

Rangitāiki

COMMUNITY BOARD NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1 – OCTOBER 2023



Welcome to the first edition of the Rangitāiki Community Board newsletter!

Give the Rangitāiki Community Board Facebook page a like and follow
 [rangitaikicommunityboard](https://www.facebook.com/rangitaikicommunityboard)

Community safety cameras (CCTV) update

Eleven new community safety cameras (CCTV) will be installed in the Rangitāiki area from Monday, 30 October. Following consultation with the Rangitāiki community, and particularly with the Rangitāiki Community Board, the new cameras will be in the most-needed locations.



In 2022, Whakatāne District Council received \$1 million from the Department of Internal Affairs' Better Off Fund to deliver and upgrade the existing community safety camera network with modern cameras, add more cameras and improve system monitoring abilities. The upgraded network will be monitored 24/7 by Armitage Group, an independent security company, and the real-time footage will help NZ Police respond to events as they are unfolding. The installation of all cameras across the Whakatāne District will be completed by early December, which is ahead of the original schedule.

Papa Taonga Reserve

A big thank you to Ria Davis, who kindly donated and planted heritage harakeke in the Papa Taonga Reserve (Edgecumbe). Ria is a long-standing resident of Edgecumbe, known for her muka weaving talents and as a weaving tutor for many years. The heritage harakeke originally came from her nanny (born in 1893), and was used for weaving by her kuia, mum and herself.

Thanks also to Hori Clay (kaumatua) who dug the holes for the harakeke and Kathryn Davis (E.D.I.T representative) who assisted with the planting. We look forward to seeing the harakeke grow - according to Ria, in approximately five years' time, it should be big enough to harvest.

The next stage of development of the reserve includes Whakatāne District Council, working with the Edgecumbe Collective, planting new trees selected by Red Zone whānau. Planting will take place next year at a suitable planting time. Everyone is looking forward to seeing this area look a lot better and brighter!



Ria Davis (left) and Kathryn Davis (right) planting the heritage harakeke

COMMUNITY GRANTS AND FUNDING POLICY REVIEW

Te Arotakenga o te Kaupapa Here Karāti me te Pūtea Hapori

We manage a range of funds that enable us to support community-led projects and initiatives. The Community Grants and Funding Policy sits behind everything in this space, so it's really important we get it right.

We've reviewed it and made some tweaks. Now it's over to you to have a read and tell us what you think!

Kōrero Mai

Visit [koreromai.whakatane.govt.nz/community-funding](https://www.koreromai.whakatane.govt.nz/community-funding)
Submissions close 5pm Sunday, 12 November.

**Waiho ake mā te au o Rangitāiki koe e kawē atu ki tua o pae.
Let the current of the Rangitāiki river guide you to the horizon and beyond.**

Te Niaotanga o Mataatua o Te Arawa Matatā Wastewater Project – community update

Te Tauihu o te Waka – “Navigating the bow of the canoe, in the right direction, together.”

WHAT’S BEEN HAPPENING:

Community engagement

A big thank you to everyone who was able to pop down to our drop-in session a few weeks back. We had around 25 people through the door and lots of great kōrero and questions. We’re now in the process of setting up a database so we can keep in touch with those of you who want updates on the project. If you didn’t make it down to the drop-in but would like to be on our database, flick us an email at MatataWastewaterProject@whakatane.govt.nz and we’ll add you to our list.



Environmental monitoring

The environmental monitoring programme for the project is continuing and going well. To see where we’re monitoring, check out our website whakatane.govt.nz/matata-wastewater

Cultural narrative

The design of a tohu/symbol to represent the co-design group ‘Te Niaotanga o Mataatua o Te Arawa’ has been an important milestone for the project. Aligning with the project values, the intent was to weave historical and cultural narratives into the design to acknowledge whakapapa, kaitiakitanga and manaakitanga of the whenua, wai and hapori of Matatā. Erin Tioke designed four options, all sharing the same concepts but artistically varied. Iwi representatives met with Erin and he shared his creative process for each design. After in-depth discussions, the teardrop design was favoured for its ability to reflect key elements in an attractive and meaningful way. Those at the meeting made suggestions such as how to reflect the colours associated with each Iwi and to pronounce the representation of the benefits of all the community. The co-design group also revisited how the tohu would be used and why this was more than just a ‘logo’. Whakaaro was shared about the importance of reflecting the co-design of a wastewater system, and the wider community being able to see an improved approach by not just having Council’s logo and colours on project material. Having the tohu designed by Erin, who can whakapapa to all three iwi, lives in Matatā with his whānau, and is well-known to all iwi members was really important for the integrity of the design process.

*Artist concept: Te Niaotanga o
Mataatua o Te Arawa tohu*



WHAKATĀNE MAYORAL



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Raehe Ashford-Morgan (Ngāti Awa, Te Ati Haunui-a-Pāpārangī) and Jahdge Randall-Thompson (Ngāti Awa, Ngāi Tūhoe) of Edgecumbe College, who were finalists in the Arts and Culture category of the Mayoral Youth Community Awards held in September.

Bay of Plenty Regional Council construction update

Construction on the lower Rangitāiki River stopbanks

Works are due to begin on a 1.25km section of left stopbank next to Thornton Beach Road due to the stopbank section not meeting its required level.

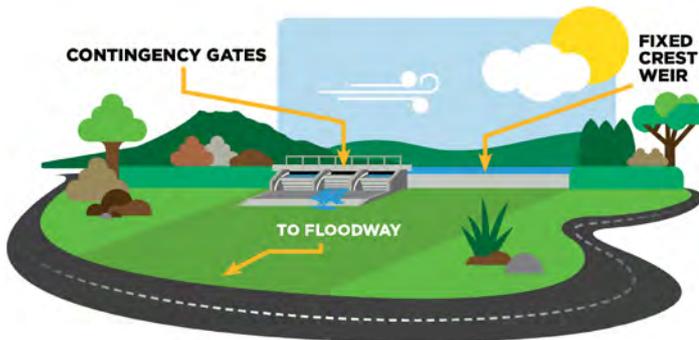
Traffic management will be in place when the road needs to be reduced to one lane. There may also be limited access in and around the awa/river at the construction site, however the boat ramp will remain open. Construction begins in October and is scheduled to be completed in 2024.

Edgecumbe floodwall 90% complete

Despite the challenging spring weather, our team is working hard to get the final stage of the Rangitāiki River floodwalls project completed by the end of the year. The walkway beside the new floodwalls has been reopened for public use, however there may be some disruption when the final works are being done.

Regional Council wishes to thank the Edgecumbe community for their support and patience throughout the entire construction process – particularly those landowners living next to the College Road floodwall, who have had their backyards disrupted for the past eight months.

Rangitāiki Spillway update



Earlier this year, Regional Council undertook a community consultation process seeking feedback on the proposed spillway design. Through the process, there was overwhelming support from the community to complete the project in full at an estimated cost of \$7.8M. This is the final stage of the Rangitāiki Floodway project, which has been undergoing upgrades since 2011.

Currently a procurement process is underway to select suitable contractors to undertake these upgrades. Work is expected to start from December 2023 and be completed late 2024.



Bay of Plenty Tsunami Evacuation Maps updated

The Bay of Plenty Civil Defence Emergency Management Group has updated the region's tsunami evacuation maps to be consistent across all councils, including for the Whakatāne District.

These updated tsunami evacuation maps and printed signs/boards around the district will look different. The evacuation zone boundaries are no longer shown as red-orange-yellow.

Now, Bay of Plenty tsunami evacuation zones will be defined by one BLUE area to make them simpler and easier to read. Most tsunami evacuation zone boundaries remain unchanged. However, it's important to check.

You can scan the QR code to check your location and changes to the BLUE evacuation zone boundaries.

Remember: Long or Strong: Get Gone.

- In a potential tsunami, *get out of the BLUE*: head inland or to higher ground right away.
- If you are in the BLUE tsunami evacuation zone boundary and you feel a long or strong earthquake, evacuate (Long or Strong: Get Gone). Don't wait for an official warning.
- For tsunami, BLUE means go.
- Take essentials only. When you are in a safe location, stay there until you get the all-clear.

For more information and to view maps visit bopcivildefence.govt.nz or whakatane.govt.nz/tsunami



Scan to view if you're in the BLUE

A graphic with a dark blue background. At the top, there are three colored circles (red, orange, yellow) followed by an equals sign and a single blue circle. Below this, the text reads: "Red-orange-yellow tsunami evacuation zones are now BLUE." At the bottom, it says: "Know your zone. Know where to go. bopcivildefence.govt.nz" There are logos for Bay of Plenty Emergency Management and Whakatāne District Council at the very bottom.

Red-orange-yellow tsunami evacuation zones are now **BLUE**.

Know your zone. Know where to go.
bopcivildefence.govt.nz

Matatā Community Gym



16 Mair Street, Matatā

Sign up today! \$15 one-off
joining fee + \$5 p/week membership

Contact Darcy 027 818 2831 for more info.

The Rangitāiki
Community Board
would like to acknowledge
the passing of
long-standing Community
Board member,
Graeme Bourke.

Moe mai rā
Graeme.

Upcoming events

Lifestyle Block Support Recovery & Resilience
Workshop, 5.30pm-8pm Friday 10 November,
Edgecumbe Memorial Hall

Te Teko White Ribbon Day, 3pm - 6.30pm
Tuesday 25 November, Te Teko Rugby and
Sports Club

Matatā Residents Association Monthly
Meetings, 6.30pm every second Tuesday of
the month, Matatā Rugby and Sports Club

Neighbourhood Support

A well-connected community helps to improve the safety, resilience and well-being of all residents. Neighbourhood Support brings people together so they know how to look after themselves, and others, during any emergency event.

We partner with Civil Defence, NZ Police, Fire and Emergency and many other community groups, which enables us to share information they have with you.

To make a difference in your community, get involved with Neighbourhood Support.

At the gathering of each group we cover:

- Getting to know each other and creating a group contact list
- Creating awareness of what's happening in your neighbourhood
- Crime awareness in your area from Police
- Fire safety awareness
- Learning how to be first responders in any situation
- Where to get relevant emergency information from
- Improving household and neighbourhood safety
- Local hazards and how to respond to them

It's free and really easy! If you're interested in starting a group, contact Jane 027 255 1351 or Jen 027 255 1350 and they'll organise and run your first hui to get you started.

TARAWERA AWA

EASTERN SIDE ACCESS

Kia ora tatou, the eastern side of the Tarawera River (Eastern Beach Access) is now closed due to works being carried out on the replacement of the tidal floodgate. The works should be completed within two months.

If you have any questions contact Chris Clarke
Phone 027 - 5574457 | Email kaitiaki@ngatirangitahi.iwi.nz



STAY UP WITH THE PLAY

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Do it online whakatane.govt.nz/newsletters
Email us newsletters@whakatane.govt.nz

whakatane.govt.nz

WHAKATĀNE
District Council
Kia Whakatāne au i ahau

If you have any upcoming events or notices you'd like included in the newsletter,
send through to newsletters@whakatane.govt.nz