life whether it was during his time working for the Salvation Army in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), at Jeff Farm, or the Sallies alcohol rehabilitation centre at Rotoroa Island, near Auckland.

Prior to joining the district council, Vic was a tutor on the former Southland County Council Access training programme and took over a similar role with Gore after amalgamation. He went on to be reserves foreman for about eight and a half years before taking up his present role.

"I got too old and scratchy so they put me out here," he quipped.

Vic says he gets a sense of satisfaction working in local government, looking after the district's assets. He takes great pride in working at Dolamore Park and has no intention of retiring despite celebrating his 66th birthday at Christmas.

"People say to me they want my job, I say 'you'll have to carry me out in a box'."

NATIONAL SISTER CITY CONFERENCE IN GORE

Country to Country – from the heart of Southland to the world is the theme of the Sister Cities New Zealand annual conference, to be held at Gore's Scenic Circle Croydon Hotel next week.

About 50 delegates from both sides of the Tasman are attending and a lot of work has been put in to ensure an interesting and varied programme for the three day conference. Keynote speakers include Contiki Travel founder John Anderson, Australian High Commissioner His Excellency Michael Potts, Invercargill City Mayor Tim Shadbolt and Venture Southland tourism, events and community group manager Rex Capil.

A highlight will be a presentation by the Tamworth Regional Council on its 22 year sister city relationship with Gore.

The conference opens on 3 April.

NEW DISTRICT PLAN RULES

Various changes to the Gore District Council's District Plan come into force today.

The Council's Consultant Planner Keith Hovell said changes to the rural subdivision rules were of significance. The minimum size for subdivision in rural areas is now 2ha. Previously there were no controls regarding size. The Council originally proposed a 4ha minimum area but submissions by farmers resulted in it being halved.

Controls now also apply to the town centre to ensure the heritage and pedestrian character of the Main Street is retained. The demolition of buildings in the central area requires consent, and any new buildings must provide continuous street frontage and verandahs. New vehicle crossings are not permitted.

Mr Hovell said three property owners had opposed their buildings being added to the Council's heritage register. While these submissions were not accepted, the new provisions mean that when considering any request to alter or demolish buildings on the heritage register, the Council will have regard to the need for earthquake strengthening, the risk posed to people, and the cost of upgrading buildings.

Mr Hovell said that questions raised by land owners about the accuracy of the information on the extent of flood prone land, provided by Environment Southland, were still being assessed. Decisions on this issue were being held back, at this stage, to allow for additional investigations. People who lodged submissions can appeal the changes.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Decisions on Submissions to Changes to the Gore District Plan

Pursuant to clause 10 in Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991, public notice is hereby given that the Gore District Council has made decisions on submissions to the following changes to the District Plan:

- Plan Change 5B – Extending "Mixed Use Zone"
- Plan Change 6 – Adding buildings to the list of Scheduled Heritage Structures
- Plan Change 7 – Introducing townscape provisions for the Gore commercial area
- Plan Change 9 – Limiting the scale and duration of geotechnic investigations
- Plan Change 10 – Adding new provisions relating to the subdivision of land
- Plan Change 11 – Residential Zones: height, site area new Residential B Zone
- Plan Change 12 – Rural Zone: site coverage and dwellings on non-complying sites.
- Plan Change 13 – Height limit in Industrial and Mixed Use Zones
- Plan Change 14 – Signage
- Plan Change 15 – Yards in Rural and Residential Zones
- Plan Change 16 – Deleting various transportation rules
- Plan Change 17 – Electricity Transmission Activities
- Plan Change 18 – Minor Changes in relation to hazardous substances and definitions of Agriculture, Home Occupation, Residential Activity and Site Coverage.

The decisions on submissions have been sent to all submitters and are now released by the Council. The effect of the decisions is to amend the Gore District Plan accordingly from the date of this public notice.

The plan change decisions are available on the Council's website www.goredc.govt.nz, at its offices at 29 Civic Avenue, Gore, and public libraries in the Gore District. Further enquiries can be made to Rosie Given phone (03) 209 0330 or email rgiven@goredc.govt.nz.

Stephen Parry
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

QUICK NOTES

Should legal highs be banned?

Gore District Mayor Tracy Hicks and other southerner mayors have joined forces to fight the sale of legal highs in our communities. But they need the public's support. Right now legislation means councils can't stop the sale of legal highs but they can restrict where the shops that sell them are located. The mayors don't think this is right and want the sale of legal highs banned. If you feel the same way make sure you let the mayors know so they can show the Government where their communities stand on this issue. Email your thoughts to tracy.hicks@goredc.govt.nz

Tamworth visitor focuses on arts & heritage

Tamworth Regional Council cultural development officer Petria Jukes arrives in Gore on Monday for a four day visit. She will be spending time with the Council's Arts and Heritage department, learning as much as possible about the great work achieved in this area by District curator Jim Geddes and his team. She will also spend a day with the Southland Roving Museum Officer.

Direct debit payment change

If you are one of our many ratepayers who pay by direct debit, you need to read this.

The Council now has to give you only 10 days notice of any change in your direct debit amount, instead of the 30 days previously. This means when the rates for the new financial year are struck, we will be able to adjust your deductions sooner, which spreads your total payment over a longer period. All other terms and conditions are the same. If you don't currently pay by direct debit and would like to know more please contact our customer service team, phone 2090330, or go to www.goredc.govt.nz Your Council.



Have you registered your puppy?

Just a reminder to those lucky enough to get a puppy for Christmas – when it gets over three months of age your puppy needs to be registered. Otherwise you could end up with a \$300 fine. Puppies also need to be microchipped within two months of being registered. For more information or to download a registration form please go to www.goredc.govt.nz Our Services, or ring our customer service team, phone 2090330.



CONTACT NUMBERS:

Rates Enquiries.....2038115
Council Administration.....2090330
Gore Library.....2039129
Gore Multisports Complex.....2039128

Eastern Southland Gallery.....2089907
Gore Visitor Information Centre.....2039288
Mataura Library/Service Centre.....2038115
James Cumming Wing.....2090358

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