



SUZHOU AND TAUPŌ TENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

A delegation from Suzhou, China were in Taupō to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of our sister city relationship.

Made up of six VIPs, two chefs, nine performers, including traditional pintang musicians, folk singers and opera performers, and two television journalists, the delegation had a busy few days, beginning with a powhiri at the museum, complete with a rousing welcome from Taupō-nui-a-Tia kapa haka performers. The Suzhou delegation replied with a song which described their love for Taupō and its people. Gifts were exchanged with

speeches and more kapa haka items concluding the morning.

A walking tour of the town and visits to many tourist areas followed which were notable highlights. Chinese performers entertained many during their time here, with a concert at St Andrews church enjoyed by many.

The entertaining didn't finish there, as the trip concluded with a traditional Chinese banquet, featuring performances of pintang, folk and opera intertwined with the formalities of the evening. Taupō District mayor David Trewavas, councillors and local guests attended to celebrate the partnership.

CULTURAL PRECINCT GATHERS MOMENTUM

July 31 sees an opportunity for you to have your say about the new cultural precinct being proposed for the area by the Great Lake Centre.

Architectural design firm Warren and Mahoney and landscape architectural company Boffa Miskell have been appointed to do the plan, and we want your feedback.

The project officially kicked off last week with a workshop with the Mayor and councillors, and a site visit. There was also a workshop with invited stakeholders.

The master plan will encompass a specific area on Tongariro Domain including the Great Lake Centre, library, museum, i-SITE, Superloo, Rotary House and bowling club as well as the town's main thoroughfare, Tongariro Street. The Northern Domain is not included in the plan.

Excitement is building as the idea of having an area uniquely Taupō gains momentum. Taupō District mayor David Trewavas said the council had a unique opportunity to create a vibrant town centre and improve connectivity between it and the marina, lake and river with importance placed on a 'done right first time' approach.

Remember this is more than a location for the council's administration functions, it includes a chance to celebrate our history and story, whakapapa, the volcanic plateau and much more.

Local business and others have provided feedback up to this point, but we want to hear from as many people as we can to hear your views and opinions. Your feedback is vital, so come along to a community engagement session and have a chat.

**HAVE
YOUR
SAY**

When July 31, 4pm-7pm

Where Lake Taupō Yacht Club, Ferry Road



Elected members and council staff undertake a site visit at the first planning workshop.

OTUMUHEKE UPDATE



Eleven weeks down the track, the Otumuheke stream development and renewal project is nearing completion.

New features to the area include a new footbridge, viewing platform and plantings for us all to enjoy soon. Story boards will be placed along the track leading to the area with facts and history on them.

An official opening will be held on-site on August 31 with Mayor David Trewavas, members of Council and representatives from Taupō Police, Tūwharetoa trust board, Patuwi Trust and Department of Conservation all invited to attend.

We're all excited about the prospect of visiting here this spring and beyond!

»» WHAT'S ON?

- Until Jul 21 Unison Light trail, Tongariro South Domain
- Jul 21 Predator Free Taupō, Build your own backyard trap, Kinloch Community Hall
- Until Aug 5 Mirror Magic, Taupō Museum

For more information 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