



Fascinating sewer works

There have been issues with Ōpōtiki's sewers for many years – most of the pipework was first installed in 1956, and the pipe is reaching the end of its useful design life. During heavy rain there are overflows and wastewater coming from manholes, gully traps, toilets and basins.

Council has invested heavily in getting to the root of the problem and we know that the issues are inflow and infiltration. So last year, Council agreed to a \$13million rehabilitation programme to fix the problem.

If you have seen unusual trucks and machinery working around manholes, you have seen this project in action.

The contractors are cleaning the pipes and doing a detailed inspection with CCTV so they know what to expect in each section. They are then inserting a special plastic liner that unspools inside the pipe like a corkscrew and creates a new smooth wall inside the existing concrete pipes. Small machines then run through the pipe and cut holes for the lateral connections and they are joined up with a special 'sleeve'.

It is a fascinating project and you can see more images and videos and a step by step explanation of the works on our Facebook page.

Lighting up the future

Council is currently rolling out more than 400 new LED streetlights across the District. Work is starting in the Ōpōtiki township, but all streetlights are being replaced all the way up the coast. It will take a few months, but most residents will have new lights before the longer winter nights.

LED (light-emitting diode) lights have a number of advantages over the older style street lights – they last longer and use very little power, reducing both maintenance and power costs. Current lamps need replacing every few years, but LEDs have a lifespan of about 20 years.

Council is also making the most of the current New Zealand Transport Agency subsidy for LED installation which will see 85% of costs covered by NZTA. Generous funding from the Eastern Bay Energy Trust covers the remaining 15%.



Clubs, guilds and groups

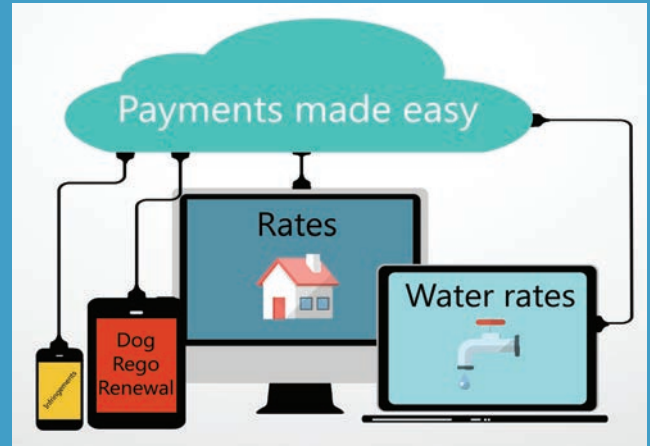
The summer events are simmering down and the quiet winter months are on the horizon. Why not mark the change in seasons with a new activity, a new hobby and some new friends.

Ōpōtiki has an incredible number of clubs, community groups, guilds and gatherings to suit any taste. There must be almost a hundred groups with all sorts of activities from sports and music to exercise and companionship, craft and the arts, and everything else in between.

Ōpōtiki even has its own very active Scottish Country Dance Group. The group meets each Thursday at 7pm at the Waiōtahe Hall and they are always looking for new members. One of their long-serving members, Jean Smithson said that all ages and abilities are welcome to come along. You don't need a partner but you might need soft soled shoes. You can find out more about Scottish Country Dancing by visiting or calling the Ōpōtiki iSite or for a full clubs list and contact person for each visit

www.opotikin.com

Online payments made easy



It's easy to make payments on the Council website for a wide variety of services from Rates to Dog Registrations, Infringements, Water and sundry invoices.

In addition to being able to use your Visa and Mastercard Credit or Debit cards to make payments, Council is now offering a new bank account based online payment method called Real Time Debit.

The Real-Time Debit payment solution enables you to pay from your online banking environment without the need for a Credit or Debit card, simply and securely, and at no cost to you.

You select Real Time Debit from the payment options list, click on your Bank's logo and it will logon securely to an internet banking authentication session. Council never has access to your internet banking login or password details because the system safely redirects you into your Bank's online banking environment using your Bank's security protocols.

At this stage, the Real Time Debit service is available to Westpac customers only but other major Banks are showing a keen interest in enabling access for their customers and will come on-board over time.

So, when you are next on the Council website, why not give it a try and let us know your thoughts?

For more information on Real Time Debit and Online Payments, visit the payment options page on our website

www.odc.govt.nz/paymentoptions

KEEPING SAFE OVER SUMMER

Keep healthy this summer with the 3 C's - Cover, Cook and Chill all your food.



COVER



COOK



CHILL



For more information phone **07 315 3030** or visit www.odc.govt.nz

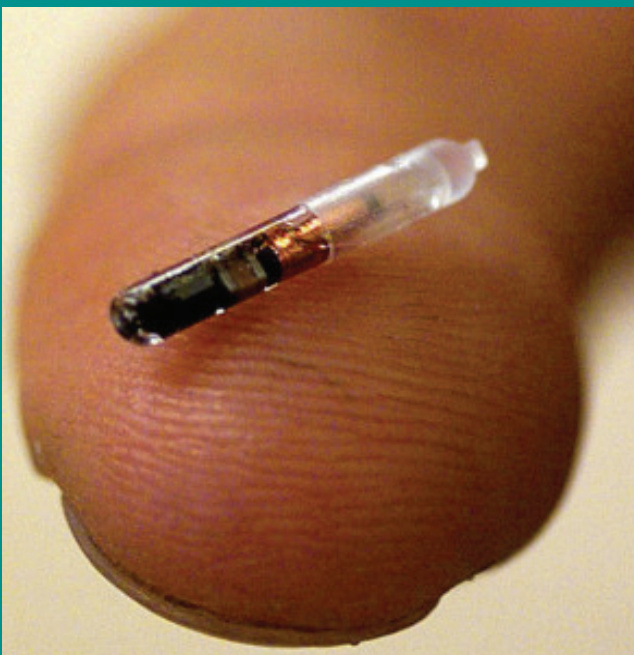
Free microchipping for your dog

If you register your dog for the 2018/19 season before the 1 August 2018, Council will microchip the dog for free.

The microchip is not a tracking device! It is a simple, small electronic transponder - a lot like a supermarket bar code. It doesn't have a power source, so it can't send signals and it needs a scanner to be read. The scanner reads the dog's unique number and looks it up on a national database to help find owners and keep track of dogs that may be considered dangerous.

Microchipping is required by legislation for most dogs and there are a lot of good reasons to microchip your dog. It can help reunite you if it is lost or stolen. It can help prove ownership and track its history (for example if it has been worrying stock or previously impounded), it makes it easier to change ownership and cheaper for Councils to keep track of (keeping registration fees down).

So, if your dog is not already microchipped, make sure you register on time this year to get your dog microchipped for free.



Welcome to new staff

There have been a few staff changes in recent months. Welcome to these new faces or new roles.

Josh Hunter

(new role) Team Leader, Parks and Recreation.



Josh is a horticulturalist with a background in gardens and outdoor construction. He'll be helping make sure our outdoor spaces, parks and gardens are looking their best.

Ari Erickson

Engineering and Services Group Manager.



Ari has been in the Engineering team for many years and has stepped up into the role of Group Manager. He is overseeing some of the big projects like the wharf demolition, sewer upgrade, LED lighting rollout, and investigation work for the harbour project.

What's on

All Ōpōtiki events are



• School Holiday Programme

at the library from Monday 16 April each weekday at 10am.

• Pecha Kutcha Night

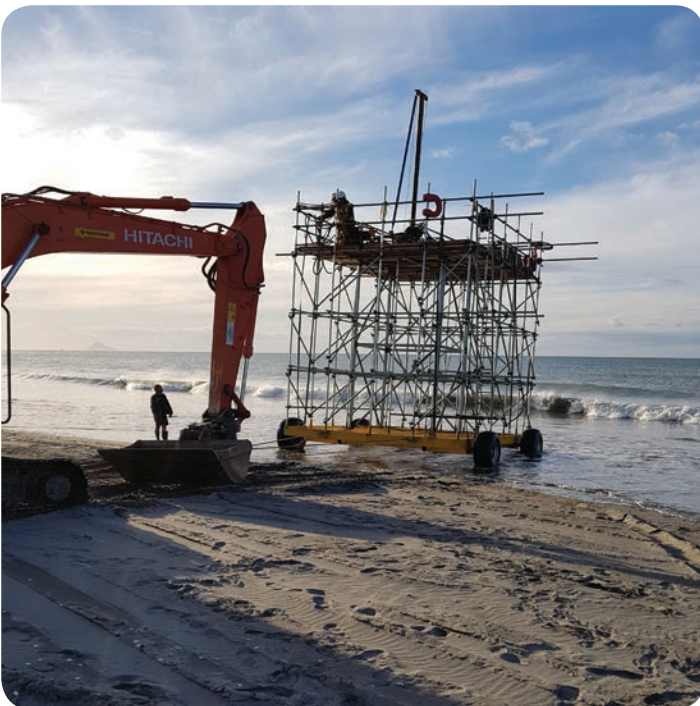
on Thursday 26th April. Visit the library Facebook page for more information.

For more information on any of the wide range of Ōpōtiki clubs, groups, activities and events, visit the Ōpōtiki i-SITE or www.opotikin.com or call (07) 315 3031.

Geotechnical drilling underway

You may have noticed some large machinery working out to sea at the river mouth in recent weeks carrying out geotechnical works for the proposed harbour entrance.

We are using locally-hired equipment and a boat to deploy a special rig that has been purpose-built for our conditions. The contractors, Webster Exploration and Drilling, are specialists in this work and have a background in drilling in hard-to-reach places.



Wharf demolition continues



Works are underway to demolish the 1920s section of Ōpōtiki's wharf. In 2015, structural engineers found the older section of the wharf to be unsafe and at risk of imminent collapse, even in a minor earthquake. Since then, that area has been fenced off for safety although the public has been able to continue using the slightly newer 1940s section of the wharf that sits alongside.

The contractors created a steel sheet pile wall behind the existing wharf to keep the earth in place and protect the river environment during demolition. Rebuild is planned for 2020.



This newsletter is produced quarterly by the