

## NEWS FROM YOUR WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

### 30 MAY 2019

It was a privilege to attend the ANZAC commemorations at Eureka Hall and to lay a wreath on behalf of the Waikato District Mayor and Councillors. Around 35 attended from Eureka and surrounding areas. This very moving event which I hope will continue to attract larger numbers in years to come. Eureka is one of the few small communities to have a cenotaph, so it is fitting that our returned servicemen and women from all the wars are remembered each year.



If you are an artist or writer, you may like to enter the WDC Matariki competition which opened on 13<sup>th</sup> May. To enter you write a poem or create a picture about Matariki (the Maaori name for the cluster of stars known as the Pleiades which rise in late May or early June and for many Maaori heralds the start of a new year).

For more details go to [www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/services-facilities/libraries/matariki-competition-2019](http://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/services-facilities/libraries/matariki-competition-2019). You can pick up an entry form at any of our offices or libraries or download an entry form on [www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/matariki](http://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/matariki). Entries must be received by 14 June.

Reminder about the **Dirty Dog Challenge on 15<sup>th</sup> June**. For more details and to register for the event go to [www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/services-facilities/animal-control/dirty-dog-challenge](http://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/services-facilities/animal-control/dirty-dog-challenge)

As mentioned last month the **Proposed District Plan** is now open for further submission (The District Plan sets the rules for how the district's land can be used, developed and subdivided and is reviewed every 10 years). **We have now launched our online map tool to help our residents find out whether changes requested to zoning and other district plan features will have an impact on their land or on any location they are interested in.** You can find this tool at [www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/pdp-map-tool](http://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/pdp-map-tool) - it enables you to select a property or area to find out whether it is subject to an original submission that seeks a change of zoning etc, allows you to support, oppose other people's submissions or comment on how a submission may impact you; submit online through our website or on a submission form available at WDC offices or libraries or by phoning 0800 492 452.

I represent Waikato District on the **Hauraki Gulf Forum** – the Forum is made up of Council representatives from Auckland City and Hauraki, Thames/Coromandel and Waikato District Councils, Community Boards in the Gulf and Tangata Whenua representatives. On 20<sup>th</sup> May the Forum, a statutory body tasked with progressing integrated management of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park, recommended two significant goals for this important marine park. Consistent with its strategic issues the forum voted to recommend two aspirational long-term goals for the 12,000-square km marine park – that at least 20% of the waters to be protected and that restoration efforts establish 1000 km<sup>2</sup> of shellfish-beds and reefs.



Our Forum Chair John Meeuwsen stated in a press release *"that bold action is required to stem continued ecological decline below the waterline and that protection could take many forms including no-take marine reserves, restriction on fishing methods and rahui among others. The forum is not an implementing body, and while our recommendations are not binding, they do carry political weight. It will be up to the forum's members, and other stakeholders, to act on the recommendations and implement them."*

At its next meeting in August the forum will consider a paper regarding further elaboration of those aspirational goals and the next steps involved in achieving them. **The Hauraki Gulf Forum's 2019 conference will be held on 27 August at Auckland's War Memorial Museum** and will focus on the two goals recommended at this month's meeting.



#### Contact me anytime -

Rob McGuire: - Councillor Eureka Ward  
Ph. 824 3696 / Mob 0274 970 966  
WDC Council free phone - 0800 492 452  
Email [rob.mcguire@waikato.govt.nz](mailto:rob.mcguire@waikato.govt.nz)

