As we move through March into autumn, I think we can all confidently say that we have had a great summer. Temperatures in our city and throughout the Hutt Valley have been outstanding.

2016 is a milestone year for us as we mark the 50th anniversary of Upper Hutt becoming a city. Upper Hutt was proclaimed a city by Governor General, Sir Bernard Fergusson on 28 May 1966. We have a number of anniversary celebrations planned and a comprehensive programme over the next six months. Just to name a few, there will be a Freedom Parade, an Upper Hutt Heroes exhibition at Expressions Whirinaki, an oral history project in the Upper Hutt Central Library, the Queen’s Birthday Music Festival, the Upper Hutt ambassador’s campaign, and a Golden Jubilee Ball—yes—just like the civic balls they use to have. The programme will be announced shortly and it is something that all of us can look forward to as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of Upper Hutt City.

Recently we have also heard the economists saying that Wellington’s prospects are bright for 2016. Wellington is emerging as one of the stronger economies of the country. As part of the region, Upper Hutt will benefit from and contribute to the upward trend of the Wellington regional economy. We read recently that Upper Hutt city centre is bucking the trend as the only area in the region, outside of Wellington City’s CBD, to see a steady increase in retail tenancy. This increase has dropped Upper Hutt’s city centre vacancy rate to around 12%, outperforming Hutt City’s High Street, which sits at 30% vacant and Porirua’s canopy connection, sitting at 24% vacant. Along with developments at the former CIT and the major residential development pending at the AgResearch site, exciting times are ahead for our city.

Last week we began consultation on the Land Use Strategy: Upper Hutt 2016 – 2043. Consultation is open until 28 April, and we’ll have hearings in mid-May. This is a very, very important document for the future of our city, bringing together the original Urban Growth Strategy of 2007 and the Rural Strategy. Having just one strategy for the whole of the city will allow us to integrate planning and management of all of our land resources in a sensible and sustainable way. As we are faced with increasing pressure on space for housing and businesses, this document is the start of the process of thinking differently about Upper Hutt. I’d like to challenge all of us to extend our thinking beyond the next few years, look into the future, and come up with ideas and solutions that will make our city thrive. The final strategy will be adopted at the Council meeting on 29 June. I look forward to engaging with you all on this over the next few months.

There are exciting times ahead for us all as we look forward to a busy and prosperous 2016.

Wayne Guppy | mayor /mayor.wayneguppy

Young Achievers Youth Civic Awards 2016
Upper Hutt City Council’s Young Achievers Awards are just around the corner. Nominations are open from 21 March until 15 April. Nomination forms and ballot boxes are available at Upper Hutt Central Library, H2O Xtream, and Council reception.

Forms are also available at www.upperhuttcity.com/young-achievers-awards

Nominees will be invited to the Awards night which will be held at Expressions Whirinaki Arts and Entertainment Centre on 8 June.

The 2016 award categories are Sports, Cultural and performing arts, Leadership, Mana Wāhine, and Mana Tāne

Nominees will also be considered for the Mayor’s Award.

If you know a young person that is doing great work in our local community, then nominate them now.

Valley News
March 2016 | Upper Hutt City Council news

A message from the Mayor

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UPPER HUTT CITY IS 50!

2016 MARKS 50 YEARS SINCE UPPER HUTT ACHIEVED CITY STATUS.

This milestone is significant for us. We remain New Zealand’s youngest and smallest city by population, but we are fourth largest by land area.

Council has put together a schedule of activities, projects, and events to mark the occasion. But we want the whole community to be involved. You’re invited to come up with your own community event to celebrate this milestone. Send your thoughts in to us and we’ll provide you with the resources to add our ‘50’ brand mark to your promotional material.

Already celebrations are kicking-off this month as Activation and the Upper Hutt United Cricket Club host a celebrity cricket match at Trentham Memorial Park on the 20th (see page 4 for details).

Pivotal to our celebrations will be the Golden Jubilee Ball, which will be held at Expressions Whirinaki Arts and Entertainment Centre on 11 June.

Upper Hutt City Library is facilitating the Oral History Project, capturing the memories of the people who were here during the decade that Upper Hutt became a city.

Expressions Whirinaki Arts and Entertainment Centre will be presenting the Upper Hutt Heroes exhibition from 13 May to 10 July. The exhibition will showcase 50 of Upper Hutt’s finest heroes over the last 50 years, celebrating the people and personalities that make our city great.

Today we are also launching a 50th anniversary website: 50.upperhuttcity.com. This site is the go-to portal for all anniversary events and celebrations.

We have come a long way in 50 years and Upper Hutt’s future is brighter than ever. We are positioning ourselves well in the current economic climate and building towards a future that is sustainable, strong, and thriving community.

Kia ora and hello.

A lot has happened in the two terms I’ve been a city councillor and I have enjoyed seeing a lot of progress happening. One issue that has taken a lot of Council time was the super city amalgamation proposal. The community came out in large to voice their opinion and had an enormous impact on the eventual scrapping of the plan.

I’ve seen the protection of our southern hills, the rebuilding of our railway station, and the first two stages of the multi-sport hub at Maidstone park completed. I’m also slowly seeing the reinvigoration of the city centre through the Economic Development Stimulus Package.

With council elections coming up in October there is a lot of work still to come: the Land Use Strategy; various plan changes; and this year’s Annual Plan to consult on.

It’s also good to see funding from NZTA approved for the Hutt River Trail upgrades. Working towards a complete cycle network, this connectivity in the valley will be great for our community from a recreational and a safety viewpoint. There are other outdoor projects in the pipeline that are coming up. Exciting times ahead.

We are the gateway to the outdoors—that is for sure.

A word from Councillor Dave Wheeler

Land use strategy—have your say!

Upper Hutt’s original Urban Growth Strategy was adopted in 2007. It was written to help manage urban growth and set the foundations for future development within the city. Recently we have been reviewing this document to ensure that planning for the future is still going to guide the best outcomes for Upper Hutt.

The review work has also brought consideration of the city’s rural and natural areas into the same document as urban areas. Having one strategy for the whole of the city is a way of integrating planning and management of our land resources in a sensible and sustainable way.

We have now created a new document which deals with this wide range of issues. The new document is called the ‘Land Use Strategy: Upper Hutt 2016 – 2043’ and now is the time to let us know what you think of it.

Consultation began last Wednesday and continues until Thursday 28 April 2016. Information about the draft Strategy and how to make a submission was included in last week’s Upper Hutt Leader, but if you missed this or want more copies, you can find it on our website, as well as Council reception, the Upper Hutt Central and Pinehaven Libraries, and the i-SITE Visitor Information Centre at Expressions Whirinaki.

Have your say!

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION | 2 MARCH – 8 APRIL 2016

CONSULTATION.UPPERHUTTCITY.COM

Upper Hutt
Regional water consumption 18 February – 8 March

- **Available supply**
- **Actual consumption**
- **Storage lake usage**

Storage lake

Target: 150 megalitres per day

### Business movements

**New**
- Alliance Massage
- Bella’s Canine Pet Spa
- Collective Fitness Centre
- Happy Hire
- Jovan’s Kitchen
- Kiosk (Upper Hutt Station)
- Lincraft
- Monterey Cinemas
- Qi Therapy
- Queen Street Medical Centre
- Shadow Academy
- That (Faith) Place
- Trudy’s Café
- Upper Hutt Therapeutic Massage

**Moving or moved**
- The Gun Shop
- Wheeler’s Footwear

### Business profile—Jovan’s Kitchen

Fourteen new jobs have been created in Upper Hutt, thanks to the newly-established Italian restaurant, Jovan’s Kitchen on Wilson Street.

The restaurant opened in late February in the premises formerly occupied by Viveré.

Owner, Jovan Janevski is delighted with the new restaurant noting that customers are enjoying the convenient location—not having to travel to Lower Hutt or Wellington to enjoy an authentic Italian meal.

“Our customers have been very kind and happy,” says Mr Janevski. “Some say they’ve been waiting for a restaurant like this to open here.”

With the Wilson Street premises vacant for a period of time, Mr Janevski saw an opportunity to open his second Jovan’s Kitchen, noting that Upper Hutt did not have a restaurant dedicated to Italian cuisine. Jovan worked as a chef for 14 years before opening his first Jovan’s Kitchen restaurant in Petone in 2010.

Jovan acknowledges Council’s assistance in the establishment process through our Economic Development Manager Phil Gorman and the Compliance team who were able to provide assistance to Mr Janevski in the licensing process.

Jovan’s Kitchen is open 7 days, from 9.00 am until late.

### Anzac Commemorations

**ANZAC Day—Monday 25 April**

- Dawn Parade at 5.45 am
- Dawn Service at 6.00 am

### Annual Plan

We’ll be presenting a consultation document for the Annual Plan 2016 – 2017 in the Upper Hutt Leader on 23 March. It contains information about changes to the Long Term Plan 2015 – 2025. We would like your feedback about the proposed projects before we adopt the Annual Plan in June. Please tell us what you think by 28 April.

The Long Term Plan 2015 – 2025 remains the primary source of information about Council operations and can be found on our website. This means less duplication and more time to get involved in the consultation process, and **have your say**!
**Round one for Creative funding**

Round one of Creative Communities funding for 2016 is open for applications. Do you have a creative project or arts programme that you would like to get the community involved with? Applications close on 18 March. Go to upperhuttcity.com/creative for more information.

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**Celebrity cricket**

Sunday, 20 March
Barton Oval
Trentham Memorial Park

Junior cricket
8.00 am,
Curtain raiser
10.30 am
Celebrity match
1.30 pm

Join Ollie Newton, Matt Bacon, Matt Taylor, Chris Nevin, Leighton Morgan, Irene van Dyk, Cory Jane, and Jason Woodward at the first event of our city’s 50th anniversary celebrations.

Watch the Mayor’s XI take on the MP’s XI in a game of T20 cricket at Barton Oval.

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**Zero Waste and Community Garden fund**

This Upper Hutt City Council fund seeks to support practical sustainability initiatives related to waste minimisation and community resilience to encourage community participation and long term action.

There is currently $5,000 available for allocation for Zero Waste and $4,000 for Community Gardens. Applications are now open, closing on 29 April.

www.upperhuttcity.com/zero-waste-fund

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**Painted environment**

Upper Hutt is fast becoming a painted environment with the installation of 6 new murals in as many months in the city centre and other suburban locations.

Council has worked with schools, youth groups, and individuals who have volunteered, contributing to the design and installation. The murals are vibrant and exciting, and often showcase Upper Hutt’s natural beauty through the eyes of our younger residents. Young people have had the opportunity to learn a wide range of skills and work alongside celebrated artists including Chimp (Ash Sisson), Ghostie (Sean Duffel), Haunt One (Ollie Rennie), Daniel Mills, and Claire Rye.

For more information about each of the murals go to www.upperhuttcity.com/painted-environment/

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**District plan changes**

**Proposed Plan Change 41** ensures ongoing protection of groups of trees and notable trees following the removal of blanket protection in the conservation and residential hill zones in urban areas. The first submission period for proposed Plan Change 41 closed on Friday 26 February and Council received 39 submissions, which staff are summarising. We have now reopened proposed Plan Change 41 for further submissions until 30 March 2016.

**Proposed Plan Change 42 – Pinehaven Flood Hazard Area** seeks to amend the District Plan to reduce the impact of the flood hazard in the Pinehaven catchment. We expect Proposed Plan Change 42 to be open for submissions in April/May 2016.

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**Upper Hutt March Madness Fair**

MAIN STREET

SATURDAY 19 MARCH

- OVER 240 STALLS
- LIVE MUSIC
- KIDS RIDES
- GREAT FOOD
- AND GREAT BARGAINS FROM LOCAL STORES

GO TO UPPERHUTTCITY.COM/MARCH-MADNESS-FAIR FOR MORE INFORMATION AND ENTERTAINMENT LINE-UP

HEAPS OF FREE PARKING OR TAKE THE TRAIN!