

STAFF REPORT

TO: Community Services Committee
FROM: Community Services Chair
DATE: 25 February 2009
SUBJECT: Chair's Report

Welcome to the first Community Services meeting of 2009.

Since the last Community Services meeting in 2008, the wider community has lost the life of former Councillor Tony Fry. Tony, to me, was always a very supportive person and worked tirelessly for the ratepayers he represented. Also our thoughts are with those who lost loved ones in the devastating bush fire in Victoria (Australia). This makes you realise how devastating fire can be and how lucky we are to have well funded and supported volunteer fire brigades across the whole district.

Unfortunately I was unable to attend the site visit to the new Saxton Indoor Stadium but by all accounts I have heard, it is a particularly impressive building and will be very complimentary to the other facilities at Saxton Field.

Over the summer period Community Services staff have been involved in and/or run a number of activities such as Tasman Skatepark Tours, Summertime Outdoor Movies, Carols by Candlelight in Washbourn Gardens, Rabbit Island Beach Art Day, Sundial Square events and Boredom Busters programmes. These events were all appreciated by those who attended. Coming up is the Last of the Summer Fare on Friday of this week and towards the end of the month the Youth Council introduction weekend for new youth councillors, who at some stage will come in and meet Councillors.

It is with some sadness I learn of Lisa Oldham's resignation as District Librarian. Lisa has been a real inspiration for those associated with library services. On behalf of all Councillors I would like to wish Lisa well in her new ventures.

Thank you to those Councillors who have attended shows and manned Council sites, particularly those who attended the Murchison Show while I was away.

Finally, Estuary Walkway, around the northern Richmond West area, is slowly but surely being developed.

Stuart Bryant
Chair of Community Services

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