

Supporting staff to learn as they earn

When it comes to staff upskilling and gaining new qualifications, the Gore District Council has a great advocate in 3 Waters team member Daniel Wright.

Daniel recently completed his Modern Apprenticeship in Water and Wastewater, a qualification presented to him by the Primary Industry Training Organisation. He started working for the Council in 2011 as a cadet and over the last three years has gained qualifications in water treatment, wastewater treatment and reticulation.

3 Waters asset manager Sarah Crooks commended Daniel on how quickly he completed his qualifications.

"There is a shortage of trained people such as Daniel in the industry and it is pleasing to see another local cadet become qualified."

Parts of Daniel's role include operating water treatment plants, ensuring drinking water quality standards are met, completing repairs on the reticulation, and managing maintenance and operation of wastewater assets.

Mrs Crooks said the Council intends to employ a cadet every two years into the 3 Waters team – "cadetships are a great way to employ local people and support them to achieve further qualifications".

For more information on cadetships go to www.primaryito.ac.nz

Farmers urged to keep roads clean during winter



It is often said that there's money in mud but it's equally true that mud on the District's roads can cause headaches.

Gore District roading manager Murray Hasler said it was timely to remind farmers and contractors to be aware of the problems caused by mud being dragged on to the road from paddocks and gateways.

The problem was exacerbated by storing baleage on the road reserve, which occasionally happens even though it is contrary to the Council's roading bylaw.

Storing baleage on the road reserve not only caused damage to the roadside but was a hazard to motorists, Mr Hasler said.

"Hitting a wall of baleage is like hitting a brick wall."

Mud can make the road surface slippery and contribute to a crash, and it can compromise the integrity of gravel roads, which results in costly maintenance work. A clump of mud on the road becomes like a large rock when it's frozen, he said.

Mr Hasler urged farmers to discuss any roadside storage plans for winter feed well beforehand. Permission was sometimes granted if there were extenuating circumstances.

Talking books now easier to access

Gore District Libraries introduces an exciting new collection of e-audiobooks, also known as talking books. The library has a popular collection of audiobooks for adults and children on CD and cassette tape but it can now also provide access to over 500 e-audiobooks via the Bolinda BorrowBox website <http://library.bolindadigital.com/gore>

Ask at the library or go to www.goredc.govt.nz/OurFacilities/Libraries to see how easy it is to access and download an e-audiobook. You can download the files directly onto your device using the BorrowBox App, or you can download the files to your home computer and transfer them to your device.

There are lots of reasons you might like to listen to a book – they are not just for the partially sighted. Your child might be home sick, you may have trouble sleeping but be able to rest while listening to a book, you may be going on a car journey or a long walk, you might be a craftsperson - there are many reasons for enjoying listening to audiobooks – give it a go!



3 Waters team member Daniel Wright was pretty pleased to be presented with his Modern Apprenticeship in Water and Wastewater certificate

New projects land support from the Council

A cycle trail through the scenic bush near Dolamore Park and investigating the feasibility of the cycle/walkway between Gore and Mataura are just two projects that will get support from the Gore District Council in the next financial year.

Gore district councillors this year considered 64 submissions to the draft Annual Plan and as a result, added \$45,000 into the 2014/15 budget for funding requested by individuals and organisations.

These were a

- \$15,000 grant to Southland Warm Homes Trust,
- \$1,000 grant to Hospice Southland,
- \$10,000 contribution towards the Mataura Community Coordinator position,
- \$9,000 for the rural Bookbus,
- \$5,000 grant to the Hokonui Trails Trust cycle track, and
- \$5,000 for Combined Lions Club feasibility study.

The fencing of a small area at the popular Eccles Street playground, in Gore, stayed in the plan but councillors agreed with the lack of public support for a dog park at Hamilton Park and decided not to go ahead with this project.

The additional expenditure has nudged the district-wide rates increase up to 4.11%, from the 3.76% flagged in the draft plan. The Council is looking to collect approximately \$15.8million in rates in the new financial year, which is \$623,821 more than in 2013/14.

Gore District Mayor Tracy Hicks said it was always a challenge balancing the needs and wants of everyone.

"However, I think the Council has displayed good sense this year with the projects it has chosen to support."

Each project builds on the quality of our community and increases its attractiveness as a place to live, while maintaining and developing the all-important essential service infrastructure, Mr Hicks said.

Quick Notes

Poets wanted

It's National Poetry Day on 22 August and Gore Library staff are planning on marking it with an event for locals. So if you are a poet and know it, a balladeer with a story to air, or maybe have a limerick or two to share then get in touch with Penelope at the library, phone 2039120 or email her at pjperry@goredc.govt.nz.

Time to register your dog

Dog registration renewal forms will be sent out over the next few days to all known dog owners in the district. If you are a new dog owner in the district please contact the Council office, phone 2090330, with your details to ensure you are included on our register.

Residents' Survey Online



For the first time, the Council is offering people the opportunity to take part in its annual residents' survey online. The Southern Institute of Technology is once again conducting the survey and will be randomly phoning residents over the next couple of weeks to get their opinion on a variety of things.

In a bid to get feedback from as many residents as possible and to cover a wide cross section, the survey can also be completed online. Just go to the Council's website www.goredc.govt.nz and follow the link on the home page. It will take only about 10 minutes to fill out but provide the Council with valuable information about making sure the District is a great place to live, work and play.

School Holiday Kidz Fun

At the Library

Gore Library staff will be facing the music these school holidays while in Mataura they will be celebrating a winter wonderland. The library holiday programmes are FREE and start at 10.30am, Tuesday through to Friday.

In Gore children can make

- Paper plate castanets on 8 July,
- Rainbow shakers on 10 July,
- Paper plate tambourines on 15 July, and
- Rain Sticks on 17 July.

In Mataura the themes are

- Snowman on 9 July,
- Snowflakes on 11 July,
- Footprint Penguins on 16 July, and
- Snowman Garland on 18 July.

Programmes are suitable for children aged five years and over. Bookings are essential and please notify the library of cancellations as there are usually children on the waiting list. Children should wear old clothing as it may get marked. For more information or to book please phone 203 9129.

At the Gore Aquatic Centre

The fun is happening in and out of the water at the Gore pool each Tuesday and Thursday.

8 July: Rock climbing, a horizontal bungee and more from 9am to 3pm, in conjunction with Camp Columba. Cost \$25, please bring a packed lunch.

10 July: Movie mania and pool fun from 9am to 3pm, cost \$25. Please bring a packed lunch.

15 July: Laser Tag from 9am to 3pm, cost \$25. Please bring a packed lunch.

17 July: Kidz spa, BBQ, hamster ball/paddle boat rides, from 1pm to 3pm, cost \$6.

Registration for the programmes is essential and it would pay to get in early as spaces are limited. For more information please phone the team at the aquatic centre, 203 9128, or email multisports@goredc.govt.nz

Leaping Frogs Swim School

Learn to Swim – A special two week module just for the holidays from 7 July to 18 July. Enrol now and receive a Popsicle at the end of the course.

For more information please phone the team at the aquatic centre, 203 9128, or email multisports@goredc.govt.nz.

Meeting Schedule

The Mataura Community Board will meet at the Mataura Community Centre, McQueen Avenue, at 5.30pm on Monday 7 July.

The agenda will be available on the Council's website www.goredc.govt.nz, at the Mataura service centre, Gore library and Council's civic centre.

Please note there are no statutory meetings of the Council or its committees scheduled for July.

Stephen Pary
Chief Executive



CONTACT NUMBERS:

Rates Enquiries	2038115	Eastern Southland Gallery.....	2089907
Council Administration.....	2090330	Gore Visitor Information Centre.....	2039288
Gore Library	2039129	Mataura Library/Service Centre.....	2038115
Gore Multisports Complex.....	2039128	James Cumming Wing	2090358

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