



FREEDOM CAMPING BYLAW NOW IN EFFECT



From today, our new freedom camping bylaw has come into effect around the district, banning campers from Ferry Road and limiting areas where non-self-contained campers can stay.

Councillors adopted the bylaw after hearing submissions late last month.

Policy manager Nick Carroll said the bylaw also meant freedom campers would be allowed to camp in permitted areas for a maximum of three nights and/or four days before they needed to move on.

Camping on reserves remains prohibited under the Reserves Act with the exception of Hipapatua Recreational

Reserve (Reid's Farm), Whakamaru Domain, Whakamaru Recreational Reserve and Mangakino Recreational Reserve.

"Non-self-contained camping vehicles will be allowed to stay in these reserves because of the amenities available in them, such as toilets," Mr Carroll said. "This means we have options for all kinds of campers in our district."

Anyone breaking the bylaw will be liable for a \$200 infringement.

The bylaw will be reviewed in five years unless issues arise that require it to be reviewed sooner.

For more information on the bylaw, visit taupo.govt.nz.

AN INVITATION TO CREATE CANINE ART



Artists are being invited to celebrate the Chinese Year of the Earth Dog by creating some canine-themed art for a dog show with a difference.

The exhibition, Dog Show – Creating New Dogs From Old Tricks, celebrates the upcoming year of the Chinese zodiac and will open on February 16, the Chinese New Year.

Exhibitions officer Kerence Stephen said the

theme of the exhibition was dogs that incorporated the 'earth' element by ensuring all works were made with recycled or repurposed materials. This included three-dimensional artworks, sculpture and accessories.

"The use of recycled materials will make for a great challenge for artists, so we're encouraging people to make whatever they can think of that is dog-themed – sculpture, collars, leads, clothing, food bowls or whatever they can think up," she said.

Dog-themed artwork can be delivered to Taupō Museum from February 9-13, but artists are asked to register their intention to submit a work by filling out a registration form available at the museum reception, online at www.taupo.govt.nz/museum or by emailing kstephen@taupo.govt.nz.

Dog Show will run alongside an exhibition designed for our canine best friends, which will have interactive activities for dogs and their owners. This will also contain information about dogs in our district, registrations, exercise areas and more.

MINISTERIAL AWARD FOR LONG-SERVING CIVIL DEFENCE CONTROLLER

Former Taupō Civil Defence Controller Shamus Howard has been recognised with a Ministerial Long Service Award. Mr Howard, who also served as a Taupō District Councillor from 2001 to 2007, was an acting Civil Defence Controller for 15 years and was presented with the award at a meeting of the Taupō District Council Emergency Management Committee.

Committee chairperson Anna Park, who presented the award, thanked Mr Howard on behalf of the district and said the recognition was well deserved. "A Ministerial Award really is quite an honour and it is a reflection of Mr Howard's service to the district over many years. It is also a reflection of his dedication to the role, and we owe him our gratitude for taking on this very important position, which often took him away from family."

Mr Howard, who says his interest in Civil Defence stemmed from his work in Search and Rescue, now calls the Western Bay home, but he still has family in the Taupō District. "Though I am not actively involved anymore, I still have a keen interest in emergency management here. I'll be keeping up with what's happening with emergency manager Ian Connon, but hopefully there will be a bit more fishing in my future now!"

Pictured: Emergency Management Committee chairperson Anna Park (left) with Shamus Howard.



NEW FOOTPATH FOR HUKA FALLS ROAD

Cyclists and pedestrians will soon have a new footpath to use along Huka Falls Road. A 1.5m wide concrete footpath starting opposite Clearwater Lane is now under construction and will stretch 1.4km along the road towards the falls. The footpath should be completed in February 2018 and later in the year this will be extended on to Huka Falls. The road will remain open, but a stop/go system may be used to ensure safety for workers and road users.

» What's on?

- 2 Dec Taupō Christmas Parade, Lake Terrace
- Until 4 Dec Playing in Paradise exhibition, Taupō Museum
- 8 Dec Christmas in the Park Taupō, Tongariro North Domain
- 9-14 Dec Downstream exhibition, Taupō Museum
- Until 11 Dec Pre-Loved Art Sale, Taupō Museum

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