

Roadshow keen to share information

AN information-sharing roadshow is preparing to meet the Bunnythorpe, Kairanga and Longburn communities later this month to discuss important issues relevant to the district's future.

Topics to be covered at the three community meetings include proposals on a boundary adjustment with Palmerston North and the amalgamation of district and city, as well as future regional roading plans.

The meetings, from 5.30pm to 7pm, are on Monday, July 19, Methodist Church Hall, Bunnythorpe; Tuesday, July 20, Kairanga Hall, Kairanga, and Wednesday, July 21, White Horse Inn, Longburn.

Chief Executive, Lorraine

Vincent, said the roadshow was an opportunity for council to touch base with communities most affected by possible outcomes from the MDC-Palmerston North City Council initiative, Project ABC, and the strategic transport study.

"We want to give them information and updates on the process and how things will work," she said. "It's more about information-sharing as opposed to the formal feedback we are going to get from all the district's communities later in the year."

Ms Vincent said it was a "courtesy" for council to make contact with the three communities and help them understand the implications involved and she hoped people in those areas would

take the opportunity to hear the information first-hand.

Manawatu District Mayor, Ian McKelvie, who will join Ms Vincent in leading the roadshow team, said there were questions that obviously could not be answered at this stage, but the meetings would encourage full discussion on the roading and Project ABC reports.

"The roadshow aims to get people understanding the process we go through from here," he said. "It's to get information to those communities more concerned about what's going on than others in the district."

Further details regarding the planned meetings are available from Customer Services and Democracy Manager, Janine Hawthorn, on (06) 323-0000.

Positively Scottish and things

A NUMBER of positive events have been held in the Manawatu District during the past two weeks, with one in particular proving what a great facility the stadium is at Manfeild Park.

The Air Training Corps tattoo in the stadium highlighted the building's diversity as well as demonstrating that a local group can use the facility and, with voluntary talent, put on a show that ranks with the best.

The organisers and participants are to be congratulated for their effort and one can only hope they have the energy and incentive to repeat the event annually as it was, from a spectator's perspective, a great success.

On a further Scottish note, the Feilding and Districts Caledonian Society celebrated its 60th anniversary with a glittering ball. It was also a great event with a birthday cake to die for and an excellent haggis.

A "well done" to all in-

volved and especially founding member Dirk McGregor who made a wonderful speech as he cut the cake.

The unveiling of the sculpture, Colonel Feilding's Gateway, by Feilding Promotion, as a result of its



MAYORAL COMMENT
by Ian McKelvie

competition, has realised another example of wonderful local art to go with the "Drover and Dog" on Kimbolton Road, "Squabbling Birds" near the Feilding Public Library and the "Saleyards Silhouette".

Designed by Dean Turner, a member of the Turner family who has a long association with retailing in the district, it epitomises our history and will look amazing when completed.

Council is continuing to work on the potential Rongotea water and Himatangi Beach sewerage schemes as it endeavours to produce voluntary schemes that are acceptable to those wishing to join. The Draft Waste Management Plan is also not far from being released for community comment.

One last thing: I briefly hosted an Argentinean crew in Manawatu recently to look at job opportunities for their people and to preview the 2011 Rugby World Cup in which their national side will play in Manawatu. Imagine if New Zealand can capture even half the benefit out of the Rugby World Cup that South Africa is from the Football World Cup. It will be a massive event for us!

New LIM reflects improvements

FUTURE Land Information Memorandums produced by the Manawatu District Council will reflect areas of improvement and change that resulted from a recent review of the current LIM process.

Regulatory Supervisor, Karel Boakes, said council's review focus was to ensure all relevant information for the LIM document was captured and presented in a professional manner.

"We will improve customer service by presenting the LIM in

a new format in line with the requirements of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987," she said.

Ms Boakes said improvements identified in the review would be implemented in the next few months and

result in a complete, accurate and professionally presented LIM for the customer.

"The review also showed that the time spent collating the LIM was more than had been allowed for in the existing fees," she said, "and council has determined that

the true cost of producing a LIM is to be recovered."

She said new fees approved by council and incorporated into the fees and charges booklet from Thursday, July 1, reflected the true cost.

A standard LIM report now cost \$300, as against the for-

mer fee of \$133, while an urgent LIM had risen to \$400 from \$165. Council, however, would not be charging the new fees until all the process improvements had been implemented.

Ms Boakes said the "user pays" approach would bring council's fees for LIM documents in line with other local authorities, whose charges were already centred between \$250 and \$400.

A LIM document contains information on rates and water charges, building permits and consents, resource and subdivision consents, special characteristics of the land or buildings, drainage information and resource consents issued in the immediate neighbourhood.



MAYOR for the Day, Feilding Intermediate School pupil, James Oldfield (12), checks out the Manawatu District Council crest with his "colleague", Manawatu District Mayor, Ian McKelvie. James earned the honour as the district's temporary leader

through the Sir Peter Blake Trust's Leadership Week initiative and appreciated the day-long experience and the opportunities it offered. After attending an early Community Wellbeing Subcommittee meeting, James toured the council's offices and facilities, as

well as undertaking tours of Manfeild Park and the Sewerage Treatment Plant. He particularly enjoyed the treatment plant operation and being taken to lunch at McDonald's. He described council staff as "friendly" and Mr McKelvie as "very interesting and very fun."


District briefs

New rates details posted shortly

DETAILS regarding the Manawatu District Council's new-look annual rates assessment and instalment invoice and effects of the GST change are to be posted to ratepayers early next month. Revenue Team Leader, Vicki Wills, said the rates details, as well as payment options and new water billing procedures, would be outlined in the council's 2010 Ratepayers' Newsletter to be sent to about 12,000 properties throughout the district.

Entry call for library's family quiz

REGISTRATIONS are still open for families keen to enter the Feilding Public Library's fun quiz at 6.30pm next Tuesday (July 13). Entry is free and teams must contain at least one child aged 12 years or under. Registrations close at 5pm tomorrow. The winning team will share a \$100 Paper Plus voucher and spot prizes will also be distributed throughout the evening.



Proposed Temporary Closure of Roads to Traffic

Under the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulations 1965, notice is given that the Manawatu District Council, for the purpose of permitting **Feilding Promotion Inc.** to conduct a **Festival of Cycling** event, proposes to close the following roads to traffic from **1.30pm to 6.30pm on Saturday, August 28:**

Manchester Street from Bowen to Eyre Streets, Stafford Street from Bowen to Eyre Streets, Warwick Street from Write Price to New World entry points, Kimbolton Road from South to Aorangi Streets, Fergusson Street from New World entry point to Aorangi Street, Manchester Square, MacArthur Street and Goodbehre Street.

During the period of closure, provision will be made for traffic that would otherwise use the road. Any person objecting to the proposal is to lodge notice of his/her objection and grounds in writing before 4pm, Wednesday, July 21, at the Manawatu District Council, Private Bag 10-001, Feilding.

Lorraine Vincent
Chief Executive