

## Scenes from Saturday's Recovery Expo

The Rangitāiki Community Board, the Community Focus group and the Whakatāne District Recovery team joined forces to present a day of information-sharing at Saturday's Recovery Expo.



Recovery - Community Team member Chris King-Hazel with Rangitāiki Community Board Chair Charelle Stevenson.

NAVA volunteers in good voice during the mihi whakatau.

One-year-old Skyla Thompson enjoyed the Kidzone.



Around a dozen agencies were on hand to provide information.

WDC Manager Building and Monitoring Nick Fowler during one of the information seminars.

## Extra support for Bay of Plenty farmers

On Friday, the Government announced extra grants to help farmers and growers impacted by April's storms and floods. The funds will be administered by the Whakatāne District Council.

Affected farmers and growers can apply for contributions from the new, \$200,000 Primary Industries Bay of Plenty Flood Recovery Grant, to help with essential infrastructure repair as they continue to get their businesses up and running.

Minister for Primary Industries Hon Nathan Guy says applications can be made to help with specific infrastructure repairs, such as re-

grassing of pasture, re-sowing of crops, and clean-up of silt and debris.

The grant can cover expenses already incurred or help cover the cost of recovery projects that affected farmers and growers have been putting off up to now.

Farmers are encouraged to call the Rural Support Trust on 0800 787 254 to talk about what they need and get pointed in the right direction for further support, information and advice. Information and the application form are also available on:

[www.whakatane.govt.nz/apply/flood-recovery-grant](http://www.whakatane.govt.nz/apply/flood-recovery-grant)

## Community team out and about

Members of the Recovery – Community team are out and about in Edgecumbe this week, going door to door to ensure that everyone is aware of available services. Community Team Lead Barbara Dempsey says where people aren't at home – either because they are out, or the homes are yet to be occupied – a card with contact details will be left. Similar visits will be made to affected properties in other parts of the district in coming days.

"People's needs change throughout the recovery period and we want to make sure that people are aware of what's available to support them in their specific circumstances," Barbara adds.



## Strong demand for insulation

Following discussions with the Eastern Bay Energy Trust, the owners of any residential property – anywhere in the Whakatāne district – which was flooded in the April event are asked to contact the Liveable Homes team to talk about their insulation needs. Owners of white-and yellow-stickered homes with no insulation, with or without insurance, can call the Liveable homes team on 027 565 3898 to see what options are available to them. Damaged insulation in uninsured homes can also be replaced. People with insulated and insured homes will still need to work with their insurers to get any issues addressed (which may include EBET support). The Energy Trust's funding aims to ensure that all homeowners affected by the flood will have warmer and healthier homes to live in.

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**DAYS  
REMAINING TO  
LODGE A CLAIM  
WITH EQC**

**People have until Wednesday 5 July 2017 to lodge a claim from the 5 April 2017 event with EQC.**

## Honouring our volunteers

It's Volunteer Recognition Month, the time when the Rangitāiki Community Board celebrates the valuable role volunteers play in the vitality of their area. This year more than ever, volunteers have shown their immense value and continue to shine. With so many to acknowledge, the Community Board is taking a slightly different approach, and is asking the community to nominate groups and individuals, who will then be invited to a breakfast. If you would like to nominate, please email details to: [Charelle.stevenson@gmail.com](mailto:Charelle.stevenson@gmail.com)

## Fitness – wellness classes

(Please note – this is an updated schedule and information)

**Insight Yoga – Restorative (HATHA) Yoga Class** – MON/WED 9.30am  
Edgecumbe War Memorial Hall, FREE CLASSES This style of yoga is restorative and is particularly useful where people may have experienced some stress and/or trauma in their lives. Contact: Josee Ph 027 710 0107 (Mats Available)

**Feet On Fire Hip Hop Class** – MON 3.45pm to 7pm, St David's Hall, Cost: \$5  
Suitable for all ages – beginners are welcome! Contact: Sienna Ph 021 155 6682

**Body Fit Class** – MON/WED/FRI 5.30pm Edgecumbe War Memorial Hall, Cost: \$5  
Boot camp session with Brad all levels of fitness and abilities welcome!  
Contact Brad Ph 021 0836 8025

**ZUU Class** – TUE/THU 6.30pm Edgecumbe War Memorial Hall, Cost: \$5 Adults, \$2 Children \$10 Family (4-5) A new fitness class using movements Mimicking Animals to Liberate Human Movement! Contact Te Awhitu Ph 021 0869 6771

**SAY Go Class:** TUE 10am St David's Hall Cost: \$2 Exercise class for seniors that encourages balance, coordination and agility – great for overall fitness!  
Contact: Roslyn Ph 322 2922

**Julz Group Fitness Class:** TUE/THU 6am Edgecumbe War Memorial Hall, Cost: \$5  
Join Julz's "Shape Class" great for core strength training and overall body toning!  
Contact: Julie Ph 021 071 8179

## Back in business

Edgecumbe has been the home of Nexus Signs for six years, starting out in Peppers Building Supplies, and then operating from a large shed at the back of owner Kyle Stevenson's College Road property.

Unfortunately, that property is located directly opposite the breach and was one of those to bear the brunt of the floodwater. All Kyle walked out with was his dog. "Really early on I knew I had to get motivated and operational," Kyle said. "I had contracts to fulfil and a staff member relying on me for his wage."

Kyle said it was fortunate one of his clients had an empty building in Liverpool Street, Kawerau. "He offered it to me and said I could hold off on the rent until I was open." It took the Nexus team 'a while' to get the former mechanics workshop up to scratch, but the place looks amazing and is definitely 'open for business'.



*Kyle Stevenson, Thor and Lincoln Edwards – you'll find them now in Kawerau*

## A message from IAG New Zealand

**Last week there was quite a bit of discussion about work underway by insurers in Edgecumbe. IAG advises as follows.**

*IAG is committed to helping our customers to get back on their feet as quickly as possible.*

*Gary Byrnes, IAG's Manager of Senior Loss Adjusters, says now that all scheduled strip-outs have been completed, independent contractors will be carrying out visual inspections on all stripped out properties for mould and asbestos-containing materials.*

*"This is to identify whether antimicrobial treatment is required to treat the mould, schedule the required treatment and to ensure the safety of tradesmen involved in the ongoing refurbishment or repair work. Keeping the community safe during the clean-up is important to IAG as is the health and safety of tradesmen. We're unable to complete the refurbishment/repair work until the asbestos survey has been completed."*

*While the surveys are being carried out, our builders will continue with the scoping and consenting process and will be scheduling appointments with customers to go through the work required to complete the repair. Our loss adjusters are keeping customers updated at least every 10 working days, or every few days for customers in especially vulnerable circumstances.*

*Please leave a message on IAG's dedicated Edgecumbe customer line (0800 120 090) if you are unable to contact your loss adjuster or builder (these messages are cleared daily).*