

STAFF REPORT

TO: Community Services Committee
FROM: Community and Recreation Advisor
REFERENCE: C752
DATE: 5 February 2007

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Committee on the Community and Recreation Department.

SUMMER FESTIVAL EVENTS

Across the region the Community Recreation Department supported and organised a wide range of events. These included Tiny Tots Teddies and Toys, Christmas Parades, Carols in the Park, the Tasman Skatepark Tour, Outdoor Movies across the region markets, Jazz in the Park, Summer Shakespeare, Night with the Stars, Waitangi Day celebrations, Tata Beach Day, Takaka Mardis Gras and the Teddy Bear Picnics. These events are all gaining recognition and are becoming events that the community enjoy as part of their summer activities.

Upcoming events include:

BikeWise events
Childrens Day at Rabbit Island
Last of the Summer Fare

SWIMMING POOLS

Pool Subsidy Policy allowed funding for secondary, area and primary schools pools to be available to the community for public swimming. Eighteen school pools were assisted to be available to the communities via this fund – access is by key purchase. Motueka High School, Golden Bay High School and Collingwood Area School are contracted under individual agreements to provide supervised swimming.

BIKE WISE WEEK

The annual Bike Wise Week cycling promotion is on again from 24 February to 4 March.

There are many community events planned as part of Bike Wise Week including:

- Go By Bike Day is on Wednesday 28 February from 7.00-9.00 am. There are stations all over the region where cyclists will be offered breakfast snacks and other giveaways to anyone who bikes this day. Sites include:
Richmond - Village Cycles
Motueka - outside the Museum, High St
Takaka - Village Green
Murchison, TDC office
- The Motueka Family Fun Ride & Mayoral Challenge - Saturday 24 February 10.00 am, the Skate Park, Old Wharf Road
- The Nelson/Richmond Family Fun Ride & Mayoral Challenge - Sunday 25 February 10.00 am, ASB Aquatic Centre, Richmond
- The Takaka Family Fun Ride - Saturday 3 March 10.00 am, the Village Green.

There is also the Bike Wise Business battle which Tasman District Council is entering. All you need to do is hop on a bike and go for a short 10 minute ride between 19 February and 4 March.

We are having two kinds of departmental challenges. A morning tea will be awarded to the department who manages to get the highest percentage of staff riding (doesn't matter about size of the department, as it is based on participation rates not numbers). Another morning tea will be awarded to the department who cycle the highest number of kms during Bike Wise Week (highest number of kms divided by the number of people who actually biked in that department).

To register go to www.bikewisebattle.org.nz, click on the "register yourself": link on left hand menu and select the Tasman District Council from organisation drop down menu then select your department.

Departments registered are:

- Councillors + Community Board members
- Motueka Service Centre
- Motueka Library
- Murchison Service Centre
- Richmond - Community Services
- Richmond - Corporate
- Richmond - Engineering
- Richmond - Environment and Planning
- Richmond - Customer Services
- Richmond Library

Takaka Library
Takaka Service Centre

POSITIVE AGEING FORUM

Next Positive Ageing Forum meeting is on Monday 5 March, Richmond Town Hall 1-3pm. The agenda includes Chris Budgen President of the Pharmaceutical Society discussing prescription charges (this was raised at the 13 November 2006 Positive Ageing Forum).

FOUND

The www.found.org.nz website is soon to be hosted as a standalone website and in conjunction with this upgrade the categories are being better defined. Canterbury Community Trust funding of \$5,000 was granted to enable the website upgrade to take place.

SPARC RURAL TRAVEL FUND

Application forms are out now for travel for sport teams in the 5-19 age group. The next round closes 28 April 2007.

CREATIVE COMMUNITIES

Application forms are out now for projects that increase participation in the arts. The closing date is 30 March, with the Committee meeting on 17 April to allocate funds.

TRUSTPOWER COMMUNITY AWARDS

Tasman District Council is again providing support to administer these awards which acknowledge the work of the regions community organisations. The national awards are taking place on 23 March 2007 with the Taste Tasman event representing our region.

Nominations for the 2007 awards open on 12 March, please help spread the word to ensure we continue to build on the 100 + nominations received in 2006.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP FUND

Tasman District Council has put in two applications to the Ministry of Youth Affairs fund.

The first is for two Tasman Youth Council projects, namely Jam Magazine and development of Youth Participation Workshops across the district. Jam magazine enables young people to have a “hands on” experience in planning and running a project, with their input leading all aspects of the publication. The magazine has been well received and we are looking to grow the opportunities for youth across the district to submit articles and art, as well as be involved in editorial, layout, promotion and advertising sales.

The workshops are to develop Youth Councillors and other young peoples understanding of government, representing young people and taking ideas into actions.

We are also the umbrella organisation for the application of the ARC APART PROGRAMME. This project is a rehabilitative program matching youth at risk/youth offenders with hard to place rescue animals. The rehabilitative effect of working with animals and the discipline of a structured 10 week programme will offer a unique opportunity to our at risk youth.

TASMAN YOUTH COUNCIL RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING FOR 2007

We are in the process of doing a recruitment drive for new youth councillors for this year. We have been lucky enough to retain a number of last years members across the region so will have some experienced youth councillors to help the new members learn the ropes. We are recruiting via schools and youth organisations as well as word of mouth and through promotion of the Tasman Youth Council. We will start the year with a weekend long training hui similar to last year which will take place in March. This will comprise of a number of workshops looking at the skills required to be able to effectively represent youth in their communities including submission writing, local council functions and communication skills. We hope to have a total of 25 Tasman Youth Councillors from across the region again this year!

JAM MAG

The third issue of Jam Mag is currently being compiled and is due to be published and out to youth in the region in April 2007. We have had a good response from general youth in the community with letters sent to the mag and lots of items of interest. Jam Mag already is now starting to become a recognised youth magazine by youth in the Tasman Region. We have also had some interest from national organisations (eg SADD and World Vision) who would like to use the magazine as a medium to get some messages out to youth. All articles are presented to the Editorial Team (comprising of youth) who allocate the space in the Mag.

JANUARY 2007 HOLIDAY PROGRAMME (OSCAR WORKSHOPS)

The January 2007 holidays workshop sponsored by us and the Nelson City Council on offer to holiday programmes in the region was a clown and balloon workshop run by 'Walnut the Clown'. Walnut is a professional clown of 25 years from Auckland and his workshop was well received by both children and staff at the programmes. All workshop slots were full and he even went down as far as Murchison and presented the workshop to a total of 25 children down there (big numbers for the Murchison programme!) Overall the workshops were a success and it was great to be able to offer our holiday programmes the opportunity to access an activity that they would not have been able to if it wasn't for our assistance.

M Tasman-Jones
Community and Recreation Advisor

http://tdctoday:82/shared_documents/meetings/council/committees_and_subcommittees/community_services_committee/reports/2007/rcs070220_report_community_and_recreation_advisor.doc