



Look inside our new library

Work is quickly progressing on our new library. Windows have been installed on the ground floor and are about to be craned into place on the top floor. A specialist crane – one of only a few in the South Island – will be used. The upstairs library will include a café with an outdoor balcony, with panoramic views down the river to the sea. A stunning, statement staircase has been installed, and there will also be a lift. Our staff have been busy finalising the interior fit-out plans. The base build should be completed late this year, ahead of our move next year.

Aqua Splash event

An afternoon of fun at the Westland Recreation Centre on July 2, during the school holidays — hydroslides, aquatic games, a sausage sizzle and more — is already sold out. Watch this space for more events! See inside for full details of our Winter Holiday Programme, including library events.

Local Water Done Well

Should the Grey, Westland, and Buller Councils create a West Coast Council-Controlled Organisation for the three waters? Submissions close on June 16 — head to: <https://haveyoursay.greyc.govt.nz/local-water-done-well>

Road works, Arnott Heights project

Work is continuing at the Arnott Heights retaining wall. Also, part of Bell Hill Road was re-gravelled. In recent months, over 300 sumps were cleared across the district. About 35 tonnes of material was removed.

Cobden works

The Council has awarded a contract for a new Cobden wastewater transfer pumping station. Construction should start this month.

New landfill pit completed

The new rubbish pit (cell) has been completed at McLeans Pit Landfill, at a cost of about \$2 million. It should last nine years. Its life can hopefully be extended with your help by reducing waste. There are more recycling schemes to come in the near future.



Harbour Board and History House to be sold

The Grey District Council will put its History House and Harbour Board buildings up for sale, and work with community groups over the future of its fountain.

At a five-hour Long Term Plan hearing last week, councillors also decided to increase their support for the Regent Theatre, and make up a \$250,000 NZTA footpath shortfall.

The Council received 166 submissions on its draft plan, and just under 30 people presented to councillors on June 10.

Mayor Tania Gibson thanked everyone who submitted and said there were some very well-thought-out comments and suggestions. There were 92 submissions on History House, and 78% were in favour of selling.

The collection will shortly be catalogued by an expert, and Council is exploring alternative options for housing the collection. Work will now be done to put it on the market.

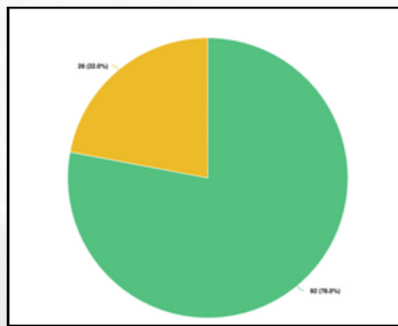
There were 95 submissions on the Harbour Board building, and 81% were in favour of selling.

Fifty-six submitters agreed that the Council fountain should not be repaired or renewed; 36 disagreed. Councillors want to work with community groups on a way forward. The Council will continue to fund basic operational and maintenance costs.

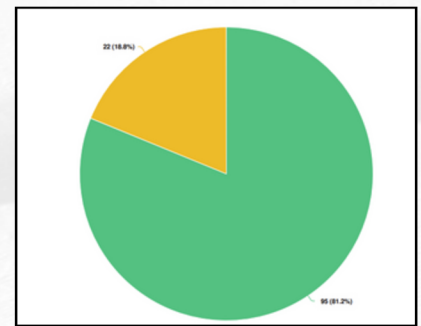
"The fountain will continue to run as per normal until it has any significant issues, and hopefully we can get some traction on a plan for the way forward in the meantime," Mayor Gibson said.

The West Coast Theatre Trust, which runs the Regent Theatre, will see its operational grant increased from \$38,000 to \$50,000, to ensure the theatre's continued operation.

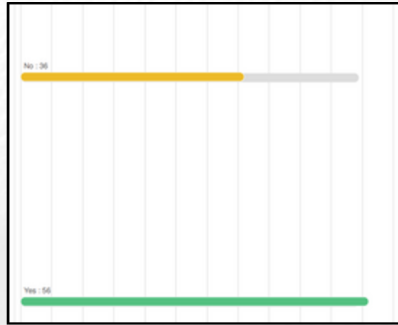
Councillors agree that the theatre is an important asset for the community and generally felt it was in everyone's interests that the theatre remain open.



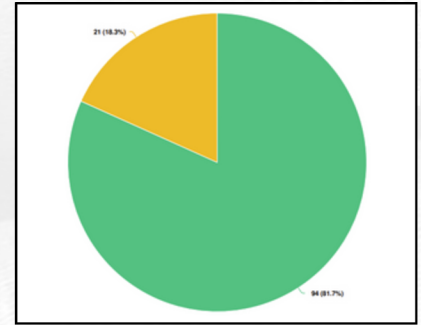
Most people want us to sell History House.



Most people want us to sell the Harbour Board building.



There was mixed feedback on the future of the fountain.



Most people want us to make up an NZTA cut to footpath spending.

They also agreed to take over the theatre's existing \$656,000 loan on behalf of the Trust, but the Trust retains ownership of the building. The Trust will need to report back to Council six-monthly. With 81.7% of submitters in favour of making up a \$250,000 NZTA footpath funding shortfall, councillors agreed to make up the difference with rates.

The Council will review the dog registration process. There is \$500,000 set aside to renew the Preston Road dog pound in six years. A proposed \$4,500 annual fee for the Westland Recreation Centre to help offset increased costs from hosting large spectator events is not workable and will not proceed. Also, there is a plan to return the Activity Room, currently used by Civil Defence, to its original intent. There were submissions on flooding and wastewater in lower Cobden. The Council has recently awarded a contract for the construction of the new Cobden wastewater transfer pumping station. Construction is expected to start this month.

There is funding to support the creation of a lower Cobden retention basin next year. This area will help alleviate stormwater issues in the lower Ward Street and Bright Street area.

The proposed rate rise will be finalised later this month once the changes to the draft plan are confirmed.

You can watch a recording of the meeting on the Grey District Council's Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/GreyDC>

Runanga water update

The tender for the first stage of the Rapahoe trunk main replacement has been awarded. This covers the full length of the Rapahoe straight, and work will be starting shortly. The second stage is probably going to be the Seven Mile Creek bridge into Rapahoe. The third will be the rail crossing at Dunollie.

Meanwhile, Runanga remains on a conserve water notice. We are seeing unusually high draw-offs at times and are investigating further. We thank residents for their patience.

Eighty-seven heatpumps for pensioner flats

We've recently completed the installation of 87 heat pumps across our retirement housing units. The work, carried out by Aotea Electric Westland, was completed to a high standard and within a short timeframe.

These heating upgrades mean our units now meet the requirements of the Healthy Homes Standard.



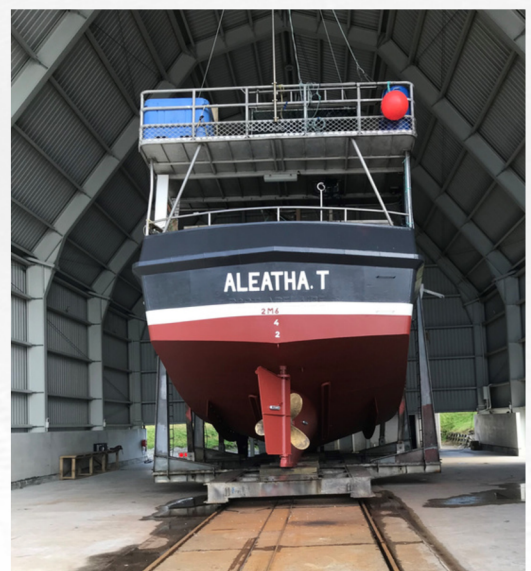
Bookings strong for slipway

The Grey District Council-owned Port of Greymouth has now completed the first stage of the slipway renewal and upgrade. The work included the construction of a large shed, and new, larger winch and slipway equipment. The large shed enables boats to be worked on out of the weather and around the clock if needed. The upgraded winching equipment enables boats up to 90 tonnes to be slipped.

The work means the Greymouth slipway is now operational again at the port, and bookings are strong for the foreseeable future. The winch was funded by the Government, through the Provincial Growth Fund.

Fishing boats and other commercial vessels are required to come out of the water on a regular basis for maintenance and inspection. This facility enables boats to be pulled onto land – dry dock – for these repairs and checks. Council Group Manager Economic Development and Regulatory Services, Peter O'Sullivan, said bookings were strong for the slipway for the foreseeable future. "We are now attracting boats from Napier, Canterbury, and other parts of New Zealand. Our fees are seen as reasonable, and the new covered facility is very popular with boat owners." Greymouth has a good, solutions-focused engineering industry, where boat owners and crew are able to find appropriate tradespeople, Mr O'Sullivan said. Boats must come out of the water every few years for their marine certification. "We are looking forward to a good stream of work at the Port of Greymouth."

He is looking at further ways the port can benefit the West Coast, by attracting vessels from all around New Zealand for dry dock and storage. The Council is finalising plans for berthing facilities on the Blaketown side, which will likely involve the removal of the old pens and replacing them with another floating jetty, similar to the town side. This has Government Regional Infrastructure Funding (RIF). "We are also looking at how we can better service the needs of those moored, with toilet and ablution facilities."



The Aleatha T from Tasman.

Plans are underway to further increase the size of the boats able to be slipped from the current 90 tonnes to 150 tonnes, once a further planned upgrade of the underwater rails is completed. Everything is up and running apart from the upgrade to those underwater rails, which need to be strengthened to carry the weight of boats weighing more than 90 tonnes.

"We are talking with Central Government about that, and how it may be funded," Mr O'Sullivan said.

The winch shed is a two-level structure, with the lower level housing the winch and the mezzanine level containing the hydraulic power pack and electronic hardware. This elevated design ensures critical equipment remains functional even during floods.

Civic Awards 2025

KNOW A LOCAL HERO?

The Grey District Council is now calling for nominations for this year's Civic Awards, which recognise outstanding voluntary service that benefits the Grey District and its residents.

Nominations are generally limited to individuals, though clubs and societies may be considered in exceptional circumstances.

Eligible service categories include recreation, youth activities, social welfare, education, cultural, religious, and community affairs.

Nomination forms and guidelines are available at the Grey District Council offices (105 Tainui Street), the Grey District Library, or online at the link below. For more information, contact Grey District Council on 03 744 7149 or email catriona.bayliss@greydc.govt.nz.

Nominations close at **4pm on Friday, 11 July 2025**.

Elections 2025

INTERESTED IN STANDING FOR COUNCIL?

Local Government elections are happening this year with the nomination period running from 4 July, to 1 August, 2025.

For anyone even remotely interested in standing for Council, a candidate information evening is being held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday, 15 July at 5.30pm. Topics included in the session will be the roles and responsibilities of councillors, skills required, anticipated time commitment and an overview of the election process and - questions will be welcomed!

Information about the upcoming elections, how to enrol to vote etc can be found on the Grey District Council website -

<https://www.greydc.govt.nz/04your-council/elections>.

You can also contact the Deputy Electoral Officer, Catriona Bayliss 03 744 7149 or Catriona.bayliss@greydc.govt.nz

New food business levy

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) is introducing a Food Business Levy for all registered food businesses under the Food Act 2014. This levy will come into effect on 1 July 2025, and the Council, as the registration authority, will be responsible for collecting it annually on behalf of MPI.

If your food business is registered with us, you will be charged the levy each year. New businesses will pay the levy upon registration and then annually thereafter.

The levy will be based on how your business operates:

- If you follow a Template Food Control Plan (tFCP), the levy will apply per site.
- If you follow a National Programme (NP), the levy will apply per registered business.

The levy will increase over the next three years:

- From 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026: \$57.50 (plus GST)
- From 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027: \$86.25 (plus GST)
- From 1 July 2027 onwards: \$115.00 per year (plus GST)

RECYCLING TIP

Lids on cans



Did you know that you can recycle your tin can lids?

Either remove the lid and place it inside the tin, OR leave attached and push it down inside the tin.

Remember to remove the label and wash out your tin cans, a thorough rinse should do the job!

Keep up to date

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and now Tik Tok for regular updates.

If you missed a video, check out our YouTube channel
[@greydistrictcouncilgreymou5950](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgreymou5950)

What does the levy cover?

- Improved education and support to help businesses meet food safety and suitability standards.
- Enhanced monitoring and rapid intervention to ensure the food safety system operates effectively.
- Increased support to ensure fair, consistent, and appropriate verification, registration, and enforcement for businesses that don't comply with the rules.
- Ongoing national campaigns to address widespread food safety or suitability concerns.
- More effective, efficient, and up-to-date rules and standards, developed with input from businesses.

More information

You can find more information online at Food Act 2014 fees, charges, and levies | NZ Government, or email foodactlevies@mpi.govt.nz.

WINTER HOLIDAY FUN

Join us at the Westland Recreation Centre

MĀWHERA
GREY
DISTRICT COUNCIL
EVENTS



KIDS
Market Day

@ REC CENTRE LOUNGE/FOYER

10 July 2025
10am - 12pm



Kids selling their toys, books or sport gear and even own homemade products!
Come and support their small businesses!"

Stall registrations
Kate.Dumitru@greydc.govt.nz



Send your pet photo to
Kate.Dumitru@greydc.govt.nz



Pet Photo
10 July 2025
Competition



Kids Market Day & Pet Photo Competition

- **Thursday, July 10**
- **10am to 12pm**
- **Westland Recreation Centre's lounge/foyer**

Calling all young entrepreneurs! Kids can sell their toys, books, sports gear, or even their own homemade products at the Kids' Market. There's also the Market Day Pet Photo Competition just for kids, with fun categories to enter:

- Cats, dogs, guinea pigs, and ferrets
- Rabbits (all kinds)
- Rodents
- Large animals: horses, sheep, goats, cows, llamas, pigs
- Birds
- Exotic pets
- Reptiles (including turtles)

Spot prizes will be up for grabs!

Send your pet photo entries to kate.dumitru@greydc.govt.nz by July 9.

Give it A Go Fun Fest

- **Monday, June 30**
- **Monday, July 7,**
- **Wednesday, July 9**
- **10am to 12pm**

Bring the kids along to the **Westland Recreation Centre** for our Give it a Go Fun Fest – a fun-filled event the whole family can enjoy!

We've got loads of sports gear and games to choose from, including:

- Volleyballs and basketballs
- Hopscotch rings
- Tug of war
- Jump ropes for all ages
- Ankle skip balls
- Inflatables
- Scooter boards
- Badminton
- Cricket



This Grey District Council event is proudly funded by Sport Canterbury through Tū Manawa Funding, and has quickly become a school holiday favourite.

WINTER HOLIDAY FUN

Join us at the Grey District Library to Escape the Winter

Kids Programme

The theme for these holidays is 'Escape the Winter!'

To complete activities, you are welcome to participate in any of the events at the Library.

Children under 7 must be supervised at these events and by arrangement for children under 10. Alternatively, you can pick up a Holiday Pack to complete at home!



Design Your Character

- **Monday, June 30**
- **1pm to 2pm**
- **Age range: Up to 12 years old.**

Before going on your big adventure, you will have to design your character first! Kids will have the choice between different character attributes that they will use to build their character. Cutting, gluing and colouring-in activity. All materials provided.

Flipbook Map

- **Wednesday, July 2**
- **10am to 11am**
- **Age range: Up to 12 years old.**

The world is a very large place so let's just re-situate you before you leave! Kids will draw or cut out shapes to represent their houses, cities, countries, all of which will help them situate them in the world. Cutting, gluing, drawing and colouring-in activity. All materials provided.

Time to Board!

- **Thursday, July 3**
- **11am to 1pm**
- **Age range: Different age categories. All welcome.**

Build the transport you will use to go on your big adventure from our Lego. Prizes to be won! All materials provided.

Travelling Journal

- **Wednesday, July 9**
- **2pm to 3pm.**
- **Age range: Up to 12 Years Old.**

Grab a Travelling Journal and solve the Mystery Grids to reveal where you went to escape the cold winter! Logic puzzles to solve. Cutting, gluing activity. All materials provided.

Colouring in competition, Teddy Bear's Picnic Day

- **Thursday, July 10**
- **10am to 11am.**
- **Age range: Up to 12 years old.**

You just got home to find Teddy Bears are having a picnic in your back garden! Colour your picnic scene and bring it back to the Library by 12 July to be in to win a prize! Feel free to bring your favourite toy or teddy to help you colour!

Young Adult Programme

These holidays, the Library is giving you the opportunity to escape the winter by creating another world! Start by creating your character and then send them on their journey. Complete the event(s) at the Library or pick up a pack to complete them at your own pace! Don't forget to bring any completed activity page(s) back (whether you complete one or all of them) to be in to win a prize!

Design Your Character

- **Monday, June 30**
- **1pm to 2pm**
- **Age range: 12-17 years old.**

Before going on your big adventure, you will have to design your character first! You will have to think about their qualities but also flaws. Cutting, gluing and colouring-in activity. All materials provided.

Create a Fantasy Map

- **Wednesday, July 2**
- **10am to 11am**
- **Age range: 12-17 years old.**

Details: Before your character goes on their trip, give us an overview of their world! Grab a sheet from the Library, use our special ballpoint pens during the event to turn New Zealand Aotearoa into the world of your character! All materials provided.

Time to Board!

- **Thursday, July 3**
- **11am to 1pm**
- **Age range: Different age categories. All welcome.**

Build the transport your character will use to go on their big adventure from our Lego. Prizes to be won! All materials provided.

Travelling Journal

- **Wednesday, July 9**
- **2pm to 3pm**
- **Age range: 12-17 years old.**

Grab a Travel Journal Page from the Library to give an accurate record of your character's adventures! All materials provided.

Young Adult Programme (continued)

Snapshot from your World

- **Thursday, July 10**
- **10am to 11am**
- **Age range: 12-17 years old.**

Your character has just come back from their holidays and is showing their pictures to their friends/family/mates!

Cutting, gluing, drawing and colouring-in activity. All materials provided.

Short Story Competition

- **Due date: 12/07/25**
- **Age Range: 12-17 years old.**

Write a short story centred around the theme 'Escape the Winter'. Write it as a flash fiction, use a journal entry you created from what you've built from the events, or draw a cartoon ... it's up to you! Format is free but you can only submit one page.

Other events

- **June 28 to July 12**

Guess what? Gallery Special Countries

Can you recognise these countries just by their silhouettes?

Children up to 12 years old. Guardians are welcome to help.

Guess the City (Town)

Can you recognise these New Zealand cities just by looking at their maps?

Open to all ages.

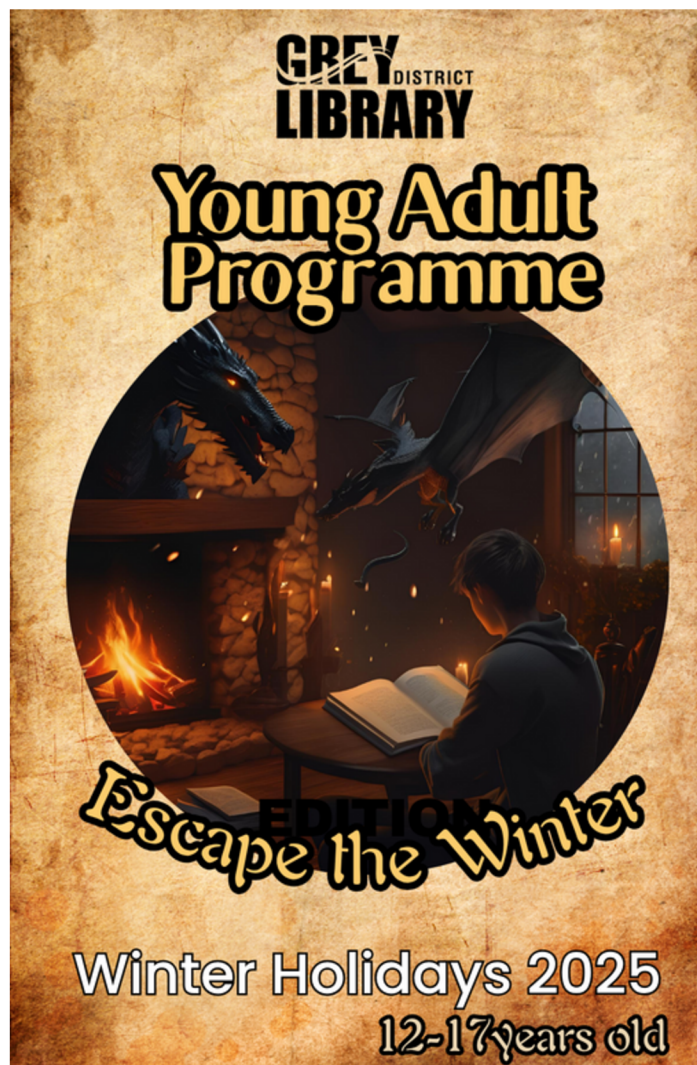
Interactive Community Board

Animals are hiding on the map! Complete challenges to get your entry into each country granted or denied so you can take a picture of these wonderful animals! All ages.

Winter Reading Challenges

Winter, with its cooler days and long nights can be a daunting time of the year. Beat the blues of winter and escape the cold by reading!

You can grab a form and full details from the Library – there are separate challenges for kids and adult/young adults.



Rates rebate changes

New income thresholds

Grey District Mayor Tania Gibson has welcomed Government changes that will help more people get rates relief. The Government is introducing a new income abatement threshold from 1 July.

The threshold to be eligible for a rates rebate for Super Gold Cardholders and their households will be lifted from \$31,510 to \$45,000.

The new income thresholds for rates from July are:

- Super Gold Cardholders – \$45,000
- Non-Super Gold Cardholders – \$32,210

The maximum rebate for either group of ratepayers has also been increased from \$790 to \$805.

Mayor Gibson said the threshold, which is set by the Government, came up during recent draft Long Term Plan community meetings.

“We know those on pensions especially are finding things hard.

“It’s good news the threshold has been lifted.”

For the 2025/26 rating year, the Rates Rebate Scheme will include a new income abatement threshold of \$45,000 for Super Gold Cardholders. In short, for anyone paying an average rates bill and earning only New Zealand Superannuation, the Government will take \$805 off their rates from July this year if they hold a Super Gold Card.

The ‘regular’ income abatement threshold is also rising from \$31,510 to \$32,210, in line with inflation.

The rates rebate estimator calculator will be modified to show the exact amounts ratepayers will be eligible for, from 1 July. Ratepayers can use this resource to calculate the rebate amounts for the 2025 rating year.

The link to the calculator can be found here:

<https://www.govt.nz/browse/housing-and-property/getting-help-with-housing/getting-a-rates-rebate/rates-rebate-calculator/>