



OUR PLACE

Ko Konei

Your Whakatāne District Council
Community Update - April 2021



Taonga returns

A kahu huruhuru (feathered cloak) was received at a pōhiri at Te Whare Taonga o Taketake in March, ahead of the Rua Kēnana Symposium that was held at Tuapou Marae in Matahi Valley last weekend.

The taonga (treasure) is more than 100-years old and was worn by Ngaiwai Whakaataata, the daughter of Tūhoe prophet Rua Kēnana. Staff at Te Whare Taonga o Taketake assisted with the transfer of the kahu huruhuru from Te Papa Tongarewa.



Crowds flock to Sunshine Street Fiesta

Up to 4,000 people 'owned' The Strand, Whakatāne for nine hours during the recent Sunshine Street Fiesta.

Families turned out in force to make the most of the activities, including a 'dry' ice-skating rink, climbing wall, mini-putt and amusement rides. The live-music line-up was popular with al-fresco diners and those who embraced the freedom to dance in the street.

Sunshine Street Fiesta was brought to the community by Whakatāne District Council's Innovating Streets Project, supported by EPIC and funded by Waka Kotahi/New Zealand Transport Agency. Innovating Streets initiatives are designed to provide opportunities for residents to reimagine street-scapes and their potential to build safe and vibrant communities.

Powered by EPIC Whakatāne Town Centre, Whakatāne District Council and Innovating Streets Funding

FRIDAY, 23 APRIL 3-8 PM



INCLUDING THE FOOD TRUCK VILLAGE

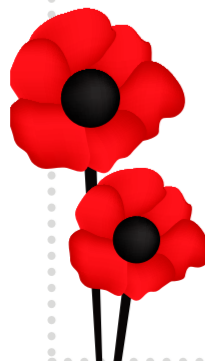
SAVE THE DATE - LONG TERM PLAN 2021-31

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.

You'll have the opportunity to tell us what you think about the big issues during the consultation stage – Friday, 23 April until Sunday, 23 May.

There are lots of ways to tell us too – including online at koreromai.whakatane.govt.nz, on social media, and in-person with your elected members at events all over the district. Watch this space (and your letterbox) for more information.

THE JOURNEY FORWARD



Lest we forget

The ANZAC Day District Memorial Service will take place at 10am Sunday, 25 April at the Whakatāne War Memorial. All are welcome to attend.

\$300K FOR COMMUNITY GOOD

We've secured more than \$300,000 from the Lions Foundation to fund 'community good' projects around the district.

Projects include installing disability hoists at the Whakatāne Aquatic Centre and Murupara Community Pool; replacing the basketball court surface in Murupara; upgrading the playgrounds in Te Mahoe and Awatapu; installing shade sails at playgrounds in Murupara, Tāneatua, Matatā and Thornton; and adding accessible toilets at the River Edge Park facility near the Whakatāne Skate Park.

McAlister Street water main replacement

The McAlister Street water main, from Domain Road to Beach Street, will be replaced, having reached the end of its 'scheduled' life. Aging water pipes are more at risk of major breaks, which carry the risk of contamination, damage to other infrastructure and properties, as well as the problems associated with interruption of supply to the community and businesses.

Council is investing \$1.2m to replace this critical water main that supplies water to over 200 properties and numerous businesses. The upgrade also includes all valves, hydrants, fittings, service lines and water meters. Council and lead contractor Drintech have been sharing information with affected residents and businesses ahead of the work starting from the Beach Street end in the next couple of weeks.

This renewal project will help ensure a reliable and safe water supply to meet the needs of our growing town centre for the next 60 years.

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.



If you use cheques to make payments to Council, now is a good time to 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 us in person at the Civic Centre on Commerce Street or the Service Centre in Murupara, call us on 07 306 0500 or email info@whakatane.govt.nz – we're here to help.



BOAT TRAILER PARK AND GAME WHARF UPGRADE

Work started this week on improvements to the boat trailer park and game wharf on Muriwai Drive, Whakatāne.

Council is delivering a two-stage programme to redevelop the trailer carpark area and replace the northern section of the game wharf. The works will also address the safety of the local community and facility users.

The redevelopment will deliver environmental improvements by incorporating stormwater and wastewater controls and contaminant removal.

Meet the team Kanohi kitea

Sandy Barnes

Senior Health, Safety & Wellbeing Advisor



What I love most about my job
It's all about people – our staff and those we interact with – to ensure they are kept safe and healthy to go home to their whānau every day.

What I find most challenging about my job
Changing the perception that Health & Safety is a waste of time and money – it's all about keeping people safe and healthy.

What I love about the Whakatāne District

The people, the sun (I come from the Waikato), the beaches and the endless opportunities such a diverse district has to offer.

Hobbies/interests outside work
I love vege gardening, photography and have transferred to my local Fire Brigade to continue my service to the community.

Anything else to add?
My favourite quote: "People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did but people will never forget how you made them feel". – Maya Angelou

Each month, we'll introduce a Whakatāne District Council staff member so you can 'meet' the team working for our communities.