



KEV CELEBRATES 15 YEARS AT THE LIBRARY

If you've been a Taupō Library regular for a few years now, you no doubt would have come into contact with one of our longest serving librarians, Kevin Collins.

Kevin's celebrating 15 years on the job this month and has seen the library evolve and grow over the years.

As you can imagine, he is a huge fan of libraries and what they stand for.

"A single library card is a passport to the universe," he said. "No matter your age, gender, race or wealth, the library is free for all."

He said with 100,000 items available at our district's three libraries and over 28,000 members, the libraries aimed to embrace the needs of the community it serves.

"A library feeds people with lifelong learning, invigorates creativity, connects people and enlivens the spirit for

recreation and research," he said. "From the classic novels of Dickens to local government reports and digital content, we are guardians of knowledge."

He also noted the connection between libraries and democracy.

"It allows us to understand unbiased views of global, political, historical and cultural significance to arm each of us with better insight and understanding to the mechanics of the world."

When Kev started at the library it was a markedly different landscape. Technology has accelerated in leaps and bounds and he said it was now "a community magnet and a core of many lives".

"The library is a sanctuary," he said. "There is always something to learn here and that's part of what makes it such a special place."

DISTRICT YOUTH AWARDS RETURN FOR 2017



Do you know an impressive young person who has achieved great things this year?

This is your chance to help see their efforts recognised.

The Taupō District Youth Awards opened for nominations today and young people from years seven to 13 can be nominated in one of five categories.

These are arts, academic, sports, innovation and resilience, with categories split into three age groups: years 7 to 8, years 9 to 11 and years 12 to 13. In the sports category there are two awards – one for a young person who has excelled in an individual sport and one for someone who has excelled in a team sport.

A panel of judges will select a winner and runner-up for each of these age groups.

There is an award for leadership for each age group and an award for overall all-rounder, with the winners of these chosen from the other five categories.

Parents, friends, teachers, coaches and club or organisation leaders can nominate young people they think excel in any of these areas.

Nominations are open to any student living in the Taupō District, even if they attend school outside the district.

Visit taupo.govt.nz to nominate a young person for an award before nominations close on August 25.

» What's on?

- Until 22 July **Ebbett Taupō Ice Slide**, Tongariro North Domain
- Until 22 July **Unison Light Trail**, Tongariro South Domain
- 23 July **Geyserland Cat Club 50th All Breeds Cat Show**, Great Lake Centre
- Until 24 July **Tamariki Toi**, Taupō Museum
- 28 July **The Nukes III Album Release Show**, Taupō Museum
- 29 July **Queen of the Rink roller derby**, Taupō Events Centre

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

REGISTER NOW FOR PUBLIC FORUM

If you want to address the mayor and councillors before this month's council meeting, here is your opportunity!

Our public forum gives you a chance to talk about an upcoming agenda item or any topic of interest concerning the Taupō District.

The next forum will start at 1pm on Tuesday, August 1 before the council meeting at 1.30pm, and each person or group can speak for five minutes.

While the forum isn't a formal meeting and isn't a chance for debate, our elected members might ask you questions for clarification, but no formal decisions can be made. If a decision

is needed, the matter can be referred to a future council or committee meeting.

If you want to speak, let us know by 4pm on the Thursday prior to the meeting. In the case of this month, it means 4pm Thursday, July 27.

If you have any questions regarding our public forum, please email publicforum@taupo.govt.nz.

» **PUBLIC FORUM: 1pm, Tuesday August 1**
Register before 4pm, Thursday, July 27
by emailing publicforum@taupo.govt.nz

Email your elected members at councillors@taupo.govt.nz » For more information call 07 376 0899 or go to www.taupo.govt.nz



Mayor
David Trewavas



Deputy Mayor
Rosie Harvey



John Boddy



Barry Hickling



Rosanne Jollands



Tangonui Kingi



Anna Park



Christine Rankin



Kirsty Trueman



John Williamson