

Celebrating 150 years

It's a huge weekend for Hamilton as the city kicks up its heels to commemorate its official birthday.

Celebrations will continue during the year and will culminate in a giant family friendly party in November, but the focus this weekend is on officially marking 150 years since the first European settlers arrived in the city. The day's celebrations begin with a powhiri at Wintec Marae at 8am on 24 August, the city's official birthday. The powhiri is followed by a civic function in Civic Square at 10.30am, and everyone is invited to attend. It's a chance to hear Hamilton's song performed for the first time, to watch a time capsule being buried, and to find out who will be the recipient of the first Hamilton medal. The weekend of birthday festivities includes a Mods reunion concert, a 150th birthday themed ITM Waikato vs Canterbury rugby game, a choral evensong at Waikato Cathedral, free tours of Hamilton Gardens and a talk by art historian Peter Dornauf.
www.hamilton150.co.nz



Students at Woodstock School practice the Hamilton song in preparation for their performance at the civic function. For details on the Hamilton 150th song writing competition winners, turn to page 3.

Council finances reveal excellent performance

Hamilton City Council's financial results for the 2013/14 year show the Council is well ahead of the financial goals originally set two years ago.

The Council set a goal to balance the books by 2017 and is now forecast to achieve that goal by the end of 2016. The debt balance is well under the debt cap of \$440 million and the current overall debt balance is \$383 million, \$50 million less than what was budgeted.

Mayor Julie Hardaker says the results are outstanding. "We are about to head into the 10 year budget and this result puts the Council in a far stronger position than we had expected to be in. Hamiltonians accepted the tough decisions the Council made a few years ago, and they can feel pleased their contribution has paid off."

"The next challenge and our focus for this next 10 year budget will be coping with the city's growth and the

cost of infrastructure that goes with that. Hamilton is one of only three places in New Zealand which will have growth in younger population, which means we will continue to attract people to live here. Finding the money to pay for that growth is a very big challenge the Council will be grappling with over the next six months." Council's full Annual Report will be completed and available to the public in September.

Park pranks a problem

Residents asked to be vigilant after spate of vehicle vandalism at city parks.

Hamilton residents whose properties neighbour city parks are being urged to keep an eye out for vandals in vehicles after a series of incidents where turf has been damaged.

Sally Sheedy, Hamilton City Council's Parks and Open Spaces Manager, says Pukete's Ashurst Park is the fourth park to be damaged by a car in the past two months. Gower Park, Minogue Park and Tauhara Park are the others where turf has been damaged by vehicles.

At Ashurst Park, the culprits crossed a neighbouring private property to get on to the park, with the vehicle gouging large tracks in the grass.

"This is a very frustrating situation for us and we need the community's help" Miss Sheedy says.

"We are urging residents whose

properties are next to our parks to be our eyes and ears: if they see or hear vehicles on our parks we want them to call us or police with information."

Miss Sheedy says key information for Council is vehicle descriptions and registration plates. Residents are asked to pay close attention to details.

"Information can be supplied anonymously," Miss Sheedy says. "We will pass it on to police."

Miss Sheedy says it's difficult to establish the exact cost of repairs at Ashurst Park, but they will require re-sowing grass seed, staff time and favourable weather for the shredded turf to recover.

To report vandalism at a Hamilton park, call 07 838 6699.



REPAIR JOB: Staff from the Waikato Stadium/Seddon Park turf team have been called in to help re-sow grass at Ashurst Park after a vehicle damaged the football playing surface.

COUNCIL NEWS

Visit www.hamilton.govt.nz to read Council's latest media releases.

- Next Council meeting held at The Link
- Zachary puts a face to his winning names
- Law for Lunch seminar takes to the road
- Wellington artist wins National Contemporary Art Award
- Cemeteries plan review looks to city's past, present, future
- Satima students to be hosted in Hamilton

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Visit www.hamilton.govt.nz/agendas to read all the minutes and agendas.

- **Tuesday 26 August**
External Funding Subcommittee
- **Thursday 28 August**
Ordinary Council
- **Wednesday 3 September**
Strategy and Policy Committee

HAVE YOUR SAY

Cemeteries Management Plan Review

Closes 29 August
www.hamilton.govt.nz/cemeteriesplan

Capital value rating review

Closes 8 September
www.hamilton.govt.nz/ratingreview

CONTACT US

If you have any questions or comments regarding City News, email citynews@hcc.govt.nz



A LITTLE BIT OF COLOUR: Three new murals adorn the walls at Gallagher Aquatic Centre. The paintings, fixed to the facility's western wall, were donated by Artmakers, a community art group. The murals each depict a water theme, and were created by eight students from Patricia Avenue Satellite School, which caters to students with special needs and disabilities. The original characters and situations shown in the murals were devised by the students through discussions, drawings, negotiating the composition, before they were transferred to the panels and painted. Each mural is 2.4m long and 1.2m high.

Public art experts sought

Council is inviting expressions of interest from professionals with a passion for public art to join the Public Art Panel.

The role of the Panel is to provide expert advice to Council on public art projects and to ensure Hamilton achieves high quality outcomes that align with the Public Art Plan.

Professionals with appropriate expertise (art, cultural, architecture and urban design) are being sought, with nominees needing to demonstrate a number of the following qualities:

- passion and commitment to the development of Hamilton's public art
- proven relevant experience in public art activity
- an up-to-date and broad understanding of public art
- knowledge of Maori art and culture.

Expressions of interest close on Friday 5 September 2014.

www.hamilton.govt.nz/publicart



Te Waharoa ki te Ao Maarama sculpture at the Hamilton Lake Domain.



Mayor Julie Hardaker

CBD Needs to Change

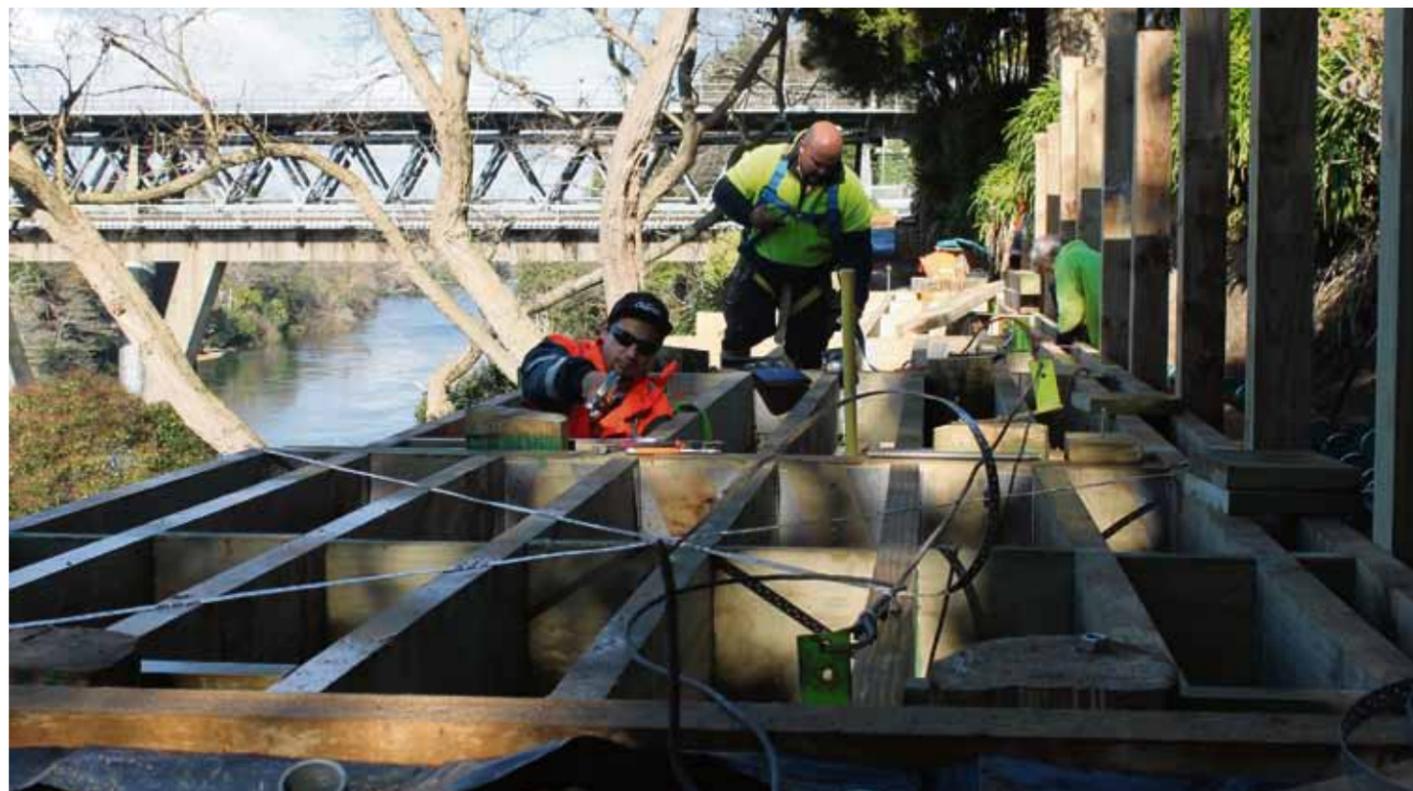
A commercially-strong well functioning central city that people enjoy being in is very important.

Central cities all around the world have been struggling to define themselves over the past 20 or so years. The growth of big box retail and reliance on cars since the 1970s, and suburban sprawl has had a big impact on CBDs everywhere. Hamilton is no different to many cities facing this challenge.

The Council has been looking at what we collectively need to do to change the way the central city works. A lot of it is about the basics; safety, keeping the environment clean, graffiti-free and without litter, making the planting beautiful and maintained to a high standard. Some of it is more difficult; looking at whether the CBD should be smaller, getting the parking right, looking at encouraging use of laneways and deciding how to encourage existing property owners to update their buildings.

The River Plan, which will be coming out in September, will play a big role in transforming the central city. Completely changing Ferrybank, making the river walkway a priority and opening up views of the river and access to the river in the central city will be in the River Plan. A new approach to safety in the central city will be released in early September which includes a collaborative project with the social services and health agencies. Together with investors, property developers, business groups and real estate agents, the Council is working on a list of actions to create a strong central city.

One thing we know is that the CBD won't be like it was 30 years ago, times have changed and the central city needs to change too.



RIVERBANK REPAIRS: Work is progressing well on the repairs to the riverbank and pathway north of Claudelands Bridge. The riverbank pathway, between London Street and Bryce Street, has been closed for more than three years following a series of slips which rendered the popular walkway unsafe. Earlier this year Hamilton City Council agreed to purchase a section of affected land from Tainui Group Holdings, enabling the repairs to be undertaken, and the path is expected to reopen by Christmas. Work on the site has so far included inserting a number of three metre long soil nails to stabilise the bank, plus the laying of a special coconut matting and mesh wire to add further strength. Construction of a boardwalk, pictured, is also a key part of the project.

Have your say on capital value proposal

Council is proposing to change to a capital value rating system and now is your opportunity to have your say.

Currently, general rates are calculated based on the land value of a property. Under the capital value proposal, rates would be calculated based on the value of the land plus what is built on the land (e.g. a house, a shop or a mall).

Under the capital value system proposal, the percentage of rates collected from each sector would stay the same (residential sector 65 per cent, commercial sector 34 per cent and rural sector 1 per cent) and each property owner would pay their share based on capital value. This means commercial ratepayers with decreases are not subsidised by residential ratepayers

with increases, and vice versa for the three sectors.

If you are interested in finding out more about the proposal, our final drop-in session will be held on Tuesday 26 August from 4.30-6.30pm in the Hamilton City Council Reception Lounge, Garden Place. Submissions close 8 September 2014. www.hamilton.govt.nz/ratingreview

Next Council meeting held at The Link

Taking democracy to the community is what's behind holding the next Council meeting at The Link in Hamilton East, says Mayor Julie Hardaker.

"It's a great opportunity for people who may not necessarily get to attend a Council meeting to come along and see how we make decisions for Hamilton. This is the third year the Council has held a meeting outside the Council Chamber and there is always a good crowd."

The meeting is on 28 August at 1.30pm at The Link Community Centre, in Te Aroha St.

The room will be set up in the same style as the council chambers – the only difference is the meeting will not be live streamed.

Hamilton's song competition winner announced



Eleven-year-old Devika Nair and her classmate Liam McCracken (10), both from Hamilton West School, add their letters to the time capsule which will be buried in Civic Square at the civic function on 24 August.

Hamilton's official song will be performed by Woodstock School students for the first time at the civic function to celebrate the city's 150th birthday on 24 August.

The competition was won by the school and the winning song, Whakanui, will be performed by children from throughout the school.

The lyrics reflect a love for Hamilton and the Waikato and are intended to capture the spirit of the city.

The entire school will perform the song on various occasions throughout the year and it will feature at its school production in September, entitled Happy Birthday Hamilton. Winning the competition has special significance for the school, which celebrates its 60th birthday this year.

One of the competition judges, Paul Trenwith, from the Hamilton County Bluegrass Band, says the song has a catchy melody and can be performed in a number of styles.

August
2014

what's
hamilton

www.whatsonhamilton.co.nz



**AN EVENING WITH
THE MODERN
MAORI QUARTET**
Clarence St Theatre, Friday 5 September

We have one double pass up for grabs to see The Modern Maori Quartet at Clarence St Theatre. Simply email your name & phone number to citynews@hcc.govt.nz by 5pm, Monday 1 September and you'll be in the draw!

WAIKATO VS TARANAKI

WEDNESDAY 27 AUGUST

Waikato Stadium

Get along to Waikato Stadium to see the Mooloo men battle it out against Taranaki. Waikato has had the better of this matchup recently, winning their last two ITM Cup encounters.

WORLD VISION KIDS FOR KIDS

MONDAY 25 –

THURSDAY 28 AUGUST

Founders Theatre

'Everything is Ka Pai' is jam-packed with kiwi favourites such as "Weather with You", "Six Months In A Leaky Boat" and "Something in the Water" It's a guaranteed fun night out for the entire family! As always, the show promotes the work of World Vision and continues to give kiwi kids a fantastic opportunity to shine as the stars of the show, while teaching them about the concept of global citizenship.

NEIL DIAMOND'S HOT AUGUST NIGHT

FRIDAY 29 AUGUST

Founders Theatre

It is over 40 years since Neil Diamond stepped on stage at the Greek Theatre in Los Angeles with a symphony orchestra and recorded what is still known today as one of the greatest live albums of all time. Now that album will be re-created in its original format by Peter Byrne and The New Zealand International Orchestra. Featuring classic songs Crunchy Granola Suite, Cherry Cherry, Sweet Caroline and I am I said, see the same spontaneous display of energy and sensuality of Neil Diamond with the superb talents of Peter Byrne.

OKLAHOMA!

FRIDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

Founders Theatre

Since its premiere on Broadway in 1943, OKLAHOMA! has been a box-office smash and is now considered the birth of the modern musical. The music and lyrics have proven to be some of the best in musical theatre with songs that include "Oh What a Beautiful Morning", "The Surrey with the Fringe on Top", "People Will Say We're in Love", "I Can't Say No", "Oklahoma!" and many more. Set in Midwest America in 1906, the high-spirited rivalry between the local farmers and cowboys provides the colourful background against which Curly, a handsome cowboy, and Laurey, a winsome farm girl, play out their love story.

AN EVENING WITH THE MODERN MĀORI QUARTET

FRIDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

Clarence St Theatre

Take four charming Maori guys crooning a mix of modern day and classic songs in Te Reo and English. A fresh take on classic Maori showbands, the Modern Māori Quartet are a good looking, suave and multi-talented Maori foursome who love crooning their spin on modern and classic numbers. Suit 'em up in their number ones, comb their hair, shine their shoes, hand them a guitar or two and they'll have you melting like golden syrup on a piece of fresh hot fried bread.

THE ART SALE

FRIDAY 5 – SATURDAY

6 SEPTEMBER

Claudlands

The Art Sale is a brand new two day event showcasing more than 1200 creative and original artworks from 180 talented New Zealand artists. The sale is constantly evolving as fresh, new artwork is installed to replace those pieces sold. With prices ranging from \$100 - \$6000, the professionally managed exhibition provides an opportunity for everyone from first time buyers to experienced collectors looking to find good quality art at an affordable price.

THE GREAT FOOD SHOW

SATURDAY 6- SUNDAY

7 SEPTEMBER

Mystery Creek Events Centre

Hamilton's first premier food show will be making its debut this month showcasing the best in food, wine and the latest in delicious edibles. At the heart of the event will be a cooking theatre with cooking demonstrations by well-known national chefs and personalities. You will love being able to get top tips, meeting your idols and learning some amazing recipes for your own kitchen.

WAIKATO GANG SHOW

SATURDAY 6 – SUNDAY

13 SEPTEMBER

Riverlea Theatre

The Waikato Gang Show's fifth production is a Scout and Guide take on the famous story of Alice in Wonderland. Fun for all the family with lots of songs, dancing and skits.

GALLAGHER GREAT RACE

FRIDAY 12 – SUNDAY

14 SEPTEMBER

Waikato River

Witness world-class river racing with rowing crews as FOUR of the world's most prestigious universities compete for glory on Hamilton's mighty Waikato River. This year for the first time, two top international universities, Harvard and Washington travel across the globe to challenge the best combination of brains and brawn that the University of Waikato has to offer.

WAY OF LIFE SCREENING

FRIDAY 30 AUGUST

Waikato Museum

Documentary screening from DOCUTAH, the Southern Utah International Film Festival. Following the extraordinary journey of Michael Daubed, a young artist of modest means from small-town America. After finding a valuable piece of art while searching through an abandoned warehouse, he sells it at auction and with the proceeds builds a hospital in one of the most remote areas of India. From this, David Driver weaves a visual meditation on the idea of life's work and personal happiness.

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For more events and further information visit www.whatsonhamilton.co.nz or scan this QR code with your smartphone.

WHERE TO GET YOUR EVENT TICKETS:

HAMILTON i-SITE, ON THE CORNER OF CARO AND ALEXANDRA STREETS, IS AN AGENT FOR TICKETEK AND DASH TICKETS. THE i-SITE IS OPEN 9AM-5PM WEEKDAYS AND 9.30AM-3.30PM WEEKENDS.

www.hamilton.govt.nz



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Hamilton City Council
Te kaunihera o Kirikiriroa