



Welcome to our bridge edition

...see inside for more

Get into the Library

The Ōpōtiki Library is growing in leaps and bounds with plenty on offer for logophiles (lovers of words) of all ages. The library has more than 25,000 titles in its collection, as well as DVDs, eBooks, eAudio, newspapers, magazines, free wifi and hundreds of other resources. It is clearly popular with membership shooting up in recent years. Now more than 4000 people are lucky enough to carry an Ōpōtiki Library membership card in their wallet.

Book Groups

Two book groups currently operate out of the library. So if you are looking for a great group of people to debate with, talk literature and a wide range of books to extend your reading taste, pop in to the library to find out more.



For the kids

Each Monday morning at 10:30am there is Storytime for the kids. And the school holiday programme is growing ever more popular with activities every weekday during term breaks. They are noisy, messy and fun so make sure you grab a flyer before school holidays to keep up to date with all the entertaining activities.



DVDs

Do you need some cheering up in the cold and rainy winter weather? The library recently acquired part of a private collection of DVDs that are now available

Library hours:

9.00am - 5.00pm Monday to Friday
9.00am - 1.00pm on Saturdays

for hire. There are more than 400 titles including boxed sets (which can be hired for two weeks) and the library is adding to the collection all the time.



PechaKucha Ōpōtiki

There have been four incredibly successful PechaKucha events over the last year, with tickets for each event selling like hot cakes. The evenings have showcased all sorts of people from across the community and raised more than \$6000 for Te Tāhuhu o Te Rangi (the new research and technology centre to replace the current library).

No Such Thing as a Bridge Too Far

It has been a bridge-centred few months in Ōpōtiki: the Pakihi Bridge opening at the end of May, the replacement of Ngarue Road Bridge and the planned bridges along the Mōtū trials.

A district famous for its bridges adds a few more.

Ngaure Road Bridge

In 2014, Council commissioned a report into bridges in the Ōpōtiki District. The Ngaure Road Bridge, located near Cape Runaway, was identified as one of the bridges in urgent need of replacement.



The old bridge was built in 1947 of wooden piles, steel beams and a timber deck. It had a fairly tough life. Being just over 12m long and single lane it was in constant need of repair from damage sustained by larger vehicles entering and exiting.



A full bridge replacement was included in the recent Long Term Plan and, earlier this year, the old bridge was replaced with a simpler concrete box culvert.

Pakihi Bridge

The Pakihi Bridge crosses Te Waiti Stream, 15km south of Ōpōtiki. The old single-lane bridge was constructed in 1936 and was significantly damaged in a storm in May 2013. An inspection showed that the timber piles had lost their support on the downstream side of the western pier and the condition of other parts of the bridge was poor.

Even the most extensive repairs would mean a bridge with a limited lifespan, significant load restrictions and non-compliance with earthquake provisions. So a full replacement was programmed and approved.

The new steel-beamed single-span bridge with a pre-cast concrete deck was officially opened by local Member of Parliament the Hon Anne Tolley, the Mayor and guests on 29 May.



New bridges on the Mōtū Trails

Two new bridges for cyclists and pedestrians using the Mōtū Trails are being installed near Hukuwai Beach. Funding from central government's Great Ride Fund means that cyclists will no longer have to go out onto State Highway 2 for that section of the trails, keeping everyone safer.



Visit our Facebook page and find the post about a chocolate bridge, correctly name the bridges in the photos and go in the draw to win a (somewhat badly designed) bridge made of Cadbury Favourites.



In brief

District Plan hearings start on 20 July and run for six weeks. Submitters will have the opportunity to speak to the accredited independent commissioners. At the end of the hearings, the Commissioners will deliberate and make decisions on changes to the District Plan. You can find out more about the Proposed District Plan, the process and the hearings on the Council website.

www.odc.govt.nz/districtplan

Work continues on the **Te Kaha water supply extension**. Most of the northern area has been completed and work will be starting on the southern extension in the new financial year.

Don't forget that we **Love Food, Hate Waste!** We support the national drive to reduce New Zealand's food waste. The programme is gaining momentum with regular updates on their Facebook page, recipes, videos, competitions and giveaways. Join up and learn more about how we can all work to reduce what we throw away. Don't waste the stalk – the latest recipe is for these yummy Broccoli Balls.

www.lovefoodhatewaste.co.nz



Council is aware of the high public interest in **water supply safety** given the issues in Havelock North last year. Our June Audit and Risk Committee considered a paper that took an in-depth look into the safety of each of the public water supply systems (Ōpōtiki, Te Kaha and Ōhiwa). A thorough review was carried out. It found that we are currently compliant and that we have planned, or have underway, activities that will improve it further. You can read the full paper on the council website.



The **Ōpōtiki Dunes Dash and Half Marathon** is set for Sunday 1st October so put it in your diary now. The course follows the Dunes Trail section of the Motu Trails Cycleway with a 5km, 10km and 21km options to walk or run. The event is a fundraiser for the Opotiki Lions Club so they can continue to do great work in our community.

Need a hand moving from your Learners Licence to your Restricted? Get in touch with EastBay REAP at the Heartlands centre in town, and talk to them about Ōpōtiki's **Community Driver Mentor Programme**. Funded with support from Council, Bay of Plenty Regional Council and NZTA, the programme is part of our effort to make sure we have a workforce ready for jobs as they come online through the Harbour development. The programme aims to help more teens and young adults gain their restricted licence by providing the vehicles and a mentor to drive with.



The best way to prepare....

Most of us know that the best way to prepare for anything is to practice. That is true for our response to an emergency as well.

A couple of times each year, Council staff take different roles and practice what they would do in a real emergency. Working under the guidance of the Emergency Management Group, the team runs through a scenario that tests how they would deal with an emergency for the Ōpōtiki district – a tsunami with a few hours warning or an earthquake or evacuations from other areas. The recent training was particularly meaningful for participants in light of the twin storm events in April.



Is your household prepared for an emergency?

It isn't as hard as you think. Some simple planning, and storing a few bits and pieces can help your family be prepared if the worst should happen. Torches? Food and water for three days? A plan to know where you will meet if there is no cell phone coverage?



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