



NEW SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME!

It seems too early to be talking about school holidays... but they start next week!

With the spring edition of the school holidays fast approaching, we have the answer to the question asked every time this rolls around, "What on earth will I do with the kids?!"

From Monday October 1, there is something for children in both Taupō and Turangi. There's scavenger hunts, survival stories, lego, crafts - have we caught your interest yet?

The programme coincides with Suzhou: Faith and Life at Taupō Museum, which is an amazing historical exhibition

all the way from China.

It's still too cold to have a dip in the lake and with the weather is still a bit unpredictable, so instead of cracking open another DVD case for the movie they've seen a hundred times, how about heading to the library or museum to see what's happening? If it's a certain event you're after, please be aware you have to book for some of the content and while most are free, some have a small fee for art and craft materials.

You can check out what's on at taupo.co.nz/museum, or pop into the library or museum to get your copy of the event programme.



This week in our profiles of your elected representatives is Turangi-Tongariro Ward Councillor, Maggie Stewart.



After almost 20 years of working within her community on a variety of projects – from campaigning for a skate park to organising community Christmas dinners – becoming a councillor seemed the logical next step for Maggie Stewart.

Now in her second term, the Turangi-Tongariro Ward councillor is still working tirelessly for the Taupō District, and Turangi in particular.

"I like the fact that I can talk to like-minded people who are positive about our district and that I can help to bring some positive change," she says, "whether it's for youth, for the environment, or economic development, I like to try and be an advocate for all of our community."

Cr Stewart's first piece of advocacy was to give a voice to some of Turangi's young people who wanted their own skate park. "It took quite a while, but the kids were really motivated by the idea and the Turangi-Tongariro community board got behind it, and it's been a very well used facility."

Cr Stewart now serves on that community board, and is also on the Fences, Rooding, Reserves and Dogs committee as well as the Audit and Risk committee of Council. "The Audit and Risk Committee was well outside my usual comfort zone and it was quite a steep learning curve. But I'm passionate about learning things so have enjoyed the journey."

She is also passionate about Turangi. After running Maggie's Store Cupboard to help those in need of homeware, she is now chair of the Turangi Foodbank and also finds time to volunteer at the local Hospice shop.

"This kind of work keeps me grounded in my community, and it also means I can get a feeling for the wellbeing of the community. Turangi is really growing into its own now, and there are some very exciting things coming up, so it's great to be able to be a part of that."

» WHAT'S ON?

- Sep 22 Conservation Week Activity Day, Waipahihi Botanical Reserve
- Sep 23 Kawasaki Road Race Series, Bruce McLaren Motorsport Park
- Sep 23 KSM Drift Series, Bruce McLaren Motorsport Park
- Sep 25 Chinese Massage, Taupō Museum
- Until Nov 11 Suzhou: Faith and Life, Taupō Museum

For more information visit www.GreatLakeTaupo.com



Twenty-six new 'Kiwis' were welcomed to the Taupō District last week. Candidates from the United Kingdom, the Philippines, Chile, Ireland and many more countries across the globe came together to take their oath to become New Zealand citizens at the Great Lake Centre.