



## District Plan Review Shaping Whakatāne

Our District Plan sets out the way we use, subdivide and develop land in the District, with the key goals of enabling use and development while protecting the places we value. It aims to promote growth by providing for new residential and business development and maintain a strong rural base by enabling rural activities while ensuring that our best soils are kept for rural production. An important part of growth is ensuring that Whakatane remains a great place to live, work and play – and the plan does this by helping to create 'liveable spaces' and protecting special places.

The Draft District Plan was released for comment in July 2011. Over 200 comments were received from the community and staff have been progressively working through the Draft Plan chapter by chapter, recommending changes for the Council to consider. Areas covered to date include provisions around landscape values; changes to subdivision rules in the Rural Coastal Zone and Rural Ohiwa Zone; historic heritage protection; rural activities; and provisions relating to the Whakatāne Airport.



Other issues to be considered by Council in May and June 2012 are indigenous biodiversity provisions; height provisions in Whakatāne town centre; residential development at Piripai; a possible rural residential development at Shaw Road; and a new Community and Cultural Zone in Taneatua.

Once all of the possible changes have been worked through, a Proposed District Plan will be publicly notified. The community will then have an opportunity to make formal submissions to the plan and attend hearings before the District Plan is finalised. For information on the District Plan review, contact the Planning Assistant by phoning 306 0500, or emailing [shapingwhakatane@whakatane.govt.nz](mailto:shapingwhakatane@whakatane.govt.nz).

## Long Term Plan update

Submissions to Whakatane District Council's draft long Term Plan 2012 – 2022 closed last month and we are now into the next phase of the process.

Council received a total of 234 submissions and Mayor Tony Bonne thanks those who took the time to express their views on the draft Plan.

"As a Council we appreciate the views of our community members. We know it takes time and effort to provide a submission so we thank those who have expressed their views on the draft Plan," Tony says.

"We're now into the hearings and deliberations phase which is when Council has the opportunity to consider the feedback from the community on the draft Plan."

Following the deliberation period, Council will look to adopt the Long Term Plan 2012 – 2022 next month at its 26 June meeting.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### OFFICIAL OPENING DATE FOR THE WHAKATĀNE LIBRARY AND EXHIBITION CENTRE

We are close to completion of the Whakatane Library and Exhibition Centre and the opening date has been set. The Civic opening will be held on Thursday 28 June from 9:30am. An official ribbon-cutting ceremony will mark the opening of the Centre, with public access available from 11:00am.

### NEW AWARDS CELEBRATE COMMUNITY HEROES

Entries are now open for the inaugural TrustPower Whakatāne District Community Awards to showcase and celebrate local volunteers. The Awards are open to all voluntary groups and organisations working for the benefit of the district.

The awards cover five categories; Heritage and Environment, Health and Wellbeing, Arts and Culture, Sport and Leisure, and Educational and Child/Youth Development. Category winners receive \$500, runners-up receive \$250 and the Supreme Winner will take home \$1,500 and an all-expenses paid trip to the TrustPower National Community Awards.

### CREATIVE COMMUNITIES SCHEME - GRANT APPLICATIONS OPEN

Applications have opened for local arts activity funding through the Creative Communities Scheme. The Scheme is administered by the Whakatane District Council and provides arts project funding for both groups and individuals. To be eligible, projects must meet one of three criteria:

- **Broad Community Involvement** – creating opportunities for local communities to engage with and participate in arts activities;
- **Diversity** – supporting the diverse arts and cultural traditions of local communities;
- **Young People** – enabling and encouraging people under 18 years old to engage with and participate in the arts.

Applications close at 5:00pm on Friday 25 May 2012. Forms are available from Council offices and Libraries, or on the Council website [www.whakatane.govt.nz](http://www.whakatane.govt.nz). For information, or assistance with your application, contact scheme administrator, Janie Storey on 306 0530, or email [Janie.Storey@whakatane.govt.nz](mailto:Janie.Storey@whakatane.govt.nz).

## OUR PEOPLE DAVE MARRIOTT – RETICULATION SUPERVISOR

When the forecast says that rain is on the way, Dave and his team set to work checking pumps, clearing screens and double-checking drains around the district. As the Reticulation Supervisor, Dave's work involves the supervision of a team of eight who largely work on renewing and installing new assets such as water meters and pipes, as well as repairing any damaged assets.

Dave says he has a good team to work with. "I'm basically a foreman, so I need to prioritise our regular maintenance as well as ensure staff are available to attend to emergency repairs such as water leaks when they're needed."

The team provides a 24-hour emergency repair service for Council's utilities assets, as well as maintaining



wastewater systems and storm water services. When the forecast is kind to Dave, he enjoys getting out to watch his older boys representing in their various sports teams. The fishing's gone a bit quiet as he's recently taken his boat out of the water to do a bit of work on it. He jokes that it's his winter project. We're all crossing our fingers for a drier winter than last year.

## TREVOR PIMLOTT – WATER SERVICEMAN

Originally from Ireland, Trevor AKA 'Irish' joined Dave's team at the Operational Business Unit as a water serviceman.

He's currently on a secondment to the Water treatment plant where he carries out Council's daily water analysis and sampling. A typical day's testing would see Irish visit anywhere from 15 – 20 monitoring sites and clocking up more than 200 kilometres in the process. He then delivers his samples to the BOPRC laboratory for E.Coli testing. Trevor's job isn't the usual nine to five. He's on call for one week out of every three to attend to water and wastewater emergency repairs.

When he's not out testing the district's water quality, Irish volunteers with the Whakatane Rural Fire Service and is part of the USAR team. On his days off he enjoys dropping his fishing line over the side of the boat, waiting to hook the big one.



## Councillor Profile David Dowd

David Dowd has no regrets about "crossing the ditch" with wife Gillian 35 years ago. "We'd been visiting the Eastern Bay for family events for several years and uprooting from Sydney was no big deal. I knew there was a slot for me here – little did I realise how enjoyable, varied and fulfilling our living and working environment would be."

After 20 years with ANZ Bank, which included stints in Sydney, Melbourne, London, Honiara and Taneatua, David spent seven years as Whakatane's Community Public Relations Officer before moving to his long-term passion as an Apple Computer specialist.

David revels in his council work and is Deputy Chairman of the Monitoring and Policy Committee, a member of the Audit Committee and Projects and Services Committee and Chairs the Project Completion Group for the new Library and Exhibition