

kōrero

Weekly



TAUPŌ MOANA
Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Taupō

COMMUNITY NEWS WITH TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL 13 MUHURU 2019

CONSERVATION WEEK IN Taupō



THIS YEAR, AOTEAROA celebrates 50 years of Conservation Week.

Every year Conservation Week sees thousands of New Zealanders getting involved through doing conservation activities at home or attending one of many events hosted across the country. The Taupō District is no different, with many events planned for this year. We would love you to join us in partnering with one of these events and help us look after the place we love.

We're getting involved not only by organising some of the events, but also taking part in a staff litter pick-up event of our own for a couple of hours.

There is always something we can do to help look after our environment, on top of picking up after ourselves and each other. More than 4,000 of our native animals and plants threatened or at risk.

We would encourage everyone to get involved, whether it's attending an event or starting something at home to do your bit.

You can find out more on our Council social media pages or online at taupo.govt.nz/refuseandrecycling.

To learn more about the week, go to conservationweek.org.nz.

CONSERVATION WEEK EVENTS

- Sep 14 **Clean up Week litter pick-up,** Taupō lakefront
- Sep 14 **Weeds Workshop with Project Tongariro,** Turangi
- Sep 15 **Clean up Week litter pick-up,** Te Kapua Park, Turangi
- Sep 17 **Wicked Weeders meet Geothermal Plants,** Kefi at the Hub
- Sep 17-18 **Tuna Times at Tiny Toes,** Turangi library
- Sep 18 **Dawn Chorus Hikoi/Dusk Manu - Birdwatching,** Opepe Memorial Site

MASTER PLAN TO DEVELOP WAIORA HOUSE SITE

THE DEVELOPMENT OF a master plan for the Waiora House site on Spa Road has been approved, following the demolition of the building.

Waiora House had been home to a number of social services and community groups and was demolished following the discovery of asbestos and a full assessment of its condition late last year.

With the clearance of contamination now confirmed, it was decided at the August Council meeting to move forward with the master plan, including provision for a youth hub which had been included in the 2018-28 Long Term Plan.

Head of community, culture and heritage Dylan Tahau said this was a positive move forward for the site which formed an important part of Taupō's history.

"The safety of our community was paramount throughout this, and now that the site has been cleared and our testing has shown it is free from contamination, it is time for us to look at the next chapter for this site," Mr Tahau said.

Development of the master plan will begin in the coming months with input from the Waiora Community Trust, its tenants and the wider community.

IMPROVEMENTS TO INTERSECTION OF KIDDLE, ARROWSMITH AND NAPIER UNDERWAY

THE INTERSECTION OF Kiddle Drive, Arrowsmith Avenue and Napier Road is about to be changed to make it safer for school children, cyclists, pedestrians and cars.

Head of operations Kevin Strongman said the council had heard residents concerns about the high crash rate at the intersection and had worked with traffic specialists to design a solution that made safety the number one priority.

The new design will give traffic travelling on Kiddle Drive and Arrowsmith Avenue the right of way, with vehicles on Napier Road required to stop. There will also be cycle lanes, new road signage, new turning lanes and other safety improvements added.

The \$120,000 cost of the redesign will be fully funded by the New Zealand Transport Agency with work now underway and expected to take six weeks to complete.

» WHAT'S ON?

- Sep 14 Greening Taupo Community Planting day, Hipapatua/Reids Farm
- Sep 14 Taupo Blue Light – Drive in movie, Waipahihi Reserve
- Until Sep 14 Jock Hobbs Memorial U19 Rugby Tournament, Owen Delany Park
- Sep 15 Sing Creation, Great Lake Centre
- Sep 17 A Taste of Ireland, Great Lake Centre
- Sep 17-19 Te Taiopenga O Ngāti Tūwharetoa Schools Kapa Haka Festival, Taupō Events Centre
- Until Sep 23 Small Worlds, Taupō Museum

For more information visit www.lovetaupo.com



PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCLOSE TURANGI FINANCIALS

A PUBLIC MEETING will be held in Turangi on Tuesday, September 17, to inform the community about the results of the independent financial and rating analysis it requested in February.

The meeting at 5.30pm at the Senior Citizens Hall will be hosted by council with presentations from contractors PriceWaterhouseCoopers, who were initially chosen to undertake the project. The independent chair of the council's audit and risk committee, Anthony Byett, will also attend.

Mr Byett said Turangi residents asked for an

independent, external expert to be engaged to analyse the council's finances and rates, with a specific focus on Turangi.

The report would provide clarification of financial and rating data and would be made public at the meeting, he said.

A financial and rating analysis for Turangi was approved by Taupō District Council to determine expenditure in the settlement after concerns were raised by residents at a public meeting in March.