

Our new reservoir

The cover on Ōpōtiki's potable water storage reservoir was more than 20 years old and showing signs of its age. Here is a step-by-step view of its replacement. The Ōpōtiki Water supply including Hikutaia and Waitohi Drifts is fully compliant with the Ministry of Health and NZ Drinking Water Standards. Staff and contractors at the council work hard to make sure the water that comes from your tap is safe to drink.



Before photo – The old reservoir cover had cables, posts and weights to ensure it didn't lift in the wind. There were signs of wear and a risk that stormwater could contaminate the reservoir.



Step 1 – Tidy up around the reservoir (the pine needles created constant maintenance issues so the trees were felled and this area will now be grassed for easy maintenance).



Step 2 – Take up the old liner in pieces. It is heavy work!



Step 3 – Check, minor maintenance and clean the dam liner while the reservoir is empty.



Step 4 – Lay out the new lid in sections on to the empty reservoir and install weights on each of the diagonals to prevent the cover lifting in high winds. The original poles and weights system is no longer needed. Join and fix the cover together so that it is completely sealed.



Step 5 - Re-fill the reservoir then sterilise (hyperchlorinate) and flush. Re-sterilise with low dosage chlorine and test. Repeat until all clear before reconnecting to the town's reticulation. For the final image showing what the town's reservoir looks like now, check out our Facebook page

Funding Te Tāhuhu

Recent fundraising efforts towards Te Tāhuhu o Te Rangī have paid off, with funds raised now tantalisingly close to the \$1million mark.

We celebrated the announcement from BayTrust that they will contribute \$300,000 towards the building of the facility. Several high profile events have also helped raise funds and the profile of the project. These include The Real Ōpōtiki (our proud Ōpōtiki exhibition in Auckland), our first PechaKucha event and an evening of entertainment from Stig Wemyss.



Art on display at The Real Ōpōtiki exhibition at Toi Tu Studio One on Ponsonby Road in Auckland. Art by Te Mete and Paora Brosnan.



Stig Wemyss, Australia's rock star narrator enthralled hundreds of school children and adults alike at his incredible high energy shows in September, celebrating the library's new eAudio service.



Sold out crowds at the library, as Ōpōtiki gets it's first taste of PechaKucha – 20 seconds, 20 slides and a lot of passion!

Fire permits now online

All open air fires in the Ōpōtiki District need a fire permit. It is an important way to manage the risks associated with an open air fire. With summer just around the corner, it is great news that this process is now even easier with permits available online through Pumicelands Fire Authority. You can find a link to the online permits through our website www.odc.govt.nz/fire



Te Kaha water supply extension

Two extensions to the Te Kaha water supply are planned in the next nine months: one along Parekura Hei Rd and another from Copenhagen Rd north along SH35. The two extensions will bring safe and secure water for up to 40 additional properties.

The Coast Community Board suggested securing Ministry of Health funding for the two schemes and this means only 15% of the total cost will be funded by the ratepayers.

Residents in these two areas should keep an eye out for the information packs, which will be delivered soon. The pack will have crucial information for owners on how to connect to the extensions. There will also be a public meeting to ask questions and find out more.





Our growing district

I was looking through some economic indicator statistics for the eastern Bay of Plenty recently, and I was really pleased to see that the numbers are reflecting what many of us are seeing day to day around the district – business growth, expansion and community optimism.

All the numbers are pointing in the right direction. Nominal GDP is up 3.6% in the eastern bay, much of that driven by healthy growth in the primary and manufacturing sectors. Population growth, more consents issued, unemployment down 15%, house prices up, visitor nights and visitor spend both up, and incomes and wages increasing significantly as well. These numbers are showing the benefits of a diverse approach to our economic growth – tourism, kiwifruit, aquaculture, mānuka, dairy and forestry are all playing a key role in growing our district.

The Harbour project is still pushing ahead with just over a year and a half until we can expect to see the first stake in the ground to build our new entrance (subject to securing the balance of funding). We have issued our Request for Proposal and expect to have comprehensive tenders back in March for evaluation.

In addition, the Pathways to Work project is making significant progress, working closely with a wide range of agencies. This project is all about making sure the local workforce has the right skills and qualifications to step into roles as they come online.

Aileen Lawrie, Chief Executive



In brief

A big thank you to residents in the area north of Elliot Street who have been part of our find and fix pilot area working to better understand issues impacting our sewerage network. As part of that project, 97 properties were inspected and dozens of repairs (big and small) were carried out. Now we need to wait until next winter's rain to test the pilot's impact. Find out more at www.odc.govt.nz/sewerage

The eastern Bay of Plenty's economic development agency, Toi EDA welcomed new faces to the Board in September. We welcome Paula Thompson, Michael Barnett, David Turner, Mark Law and John Galbraith as the council-appointed board members and look forward to the exciting years ahead as the area goes from strength to strength.



Ōpōtiki's Proposed District Plan is currently out for consultation and you can make a formal submission in writing (either online or in hard copy) before 18 November. Find out more about what this means for you and how you can have your say at www.odc.govt.nz/districtplan



Another fantastic school holiday programme at the library saw hundreds of young people come through the doors and get involved in a raft of activities from poi to bunting, ukuleles to paper dolls. The migration theme continues later this month with a series of activities on the Shining Cuckoos. Find out more on our Facebook page.

The September earthquakes

The flurry of earthquakes last month and the recent national Civil Defence exercises are timely reminders that we all need to be prepared in an emergency.

Remember to pay attention to the natural warning signs – if you live by the coast and an earthquake is **STRONG** (it is hard to stand up) or **LONG** (lasts longer than a minute), then you need to be **GONE** (go to higher ground). Well done to those coastal communities who made that call and went to higher ground when they felt the big one.

You can find the tsunami evacuation maps on our website

www.odc.govt.nz/tsunami.

You can also do simple things to be prepared at home.

A great starting place is

www.happens.nz.



Bylaw bites

The Ōpōtiki District Council bylaws include a rule that you cannot allow any vegetation to 'grow over any public place' creating a problem for people using the public area. So please be a good neighbour and make sure that you keep your trees and bushes clear of footpaths and roads so others can use them without obstruction.



What's on

All Ōpōtiki events are



Sept - October - Birdsaplenty festival with heaps of activities for all ages

21-23 October - Ōpōtiki Fishing Association

2016 Open Fishing Tournament

29 October - Ōpōtiki Auto Show

4-5 November - Waiōtahe Valley School Centenary

12 November - Trash & Treasure

13 November - Kids Gone Fishing

10 December - Muriwai Xmas at the Park

26 December - Muriwai Surf Fishing Competition

27 December - Maraenui Fishing Contest

28 December - Ōpōtiki Rodeo – 9am to 3pm

20-22 January - Island View Ukelele Festival

28 January - Ōpōtiki Lantern Festival



Keep your eye out for a full Summer Festival calendar for fantastic events in December and January including the annual raft race and lantern festival.

For more information on any of the wide range of Ōpōtiki clubs, groups, activities and events, visit the Ōpōtiki i-SITE or www.opotikin.com or call (07) 315 3031.

This newsletter is produced quarterly by the Ōpōtiki District Council.

108 St John Street, PO Box 44, Ōpōtiki.

Phone: (07) 315 3030

Email: info@odc.govt.nz

Web: www.odc.govt.nz

