



OUR PLACE

Ko Konei

Your Whakatāne District Council
Community Update - August 2018

Free Digital TRAINING Digi-EBOP

*Raising digital literacy in
the Eastern Bay of Plenty*

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- Android
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EDGECUMBE

Thursdays 10am – 12pm
Edgecumbe Library, College Road

WHAKATĀNE

Wednesdays 9:30am – 11:30am
Te Kōputu – Whakatāne Library
and Exhibition Centre

*Note: Sessions are held during
the school term.*



WHAKATĀNE MUSEUM RESEARCH CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT

Contractors Watts and Hughes officially handed over the redeveloped Museum Research Centre to Council this week following completion of the building works. Detailed interior tasks are now underway and an official opening of the new facility is planned for mid-October. Museum collections are being packed and relocated from the off-site storage facility to their final location. The final stages of the redevelopment will involve a footpath upgrade from Pyne Street to Shapley Place and upgrades to Peace and Burgess Parks, to complement the new facility. Council is now liaising with the Ōhope Beach School Board of Trustees with the goal of bringing the Prime Minister to Whakatāne to officially open the new Museum Research Centre and school building.

Ngā Tapuwae o Toi Walkway improvements underway

Stage two of the Ngā Tapuwae o Toi Walkway upgrade - from Kapu Te Rangi junction to the Kōhī Point Lookout - may lead to minor delays for walkers during the coming weeks.

The project is part of an ongoing track improvement programme being undertaken by the Whakatāne District Council and will include a number of improvements, including the removal of some existing steps and the installation of new box steps, erosion controls and improved track benching.

Site work began this week and will take approximately six weeks to complete. The walkway will remain open to the public throughout the upgrade period, but walkers may face short delays at any of the multiple work zones, and when helicopter operations are underway.

Whakatāne District Council Places and Open Spaces Asset Officer, Paul Edhouse, says the scheduled works will continue to add value to one of the country's best urban coastal walkways. "We're grateful for the public's cooperation while the upgrading programme progresses," he says. "The feedback we've received from track users about the previous upgrading work has been very positive."

Caution signs will be placed at track access points to inform users of the construction work underway.

The Council apologises for any inconvenience experienced by track users during the construction period.



Council Zero Carbon Bill submission

The Whakatāne District Council's submission on the Ministry for the Environment's proposed Zero Carbon Bill supports net zero emissions of long-lived greenhouse gases by 2050 and the stabilisation of short-lived gases, such as methane, at or below existing levels.

The submission was discussed extensively at a recent Council Policy Committee meeting, and although there was support for a proposed, 'aspirational' net zero emissions target across all greenhouse gases, concerns about the likely impact on dairy industry viability and the local and national economy saw the draft approach amended.

Councillor Gerard van Beek pointed out that rotting vegetation and municipal effluent treatment ponds both emit methane and said a compulsory zero emissions policy would come at a "horrendous cost".

Councillor Russell Orr said dairy cows produce a significant proportion of the country's greenhouse gas emissions and the only way to change that would be to reduce the number of cows. "That would mean we could end up in a position where the entire country suffers."

Members supported the alternative, short-lived greenhouse gas emissions stabilisation target provided by the Ministry for the Environment. All other aspects of the draft Bill were supported, including the setting of emissions budgets and timeframes; and that the Bill should cover adapting to climate change.

Young Achiever Awards

The Young Achiever Awards are held annually, and are organised jointly by the Whakatāne District Council, Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board and the Rotary Club of Whakatāne West. The Awards recognise high-achieving sportspeople and students in the Whakatāne District.

Nominations are called for students who, in the previous 12 months between 1 October and 30 September, have attained national or international recognition in their sporting or academic achievements, or have won an event while representing the Bay of Plenty. Applications will be opening later this month so start thinking about eligible young achievers to nominate.

For more information, visit whakatane.govt.nz

Let's talk about stormwater



STORMWATER DROP-IN INFORMATION SESSIONS

Wednesday, 15 August 11:30am – 1:30pm
Little Orchard Activity Room
Te Kōputu – Whakatāne Library
and Exhibition Centre

Thursday, 16 August 4:30pm – 6:30pm
Little Orchard Activity Room
Te Kōputu – Whakatāne Library
and Exhibition Centre

The Council is using this as an opportunity to review the overall stormwater management system for Whakatāne to plan for a stronger, more resilient system. We need your help to achieve that, and we'd like to talk to you to find out more about stormwater in your area.

We are holding drop-in sessions to help people understand why stormwater management is so important, and so the community can help us figure out where there may be issues we don't know about. If you live in the Whakatāne urban area (including Coastlands), we would love to see you at one of these sessions.

TOI'S CHALLENGE
18KM RUN, RELAY AND 6KM FUN WALK
9AM SUNDAY, 18 NOVEMBER
*Stunning bush, beach and clifftop trail
around Whakatāne and Ōhope.*

ENTER ONLINE www.sporty.co.nz/whakataneahc
Whakatane Athletics & Harrier Club

Whakatāne & Ōhope
Everything under the sun
whakatane.com



Waste-Zero Whakatāne

Waste-Zero Whakatāne is a community group made up of people who are keen to share ideas and support projects that will help Whakatāne move towards Zero Waste.

For Plastic-Free July, Waste Zero Whakatāne had a range of competitions and activities to help encourage the change away from plastic. Pictured here is one of the prize packs that was given away. The challenge now is to make August and every other month as plastic-free as you can. Start by refusing plastic and looking for more sustainable options such as produce bags, takeaway coffee cups and beeswax foodwraps.

To find out more, connect with Waste Zero Whakatāne on Facebook.