



NOMINATIONS OPEN NEXT WEEK FOR ELECTIONS

Local Elections 2016
**YOUR VOTE
YOUR COMMUNITY**

Have you got what it takes to help look after the place we love? Budding local government candidates who believe they do can put their hand up to run in the 2016 local elections when nominations open next Friday, July 15.

Elected roles up for grabs in October's election include the district's mayor and councillors, regional councillors, community board members and members of district health Boards.

There are only a couple of requirements candidates need to meet to be eligible to stand for election - to be enrolled as a parliamentary elector anywhere in New Zealand and be a New Zealand citizen. Once eligible, candidates need to be nominated by two electors whose names appear on the electoral roll for the Taupō District. They'll need to do this before nominations close at noon on Friday August 12.

Democracy and community engagement manager Tina Jakes said local elections give people a chance to play an significant role in the future of our district. "Successful candidates will get to make important decisions about issues that affect our community over the next three years and will have a say in shaping the Taupō District for our residents and visitors for generations to come."

Candidate nomination forms will be available from next Friday on our website, from our offices in Taupō, Turangi and Mangakino or by phoning 0508 440 010. Candidate Handbooks that include information on the different roles and rules around campaigning are also available.

KEY DATES FOR THIS YEAR'S LOCAL ELECTIONS

- 15 JUL** Nominations open for candidates. Nominations must be sent to the electoral officer for the council, district health board. Rolls open for inspection at council offices.
- 12 AUG** Nominations rolls close at noon. After this date, anyone who is entitled to vote and who is not enrolled as an elector, or whose details are incorrectly recorded on the roll, will have to cast a 'special vote.'
- 17 AUG** Election date and candidates' names published by electoral officers.
- 16-21 SEPT** Voting documents delivered. Electors can post the documents back to electoral officers as soon as they have voted.
- 08 OCT** Voting closes at 12 noon. Preliminary results will be available as soon as possible afterwards once all 'ordinary' votes are counted.
- 13-19 OCT** Official results (including all valid ordinary and special votes) declared.

HOLIDAY FUN COMES TO TAUPŌ LIBRARY AND TAUPŌ MUSEUM



Kids fancy learning about arts and crafts? How about taking part in a Harry Potter quiz or exploring the museum at night?

They can do it all these holidays with Taupō Library and Taupō Museum through their winter school holiday programme.

There's something on at the library or museum every week day from Monday until Thursday, July 21.

In the first week kids can make Matariki memory jars for a night time light display at the museum, create a pop-up village out of paper, learn about caring for animals with The Pet Shop Taupō, decipher puzzles and learn the ancient art of quilling.

The following week features fabric yarn, making dream catchers, rock art, a writing workshop and on Thursday, July 21, the great Harry Potter Family Quiz Night! It'll be great family fun, with teams of four to six dressing up in Harry Potter costumes and bringing a plate for the banquet table. The quiz will test your knowledge of The Chamber of Secrets and is sure to be a fun evening.

Some activities require bookings, so check out the holiday programme to see if you need to register.

There's plenty happening at Turangi Library too - so the kids at the southern end of the lake can join in the whanau games day, go along to storytelling events - including one with local storyteller Hinepaaka - create a paper korowai and learn about Matariki. Families can also come along to Manu Tukutuku and create a beautiful kite to take home! Spaces are limited for this event, so be sure to register with the library.

In Mangakino, we've got colour and paper craft, yarn craft and movie days.

Visit www.taupo.govt.nz/libraries for more information or pop into your local library for a flyer.

CAFÉ EMBRACES TE REO

Walk into Replete Café and Delicatessen this week and you'll probably be greeted in te Reo, see Māori language signage and Māori-themed cupcakes on the counter.

The café is taking on the challenge to incorporate te Reo into their service this week with the second annual Taupō District Café Wero. The initiative is being run during Māori Language Week, which is on until Sunday.

Replete owner Chris Johnston said he decided to take part because it was a great initiative that taught people about an important element of the community.

He said when he was growing up he learned about the British empire in school, rather than New Zealand's culture and history.

"I think it's important we change that whole mindset and actually focus back on our own country," he said. "We have our own cultural language and I'd love to learn it."

He said his team was right behind it and they had enjoyed taking up the challenge.

Replete employee Toni Davis said it was important to embrace the culture and she was keen to help out. "It's a shame that we only do one week of the year - we have so many backpackers and foreign visitors coming through and it's sharing our knowledge and culture," she said. "It's beautiful to hear people speaking Māori."



KIDS VOTING

While they won't be able to vote in this year's local elections, our young people are the voters of the future. That's why kiwi students are getting the chance to experience the election process to get them ready to vote when they reach 18-years-old.

The Kids Voting initiative is aimed at 11-15 year old students (school years 7 to 10) to experience the election process first hand. They'll get to discuss and consider key issues, vote for candidates on real issues, and will be able to compare their results against the official election results once finalised.

Teachers can download a Guide to Kids Voting and get further information on how to register their school from elections.org.nz/resources-learning/school-resources.

What's on?

- 9 July** Michaela's Storytime for children and caregivers, Taupō Library
- 14-17 July** Taupō Winter Festival, Taupō - including Ebbett Taupō Ice Slide, Lantern Making Workshop, Unison Light Trail, Chateau Tongariro Mid-Winter Swim and River Shiver and much more. www.taupowinterfestival.co.nz/

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
Cr John Boddy
Cr Bernhard Chrustowski
Cr Rosie Harvey
Cr Rosanne Jollands
Cr Anna Park
Cr John Williamson
Cr Zane Cozens
Cr Maggie Stewart
Cr Kirsty Trueman