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What's Coming Up?

- **Stratford Speedway, 5th December, 7pm.**
Taranaki Champs and Ginge Hayward memorial for modified's, Jason King memorial for superstocks, NMCS. Adults \$15, Children \$6, Family \$32 and under 5's FREE
- **Christmas Homes for Hospice, 5th & 6th December, 10-4pm.**
Tickets \$25, all proceeds go to Hospice. Contact Nicola Lambkin on 765 5447 for more information
- **Stratford Christmas Parade, 27th November, 6.30pm.**
This years theme is Country Christmas. For more information Contact Raewyn Gordon on 765 6099
- **Stratford Tramping Club, 28th November, 8am.**
Enjoy a moderate walk to the Pouatu Trig at Tangaraukau for \$12. For more information contact Fred Cook on 765 5575.
- **School Holiday Programmes, 11th-22nd January 2010.**
Contact Stratford Information Centre on 765 6700
- **Camp Quality, 19th-24th January 2010.**
- **Chateau to Plateau, 31st January 2010.**
- **Americarna, 24th-27th February 2010.**
- **Stratford Lions 202D Convention, 5th-7th March 2010.**
Contact Gordon Astwood on 765 7457
- **Children's Day, 7th March 2010.**
- **Stratford's of the World, 4th-7th March, 2010.**
Contact Gloria Webby on 765 6153

Stratford Community Newz & Viewz



Volunteer Stratford

- Are you community minded?
- Do you have some spare time?
- Are you interested in becoming a volunteer?



Senior Sergeant Shaun Keenan and Neighbourhood Support Coordinator Liz Sumner, recruiting for volunteers.

CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS...
The Central Taranaki Safe Community Trust working with the Stratford District Council are calling for volunteers who are available to offer support to their local community.

Volunteering offers you the opportunity to...

- Gain new skills
- Help others
- Discover new work
- Explore your community
- Share your knowledge
- Build confidence
- Work experience
- Discover new work places
- Make new friends

Right now - recruiting for community patrols...
Our first volunteer need is for community patrols. We're calling for people to get involved and undertake training.

What is a community patrol?
A community patrol is a voluntary group of people taking responsibility within their own community to help the Police make their community a safer environment to live in.
Community patrol officers act as 'eyes and ears' for police. Patrolling their community in pairs. Patrol officers note anything that could be suspicious and inform police immediately of incidents requiring urgent attention.

International Volunteers Day

FRIDAY DECEMBER 4

Prospero Place - 11.00am - 1.00pm

Come along and find out about Stratford Volunteering

FREE BBQ

YES - I want to become a volunteer
Fill in this form and return to:
Attn: Kate, Stratford District Council, PO Box 320, Stratford 4352.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL: _____

YES, please send me a volunteers information pack. (tick)

YES, I am interested in volunteering for community patrols. (tick)



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Volunteers Day in Stratford

The Central Taranaki Community Trust with Stratford District Council are celebrating International Volunteers Day on Friday 4 December in Prospero Place. From 11.00 am – 1.00 pm you're invited to come down for a free BBQ.

International Volunteers Day is about giving volunteers a chance to work together on projects and campaigns promoting their contributions to economic and social development at local, national and international levels.

Come along and help us thank those that give our community their all!





A Note from PJ ...

Compliments of the Season to All

Reflecting on 2009 the Community Services team recall another full and interesting year for our community. From Children's Day and the appointment of a Youth Health Nurse in March, to Area 201 and Mobility Scooter training in May – 3 positive ageing forums and the celebration of older persons day, the usual funding rounds and Expo, it's been a productive year all round.



As the year draws to a close it's time to pull out the Christmas tree to receive gifts for the less fortunate, to remember those who volunteer in our community with a BBQ on Friday 4 December in Prospero Place and advertise holiday hours to the public.

Planning for 2010 is well underway with Camp Quality and Chateau to Plateau Bike Ride being held in January, Americarna in February and Children's Day, Stratford's of the World and Stratford Lions 202D Convention all happening early March.

So, with all that to look forward to – lets all take a break and enjoy some quality family time during the festive season. See you all next year.

Pauline James
Community Services Manager

STRATFORDS HOMES FOR HOSPICE

On 5th and 6th of December ten Stratford homes are opening their doors to the public in order to raise money for Hospice. It is the third time the event has been run in Stratford and is organized by Nicola Lambkin and Helen Dickey. Though its main aim is to fundraise for Hospice, Nicola Lambkin explains, it has also become quite a "social" event helping to raise the awareness of Stratford as a destination.

There are an overwhelming number of people who generously open their homes and their hearts for this event, and the amount of support from local businesses is fantastic. Each home has a theme and it is usually the home owner that decides on the theme themselves. Some of this years themes include: A Country Christmas, A Christmas Wedding, Christmas through the Ages and A Teddy Bear's Christmas just to name a few. "It is not about who has the 'flashiest house' or who spends the most money on decorating – we just want to show people that Christmas means different things to different people" says Nicola.

The Stratford Hospice Shop volunteers are running a "cafe" at their Christmas Home Centre and are also running a "bric-a-brac" stall. The Stratford District Youth Council are also getting involved - helping out as "house sitters" at different locations to give the homeowners a

break from time to time.

The homes are open from 10 am - 4pm each day. Tickets are \$25 per person and are available for purchase from: Stratford Information Centre, United Travel Eltham, and Devon Sweets in both Stratford and New Plymouth.

One lucky ticket holder will also win a \$1000 travel voucher. This is a fantastic prize and thanks go out to Pat Dyer from United Travel Eltham for his generous sponsorship.

PJ's Country Cafe
133 Flint Road
Stratford

Christmas Homes for Hospice
5 - 6 December 2009

"A Country Christmas"
(No. 6 on your list)

Café open 11 am - 2.30 pm daily
Offers delicious Home Baked Country Fare

Assisted by The Girl Friends Club & Stratford Lions. Proceeds to Hospice



STRATFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL CHRISTMAS HOURS

OFFICE

Closes Noon Thursday 24 December 2009
Reopens 8.30 am Tuesday 5 January 2010
Phone (06) 765 6099 - All Departments (24 hour service)

LIBRARY

The Library hours are as follows:
Thursday 24 December 2009 – 9.00am – 5.30pm
Friday 25 December 2009 - Closed
Saturday 26 December 2009 - Closed
Monday 28 December 2009 - Closed
Tuesday 29 December 2009 - 9.00 am - 5.30 pm
Wednesday 30 December 2009 - 9.00 am - 5.30 pm
Thursday 31 December 2009 - 9.00 am - 5.30 pm
Friday 1 January 2010 - Closed
Saturday 2 January 2010 - Closed
Monday 4 January 2010 - Closed
Tuesday 5 January 2010 - Normal Hours Resume
Phone (06) 765 5403

INFORMATION CENTRE

Friday 25 December 2009 - Closed
Saturday 26 December 2009 - 10.00 am - 3.00 pm
Friday 1 January 2010 - 10.00 am - 3.00 pm
Saturday 2 January 2010 - 10.00 am - 3.00 pm
Phone (06) 765 6708

Vehicle & Driver Licensing

Thursday 24 December 2009 - 9.00 am - 4.30 pm
Friday 25 December 2009 - Closed
Saturday 26 December 2009 - Closed
Sunday 27 December 2009 - Closed
Monday 28 December 2009 - 9.00 am - 4.30 pm
Tuesday 29 December 2009 – 9.00am-4.00 pm
Wednesday 30 December 2009 - 9.00 am - 4.30 pm
Thursday 31 December 2009 - 9.00 am - 4.30 pm
Friday 1 January 2010 – Closed
Saturday 2 January 2010 - Closed

TSB POOL COMPLEX

Opening Hours
Thursday 24 December 2009 - 11.00 am - 6.30 pm
Friday 25 December 2009, Christmas Day - Closed
Saturday 26 December 2009- 11.00 am - 6.00 pm
Sunday 27 December 2009 – 11.00 am – 6.00 pm
Monday 28 December 2009 – 11.00 am – 6.00 pm
Tuesday 29 December 2009 – 11.00 am – 6.00 pm
Wednesday 30 December 2009 - 11.00 am - 6.30 pm
Thursday 31 December 2009 - 11.00 am - 6.30 pm
Friday 1 January 2010 - 11.00 am - 6.00 pm
Saturday 2 January 2010 – 11.00am – 6.00pm
Sunday 3 January 2010 – 11.00am – 6.00pm

Normal Public Hours resume Monday 4 January 2010

REFUSE COLLECTIONS

Red Lid Bins

All domestic collections will remain unchanged over the Christmas and New Year period.

RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

Green Lid Bin

All recycling collections will remain unchanged over the Christmas and New Year period.

CORDELIA STREET TRANSFER STATION

The Transfer Station will be closed Christmas Day (Friday 25 December 2009)

Open all other days during the following hours:
Weekdays - 2.00pm - 5.00pm
Weekend and Public Holidays - 1.00pm - 5.00pm

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR THE LESS FORTUNATE



With Christmas approaching fast it is that time of year to think about the fortunes that life offers and remember that not everyone is as privileged or has as lovely a Christmas as others.

Every year Stratford District Council puts up their Christmas tree and invites the community to donate gifts for the less fortunate children or elderly in the district. We welcome anyone to take part by placing gifts under the Christmas tree in the foyer of Stratford District Council building. Gifts will be accepted up until Friday 18th December 2009 to allow distribution prior to Christmas day.

If you would like any more information about this donation please ask for Kate Whareaitu at the Stratford District Council Office.

NEIL VOLZKE - STRATFORD DISTRICT MAYOR



A big CONGRATULATIONS goes to Neil Volzke who had a landslide win over Rusty Kane in the Stratford District Mayoral by-election. As Deputy Mayor since 2007 and Acting Mayor since John Edwards passed away in August, Mr Volzke will continue with "business as usual".

A true Stratford man, Mr Volzke was born and raised here and was first elected to Council in 2001 then re-elected in 2004 and

2007. During his career with the Stratford District Council he has been appointed as a Justice of the Peace and since October last year he has been the CEO for Age Care Central, managing the Maryann Rest Home and Hospital and Marire Rest Home.

Mr Volzke was officially sworn in at the Council meeting on Tuesday 24th November.

CHRISTMAS PARADE

This years Christmas Parade is being held on Friday 27th of November at 6.30pm. The theme is 'Country Christmas' and is in partnership with the Stratford A&P Association to support their Centennial celebrations. There are over 35 floats registered for the parade so you won't want to miss it!

The Stratford 'Lights up' competition is running again this year and the Business Association encourages all Stratford residents as well as businesses to take part in the festive spirit. Registration forms will be available in the Stratford Press at the end of November.

Don't Forget Santa is coming to town again and he will be residing in his Cave at RJays on Broadway throughout December leading up to Christmas. Hours will be published in the Stratford Press and in store. The Cave decorations are always a lovely sight to see and the kids get to let Santa know what they want for Christmas! Take your whole family along for a visit!



TRADE GRADUATIONS

On Thursday 5th November the Trade Graduations, a Mayors Taskforce for Jobs Initiative, was held at the Stratford District Council Chambers and hosted by Neil Volzke (Acting Mayor). A big congratulations goes out to the following people for graduating in their respective trades.

Building and Construction: Geoffrey Gibb, Ronald Hall

Community Support Services: Belinda Nager, Jenny Loveridge, Lorraine Shaw, Pat Edwards, Lynette Dombroski, Lynn Robertson

NZ Motor Industry: Stanley Birch, Atma Ram, Mike Botha, Carl Hinton, Kurt Roberts

FOOD BANK

The Stratford Food Bank drive is on Monday the 7th of December with pick up time from 6pm. People are encouraged to donate what they can by leaving it at their letterboxes by 6pm and the Food bank along with Stratford Police and Stratford Fire Volunteers will collect the goods.

CHRISTMAS HOMES FOR HOSPICE STRATFORD

Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th
December 2009 ~ 10am-4pm both days

*10 exquisitely decorated venues in Stratford
all designed to inspire and delight.*

TICKETS \$25

Available at:

STRATFORD: Information Centre

ELTHAM: United Travel

NP: Devon Sweets at TopTown Cinema Complex



EXCLUSIVE SHOPPING!

Each ticket holder will also have the opportunity to shop at our Christmas Homes Centre at the Stratford On Stage "Castle".

**EXCLUSIVE SHOPPING / JEWELLERY / SWEETS
GIFTWARE & MORE!**

Hospice Shop volunteers will have a Christmas Cafe with tea/coffee and christmas nibbles (gold coin donation)

RAFFLES / COMFORT STOP



1st Prize

\$1000 Travel Voucher from United Travel, Eltham

2nd Prize

Weekend accommodation (for two) at Castlecliff Holiday Park, Wanganui

Lucky Ticket Prize...

**Beauty Treatment courtesy of Platinum Lodge Day Spa, Stratford
Set of Crystal Glasses compliments of Butchers Jewellers, Stratford**



Taranaki Hospice Foundation Inc, Te Rangimarie Hospice, Taranaki Base Hospital, New Plymouth.

Stratford District
in the heart of Taranaki

Wriggle and Rhyme

Free Wriggle and Rhyme active movement for early learning sessions began at the Stratford and District Centennial Library on Tuesday 10th November and will continue to run throughout the school term. They are a follow up to the ongoing successful "Tot Time" programme which runs on Wednesdays and is aimed at older preschoolers. This new Wriggle and Rhyme programme focuses on younger babies aged from birth to two years.

Active Movement is a SPARC (Sport and Recreation NZ) initiative which aims to provide positive movement experiences to stimulate the development of the brain and the body. Wriggle & Rhyme sessions are based on the Active Movement set of activity guides which are also available from the Library.

Movement is a child's first language, so it is important to provide babies with whole body movements right from birth. Parents and caregivers are invited to come along and take part in these free weekly sessions at the Stratford and District Centennial Library, where they can also gain skills to put into practice at home. Although activities are generally designed for babies, older pre-schoolers are also welcome to attend and will benefit too. The sessions run from 9.15—9.45 am each Tuesday. For more information contact the Library on (06) 765 5403.



Camp Quality

Camp Quality is a week long camp that is dedicated to bringing fun, hope and happiness to children between the ages of five and 14 who live with cancer. The camp is being held in Stratford at St Mary's Diocesan from the 19th - 24th of January 2010.

Many people offer their support to Camp Quality by becoming a companion to one of the kids involved in the camp. Stratford District Councils very own Kate Whareaitu has offered to become one at next years Camp held here in Stratford and Pauline James, Community Services Team manager, is helping as a volunteer at the camp having already been a companion last year.

If you wish to help Camp Quality you can become a staff member and help with activities or if you wish to donate to Camp Quality you can become a 'Friend of Camp Quality' by supporting their work financially with one of donations or by being a regular donor.

For more information on helping with Camp Quality and what they are all about you can visit their website at www.campqualitynz.org.nz, Wellington and Central Area.



Stratford District Council has a new Promotions Officer!

At the beginning of November the Community Service Team at the Stratford District Council welcomed Gemma Gibson into the role of Promotions Officer.

She is born and bred in Taranaki and attended Inglewood High School before spending three years at Massey University Palmerston North studying towards a Bachelor of Communication. Finishing her last year this year she jumped straight into work here at the Stratford District Council.

Gemma is only two weeks into the job now and looks forward to getting to know the Stratford Community and the people in it. Feel free to say hello if you see her around and about in town!



STRATFORD A&P SHOW

This year is the A&P Associations Centennial celebration! 100 years is a long time and a great reason to get the family together and spend the weekend at the A&P Show grounds in Stratford. The show is this weekend, the 28th and 29th of November with the 'Country Christmas' Parade on Broadway starting the celebrations off on the night of Friday 27th.

The Stratford District Council and Youth Council will be there once again with the Youth Council putting on events both days.

Come find us at SITE no. 2 and join in on the fun! If you are interested in being on the youth council or just want to know more about the Stratford District Council this is your opportunity! See you there!

What's Happening?

Saturday and Sunday
10am-12noon Wii Sports Competition

12noon-1pm Lunch time

SPLAT

1pm-3pm Sing Star Competition

Guess Who and Guess How

Many competitions are running both days with the winner drawn on Sunday Afternoon.

SPOT PRIZES to win so don't miss out!

