



## What's happening in your neighbourhood?

We're supporting a whole heap of community events this summer, that's what!

The Our Neighbourhood series sees us getting around the district to help out with community and family events, Christmas celebrations and educational days. We have been busy developing great partnerships with different communities and we're looking forward to seeing these events come to life!

There are plenty planned, so check out the list below and see what's happening in your part of town.

- **Saturday, Nov 21:** Tauhara Primary White Ribbon Gala, Tauhara Primary School (1pm-5pm).
- **Saturday, Nov 28:** Turangi Safe Homes, Turangi town centre (10am-noon).
- **Sunday, Dec 6:** Kinloch Neighbourhood Christmas Party, Kinloch Domain. (3.30pm-6.30pm).
- **Sunday, Dec 6:** Acacia Bay Family Get Together, Acacia Bay Community Hall (4pm-6.30pm).
- **Sunday, Dec 6:** Mangakino Christmas Parade, Mangakino town centre (11am-4pm).
- **Friday, Dec 11:** Richmond Heights Healthy Living, Waipahihi Sportsground (3pm-6pm).
- **Saturday, Dec 12:** Turangi Christmas in the Park and 50th Jubilee celebrations, Tongariro School sportsgrounds, (4pm-10pm).
- **Sunday, Jan 10:** Motuoapa Our Neighbourhood, Kahotea Drive Recreation Reserve (5pm-7pm).



- **Saturday, Feb 6:** Waitangi – Taupō Moana festival, Tongariro Domain (noon-5pm).
- **Saturday, Feb 13:** Waitahanui Picnic in the Park, Tutemohuta Reserve (11am-5pm).
- **Thursday, Feb 18:** Rangatira Park Evening of Fun, Robinson Terrace Reserve (6pm-7.30pm).
- **Friday, Feb 26:** Hilltop Bonnets and Caps, Hilltop Reserve (2.30pm-4.30pm).
- **Saturday, Feb 27:** Wairakei Our Neighbourhood, Blue Reserve (10.30am-12.30pm).
- **Sunday, Mar 13:** Waipahihi Botanical Reserve 50th Birthday, Waipahihi Botanical Reserve (10am-2pm).

These dates and times were correct at the time of printing but may change. For the latest updates, visit [www.taupo.govt.nz](http://www.taupo.govt.nz).

## Rewarding hard work

The 2015 Taupō District Sports Awards were held at the Great Lake Centre last Friday evening, hosted by Sport Waikato and the Taupō Sports Advisory Council. The evening not only recognises outstanding achievements in competition but also acknowledges administrators, referees, umpires, coaches and supporters.



One very special award is the Outstanding Contribution to Sport. This award honours a person in the Taupō District who has dedicated their services over a long period of time. This year's recipient was long-serving rugby referee Dr Alistair Fraser. This indeed proved to be a very popular acknowledgement.

Master of ceremonies and guest speaker Phillip Tataurangi, professional golfer and past Taupō resident of 18 years, was excellent in providing an insight into his career and gave some great advice to up and coming athletes into what makes an elite sportsperson.

Taupō Sports Advisory Council (SAC) does great things in our community and we at the council have a great partnership with it. SAC distributes funds on behalf of our council to assist local sportspeople and as its chairman Mark O'Callaghan says, this is a vitally important aspect of local sport which demonstrates the importance our council places on sport as a contribution to community well-being.

Looking ahead to next week, we have the Contact Lake Taupō Cycle Challenge. Next year will be a notable milestone for this event, with the celebration of its 40th anniversary. The sole beneficiary of the proceeds is Taupō Moana Rotary who in turn distribute funds via grants to community groups. This is over and above monies distributed to volunteer groups involved with running the cycle challenge. This week Taupō Moana Rotary and Taupō Rotary merged to form Lake Taupō Rotary based at Rotary House and will continue to provide these grants as well as the community van.

One overarching theme, and certainly not exclusively to sport, is the engagement by volunteers and numerous community groups within the Taupō District which help to make these events as successful as they are. I thank them for their time and passion – it certainly helps make our district a great place to live.

John

Councillor John Williamson • [jwilliamson@taupo.govt.nz](mailto:jwilliamson@taupo.govt.nz)

## Strap yourself in: the cycle challenge is coming!

The Contact Lake Taupō Cycle Challenge is back for another year next weekend, and there will be bikes galore circumnavigating the lake for the 39th time!

This is New Zealand's biggest cycling event and we are privileged to host it in our district each year.

It brings together up to 8000 cyclists from over 20 countries competing in 18 different events, with both road cycling and mountain biking options available.

This year the main events are on Saturday, November 28 and the Criterium event is the day before. There will be some road

closures because of the event and huge number of participants and supporters, so make sure you're aware of this if you're driving around town.

Road closures include parts of several major roads in the town centre such as Tongariro Street, Tamamutu Street and Lake Terrace. Some roads will have restricted access at times including the roads around Tongariro Domain and part of Poihipi and Whangamata roads.

Stay safe out there, pedal hard and we'll see you on the other side!



## What's on

- Until 30 Nov Art From a Different View, Taupō Museum
- Until 14 Dec Unhinged – multi-media exhibition by Susan Mabin, Taupō Museum
- 24 Nov Council meeting, 1pm, Council Chamber
- 26 Nov ASB Premiership – WaiBop United v Hawke's Bay United, Owen Delany Park

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)



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