



MEDIA RELEASE

Ruapehu District Council

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TAUMARUNUI DOMAIN GRANDSTAND OPEN DAY

This coming Saturday 19 March the public and interested parties are cordially invited to an Open Day at the Taumarunui Domain Grandstand from 10.00am to 2.00pm.

Ruapehu District Council (RDC) Group Manager Environment, Margaret Hawthorne, said that the purpose of the Open day was to provide the public and interested parties the opportunity to inspect the Grandstand in its current state so that they can be fully informed as to the upgrade work required and the likely associated costs.

"Last year council commissioned engineering, building services and electrical reports on the building that found that it is in need of significant general maintenance work," she said.

"As well as allowing interested parties to gain first hand knowledge of the current state of repair of the building it is hoped that the Open Day will provide an opportunity for the community to think about how they could envisage the Grandstand being used in the future."

Mrs Hawthorne said that feedback will be sought from people at the Open Day as to their views on the future uses for the Grandstand, alternatively, people can email their opinions to; info@ruapehudc.govt.nz

"A public meeting is scheduled for the following Wednesday on 23 March in the Council Chamber, Huia St, from 6.00pm to discuss the input and opinions collected from the public and interested parties."

Mrs Hawthorne added that last year (2010) marked the Grandstand's 50th anniversary since the laying of its foundation stone by the then Prime Minister of New Zealand the Rt. Hon. Walter Nash on 15th October 1960.

"It was named the 'Jubilee Grandstand' as its foundation stone was laid on the occasion of the 50th Golden Jubilee of the Taumarunui Borough with its construction being funded by £20,000 raised by a 'Queen Carnival' held in Taumarunui," she said.

Mrs Hawthorne noted that the Taumarunui Domain Grandstand has played a part in many of Taumarunui's events over the years.

"As well as sporting events such as regional and international rugby games, and other sports such as wood chopping, the Domain Grandstand has played host to events such as public protests against the retrenching of health services in Taumarunui," she said.

"Council would like to see the Grandstand play a part in Taumarunui events for the next 50 years."

"To help with this council needs to know what the community thinks and as such we urge any member of the public or organisation who has an interest in the Taumarunui Domain Grandstand to come along to the Open Day this Saturday (19 March) and the public meeting at council on Wednesday (23 March)."

"If anyone requires any further information on the Open Day or the public meeting they can contact Project Coordinator, Rebecca Van Orden, at council on 07 895 8188."

DAVID HAMMOND
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CJH : PRW