



## CONSERVATION WORK OF WAKA TIWAI

The catchphrase 'Looking after the place we love' is common-place around our district and its communities. Taupō Museum is not just doing this, but extending to include looking after our taonga, in some restorative work of Waka Tiwai, housed in the Tūwharetoa Room.

The waka was originally found at Opepe in the 1950's and was outside exposed to the elements for over 70 years next to Taupō Police Station. It was relocated to Taupō Museum in 2006 and has become very fragile due its age. It is at high risk of further deterioration due to the drying

out process and the unstable environmental conditions. Conservator Rose Evans and Tautahanga Rameka have been called upon to begin a project to preserve the waka, the first stage of which involves surface removal of lichen and bacterial growth. This is a slow and arduous process, with small brushes and fine wood tools used to carefully extract it. This involves gently removing this, without damaging or chipping the waka. The next steps in the conservation will be a matter for iwi to discuss as to what form the waka will eventually take.

## SPRINKLER RESTRICTIONS WATER ALERT

As we head in to the warmer weather, water restrictions have begun around the district. This is currently a preventative measure with the view of possibly avoiding any larger measures over what is expected to be a long, hot summer. Asset manager water Tom Swindells says the level one restrictions mean sprinklers can only be used between 7am and 9am and 7pm and 9pm each day. "As the district fills up with visitors and temperatures rise, demand for water increases dramatically," he said. "Last year we saw an increase in demand of 50 per cent across the district in January and we are expecting a similar increase this year, so we are asking residents to act now to reduce demand." "Many people have the impression that because we have the lake at the centre of the district we have an unlimited supply of drinking water but the water we take from the lake has to be treated and pumped to houses, so drinking water is a resource that comes with a cost that we have to manage carefully. The more water we have to treat, the more it costs and a lot of that water just ends up on lawns."

**LEVEL 1**  
Use sprinkler systems only between:  
7am – 9am  
7pm – 9pm  
Hand-held hosing anytime.



GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ  
Taupo District Council  
Visit [taupo.govt.nz](http://taupo.govt.nz)  
For more information.

## FREE ON YA BIKE! NEW CYCLING COURSES STARTING SOON

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST NOW!

As more of us take to the streets on two wheels, our road safety team are lining up training courses for cyclists of all ages. The first one booked for the New Year is a Grade II cycling course for all children gearing up to ride on the road. This follows in the tyre tracks of the Grade I training many children around the district will have experienced through their schools earlier this year. Grade II will include more of an emphasis on riding on the road, particularly with traffic and learning and recognising the importance of road rules. It is open to 10-13 year olds who have basic bike handling skills. Future courses will include specific training for e-bike users and possibly one for adult cyclists. Dates for these are yet to be confirmed and will be held if there is enough interest. You can register your interest for the e-bike training now and enrolments are open for the Grade II training. So regardless of whether you are a younger rider, rely on some extra wattage or have never learnt to ride a bike, there is something for everyone coming early next year.

➔ **Wednesday January 23, 9am – 3pm** • **Taupō BMX Carpark, Crown Road, Taupō**  
[taupo.govt.nz/roadsafety](http://taupo.govt.nz/roadsafety)

## » WHAT'S ON?

- Until Jan 14 On the Road Again, Taupō Museum
- Dec 13 – 16 Taupō Christmas Classic, Fibre Fresh National Equestrian Centre
- Dec 15 Turangi Christmas in the Park, Tongariro School

For more information visit [www.GreatLakeTaupo.com](http://www.GreatLakeTaupo.com)

@ Email your elected members at [councillors@taupo.govt.nz](mailto:councillors@taupo.govt.nz)

