



OUR PLACE

Ko Konei

Your Whakatane District Council Community Update - August 2015

Beach Street plantings welcomed

Whakatane District Council arborists joined forces with Beach Street residents recently to plant 15 kōwhai trees on their berms.

Council Arborist Malcolm Lowe says the aim was to find an appropriate replacement for the previous silk trees, which had succumbed to age and 'wet feet'. "It's great to see residents working with Council to ensure that plantings are appropriate for the location," he says.

"The future shading effect of the kōwhai was also considered, and the trees were purposefully planted on the north side of the street so that any impact would affect the road rather than the adjacent properties."



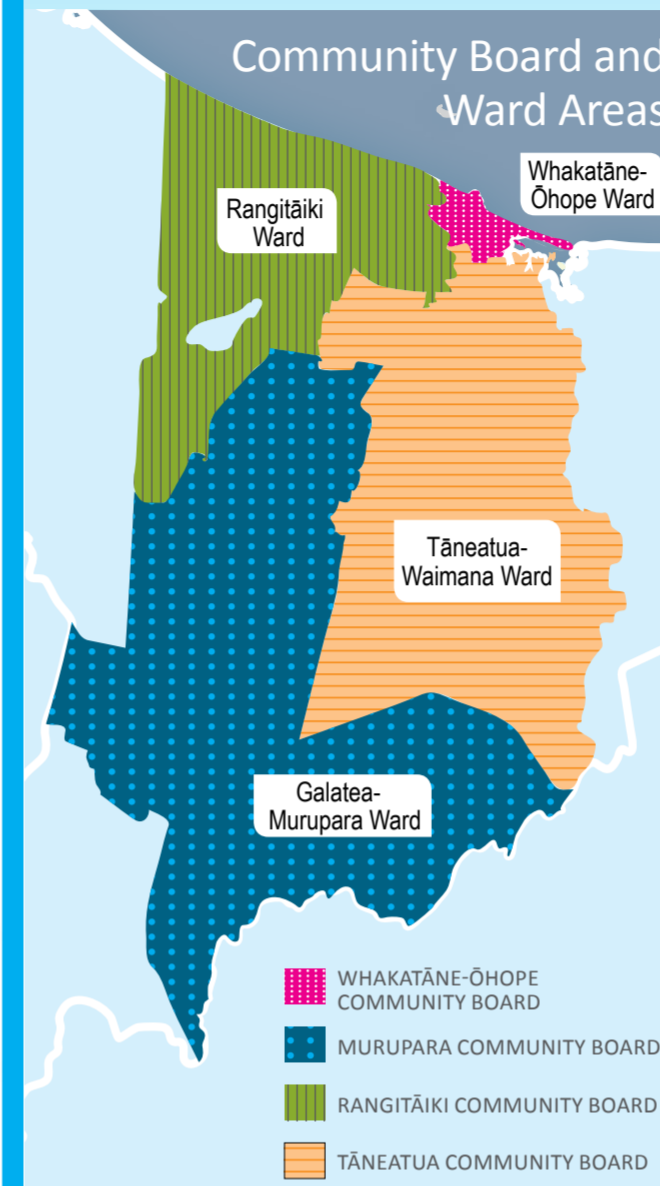
Whakatane District Council arborists Malcolm Lowe and Bobbianne Hughes putting the finishing touches on the newly planted kōwhai trees.

The trees will also attract our other locals, such as tui and kererū, as the nectar from the kōwhai's distinctive yellow flowers provides a popular source of food from July through to November.



Representation review proposal open for submissions

HAVE YOUR SAY



The Whakatane District Council has confirmed its preferred representation structure for the next six years and is now seeking formal community feedback on the proposal. This would see the retention of the current ward structure and number of elected Council members, and the amalgamation of the current Whakatane and Ōhope Beach boards, reducing the overall number of elected members by six.

Mayor Tony Bonne says the community boards were considered to be playing a beneficial role in providing an additional avenue for input into Council decision-making, particularly for the outlying, largely rural areas. "In proposing to merge the existing Whakatane and Ōhope Beach boards, the consensus view of Council was that the two communities are very closely connected, share the same facilities and services and essentially have the same 'communities of interest,'" Mayor Bonne says. It was also noted that the Ōhope Board had struggled to get sufficient nominees to fill all six available positions in recent elections, which had required two by-elections at a significant cost to the community.

Pre-consultation undertaken by the Policy Committee with the community boards saw the Whakatane Board submit in favour of the merged entity, while the Ōhope Board opposed the proposal. Concerns raised included the possibility that Ōhope would have no members on the merged board; that no cost savings would be achieved; that targeted rates would be spent outside the community; that Ōhope was distinct from Whakatane economically and socially; and that the Ōhope Board works to attract visitors to the area, which would not necessarily be a focus for the combined board. The Committee did not accept that the Ōhope community would be disadvantaged or under-represented if the boards were amalgamated, noting that three of the five Councillors representing the Whakatane-Ōhope ward were Ōhope residents, as was the Mayor.

Public submissions on the Representation Review proposals will close at 5pm on Monday, 7 September. For further information or to make a submission online, visit www.whakatane.govt.nz, or collect a submission form from any Council office or library.



Muka Prints Exhibition a 'youth only' privilege

The best way to get young people interested in contemporary art is to put real works of art in their hands. That's the concept behind the Muka Youth Prints Exhibition, which will be coming to Whakatane on 14-15 August. Young people between the ages of five and 18 will be invited to the Little Orchard Room at Te Kōputu to view and purchase the artwork of their choice, on their own, at an affordable price.

Exhibitions Co-ordinator Museum and Arts, Victoria Sinclair, says the cost of art work is normally prohibitive for young people, but Muka offers a solution. "The idea of the Muka Youth Print Exhibition is simply to make original, contemporary work affordable to young people," Ms Sinclair says. "It allows them to choose a piece without considering money or the name of the artist, but purely on the basis of their personal response to the work."

A number of well-known artists from New Zealand and around the world have produced a limited number of small, original prints for the exhibition. Previous New Zealand contributors have included Ralph Hotere, Dick Frizzell, Gretchen Albrecht and Tony Fomison.

Adults can purchase vouchers and are invited to give the gift of art to a young person. Purchases can also be made on behalf of organisations or institutions where the art works will be displayed specifically for the enjoyment of young people.

EXHIBITIONS

betrayal.
PETER ADSETT

BETRAYAL
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On display until Sunday, 13 September 2015

Gisborne-born New Zealand artist Peter Adsett will present his exhibition Betrayal courtesy of Paul Nache Gallery.

TO REMEMBER A TREE
BEN PEARCE

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On display until Sunday, 13 September 2015

To Remember a Tree is an exhibition about new life; through it is cast in a deeply contrasting chiaroscuro of possibilities.

What's on?

WINTER NIGHT MARKET

Friday, 28 August 2015 - from 4:30pm
Wharaurangi, The Strand

Live music, food, drink and a whole lot of fun! Get the family together and head down to the community night market in the centre of Whakatane.

BEACON BUSINESS AND LEISURE SHOW

Friday, 28 August 2015 to Sunday, 30 August 2015
Whakatane War Memorial Hall

The Eastern Bay's Biggest event. Spot prizes, entertainment, live demos and much more.

WHAKATANE'S AMAZING RACE

Sunday, 30 August 2015 - 8:30am
Whakatane Gardens, McGarvey Road

A Girl Guide Jamboree Fundraiser

Visit www.whakatane.com to find out what's happening in our District

TE KŌPUTU A TE WHANGA A TOI
Whakatane Library & Exhibition Centre



Hundreds took part in an epic haka at the recent BOP Steamers Rugby match in a bid to draw the All Blacks to Whakatane. The event was part of the All Blacks to the nation campaign which would see the successful town receive a visit from the All Blacks prior to their departure to the Rugby World Cup.

Tauranga Eastern Link complete

New Zealand's newest stretch of state highway – the Tauranga Eastern Link (TEL) – is now open to the public. The \$455 million NZ Transport Agency project delivers 21 kilometres of four-lane, median-divided highway between Tauranga and Paengaroa.

There is a \$2 toll each way to use this road, but it cuts the journey time to Tauranga by about 12 minutes. There is a range of ways to pay your toll; however, opening up an account is the most convenient. Travellers can choose

from automatic top-up, manual top-up, or monthly billing. Drivers can have multiple vehicles on one account, and the electronic toll points use the latest in tolling technology to allow drivers to travel straight through.



Trustpower Whakatane District Community Award winners announced

The Murupara Youth Leadership Projects Team has won the Supreme Award at the fourth annual Trustpower Whakatane District Community Awards. The Awards were recently announced and presented at a function at the Whakatane Little Theatre.

Trustpower Community Relations Representative Kathlene Cook says it was a pleasure to acknowledge such an incredible voluntary group which is really sparking some life into their small community.

"The Murupara Youth Leadership Projects Team grew from a few passionate people who wanted to see their whanau reconnecting with their community," Ms Cook says. "From there, the group has reached new heights and is providing an incredible base for the young people of Murupara to reconnect with the area and take part in smoke-free and drug-free activities."

Ms Cook says the group is promoting leadership by training their unemployed to become youth workers and increasing the momentum in the small Murupara community. "The opportunity to educate and develop its people has become the focus for this hard-working group."



CATEGORY WINNERS

- Youth Community Spirit**
Anna Glibbery, Whakatane High School
- Heritage and environment**
Nukuhou Saltmarsh Care Group
- Health and Wellbeing**
The Clothing Project
- Arts and Culture**
Theatre Whakatane
- Sports & Leisure**
Bay of Plenty Motorcycle Club Inc
- Education & Child Youth Development**
Eastern Bay of Plenty Life Education Trust