

## Meet the Navigators

The Recovery Navigator Kaiārahi Service is into its third week and so far, the team has made direct contact with in excess of 100 members of the community. Navigators work with individuals and families to support them in identifying and accessing the wide range of services available to help with recovery and ongoing wellness.

### Cheryl Wilson



Cheryl Wilson is Kawerau-born and bred and has spent five years as Kaimahi in Kohanga Reo and more than 10 with Ngati Awa Social and Health Services, which has enabled and supported her secondment to the Recovery Team as a Navigator. Cheryl is focused on offering services to the district as a whole and making sure people feel

connected and included. "We want to be a single point of contact for people to get access to the services they need – and if we're not the best fit for what is needed, then we'll find out who is. We'll be working with all the agencies and services, because cooperation is the key to getting people's lives back to a good place."

### Vicky Richards



Vicky Richards will be familiar to many people in the Eastern Bay through her work with Sport BOP, as well as her involvement in many community projects over the years. Vicky is a long-time resident of Edgumbe and her property was severely damaged in the April floods, so she has first-hand experience of what others are going through.

"I see the Navigator role as being all about supporting people in getting back to their homes," she says. "Everyone is at a different stage, facing different challenges and on a journey, so I see my job as identifying their needs and helping them move forward."

## COMMUNITY PLAN WORKSHOP

*Share and discuss  
ideas for the future  
of your community.*

*Mā tini mā mano ka rapa te whai  
By many, by thousands, the  
work will be accomplished*



**Saturday, 2 September 3pm - 6pm**  
**Edgumbe War Memorial Hall,**  
**Corner Kauri St and Main St, Edgumbe**

Over the last decade, Peter Kenyon has worked with over 1000 communities throughout the world, facilitating fresh and creative ways to stimulate community and economic renewal. He is motivated by the desire to create healthy, caring, inclusive, sustainable and enterprising communities.

Coffee from 2:30pm  
Kid-zone activities  
available

For further information, please contact the Recovery Community Team at the Whakatāne District Council on 07 306 0500

### Dorothy Gilliland

Dorothy Gilliland hails from Scotland but has called the Eastern Bay home for more than 20 years, much of that time spent working with the District Health Board as an occupational therapist and more recently in leadership. Her role in the DHB has been all about problem-solving she says, skills that translate well to her role as a Navigator. "Local communities have been amazingly resilient," she says, "but we can still help by matching people with the right resources and getting things happening faster. So we want to encourage people to get in touch – we can make it easier to get to where you want to be."





## Fruitful endeavours in Waimana

Nearly 100 fruit trees will be putting down roots throughout the Eastern Bay thanks to a Pride Whakatāne initiative. For the past five years, and in cooperation with Whakatāne District Council, the group has coordinated the donation of single species trees to schools and other organisations, but this year it was decided that fruit trees were in order and the recipients would be people affected by the April floods. Whakatāne District Councillor and Pride Whakatāne Chairman Andrew Iles says the trees include apricots, lemons, pears, apples, and mandarins among others, and the response has been so overwhelming that the group is seriously considering a second project. "We'd like to thank Waimea Nurseries in Nelson for coming to the party and covering all freight costs to get the trees up here," he says. "The trees will be going out to people in Tāneatua, Rūātoki, Waimana, Galatea and Edgecumbe and many of those who responded have commented on what a great way it is to mark a turning point in the recovery efforts."



*Whakatāne District Council Places and Open Spaces team members Malcolm Lowe and Bobbianne Hughes with Pride Whakatāne Chairman, Councillor Andrew Iles.*

## Edgecumbe Lions Club distribution to flood-affected residents

Edgecumbe Lions Club members will be at Te Tari Awhina – Community Hub at Edgecumbe Library, from 9am – 1pm this Saturday (2 September) and Saturday 9 September, to distribute gift vouchers to flood-affected Edgecumbe households.



Club Treasurer Don Ford says vouchers worth \$250 will be available for each affected property and will be redeemable at a number of local businesses.

Flood-affected residents wishing to claim the vouchers relating to their property should go to Te Tari Awhina between 9am and 1pm this Saturday or Saturday 9 September, with ID and proof of address. Recovery Team staff and supporters will be lending a hand to check recipients off against the list of affected properties.

Originally, Edgecumbe Lions had planned to distribute the vouchers when the majority of people were back in their homes, but Mr Ford says feedback is that many displaced residents could benefit from them now, as they are travelling back into town on a more regular basis and accessing services. The Club initiative has the potential to inject around \$60,000 into the local business community.

## Bay of Plenty Regional Council Rivers and Drainage update

**Lower Rangitāiki River scheme** – De-silting of all drainage canals.

**Rangitāiki River** – Rock protection at Te Teko.

**Tauranga River** – working at Rakuraku property.

**Ōhinemataroa / Whakatāne River** – channel alignment and river protection re-instatement near Rūātoki township. (picture at left).

**Whirinaki River** channel alignment and widening at identified sites.

**Mangamate, Ruarepuae and Ohutu streams** – desilting and realigning at Galatea.



Dozens of flood-affected Eastern Bay residents have taken the opportunity to have a night out at Rotorua International Stadium, courtesy of the Bay of Plenty Rugby Union, which gifted 250 free tickets to three Steamers home games.

Pictured above – at right – is the Eastern Bay contingent at the Friday 25 August game against Hawke's Bay.

There is one game left – against Southland on Wednesday 20 September; and at the time of going to print there were only about 30 tickets remaining. If you fancy a night in the "Edge-Zone", take along proof of address to pick up a ticket at Te Tari Awhina – Community Hub at Edgecumbe Library.