



GREAT LAKE, GREAT PLACE, GREAT PEOPLE

Public art gets interactive

Taupō's recent flurry of public artworks continues with work beginning this month on the latest sculpture, "The Crossing" by Artist Robbie Graham. The Crossing, which will be situated on Ferry Road, is an interactive, large-scale outdoor model that serves as a tribute to the hugely popular Tongariro Crossing.

Robbie Graham and his artist wife Sue returned from Perth to live in New Zealand in 1995 and opened Wildwood Gallery in Waitahanui the same year.

Inspired by walking the Tongariro Crossing, Robbie wanted to recreate one of New Zealand's most frequented tourist experiences through an interactive sculpture. "The Crossing represents the awe-inspiring experience of tramping among the volcanic peaks of Mt Tongariro and Mt Ngauruhoe." Robbie says he wanted to create an interactive sculpture that people could walk up to, over, through and beyond to suggest the Tongariro Crossing experience. "The lakeside location enables viewers to see the iconic features of the Tongariro National Park framed by the installation, hopefully inviting them to explore further."



"The Crossing" - under construction

The sculpture is made of solid wooden poles representing the peaks of Ngauruhoe and Tongariro, with local Tauhara stone portraying the rocky volcanic terrain. Robbie Graham, better known for his award-winning wood-turned art, says

"The Crossing" was originally designed on a much smaller scale. "The Ferry Road location is visible from the main road, cafés and the Tongariro Domain, so it lent itself to a much larger version. The massive scale of this project has been a challenge, so collaborating with a team of experts has resulted in an achievement I am very proud of." Robbie invited local carver Delani Brown to provide Māori designs depicting cultural aspects of the mountains. Robbie then burnt these motifs into the wood using a heavy-duty pyrography machine. The sculpture also features stonework by Rahaman.

Robbie extends a big thank you to everyone else that worked on the project for their guidance and expertise.

The sculpture is made possible thanks to substantial funding given by a generous local benefactor, plus funding from Creative New Zealand and Taupō District Council.

MAYOR RICK COOPER
HOW GREAT IT WAS



My sincerest thanks and congratulations go to the Taupō District this week. You have stood up and portrayed yourselves in the best way possible on the world stage and I believe delivered the best six weeks of hospitality seen anywhere in the country. As Mayor I am very proud and humbled. What a delight to see restaurants and bars full of people and to see the visitor industry have its day in the sun.

The RWC 2011 Host Coordination Committee, chaired by Deputy Mayor Mike Downard, fulfilled its duties and obligations admirably. I do feel all-in-all that whilst it is not Council's core business, being the

of RWC 2011 volunteers; our "teal coated" ambassadors for the Tournament. You have all done an outstanding job and New Zealand simply could not have done this without you. I sincerely hope you have enjoyed and made the most of your experience.

Our Fanzones were a roaring success, with over a thousand people coming along to the Great Lake Centre and

"Around 3-4,000 people took part in the festivities, enjoying a wonderful performance by Kora and making it a fantastic finale celebration."

tourist town that we are, we have spent our money wisely and prudently during this once-in-a-generation opportunity. We have achieved a wonderful result for our district by attracting people to come here. That being said, I am sure some of the fruits of this labour will be yet to come, especially as we head into another lucrative summer.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the personnel on the ground, headed by our unflappable Project Manager, Karen Balasoglou. The team made sure we were ready and prepared to host visitors and guests, training days, Fanzones and, of course, our host teams Wales, Ireland and previous World Champs South Africa.

A very special thanks must also go to our hard working team of gardeners, parks staff, street cleaners, rubbish collectors and of course, our superb group

soaking up the atmosphere of our eight Family Friendly evenings. My thanks go to the South African, Welsh, Irish and Samoan communities for not only participating in these events, but taking charge and giving the nights an authentic flavour from your home country. Thanks also to the King Country Rugby Union and Taupō Junior Rugby for your support. These nights culminated with the semi's and the Final on Tuwharetoa Street, and what a fantastic night it was on Sunday! Around 3-4,000 people took part in the festivities, enjoying a wonderful performance by Kora and making it a fantastic finale celebration. The night was topped-off with the nail-biting conclusion to the Tournament – a win for the All Blacks! New Zealand are once again (and rightfully so) Rugby World Champions.

Mayor Rick Cooper
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Taupō's Stormwater fully compliant

Taupō District Council's (TDC) management of its urban stormwater discharge has received the big tick from Waikato Regional Council (WRC) recently; highlighting TDC's commitment to keeping the District's waterways clean.

A regular monitoring programme measures the stormwater run-off entering the lakeshore and river receiving environments, ensuring it is within acceptable environmental standards. TDC achieved full compliance for all three of its stormwater resource consents.

WRC also commended TDC's proactive approach to stormwater management; mentioning a number of stormwater initiatives including the installation of 'enviropods' in the CBD, gully planting projects and Lake Outlet Investigations.



Erosion works on hot water stream

Erosion control work will commence this week on the lakefront near the Onekeneke Stream by the Millennium Hotel and Resort.

Walls on either side of the stream will be reinstated in two stages, beginning with the South facing wall. The work is expected to be finished mid-December.

Pedestrian access will still be available during this time, but people are advised to please be aware of vehicle movements and construction hazards in the area, such as noise and earthworks.

MARCHING ON

This Saturday, the Cadets and Officers of the Officer Cadet School of New Zealand will carry out the long held tradition of exercising their right to the 'freedom of the District'. The officer cadets will parade in full dress uniform, carrying weapons with bayonets fixed, through the streets of Taupō in what promises to be a colourful occasion. A formal parade and inspection will be held in the Great Lake Centre carpark starting at 11.00am. The parade and march should conclude at approximately Noon.

Members of the public are invited to view the official ceremonies at the Great Lake Centre. For more information contact Cornelia Bruckner, Personal Assistant to the CEO, on 07 376 0633.

Annual Report now available

Taupō District Council's 2010/11 Annual Report is now available.

The Annual Report is a key accountability document reporting Council's performance over the last financial year and this year's report highlights stabilisation during a period of economic uncertainty.

The full report and an eight page summary are both available online at www.taupo.govt.nz and at all Council offices and libraries.



IMPORTANT DATES

- 29 October Laughton Kindergarten Old Fashioned Gala, 10.00am Laughton St Reserve and Kindergarten
- 29 October Charter Parade, 11.00am Great Lake Centre Carpark and CBD Streets
- 29 October How Great Thou Art Tribute Concert Tour, 7.00pm Great Lake Centre
- 2 November Tutemohuta Reserve Trust Meeting, 2.30pm Councillors Room

Email your elected members at councillors@taupo.govt.nz

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 07 376 0899 OR VISIT WWW.TAUPO.GOV.T.NZ



Mayor Rick Cooper

Dep Mayor Mike Downard

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Cr Rob Henderson

Cr Barry Hickling

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Cr Rex Mincher

Cr Kirsty Trueman

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