



OUR PLACE

Ko Konei

Your Whakatane District Council Community Update - July 2018

Annual Grants applications now open

Applications are being called for the Annual Grants Scheme, which makes funding available to groups providing a social service to the residents of the Whakatane District. Preference will be given to groups with a voluntary component. The Scheme has \$50,000 for general funding and \$70,000 for water safety based organisations available for 2018/19. Multi-year funding can be sought for a three-year period, in line with the Council's Long Term Plan. Application forms can be obtained from any Council Office, District Library or accessed via the Council's website - whakatane.govt.nz. Applications must be received by 5pm on Friday, 3 August 2018 and be addressed to The Chief Executive, Whakatane District Council, Private Bag 1002, Whakatane 3158. For further information, contact Janie Storey on 07 306 0530 or email janie.storey@whakatane.govt.nz.

Matariki Tu Rākau plantings commemorate servicepeople

Community members, iwi representatives, members of the RSA, schoolchildren and Council staff will all come together this week to plant trees as part of Matariki Tu Rākau. Falling under the Government's One Billion Trees programme, the Matariki Tu Rākau initiative was announced on Anzac Day, 25 April 2018 as an opportunity for communities to plant trees to recognise the service of men and women of the New Zealand Defence Forces, past and present.

Whakatane District Council Manager Places and Open Spaces, Mike Houghton says the programme is one of a series of initiatives around the country to mark the 100-year anniversary of the end of the First World War. "Matariki falls near the middle of the planting season for most of the country, and the rising of the constellation of Matariki marks a traditional time of rebirth, thanksgiving and remembrance celebrated as the Māori New Year."

Whakatane District Council has secured funding to plant 121 trees across the District. Approximately 100 of those will be smaller native species, planted on the Port Ōhope Recreation Reserve, with each other location receiving three larger specimens. The plantings will take place in:

- Murupara (near the newly developed Rangitāiki River Walkway)
- Waimana Domain
- Tāneatua Skate Park
- Edgecumbe (near the squash club)
- Matatā Domain
- Te Teko
- Port Ōhope Recreation Reserve on Ōhope Spit

Mr Houghton says that each tree-planting site will ultimately be decorated with a commemorative plaque in recognition of Matariki 2018. "The trees will all be native varieties and species will include rimu, matai, miro, titoki, tōtara, puriri, kahikatea, pohutukawa and kanuka."

Mr Houghton concluded that Matariki Tu Rākau plantings will create living salutes, to complement our time-honoured war memorials. "They will be public places where whānau, communities, and visitors, can reflect on the work and sacrifices of our service personnel."

District volunteers recognised



Last month, we recognised the volunteers who make a huge difference to our District through their contribution to our local environment, arts and culture, and community and emergency services. The recipients of Volunteer Recognition Awards are pictured here at the Volunteer Reception held at Te Kōputu in June. The reception was held during National Volunteer Week, which had the theme, "Volunteers, The Heart of our Community."

Shaping our TOMORROW
Ngā rā anamata

Long Term Plan adopted

The Whakatane District Council has adopted its 2018-28 Long Term Plan (LTP), along with a range of supporting documents, and resolved its rates charges for the 2018/19 year.

At an extraordinary Council meeting last week, elected members received Audit NZ's report on the LTP and approved the Revenue and Financing Policy; Development Contributions Policy; Financial Contributions Policy; Significance and Engagement Policy; and the Fees and Charges Schedule for the year beginning 1 July 2018. All of those documents will be available on the Council website (whakatane.govt.nz).

Mayor Tony Bonne welcomed the auditor's unmodified opinion on the Council's budgets and work plans. "This has been a lengthy and complex process, which has involved extensive community engagement and hearings where every submission point was considered and responded to," he said. "We are facing a bow-wave of infrastructure costs in the coming years and as a result, there has been little room for extra spending to meet submitters' requests. However, it's pleasing that we have been able to provide funding for some important community initiatives, while keeping the average rates increase across the District to 3.83 percent."

Mayor Bonne said the Government acknowledges that territorial authorities need funding mechanisms other than rates to make major infrastructure investment affordable for communities, and he looks forward to seeing measures progressed to support future water and wastewater system upgrades.

Also adopted was the rates resolution for the year to 30 June 2019, including general rates charges (based on property capital values); roading rates (targeted and capital value components across the District); community board rates; stormwater rates (targeted and capital value components for each community); refuse removal rates; water rates (a targeted rate for each connection, plus a usage charge); a targeted sewerage rate; and a District growth rate levied against all commercial and industrial properties.

The first rates instalment for the year will be due on Friday, 24 August. A 2.5 percent discount is available if the full year's rates are paid by the first instalment due date. Payments can be made online, by credit card, by setting up a direct debit, by mail, or by calling into the Council Civic Centre in Whakatane or the Murupara Library and Service Centre.

Dog Party at Warren Park Dog Park
Sunday, 29 July 2018 – 2 pm to 3 pm

Whakatane has a new Kuri (Dog) Club! All are welcome at Warren Park's Dog Park enclosure on the last Sunday of every month at 2pm.

Bring some kai to share (or just eat ours!) and your dog/s to run themselves silly. The playground at the Bike Park is right there too - so bring the whole whānau along.

FRUIT TREES FREE TO COMMUNITY GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS

Freshly-picked pears and juicy plums could be on offer for a kohanga, school, or community centre near you. Pride Whakatane will be purchasing 56 fruit trees to gift to worthy community groups and organisations.

To apply for a fruit tree, community groups and organisations are invited to email the Pride Whakatane District Committee Secretary, Mrs Sandy Pryde, at prydeworms@xtra.co.nz with details about the group or organisation, and how it would benefit from planting a fruiting tree. The Committee would like recipients to keep in contact after planting the tree and send through photos every season to show the tree's progress.



WHAT'S ON AT TE KŌPUTU?

9 – 22 July at all District Libraries

MATARIKI CHALLENGE BOOKLET

Have some fun indoors with the Matariki Activity Booklet available at all Whakatane District Libraries and online.

Monday, 9 July from 10 am – 4 pm

MATARIKI ATUA DRAWING WORKSHOP

In partnership with Te Haunui Art Leading artist Te Haunui Tuna will share his process of creating his body of work - Atua Māori. He will also share his learnings and he welcomes questions from all budding artists. Places are strictly limited and are intended for artists that have a drawing project in progress. Contact the library on 306 0509 to secure a spot.

Tuesday, 10 July from 10 am – 4 pm

TA MOKO

Leading artist Te Haunui Tuna showcases his traditional tattooing talents in a live demonstration while explaining the entire process. Te Haunui welcomes questions from anyone interested in getting a tattoo or considering a career as a tattoo artist.

Thursday, 12 July from 10 am – 12 pm

CREATIVE ART WORKSHOP

With Marie Dixon Suitable for children aged 6+ Children will have the opportunity to create their very own piece of Matariki based art. Materials supplied.

Monday, 16 July at 10:30 am

THE TRAVELLING TUATARAS ARE JOINING US!

Interactive story telling at its best with lots of songs thrown in. Suitable for the whole family, so come along for this one hour show.

16 – 22 July

MATARIKI ARTS AND CRAFT

Craft making and art colouring resources will be available for families for self-directed fun.



Tuesday, 17 July from 10 am – 12 pm
GAMES DAY AT TE KŌPUTU

An active morning of giant games and activities for the whole family including a Matariki challenge.

18 and 19 July from 9 am – 4 pm

MATARIKI ESCAPE ROOM CHALLENGE

Can you solve the clues and escape before time runs out?

Teams of 4 to 6 people aged 13+. Bookings essential via facebook.com/whakatanelibrary

Friday, 20 July

STARS OF REMEMBRANCE

Collect and decorate your stars in memory of a loved one. Stars are available from Te Kōputu and the Whakatane Aquatic and Fitness Centre from 9 July. A closing ceremony for the Matariki Festival and a special celebration of our loved ones will take place on Friday, 20 July. Further details to come.

BOOMERANG BAGS AT THE LIBRARY

Saturday, 21 July 2018 – 10 am to 12 pm

Boomerang Bags Whakatane is holding a sewing bee at Whakatane Library to celebrate Plastic Free July.

Come along in the school holidays with your children. Kids can decorate a pocket, which we'll attach to a boomerang bag to take home.

Join us to make bags - sewing skills not essential. Other jobs include cutting and ironing. Bring your sewing machine if possible. Together, we can reduce plastic pollution!

Proudly supported by Whakatane Ki Mua and Waste-Zero-Whakatane.