



Grants available - apply now

Do you have an idea for a project or community initiative that could use a little help with funding? Several community grants are now open for applications.

If you live in the Mangakino-Pouakani ward and have a project, event or service that you want to provide that will benefit the community, we could help you achieve it with a grant.

For creative types, the Creative Communities scheme and Creative Taupō grants are open for applications. Both individuals and organisations can apply for this funding, which is aimed at providing for community-based arts activities.

The Rural Travel Fund is also open for applications and exists to subsidise travel for some sporting activities for young people aged five to 19 living in rural areas. It is available to both rural sports teams and school teams.

Application forms for all the grants are available online at www.taupo.govt.nz. For more information contact Rose Prisk at funding@taupo.govt.nz or 07 376 0640. All applications must be received by 27 February.



Celebrating our successes

Every now and then it's important to stand back and just have a look at what our district is achieving.

I am always proud to call this place home, the last few weeks have been no exception.



Our own Mark O'Callaghan (pictured with me above) of the Lake Taupō District Sports Advisory Council was recognised last week for his contribution to sports at the Brian Perry Waikato Regional Sports Awards. The council develops and fosters the growth of sport in the district, and Mark was instrumental in setting it up.

He received the Hare Wakakaraka Puke Memorial Trophy for leadership in sport at the awards in Hamilton. This is a terrific accolade for Mark, who is a long standing sports administrator in Taupō and really deserves to be awarded for his efforts. I congratulate him on his award and wish him well for future endeavours.

Another recent success story from our district has come from Lakeman Brewing Company. This small boutique beer company is rapidly gaining popularity and has just launched its product in Auckland. The launch was at The Lumsden in Newmarket and attended by a lot of former Taupō District alumni.

It's another example of a local business doing big things and that's great to see. The man behind the product is Taupō's James Cooper, who is looking at investing in a new bottling plant to continue to expand.

These are all examples of our people and businesses doing great things, and I know plenty more like these will continue to emerge from our district. Let's keep up the good work taking the country and the world by storm and give the rest of the country something to envy.

Speaking of which, don't forget to get down to our Waitangi Day festival tomorrow at Riverside Park. It should be a fantastic day with plenty of activities and entertainment, so make sure you go and check it out.

Mayor Trewavas • dtrewavas@taupo.govt.nz



Stay safe in our waterways

Think before you enter the water - it can be more dangerous than you think.

There have been 19 drownings recorded in New Zealand this year to January 30, with four over Auckland Anniversary weekend alone. This is up from 10 during the same period last year.

In the Taupō District we have many tempting waterways that can provide respite from the heat of the summer, but they must be approached with caution.

The Waikato River alongside Riverside Park and Spa Thermal Park has strong currents and undertows, deep cold water and submerged rocks, and are best avoided. Two people have drowned in the river in the past two years.

New signs were installed in these two dangerous spots ahead of summer to warn people against swimming in the hope of saving lives.

Although the river is a beautiful location, the water there moves quickly and often catches people unaware. There are plenty of other, safer spots to swim in our district, so choose carefully, look for hazards and take care of yourselves and your mates!

Waitangi Day festival tomorrow!

Get ready for the biggest free Waitangi Day festival in town tomorrow with Waitangi Taupō Moana 2015!

Riverside Park will be the place to be tomorrow when thousands are entertained with music, kapa haka, wood chopping, kids' activities and food and craft stalls. Come and see reggae trio House of Shem play live along with other supporting acts and have a go at waka ama on the river. All the action kicks off at noon and finishes about 5pm. See you there!

Reid's Carving restoration progress

The restoration of the Māori carving that usually frames a stunning view of Lake Taupō is expected to be back in place by the end of the month. The carving, known as Reid's Carving, is undergoing maintenance. Its home is at the corner of Tongariro Street and Ferry Road.

It was created in 1961 by renowned carver Tene Waitere and was originally located on Tongariro North Domain at the entrance to what was then the town's sportsfield.

The carving was taken down in September last year so the work could be completed away from the elements. The paintwork was patchy and some parts were damaged, and parts of the carving are being restored.



Council painter Paul Pattison has been working hard to bring the carving back to its former vibrancy.

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

