



connect

COMMUNITY NEWS WITH TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL 25 OCTOBER 2019



ELECTRIC SCOOTERS TRIAL GETS UNDERWAY

A TRIAL OF electric scooters in the Taupō town centre is about to get underway.

Council approved a proposal by Taupō company Glide Scooters at its May meeting, with the hire of electric scooters starting this week and running through to June 2020.

The scooters will be available for use on footpaths in the town centre, lakefront reserves to Three Mile Bay and Spa Thermal Park.

The permit allows a maximum of 100 e-scooters to be used each day from 7.30am to 10.30pm between 24 October to 31 November; 6am to 12am between 1 December 2019 to 28 February 2020; and from 7.30am to 10.30pm between 1 March to 24 June 2020.

Infrastructure manager Denis Lewis said certain conditions have been included in the permit to help manage the trial effectively.

“The permit covers conditions such as limiting the speed to 12km/h in the CBD,” he said.

“Safety and community well-being are our primary concern and we want to ensure these are prioritised throughout the trial.”

Council will closely monitor how the scooters are managed over the trial.

“We will be working closely with the operator, police and other stakeholders to monitor the operation and support safe operation for users, pedestrians and motorists,” Mr Lewis said.

EXTRA SIGNAGE FOR KIDDLE DRIVE AND ARROWSMITH AVENUE INTERSECTION

WE HAVE BEEN working with the police to review changes made to the intersection of Kiddle Drive, Arrowsmith Avenue and Napier Road. In response to the review, and community feedback, a new traffic island has been installed at the intersection of Napier Road and Arrowsmith Ave and a 900mm stop sign put in place. A further stop sign has installed on the left-hand side of Napier Road (uphill approach), and larger road marking lines painted on both Napier Road approaches. The left turn into Arrowsmith Avenue will also be changed to a stop sign.

Head of operations Kevin Strongman said the recent changes to the intersection were completed to reduce the high crash rate there over the past two decades.

NOISE CONTROL

AS WE HEAD into what looks to be a fine Labour weekend (fingers crossed!) we need to remind ourselves to keep noise disruption to a minimum. There are two different types of noise we need to be aware of - excessive and unreasonable.

Excessive noise, as determined by the investigating officer, is not allowed at any time, day or night. If a complaint is received, a compliance officer or council contractor will visit the site where the noise is being generated.

If the noise is considered excessive a notice may be issued. If the notice is breached in the following 72 hours the source of the noise may be confiscated. Police must also attend in this instance.

Unreasonable noise can be generated by industrial type machinery or similar when it is being operated and our staff can have the noise reduced to a reasonable level in accordance with the Resource Management Act.

Please contact us on 07 376 0899 at any time to report any excessive or unreasonable noise disturbances.

LABOUR WEEKEND RECYCLING HOURS

If you had put off a spring clean this Labour weekend due to thinking the transfer stations would be closed, we have bad news!

There is no change to our kerbside recycling and transfer station services over the long weekend, including our Broadlands Road landfill.

To find out more about our recycling services and what we collect go to taupo.govt.nz/recycling.

MARGARET SWEENEY ACHIEVERS RECOGNISED

THE MARGARET SWEENEY challenge has again proved popular across the district.

The challenge is named in honour of Margaret Sweeney, who represented New Zealand in breaststroke at the 1950 British Empire Games and who was the first person to swim the length of Lake Taupō.

Entrants swam either 25 or 50 kilometres over the three-month period of July to September.

In Taupō, the team at AC Baths saw 98 people enter the challenge with 36 finishing the 50-kilometre distance and five completing the 25-kilometre challenge.

It was the third time the event was held in Turangi. A total of 48 swimmers entered the challenge with 18 finishing the 50-kilometre distance and 11 completing the 25-kilometre one.

For one Taupo family, rivalry came to the fore over the three-month challenge as mum Rachel and daughter Ruby set their sights on seeing who could get further and gain family bragging rights.

Rachel topped the distance tally for all swimmers, clocking over 137-kilometres with Ruby coming a close second, with a more than respectable 114-kilometres, the most by any school-aged child.



“Family rivalry like Rachel and Ruby’s was one of the great stories from the event,” says business and operations manager Scott Attenborough.

“It was the first time we’d run it in Taupō, and we had people who had never been to the pools sign up, which is really encouraging.

“We’d love to have even more swimmers next year.”

Picture: Rachel Carlton and daughter Ruby Rogers proudly display their Margaret Sweeney Challenge medals.

» WHAT'S ON?

- Oct 26 Omori Kuratau Labour Weekend Market, Omori Kuratau Town Hall
- Oct 26 Eggtoberfest, Mangakino
- Oct 26-28 The Original Gypsy Fair, Taupō Domain
- Oct 26-28 Graffiato Street Art Festival, Taupō
- Oct 27 Kinloch Market, Kinloch Reserve
- Until Oct 28 Spring has Sprung, Taupō Museum
- Oct 31 Halloween Trick or Treat Celebrations, Taupō Town Centre
- Oct 31 Spooky Spring, Turangi Town Centre
- Nov 1 Starlight Cinema Fireworks & Laser Extravaganza, Owen Delany Park
- Nov 4 From the Inside, Taupō Museum

For more information visit www.lovetaupou.com