

connect

weekly



GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ
Taupō District Council

COMMUNITY NEWS WITH TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL 8 APRIL 2016



IT'S ANNUAL PLAN TIME!

It's hard to believe it has already been a year since we asked for feedback on our Long-term Plan for 2015-2025! Over the past 12 months we have been busy implementing the first year of that plan, now it's time to look to what we said we would do in year two – 2016/17.

Due to a law change, we now only need to consult on any significant changes we are proposing from what we indicated in the Long-term Plan for the year.

The good news is we are only proposing to make a major change to one of our projects, extending the Taupō water supply to Waitahanui. We were successful in applying for a \$1.942 million Ministry of

Health subsidy to extend the water supply to all properties at Waitahanui but feedback from residents was that the cost was too high when spread across a small number of properties, and some residents wanted to retain bore water.

Since then, we have been investigating ways to fund the \$1.033 million shortfall for the project to proceed and secure a quality water supply for generations to come.

More information on the proposed changes can be found in the consultation document which is available online at www.taupo.govt.nz or at your nearest council office. All of the information will also be printed in the Taupō Times on Friday, April 15.

Submissions can be made until 5pm on May 6.



TWO TAUPŌ DISTRICT GREATS



It was my pleasure to meet with the Governor-General of New Zealand, Sir Jerry Mateparae, this week when he was in the Taupō District to get a taste of our local industry, tourism and hospitality.

His Excellency and his wife, Lady Janine Mateparae, were in Taupō and Turangi as part of their farewell tour, so to speak. I had a conversation with Sir Jerry when I met him in Wellington last year and he mentioned he'd like to get up to Taupō so it was fantastic he was finally able to experience our beautiful district in an official capacity.

As part of the trip, Their Excellencies visited Hirangi Marae, where they were joined by myself and paramount chief Sir Tumu te Heuhe, and took a trip out on the lake to Mine Bay to see the Māori rock carvings during their stay. What a great way to experience our culture and our famous Taupō District hospitality!

Sir Jerry actually has some close ties with our district – he's a descendent of our own Ngāti Tūwharetoa and, no doubt for him, it was something of a homecoming. He told me his mother is from Waitahanui and his father is from Tokaanu, so he's very comfortable here in the district. He's got very fond memories of Taupō and I can see why – he fits right in here – he's a very down-to-earth, nice guy with no airs and graces.

There was also a sad note to the week with the passing of esteemed Taupō playwright, poet and author Rowley Habib. The Governor-General actually mentioned he had read a lot of Mr Habib's work, which shows how far and wide it was appreciated. Mr Habib made a huge impact on the literary and performance arts world and his contribution to Māori arts was recognised by many over the years. He was born in Oruanui in 1933 and died on Sunday, marking the end of a remarkable life. I express my heartfelt condolences to his friends and whanau – it is a great loss for our district and New Zealand.

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INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE 2016/17 ANNUAL PLAN

1.1%

The amount the average rates increase has been reduced to compared to 2.42 per cent proposed in the Long-term Plan.

80%

The number of residential ratepayers set to get a decrease.

\$10 million

How much less debt we are expecting to have at the end of 2016/17 compared to the Long-term Plan.



PIRATE DAY @ ACACIA BAY

Ahoy, matey! Are you as excited about our new pirate playground as we are?

If you've driven past Besley Park in Acacia Bay over the last few weeks, you might have seen our amazing new pirate ship playground. It's a beauty!

Our ship was made especially for our land lubber kids and was finished in March. We know kids from not only Acacia Bay but all around Taupō have already been enjoying it – and some of you old seadogs too!

To celebrate the construction of the new playground, we're holding a pirate party on site in Besley Park. We want you to dress up in pirate costumes, eye patches and all, and come along to experience the new playground for a day of pirate fun!

There will be a treasure hunt, booty for best dressed, pirate impressions, a sausage sizzle and plenty more pirate fun. Shiver me timbers!

Our pirate party will be held next Saturday, April 16 from 10am to 1pm. Come and join us!

WHERE Besley Park
WHEN 10am-1pm, April 16
WHO Pirates young and old
WHY To celebrate our pirate ship playground

HOLIDAY FUN!

AT TAUPŌ MUSEUM AND DISTRICT LIBRARIES

18-29 APRIL 2016

Wondering what you're going to do with the kids these school holidays? We have the solution for you!

Bring them down to Taupō Museum or Taupō, Turangi or Mangakino library for arts and crafts, fun with books, games and more.

These school holidays run from April 18 to 29 and at Taupō Library and Museum there's something on every week day throughout. And they're all free!

These include guided activities like learning to knit, creating rock art, making origami and recycled robots, stitching bird felts and making nature portraits using fallen leaves. We also have self-guided activities including a pirate hunt, old school games, art activities and colouring.

Down in Turangi we have story-telling, a whanau games day, movies and mobile-making, and in Mangakino our kids can learn yarn craft, watch a movie or enjoy some colouring in. Phew, what a line up!

For some of our activities at Taupō Library or the museum, children need to book out a space in advance as places are limited. You can do this by calling into the library or museum or calling us on 07 376 0414. You can see the full school holiday programme on www.taupo.govt.nz/libraries.



What's on?

- 12 April** Shakespeare Globe Theatre New Zealand South Waikato Regional Shakespeare Festival, Taupō-nui-a-tia College
- 13 April** Leading The Charge Road Trip, Northcroft Reserve
- 16 April** Great Lake Cat Show, Great Lake Centre
- 16 April** Taupō Te Wheke Challenge, Lake Taupō
- 18-29 April** Holiday Fun! School holiday programme, Taupō District Libraries and Taupō Museum

For more information on Taupō District events visit www.GreatLakeTaupo.com

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

For more information call 07 376 0899 or go to www.taupo.govt.nz



Mayor David Trewavas

Dep Mayor Barry Hickling

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Cr Rosanne Jollands

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Cr Zane Cozens

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