



OUR PLACE

Ko Konei

Your Whakatāne District Council
Community Update - September 2015



Eastern Bay Cycle Trail Strategy released

A strategy for the development of a network of cycle trails connecting Eastern Bay of Plenty communities has now been adopted by the Ōpōtiki, Kawerau and Whakatāne District Councils.

Produced by a working group representing the three District Councils, the Bay of Plenty Regional Council and the Department of Conservation, the Eastern Bay Cycle Trail Strategy foresees a series of cycle routes linking from Ōpōtiki's Mōtū Trails in the east through to Rotorua's Te Ara Trail in the west. Its long-term goals are to:

- Promote economic development opportunities for the region
- Foster recreational opportunities and connected communities
- Advance environmental and cultural values
- Improve safety for cyclists.



OXFAM TRAILWALKER 2016 INFORMATION SESSION

Come along and hear everything you need to know about Oxfam Trailwalker - one of New Zealand's most successful national fundraising events, which is coming to Whakatāne next year. Find out what it's all about; where it is (including details of the new trail and 50km option), and how you can be part of it.

The annual Oxfam Trailwalker challenges teams of four people to walk a 100-kilometre course in 36 hours or less and raise funds to fight poverty in the Pacific and Southeast Asia.

WHEN Tuesday, 15 September at 6pm
WHERE Whakatāne Visitor Centre
 Corner Quay Street and
 Kakahoroa Drive, Whakatāne
RSVP To info@oxfamtrailwalker.org.nz

Got a great idea for a youth event?

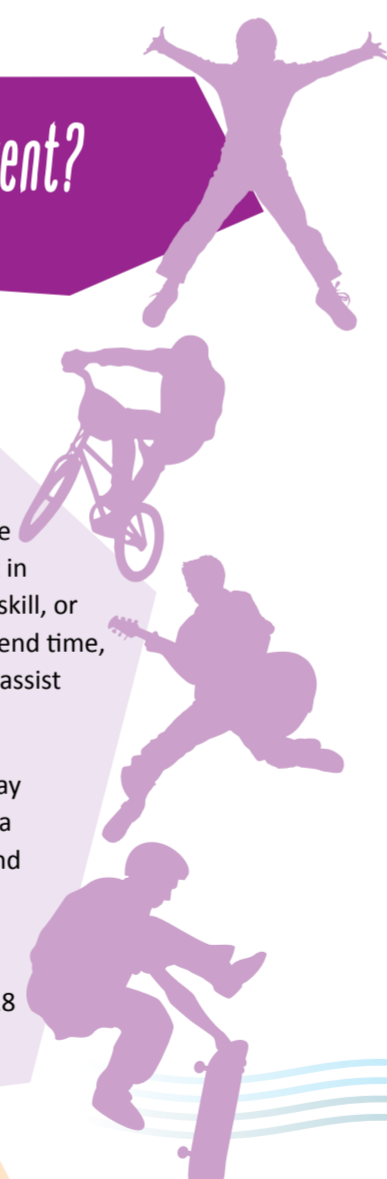
THE YOUTH ACTIVITY FUND CAN HELP

The Whakatāne Social Sector Trials aim to help boost the number of youth activities in our area and support the creation of youth-friendly spaces. So if you have a project in mind, whether it be a sports event, a concert, teaching a skill, or simply providing a safe space where young people can spend time, then we want to hear all about it; and we may be able to assist with seed funding to help you make it a reality.

The Youth Activity Fund is generously supported by the Bay of Plenty District Health Board and Ministry of Health, as a form of early intervention and prevention for youth around substance use.

Applications for up to \$2,000 for each activity will be assessed based on its contribution to encouraging 12 to 18 year olds in Whakatāne (township) to be healthy, active and substance free.

**Applications close on
18 September, so get in quick.** Funding is not available to private parties, sports groups, or salaries. For further information, visit www.way.net.nz or look up Whakatāne Action for Youth on Facebook, or phone 07 308 9137



EXHIBITIONS

What's on at Te Kōputu?



BLOOM OPUS GALLERY SEPTEMBER 18 - NOVEMBER 8

With Spring upon us, this group exhibition ranges from the vibrant and full bloom to the withered and wilting, exploring the cycles of life through the natural world.

Artwork: Peonies, Emma Bass

WHAKATĀNE SOCIETY OF ARTS AND CRAFTS SHEAFF FAMILY GALLERY SEPTEMBER 18- OCTOBER 18

The Whakatāne Society of Arts and Crafts Annual exhibition showcases selected new work by members of the Society, including pottery, painting and fibrecraft.

Image: Andy J Taylor (subject Mandy Hague lino cutting)



TARA MURPHY COMMUNITY BOARD GALLERY SEPTEMBER 18 - OCTOBER 18

Whakatāne-born artist, Tara Murphy explores ideas concerning the manipulation of natural media and the materiality of the natural and artificial world, the tension between the organic and the processed.

Image: Tara Murphy

UV treatment system brings immediate benefits



The commissioning of a UV water treatment system at the Whakatāne Aquatic and Fitness Centre has seen immediate benefits for users and staff alike.

Whakatāne District Council Aquatics and Recreation Manager Garner Gulliver says that since the new system was introduced on 24 August, there has been a noticeable improvement in air and water quality in the centre's indoor facilities.

"UV treatment effectively deals with any microorganisms in the water and allows us to reduce the use of chlorine. The feedback from customers and staff is that the chlorine smell in the air has been virtually eliminated and we've had lots of comments about water quality too," he explains.

"Swimmers say the water feels 'softer' and that the stinging eyes and chlorine smell on your skin and togs is no longer a factor. Those observations tell us that our treatment system upgrade is achieving exactly what we were aiming for - a better experience for swimmers and a better work environment for staff."



Pictured with the Aquatic Centre's new UV treatment system are Lifeguard Jardenia Curtin and Whakatāne District Council Aquatics and Recreation Manager Garner Gulliver.



ALL BLACKS TAKE WHAKATĀNE BY STORM

Thousands of fans joined in the celebrations to welcome members of the All Blacks Rugby World Cup 2015 squad to Whakatāne last week. Arriving by helicopter at Mataatua Reserve, All Blacks and Chiefs players Liam Messam, Sam Cane and Tawera Kerr-Barlow obliged the crowd with autographs, selfies and high-fives. The players were treated to haka performances from throughout the crowd and were welcomed on to Te Mānuka Tutahi - Mataatua Whareniui, before their carrying on to meet the fans in neighbouring Ōpōtiki.

Young Achievers Award Applications Open

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN for coaches, teachers and clubs to nominate young people who have excelled in sports, youth or community service, cultural or academic pursuits, or other fields for special recognition.

For further information, email anne.reid@whakatane.govt.nz.

In late-October, young people who meet the criteria will be notified and invited to an awards ceremony to receive their certificates. The event is hosted jointly by the Whakatāne District Council, Whakatāne West Rotary Club and Whakatāne Community Board.

Application forms, which include eligibility criteria, are available from District libraries, the Whakatāne Civic Centre and Murupara Service Centre. Applications can also be made online at www.whakatane.govt.nz
Nominations close at 5pm on Friday, 2 October 2015.

Possible changes for rubbish collection



A report on the Whakatāne District Council's upcoming solid waste contract procurement process highlights a possible change in the way recyclable material is collected and processed.

The District's four solid waste service contracts—for the operation of the Whakatāne Refuse Transfer Station, the Murupara Refuse Transfer Station, all kerbside collections, and haulage of residual waste to landfill—all conclude on 30 June 2016. Work on procuring replacement services is well underway, and the Council

is also exploring potential collaboration opportunities with neighbouring councils.

Council's Infrastructure General Manager Tomasz Krawczyk said discussions with national suppliers indicated that a 'glass-out' recycling system probably offered the best potential for reducing both the cost of the service and the volume of waste sent to landfill. "Some 15 local authorities around the country are using or planning to introduce glass-out recycling, which requires households to separate glass from other recyclables," Mr Krawczyk said.