

# NEW COMPANY WILL KEEP WATER FLOWING IN LOWER HUTT



BY PRUE LAMASON



Opening day crowd.  
Photo Courtesy of Craig McGhie Photography.

One term down at the Cannons Creek Boxing Academy and Head Coach Latu has 28 intermediate age boys in his class – our maximum number is 30.

Two of the local Police are assisting as coaches and are impressed with the boys who attend and the fact they want to be there! It is not easy to keep some youth engaged.

One of the local dads whose son is a member has shown great interest in the academy and Latu has decided to take him on as an assistant coach; so he will be starting his probationary coaching course shortly. This is exactly what we wanted – a home grown solution, independent of what we do here in Naenae, as much as is possible.

Latu has started approaching local colleges with a view to taking school classes at the gym during the day; he hopes to start these in the next few weeks.

Term One 2015 we will start our Fundamentals class – for nine to 10-year-old boys, introducing them to the disciplines of boxing, preparing them for Latu's current junior class. Then in 2016 some of the juniors will become seniors and we will then have the full range of classes operating.

We have our administrator/support person extraordinaire Fiona who is right there beside Latu, keeping the records and looking after the boys and their families. Fiona was born and bred in Cannons Creek and her youngest son is a member of the academy. Fiona also works as a part-time counsellor in Porirua and knows the folks so well. She is gentle but strong and a real find for the Cannons Creek Boxing Academy!

So it has been a very successful start to our second academy; our main task is to work with the children we have been given, to make a difference in their lives now and equip them for the future – to 'Make Champion Men'.

Thanks once again for all your support!  
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A new publicly owned entity has been formed to keep water flowing throughout the region and to ensure the region's water supply services are being managed as effectively and cohesively as possible.

Named Wellington Water, the new entity is a combination of Greater Wellington Regional Council's bulk water supply function and Capacity Infrastructure – the entity that currently manages the water functions of Hutt City Council, Upper Hutt City Council, Porirua City Council and Wellington City Council.

Wellington Water has been established to streamline and enhance services, and will manage bulk water, drinking water, storm water and waste water – with a regional focus.

Under this shared services model, the regional council and other councils will continue to own their water assets and determine their annual programme of work, but they will be managed by Wellington Water with a regional emphasis on quality service delivery. A joint Water Committee made up of representatives from the five shareholding councils will oversee the entity.

The integration of water services is part of a wider push by councils in the region to consider ways in which they can collaborate more effectively through shared services. This is part of an overall drive to develop more effective and efficient practices under the Local Government Act 2002. It is an example of the many opportunities for efficiency that exist across the region.

The establishment of Wellington Water not only offers a more streamlined water service, but also allows planning for future water development to be done at a regional level.

Councils around the country face similar challenges in terms of planning for future water use and the solution will increasingly require a strategic and integrated approach to managing the network infrastructure as a whole.

Population growth will require the Wellington region to increase our water

supply capacity at some stage in the future, which will require capital investment. Other aspects such as the national policy statement on freshwater and climate change will also impact on how the networks are managed in the long term. The regionalisation of water is about enhancing performance not just fixing a particular problem.

Integration of water services has very real benefits, especially in terms of coordination and forward planning. It means broader decisions can be made, taking into account the whole water cycle from source to sea. It will also mean less duplication of systems/resources and greater capacity to deal with emergencies.

The integration is an opportunity to align the activities of the regional council and each city council to provide a better service for the community. An improved ability to manage the whole water supply infrastructure in a strategic and integrated way, as well as the possibility of efficiency gains over the long term, are expected.

The public will also retain ownership of the regional council's bulk water supply infrastructure assets, such as water catchment areas, dams, reservoirs, water treatment plants, pumping equipment and pipes, valued at more than \$463 million. Public accountability will be further enhanced and political oversight maintained by the establishment of the Water Committee

The integrated structure will provide an opportunity for Wellington Water to become a leader in the management of water infrastructure, showcasing collaboration, innovation, industry best practice and be a preferred employer for scarce specialist resources.

For more information about the establishment of Wellington Water visit [www.wellingtonwater.co.nz](http://www.wellingtonwater.co.nz)

*Prue Lamason represents the Lower Hutt constituency on the Greater Wellington Regional Council. She also chairs the regional council's Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee and is Chair of Greater Wellington's Holding Company. Contact Prue.Lamason@gw.govt.nz*

Photo Courtesy of Craig McGhie Photography.

# THE RIGHT INGREDIENTS

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**Labour**

*Happy kids are such a tonic! To see the smiling faces of the boys at the Cannons Creek Boxing Academy is a dream come true and further proof, for those of us who need it, that the discipline of boxing, tempered with grace and caring, is a winner!*

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If I can be of any help with your real estate requirements, please give me a call, I would love to shout you a coffee and have a chat.

*Sally*

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