

TAUPŌ HIT TWICE IN ONE WEEK

THE TAUPŌ DISTRICT was hit with two major events in July as a wastewater pipe ruptured alongside Lake Terrace, followed by subsidence in the Invergarry Road area.

A water main broke just after 2pm on Tuesday July 2 causing a large washout on the lakefront. About an hour later, the footpath collapsed and took out a wastewater pipe causing wastewater to enter Lake Taupō.



Contractors and council staff joined forces to minimise the damage to our taonga, implementing pumps, closing streets and containing the damage.

Ngāti Tūwharetoa placed a rāhui from the northern end of Tapuaeharuru Bay and the Waikato River to Aratitia. The rāhui restricts public access to the immediate location of the incident to ensure workers a safe and

unimpeded area to operate in while work is underway. The Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board urged the community to respect the rāhui and to not gather any food – trout, kōura, watercress – until such time as the rāhui is lifted.

Later the same week, subsidence caused services to be cut off in Invergarry Road, with one house evacuated as a result. Again, contractors and council staff responded. Road

closures were put in place and regular updates kept the district informed of progress and what they could do to help, including minimising water usage during peak times.

While this was a largely negative situation for the Taupō District, many businesses and members of the community lent a hand with gestures of support to aid in assisting council and contractors where possible.



CONSERVATION WORK OF WAKA TIWAI

TAUPŌ MUSEUM IS not just looking after the place we love but looking after our taonga by undertaking restorative work on Waka Tiwai, which is housed in the museum's Tūwharetoa Room.

The waka was originally found at Opepe in the 1950's and was outside and exposed to the elements for decades next to the Taupō Police Station. It was relocated to Taupō Museum in 2006 and has become very fragile due to its age. It is at high risk of further deterioration and conservator Rose Evans and Tautahanga Rameka have been called upon to begin a project to preserve the waka. The first stage of this involved the removal of lichen and bacte-

rial growth, a slow and arduous process that must be carried out with great care to avoid damaging the waka itself.

The second stage of the process is consolidation, and this will begin on July 31. During this process a mixture of two solvents will be blended to create a consolidation formula that is then applied with syringes and brushes to the waka walls and hull where the cellular structure of the wood has deteriorated. During this consolidation stage the Tūwharetoa Gallery will be sealed, and the public will be restricted from entering, but the outcome will be taonga that many, many future generations will be able to enjoy.

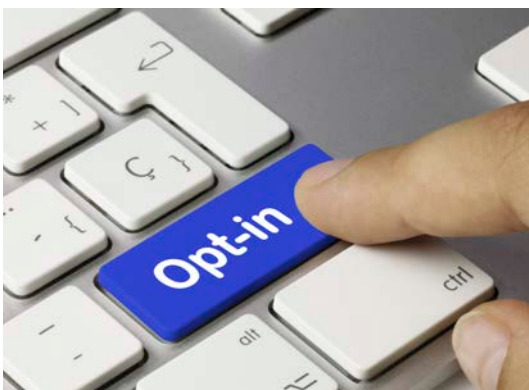
CHANGES TO WATER RATES

IF YOUR PROPERTY is connected to one of the 18 council water schemes, or if it can connect because the service is available, your rates invoice will include a water rate related to that scheme.

The cost to operate each scheme is covered only by properties that can connect or are connected to it, so smaller water schemes have less ratepayers to cover the costs and this is reflected in how much the water rate is. In recent years monitoring, maintenance and equipment costs have increased to cover the costs of ensuring the water provided to properties meets New Zealand's drinking water standards.

To keep water rates affordable for everybody throughout the district, council is going to investigate a district-wide water rate, where everyone pays the same or similar regardless of where the property is.

Look out for further information on this through the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan, where we will be asking you for your input.



OPT-IN FOR E-MAIL

Every year we send out over 90,000 pieces of mail – from rates notices to dog registrations and invoices – so there are 90,000 reasons to 'opt in' and receive all your communication via email.

Head of communications and customer relations Lisa Nairne said that while many people in the district had already chosen to opt in and switch to email, there were still quite a few relying

on physical mail-outs.

"With postal charges rising we're encouraging as many people as we can to opt in and help us reduce costs to ratepayers, but opting in also has a significant environmental impact so it's a win-win," she said.

To opt in, simply go to taupo.govt.nz/optin and have your customer services number handy.



TURANGI UPDATE

A stormwater filter has been installed in Kohineheke Reserve to prevent sediment, oil and debris from entering the local wetland ecosystem.

The filter intersects a main stormwater pipe that runs between the central business district and the reserve, and it works in tandem with the enviropods already installed in drains to collect floating litter before it reaches the stormwater network.

The device was included in the Long-term Plan 2018-2028 as part of council's commitment to looking after the environment, and a second device is planned for Turangi within the next few years.

COUNCIL BACKS VOTE 2019 CAMPAIGN

COUNCIL HAS CONFIRMED its participation in the Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) Vote 2019 campaign. The campaign aims to lift nationwide voter turnout in local elections and increase people's engagement with their local councils.

Local election turnout has been declining since the

1980s and only 42 per cent of New Zealanders voted in the 2013 elections, down from 49 per cent in 2010. In the Taupō District, just over 50 per cent of voters cast their ballot in 2016.

For more information on standing as a candidate visit taupo.govt.nz or vote2019.co.nz.



WE WILL SOON HAVE A NEW HOME!

THE DEVELOPMENT OF a new administration building in Tūwharetoa Street was confirmed by Council earlier this year.

Over 600 written submissions and more than 20 presentations from people taking the opportunity to present their thoughts to council face-to-face were taken into account, before the Tūwharetoa Street location was chosen and the decision was made that the building would include floor space for alternate uses, including a café and bus facilities, and the building is to be built to IL4 standard, the minimum required for a post-disaster facility.

To address concerns raised around car parking, 80 new in-berm car parks will be created in close proximity to the site and the building will include two levels of underground parking, resulting in a sizeable gain over the parking that currently exists. Work on the in-berm car parks will start in the next financial year.

These car parking elements were included in two separate Tūwharetoa Street options, which received 221 submissions – or over 34



per cent overall, slightly behind the 37.98 per cent of submissions to return to the previous administration building at 72 Lake Terrace.

During deliberations the Lake Terrace site was not chosen by Council due to the location requiring a resource consent, as it would be against the rules set out in the District Plan to rebuild outside of the CBD. This could have proven to be a lengthy and costly process and

is not in line with our vision of maintaining a vibrant town centre. It would also need to be publicly notified, with no certainty of success.

In addition to the new administration building, Council also decided a new museum and art gallery will be built on Tongariro Domain to create a 'cultural heart'. The intention is for two thirds of the museum and gallery build to be funded from external funding sources.


EVENTS

AUG		
3 Aug	Hoka One One Taupō Marathon, Tongariro North Domain	■
8 - 9 Aug	Dance NZ Made, Great Lake Centre	■
8 - 9 Aug	Women's Mid-Winter Pairs, Taupō Golf Course	■
21 Aug	The Merchant of Taupō Red Wine Expo, Great Lake Centre	■
23 Aug	Business Awards, Wairakei Resort	■
24 Aug	INBA Body Building, Great Lake Centre	■
25 Aug	Charter Parade, Great Lake Centre	■
29 - 31 Aug	Fly Fishing Tournament 2019, Huak Lodge	■
30 Aug	Creative Catwalk, Great Lake Centre	■
SEPT		
2 - 6 Sept	Secondary Schools Tournament Week, Hickling Park/ Crown Park	■
5 Sept	Taupō School of Music - Big Music Day, Great Lake Centre	■
7 Sept	Hoka One One Kinloch Offroad Challenge, Kinloch Domain	■
7 Sept	North Island Marching Championships, Taupō Events Centre	■
8 Sept	The Gambler, Craters of the Moon MTB Park	■
8 Sept	2019 Kawasaki Road Race Series, Bruce McLaren Motorsport Park	■
8 Sept	Going Bananas, Great Lake Centre	■
8 - 14 Sept	Jock Hobbs Memorial National U19s Rugby Tournament, Owen Delany Park	■
11 Sept	Operatunity - Daytime Concert Series, Great Lake Centre	■
13 Sept	Stars in Their Thighs, Great Lake Centre	■
15 Sept	Sing Creation, Great Lake Centre	■
17 Sept	A Taste of Ireland, Great Lake Centre	■
17 - 19 Sept	Te Taiopenga O Ngati Tuwharetoa Schools Kapa Haka Festival, Taupō Events Centre	■
19 Sept	Big Music Day, Great Lake Centre	■
20 - 22 Sept	Global Games - NZ Junior Rugby Festival, Owen Delany Park	■
21 - 22 Sept	Indoor Bowls Bonanza, Taupō Events Centre	■
28 - 29 Sept	2019 Sika Show & Competition, Great Lake Centre	■
28 - 29 Sept	Secondary Schools Junior Volleyball Tournament, Taupō Events Centre	■

OCT		
1 - 3 Oct	NZ Blood Service - Blood Drive, Great Lake Centre	■
11 - 13 Oct	McCartney Invitational Football Tournament, Crown Park	■
11 - 12 Oct	Salvation Army Indoor Bowls, Taupō Events Centre	■
12 - 13 Oct	Ultimate Frisbee Tournament, Owen Delany Park	■
12 Oct	Taupō Ultra Marathon, Kinloch Domain	■
16 Oct	Waste Free Living Workshop - With Kate Meads, Great Lake Centre	■
18 - 19 Oct	Spring Volleyball Tournament, Taupō Events Centre	■
24 Oct	Seniors Expo, Great Lake Centre	■
26 Oct	Omori Kuratau Labour Weekend Market, Omori Kuratau Town Hall, Omori/Kuratau	■
26 Oct	Eggtoberfest, Lake Maraetai Reserve, Mangakino	■
26 Oct	Dance NZ Made – North Island Exchange, Great Lake Centre	■
26 - 27 Oct	MX Fest, Digger McEwen Park	■
26 - 28 Oct	Graffiato Street Art Festival, Taupō CBD	■
26 - 30 Oct	The Original Gypsy Fair, Tongariro North Domain	■
27 Oct	Kinloch Market, Kinloch Domain	■
28 Oct	Targa Rally, Taupō CBD	■
31 Oct	Halloween Trick or Treat Celebration, Taupō CBD	■

■ Community ■ Sport ■ Arts

This information was correct at time of printing. For a complete list of up-to-date events, visit www.lovetaupō.com/events



COUNCIL WEBSITE UPGRADED

Earlier this year our website went through an upgrade to a new user-friendly look and feel.

Navigating through the site is simpler and clear with less mouse clicks required to get to your desired area. Any confusion of where to find content has been met with a site search function on the home page.

Mobile users will enjoy the clearer and more defined functionality; something lacking from our previous site.

All are welcome to have a look around and explore more on the unchanged address, taupo.govt.nz.