

Supreme Winners

The Recovery team would like to add its congratulations to the Edgumbe Volunteer Fire Brigade, named the Supreme Winners at the recent Trustpower National Community Awards.

The announcement received a standing ovation from the crowd and came after a day of presentations from the 25 teams that had made the finals. Each team gave an eight-minute presentation on their activities or project and were also judged on a 1000 word summary provided prior to the event.

Trustpower spokesperson Emily Beaton said the Edgumbe Volunteer Fire Brigade gave a heart-felt presentation about its resilient community and the hard work of its volunteers.

The brigade received a custom-made trophy, \$4000 in prize money, a \$1000 Exult voucher and a framed certificate.



Mayoress Linda Bonne, Bruce Knight, Tracey Lloyd and Whakatāne District Mayor Tony Bonne celebrate the win in Queenstown.

More FREE plants - tomorrow

Thanks to everyone who made the last Plant Day such a success.

As well as generous local residents, the Bay of Plenty Regional Council and Whakatāne District Council donated plants and compost; and the Edgumbe Womens Institute (and a few happily roped-in hubbies) volunteered their time.

Following on from that, Lesley Shelford from 'Food is Free' has donated vegetable plants, which will be available this Saturday at Edgumbe Library at 9.30am.



Archaeologists work to reveal the story behind a midden site uncovered during earthworks.

Rangitāiki Floodway and midden site

Works are continuing on the Rangitāiki Floodway Project to increase the capacity of the floodway and reduce flood levels in the main Rangitāiki River channel. The project will result in reduced pressure on the Rangitāiki River stopbanks during periods of extreme river flow.

Current works are downstream of Thornton Road on the true left bank. This stage includes earthworks to relocate stopbanks, increase canal capacity through widening and works on internal drainage systems. The Regional Council is currently working with local landowners on future options for the floodway and a change of consent.

While removing topsoil, in the location planned for the site office, contractors discovered an area with a large amount of shells. A new location was found for the office and works continued in other areas while the site was investigated. Local archaeologist, Lynda Walter, was pleased to identify the site as a midden (historic rubbish dump) with two concentrations of shell midden, charcoal rich soils, fire-cracked rocks within a black sandy soil and several flakes of obsidian.

Further work is not planned in that location until the next construction season, so archaeologists have plenty of time to investigate the site more fully and we look forward to sharing what they learn.

College Road update

In spite of a slight delay caused by last weekend's extreme weather, the contractor is moving ahead with works and making good progress on the College Road stopbank repair.

They are currently moving services (water, communications and power) and have begun preparing the seepage trench and foundations for the new stopbank.

Diagrams of the stopbank design can be viewed on the fences surrounding the site. You can also see the design at www.boprc.govt.nz/rangitaikifloodway and at Te Tari Āwhina.



Good progress reported on the College Road stopbank works.



Edgecumbe War Memorial Hall port-a-shower

The Recovery Team wants feedback on the need for the port-a-shower located at the War Memorial Hall.

“We’re happy to keep the unit in place if we know it’s still needed, but obviously, we don’t want to keep up the hire costs if it’s not necessary,” says Built Team Lead Julian Reweti.

“Please give us a call at Te Tari Āwhina on 304 8656 to let us know if you’re using the shower facility.”

Residential Advisory Service returns

The Residential Advisory Service solicitor Karen Hayes is visiting again later this month. The service offers free expert advice for people facing issues with settling their home insurance claims, or people who may have concerns about the repair process.

Karen will be at Te Tari Āwhina – Community Hub at Edgecumbe Library, on Wednesday, 16 May. Anyone who would like to make an appointment to talk to her is invited to call 304 8656, or to get in touch via their Recovery Navigator.



**TE TARI
ĀWHINA**
community hub

**EDGECUMBE
LIBRARY**
07 304 8656

- **Library services, Recovery Information**
(including Welcome Home Pack distribution) Weekdays 9am – 2pm
- **Library services only** Weekdays 2pm – 4pm
- **Recovery Navigators** Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10am – noon
- **Te Tohu o te Ora o Ngāti Awa support services**
Fridays 9am – 4pm