



Whakatāne District
**RECOVERY
PROJECT**
Kia manawanui

NEWSLETTER 19
7 JULY 2017

Next Newsletter Friday 14th

Since 4 May, 18 twice-weekly newsletters have been provided for the community, covering a range of information that we trust was necessary and useful. Each of those newsletters has also been distributed to an 800-strong email database. We're now getting the message that a weekly newsletter would be appropriate – and we take that as a good sign. So look out for the next Recovery Newsletter in your Whakatāne Beacon, inbox, or on the Recovery Facebook page on Friday 14 July.



Valuing volunteers – can you help?

The date has been set for the rescheduled Volunteer Recognition Breakfast in Edgecumbe. The event will be held on Saturday 5 August, providing more time to ensure that everyone who should be there, is there.

The breakfast, hosted by the Rangitāiki Community Board, is a way of celebrating those people who go above and beyond to make a difference in their area. Board chair Charelle Stevenson says in recent weeks, there have clearly been many examples of organisations and individuals who have done just that, but it's important to recognise all those who volunteer their time, for dozens of causes, in good times – as well as bad.

So... get nominating.

Please email the names of the people you think should be invited to the breakfast to: charelle.stevenson@gmail.com.



Te Whāiti Road update

Work to repair Te Whāiti Road to all traffic continues to make very good progress. The reopening target remains the end of July, but may be brought forward if the current progress is maintained.

In the meantime, limited access on Te Whāiti Road continues - for local traffic only - between 5am and 8am and 5pm and 8pm each day. Outside those hours, alternative access to and from Murupara is available for local residents via Timberlands' roads. Anyone using these roads should do so with caution, because logging trucks will be on the road too. Drivers are asked to take extra care, keep speeds down, and be ready to stop if asked to do so by Timberlands staff.



Wall debris to be fenced

Community concerns about the 'Commandment Stone' on College Road have been acknowledged by BOPRC staff and an assurance given that they are aware of its significance, and that it won't be damaged during the stopbank repair process.

From Monday, people can expect to see a fence go up around the adjacent flood-wall breach debris. The fencing will stay in place until feedback is gained on what the community wishes to do with this material.

The 'Commandment Stone' won't be fenced for now, to enable mowing contractors to keep the area around it tidy.



Do you, or does someone you know, need extra support?

If you need support or advice, or have feelings of anxiety, stress, prolonged fear, hopelessness or anger and need to talk to someone, you can phone Healthline on 0800 611 116 – or

- Your GP or local community health centre
- Eastern Bay Primary Health Alliance Mental Health Service – 07 307 0188
- DHB Mental Health & Addiction Services – adult, 0800 774545, child and youth – 0800 486947
- Ngati Awa Social & Health Services – 07 306 0096
- Tu Wharetoa Ki Kawerau Health & Social Services – 027 435 4994
- Te Puna Ora O Mataatua – 0800 294 462
- Tuhoe Hauora – 07 312 9874
- Rural Support Trust – 0800 787 254

School Holiday Programme

There's been a great response to the Bluelight Winter School Holiday Programme being held at the Edgecumbe War Memorial Hall – 7.30am to 5.30pm - each and every week-day of the break.

The programme is a mix of physical activity, creativity, fun and relaxation - and there's a Celebration Day, complete with Treasure Hunt and an Amazing Race on Friday 21.

There's still time to register – go to the Edgecumbe Bluelight Facebook page or contact Vicky on 027 309 3657.



Updates

Business support

Recovery staff continue to work with the Eastern Bay Chamber of Commerce to contact business owners who may be eligible for the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment business support fund.

The Whakatāne District Business Recovery Grant panel has considered four applications to date and are aware of another 31 which are going through the application process. The fund will be open until September 2017.

Rural support

Forty-one applications have been received to date for assistance from the Ministry of Primary Industries fund to help farmers and growers impacted by April's storm and flood events. Thirty-five applications have been considered by the assessment panel, with \$174,000 being allocated.

Pride Whakatāne community gift

The Pride Whakatāne District Committee is supporting the District recovery effort by offering a free fruit tree to flood-affected residents.

Pride Whakatāne Chairman, Councillor Andrew Iles, says the act of planting a tree is symbolic of renewal and has the added benefit of providing produce for years to come.

If you would like a tree, please decide your first, second and third preference from the options below; and either clip the coupon and post to: PO Box 6, Waimana 3186; email your order and contact details to: Andrew.iles@whakatane.govt.nz; or ring Andrew on 027 294 1849.

If you need help to plant your tree – please let Andrew know when you place your order. Pride Whakatāne acknowledges the assistance of Waimea Nurseries, Nelson.



SELECT-A-FRUIT TREE

Name: _____

Address: _____

List your first three preferences from the following selection: *Apple – Fig – Feijoa – Lemon – Mandarin – Apricot – Peach – Pear*



Reunited!

A very grateful Edgecumbe resident has been reunited with a precious photo album, after recognising it in the last newsletter. She sends a "huge thank-you" to the person who handed it in.