

WAITANGI TAUPŌ MOANA FESTIVAL RETURNS TO TAUPŌ

The Waitangi Taupō Moana festival is back for 2020, with an exciting and diverse line-up of iconic and internationally renowned kiwi bands and artists.

House of Shem and Annie Crummer will join Hollie Smith – one of New Zealand’s most well-known soul and jazz singers - as well as fellow kiwi artists The Brown Brothers and The Beat Girls.

They will be supported by an impressive line-up of local artists including local acts including multi-cultural performing arts groups. Due to illness, LaTasha Lee – who was originally part of the line-up – has had to cancel her appearance.

The festival will be held from midday to 5pm on Thursday, February 6 at Riverside Park, Taupō. The day will also feature free waka ama rides, children’s fun zone, food stalls, as well as a catered kaumatua area.

Chairman of Nukuhau Marae, Dominic Bowden said Nukuhau Marae are excited to work alongside Taupō District Council to deliver this kaupapa.

“It’s a great opportunity to celebrate our community’s cultural diversity and promote whakawhanaungatanga,” he said.

Mayor David Trewavas said he was looking forward to the festival and hoped there would be great support for the Waitangi Day celebrations.

“We are looking forward to co-hosting this year’s event alongside our event partners Nukuhau Pā, which always sees



thousands of people coming along to enjoy the entertainment, games and music,” he said. “We really want to encourage people from every corner of our district to come along to celebrate our national day.”

In the past, over 3,000 people have attended, including large contingents from Turangi and Mangakino. Free shuttles to and from the event will operate from these centres. Numbers are limited and those interested must register at the Turangi and Mangakino service centres.

Picnic lunches are welcome and organisers would like to remind people that the event is smoke, alcohol and drug free. Thanks also to a number of sponsors who continue to support the event and ensure it is free to attend.



An algal bloom can present in different ways – it may be green or brown and cause murky or cloudy water.

CHECKING FOR TOXIC ALGAE IN OUR WATERWAYS

BLUE-GREEN ALGAE, known scientifically as cyanobacteria, are common in our rivers and lakes and most of the time don’t cause any problems.

However, during summer with higher water temperatures and settled weather, cyanobacteria can form extensive blooms which can turn toxic and cause health issues following contact. Dogs are particularly at risk as they play in and drink shallow water.

We monitor our water supplies for changes to algae concentrations including toxin testing, if we see the onset of a bloom. We also work with the regional council to monitor recreational areas. However, it is always good practise to use your own judgement throughout the summer months. Where ever you are, if water looks unusual, discoloured or carries odour, it’s best to find an alternative swimming spot.

In lakes and slow-flowing waters, a bloom can present in different ways – it may be green or brown and cause murky or cloudy water due to ‘floating’ cyanobacteria in the water column. It can also form films or scums on the water’s surface, especially at the water’s edge or could grow on bottom sediments in shallow water.

At present, our water supply monitoring is showing low levels of blue-green algae and there have been no reported issues of algae growth in Lake Taupō recreational areas. There has been blue-algae growth reported at bloom levels in lakes outside the Taupō District. We always recommend erring on the side of caution when you’re out swimming over summer.

ROAD CLOSURE

Due to the Kinloch Triathlon, road closures will be in effect on Sunday February 2.

Mata Place – from Kinloch Road to the Kinloch Domain entrance, 8am – 3.30pm

Marina Terrace – from Kinloch Road to Irwin Place, 8am – 3.30pm

Kinloch Road – from Kenrigg Road to Mata Place, 8am – 3.30pm

Motorists are advised to follow all detours as applicable. Access will be made available between races for residents.

WHAT'S ON?

Jan 31 – Feb 2 Taupō Superbike Cup, Bruce McLaren Motorsport Park

Until Feb 17 Ko Taupō Te Moana, Taupō Museum

Feb 1 Catfish Cull, Motuoapa

Feb 2 Kinloch triathlon, Kinloch

Feb 5 Turangi-Tongariro Community Board Meeting, Turangi Service Centre

Feb 6 Waitangi Day Concert, Riverside Park

For more information visit www.lovetapu.com



TAKE CARE WITH DOGS IN CARS

WITH THE WARM WEATHER we’re experiencing now, it’s an ideal time for us to remember to look after our dogs when it comes to leaving them in cars.

On a 30°C day, the temperature inside your vehicle can reach 39°C in less than 5 minutes and in 30 minutes it goes up to 49°C – even if you’re parked in the shade or have windows open.

Dogs only sweat a small amount through their paws and rely on panting to cool down which, in a hot vehicle, is not enough to keep their body temperature within a safe range. Young, overweight or elderly animals, or those with short muzzles or thick, dark-coloured coats are most at risk of overheating.

Please don’t leave your dog unattended in a vehicle at any time of the day and consider leaving your dog at home if the purpose of your trip is not to take your dog somewhere.

If you find a dog locked in a vehicle in distress, please call the Police or your local SPCA immediately. Do not smash the window as this puts both you and the dog at risk.

CYCLE TRAINING A SUCCESS

OVER 300 STUDENTS from nine local schools have been through our Grade 1 and 2 cycle training programmes in the last six months.

Attendees begin learning how to do a simple helmet, bike and clothing check, signal skills, stopping with control, starting and stopping from the side of the road, riding along the road, how to pass parked cars, rules at intersections and how to navigate roundabouts.

We’d like to acknowledge the commitment of our cycle instructors for their passion and enthusiasm for the programme which gets passed onto the students and empowers them to ride safely on our roads.



Pictured: Our cycle instructors with a group of young cyclists

