

KIDDLE DRIVE ROUNDABOUT ON THE WAY



WORK ON IMPROVING the Napier-Kiddle-Arrowsmith intersection will get underway in November with the construction of a roundabout.

Funding of \$994,500, 51 per cent of the project total, has been secured from Waka Kotahi, with the remaining \$955,500 coming from Council, and design work on the roundabout has been completed by local civil engineers WSP Opus.

With tenders now closed and the contract expected to be awarded in the coming weeks, Mayor David Trewavas said it was great to see the project getting underway.

"We know that many people in our community have been wanting a change to this intersection for some time," Mr Trewavas said. "It is used by many drivers as well as youngsters going to and from school, and we really want it to be safe for all road users."

"I'd like to thank Waka Kotahi for providing a substantial piece of funding for the roundabout, all the team involved in getting this project underway, and everyone in the community who has been a part of the conversation. Clearly there is going to be some inconvenience while the work is going on, so please be patient and drive safe!"



SCHOOL HOLIDAY STORY COMPETITION

CALLING ALL STUDENTS! It's time to get creative these school holidays and enter the Taupō District Libraries' "Best Day at the Library" Story Competition.

Prizes worth more than \$750 are up for grabs and the competition is open to all children aged 5-13 who are residents of the Taupō District.

Write a story, poem or cartoon or create a video titled: "My best day at the library" and use your imagination to tell us what a best day at the library would look like to you. You can be as creative as you like! Entries can be in Te Reo Māori and English and can include illustrations.

Prizes for the winner and runner-up will be awarded in each age category and there will also be plenty of spot prizes. Winners will be announced by Saturday 30 October.

Head to taupo.govt.nz/storycompetition to find out how to enter.

QUIXOTIC AQUATIC



QUIXOTIC AQUATIC IS the fifth of Taupō Museum's "reduce, re-use, recycle, and re-create" exhibitions, and invites participants to create artworks and sculptures of creatures - real or imagined - with an aquatic theme.

The use of "quixotic" in the exhibition title aims to get the artists and creators imagining an underwater world of fun, weird and wonderfulness. The use of materials that would, and should, not be found in our oceans, lakes and waterways will also add a quixotic aspect while reminding us of the importance of keeping these important places litter free.

To register your interest in creating an artwork for the exhibition, which will be displayed in the Taupō Museum during the 2021-22 summer, email your contact details to exhibitions officer, Kerence Stephen, kstephen@taupo.govt.nz and we'll let you know more.



LOCALS Supporting LOCALS

BRODIE KNOWS ROAD SAFETY

LOCAL WAIPAHIHI PUPIL Brodie Scott can say he knows road safety; and he has the prize to prove it.

Council's Road Safety team put a competition together asking students questions around road safety measures including passing others, texting while driving (a correct and emphatic "NO!" from Brodie on this one), passing driveways safely and much more.

Brodie has won a \$50 voucher and it's fair to say he's rapt!

To find out more about road safety and courses on offer head to taupo.govt.nz/roadsafety



COUNCIL COMPOSTING WORMS TO WRIGGLE ON

Worms will continue to save thousands of tonnes of sewage sludge from going to landfill in the Taupō District thanks to a recent decision by elected members to renew a highly successful community partnership for a further five years.

Council has renewed its contract with MyNOKE, an organisation that specialises in "vermicomposting" and organic resource management. Vermicomposting is a process where waste products are mixed with waste fibre from the paper-making process, green waste products and worms to create compost.

Bio-solids, otherwise known as organic matter recycled from sewerage, are taken from Taupō treatment plants. MyNoke then uses millions of worms to break down the solid waste.

Council operations manager Three Waters, Mr Kevin Sears, said vermicomposting has gained a lot of popularity in both industrial and domestic settings.

"That's because, compared with conventional composting, it's a great way of treating organic wastes more quickly, and to keep organic waste from landfill - which helps cut down on carbon emissions. Worms create a manure, known as vermicast, that can be used as a nutrient-rich organic fertiliser and soil conditioner. It cleverly reduces what's going into our landfill while also turning the biowaste into a useful environmentally friendly product," he said.

