



## HOME STRETCH FOR WHAREWAKA DEVELOPMENT



We're heading into the home stretch for work taking place on Wharewaka's lakefront, where the area is undergoing an impressive transformation.

The project is being completed to create a smooth and safe route along the lakefront between Wharewaka Point and Five Mile Bay by constructing a shared path.

There is currently a gap in the path between the two locations, and the idea is to join the two. The concrete path will be 2.5 metres wide and cater to both pedestrians and cyclists. It will run through the area that is currently gravel and used as an accessway for vehicles and pedestrians. A sealed road and car park will also be built, and a low timber barrier installed to separate vehicles and

pedestrians to make it safer.

Over the last few weeks, contractor Deano's Earthmoving and Logging has been hard at work rolling the bank to create a smooth slope from the reserve to the lake. Grass has been sown in the bank and mulch laid to improve moisture levels to help grass grow over the next few months.

This week and last week contractors have been constructing the concrete path and creating the foundations for the road, which will be sealed later this month.

The project is expected to be completed by Christmas and native trees and shrubs will be planted in autumn next year. We are looking forward to seeing the fantastic end result this summer!

## A TIME OF KEY EVENTS



Wow. What a week in politics it has been! I don't think anyone expected to see the resignation of our popular prime minister, and it will be interesting to watch what happens in the next few days.

I've had the pleasure of meeting John Key a couple of times and I've always been impressed by the support he has given to our district. No matter what side of the political spectrum you find yourself, I think everyone would agree that Mr Key has been an affable and strong leader for our country, and I am among many people who will be sorry to see him step aside as prime minister. The upside to all this is that I'm sure he'll be spending more time in our district on our fantastic golf courses over the coming years.

In only 16 days, Santa's sleigh will fly over Lake Taupō to deliver goodies around our district. We've got the Black Caps doing their best in the Chappell-Hadlee series and the waft of barbecued dinner is floating over our neighbourhoods every sunny evening. It really does feel like summer is here.

As we all know, with summer comes a number of events in the Taupō District, and the next one on our events calendar is this weekend's Kellogg's Nutri-Grain IRONMAN 70.3.

It's always an exciting time when IRONMAN comes to town. Our restaurants and bars are packed full of visitors and people are out and about soaking up the atmosphere.

I would like to thank the organisers, the sponsors, the volunteers and most importantly, the participants, for making this event happen and for supporting our district. We take great pride in being the home of IRONMAN in New Zealand and I know everyone in the community does too.

Best of luck to everyone who is taking part in the event. We all hope you enjoy the water of Lake Taupō, views of the mountains, hopefully your fair share of sunshine and the vocal support of our residents while you are here.

Mayor David Trewavas » dtrewavas@taupo.govt.nz

## MINIMISE THE RISK OF FIRE THIS SUMMER



Have you considered how to keep your friends and family safe from fire this summer?

It's heating up outside and dry grass, minimal rainfall and strong winds make for risky conditions.

Last weekend, a rubbish fire got out of hand in Omori, which took volunteer firefighters almost four hours to extinguish – a good reminder that the landscape is already very dry.

We're also in a restricted fire season, which means you need a permit to light an open fire in a rural area. Open fires include braziers, outdoor pizza ovens and burn-offs.

We now have an online permit system, which makes applying for a permit simple at [www.pumicelands.co.nz](http://www.pumicelands.co.nz). You can also pick up a hard copy permit application from any council office. Be sure to apply at least 48 hours in advance.

Be fire wise and stay safe this summer!

### IT'S EASY TO REDUCE FIRE RISK

- » Keep grass cut nice and short – long, dry grass can go up in flames if sparks from a car or a cigarette butt come into contact with it.
- » Dispose of cigarette butts responsibly – fully extinguish them before putting them in a rubbish bin.
- » If you have to light a fire, ensure you have plenty of water handy and monitor it closely.

## Need to know

IRONMAN 70.3 Taupo is here and there will be some road closures around the district this weekend to keep everyone safe. Visit our website to find out more – [taupo.govt.nz](http://taupo.govt.nz).

## What's on?

- 10 Dec Kellogg's Nutri-Grain IRONMAN 70.3, Lake Taupō
- Until 12 Dec Re-cycle art exhibition, Taupō Museum
- Until 12 Dec Celebrating 40 Years of the Lake Taupō Cycle Challenge, Taupō Museum
- 15 Dec Christmas Carols in the Library, Taupō Library
- 16-17 Dec Christmas in the Park Turangi, Tongariro Area School

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



Mayor David Trewavas



Deputy Mayor Rosie Harvey



John Boddy



Zane Cozens



Barry Hickling



Rosanne Jollands



Tangonui Kingi



Anna Park



Christine Rankin



Kirsty Trueman



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