



Have a safe and happy New Year wherever you are this summer.

Season's greetings

Ngā mihi o te Tau Hou – Happy New Year

Ōpōtiki District Council staff would like to wish all residents a safe and happy New Year.

2014 is an exciting time. We have a great mix of new and experienced Councillors with the energy to make big decisions about Ōpōtiki's future.

The Council will continue to provide and maintain essential district services including water supply, sewerage, the library, roads, cemeteries, animal control, consents, recycling and rubbish, parks, and Civil Defence amongst many others. In addition, the Council will continue to drive growth through the Economic Development Strategy, the library project, the sewerage upgrade and the Harbour redevelopment project.

The Council is a local democracy for local people. Together we can make 2014 an excellent year for Ōpōtiki.



Mayor John Forbes.

Ōpōtiki on the web

A new-look Ōpōtiki i-SITE website is coming soon.

The site will showcase a new design and images of our town and surrounds. Gisborne firm Broker Bros developed the design concept and most of the text and editing work was done by local copywriter, Jim Robinson.

We are excited to launch the new site later this month and are sure it will do a great job selling our region to tourists and locals.

Keep an eye out for the changes at www.opotikin.com.



The new Ōpōtiki i-SITE website will display some of the great views around town.

Say it in Māori

Try saying a few of our favourite summer words and phrases in Te Reo.

Kua tae mai rā ngā hararei – The holidays have arrived!

Raumati – Summer

Tātahi – Beach

Kaukau – Swimming

Hi ika – Fishing

Eke hōiho – Horse riding

Eke paihikara – Bike riding

Mahinga kai – Food gathering

Whānau rauika – Family get together

Whaea te oranga me te manaki o te wa raumati. Kia ora tatou katoa – Keep well and safe during summer.

Tāwhiri-mātea – atua of the winds, clouds, rain, hail, snow and storms.

Thanks to the Whakatōhea Māori Trust Board for help with this section. For more information visit www.whakatohea.co.nz.



Above: Team Titan – Island View Holiday Park Drift Wood sculpting competition

Information open day

Council is holding an information open day for local residents at 116 Church St on January 30 and 31.

It is an opportunity to find out about Civil Defence emergency management including preparing for an emergency situation, how the new alcohol laws may affect you and what the District Plan Review involves.

Ōpōtiki's Technology and Research Library will also be up for discussion. There will be prizes for participating and books available for purchase, so come along and have your say.

For more information, visit www.odc.govt.nz.

Summer fun at the Ōpōtiki New World Summer Fest



It has been a fun filled festival of activities and events for visitors and locals alike with the Ōpōtiki New World Summer Fest and plenty of other great activities.

December festivities were popular with the Christmas Float Parade touring the town and the Christmas in the Park festivities both very popular. The Ōpōtiki Rodeo was another success with big crowds and great activities.

And hundreds are still enjoying the Ōpōtiki New World Summer Fest. There have been beach digs and glow worm walks, movies under the stars and amazing races.

The Island View Holiday Park Lantern Festival was even bigger and better than last year due to help with funding from Southern Trust, Eastern Bay Energy Trust and the Island View Holiday Park. Whenua Patuwai (X-Factor grand finalist) and Tama Waipara, Ōpōtiki's own internationally acclaimed musician, headlined the event and were joined by many other talented groups and local acts.



The great news is that the events are continuing throughout January and February including the Ōpōtiki New World Raft Race, Art in the Park and the A&P Show and Community Fair. Join the fun and find out more on the i-SITE website www.opotikin.com.

Island View Lantern festival – clockwise from top: Balloon release. Whenua Patuwai a real crowd pleaser. Sisters of Ally, Jessie and Georgie Mathews. Rapt crowds. Crowds getting the good spots at the Island View Holiday Park Lantern Festival.

For more amazing photos visit 'Opo's Lantern Festival' Facebook page.





Above: Amazing Race young competitor. **Top right:** Spectacular giraffe sculpture – Island View Driftwood Sculpting Contest. **Right:** Amazing Race – wharf swing. **Below:** Competitors gathering for the Island View Driftwood Sculpting Competition.





Take the lead

Take the lead, a new initiative launched last month, will give young women in the Eastern Bay of Plenty the opportunity to get involved in sports leadership.

The three-year programme is aimed at young women aged 13 to 20 involved in sport and recreation. It is supported by Sport New Zealand,

Sport Bay of Plenty and the the Whakatane, Kawerau and Ōpōtiki District Councils.

The project will be kicking off in Edgumbe College, Ōpōtiki College, Te Whānau-a-Apanui Area School, Tarawera High School, Murupara Area School and Te Wharekura O Rūātōki.

Above: Ōpōtiki College women's rugby sevens captain, Luka Conner. Photo courtesy of Miki Murase, Drops Photography.

Ōpōtiki wastewater *Did you know?*

- A waste pipe takes the toilet, hand-basins, sink, shower and bath water ("wastewater" or "sewage") from your home to the public sewer. Waste pipes are owned by the property owner.
- All the wastepipes flow into the public sewers. Sewer pipes are owned and managed by the Council. A collection of sewer pipes is called "sewer reticulation" or "sewerage system".

Council staff and contractors have been carrying out inspections of the waste pipes on private properties. Knowing the condition of these pipes is an important part of the decisions on the where, what, when and how to upgrade the public sewers.

Sale yard work a success

The clean-up of land around the old sale yards on Wellington Street is complete. Residual deposits of arsenic have been carefully removed from an historic sheep dipping site on the property.

Material brought in to form a new overflow pond at the Ōpōtiki sewage effluent disposal area has meant thousands of dollars in savings. As the innovative solution meets national disposal requirements, additional money doesn't need to be spent on a more expensive alternative.

Council would like to thank surrounding residents for their patience and care taken around the site.



Aerial photo of the new and improved overflow pond.

What's on

All Ōpōtiki events are 

Ōpōtiki New World Summer Fest and Island View Holiday Park Lantern Festival: Jan 2014

Whakaatu Whanaunga Trust Holiday Programme: Jan 6, 2014

Art in the Park – Waitangi Day celebration: Feb 6, 2014

Ōpōtiki A and P Show / Community Fair: Feb 8, 2014

St Joseph's School Gala: Mar 15, 2014

Ōpōtiki ITM 3 Fish Classic 2014: Mar 21-23, 2014

Ōpōtiki Charity Concert: Mar 21-22, 2014

For more information on our events, visit the Ōpōtiki i-SITE in person or online at www.opotikin.z.com. Alternatively you can call (07) 315 3031.



This newsletter is produced quarterly by the Ōpōtiki District Council.

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