



NEW COUNCILLOR SWORN IN

Returning councillor Maggie Stewart was officially sworn on to the Council at an extraordinary meeting this week, and she can't wait to get back into the swing of things.

Mrs Stewart, who narrowly missed re-election at last October's elections, was the top polling candidate in the Turangi-Tongariro Ward by-election.

The final results saw her returned with 737 votes, over 300 more than her nearest rival.

Mrs Stewart said she was looking forward to getting back into working within the council.

"I'm feeling absolutely elated and ecstatic," she said. "I'm very grateful for the community's support."

She said she was ready to work hard for Turangi and was looking forward to the debate, working with the Turangi-Tongariro Community Board and seeing positive outcomes.

The by-election for the vacant seat on the Turangi-Tongariro Community Board was won by Pauline Jenkins-Lyons. She will be sworn in as a community board representative at the November 14 Turangi-Tongariro board meeting.



EVENTS SEASON KICKS OFF



It hardly feels a whole year ago when the busy summer events season last kicked off over Labour weekend, but the great news is events fever is about to take hold of the Taupō District once again. This weekend marks the start of our jam-packed events calendar and it's going to be another good one!

One of the biggest and most visible events on this weekend is Graffiato: Taupō Street Art Festival, the legendary art event that happens annually at this time of year.

Graffiato, run by Towncentre Taupo, brings together New Zealand's top street artists to paint the bare walls of our town centre's shop sides and back alleys. There are already 80 murals around the district and even more will be added this weekend.

The festival kicks off today and runs until Sunday with an artist meet and greet at Taupō Museum tonight at 5.30pm. This is also an opportunity to buy some art, with five works being auctioned off.

Another fantastic event taking place this weekend is the Latin America and Spain Film Festival at Taupō Museum. It runs until Tuesday and features a collection of 11 films that aim to give the viewer a closer look at history, culture and social developments of Latin America and Spain.

For those in the north of our district, Mangakino will be holding Eggtoberfest (think all things eggs and a lot of fun) and the Wakesurf Tease at Lake Maraetai from noon tomorrow.

Lakeside at Kinloch, the huge annual market with over 100 stalls will be held at Kinloch Domain on Sunday from 8.30am to 3.30pm.

In Turangi, the Tongariro National Trout Centre will have a kids' fishing day on Sunday where kids can learn to hook their own trout.

We're also playing host to motocross action, a fashion show, comedy, a gypsy fair and plenty more. There really is something for everyone this weekend, so get out there and make the most of living in the wonderful events capital of New Zealand. (Hopefully with perfect spring weather to boot!)

David

Mayor David Trewavas > dtrewavas@taupo.govt.nz

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, October 31 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, October 26.

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



WAITANGI FESTIVAL WINS AWARD

The Waitangi Tūwharetoa ki Pukawa Festival 2017 has won Best Community Event of the Year at the 2017 New Zealand Events Awards.

The Waitangi Day event was co-organised by the Pukawa Marae Committee, Taupō District Council, Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board and the Office of the Ariki Sir Tumu te Heuheu with support from other community agencies.

Pukawa Marae chairman Dave Potaka said the award was great recognition for the community and acknowledgement of the hard work and dedication of all those involved.

"It also gives the committee confidence to hold further events in the future," he said.

Our democracy and community engagement manager Tina Jakes said it was fantastic the festival was recognised alongside some of the country's finest in the events industry.

"The festival was the culmination of a fantastic partnership between iwi, the council and community groups that has proven a great example of community ownership of a significant district event," she said. "The finalists in this category were of a high calibre so it really shows what an amazing event it was."

Other finalists in the category were the Takapuna Beach Series, Hawke's Bay Christmas at the Park, the KPOP Showdown and the Tutukaka Coast Winter Festival.

The award was presented at the New Zealand Association of Event Professionals (NZAEP) annual awards gala dinner at SkyCity Convention Centre in Auckland last week.

Need to know

Rubbish and recycling for Labour Weekend

There will be no changes to rubbish and recycling days this long weekend, so if your rubbish day is a Monday, please put it out for collection as normal before 7.30am.



What's on?

- 21 Oct The Topp Twins – Heading for the Hills, Great Lake Centre
- 20-23 Oct Graffiato, Taupō town centre
- 20-24 Oct The Latin America and Spain Film Festival 2017, Taupō Museum
- 21-23 Oct The Original Gypsy Fair, Tongariro North Domain
- 22 Oct Kids' Fishing Day, Tongariro National Trout Centre
- 22 Oct Kinloch Market, Kinloch Domain

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



Mayor David Trewavas



Deputy Mayor Rosie Harvey



John Boddy



Barry Hickling



Rosanne Jollands



Tangonui Kingi



Anna Park



Christine Rankin



Maggie Stewart



Kirsty Trueman



John Williamson