

## Fabulous fun planned for festival



Invercargill City Centre Co-ordinator Kari Graber with some of the Tawhirimatea's Eyes that will be on display at this year's Matariki Festival.

From food to facepainting, photos, and maybe even flames, there's plenty of fabulous fun planned for this year's Matariki Festival!

**INVERCARGILL** City Centre Co-ordinator Kari Graber said this year's festival was likely to be even bigger and better than the 2017 event. There will be family favourites such as carving demonstrations, displays of children's art, and the craft market returning, while new events like Venture Southland's Dark Skies photo competition exhibit are also planned for the CBD during the festival. "Once again, our local retailers are supporting our wonderful community with displays of Tawhirimatea's Eyes which have been made by children.

"There will also be plenty of sales on the day of the festival," Ms Graber said.

"We're also very lucky to have Steve Solomon returning to show the beauty of traditional Maori carving, while a new attraction to the festival this year will be St Theresa's School Kapa Haka group performing from midday."

Workshops for poi making will be on from 10.30am to 12.30pm, and from 3pm to 4pm.

In-between the hula hooping, those who have made poi can also learn how to perform with the poi they've made.

Ms Graber said there were many other local musicians who would also be performing on the day.

The Matariki Festival will be held in Esk Street from 10am to 4pm on Saturday July 7, and is free to attend.

To find out more about what's happening during Matariki this year, visit the Invercargill Matariki Festival Facebook page, or [www.icc.govt.nz](http://www.icc.govt.nz)

Matariki is the Maori name for the cluster of stars also known as the Pleiades. It rises in mid-winter and, in Maori tradition, heralds the beginning of a new year.

## Changes to Total Mobility scheme take effect this weekend

The introduction of a new Ridewise card will result in easier travel for clients and improved efficiency for transport operators from this weekend.

**TOTAL MOBILITY** is a nationwide scheme that provides subsidised transport to people with impairments. The Invercargill City Council administers the scheme in Southland on behalf of Invercargill City, Gore District, and Southland District councils.

The scheme provides discounted fares for transport, and is available to people who have a physical, sensory, intellectual, neurological or psychological impairment and are unable to access transport without help or assistance.

The Total Mobility scheme for Southland will change from Sunday, July 1, with the introduction of a new Ridewise swipe card. This new card will replace an old sticker system.

Invercargill City Council Roading Manager Russell Pearson said the new Ridewise card would make accessing the Total Mobility scheme subsidies simpler for clients, and improve efficiency for the transport operators.

Until now, clients were annually sent stickers in the post to be able to access subsidies from the transport operators.

"Stickers involved a lot of administration, were often misplaced or lost, and there was no way for transport operators to confirm the person who had the stickers were entitled to the subsidies," Mr Pearson said.

"The new card has a personalised photograph printed on it, which will enable the operator to confirm the person holding the card is eligible for subsidised travel, and has an expiry date of five years. This card will resolve many of the issues we presently have with the sticker system.

"It won't get damaged in handbags or wallets and people are now much more familiar with the use of swipe cards. Hopefully it will be a helpful ID card for clients."

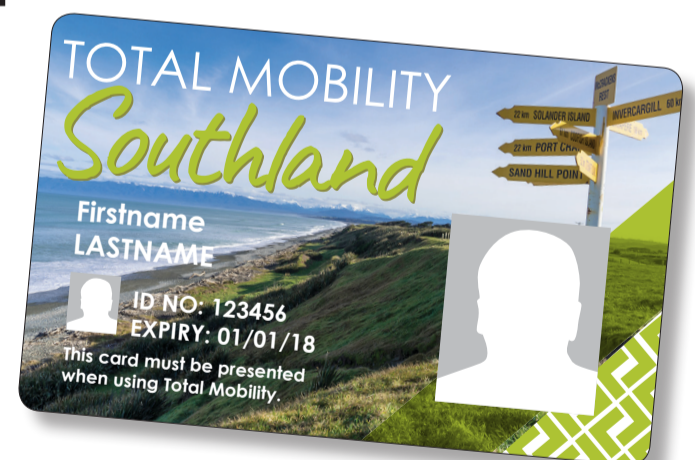
Council staff have been in close communication with both current clients

and transport operators, have received more than 1000 photographs to be printed on the cards, and will be sending out the new cards this week.

"We have appreciated all the help and efforts of the individuals and families who have arranged this, along with support from local agencies who have contacted their clients and assisted," Mr Pearson said.

"It's been a busy time but we've been grateful for the support received."

For most clients, the scheme offers half-price fares for transport, up to a maximum subsidy of \$25 per one-way ride. There is presently no limit on how often the subsidy can be used. The person travelling still needs to pay for the remaining 50 percent of the travel cost at the end of the journey.



In Invercargill, the same transport operators will continue to offer the scheme and are ready to start swiping Ridewise cards on Sunday.

In Gore, there is a new transport operator – Ezicab Gore – that will offer the subsidised Total Mobility scheme with the new Ridewise swipe card. The previous provider will not continue to offer subsidies under the scheme.

More information on the Total Mobility scheme, including how to apply and a list of transport operators, is available on council's website: [www.icc.govt.nz/community/total-mobility/](http://www.icc.govt.nz/community/total-mobility/)



**Invercargill**

## Streetlight out? Blocked drain?

Why not try lodging a request for service via My Invercargill?

**YOU** can upload up to three photos, and describe the potential issue for our staff to investigate.

The My Invercargill tool can be used on any device connected to the internet, including smart phones, computers, and tablets.

It allows people to lodge a request for service, view their previous requests, or make a Council-related payment.

Visit [www.myinvercargill.nz](http://www.myinvercargill.nz) to check it out. More information on the tool, including terms and conditions, are available on the Council website – [www.icc.govt.nz](http://www.icc.govt.nz)

## Entries arriving for painting contest

**DON'T** forget to get your child's entry for the Jiangsu International Painting Contest in to Council before it closes tomorrow.

We've received some wonderful entries so far!

Open to Invercargill children aged 4-12 years, the purpose of the contest is to highlight the friendship between the younger generation of Jiangsu's 13 cities and those in Sister Cities around the world.

The theme of the competition is "Dreams of the Future", and there are three categories: 4-6 years, 7-9 years, and 10-12 years.

Entries are to be submitted in A3 size, no mats, frames, 3D raised surfaces, or stretched canvases please.

Deliver all entries to the ICC Civic Administration Building, 101 Esk Street, by tomorrow (29 June 2018).



## Southland Museum and Art Gallery consultation

A project to redevelop the Southland Museum is under way.

**BE** part of Southland's future and help Tell Our Tale. Join in one of our community conversations:

- **Gore** – Thursday 5 July, Eastern Southland Gallery, 5.30pm-7.30pm
- **Invercargill Farmers Market** – Sunday 8 July, 9.30am-1.30pm
- **Invercargill Workshop #1** – Monday 9 July, Community Trust of Southland, 62 Don Street, 7pm-8.30pm
- **Kidzone Invercargill** – Wednesday, 11 July-Monday 16 July, 10.30am-2.30pm
- **SIT Students Workshop** – Thursday 12 July, noon-1.30pm, SIT Main campus
- **Edendale** – Tuesday 17 July, Christian Community Centre, 4pm-5pm
- **Tokanui** – Tuesday 17 July, Tokanui Tavern, 6pm-7.30pm
- **Invercargill Workshop #2** – Thursday 19 July, Community Trust of Southland, 62 Don St, noon-1.30pm
- **Bluff Workshop** – Thursday 19 July, Te Rau Aroha Marae, 6pm-7.30pm
- **Otautau** – Monday 23 July, library, 10.30am-12.30pm
- **Riverton** – Monday 23 July, outside Supervalu, 2pm-4pm
- **Te Anau** – Tuesday 24 July, library, 12.30pm-2.30pm
- **Lumdsen** – Tuesday 24 July, Railway Precinct, 3.30pm-5.30pm
- **Winton** – Thursday 26 July, outside New World, 2.30pm-4.30pm
- **Invercargill Workshop #3** – Sunday 29 July, Community Trust of Southland, 62 Don St, 3pm-4.30pm

You can also take part in the Our Tale survey at [www.ourtale.co.nz](http://www.ourtale.co.nz)



## Council meetings

Notice is hereby given of the following meetings:

**Community Services Committee**  
Monday, 2 July, 4pm

**Regulatory Services Committee**  
Tuesday, 3 July, 4pm

**Infrastructure and Services Committee**  
Monday, 9 July, 4pm

**Finance and Policy Committee**  
Tuesday, 10 July, 4pm

**Events Committee**  
Friday, 13 July, 9am

**Council Meeting**  
Tuesday, 24 July, 4pm

The above meetings will be held in the Council Chambers/ Committee Room, First Floor, Civic Administration Building, 101 Esk Street, Invercargill.

- [www.icc.govt.nz](http://www.icc.govt.nz)

## Countdown to Kidzone!



### Not long now until Kidzone returns for 2018!

**THE** six-day family festival will be held these school holidays at James Hargest College senior campus from 11-16 July, 10.30am to 3.30pm daily.

This year's 'Around the World' theme features over 150 fun, interactive activities and games, many of which will explore multiculturalism and diversity through sports, arts and crafts, technology, food, science, music, performance and more.

To find out more about the festival, and how to get tickets, visit [www.iltkidzone.co.nz](http://www.iltkidzone.co.nz)

For more about the Council's Community News items, contact the Communications Department on 03 211 1777.

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