



MORE ROOM ON THE WAY UP THE HILL

The shared path that leads up Control Gates Hill is being widened to improve safety and accommodate more users.

An upgraded path has been designed to allow pedestrians, cyclists, wheelchair users, buggies and prams to use it simultaneously. It is being widened in line with our Walking and Cycling Strategy and in consultation with Bike Taupō.

The path is currently only 1.4 metres wide, which does not easily accommodate people travelling in both directions. The new route will be up to three metres wide, which should allow for an easy flow of traffic.

The project kicks off on Monday and will affect a 500 metre section starting just south of Control Gates Bridge.

Infrastructure manager Denis Lewis said it was likely to be the first part of a project that would see the path eventually widened all the way to the top of the hill.

"We are committed to improving our paths and cycleways to make for a better experience for our community and visitors," he said. "Hopefully this project will help us achieve that."

A few cracks that had been identified as trip hazards in the current path will be eliminated during the work and a



wastewater manhole currently in the path will also be relocated to ensure a smooth journey up and down the hill.

A timber fence will also be installed alongside a sheer bank near the intersection of Wairakei Drive and Norman Smith Street to improve safety.

CATCH UP AND COFFEE WITH YOUR MAYOR

Would you like to talk to the mayor about a probing issue? Or have you got some good ideas you'd like to share with him or our chief executive?

Come along to Fern Cafe in Taupō's Suncourt Plaza this Wednesday, August 16 to have a chat and a coffee with Mayor David Trewavas and council chief executive Gareth Green. They'll be at the café from 10.30am to 11.30am and are looking forward to meeting you.

There's no need to RSVP, just turn up on the day, grab a coffee and share your thoughts. See you there!



» WHERE TO PAY YOUR RATES

By now you should have received the first rates bill for the 2017/2018 year. This is due by Monday, August 21 2017. If you pay on or before this date you will avoid an additional late fee.

- » **Pay online**
Payments can be made online at taupo.govt.nz.
- » **Pay at the Taupo office**
The council's customer service centre in Taupō is at Lake Terrace for this rates instalment.
From Monday, August 28, the Taupō customer services centre will be at 46 Horomatangi Street, next to the PostShop.
- » **Pay at the Turangi office**
The council's customer service centre in Turangi is currently in its usual spot in Turangi Mall. From Friday, August 18 it will be temporarily located at Turangi Library.
- » **Pay at the Mangakino office**
The Mangakino service centre remains at the Civic Centre, Rangatira Drive, Mangakino.

» What's on?

- 11-20 Aug **Weber Bros Circus**, Tongariro Domain
- 14 Aug-1 Sept **Moa rearticulation**, Taupō Museum
- 16 Aug **The Merchant Wine, Craft Beer & Food Expo**, Great Lake Centre
- 19 Aug **Talk and book signing with Carole Brungar**, Taupō Library

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



New plants, improved access and weed removal have been the focus of the work to refresh popular freedom camping spot Hipapatua/Reid's Farm Recreation Reserve this winter.

The area is currently closed to campers for the winter while our team does the work ahead of the summer rush.

Parks operations manager Andrew Moor said the parks and reserves team had been hard at work making the area a more attractive and functional environment.

"This is one of our most beautiful spots and a great place to give people a taste of our spectacular district," Andrew said. "We want to make sure it's easy for our visitors to get around Hipapatua/Reid's Farm Recreation Reserve and behave respectfully during their stay."

The work included creating a clear accessway between the upper campground area and the lower toilet area, so visitors knew where to go for ablutions, he said.

The road was also being graded to iron out potholes and make for a smoother journey in and out.

"We are building a safer, nicer space for our visitors," Andrew said. "A lot of weeds have been removed and overgrown greenery cut back to increase visibility."

Hipapatua/Reid's Farm Recreation Reserve reopens to vehicles on October 1. Pedestrians can access the area all year round, including during maintenance periods.

TRANSFORMING OUR ICONIC RIVERSIDE RESERVE

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

