



WHAKATĀNE
District Council
Kia Whakatāne au i ahau

OUR PLACE

Ko Konei

Your Whakatāne District Council
Community Update - August 2016

Pre-election Report available to voters and candidates



The Whakatāne District Council's pre-election report for the forthcoming local government elections is now available for voters and candidates to refer to.

Planning, Regulatory and Corporate Services General Manager David Bewley says the report provides high level information about the Council's performance, priorities, major projects and financial situation and direction.

"Preparation of the report is a requirement of the Local Government Act, and its intent is to provide useful background to

inform political discussions in the lead-up to the election," he says. "Candidates seeking in-depth analysis will also need to refer to our detailed strategy documents, but this does provide a useful snapshot of where we are today and guidance about how to find further information, should that be required."

The pre-election report can be downloaded from the Council's website (whakatane.govt.nz) or is available as a hard copy from Council service centres and District Libraries.

Oxfam Trailwalker report highlights successes



The Oxfam Trailwalker event was held for the first time in Whakatāne District after 10 years in Taupō District and has proven to be a great event for the community on a number of levels. Not only did the event raise close to \$1 million for the Oxfam charity, there was a \$1.9 million economic benefit for the Whakatāne District. Whakatāne District Council is a major sponsor of the event and was involved in many of the aspects of the event coordination, including trail planning and mapping, promotion and PR, and liaison with key stakeholders.

Highlights include:

- The event attracted higher team numbers than in 2015, with 271 teams (1084 participants) starting the event. Teams were accompanied by 1000 support crew, along with 300 volunteers.
- 39% of participants and 46% of supporters had never been to Whakatāne before.
- The final fundraising total was \$967,794, over \$50,000 more than the 2015 event.
- The District experienced an economic benefit of \$1.9 million.
- A unique course was established, which highlights the distinctive scenery and culture of our District.
- High involvement from many iwi and community groups as both volunteers and hosts.

Local Elections 2016
**YOUR VOTE
YOUR COMMUNITY**

Enrolled to vote? Time is running out

The local body election to select the District's Mayor, Councillors and Community Board Members is to be held this year. These are the people who will make the final decisions about how we develop our community, how we set and spend our rates, and where we should be focusing our efforts for the future.

You may be interested in standing for Council and becoming one of those decision-makers for our District. If so, nominations for candidates close on 12 August. The electoral roll also closes on 12 August. After that, anyone who is entitled to vote and who is not enrolled as an elector, or whose details are incorrectly recorded on the roll, will have to cast a 'special vote'.

Visit our website to find out more about our local elections.

www.whakatane.govt.nz/elections-2016



Momentum builds for Kiwi Junior Rugby League Festival

New Zealand's newest rugby league event is set to make its debut in Whakatāne in September, and organiser Tyrone Campbell says it is shaping up to be a major event on the youth sporting calendar.

Mr Campbell, the Director of the Global Games event company, says the Festival will see more than 40 junior rugby league teams from across the country converge on the Eastern Bay from 16-18 September 2016, and expects 3500-4000 people to visit Whakatāne during that time.

Global Games has organised some of New Zealand's largest junior sporting events in locations such as Queenstown, Taupō and Auckland, and has also hosted over 1000 sports teams from across the country and as far afield as France and South Africa.

He says this new event will have a very Kiwi flavour. "The Festival will be unique in that all teams will be hosted on local marae and will be introduced to various aspects of Māori culture during their stay. William Stewart of Whakatāne-based marketing agency Mauriora Marketing and PR is helping to implement this aspect of the event, so the teams can expect a warm and very personal immersion into local Māori culture. The connection between the event and local culture is being celebrated in all aspects of the tournament, with local artist and carver Takutaimoana Harawira being commissioned to develop the festival logo and carve the trophies."

THE WHAKATĀNE AQUATIC AND FITNESS CENTRE reopens this week following its annual maintenance closure. The pools have been drained and cleaned, and tiling repairs have been made alongside the servicing of existing equipment.



molly morpeth canaday award 3D

exhibition opens **06** august
-18 september
2016

The Molly Morpeth Canaday 3D Award, presented by Whakatāne Museum and Arts, has been established to encourage and recognise the quality of creativity found in the area of three-dimensional applied arts, including sculpture.

These awards have been made possible through the generous support of the Molly

Morpeth Canaday Trust, established by Frank Canaday in memory of his wife, Molly Morpeth Canaday. The trust has been a major supporter of the arts in Whakatāne for over 25 years, and Whakatāne Museum and Arts would like to extend our thanks for the trust's continuing support.

For the first time, the Art Award will be exhibited across all three galleries at Te Kōputu a te whanga a Toi – the Whakatāne Library and Exhibition Centre.

The Molly Morpeth Canaday 3D Award will be judged by the director of Auckland's Objectspace, Kim Paton.

The winners of the major \$5,000 award provided by the Molly Morpeth Canaday Trust and the new Whakatāne Society of Arts and Crafts - Local Artist Award of \$250 will be announced by the judge, Kim Paton, at the opening night from 6 pm Friday, 5 August.

To attend this event, please email your RSVP to LEC@whakatane.govt.nz



Te Reo Wainene o Tua: The Sweet Story of Yesteryear

Last month saw Te Kōputu hosting a unique te reo storytelling experience. Te Reo Wainene o Tua – The Sweet Story of Yesteryear – is a te Reo Māori storytelling kaupapa that brings together leading storytellers with a collective aim of "revitalising pūrākau (legendary tales) and normalising te reo".

"Our roopu (group) delivers captivating and relevant stories about our history in 100 percent te Reo Māori, to the tamariki and rangatahi of Aotearoa," say renowned storytellers Joe Harawira, Tamati Waaka and Te Awanuiarangi Black.

Te Reo Wainene o Tua is taking the traditional Māori art of storytelling to audiences around Aotearoa.

Whakatāne District Council selected for new standards programme



The Whakatāne District Council is pleased to announce that it has been selected as a Foundation Council for the recently announced Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) standards programme.

Mayor Tony Bonne said the new LGNZ excellence programme is a great fit for the Council's strategy to continuously improve the quality and value of its services to the community.

"We are thrilled to be selected as one of the founding councils for this important standards programme, which LGNZ has introduced to lift the performance of the local government sector. We are excited by what the programme offers and the chance to share the results with our community and gain feedback on the service priorities we should be focusing on," he says. "We believe we offer great value to the Whakatāne District,

but there is always room for improvement, and never room for complacency."

The local government standards system will demonstrate and improve the value councils provide by independently assessing qualitative and quantitative indicators across leadership, finance, service delivery and community engagement. Local Government New Zealand has selected 21 foundation councils to lead the programme in 2016. Results will be published in 2017.

Through the programme, participating councils will be assessed every three years and given a standard assessment grading, from A to C. Councils will discuss results with their communities and use the assessments to plan improvements.