



GREAT LAKE, GREAT PLACE, GREAT PEOPLE

MAYOR RICK COOPER

Balls, boat ramps and business opportunities

## TURANGI COLOURS TURN TO WINTER

Following the success of the Turangi Colours Art and Food Festival, Turangi i-Site is planning a winter themed festival for the upcoming school holidays. The two-day 'Turangi Trout Snowfest' on 27 and 28 July will celebrate what makes Turangi unique. It is part of the new Grab-it campaign, with \$39 flights to Taupō from Auckland and Wellington, and is hoped will capture the interest of visitors and locals alike.

Day one is a children's fishing day at the National Trout Centre on SH1, with some of the centre's hungriest trout being released into the kid's pool for the Fishout. There will be food and drink available on the day, as well as trout tasting, trout smoking, a BBQ and spot prizes. Day two will be a market day in the Turangi Town Centre, and will feature local arts, wares, food and entertainment. A truck load of snow is also being dumped in the town centre, so children can enjoy some frosty fun.

Turangi i-Site manager Maryke Wilson says the Turangi Colours Festival brought a lot of people into Turangi. "Winter is such a beautiful time of year here, and the school holidays seemed like the perfect excuse to have another festival."

Maryke hopes the winter festival will spark a calendar of seasonal festivals for Turangi. "Watch this space in the spring and the summer!"

To be involved in the festival, contact Maryke Wilson at the Turangi i-Site and Visitor Centre on 07 386 8999.



Have you got your tickets to the SPCA PAWS Ball and Charity Auction yet? This prestigious annual event, on 16 July at Hilton Hotel, has become one of the highlights on Taupō's social calendar. And for good reason. SPCA work tirelessly looking after the many stray and abandoned animals that come their way. Their new facility on Centennial Drive looks fabulous, but like all organisations money is still needed to keep the wheels turning. Thank you to the many generous local businesses that are sponsoring the event and donating items for the charity auction, without your help this event would not be



listened to. Boat ramps fees on the Great Lake were to rise to a staggering \$8.00, but thankfully the powers that be have heard the reasons against, and the fees will remain at the current \$3.80 for the time being.

Also, as I gladly reported earlier this year, following some hard work by Louise Upston, our local MP, the Government will be investing nearly \$5million in marine

**"To all our new businesses I wish the warmest of welcomes"**

possible. I'm looking forward to a fun night, and hope to see you all there. Remember, animals need love too.

Coming up this weekend is the Saucony Off-road Half Marathon held on the picturesque Mt Tauhara; the first of the three Taupō half marathon events required to complete the 63.3 Challenge. You can run it or walk it, but just make sure to give it a go. There is also the option of the 10km walk or run, and even a 2km fun run for the kids. Come on all you young guys and gals, old guys and gals and everyone else in between, come and enjoy the good company of people from all over New Zealand that flock to Taupō for these wonderful events. While our visitors are here they also enjoy meals, lattes and spend the night in our hotels and motels, so that's got to be good for our town.

Speaking of things that are good for our town, I am pleased to report that the submission presented by yours truly recently to the Department of Internal Affairs was certainly

infrastructure on Lake Taupō over the next four years. This is an outstanding result for our district, and I look forward to working with our competent Harbour Master Philip King on these improvement projects.

Finally, to all those 'cup half empty' people out there who are so concerned about the number of empty retail spaces in the CBD, I say what a splendid opportunity we have to attract new businesses to Taupō. And they are coming. To Pascoes Jewellers, welcome. To Thai House Express, welcome. To Specsavers, welcome. And there are many more in the wings. To all our new businesses I wish the warmest of welcomes to the best district in the country; Toe-paw! And a special good luck to the finalists in this year's Great Lake Taupō Business Awards.

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## BUSINESSES, GET YOUR BUTTS BEHIND IT!

The Keep New Zealand Beautiful 'No It's Butts or Maybes' campaign was launched in Taupō last week, with Taupō District Council being given 40 specially designed cigarette butt bins to install throughout the district. Now this offer has been extended to local businesses.

If you would like to receive your own butt litter bin to install and maintain on your own premises, please contact Keep New Zealand Beautiful directly by calling 09 264 1434.



## DON'T BE EARLY FOR THE TUWHARETOA FESTIVAL

The dates for the annual Tuwharetoa Cultural Festival were incorrectly listed on the Taupō 2011 Calendar of events as printed in the Taupō Times on Tuesday 28 June.

**The two-day festival, held at Taupō Events Centre, runs from 29 to 30 September 2011.** Our apologies to the festival organisers for the error.

An amended version of the calendar is available to download from the Taupō 2011 website, [www.taupo2011.com](http://www.taupo2011.com), and is a great way to keep up to date with what's happening around the district during RWC 2011. We will also reprint the calendar in August with any additional updates, so be on the lookout.

## Clever 'thinking' for Library promotion

Staff at Taupō Library have put their thinking caps on to create a new promotional billboard.

The new 'The Thinker' billboard was put up this week after Library staff were tasked with coming up with a theme that could be displayed on an exterior wall of the library. The blank wall facing the busy Horomatangi Street intersection and alongside the i-Site, was considered an ideal space to promote not only the Library, but also reading and literacy in the community.

## IMPORTANT DATES

- 12 July CANCELLED Turangi-Tongariro Community Board Meeting
- 13 July Taupō LANDSAR Fundraiser with author David Hughes, 7.00pm Great Lake Centre

Email your elected members at [councillors@taupo.govt.nz](mailto:councillors@taupo.govt.nz)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 07 376 0899 OR VISIT [WWW.TAUPO.GOV.TZ](http://WWW.TAUPO.GOV.TZ)

