



Council staff and contractors were busy little bees at the end of last year putting up colourful and eye catching signage and interpretation around the District. Council partnered with community organisations such as the Greymouth i-Site, New Zealand Motor Caravan Association, Cobden Aromahana Sanctuary Recreation Area Inc and many, many more in a matched funding scheme under the **Signage, Interpretation and Public Art (SIPA) Framework**.



These signs are just a hint of what our community can achieve and the SIPA fund still has thousands of dollars available for future groups who wish to utilise it. Council contributes 1:1 for every dollar provided by the group and so far we have three more organisations lined up for installations in 2016.

Find out more at www.greymdc.govt.nz/sipa



Mayor's Comment

We are working hard on expanding Broadband to rural areas outside of Greymouth and also eliminating mobile phone blackspots throughout the region.

The objectives of the West Coast Digital Enablement Plan are:

- 100 mbps (fibre to the door) in all areas of 300 people or more.
- 100 mbps in other areas within reasonable reach of the main trunk services.
- Where the cost of the fibre is prohibitive due to distance and number of recipients, then installation of 4G, wireless or VDSL service providing a minimum 20 mbps.
- Provisions of mobile phone coverage across the State Highway network throughout the West Coast, including Special Purpose roads.

High speed inexpensive connectivity is essential for the development of the District and wider region. Greymouth is now connected with Ultrafast Broadband; the next step is the District's smaller towns and rural areas.

Everyone should have the opportunity to access the internet. Development West Coast has made \$1 million available to the three Councils and the government is spending another \$200 million. Currently 65% of the District is connected to the internet. The next stage will be South Beach, Cameron's, Gladstone and Greymouth rural including Kaiata Park, Lake Brunner area, Runanga, Rapahoe, Coast Road, Blackball, Ahaura, Grey Valley and Arnold Valley area.

By ensuring the availability of high-speed broadband services, the following benefits will be achieved:

- Enabling remote education
- Enabling participation in remote working opportunity
- Business development
- Providing entertainment and social networking
- Providing an essential link for isolated communities
- Making the West Coast more attractive to people looking to move from higher-density urban areas for lifestyle or financial reasons

The combined West Coast Council's see the expansions of broadband services as critical for the ongoing viability of the region and essential to all of its communities, including young people, senior citizens and the disabled.

The mobile phone blackspots we are lobbying to receive better coverage are the Coast Road, Rutherglen-Marsden area, Nelson Creek area, State Highway 73, Runanga area, Coal Creek areas, State Highway 7 and Blackball area.

The \$1 million from Development West Coast is a good start but it is important that we receive a portion of the \$350 million Government has set aside. When the Government set aside \$1.5 billion for Ultrafast Broadband, Greymouth was not included. During the submission process I made a case for the town to be included in the roll out. I was delighted when we were included as one of only 33 towns and cities selected for Ultra Fast Broadband. It's already up and running so now is the time to expand out to the wider region.

Tony Kokshoorn



DO YOU LIVE IN ONE AREA AND PAY RATES ON A PROPERTY IN ANOTHER?

Then you may qualify to vote more than once at the local authority elections on 8 October 2016.

If you live and vote in one council district, but also pay rates on a property in another district, you may be eligible to enrol as a non-resident ratepayer elector in that other council district.

If your council district has community or local boards established, and you are a residential elector in one community or local board area and pay rates on a property in another community or local board area, you may be eligible to enrol as a ratepayer elector in that other community or local board area.

Local Elections 2016
**YOUR VOTE
YOUR COMMUNITY**

A firm, company, trust, corporation or society which pays rates on a property may nominate one of its members or officers as a non-resident ratepayer elector, provided that the nominator and the person nominated are both registered as Parliamentary electors at addresses which are outside the council district within which the property is situated.

In the case of partners, joint tenants and tenants in common, who collectively pay rates on a property, one of the group may be nominated to be entered on the ratepayer electoral roll. Again, the nominated person and the nominator must be registered as Parliamentary electors at addresses which are outside the council district within which the property is situated.

Note: The term 'council district' includes a city, district and regional council area.

Eligibility to enrol or be nominated will depend on individual circumstances

In each case only one ratepayer elector can be nominated, irrespective of the number of properties owned by the firm, company, society, trust, partnership or ratepayer in a council district.

New Ratepayer Electors

If you think you may be eligible to enrol or to nominate a person for the ratepayer electoral roll, you will need to obtain an Enrolment Form for Ratepayer Electors from the city or district council to which you pay your rates.

ENROL NOW - THE RATEPAYER ELECTORAL ROLL CLOSERS ON 12 AUGUST 2016

If you are on the Parliamentary electoral roll, you will automatically be on the local authority residential electoral roll.

If you want further information please phone toll free:
0508 08 10 16 (from 11 April 2016 to 26 August 2016)

Brought to you by New Zealand Local Authority Electoral Officers

COMMUNITY FUNDING

The Grey District Council administers two funding schemes that are available to groups in our community. The funding rounds for both schemes are in September and April each year.

CREATIVE COMMUNITIES SCHEME

All projects eligible for funding must be arts and cultural projects that:

- Increase participation in the arts at a local level, or increase the range and diversity of the arts available to local communities;
- Take place within the Grey District and/or produce benefits that are largely experienced within the Grey District; and
- Benefit local communities.

Recent funding recipients:

- West Coast Theatre Trust
- Pou Mahi a Iwi - Cultural Work Centre Trust
- Limelight Drama
- Mental Health Awareness Week Art Exhibition Group 2015

SPORT NEW ZEALAND RURAL TRAVEL FUND

School club teams and sport club teams are defined as:

- "A school club team participating in regular local sport competition in weekends, that excludes inter-school and intra-school competitions played during school time."

and/or

- "A sports club team participating in organised, regular sport competition through club membership outside of school time."

Recent funding recipients:

- Suburbs Schoolboys Rugby League
- Awahono School Grey Valley Basketball Team
- Paroa Junior Soccer Club
- Waro-Rakau Schoolboys Rugby League

Full details can be found on our website or at Council offices when funding rounds are open.



SPECIAL LICENCES

Under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 (the Act), you need to get a Special Licence if you want to sell or supply alcohol at an event (or series of events).

Applications need to be made at least 20 working days before the event as they can take some time to process, including reporting by Council, the NZ Police and Community & Public Health and then consideration by the District Licensing Committee (DLC) on whether to grant or decline the application.

Some examples of when a Special Licence is required:

- Ticketed events like festivals and concerts where alcohol is supplied as part of the ticket price or sold over the bar
- Sporting events
- Bus, train and limo trips
- Licensed premises where the event is not covered by the normal licence
- Venues hired for a public or private social or fundraising event (eg halls) where you intend to sell and supply alcohol

You do not need a Special Licence if you're supplying alcohol to your guests in your own home or at a private function where the alcohol is free, such as a wedding or birthday party; when guests are bringing alcohol to your home or you use a caterer who holds a licence to sell or supply alcohol at events

Check out the Special Licences section on our website for more information.
www.greydc.govt.nz/liqourlicensing



WAITANGI DAY COMMUNITY PICNIC SATURDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2016

Head on down to Dixon Park on Saturday 6 February 2016 for the Waitangi Day community picnic.

This fabulous family day is made possible by the generosity of many sponsors and organisers and everyone is welcome! A bbq lunch, including a hangi, will be available for a gold coin donation.

Starting at 11am, there will be:

- A bbq and hangi for lunch, as well as tea and coffee
- Bouncy castle, face painting and a lolly scramble for the kids
- Music and lots of other entertainment throughout the day



Grey District Waitangi Day Picnic
Community Celebrations

A plan is produced each year that lays out what the Council plans on doing for the next 12 months and how the activities and services will be paid for, ie rates, subsidies and user charges.



The next Draft Annual Plan will be for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017. Public consultation on the Draft Plan will take place in March/April 2016. We encourage all ratepayers and residents to read the Draft Plan and have their say before Council adopts the Final Plan in June.

The new September 2015 valuations will also be used for the first time from 1 July 2016. Residential property land values in the Grey District have decreased on average 17.5% and residential capital values have dropped on average by 5.8% (note: these are averages figures and some properties will have changes higher or lower than these averages).

An increase or decrease in your property value does not automatically mean that there will be an increase or decrease in your rates. Our rate assessments are made up of the following types of charges:

- General Rates (calculated on land value);
- A Uniform Annual General Charge (set charge); and
- Targeted Rates (set charges or calculated on capital value).

Your rateable land value is used to determine how much of the General Rate you pay in comparison to other properties in the District.

General Rates are currently used to fund activities such as roading, refuse disposal sites, stormwater, parks, community services, district planning, rural fire, flood protection and much more. Which area of the District you live in and what the property is used for also determines how much you contribute towards these services (ie residential, rural, commercial use etc).

JOIN US FOR OUR SUMMER STREET 'FARE'

GREYMOUTH SUMMER STREET 'FARE'

IN ALBERT MALL 'BY THE LIBRARY'

SUN 21 FEB 4PM - 7PM

FOOD STALLS MUSIC

BRING ALONG THE FAMILY TABLES AND CHAIRS PROVIDED

GREYMOUTH ROTARY COMMUNITY PROJECT

FUND RAISER FOR
THE GREYMOUTH COAST GUARD

NEW ZEALAND'S
OLDEST
BUILDING SOCIETY

NBS
GREYMOUTH



ART

in the

PARK

SHANTYTOWN

HERITAGE PARK • WEST COAST



SAT 12 & SUN 13

MARCH 2016