

Watch Taupō District Council meetings
live via webcam on www.taupo.govt.nz

NEWS FEED
Follow us on Facebook and
Twitter to receive extra
local news. The links are
on our website homepage
www.taupo.govt.nz

Connect

TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

MAY – JULY 2011

In the big league **Event organisers choose Taupō to host world-class events**



With the addition of top level rugby league to Taupō's event calendar, the district's position as New Zealand's events capital looks secure.

Last month, NRL team the **Hisense Cronulla Sharks** travelled to its adopted "home away from home" to play the Vodafone New Zealand Warriors in a deal that could last nine years.

Cronulla Sharks management signed a three-year contract to play one match each season in Taupō with a right of renewal for two further three-year terms. Sharks chairman Damien Irvine said Taupō's experience and ability to host big events made the decision easy.

Nearly 15,000 spectators, including 250 Australian rugby league fans, packed into Owen Delany Park for the game. Television coverage was broadcast in New Zealand, Australia, the UK and Asia.

On the same day, the **Avanti 100k Flyer** attracted 2500 cyclists to Taupō, so it was no surprise local businesses and hoteliers reported a "bumper weekend".

Another of the district's signature events, **Ironman New Zealand**, has confirmed Taupō will retain hosting rights for the next five years. IMNZ event director, Jane Patterson, says they knew they had a winner when they moved Ironman to Taupō in 1999. "Taupō has all the elements the event needs – a crystal clear lake, an ideal course, a welcoming town with welcoming citizens and lots of keen volunteers."



- 1 NRL fans Te Kapu and Ngahere Wall.
- 2 Sharks defend their home territory at OD Park.
- 3 The buzz of Ironman NZ will remain in Taupō for another five years.

inside... a word from CEO Rob Williams, new lakeside viewing platform, countdown to RWC 2011, the great web update, take a trip down Memory Lane, be prepared for emergencies, events calendar, A-Z of Council services



hi folks

It's the time of the year when Taupō district traditionally starts to relax a little following a busy and exciting summer events calendar. The last few months have been no different to previous years despite some concerns that the East Taupō Arterial would cause activity, especially in the township of Taupō, to decline.

We are currently completing our annual plan cycle and, this year, we have taken a very hard look at the things we do and the way we deliver our services. We finished our internal restructure a couple of months ago – it was a very testing process for our staff but I am optimistic that **the future looks good** for our organisation. We have around 50 less positions in our team but I am confident we will not reduce our service levels. We have removed around \$2.5 million from our salary costs and reduced other overhead budgets by an additional half a million. I feel this is a **success story for our ratepayers** and I welcome any feedback the new structure may produce.

A key vision for the Taupō district is to produce such a level of vibrancy and appeal, combined with local authority procedural support, that **new business is drawn here** bringing with it new jobs and a strong economy. I am pleased that we have managed to retain this focus during a period of economic stagnation without unreasonably adding to the financial burden of our ratepayers. These are indeed exciting times for our district as we look to climb out of this recessionary climate and into some positive economic growth. The next couple of years will be critical in assessing how successful we are in achieving those aims and the clear indication that the ETA is a success should only add to that feeling of optimism.

Rob Williams, Chief Executive
rwilliams@taupo.govt.nz

IN THE PIPELINE

Taupō's water treatment plant upgrade is now underway, with most of the pipes running from the lakefront up Rifle Range Road to Tamamutu Street now installed. The \$25.4 million project is using trenchless technology for laying underground pipework beneath roads and carparks without disturbing the surface above.

Construction of the new water main facility on the lakefront will begin in 2012. The upgrade is necessary to ensure the facility meets drinking water standards and can cope with peak demands during summer. Once complete in mid-2012, the new treatment plant will be capable of producing 25,000m³ of treated drinking water daily.

A **lakeside viewing platform** to be built above the treatment facility will be an ideal vantage point for events on the lake and has the potential for future additions such as a sculpture or water feature.



An artist's impression of what the viewing platform could look like

WWW

Want to know how your building consent is going? Need to find some details on a resource consent? Want to find the cemetery plot of a loved one and even view the headstone? Our website now gives you online access to resource consents, building consents, rating information, and cemetery plot records. Visit www.taupo.govt.nz and check out the online services menu on the right-hand side of the homepage.

Don't forget, not only are our Council meetings broadcast live on the web, they are also archived so you can watch at any time. Find the link on our homepage.

100 DAYS TO GO

On 1 June, there will be just 100 days remaining until the kick-off of Rugby World Cup 2011. To mark the countdown, a giant banner will be hung outside Taupō's Great Lake Centre ready to welcome visitors to town. The banner will feature our Taupō 2011 ambassador former All Black Sir Colin 'Pinetree' Meads, former Maori All Black Jim Maniapoto, Mayor Rick Cooper and Deputy Mayor Mike Downard. Here's a behind-the-scenes look at the photo shoot.



The 'models' take direction from photographer Sue Bunch.



Mike, Jim, Sir Colin and Rick: a formidable scrum!
[Jerseys on loan from Champions of the World]



MEMORY LANE

From just six primary school classes in 1949 with just over 200 pupils, Taupō grew quickly and a decade later the four schools had a total of 32 classes with over 1000 pupils.

Waipahihi School which opened in 1961 was Taupō's fourth school (after Taupo Primary, Tauhara Primary and Wairakei School).

"As the building of private houses moves away from the centre of town the schools on the fringes will naturally be those that grow rapidly. At present Tauhara and Wairakei schools are showing the greatest proportionate growth in rolls. At a later stage the growth will tend to increase in the Waipahihi area and probably later still [it] will move towards Acacia Bay."

Taupō Times, 16 September 1960

Waipahihi School 50th Jubilee, 20-22 May 2011



RWC 2011 ROADSHOW

Monday 18 July 6.30am-9.30am
Tongariro Domain

As part of a nationwide promotional tour, the RWC 2011 Roadshow will be in Taupō on 18 July. The exhibition will spill onto Tongariro Domain between 6.30am and 9.30am, showcasing and promoting the Tournament and will also feature the Webb Ellis Cup in the flesh.

The roadshow will also be promoting the REAL New Zealand Festival which is a series of events and activities throughout the country from 9 September to 23 October 2011. It will be a nationwide celebration of New Zealand arts, food and wine, heritage, culture, entertainment, business and lifestyle. The REAL Festival is for visitors and locals alike, and if it's quintessentially Kiwi, chances are it'll be there.

The RWC 2011 showcase event in Taupō will be televised live on TV One's *Breakfast* from 6.30am onwards with weather presenter Tamati Coffey. We encourage everyone to come down to the Tongariro Domain and celebrate with us. For more information, visit www.rugbyworldcup.com

TM © RWC Ltd 2008

GET READY, GET THRU

The devastating Christchurch earthquake is a huge reminder that we need to be prepared for emergencies. The **Taupō Emergency Planning Guide** is now available and contains information to help you keep yourself, your family and your property safe. It has advice on choosing evacuation points, creating emergency survival kits and where to get up-to-the-minute information during an emergency. It also has details about various natural disasters which can strike and what to do in each case.

To get your copy of the **Taupō Emergency Planning Guide**, visit Council reception or go to www.getthru.govt.nz

Mayor Rick Cooper

Deputy Mayor Michael Downard

Cr Keith Crate

Cr Rob Henderson

Cr Barry Hickling

Cr Chris Johnston

Cr Gary Keepa

Cr Anna Kirk

Cr Rex Mincher

Cr Kirsty Trueman

Cr Nicola Williams

Email your elected members at councillors@taupo.govt.nz

the events capital

May

- 2 Waikato/BOP MAGIC vs Central Pulse, ANZ Championship, Taupō Events Centre
- 6 Dirty Dusting, Great Lake Centre
- 7 Miss Taupō and Miss Teen Taupō, Great Lake Centre
- 7 Regional Display of Embroidery, Taupō Museum
- 13 NZ Clean Energy Centre open day
- 18 Top of the World Musical Extravaganza, Great Lake Centre
- 18 Coffee with Rick and Rob, Sierra Café
- 20 Taupō Youth Week (until 29 May)
- 21 Regional climbing competition, Taupō Events Centre rockwall
- 30 Jump Rope Championships, Taupō Events Centre

Magic moment

Can **Waikato/Bay of Plenty Magic** continue its magnificent ANZ Championship performances? With three Silver Ferns on board [Laura Langman, Irene van Dyk and Casey Williams], Magic fans are bound to see some **exhilarating netball**.

2 May, 7.40pm, Taupō Events Centre
www.ticketdirect.co.nz



Michael Bradley Photography

Pure energy

Check out New Zealand Clean Energy Centre's state-of-the-art new facility. The building demonstrates a wide range of clean energy technologies, and will serve as an event centre for seminars, workshops and conferences. The open day includes half-hourly guided tours and concludes with a concert featuring Kiwi musician Don McGlashan.

13 May, 10am - 4pm, corner of SH1 and SH5 (Napier-Taupō Highway)
www.nzcleanenergycentre.co.nz

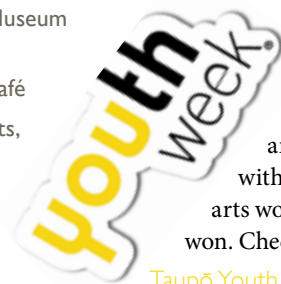
June

- 3 Matariki: Beacons of Light, Taupō Museum (until 12 July)
- 15 Coffee with Rick and Rob, Sierra Café
- 17 The Laughing Samoans Greatest Hits, Great Lake Centre
- 23 Ten Tenors, Great Lake Centre

Youth festival kicks off

Step up and be heard through youth week with festival celebrations planned and organised for youth by youth right here in Taupō. It's going to be a blast with live gigs, recording sessions, a dance comp' and a strobe rave, performing arts workshops, an art and photo expo, and an amazing race with great prizes to be won. Check out the full schedule on the Youthtown website.

Taupō Youth Festival, 20-29 May, www.youthtown.org.nz



July

- 2 North Island Cross Country Championships, Spa Park, Taupō
- 10 Brooks Off-road Half Marathon, Mount Tauhara
- 15 Navy Band Concert, Great Lake Centre
- 16/17 16th Annual Hobby Expo, Taupō Events Centre
- 20 Coffee with Rick and Rob, Sierra Café
- 20 Dorothy the Dinosaur, Great Lake Centre

For more events, visit www.eventscapital.co.nz

Toddler time! Every week (during term time), the Taupō and Turangi libraries host "Toddler Time" – stories, fun and activities for children under five. What a great way to introduce your child to the library – and it's free!

Taupō Library, 10.30am every Wednesday
 Turangi Library, 11.00am every Thursday



A to Z

• Council deals with everything from abandoned cars to water supply. Check out this list!

- Abandoned cars, AC Baths, airport, animal control, annual plans, arts and culture, boat storage, building consents, building control, buskers and street activities, bus service, cemeteries, civic events, community development, community halls, community liaison, cycling tracks, Destination Lake Taupō, dog control, economic development, elections, erosion control, emergency management, environmental health, footpaths, funding and grants, gambling control, graffiti, Great Lake Centre, hazardous substances information, health licensing, heritage, housing for the elderly, Iwi liaison, land information memorandum (LIM), landfill, landscaping and streetscaping, libraries, liquor licensing, mobile shops and trading in public places, motor camps, museum, noise control, outdoor recreation facilities, Owen Delany Park, parks and reserves, parking, policy development, property enquiry system, public swimming pools, public toilets, rates, refuse and recycling, resource consents, roading, rural fire, safer communities, sports grounds, stormwater, strategic planning, swimming pool fencing, Taupō Events Centre, Taupō District Plan, Taupō Museum, Taupō Venues, tree control, urban search and rescue, visitor centres, webcam, wastewater, water conservation, water supply.

"Home away from home"
 for the Cronulla Sharks
www.taupovenues.co.nz