

# connect



GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ  
Taupō District Council

COMMUNITY NEWS WITH TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL 9 NOVEMBER 2018



## RUAPEHU AND PAORA HAPI UPGRADE COMPLETE

The opening of the new intersection of Ruapehu Street and Paora Hapi Street was celebrated last Friday, alongside the team at Streetwise and contractors Higgins.

Landscape architect Fraser Scott was pleased with the outcome of the upgrade, which is in line with other areas of the CBD which have already had this type of work completed.

"It really helps to continue the story of how much we love this place."

"We've had some really positive feedback from business owners and residents" he says.

"This intersection now has improved vision for both drivers and pedestrians, it's now a safer environment and that's always a better outcome for all. The additional seating and pedestrian friendly spaces help create a more liveable environment."

Taupō District Mayor David Trewavas was on hand for the formal part of the morning with a ribbon-cutting ceremony taking place to officially conclude the festivities.



## WATER SAFETY FOR SUMMER

Several local Taupō businesses and individuals attended a Water Safety forum at AC Baths last week, with discussions aimed at how we can lower drowning numbers in New Zealand.

One pleasing thing was the amount of individuals who attended with a positive outlook, wanting to put their heads together to educate not just our families, but also visitors to our region against the dangers our waterways present.

In Lake Taupō, the numbers in regards to drowning are minimal, however the same can't be said for other waterways, with rivers in particular highlighted as an area of concern.

From 2008 to 2017, 42 per cent of drownings in the Waikato area was in rivers, with 11 per year in the wider Waikato area.

In line with this, lifeguards from around the district will be in Mangakino hosting a morning on November 12 to encourage and discuss water safety in the region with an education session. This will include the use of lifejackets, general water safety and how to rescue yourself and others in and around the water. This training will go a long way to ensure users of the new pontoon in Lake Maraetai will get to enjoy it safely.

This session is a timely reminder for us all to keep an eye out and look after each other when in and around the water this summer.

» WATER SAFETY EDUCATION SESSION  
All welcome • Mangakino, 12 November 2018

## » WHAT'S ON?

- Nov 10 Folk Blues Uke Legends, Rotary House, Taupō
- Nov 10-11 River Wild – Raft n Ride event, Tongariro River, Turangi
- Nov 10-11 Two Rooks Cola Drift Matsuri, Bruce McLaren Motorsport Park
- Nov 11 Armistice Day, Taupō Museum
- Until Nov 11 Suzhou: Faith and Life – CLOSING SOON! Taupō Museum
- Nov 12 Water Safety Education Session, Mangakino Pool, Mangakino
- Nov 14 Social Climbers – A Roger Hall comedy, Great Lake Centre

For more information visit [www.GreatLakeTaupo.com](http://www.GreatLakeTaupo.com)

### MAYOR PROFILE

This week in our profile of your elected representatives is Taupō District Mayor, David Trewavas.



Last but by no means least in our profiles of your elected members is David Trewavas, Mayor of Taupō and – for many people – the face of Taupō too.

David first entered Council in 2001, served as deputy Mayor from 2004 to 2007, and was elected Mayor in 2013, but his involvement in the community goes back much longer. "My father and mother were very involved in their local community

and I followed suit," he says, "working with local schools and trusts and in sports administration. But I'd always been interested in politics, so when I was encouraged to put my name forward for Council I thought why not?"

Since then local government has become his passion. "I'm a 'people person', so what I like most about my role is meeting with the people of the district. I worked as a stock agent in Hawkes Bay, and then joined the family retail business in Taupō, and that has made me look at things from a very broad perspective. I think that helps me to see issues from both sides, and that is vital."

This background also means that Mayor Trewavas recognises the role of business in building a strong community, and he is proud that Taupō's GDP has risen steadily in the last five years. "If people have good jobs, they can live good lives," he says.

"Taupō is transitioning from a small provincial town to a 'mini metro'. We've got an AA credit rating and have secured events like the IRONMAN World Champs, and that growth is good, but we have to manage it the 'Taupō Way'. That means making sure we look after our people and we look after our environment. We also just won the Keep New Zealand Beautiful award for best large town, and I want it to stay that way, so for me our goal should be a metropolitan lifestyle, with a small town feel. And with the great people of Taupō, Turangi, Mangakino and the district, and the great potential we have here, we can make that goal a reality."