



MURUPARA COMMUNITY BOARD NEWSLETTER

Rangatahi Driver Challenge Programme a success

The Rangatahi Driver Challenge held in Murupara last month attracted 40 young drivers, and was such a success that similar events are being held in Kawerau and Ōpōtiki. The event was a collaboration with NZ Police, Blue Light, Ngāti Manawa, Te Puna Ora o Mataatua and Whakatāne District Council. There were games and challenges to win prizes, a truck unit experience, vehicle TWIRL (tyres, windscreens, indicators, rust, lights), car restraint checks, and a free barbeque and no-alcohol bar.



COVID-19 vaccinations

Rotorua DHB has advised that anyone older than 65 years, or with a chronic health condition, is now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccination.

To book an appointment, please call 0800 115 117 or email covid.imms@lakesdhb.govt.nz. They need your name, date of birth, contact phone number and NHI number (contact the Murupara Medical Centre if you don't have it).

The Vaccination Hub is located at the Rotorua Central Mall, next to Noel Leeming, and is currently open Tuesday to Saturday. You must have an appointment booked to receive the vaccination.

At this stage, it's likely that most COVID-19 vaccinations will be delivered at hubs and the Murupara Medical Centre doesn't anticipate being involved with this.

No more cheque payments

Banks are phasing out cheques this year. This means Whakatāne District Council will stop accepting cheques as a payment method after **Friday, 21 May 2021** – which is the due date for the fourth rates instalment.

If you use cheques to make payments to Council, you need think about another option. You can choose direct debit, internet banking, EFTPOS, credit card or cash.

We know this is a big change for some of our customers, so we will work with you to ensure your alternative payment decision is the right one for you. Visit the Murupara Service Centre, call us on 0800 306 0500 or email info@whakatane.govt.nz – we're here to help.



BE FIRE SAFE

Fire and Emergency New Zealand offers a free programme to help young people who show an unsafe fascination about fire. More than 90 percent of young people who complete this programme aren't involved in further fire setting.

The aim of the programme is to reduce the number of deaths, injuries and the millions of dollars' worth of property damage caused by juvenile fire setting. The confidential programme doesn't try to make the young person feel guilty, but rather educates them so they know the dangers of fire, the speed it spreads and how easily accidents happen. Anyone who has legal care of someone aged under 17 can refer a child to the programme.

More information can be found at fireandemergency.nz/kids-and-parents



THE JOURNEY FORWARD

The Long Term Plan (LTP) affects you, your whānau, your friends, your neighbours, even your dog! The LTP sets out the Council's vision, direction, work plan and budgets for the next 10 years.

Tell the Whakatāne District Council what you think about the big issues and key questions by **5pm Sunday, 23 May**.

There are lots of ways to do this – including online at whakatane.govt.nz/ltp and on Council's social media feeds.

Winners celebrated

Huge congratulations to our local winners in the recent Bay of Plenty Industry Dairy Awards.

- **Sharleen and Aran Sealey** (pictured right) won the Share Farmer of the Year category, and scooped four merit awards in the Livestock and Productivity, Farm Environment, Health, Safety and Biosecurity, and Dairy Hygiene categories.
- **Hayden Purvis** was awarded runner-up in the Dairy Manager category and won two merit awards for Stock and Leadership.
- **Brendan Teka** won Most Promising Entrant.



What fantastic achievements for these entrants, who represented our community so well – congratulations again.

INTRODUCING OUR FUTURE LEADERS

Future Leaders is an initiative of Inspiring Stories, a Kiwi charity founded in 2011 with the vision to see every young New Zealander unleash their potential to change the world.

Two local wāhine have joined the Future Leaders Programme.

Kia ora e te whānau

My name is **Waimarie Wright**, and I joined Whakatāne Future Leaders to gain better experience and skills to pass on to our rangatahi and to become a better leader.

Every day is an opportunity to improve and do something good, and I felt that being involved with Future Leaders will help me achieve that and more.



Kia ora ko **Adrianna Jenner** toku ingoa
No Nga iwi o Tuhoe, Te Arawa me Ngati
Manawa Ahau
No Murupara Ahau

I have been working with youth since I was 12 years old, when I joined the Whakatāne Youth Council. I've been involved with the Youth Leadership Project Team to run activities in the Murupara area.



I am very passionate about working with youth and try to help any way I can, including figuring out different events we can create in our community.

MURUPARA LIBRARY AND SERVICE CENTRE UPDATE

An ANZAC colouring competition was one of the highlights of the holiday programme at the Murupara Library and Service Centre during the April school holidays. In partnership with Eastbay REAP, Whaea Debbie



Ranui supported our local rangatahi with reading, postcards, activities and games.

A big thank you to everyone for your patience with reduced services during the last two weeks, while the inside of our library and customer service areas were painted. Library bookings and full library services are now available.

BE A TOURIST IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD

Epic Escape is an exciting, exhilarating and interactive experience for people of all ages.

Whānau and friends will just love it and as the weather starts to turn this winter, it's a great way to get out of the house and still keep warm and dry.

The challenge? Following clues and hints, you're tasked with escaping a room using only your group's wits and brain power.

With multiple unique rooms to take on – you'll be back again and again!

Epic Escape: Level 1,
88 The Strand, Whakatāne
epicscape.co.nz



What's on

Murupara Community Board meeting

WHEN: 10am Tuesday, 8 June 2021

WHERE: Galatea Hall, Mangamate Road, Galatea

All members of the public are welcome to attend.

Long Term Plan consultation

WHEN: Friday, 23 April to Sunday, 23 May

WHERE: Submission forms available at the

Murupara Service Centre, or tell us what you think at whakatane.govt.nz/ltf.

Community Market Days

WHEN: 9am to 12pm, every second Saturday

WHERE: St Mark's Presbyterian Church – corner Oregon Drive and Matai Street, Murupara.

Stalls available – contact Ron Koroo on 027 359 9536 for more information.



Story ideas to: Alison Silcock T. 027 451 2087 or 366 4087
E. alison.silcock@whakatane.govt.nz