



## National award for water treatment operator

Our water treatment supervisor has been named the top operator in the country by the national Water Industry Operations Group.

Richard Kruse was recognised at the group's conference last week in Blenheim. He is the water treatment supervisor of the district's 20 water treatment schemes and has been working at the council for nine years.

Richard played an important part in the changeover from the old treatment plant on Lake Terrace to the new one and deserved the win.

"I am very grateful for the nomination and to receive this award is quite surreal for me as I didn't expect it at all," he says.

"I'm proud to be able to lead a team that is effective and efficient and hope we can keep providing a fantastic service in the future."

The Operator of the Year Award is an acknowledgement of

an individual who has stood out in their field. It is open to all members of the Water Industry Operations Group in the water and wastewater treatment and reticulation fields.

Council's manager of water and wastewater Kevin Sears said Richard was committed and passionate about fostering a high-performing team.

"He was part of the original design review team for the new water treatment plant and has been the lead person for commissioning, ongoing operation and maintenance of the plant," Mr Sears says.

He is currently finishing a Diploma in Water Management and is keen to expand his knowledge in his chosen field.

As part of the award, Mr Kruse now has the chance to attend a water industry conference in Australia.



## Watch football stars train



Watch Panama's Under 20 men's football team in action during open training sessions at Owen Delany Park!

The team, Los Canaleros, is in Taupō next week in the lead up to the FIFA Under 20 World Cup.

It is the only international team staying in Taupō in the build up to the competition.

The team is holding open training sessions at Owen Delany Park every day from tomorrow to Tuesday between 4pm and 6pm. The community is welcome to attend.

This year's tournament will mark Panama's fifth FIFA Under 20 World Cup appearance, all of which have come in the space of 12 years. Since their debut appearance in 2003, Los Canaleros have missed the 2009 and 2013 competitions.

The FIFA Under 20 World Cup is being held in New Zealand in late May and June with matches around the country. The final will be held in Auckland at North Harbour Stadium on June 20.

## Wing your way to Wellington

Need to travel to Wellington and don't want to battle traffic for five hours? From June 2, you can fly with Sounds Air, which is now taking bookings on the Taupō to Wellington route.

Last month we entered into a six-year agreement with the Marlborough-based air operator to provide at least three return flights on each week day and two return flights on Saturdays and Sundays. This followed an announcement by Air New Zealand in November last year that it would stop offering the service from the end of April.

In return, we will guarantee three seats for each flight. In simple terms, if three people are on the flight the council pays nothing, if there are two passengers we will pay for one seat, if there is one passenger we will pay for two. Given the passenger numbers supplied to us by Air New Zealand we are not expecting this will be called upon very often and there should be minimal risk. We will be reviewing passenger numbers regularly to make sure the arrangements are working for both us and Sounds Air.

Anyone wanting to book a flight can do so online at [www.soundsair.com](http://www.soundsair.com) or phone 0800 505 005.



## TAUPŌ MUSEUM

CELEBRATES

## INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY

With an  
**OLD  
FASHIONED**

**GALA**

**Saturday 16 May, 10am to 3pm**

ACTIVITIES . CONTESTS . MUSIC . FOOD . FUN & MUCH MORE..

**FREE ENTRY**

Feel like it's been too long since we had a good old fashioned gala in the Taupō District? Have no fear! Taupō Museum is throwing one to celebrate International Museum Day next Saturday, May 16.

The gala day will run from 10am to 3pm and have music, food, fun, activities, competitions and plenty of entertainment for the kids.

You can learn an old fashioned skill such as crochet, buy old fashioned items from the store and dress up for photographs with old fashioned clothing.

International Museum Day was established in 1977 to increase public awareness of the role of museums in the development of society and it has been steadily gaining momentum ever since. Last year's saw 35,000 museums around the world hosting events in 145 countries and this year our museum will be part of the action!

This year's theme is Museums for a Sustainable Society, to highlight the role of museums in raising public awareness about the need for society to be less wasteful and more cooperative. It focusses on how we can be a society that uses resources in a way that respects living systems – all fascinating stuff!

Entry to the museum will be free for the day to both residents and visitors, so come and enjoy the fun!



## What's on

- 14-23 May Zirka Circus, Tongariro North Domain
- 16 May International Museum Day – Old Fashioned Gala, 10am-3pm, Taupō Museum
- 16-19 May Panama U20 football team training, 4-6pm, Owen Delany Park
- Until 8 Jun Taupō Ink – Drawings by DiDi Chapman, Taupō Museum
- Until 15 Jun Active Arts Taupo, Celebrating 50 Years! Taupō Museum

For more information on Taupō District events visit [www.GreatLakeTaupo.com](http://www.GreatLakeTaupo.com)



Mayor David Trewavas  
Dep Mayor Barry Hickling  
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Cr Rosanne Jollands  
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Cr Maggie Stewart  
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