

## ACACIA BAY WATER MAIN NEARLY DONE



**WORK TO CONNECT Acacia Bay and Mapara residents to the Taupō town water supply is nearing completion.**

The project has seen 3.3km of large diameter water pipe laid along Acacia Bay Road, 1.8km of existing pipelines upgraded, including replacement of the 60m-long stainless steel water pipe beneath Control Gates Bridge, and upgrades to the Nukuhau pump station.

Project manager Ben Schubert says the project has been a long one and thanked contractors for a great job,

and the community for their patience.

“This project has involved a lot of traffic management and we’d really like to thank everyone for bearing with us,” he said. “This connection means Acacia Bay and Mapara residents have a much more resilient water supply.”

Mr Schubert said contractors will put the finishing touches to the pathway near the Acacia Bay shops this week and also reinstate the footpath on the western side of Control Gates Bridge. Commissioning of the connection will take place in the new year.

## MANGAKINO POOL PAINTING PROJECT BEGINS

**SWIMMERS IN MANGAKINO will have to wait a little bit longer before they can cool off in the Mangakino Community Pool this summer – but it will be worth the wait, with water lovers soon to have a newly-painted pool.**

Painters were due to start this week, with District Aquatics Manager Ryno Nienaber saying the pool needed a freshen up.

“It is quite a process to drain the pool, get it cleaned, painted, and refilled with the water treated,” he said. “If we don’t have any weather delays, we hope to have it open by Christmas.”

Another bonus for the Mangakino community is that from this year, once the pool opens, it will be free of charge to pop in for a dip!



## ‘SENSELESS’ TREE DAMAGE AT WHAKAMARU

**LOCAL WHAKAMARU RESIDENTS are shocked and angry over the deliberate ringbarking of trees along the Whakamaru lakefront.**

Mangakino/Pouakani councillor Kirsty Trueman said several trees were “brutally” ringbarked along a walkway bounding the lake.

“This was an awful and senseless thing to do. These trees offered protection for newly-planted native shrubs and trees. Our local Whakamaru Ratepayers and Residents group has worked hard over many years to protect and enhance the natural environment in the Sandy Bay area, and to see deliberate damage like this is really terrible.”

Cr Trueman said anyone with any information should contact the Police.



## LAKE MARAETAI CLOSED FOR WEED HARVESTING

**WEED CONTROL IS taking place this year in Lake Maraetai on 1 to 3 December. The swimming area and boat ramp will be closed to the public over this time.**

Our friends at Mercury Energy are trimming the lake weed before the warmer weather hits and we get more swimmers and boaties to the lake over summer.

Thanks for your patience during this time.

## QUIRKY KIWIANA IN TAUPŌ MUSEUM’S NEWEST EXHIBITION

**ICONIC NEW ZEALAND artist Jason Kelly brings his trademark quirky hand-brushed style to the exhibition Second Helpings in the Taupō Museum’s Niven Room over the summer holidays.**

The exhibition opens on Saturday 11 December and features Jason’s series of 18 Kiwiana grub-inspired paintings on reclaimed wood. The paintings were commissioned by NZ Post for the Kiwi Kitchen Collectors Stamps in 2015.

“I’m happy to be able to exhibit my unique humorous quirk in a Second Helpings serving of my NZ Post Stamp Series, Kiwi Kitchen,” Jason says.

Jason’s work will be on display till 7 February 2022. Check the Taupō Museum Facebook page for possible workshop events and talks (Covid level dependent).

Taupō Museum is open seven days from 10am to 4.30pm and entry is free to Taupō District residents with proof of address.



## TĪTĪRAUPENGA STREET TRANSFORMATION MOVES NORTH



**TĪTĪRAUPENGA STREET WILL be closed between Scannell Street and Spa Road from Monday, 6 December to Thursday, 9 December as the final phase of the intersection upgrade gets underway.**

This part of Tītīraupenga Street is scheduled for a full reseal, and in preparation the road will be closed and the surface stripped back to ensure there is a solid base; the road will then reopen with a temporary surface until the reseal gets underway on Thursday, 16 December.

Opepe Street and Tītīraupenga Street will also be closed at times to allow the team to seal around the side roads.

Project manager Izelda Cruz says the closures will allow

the Tītīraupenga works to be completed before the busy Christmas season.

“We recognise these closures cause disruption,” Ms Cruz said, “but the staged road closures we will have in place mean we can get the job done faster and safer.”

“We are really looking forward to finishing the works on this intersection and getting the traffic lights running and feeding into the new traffic light system already in place on Tītīraupenga Street. And we do want to remind the community that the full benefit of these changes will not be seen until all the intersection changes have been made along Tītīraupenga Street, especially the change in priority on Tamamutu Street.”

