



DOG ADOPTIONS ON THE RISE

The number of dogs adopted from the Taupō pound has soared to over 140 in the last year – a 32 per cent increase on the previous year.

One of those adopted was black labrador Knight, who found a new home with Tihoi woman Jo Nickalls last September. Knight was one of 142 dogs rehomed in the 12 months to May 31, compared to 107 dogs the previous year.

“I saw Knight on the Taupō District Council Adopt-a-Dog Facebook page and as soon as I saw him I thought, we have to have that dog. He belongs with us,” Jo said. “I was drawn to his big loving eyes. He’s just a big softie, and he’s fitted in with us really well.”

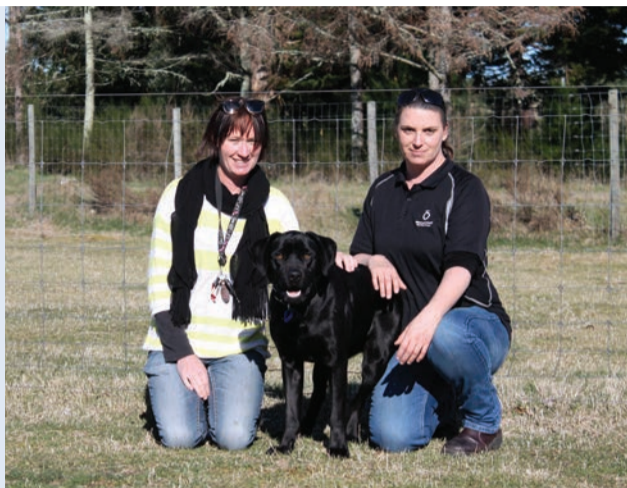
Knight is learning some skills from the Nickalls family’s 12-year-old labrador, so when the time comes Knight can take over the job of guard dog.

“Life wouldn’t be the same without him, and we can’t imagine it,” Jo said.

Jo and her family live rurally, and she said Knight – who is now 18-months-old – is learning the ropes on the farm.

“He’s a very energetic young puppy who likes to help – or hinder – with the stock,” she laughed. “He gets very excited, barking at the right or wrong time, but he’s still learning.”

Knight is one of several success stories of dogs adopted from the pound. They come in all shapes and sizes and we always have new dogs coming through that need forever homes.



Pictured: Jo Nickalls and Knight with poundkeeper Amanda Parish.

Our poundkeeper Amanda Parish said the number of dogs being rehomed was also thanks to hard work from community groups like Community Animal Rescue and Education (CARE), Taupō and Turangi SPCAs and people willing to welcome dogs into their lives.

“We’ve had phenomenal support from these agencies, and they’ve taken in many dogs for us and rehomed them,” she said. “The community has been amazing with increased awareness of what we are trying to achieve, and we are so thankful to them for giving rescue dogs a second chance.”

ONE WEEK TO GET YOUTH AWARDS NOMINATIONS IN



Time is running out to nominate young people for the Taupō District Youth Awards.

Nominations close on Monday, August 29 at 5pm.

Young people in years seven to 13 can be nominated in one of five categories: arts, academic, sports, innovation and resilience. The categories are split into three age groups: years 7-8, years 9-11 and years 12-13.

This year there are two sports awards – one for a young person who has excelled in an individual sport and one for someone who has excelled in a team sport.

A panel of judges will select a winner and runner-up for each of these age groups.

There is an award for leadership for each age group and an award for overall all-rounder, with the winners of these chosen from the other five categories.

Parents, friends, teachers, coaches and club or organisation leaders can nominate young people for an award and nominations are open to any student living in the Taupō District, even if they attend school outside the district.

Visit www.taupo.govt.nz to nominate a talented young person.



LIGHTING UP CROWN PARK

Crown Park is going to be a brighter place to play sport at night courtesy of new flood lighting being installed over the next month.

The training lights around field two are being upgraded and an extra row of lights is being added on field three to allow more space for teams to train at night.

The work will not affect the fields, as contractor Energy Services will be working around the edges of the playing areas to install the lighting. Sportsground supervisor Ben Sherriff said the lighting would provide a better quality of visibility and surface to play and train on.

“Previously we only had one field available for training at night because this was the only one that was adequately lit,” he said. “The surface of this field hasn’t had time to recover because of all the foot traffic, and the new lighting will see teams spread out and allow this to take place.”

Taupō Football Club is the biggest user of the fields, with about 50 junior teams and four senior teams. There are also coaching clinics for football and school holiday programmes held at Crown Park that will benefit from the lighting upgrade.

“The lighting will turn one of our good sporting venues into a great one that can be used by other groups in the off-season,” Ben said. “We’ve had really positive feedback from teams and clubs that use the fields – it’s something they are looking forward to.”

Work began on to install the lighting this month and will be completed mid-September.

CHINESE TOURISTS ON THEIR WAY TO TAUPŌ

The first group of Chinese tourists from the Shaoxing 1000 tourist promotion is arriving in the Taupō District this weekend.

The initiative to see at least 1000 people from the Chinese city visit the district was launched during a trade delegation visit to Shaoxing in May.

The delegation profiled the Taupō District and explored opportunities that exist with New Zealand’s second largest trading partner.

The Shaoxing Overseas Association of New Zealand has coordinated the initiative, which will bring with it a number of economic benefits.

Acting business and technology group manager Chloe Walker said the arrival of the 15 visitors from Shaoxing was an exciting first step.

“Our visitors will be accompanied by another 25 people from the Shaoxing New Zealand Association who are based here in New Zealand and it will be a great boost for our economy and our reputation as a great place to visit,” she said.

Those visiting with the association will be installing a calligraphy exhibition at Taupō Library during their stay.

The 40 visitors will stay for two days and receive a powhiri on arrival.

What's on?

- 22 Aug** Playday on Track – Bikes, Bruce McLaren Motorsport Park
- 24 Aug** The Merchant Wine, Craft Beer and Food Expo, Great Lake Centre
- 30 Aug** Council meeting, Council Chamber
- 3 Sept** Hoka One One Kinloch Offroad Challenge, Kinloch
- 9 Sept** Menopause the Musical – On Fire, Great Lake Centre

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

STAY IN TOUCH WITH US

Taupō District Council, Private Bag 2005, Taupō 3352
info@taupo.govt.nz
Ph +64 7 376 0899 or 0800 ASK TDC
Fax +64 7 378 0118
www.taupo.govt.nz

Taupō Main Office, 72 Lake Terrace, Taupō
Ph +64 7 376 0899 Fax +64 7 378 0118

Turangi Office, Town Centre, Turangi
Ph +64 7 386 7017 Fax +64 7 386 8449

Mangakino Office, Civic Centre, Rangātira Drive
Ph +64 7 882 8700 Fax +64 7 882 8330

Taupō District Council

@Taupo_DC on Twitter