



Intersection work moving up the street

The new gardens and landscaping at the intersection of Ruapehu and Tamamutu streets are looking good and work is expected to be completed in the next two weeks.

It is one of three town centre intersections getting a revamp to not only give them a fresh new look but to improve visibility, mobility access and safety.

Our staff will be demolishing the gardens at the second intersection, at Gascoigne and Tamamutu streets, from the start of next week in preparation for the contractors.

Council staff will be on site taking out the gardens and removing old structures over three to four days. Our main contractor, TR Construction, will then come in to build the new gardens, once Ruapehu and Tamamutu

streets are finished.

Policy and operations group manager Gareth Green says retailers and pedestrians had been exceptionally patient and it was great the community had been understanding of the need for the work to go ahead.

"It's fantastic that we have a community that really appreciates having a town centre that looks good and keeps people coming back," he says. "We are doing our best to minimise disruption and hope to have the work completed as quickly as possible." Once the intersection of Gascoigne and Tamamutu streets is complete, work will begin on the final intersection at Ruapehu and Tongariro streets. The project is expected to be completed by Christmas.



National provincial under 19 tourney adds to rugby fever

Hundreds of rugby players, coaches and supporters are streaming into town for the Jock Hobbs Memorial National Under 19 Tournament that starts on Sunday.

It is the second year we have hosted the tournament at Owen Delany Park and it brings together teams from around the country consisting of about 400 players.

District events manager Steve Giles said the tournament involved Under 19 teams from the 14 provincial regions, a second team from Auckland and a heartland squad.

"We've all got a bit of rugby fever with the Rugby World Cup on at the moment so it's a very well timed tournament," he said. "Team sport tournaments are part of what help make us the Events Capital of New Zealand so we're thrilled to be able to welcome back the organisers, players and supporters for a second year."

The tournament is on until October 3. The finals are being held on October 3 and entry is from 10am. Tickets are \$5 for adults and free for children under 16.



Clean-up nets rubbish mountain

Notice our district is looking a little cleaner and greener this week? It's all thanks to a huge effort from local residents, schools, businesses and our council team picking up rubbish for Keep New Zealand Beautiful Week!

We picked up an amazing 28 kilograms of rubbish from Spa Thermal Park and a team from The Warehouse Taupō collected 24 kilograms of rubbish along the Lions' Walk from Two Mile Bay to Wharewaka.

Facilities officer Neville Brodie said The Warehouse team commented that they collected along the same route last year and there was a lot less to clean up this year.

"It's great we're seeing an improvement in the amount of rubbish around such a popular tourist track," Mr Brodie said. "Obviously the message is getting through that we want to live in a clean, green district and people are picking up after themselves."

Wairakei Resort, Taupō Primary School, Mangakino Area School, Whakamaru School and New Zealand Couriers were a few of the groups that held official clean-ups and there were many more who had informal collections.

Some odd things were picked up along the way, including an old oar, a road cone, a car tyre and some scrap aluminium and steel.

It was a great effort from our community – now we just have to try to keep it clean and tidy!

Countdown to Shakeout

Shake Out is nearly here! If you haven't registered to take part, now is the time to do it.

Shake Out is New Zealand's annual Civil Defence drill and it's happening at 9.15am on October 15.

It's a chance to practise for a real life emergency and we want as many schools, businesses and residents taking part as possible.

Emergency manager Ian Connon said 970,000 people were registered so far nationally. Of those, over 3,400 were registered in the Taupō District, including over 2,400 school children and teachers, 250 preschoolers, over 250 from businesses and 100 from youth organisations.

He wanted the whole district to get involved so everyone knew the right action to take before, during and after an earthquake.

"New Zealand is known for its unpredictable natural events and we know what it feels like to have an earthquake in the Taupō District," he says.

"This drill is an important part of our education – we need to get everyone thinking about emergencies."

Shake Out is an international exercise that sees people around the world carrying out an earthquake drill. This year organisers are hoping to have 1.5 million Kiwis to sign up to take part, which would make it the biggest Shake Out per capita in the world.

Visit www.shakeout.govt.nz for more information or to sign up.

NATIONAL EARTHQUAKE DRILL
9:15AM, 15 OCTOBER 2015

REGISTER NOW AT:
WWW.SHAKEOUT.GOV.TZ

Catch all the action at Owen Delany Park!

Games are on September 27 and 30, with gates opening at 10am. Entry is free on these days. Finals day is on October 3, with gates opening at 10am. Entry is \$5 (cash only) for adults, and children under 16 are free. Eftpos is not available. Updated details will be available on our website www.taupo.govt.nz.



What's on

- 26 Sep Auckland Youth Orchestra – Pathétique Great Lake Centre
- 26-27 Sep Sika Show – Taupō Events Centre
- 26 Sep-3 Oct Jock Hobbs Memorial National Under 19 Tournament, Owen Delany Park
- 26-27 Sep The Original Gypsy Fair, Tongariro Domain
- Until 19 Oct Class Effort – schools exhibition, Taupō Museum

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

