



## CHINESE VISITORS WELCOMED

A calligraphy exhibition launched by a group from our Chinese friendship city is now on at Taupō Library.

The exhibition was installed in conjunction with a group visiting as part of the Shaoxing 1000 tourist initiative that aims to see at least 1000 of its residents visit our district. Twenty exchange students from Shaoxing University who are teaching Chinese calligraphy at Auckland University assembled the exhibition ahead of its opening on Monday.

The Shaoxing Overseas Association of New Zealand coordinated the initiative, and spokesman Jacky Zeng said it was important for both districts.

“It is my honour to encourage these cities to have more cultural and educational exchanges,” he said. “Tourism is the first step to know each other and encourage better understanding of the two cities.”

He said local businesses had been pleased to see the group, and similarly the Chinese visitors appreciated what the Taupō District had to offer.

“It’s extremely different to all of our Chinese cities. It’s all natural here and it leaves a good impression,” he said.

Acting business and technology group manager Chloe Walker said it was great to be able to host the group.



*Pictured: Te Kura o Waitahanui student Chase Wall-Colvin tries calligraphy at Taupō Library.*

“It is fantastic to see the cultural and economic benefits from our relationship with Shaoxing growing, and we love welcoming the visitors to our beautiful district,” she said.

The exhibition runs until Saturday, September 3. Entry is free.

## CRAFTY BITS AND PIECES WANTED



Are you clearing out your craft cupboard? Or perhaps you have some crafty bits and pieces you no longer need. The staff at Taupō Museum and Library would love to take them off your hands!

A number of free activities for children are run at the museum and library each year, and the majority of these activities incorporate donated art and craft supplies.

“Using donated materials enables us to run a wide range of children’s activities for free,” museum and library education officer Claire Griffiths said. “We’re grateful for any items, but would especially love materials such as fabric, wool, yarn, ribbons, trims, buttons, sequins, beads and glitter, as well as coloured paper or cardboard, pipe cleaners, pencils, crochet hooks and paint brushes.”

Donated craft materials can be dropped off at Taupō Museum during the usual opening hours of 10am to 4.30pm. While you’re there, why don’t you check out some of the great exhibitions currently on display. Entry is free to children and Taupō District residents with proof of address.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT REID'S FARM?

Reid’s Farm is currently getting a bit of a spruce up to ensure it’s ready for summer.

The reserve has been closed to campers since June 20 so remedial work could be completed. It has remained open during the day for visitors, and our team has been busy trimming trees, spraying weeds and eradicating pests ahead of Reid’s Farm being reopened for camping on October 1.

Some self-seeded fruit trees have been removed and a more suitable native species will be planted in their place. The minimal fruit from these trees was attracting rats and birds that then scattered more unwanted seeds throughout Reid’s Farm.

Acting operational services manager John Ridd said a number of noxious weeds that were a potential hazard for those using the reserve have also been removed.

“Some trees that were growing along the embankment are considered an invasive species that isn’t native to New Zealand. Many of these self-seeded trees had multiple signs of decay,

along with broken branches and large thorns and were leaning over camp sites causing a significant hazard.

Willow trees that are considered a pest species by Waikato Regional Council have also been removed.”

Mr Ridd said any decision to remove trees will fall in favour of retaining native vegetation rather than introduced weed or pest species, and the removal of trees should allow native plants to flourish on the reserve.

Over the next month further trees will be removed and tree trimming work will be taking place near the river to make the area safer for swimmers.

A review of the reserve’s management plan is underway, with a working group currently considering responses to a survey asking the public how Reid’s Farm should be managed in the future.



## SECTIONS AVAILABLE IN BOTANICAL HEIGHTS

New sections in Botanical Heights are now on the market, with prices starting at \$230,000.

Section sizes will range from 700m<sup>2</sup> to 1100m<sup>2</sup> to suit a variety of buyers and have been designed to provide views of either Lake Taupō or Mount Tauhara and in some cases sections have views of both. Each piece of land is flat or gently sloping which will allow for easy building and ongoing maintenance.

Work on this stage of the small-scale development in the now well-established neighbourhood off Arrowsmith Avenue is expected to be completed in early 2017.

We are selling the sections to maximise return on surplus residential land currently owned by the council.

## What's on?

- 30 Aug** Council meeting, Council Chamber
- 3 Sep** Hoka One One Kinloch Offroad Challenge, Kinloch
- 9 Sept** Menopause the Musical – On Fire, Great Lake Centre
- 11 Sept** Whakaipo Bay Community Planting Day, Whakaipo Bay Recreational Reserve
- Until 12 Sept** People, Pots and Places exhibition, Taupō Museum
- Until 12 Sept** Print Still Works exhibition, Taupō Museum

\* For more information on Taupō District events visit [www.GreatLakeTaupo.com](http://www.GreatLakeTaupo.com)

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