Hamilton City Council has delivered an excellent financial result for the 2014/15 year. The Council released its Annual Report at the end of September showing that it met or bettered its four financial targets.

A $5M surplus means the Council’s books are balanced ahead of the scheduled 2017 date and the city is no longer borrowing to pay for day-to-day operating expenses. This surplus has been achieved through interest from cash investments, asset sales and increased contributions from activities associated with building and developments in the city. The surplus will be used to pay city debt.

City debt now is sitting at $367M which is $50M lower than expected and the Council has successfully reduced what it costs to run the city by over $15M each year compared to 2011. Mayor Julie Hardaker says the end-of-year financial results mean the Council is in an overall $8M better position than it had forecast.

“We have exceeded expectations and are now well positioned for the investment needed to support our growing city,” she says.

“This is an outstanding result. It’s been achieved by continuing to work to the financial plan put in place a few years ago and looking for savings and efficiencies at every opportunity. There has also been a large number of developments in the city resulting in higher than expected revenue from development contributions.”

The year’s positive financial performance enables the Council to start delivery of its 10-Year Plan, adopted earlier in the year, in a better position. The plan focuses on developing and upgrading core infrastructure and community facilities to support Hamilton’s rapidly increasing population.

“Hamilton is growing by around 3000 people a year and meeting the financial challenges of that growth within the current financial plan is sometimes difficult, but it’s about priorities and I think we have got the balance right in the 10-Year Plan,” Mayor Hardaker says.
Driving a great road and biking network

Richard Briggs
Chief Executive

It’s been an incredibly difficult week for the great team at Hamilton Zoo after the death of our much-loved and very talented Zoo Curator, Samantha Kudeweh. Sam was killed by one of our Sumatran tigers, Oz, while going about tiger management tasks.

Sam really was one of our stars: she featured on television series, ‘The Zoo,’ working with the animals and people she cared so greatly for. She was one of our “go-to” people at the zoo, instrumental in sharing the stories of our animal exhibits, and how we managed them, for the public to enjoy when they visit.

Her talents for animals, zoology and science were obvious and sought-after, by both zoo sector colleagues around the world, and by the media who sought her wisdom and wit when it came to reporting on new zoo arrivals.

Sam was one of the vital people in the operation, 2OC to our zoo director and someone others gleaned wisdom, knowledge and inspiration from. Her contribution to the survival of various species was huge, and I know the zoo team and wider zoo family will keep that vision and passion alive.

Sam’s death has hit the zoo staff very hard. They are a tight-knit team and have pulled together to support one another. They are, in turn, supported by the wider organisation. We’re also continuing to provide as much support as we can to Sam’s family, including her husband Richard who also works at the zoo.

Sam’s death will continue to attract media attention in the near future. Our focus remains at attracting media attention in the near future. Our focus remains at maintaining media who sought her wisdom and wit when it came to reporting on new zoo arrivals.

Whether using horsepower or pedal-power, Hamilton residents are already reaping the benefits of investment in transport and there’s a lot more to come.

Major roading and biking projects which support and enhance the growth of Hamilton have attracted millions of dollars of funding from government agencies, the single biggest project being the $2.1 billion Waikato Expressway.

Several sections of the expressway are already complete, with the Cambridge section almost ready and the Hamilton section awaiting confirmation of the successful tender, with a programme to complete construction in 2020.

To ensure city road networks connect appropriately to the new expressway, Resolution Dr will be extended to connect with the new section of expressway, along with new connections to the Waireere Dr/ Gordonton Rd roundabout and Ruakura Rd. The Waireere Dr extension to Cobham Dr will complete the Hamilton Ring Rd system, while the NZ Transport Agency is making major improvements to the existing State Highway roundabout in Hillcrest. A total of 36,000 vehicles travel through this intersection daily.

Alongside the roading projects, key elements of Hamilton’s 30-year Biking Plan are underway. Ground testing started recently on the 2.7km Western Rail Trail which links the southwest suburbs with the central city, while the State Highway 3 shared path (running the entire length of the eastern side of Ohaupo Rd) will connect the southern suburbs to the city. Another project coming soon is the School Link, which will provide a safe bike path, away from traffic and parking, connecting 15 schools and almost 9500 students in the north-west of the city.

There are 10 key projects in the Biking Plan, which will add around 50km of new infrastructure to the biking network already in place in the city, which covers almost 150km.

Roading and biking infrastructure go hand-in-hand as Hamilton prepares for current and expected growth. In 30 years, Hamilton’s population is predicted to rise to 210,000 people – an increase of 40 per cent.

Through partnerships with national agencies, and significant investment in planned development, Hamilton is creating a quality transport network to future-proof a growing and youthful city.

Smarter parking for Hamilton’s Business District

Hamilton’s central city could provide shoppers, commuters and visitors with technologically advanced parking systems as early as next year. Following Council approval of the project, the Council’s City Transportation Unit is sourcing a range of ‘smart’ technology to make parking easier for motorists.

Hamilton has around 850 traditional coin-operated parking meters, with some pay and display machines, but rapidly-advancing technology means new options are becoming available which will make finding a park and accessing the central city far easier. More accessible parking also reduces congestion, and smart technology can maximise parking availability.

“We’re considering a range of technology including motorists being able to use a smartphone app which identifies nearby parking spaces, linking with sensors in the parks which identify availability, and can promote special parking deals and free parking,” City Transportation Unit Manager Jason Harrison says.

“Tap and go type parking meters could take advantage of new card technologies, while special events may even offer the ability to pre-book or even pre-pay, a city parking space for a show,” he says.

“We are working with a range of partners on this project to provide a parking offering that is simple to use and clear to understand. It is exciting to see what opportunities exist to enhance our central city while making the best use of our existing parking spaces and making access to the central city more convenient for all.”
Samantha Kudeweh
Hamilton Zoo Curator
1972-2015

When she was at intermediate school growing up in Auckland, Samantha Kudeweh declared to her parents that she would become a zoo keeper.

She never wavered from her dream, and became one of the most respected and high-profile zoo professionals in Australasia, an expert whose knowledge and experience would be called upon by other zoos and wildlife parks, and who would feature on the popular TV series The Zoo. Sadly, Samantha's glittering career ended last month when she was killed during a tiger attack at Hamilton Zoo, where she was Curator.

"Samantha was very talented," says Hamilton Zoo Director Stephen Standley. "She was my second-in-charge, an integral part of the operation we run here, and a hugely popular member of our team."

Samantha joined the Hamilton Zoo team in 2005, following stints at Auckland Zoo, and Zoos Victoria in Australia. Mr Standley says Samantha was a huge influence at Hamilton Zoo, where she was hands-on with animal management and also led important zoo projects. She also played a significant role in the Zoo & Aquarium Association Australasia, including managing the region’s white rhino breeding programme as well as coordination of the New Zealand Fauna programmes for our zoos and wildlife parks to help rebuild threatened New Zealand native species.

Mr Standley says she had an “immense passion” for conservation. Samantha had an important role as one of the zoo team’s “faces.” She regularly worked with media outlets to tell the stories of the zoo’s animals, particularly new species brought to the zoo. Her affinity with the animals she cared for was always visible when she posed for photographs or videos with a colourful bird or playful primate. She was relaxed and at ease dealing with visitors during the zoo’s regular Keeper Talks, during which they would discuss individual species on display.

Mr Standley says Samantha’s death has hit the zoo hard, and the tight-knit zoo family has pulled together to support one another through a very difficult time.

"It’s been very hard, but the support which poured in from around the world – via Facebook, messages and calls to the zoo – has been wonderful, and it’s helped us deal with our grief."

Samantha was farewelled at a large funeral at Hamilton Gardens on 28 September, with friends and zoo professionals flying in from all around the world to pay their respects.

She leaves behind husband Richard, also a Hamilton Zoo staff member, and two children Billy, 9, and Sage, 3. A trust has been formed to support the family through a special page at givealittle.co.nz.

Mr Standley says it’s important Samantha’s conservation passion is celebrated and enhanced, despite her passing. People who wish to support her conservation passion, and how it is supported at Hamilton Zoo, can do so by donating to the Hamilton Zoo Conservation Fund.

The Hamilton Zoo Conservation Fund was established to accumulate and distribute funds raised from public donations - 10 per cent of revenue for animal encounters. Visitors to the zoo can make a direct donation through the zoo’s customer services team.

"I'm not going to try to tell them what to do, and whether we think it's appropriate," says Mr Vervoort.

Drone use will not be permitted near any playground or during a fire ban period, and take-off and landing of drones from carparks or Council-owned buildings will be prohibited.

Similarly, drone pilots planning to fly their devices over car parks or Council buildings won’t need Council permission, but they will need to exercise good sense, and won’t be able to use those locations for take-off and landing.

However, there are several Council-owned locations and facilities where specific permission will be required. These include any of the city’s cemeteries, pool facilities, either of the two water treatment plants, event facilities, Hamilton Zoo and pedestrian malls.

"Where permission is needed from a particular part of Council, we’ll work closely with drone pilots to understand what they want to do, and whether we think it’s appropriate," says Mr Vervoort.

Drone use will not be permitted near any playground or during a fire ban period, and take-off and landing of drones from carparks or Council-owned buildings will be prohibited.

"The key thing for us with drone use is that the pilots are respectful, sensible and thoughtful – for example, if there’s a football match at one of our parks, we expect drone pilots to keep themselves and their drones well clear of the players," Mr Vervoort says.

CoLOURFUL NEW ADDITION: The Victoria Street beautification project has been completed, creating a colourful new link to the central city. A deluge of rain delayed the final stages of planting by a few days, but the last plants were in place at the end of September, along with new Tulip trees. The Council also took the opportunity to install new irrigation in the street and, where possible, plants removed from the original planting were re-used elsewhere in the city, including Cobham Drive.

Pictured is Hamilton City Parks gardener Melissa, digging in one of the final lavender plants along Victoria Street.
Transforming the central city

The draft Central City Transformation Plan (CCTP) aims to transform Hamilton’s central city into a prosperous commercial centre, with a vibrant metropolitan lifestyle.

The draft plan is an action-focused, practical approach with a mixture of short and long-term projects designed to revitalise the central city identified under six themes. We want to see more people working and living in the central city, creating an economically prosperous commercial core, with greater connections to the Waikato River.

There are a number of exciting ideas in this plan. You have until 16 October to let us know what you think of our ideas. The Strategy and Policy committee will discuss the public’s feedback and formally adopt the plan on 8 December.

Reshaping the central city

The draft plan proposes reshaping the central city into three precincts. Each will have an individual character and identity.

• Business district: This will be the compact business and commercial core of the central city with retail and office space.

• Victoria: This area, north of London St, will have a dominant focus on medium density, inner-city residential living with mixed use activities that support city living. The plan identifies Victoria as a “20-minute neighbourhood experience”, which means residents can walk easily to health care, gyms, cafes, schools, services, work and entertainment.

• The South End: the entertainment and cultural area. This will be the city’s premier waterfront and culture, visitor and entertainment destination and will include the Ferrybank.

How to give us your feedback:

Online: hamilton.govt.nz/CCTP

Social media: facebook.com/hamiltoncitycouncil using #CCTP or on Twitter, using both @councilhamilton and #CCTP

Pen and paper: You can complete the questionnaire in person at the Municipal Building, Central Library and Hamilton Gardens.

Enhancing Garden Place and creating laneways

We want Garden Place to be more inviting and busy. Our plan is to extend the shared zone for pedestrians and cars from Worley Place along the northern side of Garden Place, through to Victoria St. Providing more planting and seats will make people want to spend more time there. The plan also discusses upgrading the Central Library facade and opening it up more to Garden Place.

Enhancing the city’s laneways is also a focus of the plan, which maps the private and public laneways in the central city. It includes a demonstration project for the Council-owned lane off Alexandra St, which opens it up from the back of the library. We want to encourage owners to transform their laneways with plants, landscaping, public art work, seating and lighting, without losing the traditional feel of the lane.
The River and green spaces

The Hamilton City River Plan, which includes actions to open up views and access points to the river, will play a major part in transforming the central city. The Ferrybank project is part of The South End, which will be the city’s premier river destination providing a cultural, visitor and entertainment destination. We also plan to transform the Victoria on the River site (a large piece of Council-owned land in the city centre) into a public green space, providing access to the Waikato River.

Green spaces are important in our city. We want to use the city’s ‘green frame’ (the old west town belt) to shape and frame the city to the west, helping to deliver a more compact central city. Our plans include completing the planting Maple Grove in this historic town belt.

The plan also outlines:

- Reducing the size of the central business district. Hamilton’s business precinct currently covers 129.4ha. As a comparison, the size of the Christchurch CBD, post earthquake, will be 40ha

- The creation of two parking zones. In the blue zone, parking will be free before 9am, after 3pm on week days and on Sundays and public holidays. Any other time, it will be $2 per hour with a two-hour time restriction. The orange zone will provide on-street parking

- Upgrading Victoria St to support residential housing. This will include lowering the speed zone, adding new parking options and creating a pedestrian and biking environment suitable for inner city living

- Creating a shared zone for pedestrians and cars down Alexandra St

- A retail plan and ways to attract more businesses into the central city
Ideas wanted for new city playground

Hamilton residents can now contribute their views on the development of a further destination playground for the city.

Set for construction at Dominion Park in Newton, the new destination playground is due for completion in late 2016, following the creation of impressive new playgrounds at Hamilton Lake in 2014 and Lake Rotokaeo (Minogue Park) earlier this year.

“Development of destination playgrounds is a key outcome of the Playgrounds of the Future Plan, and we’re keen to get input from the local community,” says City Landscapes Team Leader Gina Hailwood.

“We want the community to have a strong sense of ownership toward the new playgrounds, and one way of doing that is to get people involved early on. It’s important to get feedback on what we’re planning, because ultimately the playground will be there for the children of the local community to enjoy,” Miss Hailwood says.

The first stage of the development process is an online survey where the public can give their preferences for the type of play experiences the new playground will offer.

“We’re encouraging parents and caregivers to sit down with their children and take a few minutes to complete our survey, which includes questions on what children enjoy,” she says.

The results of the survey will inform the design of the playground. The survey closes on 23 October.

Premiership football

WaiBop United, the regional football team which competes in the ASB Premiership, will play the majority of its matches in Hamilton this season. The team will play four matches at Waikato Stadium and one at Gower Park – all of which will be televised.

The federation’s youth team and ASB National Women’s League teams, which compete through the summer, will also play at Gower Park and at Porritt Stadium. Gower Park and Porritt Stadium were upgraded as part of the city’s involvement in the FIFA U-20 World Cup.

Cricket stars heading to Claudelands

Hamilton cricket fans will have the chance to meet some of their Black Caps and White Ferns heroes when the New Zealand Cricket season launch roadshow reaches Claudelands this month.

Cricket in New Zealand has enjoyed a resurgence in popularity over the past few years, largely due to the strong international form of the Black Caps and the country’s co-hosting of the ICC Cricket World Cup 2015, which included three matches at Hamilton’s Seddon Park.

The event at Claudelands, on Saturday 10 October, includes skill tests for young cricketers, with indoor nets and wickets, plus inflatables and a “chill out zone” for parents to relax while their children try the activities.

A contingent of New Zealand’s international cricketers will be in attendance, giving young fans the chance to grab autographs and photos – and even a few technical tips. There will also be giveaways and an information stand where people can find out how to get involved in cricket locally.

Executive Director of the Council’s H3 event facilities Sean Murray, says the season launch roadshow is a great appetiser to what promises to be an exciting summer of cricket at Seddon Park.

“Seddon Park will host three international cricket matches this summer. The Black Caps play a five-day Test against Sri Lanka starting on 18 December, a T20 match vs. Pakistan on 17 January, and a One Day International vs. Australia on 8 February, the Waitangi weekend public holiday,” Mr Murray says.

“We made some upgrades to the facilities at Seddon Park ahead of the ICC Cricket World Cup 2015 – which went really well for us – so we’re looking forward to having three more international teams in town this summer.”

The Northern Knights’ domestic cricket schedule has also been released.

blackcaps.co.nz

gotheknights.co.nz

GREAT GARDENERS: Andrew Anderson and Wendy Bleaken are part of a team of five Council staff based permanently at Hamilton Lake Domain.

A hot air balloon pilot once asked Wendy Bleaken “what’s it like working in paradise?”

Wendy is one of five of the Council’s City Landscapes staff based permanently at Hamilton Lake Domain, an increasingly popular park for the city’s residents and visitors.

She agrees Hamilton Lake Domain is a special place to work, and says in spring the domain is starting to look its best: “Everything’s starting to grow, and looks really lush – you can see it all coming on. In the rose garden, the first flush of flowers comes through in November and December, and it’s spectacular.”

And in spring, there’s plenty of work for Wendy, and horticulturist Andrew Anderson, to do. When City News visits, Andrew is using a small hedge trimmer to tidy up shaped topiary plants.

Other spring tasks include plenty of mulching, trimming trees and shrubs, and the bedding plant changeover which occurs around Labour Weekend. They have one of the largest park areas in the city, including both Hamilton Lake Domain and Innes Common.

“We don’t really have a down-time,” says Wendy. “It’s busy all year round, we just alternate the work and prioritise what we do.”

As Andrew learns the trade, he takes his direction from Wendy, who has been working at Hamilton Lake Domain for a decade.

“It’s all training for Andrew,” says Wendy. “And I reckon of all the areas City Parks looks away by the place… and I think we do a pretty good job, too!”

Wendy says Hamilton Lake Domain is becoming increasingly popular with the city’s residents and visitors. The construction of a brand new destination playground has been a factor.

“It’s been amazing, particularly in the first few weeks after they put that playground in,” she says.

She says one of the joys of working at the domain is the feedback from visitors, which is generally very positive: “People are blown away by the place… and I think we do a pretty good job, too!”

gina.hailwood@city.govt.nz
COUNCIL DECISIONS

Summary of the major Council decisions this month:

- The Central City Transformation Plan (CCTP) has been approved to go out for public consultation (see story and pictures, pages 4 and 5)
- Hamilton’s Annual Report, which shows the Council has recorded a $5M surplus, has been adopted by the Council (see story, page 1)
- The Council agreed to begin the process of reviewing the Public Places Bylaw
- The Council agreed to recommence the development of the Local Alcohol Policy, a set of decisions made in consultation with the community to regulate the sale and supply of alcohol in Hamilton City. Deliberations and decision making were deferred following public hearings in March 2014 pending the outcome of appeals to the Alcohol Regulatory Licensing Authority.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Lake weed spraying

A specialist weed control contractor will be working on Hamilton’s Lake Rotoroa and Lake Rotokaeo in coming weeks.

Both lakes have populations of yellow flag iris and parrot’s feather, both highly invasive species, which the Council has an obligation to control under Waikato Regional Council’s Regional Pest Management Plan.

Council’s Natural Environments Team Leader Jeremy Froger, says Council’s contractor applies a weed control product directly to the plants.

“This is the most effective and efficient method of controlling these pest weed species,” Mr Froger says. “Earlier this year we undertook some work to control the plants by hand: we de-headed the plants, which limits their reproduction. However to ensure they are eradicated, we need to spray them.”

The spray area will be cordoned off and the public are asked to keep well clear.

Mr Froger says the work relies on still, fine weather, and is scheduled for October and November.

New bylaw to protect our water

A new bylaw came into effect at the end of September to help protect Hamilton’s streams and the Waikato River.

The Hamilton Stormwater Bylaw 2015 sets out everyone’s responsibilities in regards to stormwater and provides guidance on what can and can’t enter the stormwater system.

Stormwater is the rain and water that runs off our houses, footpaths and roads along gutters into our stormwater system. Most New Zealand cities discharge their stormwater into the sea, but Hamilton’s stormwater flows into the Waikato River, the same place we get our drinking water from.

The Stormwater Bylaw will help manage these issues and gives the Council authority to require certain actions to be taken in regards to stormwater.

hamilton.govt.nz/stormwater

Community profiles

Hamilton residents can now get an insight into their neighbourhoods through the Council’s Community Profiles.

The result of a lengthy information gathering project undertaken by the Council’s Community Development team, the Community Profiles are based on information obtained during the 2013 census and the Council’s Community Survey in September and October 2014.

The profiles look at 11 specific geographical areas of our city – six on the western side of the river, and five in the east. These mirror the Census Area Units as defined by Statistics New Zealand and largely reflect recognisable suburbs within Hamilton. Each suburb is also numerically labelled.

“Each profile details specific statistics for the area, and compares them to the Hamilton average,” says the Council’s Social Development Manager, Andy Maningter. “They are laid out identically, so users can quickly cross-reference information across the city.”

The profiles will be useful to many groups and it is hoped that they will be used to assist in community decision making and programme planning in the future.

The new design for the profiles creates a comprehensive view of the city, and they have been designed with a long-term plan in mind to enable comparisons to be made in subsequent updates.

Although these profiles are Council documents, much of the detail included can be used by different sectors of the community.

The profiles are seen as a way to understand our communities better and create more effective planning in the future.

hamilton.govt.nz/communityprofiles

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are open to the public. Full Council meetings, along with the Finance Committee and Strategy and Policy Committee meetings, are live streamed on our website.

hamilton.govt.nz/meetings

- Community Forum Subcommittee
  - Wednesday 22 October, 9.30am

- Council Controlled Organisation Subcommittee
  - Wednesday 22 October, 9.30am

- District Licensing Committee
  - Wednesday 20 October, 10am

- Finance Committee
  - Thursday 22 October, 1.30pm

- Council Meeting
  - Thursday 29 October, 1.30pm

YOUR MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

Julie Hardaker
Mayor
021 284 8618
mayor@council.hcc.govt.nz

Margaret Forsyth
Councillor: East Ward
021 616 562
margaret.forsyth@council.hcc.govt.nz

Philipp Young
Councillor: East Ward
07 838 6766
philipp.young@council.hcc.govt.nz

Angela O'Leary
Councillor: West Ward
021 343 774
angela.oleary@council.hcc.govt.nz

Gordon Chesterman
Deputy Mayor
021 002 207
gordon.chesterman@council.hcc.govt.nz

Karen Green
Councillor: East Ward
021 244 9434
karina.green@council.hcc.govt.nz

Martin Gallagher
Councillor: West Ward
021 244 9434
martin.gallagher@council.hcc.govt.nz

Andrew King
Councillor: West Ward
07 838 6766
andrew.king@council.hcc.govt.nz

Dave MacPherson
Councillor: West Ward
021 477 388
dave.macpherson@council.hcc.govt.nz

Rob Pascoe
Councillor: East Ward
07 838 6766
rob.pascoe@council.hcc.govt.nz

Martin Gallagher, Mayor of Hamilton and Chair of the Hamiltone City Council, has been given the power to appoint a new Mayor. The new Mayor will serve for the remainder of the current term of office, which ends in 2019.

The search for a new Mayor is currently underway, and the successful candidate will be announced in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, Mr Gallagher will continue to serve as Mayor of Hamilton City.

Waste Minimisation Fund

There are two categories of funding: standard ($1000 - $5000), and special project funding which offers up to $15,000.

Applications for the fund close on Sunday 11 October and can be submitted online.

hamilton.govt.nz/wasteminimisation

Hamiltone City Council is offering a share of $50,000 to help get it off the ground.

The Contestable Waste Minimisation Fund allocates $50,000 annually from the Government’s national waste levy to fund projects promoting or achieving waste minimisation in the city.

“There are lots of groups with great initiatives for reducing our city’s waste and we want to help turn those ideas into reality. We need to encourage and support forward-thinking waste reduction ideas and this fund lets us do that,” says Hamilton City Council’s Waste Minimisation Advisor Kerry Skeret.

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hamilton.govt.nz/communityprofiles

Don’t waste a great idea

If you’ve got a great idea for reducing waste, Hamilton City Council is offering a share of $50,000 to help get it off the ground.

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The search is on for a design team who will deliver a development plan to transform the Ferrybank into a premier waterfront destination with a mixture of cafés, restaurants and office and retail space, plus new sporting and tourism facilities, which will lead the way in the transformation of the central city.

Three finalists will be selected this month. Each will receive $10,000 to submit a concept plan. The winning team will be selected by a panel of experts at the end of the year and will receive $150,000 to deliver a detailed development plan by next July.

hamiltoncityriverplan.co.nz

Ferrybank design competition

Plans to transform Hamilton’s relationship with the Waikato River are underway with a design competition to redevelop the Ferrybank and Roose Commerce Park.

The search is on for a design team who will deliver a development plan to transform the Ferrybank into a premier waterfront destination with a mixture of cafés, restaurants and office and retail space, plus new sporting and tourism facilities, which will lead the way in the transformation of the central city.

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SUPERSTAR CRICKET ROADSHOW
10 OCTOBER, 11AM - 3PM
CLAUDELANDS ARENA

Want to bowl against Martin Guptill? Take a photo with the Chappell Hadlee Trophy? Get free give-aways? The New Zealand Post Superstar Cricket Roadshow is coming to Hamilton and is bringing BLACKCAPS and WHITE FERNS players with it! With skill tests for young cricketers and a “chill out zone” for parents to relax, this event caters for the whole family.

CLAUDELANDS.CO.NZ

LEGENDARY DIVAS
16 OCTOBER, 7.30 PM
CLARENCE STREET THEATRE

Legendary Divas is a show which celebrates all those legendary women that inspired us with their music. Join Ali as she celebrates the legendary divas that we grew up with: Shirley Bassey, Dusty Springfield, Judy Garland, Vera Lynn, Doris Day, Edith Piaf and many more.

HAMANTONOPERA.ORG.CO.NZ

NATURAL HEALTH EXPO
17 / 18 OCTOBER, 10AM - 5PM
HAMILTON GARDENS PAVILION

An inviting range of natural health options under one roof, with seminars and events, creates an opportunity for the public to become informed in a professional but informal setting.

NATURALHEALTHEXPO.CO.NZ

WAICHATO DIWALI FESTIVAL
18 OCTOBER
GARDEN PLACE

One of the most significant celebrations in Indian culture is Diwali, the festival of lights. The festival is celebrated by Hindus, Sikhs and Jains for a variety of reasons, although the main theme which runs throughout is the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil.

HAMILTONSANATAN.COM

MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION
23 / 24 OCTOBER 10AM – 5PM, 25 OCTOBER 10AM - 4PM
HAMILTON GARDENS PAVILION

Hamilton Model Railroaders model railway exhibition is a show for the model railway enthusiast. Railways feature a variety of tracks and layouts, in different scales and with different themes. The exhibition includes trade stands and operating layouts.

HMR.ORG.NZ

WAICHATO A&P SHOW
30 OCTOBER – 1 NOVEMBER
CLAUDELANDS ARENA

Included in this year’s suite of events will be stock competitions for calf club, alpacas, beef, dairy cattle, dairy and Anglo-Nubian goats, equestrian and sheep sections and dog trials.

CLAUDELANDS.CO.NZ

Disney magic skates into town

Hamilton's Claudelands Arena is one of just four venues throughout New Zealand to host the 2016 tour of Disney On Ice Magical Ice Festival.

Tickets are currently on sale to Feld Priority Customers and general public ticket information is available on the Claudelands website.

The show will be in Hamilton from 10-14 August 2016 and features adventures from Disney's Frozen, The Little Mermaid, Tangled and Beauty and the Beast set in a winter wonderland that is sure to appeal to the whole family.

Sell-out crowds packed Claudelands Arena in 2014, the last time the show visited the Waikato, with more than 30,000 event-goers flocking to the venue across four days. The same year, Claudelands Arena was named Ticketdirect Supreme Venue of the Year.

DisneyOnice.co.nz

Our 2016 Disney On Ice Exclusive Offer

If you are attending the Disney On Ice: Magical Ice Festival, at Claudelands Arena on 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14 August you can get 10% off select tickets, with no minimum spend.

Enter Promo Code: DISNEY

Click here to see available dates and find your perfect show.