



## MATATĀ BLUELIGHT

Last week, 30 Matatā Cadets and eight adults headed off to Taupō, with stops in between learning about the history of Ngāti Rangitīhi. A stop in Rotorua was made for lunch and a surprise jet boat ride to Mokoia Island to learn about the love story of Tūtanekai and Hinemoa, before heading to Wairākei in Taupō.

Activities on the trip included a soak in De Bretts hotpools, a boat cruise on Lake Taupō to see the Ngātoroirangi rock carving and learn of the history of the area, mini golf and the Rock n Ropes high ropes course.

The trip was rounded off with a mandatory photo with the famous #LOVETAUPO sign, and a crack at the hole in one on the lake.



## MATATĀ WASTEWATER UPDATE

Ground and surface water testing at key sites in and around Matatā will kick off next month as the project team continues to progress through the steps to find a suitable wastewater solution for the town.

The testing will provide better understanding and robust data on the environmental effects of the current septic tank/effluent disposal field systems, which is important information for more detailed assessments that may be needed as the project progresses.

Project Manager Janeane Joyce is very pleased that plans are being finalised to bring on two suitably skilled people to assist the cultural overlay workstream. "This work underpins the project and unlocks our ability to engage with tangata whenua and the community. Background relationship and technical work will continue to the end of this year, and in the first quarter of next year we look forward to being able to talk to the community first, and those interested in the wider district, about progress as we work with the Co-design Governance Group on possible solutions."

## BOATING NEAR MOTITI ISLAND?

You can no longer anchor on, or take any marine life from, the three reefs making up the Motiti Protection Area.

This rāhui was introduced on 11 August 2021 and applies to all. Do your bit to protect our marine environment and taonga species.

For more information or to download the GPS coordinates visit [www.boprc.govt.nz/mpa](http://www.boprc.govt.nz/mpa)



# FIRE AND EMERGENCY NEW ZEALAND

Fire and Emergency New Zealand have now established 17 unified Districts across the country, doing away with the historic split of urban and rural areas.

Within the Bay of Plenty district, there are six career fire stations and 34 volunteer fire brigades, with one industrial brigade. With the new structure comes a new district team and a renewed focus on community engagement.

Like our Facebook Page @BayofPlentyFENZ and keep your eyes peeled over the next few weeks as we introduce the team, who are keen to be working with our communities.

This team is split into two areas. The Risk Reduction team cover both technical building and compliance advice, along with fire investigation. The Community Resilience and Recovery team works and engages with other emergency service providers, community groups and iwi to help communities become better prepared for emergency situations and recovery from them.

If you would like some fire safety advice or have any questions, please feel free to get in touch: RiskReductionBayOfPlenty@fireandemergency.nz

We look forward to working with you all moving forward.



# MATATĀ NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT

## 3 tips for being prepared...



### 1. Know your neighbours

Our communities are safer and more resilient when we get to know each other.



### 2. Have a plan and practice it

Take part in ShakeOut and create a household emergency plan + checklist.



### 3. Be considerate

Don't forget to include your pets and vulnerable neighbours in your plans.



Join for free today!

P. 027 255 1351

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## Keep in touch

Find information, ask us questions or give the District and Regional Councils your feedback by contacting us as below:



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EMAIL [info@whakatane.govt.nz](mailto:info@whakatane.govt.nz)

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Please send newsletter feedback and contributions to [info@whakatane.govt.nz](mailto:info@whakatane.govt.nz), with Matatā newsletter in the subject line.



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