

COUNCIL HELPS PEOPLE GET ON THE ROAD



A Taupō District Council community grant is helping fund a training car for adults to learn to drive. From left: Taupō District Council strategic partnerships advisor Rose Prisk, learner driver Cameron Henson and Taupō Learning Centre driving tutor Claire Northcroft.

A LOCAL ADULT education group is now able to help people get their practical driver licences after a community grant from Taupō District Council to lease a training car.

Driving tutor Claire Northcroft of the Taupō Learning Centre says the funding has been vital for their ongoing work in getting people qualified to drive, through both theory and practical education.

"We're stoked that we're being supported to be out there in the community with this wonderful little car. It'll help us to prepare people in our community to sit and pass their restricted and full driver's licences and to be safer drivers on our roads."

Cameron Henson, one of the first to take part in the new driver training, says the training is giving him the confidence to drive safely on the roads and be more independent by being able to drive to work and around Taupō.

Local community organisations and individuals can apply for a variety of different grants from the council. Applications for creative and sports travel grants are open now. Go to taupo.govt.nz/grants for more information on how to apply.

TODDLER TIME BACK AT TAUPŌ LIBRARY

WE'RE EXCITED TO announce that Toddler Time will return at Taupō Library on Wednesdays at 10.30am from 16 February. Come along and enjoy some stories, songs, and crafty fun.

We look forward to seeing you soon. Check out our website for more information and current COVID-19 guidelines at www.taupo.govt.nz/community/libraries/kids.



PLAYGROUND TEMPORARILY CLOSED FOR TREE MAINTENANCE

IF YOU'RE AN early-morning playground user, be aware that tomorrow (Friday) from 6.30am the new Tongariro South Domain Warrior Mountains playground Te Papa Tākaro o Ngā Maunga Toa will be closed as arborists complete some tree maintenance.

The work is expected to be completed by mid-morning.

TRANSFORMATION

The Val Raymond Legacy Art Exhibition

19 February - 28 March 2022



LOVE THE ENVIRONMENT?
JOIN THE ULTIMATE ROMANTIC LITTER PICK UP

looking for love and litter

ON SUNDAY, 20 FEBRUARY AT THE LAKEFRONT RESERVE OPPOSITE TAUPŌ MINI GOLF STARTS AT 10AM

YOUR MY VACCINE PASS IS REQUIRED

SUMMER STUDENTS TAKE THE MOST OF OPPORTUNITIES

SUMMER MEANS SPENDING time with family, firing up the barbecue and relaxing with friends.

For 31 students it was also an opportunity to join the Council team in a variety of roles, with some students returning from previous summer stints.

One was Brianna Green, who joined the Parks and Reserves team over summer wielding a weed trimmer to help look after our green spaces.

"It's a nice work environment and my workmates and I have had a few busy days getting everything mowed and trimmed," Brianna said.

"We have a great team here; it wasn't a hard decision to come back a second time; and I have been fortunate enough for the team to offer me another year of work now that my studies are finished too."

Fellow student Sam Stretton, who was employed at Taupō Library, has also taken advantage of the opportunity to learn some skills before heading off to tertiary study.

"I've enjoyed working with the team here in my lead-up to university in Auckland," Sam said. "It has been a lot of fun and hard work, and I'm happy to have been given the opportunity."



Summer student Sam Stretton at work in Taupō Library.

LEGENDARY READERS ENJOY BOOKS OVER SUMMER

BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO the 155 legendary readers from across the Taupō District who took part in the 2021/22 Taupō District Libraries Zeus' Summer Reading Challenge.

The Summer Reading Challenge is a library initiative to maintain children's reading levels over the summer break, foster a love of books and libraries, and engage families with their child's reading.

Kids were challenged to "Be a Legend" over the holidays by reading library books or e-books of their choice and checking in with a librarian at least four times. They were also given booklets with activities they could complete to gain extra entries into a prize draw.

Reading in a countryside hut and making a special miniature reading room box diorama were just two of the amazing stories that the young participants shared with library staff. The children's reporting-in was a highlight, with reviews ranging from super-succinct summaries to multi-page extravaganzas.

Six lucky participants at Tūrangi and Taupō libraries took home the grand prizes this year along with plenty of spot prize winners.

Tūrangi Library Prize Winners were: Angela Schur - \$100 Paper Plus voucher, Kahureremoa Donaldson - \$100 Dropzone voucher, Asia Frew - \$100 Little Trooper voucher.

Taupō Library Prize Winners were: Ella Newth - \$100

Paper Plus Voucher, Mia Archer - \$100 Dropzone voucher, Laurenz Pandel - \$100 Little Trooper voucher.

The programme ran with the support of sponsors Little Troopers, Paper Plus, and Dropzone as well as Genesis Tokaanu and the Friends of the Tūrangi Library.



Summer reading challenge prize winners at Tūrangi Library.

