



## Take part in the world's biggest earthquake drill!

Are you one of the nearly 4000 Taupō District people taking part in ShakeOut this coming Thursday?

Time is running out to register, so if you haven't signed up already, do it today!

ShakeOut 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 emergency and we want as many schools, businesses and residents taking part as possible.

An amazing 1.1 million people are now registered to take part from around New Zealand. Of those, over 3800 were registered in the Taupō District, including more than 2500 school children and teachers, 300 pre-schoolers, more than 400 from businesses and 100 from youth organisations.

Emergency manager Ian Connon said he wanted the whole community to get involved so everyone knew the right action to take before, during and after an earthquake.

"The day is nearly upon us and we are keen to see as many Taupō District schools, businesses and organisations register



to take part as possible," he said.

"Completing ShakeOut could save lives and this is a great opportunity for people to learn."

ShakeOut 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 ShakeOut per capita in the world.

Visit [www.shakeout.govt.nz](http://www.shakeout.govt.nz) for more information or to sign up.

## Can you get thru?

Today marks the fifth anniversary since I was first elected as a Taupō District Councillor. In that time, I have been involved with so many different groups, attended hundreds of meetings and workshops and helped shape a number of policies, strategies and plans for our district. It has been a real learning curve and continues to be so!



When I first stood for election my focus was on representing families and ensuring Taupō was a great place for children to grow, and for the district and its environs be looked after for future generations for all our families. In the past five years my focus may not have changed but it has certainly expanded now that I chair our district's Emergency Management committee and represent our district on the Waikato Civil Defence & Emergency Management joint committee.

With these responsibilities, as well as being a parent and a witness to the catastrophes that hit Canterbury I believe it is also part of my role as an elected member to ensure I have done my bit in not only talking the talk but walking the walk. We all need to be ready to 'Get Thru'.

Next Thursday morning, October 15, at 9.15am is New Zealand's ShakeOut. We will be the first country in the world to undertake our earthquake drill in this international event. Earthquakes happen every day in New Zealand – there are some 14,000 recorded earthquakes each year. In relation to the rest of the world, we are a medium-to-high risk country for these tremors.

There are currently over 1.1 million kiwis signed up for this year's ShakeOut – are you? Do you, your family and colleagues have a plan of what will happen during and after a major event like an earthquake?

To register and learn more about the event we should all be a part of, please visit [www.shakeout.govt.nz](http://www.shakeout.govt.nz). The registration takes two minutes and there are amazing resources then at your fingertips on what you need to do to plan, plus a range of different post "Drop, Cover, Hold" activities.

It is really heartening to see in our district we have about 3800 registered for ShakeOut already, whether they are families, individuals, businesses, schools or pre-schools. Can we get 5000 registered? Only you can help us get there!

Councillor Anna Park • [apark@taupo.govt.nz](mailto:apark@taupo.govt.nz)

## Green light for juice cart operator at Spa Thermal Park

Ever find yourself feeling thirsty after exercising the dog or playing frisbee at Spa Thermal Park?

A council decision last month means we are now able to allow a juice cart to operate from the popular reserve's car park.

The decision was brought about by an application from the operator who wanted to occupy two car parks to sell drinks. To allow it, we had to change the Spa Thermal Park and Riverbank Recreational and Scenic Reserve Management Plan.

After consultation with the community in August, councillors agreed to change the plan and allow the juice

station to operate from the car park.

Feedback from the community was very positive, with plenty of support for the proposal.

Now the reserve management plan has been amended, the council can issue licences to operate from the car park for periods of up to five years.

The juice station has been granted a licence for operation for one year from October 1, with a right of renewal for a further term of one year at this stage.

We hope the juice station will add convenience and improve security for park users.

## Composting workshops a great help

What are the benefits of composting? Nukuhau resident Rosalea Sanderson can tell you all about them after she went to the first of our free composting workshops at the weekend.

We organised the workshops in conjunction with Taupō Community Gardens to teach people how to make the most out of their composting equipment and reduce waste. The workshops are on once a month on the first Saturday of the month until May next year, with the exception of January which will be on the second Saturday.

The workshops cover all kinds of equipment, from traditional composters to worm farms.

Rosalea was not a complete novice going into the workshop, having composted for the past 18 years with varying success.

"I haven't been all that good at making it work properly," she said. "I'm always willing to learn more."

She works as a gardener and has a

vegetable garden at home that benefits from her composting. She said the workshop was hugely helpful and thoroughly enjoyable.

"I really recommend it, even if you think you've got a good system going, you'll still learn something if you go to this," she said.

Composting had saved her a lot of money and improved her gardening, she said.

"You don't have to spend a lot of money – it's really cheap to have a composter because it all comes out of your garden," she said.

"We don't have vegetable waste, we hardly ever put a yellow bag at the gate."

She was surprised to learn the range of things she could throw in the composting bin and believed she would create even less waste now she had been to the workshop.

The next workshop is on November 7. To register for the free composting workshops call us on 07 376 0899 or visit [www.taupo.govt.nz/composting](http://www.taupo.govt.nz/composting).



Rosalea Sanderson is reaping the rewards of composting in the garden.

## What's on

- 10 Oct New Zealand Army Charter Parade, 11am Taupō town centre, followed by free NZ Army Band concert at the cenotaph.
- 10 Oct Laid Out at the Lake, Tongariro Domain
- 13 Oct Glenn Miller Orchestra, Great Lake Centre
- 15 Oct New Zealand ShakeOut!



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

Email your elected members at [councillors@taupo.govt.nz](mailto:councillors@taupo.govt.nz)

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



Mayor David Trewavas, Dep Mayor Barry Hickling, Cr John Boddy, Cr Bernhard Chrustowski, Cr Rosie Harvey, Cr Rosanne Jollands, Cr Anna Park, Cr John Williamson, Cr Zane Cozens, Cr Maggie Stewart, Cr Kirsty Trueman