

# Central Link

He karere tā te Kaunihera ā Rohe o Whakaahurangi  
News from the Stratford District Council

24 Hour Phone 06 765 6099 | stratforddc@stratford.govt.nz | stratford.govt.nz



TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O  
WHAKAAHURANGI  
**STRATFORD**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL



See an  
issue?  
Report an  
issue ✓

Download our **FREE**  
Antenna app to quickly  
report community  
issues so we can get  
them sorted.



**Prospero  
Markets!**

**Saturday 24 June  
9am - 12pm**

**Rainy day? We'll be in the War  
Memorial Centre.**

**Congratulations to  
our newest citizens!**



On Wednesday 14 June, District Mayor Neil Volzke presided over a Citizenship ceremony to confirm Susan Green (left) and Fiona Riddick (right) as New Zealand citizens.

Citizenship ceremonies recognise the change in citizenship from a person's country of birth to their country of choice.

Our congratulations to Fiona and Susan. We were delighted to share this significant moment with you and your friends and family.

## Annual Plan 2023/24 has been adopted

On Tuesday 13 June, Stratford District Council adopted its Annual Plan 2023/24 after considering public feedback. Some amendments to proposed Fees and Charges were made, and Councillors agreed to provide an in-house Learn to Swim service. Details of these decisions are provided below.

The proposed rate increase of 8.9% was confirmed as part of this adoption. The actual increase for each ratepayer will vary depending on the different rates charged to that property. We've provided some sample rates on our website at [Stratford.govt.nz](http://Stratford.govt.nz).

District Mayor Neil Volzke says feedback received highlighted the balancing act Council deals with when reviewing the annual budget. "Some people are happy to see user charges increase in areas because they don't use the service, but people using the service of course don't want to see fees increase – it's a common issue and one Council has to try and draw a happy medium from," he says.

Council adopted  
the Annual Plan  
2023/24 on  
Tuesday 13 June.

Read the full  
update on  
[Stratford.govt.nz](http://Stratford.govt.nz)



"We've done a lot of work to reduce the rate increase to 8.9% from the starting figure of 16.5% we faced earlier in the year. And we understand that still won't be low enough for many. I encourage anyone who is concerned about making payments to talk to our staff about the options available to support."

## Work has started on upgrades to Kopuatama Cemetery ground entrances

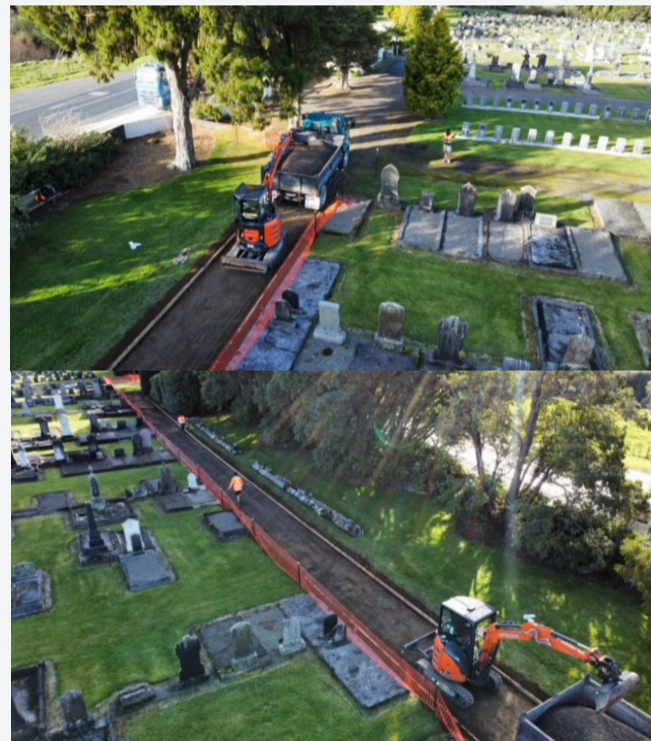
Kopuatama Cemetery is currently undergoing an upgrade to enhance the entranceway.

The work started last week and includes laying new concrete, loose-leaf chip, and installing framing around significant trees.

These upgrades aim to enhance the look of the cemetery entrance, as well as provide safe access for visitors.

Work is expected to be completed by the end of June (weather dependent).

You can still access the Cemetery during this time. Thank you for your patience.

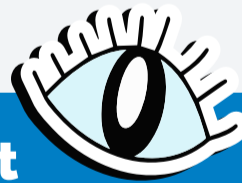


## Take a look at our school holiday activities!

We've got fun low-cost and free activities on for tamariki and rangatahi these July school holidays.

Visit [Stratford.govt.nz/Holidays](http://Stratford.govt.nz/Holidays) to see our full range of events, including:

- Creative crafts at the library
- Hip-hop dance sessions
- Inflatable fun at the pool
- A trip on the bus to Bowlarama
- And lots more!



**July** ⚡  
**holidays**  
in \*  
**Stratford?**

[Stratford.govt.nz/Holidays](http://Stratford.govt.nz/Holidays)



**Check out  
our low-cost  
and free  
activities!**

Library and Visitor Information

Phone 06 765 5403

Monday – Friday 8.30am – 5.00pm

Saturday 9.00am – 1.00pm

Sunday & Public Holidays Closed

Transfer Station

Phone 06 765 8500

Monday – Friday 2.00pm – 5.00pm

Wednesday 10.00am – 1.00pm

Saturday & Sunday 1.00pm – 5.00pm

Wai O Rua - Stratford Aquatic Centre

Phone 06 765 6275

Monday – Friday 6.00am – 6.30pm

Saturday 7.00am – 5.00pm

Sunday and Public Holidays

10.00am – 5.00pm

Glockenspiel

Performs Daily at 10.00am, 1.00pm,  
3.00pm and 7.00pm

21 June 2023