

Mayoral Diary

1 September 2011 to 30 September 2011

1.	<p>Youth Statistics</p> <p>The latest youth statistics as at 2 September 2011 shows a decline of 15 people for the month.</p> <p>The stats are:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">DPB related</td> <td style="text-align: right;">193</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Invalid</td> <td style="text-align: right;">48</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Non Beneficiary</td> <td style="text-align: right;">59</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Benefits</td> <td style="text-align: right;">53</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sickness Benefit</td> <td style="text-align: right;">67</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unemployed Benefit</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>51</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>471</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Last months total</td> <td style="text-align: right;">486</td> </tr> </table>	DPB related	193	Invalid	48	Non Beneficiary	59	Other Benefits	53	Sickness Benefit	67	Unemployed Benefit	<u>51</u>	TOTAL	<u>471</u>	Last months total	486
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2.	<p>Velodrome</p> <p>I attended the Waikato regional Council and formally presented Matamata Piako District Council's submission regarding the Home of Cycling velodrome funding proposal.</p> <p>I emphasised that it was a majority view of Council, not unanimous.</p> <p>Matamata Piako District Council supports regional funding for regional projects and we favour a uniform target rate across the region.</p>																
3.	<p>Zone 2</p> <p>We held another successful Zone 2 meeting hosted by Gisborne District Council. This was our annual two day meeting</p> <p>Agenda items included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Gisborne District by Mayor Meng Foon • Creating economic benefit, John Clarke, Director Eastland Group • Topical items, Bruce Robertson – Assistant Auditor General • Fonterra and Local Government, Philippa BARRIBALL – Fonterra • Kawerau District – social issues, Mayor Malcolm Campbell • Remuneration Authority – Elected members remuneration on expense claims, Angela Fowkes – R A member • Local Government Commission Representation reviews, Basil Morrison, LGC member • NZ Fire Service update, Russell Wood, Region 2 Fire Manager • Rural Fire Authorities. Recovery of costs from third parties, Mayor Alan Livingston • Waste Minimisation, Peter Higgs, Gisborne District. • Local Government NZ, CEO Eugene Bowen <p>• The financial accounts for the year ended 31 March 2011 were received and the 2011/2012 budget was approved.</p> <p>• Confirmed future meetings were</p> <p>• 11 November 2011 Tauranga City</p>																

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 March 2012 Waitomo • 11 May 2012 Joint Zone 1 – Auckland • 13/14 September 2012 Whakatane • 15 November 2012 South Waikato
4.	Hamilton City I attended a luncheon meeting with Mayor Julie Hardaker and Cr Maria Westphal. We discussed opportunities for Matamata Piako District Council to look at closer relations, especially relating to shared services with Hamilton City Council, Waipa and Waikato.
5.	Matamata College Together with Matamata ward councillors Don, Michelle and I met with the College Board members to discuss their proposed new gymnasium. I outlined Council's current position which is to put their request out for public submission as part of the LTP process next year.
6.	Tui Mine I agreed to an interview with TV Central on what is happening at the Tui Mine in Te Aroha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage I of sealing the adits has been completed at a cost of \$9.0 million. • The contract to stabilize the tailings has started - \$16.2 million with estimated completion date March 2013. • Matamata Piako district Council contribution is \$200,000.
7.	Stretton at Waihou Jill and I attended the annual Stretton at Waihou, designer creations fashion show. This is an excellent event under the control of Director Les Munro. Certainly a credit to all involved.
8.	NZ National Fieldays Society I attended the annual dinner of the Fieldays Society where President Lloyd Downing updated everyone on another successful year and acknowledged the ongoing support from volunteers and others.
9.	Otorohanga Debate I had agreed to lead a Matamata Piako District Council (MPDC) debating team to debate the issue that "the Otorohanga Kiwi would pick more rugby world cup winners than the MPDC diary cow". I lost my voice two days before the event so the team of Lindsay Tisch, Jo Gifford and Neil Goodger took over the task. My thanks to all the team for withstanding continued verbal abuse from the Otorohanga Mayor and his team. On a very biased decision MPDC came second.

<p>10.</p>	<p>Thames Valley Civil Defence I chaired the September meeting of the Thames Valley Combined Civil Defence committee meeting held at Matamata Piako District Council in Te Aroha. This was the last meeting with Ron White as Civil Defence Manager. Full minutes of the meeting are available.</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>Piako Motors I attended the official opening of Darryl Russel's new Piako Motors building in Morrinsville. This is a fairly major new building providing a car workshop, tractor workshop, parts store and other associated offices. It is good to see this investment by a local businesses in the current economic climate.</p>
<p>12.</p>	<p>Matamata Primary School I attended and judged the speech contest final at Matamata Primary School. All the students wrote two to three minute speeches and the winning two from each class came together for the finals. All speeches were well prepared and interesting. An enjoyable morning.</p>
<p>13.</p>	<p>Rhett Brown I attended a meeting in Matamata where Rhett Brown was the invited guest speaker talking about his accident on a building site that left him a tetraplegic. The meeting was very well attended from Council, KVS and several of Council's sub contractors. This was an excellent Health and Safety initiative and well received by all attending.</p>
<p>14.</p>	<p>Rugby World Cup I attended the Wales v Fiji match at Waikato stadium together with the Mayors of Hamilton City, Waikato, Waipa and Otorohanga Districts. Julie Hardaker in her speech of welcome to the dignitaries present, acknowledged how the Tight 5 councils had all supported the Rugby World Cup and had a strong history of working collaboratively together.</p>
<p>15.</p>	<p>Te Aroha Cruise In I attended the annual car show, Te Aroha Cruise In. This event is well promoted and managed by Greg Marshall and his committee. There seemed to be more cars on display this year and the event attracted a significant number of visitors to Te Aroha.</p>
<p>16.</p>	<p>Morrinsville Fire Brigade I attended a special Awards night at the Morrinsville Volunteer Fire Brigade. The main award was to SFF John Arnold who has just completed an amazing 50 year volunteer service with the Fire Service. John is still active within the Brigade and I was proud to acknowledge his years of service to the community.</p>
<p>17.</p>	<p>Fonterra I attended a cocktail evening in Hamilton where selected farming and local leaders had been invited to meet Fonterra's new Chief Executive Theo Spierings. Theo, who was still in his first week in the new role, outlined his positive impression for Fonterra and the strong economic benefit Fonterra would bring to NZ Inc. in general and especially to the Waikato region.</p>

<p>18.</p>	<p>Adrian Worsley I attended the opening of Adrian Worsley's rustic Historic Creations gallery in Te Aroha. A crowd of approximately 300 people came to the evening where Bridget O'Sullivan performed the official opening. Adrian is extremely talented and his new gallery will attract many visitors to Te Aroha.</p>
<p>19.</p>	<p>Garry Patterson I attended the retirement function for Garry Patterson who had held the position of Community Services Manager of Hauraki District Council. I had personally worked with Garry for several years as he was Hauraki's Civil Defence manager. Our own Steve Fabish has been employed by Hauraki District Council to replace Garry.</p>
<p>20.</p>	<p>Morrinsville Country Market I attended the regular monthly Community Market in Morrinsville. This is held in Canada Street where the stalls have been placed north of Council's library. The organisers are proposing to slightly change the layout and provide car parking in the ANZ bank car park and the stall holders will fill the main library car park and extend into the church grounds if necessary.</p>
<p>21.</p>	<p>Regional Land Transport Committee (RLTC) I attended the monthly RLTC meeting in Hamilton where a minimum attendance just allowed the meeting to proceed. Agenda items included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stock effluent Tatuanui is now officially off the schedule of sites although NZTA is looking for an alternative suitable site in the general area. • Passenger Transport Hauraki District Council is working on a programme to co-ordinate all forms of public transport to and from Hamilton. This includes the community service and health shuttle vans. Other districts are watching to see if a similar co-ordinated approach could bring benefits. • The RLTC received an official certificate for the recently adopted stock effluent strategy. Albeit that this has taken 15 years to adopt. • Road Safety The regional road toll as at 19 September 2011 was a total of 48 deaths in the region. Within Matamata Piako District Council there have been four deaths. Of concern were the seven pedestrian deaths this year. • The reduction of the alcohol limit for Under 20 year old drivers to zero has had a significant effect on numbers apprehended by police. • A new traffic modelling system has been purchased by the Waikato Local Authority Shared Services councils. The programme predicts changes to traffic flows following large developments within the Waikato. The new system cost \$2.5 million. • The proposed passenger rail service Hamilton to Auckland was discussed. While the proposal has gone to the individual councils for feed back, the proposed regional rate to subsidise this service gained little support from RLTC members. The service was seen as a private benefit rather than a

	regional benefit.
22.	Police Person of the Year I have been working with the Rotary Clubs of Matamata, Morrinsville and Te Aroha together with the eastern Waikato Police Inspector to start a Matamata Piako Rotary Clubs "Police Person of the Year". The five Hamilton Rotary Clubs, police and mayor have done all the ground work for this project which will now be implemented in our district.