

Introducing new Recovery Manager



Barbara Dempsey is now Recovery Manager, taking over responsibility from Julie Gardyne, who has returned to her role as Whakatāne District Council General Manager Strategy and Economic Development.

Barbara has been involved in the recovery project since day one – leading the Community Group; and prior to that she was one of the Controllers in the Emergency Operation Centre during the April flood and storm events.

“There’s no doubt that the Recovery Team and its many support agencies are doing everything they can to help flood-affected families and businesses across our district. We are constantly mindful that some people are experiencing probably the toughest time of their life.

“We eagerly watch the signs of progress – and try to find ways to work around sticking points. Bringing in the support of the Residential Advisory Service, which you can read about in this newsletter, is a great example of that. Another is our Navigator service which is providing personalised support for affected families. The message remains – if you need support – contact the Recovery Office.”

Seen the Cup – bid for the polo shirt?



It was standing room only in the Edgumbe War Memorial Hall when the Emirates Team New Zealand America's Cup came to town.

No-one went away without an opportunity to have their picture taken with the “Auld Mug” on Monday, after a successful visit to Edgumbe by Emirates Team New Zealand and the America's Cup.

At least 500 people packed the Edgumbe War Memorial Hall to join kaumatua in welcoming five team members, ahead of brief speeches from Whakatāne Deputy Mayor Judy Turner, local MP and Minister for Edgumbe Recovery Anne Tolley, Eastern Bay Chamber of Commerce Chief Executive Ged Casey and Rangitāiki Community Board chair Charelle Stevenson. Richard Meachem spoke on behalf of Team NZ.

Recovery Team member Vicky Richards says it was great to see so many Edgumbe families also taking the opportunity to catch up with one another in such a joyful and relaxed environment.

The team gifted a polo shirt to the Edgumbe Lions Club for fundraising via a silent auction. Anyone interested in making a bid on this very special collector's item, please contact Club President, Graham Aitkin, on 07 322 9342.

Need help in the garden?

The Recovery Office has been delighted to connect eager volunteers with those needing a hand – and the assistance keeps coming.

The latest offer of help will see 40 – 50 members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints visiting on the morning of Saturday 28 October, to assist with general gardening and yard work.

To register for garden help, please contact Te Tari Āwhina – Community Hub at Edgumbe Library on 304 8656.



Volunteers from Tauranga Te Papa Rotary Club lent a hand at a property near Tāneatua where residents lost their firewood shelter in the April storm.

Need help to finalise your residential insurance claim?

The Recovery Office has negotiated additional, free legal support for people who have concerns about settling their home insurance claims.

Specialists from the Christchurch-based Residential Advisory Service will be in Edgumbe on 17/18 October and 24/25 October. To make an appointment, talk to a Recovery Navigator; call in to Te Tari Āwhina – Community Hub at Edgumbe Library; or ring on 304 8656.

DIY Home and Garden workshops



- 15 Oct** **Sustainable Gardens 9am, 26 Bridge Street, Edgumbe.** Maara Kai “starter” workshop – How to make good soil to grow kai and build raised garden beds using recycled resources! ❖
- 28 Oct** **Pizza Oven Making 9am, 79 Main Street, Edgumbe.** Learn how to make your own pizza oven for your garden or BBQ area, basics on preparing, mixing, moulding your oven! ❖
- 4 Nov** **Edgumbe's Big Gardening Day! 10am, Edgumbe Domain.** Join us for a morning of creating, making funky letter boxes, kokedama moss balls with plants inside, hanging baskets and pallet planters! Lots more including free plants to give away! ❖
- 5 Nov** **Fence Building 9am, 6 Puriri Cres, Edgumbe.** This workshop will teach you how to build a basic fence, learn all the tricks, dos and don'ts to build your own fence! ♦
- 19 Nov** **Home Maintenance Workshop 9am, 58 Puriri Cres, Edgumbe.** DIY Home Maintenance – painting, weather boards, electrical, plumbing and guttering. ♦
- 25 Nov** **Concrete Workshop 9am, 50 College Road, Edgumbe.** Learn how to lay concrete correctly. Experts will teach you the basics on how to prepare, mix and lay concrete the right way! ♦

For more information or to book contact:

- ❖ Vicky Richards: Ph 027 309 3657
- ♦ Charelle Stevenson: Ph 021 227 4847
- or go to: facebook.com/whakatanedistrictrecoveryproject

Bringing our community together to learn practical skills and support each other