

## HAVE YOUR SAY ON DISTRICT LEADERSHIP – VOTE NOW

You have an opportunity to influence who will make the decisions that will guide our future in the Whakatāne District. Your vote will make a difference, so make sure you get your voting papers in the mail.

If you are not on the Electoral Roll you will not have received a voting document in the mail. It's not too late for both residential electors and ratepayer electors to enrol, however you will be required to cast a special vote. Residential electors can obtain an Application for Registration as a Parliamentary elector from any post shop, by phoning 0800 36 76 56 (0800 ENROL NOW), or visiting [www.elections.org.nz](http://www.elections.org.nz)

Ratepayer electors (i.e. ratepayers whose address on the Parliamentary Roll is not within the Whakatāne District Council area) can obtain an Enrolment Form for Ratepayer Electors from the Whakatāne District Council, by phoning 0800 922 822 or visiting [www.whakatane.govt.nz](http://www.whakatane.govt.nz). These forms must be completed and received by Friday, 11 October 2013.

### SPECIAL VOTING

Special voting will continue until 12 noon, Saturday, October 12 2013. You may cast a special vote if:

- You are qualified as a residential or ratepayer elector but your name is not on the Electoral Roll or is incorrectly recorded (and you have completed the required forms)
- You spoil, lose or don't receive voting documents
- You are a new resident or have lived in the district for more than one month

Special voting will be available at the Whakatāne District Council Office, over the voting period during normal business hours and between 9am to 12noon on Saturday, 12 October 2013 (access from the Boon Street entrance), and the Murupara Service Centre until 4pm Friday, 11 October 2013.

Local Elections 2013  
**YOUR VOTE  
YOUR COMMUNITY**

## PROPOSED DISTRICT PLAN SUBMISSIONS AVAILABLE ON COUNCIL WEBSITE

The Whakatāne District Council has received close to 400 submissions on its Proposed District Plan. Submissions closed on 13 September, with feedback being received from a wide range of organisations and individuals.

All submissions, including the Council's own, have been made available on the Whakatāne District Council website.

Submissions will now be summarised, and a summary of the decisions requested will be publicly notified at the end of November. At that time, submitters will be able to make further submissions in support of, or in opposition to any of the submissions lodged. Submission hearings will be held in 2014 and will provide submitters with an opportunity to present their case in person to a Hearings Committee, or in some instances, to an Independent Commissioner.

Prior to the further submission process, the Council has also committed to consulting as widely as possible on the matters raised in its Executive submission seeking a deferred marine precinct zoning for Council-owned land at Bunyan Road.

Manager Policy, Julie Gardyne, says the Council is pleased with both the number of submissions received and the degree of research and consideration which has been undertaken by most submitters. "We look forward to hearing further from submitters through the further submissions process and in next year's hearings and detailed plan considerations," she says.

Anyone wanting further information on the submission process should ring the Council on 306 0500 or see the Council's website for a copy of the submissions.

## ANNUAL REPORT ADOPTED IN RECORD TIME

The Whakatāne District Council's Annual Report for 2012/13 was adopted by the outgoing Council last month – possibly the first time that an Audit NZ-approved document has been available for adoption before the end of the Council triennium.

Both the Council and Whakatāne Airport Joint Venture Annual Report were received and adopted at the last meeting of the current Council term on Wednesday, 18 September, approximately six weeks earlier than normal. Councillors noted the staff contribution to that achievement, which ensures that any new members of the incoming Council will not have to deliberate on matters which they were not directly involved in.

Both annual reports will be published and made available for inspection at Council offices and District Libraries, and on the Council website ([www.whakatane.govt.nz](http://www.whakatane.govt.nz)) from 18 October. A summary of the Council annual report will also be published and distributed to households in a local free-delivery newspaper on 16 October, with

copies also made available to Post Office boxholders throughout the district and via rural or house-to-house deliveries in the southern part of the district.

Amongst the highlights noted in the Council Annual Report was a significant improvement in the levels of service targets achieved, with 88 percent of targets met or exceeded, compared with 73 percent in 2011/12.

The average level of customer satisfaction with all Council services also increased to 74.2 (where 0 = completely dissatisfied and 100 = completely satisfied) compared to 71.4 in 2011/12. Capital projects completed on schedule jumped to 88 percent, 11 percent up on the previous year.

A key financial highlight was the achievement of a \$43,000 rating surplus, which means that rates charges for the year were within 0.1 percent of the level required to fund council operations and services. A deficit would have meant the underfunding involved would have to be covered by a rates increase in the 2014/15 year.

## WHAT'S ON THE EVENTS CALENDAR?

For more information on any of these events, and to find out what else is happening in and around our District, visit [www.whakatane.com](http://www.whakatane.com)

### ŌHOPE IRONMAN – Today 5 October 2013

The inaugural Ōhope Ironman event, which is on today, offers competitors a beautiful venue and ocean conditions that our W6 outrigger canoe paddlers should find both exhilarating and exciting. The event involves an open ocean 30km W6 outrigger canoe race around Moutohorā (Whale Island); a surf ski and kayak leg at Ōhope Beach; a bike course along Pohutukawa Avenue towards Ōhiwa Harbour; and a fun run/walk starting and finishing on Ōhope Beach directly in front of the Whakatāne Surf Life Saving Club.



### THE ANNUAL CHARITY FASHION PARADE & GARDEN PARTY 20 October 2013, 1pm – 4pm

This annual event, which is held at Landscapes for Lifestyles on Gateway Drive, is a fundraiser for the Eastern Bay Breast Cancer Support Network. The afternoon

will feature a Fashion Works catwalk spectacular, fabulous spot prizes and raffles, live music, wine and nibbles (creatively prepared by Waiariki hospitality students) and guest speaker, Lisa O'Neill. Tickets are \$40.

### CHICAGO – WHAKATĀNE LITTLE THEATRE 25 October–9 November 2013

Theatre Whakatāne brings you the delights of Chicago - a musical set in Prohibition-era Chicago. The story is a satire on corruption in the administration of criminal justice and the concept of the "celebrity criminal". This show is bound to impress!

### MANAWAHE MAGIC THREE 2 November 2013

This event offers competitors the options of a 15km or 30km mountain bike race, or a 15km or 7km fun run/walk/mountain bike ride. The event is organised by the Manawahe District Society Inc and supported by the Manawahe Eco Trust and will take place at the Mackintosh's farm on Manawahe Road.

## COUNCILS JOIN TO ASSESS INDUSTRIAL SITES

Staff from Whakatāne District Council and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council will begin a joint project this week to inspect pollution-risk industrial sites in the Whakatāne area where discharges could affect water quality.

The inspections will involve talking to more than 50 site operators over two weeks about their management plans, and identifying any potential issues such as run-off to stormwater systems.

In recent months, both councils have been involved in responding to two incidents where contaminants have entered the town's stormwater system. Whakatāne District Council Asset Engineer, Leilani Salanguit, says the audit will be of benefit

to both of the councils, and the businesses involved.

"This will enable our councils to identify and discuss potential issues with the business operators, and help them to establish better management and mitigation plans," she says. "At the same time, it will enable us to map and define where discharges to both land and water might occur, and what impact they might have."

The audit will involve staff from the District Council's Water and Waste Team, and the Regional Council's Pollution Prevention Team. Following the initial visits to pollution-risk sites, residual inspections will be carried out through November.

## OVERNIGHT PARKING NOW AVAILABLE FOR SELF-CONTAINED VEHICLES

Travellers looking to park their self-contained vehicles overnight now have a number of options within the Whakatāne District.



Parking for self-contained vehicles became available on 1 October 2013, following a decision by the Whakatāne District Council earlier this year.

Council Technical Advisor – Reserves, Fiona Hennessey, says four locations have become available within Whakatāne and Ōhope, with a maximum stay of two nights in each location. "The McAlister Street Carpark and Port Ōhope Boat Ramp each have five designated sites available for self-contained vehicles, while Mahy Reserve and Maraetōtara Reserve each have three designated sites," she says. "Along with a maximum two-night stay, conditions for overnight camping include the requirement for vehicles to display evidence of a current self-containment certificate, and that overnight parking is permitted only in the designated sites as displayed on signage at that location."

The final list of sites and conditions for self-contained motorhome overnight parking was agreed by the Council's Monitoring and Policy Committee at its 12 June 2013 meeting. To implement overnight camping on these sites, the Committee agreed to an amendment to the Ōhope Reserves Management Plan and a Council resolution to designate sites under Part 3 of the Whakatāne District Council Public Places Consolidated Bylaw 2007.

Ms Hennessey says ongoing consultation is occurring with the New Zealand Motor Caravan Association and local camp ground operators to inform them of the approach being taken by the Council.

## CHILD RESTRAINT RULES ARE CHANGING

There's a new restraints law coming in on 1 November 2013, so now's the time to check your children are properly restrained when travelling in vehicles.

Under the new law, children under seven years old must be restrained in an approved child restraint or booster seat, and children aged seven to eight should be in an approved child restraint if one is available in the vehicle.

For advice on having car restraints correctly fitted, please see a trained child restraint technician at your local Plunket.



Visit Eastern Bay Road Safety on Facebook for news and tips you can take to the road.

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN CONTINUES

Whakatāne District Council has put together a list of all the activities on offer these school holidays, thanks to contributions from those within the Whakatāne District offering programmes and activities.

The information, which can be found on the Council's website ([www.whakatane.govt.nz](http://www.whakatane.govt.nz)), lists all the free activities available, along with paid programmes and workshops available to the public.

## AQUATIC AND FITNESS CENTRE

Activities for children are available daily during the school holidays. The large Inflatable, rolling log and hydroslide will all be in action throughout the holidays. Swimming lessons will also be available throughout the holidays.



**Daily activities**  
11am to 2pm - Large inflatable  
10am to 6pm - Rolling log  
10:30am to 6:30pm - Hydroslide

Note: Hydroslide for Sat/Sun is 10:30am to 5:30pm

## WHAT'S ON AT TE KŌPUTU?

Story scrambles, craft workshops, painting sessions and drawing lessons have been on offer these school holidays at Te Kōputu a te whanga a Toi – the Whakatāne Library and Exhibition Centre.



This year's October school holidays coincide with the BirdsPlenty Festival, so Te Kōputu has been showing its support with some bird-themed activities. All the activities are free and open to the community with fun activity sheets also available throughout the holidays from the front desk at Te Kōputu.

### COMING UP

Throughout the holidays - Take inspiration from the 'Objects of Desire' Design exhibition in the Opus Gallery to construct miniature furniture. This is an unsupervised activity – all material supplied.

Join in from 10:30 am – 11:30 am in the Little Orchard Activity Room on Thursday, 10 October for Birds Rock! This is a rock painting session where you can make some truly rocking birds. All materials will be supplied, but this activity involves paint, so remember to wear suitable clothing.

For fun, read-aloud stories for children of all ages, head along to Story Scramble from 10:30 am – 11:30 am in the Little Orchard Activity Room on Friday, 11 October.

For further information, please contact Te Kōputu a te whanga a Toi – Whakatāne Library and Exhibition Centre on 07 306 0509 or email [library@whakatane.govt.nz](mailto:library@whakatane.govt.nz).

