

Liveable Homes - Refit Milestone

The Liveable Homes Project has marked a milestone this week, with the first of its homes ready for refitting, following strip-out and drying.

Around 20 properties are expected to be involved in the project, with two more ready for relining soon. Others are in various stages of drying; a process being aided by powerful dehumidifiers.

Project Manager John Pullar says things are 'moving along really well' and he is particularly pleased with the number of people recognising the benefit of having a warmer and healthier home through the insulation options being funded by the Eastern Bay Energy Trust.

"The registrations are up around 150, but we're still keen to talk to any flood-affected residents, in any parts of the district, who want to know if they qualify for the free insulation package. Give Pearl and the team a call on 027 565 3898 or call into Te Tari Awhina, at the Edgecumbe Library, for a chat."

The Liveable Homes Project offers to return flood-damaged dwellings to a 'liveable' state for those who may not have the means to repair their homes.



Temporary closure of Kopeopeo donation centre



Donation Centre volunteers Brian Faulkner, Shirley Faulkner and Jo Jenkins.

In a case of one good cause making way for another, the donation centre at the former Countdown building in Kopeopeo will be taking a break next month, to allow the Annual Salvation Army Bookfair to take place.

Rotary Whakatāne West President Stephanie Johnson says donations won't be distributed or received between 7 – 17 July, to allow time for volunteers to relocate goods within the building and for the Bookfair to set up and be open to the public (from Friday 14 to Sunday 15).

While the Kopeopeo centre is closed, donations of good quality bedding, furniture and household goods will be received at Pou Whakaaro, 1 Bracken Street, Whakatāne.

Tuesday bus service

A free mini-bus is operating between Edgecumbe and Whakatāne, on the following timetable.

Depart Whakatāne (Quay St)	9.25am
Edgecumbe (College Road)	9.45am
Whakatāne (Quay St)	10.05am
Depart Whakatāne (Quay St)	1.10pm
Edgecumbe (College Road)	1.30pm
Whakatāne (Quay St)	1.50pm

The Tuesday mini-bus is in addition to the scheduled Bay Bus services.

<http://www.baybus.co.nz/eastern-bay/whakatane/whakatane-to-matata/>

Waimana Gorge

The Waimana Gorge reopened to traffic late on Wednesday, restoring east-west access via SH2 to many thankful locals. With heavy traffic now able to use the state highway system, enforcement of the heavy traffic bylaw prohibiting the use of Pohutukawa Avenue and Wainui Road will be reinstated.

Cyclones Debbie and Cook insured costs \$84m

Earlier this week the Insurance Council of New Zealand reported that the April cyclone and flooding events had resulted in insured costs of \$84 million.

ICNZ identified nearly 6,400 house and contents claims costing \$61.6 million, 1,016 commercial material damage and business interruption claims at \$16.8 million and 549 motor vehicle claims costing \$4.8 million.

1XX Charitable Trust

Applications to the 1XX Charitable Trust (to assist those affected by the April flood and cyclone events) close on 30 June. Go to www.1xx.co.nz for details of the application process or call 07 308 6239.

Whakatāne District Mayoral Relief Fund

The Whakatāne District Mayoral Relief Fund remains open. Application forms are available at Te Tari Awhina Community Hub (at the Edgecumbe Library), the Horizon Energy Whakatāne Library, Murupara Library, Kawerau i-SITE; and on the Whakatāne District Council website (whakatane.govt.nz).

Volunteer Recognition Breakfast

There's still time to nominate a group or individual that you think should be invited to the Volunteer Recognition Breakfast being hosted by the Rangitāiki Community Board. If you would like to put forward a suggestion, please email details to: charelle.stevenson@gmail.com

Fitness & Wellness Classes *Get involved!*

Inlight 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 Classes – 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 Davids 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

ZUMBA – THU 10am-10.50am Presbyterian Church Hall, Cost: \$5 per class or \$45 for 10 session card. *Zumba Gold Class for active older adults and beginners.* Contact: Erika on 021 400 505



Te Tari Awhina Community Hub at Edgecumbe Library - your one-stop shop for advice and support, providing friendly, face-to-face contact for the community.

Open 9am – 4pm, Monday to Friday Call in for a hot drink or to check out the latest news on the community board. Timetable of currently available services:

Liveable Homes and insulation	Monday – Friday 9am to 4pm
Department of Internal Affairs – Lottery Grants	Tuesday 1pm to 3pm
NASH – Health Services	Monday – Friday 9am to 2pm
Work and Income	Monday and Friday 9am to 1pm

Please note the change in days and time that Work and Income is onsite. Hours have been reassessed based on demand. People needing assistance outside of those hours can visit the Kawerau or Whakatāne offices, or find information and services online www.workandincome.govt.nz

Information hubs are also available at the Horizon Energy Whakatāne Library, Murupara Library and the Kawerau i-SITE.



It's safety first, as the labour-intensive process of removing silt continues in Edgecumbe. EQC is working with insurers to complete the clean-up under houses, which in some cases has been delayed awaiting the results of tests for asbestos in building materials.