



## New lighting for Tongariro Domain

Work on the new LED lighting in South Tongariro Domain has begun, with the aim of improving safety and making the area a more pleasant place to be after dark.

The first stage of work is the replacement of nine existing lights with LED lights. Following this, 11 new lights will be installed on new poles.

The lighting will run alongside footpaths that lead from Ferry Road to the town centre through the domain. It is hoped to connect the two areas and encourage movement between them.

The work will eliminate black spots along the route, improving safety by creating better visibility 24 hours a day and making it easier for CCTV cameras to capture images more effectively.

Facilities manager Andrew Boden said LED lights had a long lifespan, were high quality and were more energy efficient than other lights.

At the moment there was no lighting on some areas of the footpath.

"We want to make South Tongariro Domain an inviting place that people want to be in," he said. "It's a lovely area so we want to maximise its use, both day and night."

Work is expected to be completed by the end of September.



## China connection

Next week I will be joining a select group of mayors in attending the inaugural New Zealand China Mayoral Forum in Xiamen City.



The forum has been organised by Local Government New Zealand and aims to support the strengthening exchange between mayors and governors from both countries. The main focus is on developing opportunities within New Zealand's tourism, education and primary industries.

The forum will be led by Local Government New Zealand President Lawrence Yule and hosted by the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries.

With 12 New Zealand mayors attending, it will be the largest delegation of New Zealand civic leaders to ever have visited China – a historic occasion I am honoured to be a part of.

I will be speaking at the forum and look forward to sharing information about our district's strengths and industries with the group, focusing on our agricultural, tourism and forestry sectors, geothermal resources and our fantastic natural landscape. I'm keen to share the story of our district at the forum to create more interest and hopefully investment in the future.

Of course we already have strong ties to China through our Sister City Suzhou and the friendship agreement we signed last year with Shaoxing from the Zhejiang Province.

In fact, we hosted a group of delegates from Shaoxing in Taupō this week.

In my absence, Deputy Mayor Barry Hickling welcomed the delegation from the Keqiao District, which included the Mayor and a number of investors, including the developers of a new subdivision on Kawakawa Road in Kinloch.

There are some fantastic joint projects in the pipeline including a tourism promotion to bring visitors to the Taupō District, the stocking of Taupō product in the Shaoxing friendship cities shop and the development of an education exchange.

We were pleased to be able to show them around and continue to encourage their interest in our district. Building further on our economic ties and letting the world know our district is open for business and investment can only be good for the future.

Mayor David Trewavas • dtrewavas@taupo.govt.nz

## New rural fire force for southern lake area

Moves are being made to establish a new volunteer rural fire force at the southern end of Lake Taupō – do you have what it takes to be a part of it? If you're fit, healthy and want to help your community, we want you!

We are recruiting volunteers to join the new Southern Lake Taupō Rural Fire Force on behalf of the Pumicelands Rural Fire Authority.

Community risk, relations and support strategic manager Brian Fox said providing a rural fire force for the southern and western parts of the district was something the Council had committed to under its arrangements with the newly enlarged rural fire authority.

Its formation would be reliant on energetic, passionate people over the age of 16 who live in the south western bays putting their hands up to volunteer to attend weekly training sessions and respond to fire call outs.

"Volunteering as a rural firefighter will definitely be a physical challenge that requires a can-do attitude and team spirit, but there are plenty of rewards too and you can make a positive difference to your community," Mr Fox said.

Rural firefighters gain rural fire unit standards, a first aid certificate and free training to help you keep fit and healthy!

If you would like more information, or have any questions, contact zone manager Roger Nelson on 027 451 4556 or email [rnelson@taupo.govt.nz](mailto:rnelson@taupo.govt.nz) or apply now at [www.taupo.govt.nz](http://www.taupo.govt.nz). Applications close 4pm, Friday, September 30 2015.



## Trustpower Award regional finals



The winners of the regional Trustpower Taupō District Community Awards will be announced next week from over 50 nominations received this year.

The awards will be held at a function at the Great Lake Centre and attended by invited guests, volunteer groups and organisations.

Winners of five categories will be announced along with the supreme winner, who will represent the

district at the 2015 Trustpower National Community Awards next year in Dunedin.

We are privileged to have so many amazing volunteer groups and organisations in the Taupō District. Best of luck to all of those groups nominated!

## Social services grants available

Do you need funding help with a service that is beneficial to the health and wellbeing of the community? Applications are now open for our social services grant scheme, which is being administered by the Waiora House committee. The trust has \$50,000 to allocate to groups working in social services anywhere in the district.

Past recipients include organisations such as Taupō Community Food Bank, Citizens Advice Bureau, Victim Support Taupō, Taupō Women's Refuge and Café For Youth Health. They can be used to fund a wide variety of costs including administration and travel costs and resources and training.

Grants have supported recovery from brain injury, literacy, those living with dyslexia, the elderly, parenting and a whole host of other services.

Applications are open from Tuesday, September 1 and close at 3pm on September 30. You can apply by picking up a form from any of our offices, Waiora House or on our website. Alternatively contact the trust administrator Deb DePetris on 07 378 0953 or at [info@waiorahouse.org.nz](mailto:info@waiorahouse.org.nz).

## What's on

- Until 14 Sep Never a Week Goes By – WWI exhibition, Taupō Museum
- Until 14 Sep Welcome to my World – Dean Stebbing exhibition, Taupō Museum
- 4 Sep Fink About It – The Laughing Samoans, Great Lake Centre
- 8 Sep The Nappy Lady, Great Lake Centre

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

For more information call 07 376 0899 or go to [www.taupo.govt.nz](http://www.taupo.govt.nz)

