



## INTERSECTION WORK TO START NEXT WEEK

The intersection of Roberts and Ruapehu streets is about to get a fresh new look with the area being revamped during the coming months.

The intersection sees large numbers of cars and pedestrians using it each day and serves as the gateway from the lakefront to the town centre.

Work will start on Monday and we'll work on one corner at a time to minimise disruption, starting at the Bayleys corner. Each corner will take about two weeks to complete and temporary walkways will provide footpath access for pedestrians.

This intersection is the latest marked for an upgrade after

three were completed in 2015: Tamamutu and Gascoigne streets, Tamamutu and Ruapehu streets and Tongariro and Horomatangi streets.

All of these intersections now have new gardens that feature lower, less intrusive planted areas and a modern timber, stone and concrete design that helps ensure better visibility for motorists.

Improvements to intersections ensure our town centre looks good, helps address security concerns around overgrown vegetation and aims to encourage people to linger longer in the area.

## AC BATHS RETAINS POOLSAFE ACCREDITATION



The community can rest assured it is in good hands at the AC Baths – the complex has once again been PoolSafe accredited!

The accreditation means the AC Baths has passed a series of tests and checks to ensure it is meeting industry standards for safety to limit serious harm in pools.

Pools and activities operations manager Nigel Newbery said the accreditation was important for the community and the team at the AC Baths.

"We take our jobs very seriously and work hard to ensure the pools are safe, so it's great to have that recognised with this accreditation," he said.

Mr Newbery said the AC Baths is assessed each year and had successfully been accredited every year since 2003.

"It's a great regular check for us to make sure our systems, processes and procedures are best practice," he said.

The PoolSafe scheme was developed in 2001 by the New Zealand Recreation Association and Water Safety New Zealand. It is an independent assessment and currently 140 of the 214 public pools in New Zealand are registered members of the scheme.



### » What's on?

- Until 1 May Toi Hauora – Art for Wellbeing, Taupō Museum
- Until 8 May Flight – Aotearoa Quilters' Exhibition, Taupō Museum
- 6 May Trash & Treasure Fair, Riverside Park
- 8 May The 13-Storey Treehouse, Great Lake Centre
- 11 May Swan Lake – Moscow Ballet 'Le Classique', Great Lake Centre

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

## KATE'S FIRST TASTE OF CIVIL DEFENCE



Council customer service officer Kate Guthrie had no idea how useful her work place skills would be when the Edgcumbe flooding event happened earlier this month.

But when she volunteered to help out in the aftermath, it opened up a whole new world for her.

Kate has been working at the council 18 months and normally spends her days helping customers at the front desk.

During the recovery effort, Kate manned the registration desk for those wanting to return to their homes in flood-ravaged Edgcumbe. This meant pairing people who wanted to go inside the cordon with an emergency support worker escort and documenting requests correctly.

"I had no idea what to expect," Kate said. "It was like nothing I've ever seen. You could kind of walk around and feel the heartbreak in the town."

Kate spent two days in Edgcumbe, hearing stories of livelihoods lost and dreams destroyed.

"It was awful to see people's lives absolutely ripped away from them," she said.

However her first Civil Defence experience was also a great learning experience that she thinks will be incredibly helpful if an emergency were to happen in the Taupō District.

"I've learned so much and got a better appreciation for what we hold close to our hearts," she said.

"If something does happen here, we've got the skills from the experience we had in Edgcumbe to help get us through."

Kate was one of six Taupō District Council employees who are part of the Bay of Plenty regional New Zealand Response Team that helped in Edgcumbe.



Mayor David Trewavas, Deputy Mayor Rosie Harvey, John Boddy, Zane Cozens, Barry Hickling, Rosanne Jollands, Tangonui Kingi, Anna Park, Christine Rankin, Kirsty Trueman, John Williamson