

ENCOURAGING TOMORROW'S VOTERS TODAY

Longford Intermediate is making sure its pupils get a taste of the local body elections first hand.

A Year 7 class is involved in Local Government New Zealand's Kids Voting initiative. It is aimed at getting 11 to 15-year-olds involved in the election process and talking about key issues. The pupils get to vote for candidates and are able to compare their results against the official election results.

Teacher Ngami Prattley said the Kids Voting programme had been well received.

"It's (the programme) about helping them understand the democratic process and how the elections will impact on them as children, and not just adults."

Issues such as clean drinking water and the closure of the Matura swimming pool have produced some lively discussions, she said.

Gore District Electoral Officer Tony Shepherd said voter turnout in the Gore District and nationally had been steadily declining for a number of years.

In 1998 Gore voters turned out in force with 71.1% having their say. The last election in 2013 saw voter turnout plummet to 41.5%.

Voting papers went out last week and need to be returned by noon on Saturday 8 October. They can be posted or dropped into the ballot box, at the Council's main office.

Anyone on the electoral role who has not received their voting papers by now should contact Mr Shepherd on 2090330.



Having their say are (from left) Savannah Moffat, Ella Stevenson and Nadia Morphus. Their Year 7 class at Longford Intermediate has been learning that the local government body elections impact on young people as well as adults.



Ontario Street, from Toronto Street to River Road, will be closed from 7.00am on Tuesday 4 October. This is so we can install some speed humps. We hope to have the road reopened by 5.00pm. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause. There is a detour available via MacGibbon Road.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN

There's very few readers who haven't lost themselves in a Roald Dahl book. These school holidays the Gore and Matura libraries are celebrating what would have been Dahl's 100th birthday during story time. Story time is held at the Gore Library on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and the Matura Library on Fridays. It starts at 10.30am.

RULES FOR KEEPING ANIMALS IN TOWN UNDER REVIEW

We have rewritten the guidelines and rules around keeping animals, poultry and bees in urban areas and are looking for your feedback.

The Keeping of Animals, Poultry and Bees Bylaw 2008 was withdrawn in August, and we are presently going through the process of putting in place a new version.

The bylaw enables the Council to effectively deal with any issues that may be caused by animals being kept in urban areas, such as stock wandering in to someone's garden and eating the plants.

One of the most significant changes from the former bylaw is the creation of an

urban area 2. These are located on the fringes of the town in East and West Gore, and are in response to urban growth.

Another new aspect is the requirement for horse riders to pick up any poo their horses may deposit in public places within two hours. If they don't, they could get an infringement notice for littering.

Please read the draft bylaw and if you want to comment send your submission to us by Friday 21 October.

You will find the draft bylaw, submission form and other relevant documents on our website www.goredc.govt.nz

DON'T BE A DRIP - WATER LEAKS ARE COSTLY

Gore District Council 3 Waters Manager Matt Bayliss is urging commercial water users to carefully check their properties for any water leaks to avoid getting an unwelcome surprise in their next water bill.

Commercial users are able to use 18 cubic metres of water a month free of charge. However, anything over that is charged at 0.85c per cubic metre.

"We have had some commercial users contact us concerned their water bills were higher than expected.

"This is more than likely due to a leak within their property. A lot of water can be lost through a leaking tap or toilet cistern."

Mr Bayliss said commercial users should regularly check all parts of their property for leaks, including unused rooms, and get any leaks fixed immediately.

If there was no clear evidence of a leak, it was worthwhile getting a plumber to investigate further, he said.

"Staying on top of water leaks will save you money."



AIR HORNS BANNED

We're all about supporting your team at the MLT Event Centre, whether it's netball, volleyball or any of the sports played at this venue. However, sometimes things can get a bit loud and heated. To ensure we provide a fair-play environment, the Council is banning the use of air horns in the event centre.

A NIGHT WITH A DAME

Gala Award Dinner
Friday 28 October
Tickets \$45, on sale
Monday 10 October at
the Gore Visitor Centre
Guest speaker Dame
Susan Devoy.

GO DISTRICT RE COMMUNITY AWARDS 2016

Proudly presented by the
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DAYLIGHT SAVING STARTS THIS WEEKEND

Remember to put your clock forward one hour when you go to bed on Saturday night.

