



LOOKING AFTER THE PLACE  
**we love**

## EROSION WORK TO PROTECT OUR LAKE SHORE

Erosion is an issue we are constantly battling in the Taupō District and, in partnership with Waikato Regional Council, we're currently working on minimising its effects in two locations: Kuratau and Taupō's hot water beach.

In Kuratau we have just finished spreading 1000m<sup>3</sup> of sand to replenish the foreshore between the Kuratau River and the Parehopu Street car park. The sand was locally sourced from the Poutu Canal in Lake Rotoaira Forest and was donated by Genesis Energy.

District parks operations manager Greg Hadley said the sand replenishment was necessary as there was a deficit of sand in the local system and recent lake and weather conditions had accelerated the rate of sand loss.

"This spot at Kuratau is particularly susceptible to erosion and work here is ongoing. We last replaced sand in the area three years ago, and it had only recently depleted to a level

that again needs to be replenished.

"We have had trees and a park bench fall into the lake already," he said. "There was the risk the car park at Parehopu Street could have ended up in the lake if we didn't protect the bank in this location."

Council undertook emergency works by constructing a rock revetment, a sloping rock retaining wall, to protect the infrastructure.

At hot water beach near the end of Mere Road on Taupō's lakefront, a similar rock revetment structure designed to reduce erosion is being constructed.

"If we don't address the erosion issue at hot water beach, the Lions' Walk that runs alongside it will fall into the water," Greg said. "Again, we also run the risk of the car park being affected."

The work at both Kuratau and the hot water beach is expected to be finished in the next couple of weeks.

## PUT YOUR HAND UP FOR **TURANGI**

Are you passionate about the Turangi community? Here's your chance to put your name forward to help look after the place we love.

Nominations are now open for two positions in the Turangi-Tongariro Ward left vacant following resignations from former councillor Zane Cozens and former community board member Sally Nelson.

The by-elections are being run at the same time, with nominations opening yesterday and will close at noon on Thursday, August 10.

Deputy Electoral Officer Tina Jakes encourages anyone considering running for council or the community board to seize the opportunity.

"This is a chance to help your community be heard and make a difference through local government," she said. "Anyone can stand for both positions, both the ward councillor and community board member."

If you're keen to put your name forward, grab a nomination form from the council's office on Lake Terrace and at the Turangi Town Centre, or online at [taupo.govt.nz](http://taupo.govt.nz).



### THE BY-ELECTION PROCESS

The by-elections will be conducted by postal ballot with successful candidates elected using the first past the post electoral system.

Voting papers will be sent out from Thursday, 14 September and the ballot will close at midday on Friday, 6 October. Preliminary results should be available later that day, with a declaration of the successful candidate following on Monday, October 9.

### » What's on?

- 13-16 July Taupō Winter Festival, Taupō
- 14 July Firelight Celebration – Unison Light Trail, Tongariro South Domain
- 14 July Whisky and Jazz, Great Lake Centre
- 14-16 July Battle of the Mountains Film Festival, Great Lake Centre
- 14-16 July Collection 10 Exhibition, Great Lake Centre
- 14-16 July Rewind – Taupō In Film, Great Lake Centre
- 15 July Biggest Little Circus, Tongariro North Domain
- 15 July The Great Lake Debate, Great Lake Centre
- 15-16 July 2017 Hobby Expo, Taupō Events Centre
- 16 July Fool Steam Ahead, Great Lake Centre
- 16 July The Whitney Houston Experience, Great Lake Centre

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

## PLAYGROUND UPGRADES FOR TAUPŌ COMMUNITIES

If you're a regular at Spa Thermal Park or Mere Road playgrounds, you may notice a couple of new and exciting features have popped up!

At Spa Thermal Park, the sand play area has been replaced. The previous sand play area had deteriorated over the years, with broken parts and old equipment.

The upgraded area includes a fresh new design by the Playground People, with buckets, pulleys and features that will appeal to children aged between five and 12.

At Mere Road, we have installed a 'crazy daisy' feature (pictured). This will provide a great ride for the little ones and adds some more colour and fun to our playground.

The playground upgrades are part of our ongoing programme to improve children's play areas around the district. The playgrounds at Waitahanui and Anna Place Reserve in Tauhara are also scheduled to be upgraded in the next few months.

The ageing playground at Anna Place Reserve will be demolished and replaced with a new, more vibrant playground.

Parks operations manager Andrew Moor said the team was currently discussing options with the community and a timeline for construction will be set once a decision has been made.



"It's an exciting time for the Anna Place Reserve community because we get to hear their ideas and hopefully make some of them come to life," he said.

"We do our best to provide communities with playgrounds and recreation areas they use and enjoy, so we're looking forward to create a great new asset."

At Tutemohuta Reserve in Waitahanui a new slide will be installed, along with new seating and plants. Work will be getting underway later this month.