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GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ
Taupō District Council

COMMUNITY NEWS WITH TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL 30 JANUARY 2015

Get down to our Waitangi Day festival

Wood chopping, live music and kapa haka will captivate the crowds next Friday with the return of the awesome Waitangi Taupō Moana festival for 2015!

The festival will be on February 6 from noon to 5pm at Riverside Park, and will feature a stellar line up of bands and plenty of fun activities for the family.

For those who want to get physical and try something new, there will be waka ama on the river near the entrance to the lake. There will be activities for the kids, plenty of craft and food stalls and some fantastic music acts on offer.

New Zealand trio House of Shem will be headlining the event, playing their unique combination of roots reggae, Pacific reggae and traditional Māori music. They will be joined by a great line up of musicians including Chad Chambers, Jah Sito, Native Soulz and our district's own Jam Dr and Aaron Moeke. Taupō-nui-ā-Tia College's kapa haka group will also perform.

If you're in Turangi or Mangakino and want to come along, we have a free bus collecting people from these towns to bring people to the festival. Register at your local service centre, but get in quick – numbers are limited!

Last year over 4500 people came along to Waitangi Taupō Moana and it would be great to see even more this year!

At the southern end of the lake another Waitangi festival will be held on Saturday, February 7. The Waitangi Tūwharetoa ki Pukawa Festival, organised by Pukawa Marae, is on at Pukawa Lakefront Reserve from 10am to 3pm and feature performances by Awa and Tomorrow People.



Into 2015

Well here we are already at the end of January and what a month it has been!

2015 has certainly kicked off in style from an events perspective with the year being welcomed in by the New Year's Eve Big Bang fireworks display, numerous events being held in all four corners of our fantastic district and the Taupō Summer Concert last weekend.

With 15,000 tickets being sold, this year's concert was the biggest one yet and it was great to see so many people enjoying themselves and largely being well behaved!

Greenstone Entertainment secured an impressive line-up of acts this year and I'm sure they already have the wheels in motion planning for next year's concert. I know a lot of people are keen to mark this as an annual 'must do' on their calendar.

There is much more to come when it comes to events as well with the final days of the Wanderlust festival, the Kinloch tri tomorrow, the Waitangi Day festival next Friday and the Thunder on the Lake, multi-cultural festival and Kia Magic vs Fiji Pearls netball all on later in the month, just to name a few. Check out www.greatlaketapu.com for the full line up of events on in February – there is something for everyone.

From a council perspective it is also going to be a big year. We are back into the full swing of things and are in the final stages of preparing the 10-Year Plan before we ask you for your views in early March.

The councillors and I have attended more than 20 workshops deciding what should be in the plan and I can say it is great to lead such a passionate bunch of people who most certainly have the best interests of the district at heart.

We have our first official meeting of the year on Tuesday where we will adopt the draft documents in order for them to be reviewed by our auditors. There is also a number of other items on the agenda so there will be no easing into it.

This weekend also marks the end of the school holidays and I know there will be some kids itching to get back into it (and some happy parents). Remember to watch out for our young people as they set off to school on Monday. May the fantastic start to 2015 continue.

Mayor Trewavas • dtrewavas@taupo.govt.nz • 07 376 0899

Use water wisely

Did you know some sprinklers can use as much water in one hour as an average family uses in a day? That's a lot of water!

Water restrictions were introduced in the Taupō District two weeks ago.

Since the start of the month we have been using an average of about 20,000 cubic metres of water per day. Compare that to December, when we were using an average of only 13,000 cubic metres per day.

Some of the high water use may be attributed to an influx of visitors over the long weekend, however a number of people have been irrigating their lawns and gardens for extended periods, which puts additional load on water treatment plants.

It costs money to treat additional water which is going directly into the ground. By having a conservative approach we hope to avoid harsher restrictions in the future.

The restrictions mean people should only use irrigation systems between 6am and 8am and 6pm and 8pm on alternate days.

Residents whose properties end in 1, 3, 5, 7 or 9 can use sprinklers on odd numbered calendar days, while those whose addresses end in 0, 2, 4, 6 or 8 can use theirs on even numbered calendar days.

If we all use water wisely now, it may prevent further restrictions being put in place in the future.

Watch out for little ones!

It's that time of year again when excited children are making their way back to school in cars, on buses, bikes, scooters and on foot, so we need to look out for them.

Historically, this is a risky time of year for kids around schools as excited children can be unpredictable, so drivers need to be particularly alert.

Police patrols are increasing around schools to ensure motorists adhere to the legal speed limit and council staff will also be out providing information on safe behaviour.

If you're a parent you can help by equipping your kids with brightly coloured clothes or school bags so they can be easily seen.

You can also help by setting a good example for children by showing them the safer places to cross the road and by dropping kids off in the designated locations.

So make sure you keep an eye out for the little ones and make it a great start to the new school year!



What's on

- 6 Feb Waitangi Taupō Moana 2015, Riverside Park
- 7 Feb Waitangi Tūwharetoa ki Pukawa Festival, Pukawa Lakefront Reserve
- 14 Feb Thunder on the Lake, Taupō lakefront
- 14 Feb Multi Cultural Festival, Great Lake Centre
- 19 Feb Kia Magic vs Fiji Pearls, Taupō Events Centre
- 19 Feb Quiz Night, Taupō Library

For more information on Taupō District events visit www.GreatLakeTaupo.com

Email your elected members at councillors@taupo.govt.nz

For more information call 07 376 0899 or go to www.taupo.govt.nz

