



STELLAR LINE UP ANNOUNCED FOR TAUPŌ SUMMER CONCERT

The Taupō Summer Concert - one of our district's premier events - is back for 2017 and with another stellar line-up confirmed, it is set to be another one to remember!

Now in its sixth year, the January 28 concert will bring Taupō's amphitheatre to life with up to 15,000 concert goers set to enjoy sounds from Bonnie Tyler, Alan Parsons Live Project and Icehouse.

District events manager Steve Giles said the Summer Concert Tour had become well-known for being held in idyllic holiday locations and creating a great summer vibe.

"Here in Taupō we have seen the concert grow in popularity to the point where the past two years have been a sell-out," he said. "We welcome visitors from every corner of the country and I am sure this year will be no exception."

Icehouse has a host of hits having spent 140 weeks in the New Zealand singles charts with tunes like *We Can Get Together*, *Great Southern Land* and *Electric Blue*. Alan Parsons Live Project hits include *Eye in the Sky*, *Games People Play* and *Damned if I Do* and with a career spanning four decades, Tyler is well known for popular songs *Total Eclipse of the Heart*, *It's a Heartache* and *Holding out for a Hero*.

The Taupō concert coincides with Auckland Anniversary weekend and will be the second of three, with the Queenstown concert the Saturday before and the Whitianga event the following day.

Tickets are \$99 plus booking fee and go on sale Monday, July 11. There are a limited number of locals tickets for \$89 plus booking fee available from the Taupō i-SITE or My Music Taupō. Children under 14 are free. Visit www.ticketek.co.nz for tickets.

LEARNING ABOUT MATARIKI



School children have been given a chance to learn more about the significance of Matariki - the Māori New Year - as part of an education programme currently being run at Taupō Museum and library.

Matariki is an important time in the Māori calendar. It marks the start of the Māori New Year, which is a time to connect with, and give thanks to the land, sea and sky. Communities often come together to celebrate the end of the year, and the year to come by sharing food, hospitality and knowledge.

This year's school programme focuses on Matariki in a local context and uses the library's resources to help students develop and understanding of Matariki. Students are also able to build a connection to local history and learn about the role Matariki plays in the community.

Students engage in creative hands-on activities to explore Taupō Museum's collection of artefacts and connect with the Matariki-themed exhibitions *Ka u Ki Matanuku* and *Tamariki Toi* which feature the art of children, students and professional artists.

For more information on the Matariki school programme, contact the Taupō Museum or library.

CAFÉ WERO CELEBRATING MĀORI LANGUAGE WEEK

Think you need to improve your Māori language skills? Next week you'll have plenty of help around town, with cafés doing their bit to celebrate Māori Language Week!

Participating cafes will be taking part in our second annual Taupō District Café Wero (Café Challenge), which will see them using te Reo in their shop windows, and on menus and signage during Māori Language Week, July 4-10.

Our strategic relationships manager Dominic Bowden said the challenge was a way to get people thinking about te Reo and how it can be used in everyday life. "It's a light-hearted, fun way of encouraging people to think about how they can use te Reo," he said.

There are prizes for the café that uses the best and most creative te Reo in three categories: best consumer greeting, best blackboard

work and best signature dish or drink. There is also a supreme award for the most outstanding effort.

It is the second year for Café Wero, with six cafes taking part last year. Dominic hopes to encourage more participation this year, and said the feedback from customers was great last year. "People were having a go at whatever level they felt comfortable with. This week is a great opportunity to have a go whether it's just correct pronunciation or learning a new word or phrase," he said.

Judging will be done by a mystery visitor to the cafes taking part. Cafés can sign up for the challenge by emailing dbowden@taupo.govt.nz.



MANGAKINO OPENING

Mangakino's town centre was officially opened earlier this week, giving the community a chance to check out their upgraded playground and new town centre features.

On the back of the recent construction of the town's new skatepark, the upgrade of the town centre was a project developed in consultation with the community. Meetings were held late last year to gather ideas and the final design included features and ideas gathered during the consultation phase.

The five-month upgrade included more seating, more shade in seated areas, and a new drinking fountain. As well as these additions, the playground has been refurbished to include new rubber matting and artificial turf, as well as new climbing equipment and swings that have been installed alongside refurbished playground equipment.

Taupō District Council's acting operations group manager John Ridd said the upgrades had revitalised Mangakino's town centre.

"It has been great to see the community come together on this project, and we've been fortunate to have a great team working on the planning and construction to bring the community's ideas to life."

The upgrades to the town's centre are a great reason to make a trip to Mangakino to check it out for yourself!



What's on?

- 2 July Greening Taupō and Contact Energy Community Planting Day, Taupō SPCA
- 3 July Hoka One One Tauhara Trail Run and Walk, Mt Tauhara
- 3 July 18th Century Unwrapped - Opus Orchestra, Great Lake Centre
- 14-17 July Taupō Winter Festival, Taupō

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

Email your elected members at councillors@taupo.govt.nz

For more information call 07 376 0899 or go to www.taupo.govt.nz



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