



Kia ora koutou katoa to the Taumarunui Business Community!

Business After 5 - ETI 9th March

Thank you to the RSA for supporting this wonderful and successful evening. 74 persons attended with 10 new business welcomed. Guest Speaker, RDC Business Development and Regional Manager Peggy Veen, mooted the idea of Taumarunui going from a Service to a Host town and shared a little about her background working with small towns.

The next Business After 5 will be hosted by Avonlea Rest Home on the 27th of April. Please make an effort to attend—this will be held at CKC REAP room 2. Avonlea is a major employer. It is a Rest Home and Hospital with plans to build residential units on site. Dates will be posted soon.

If you are interested in hosting a Business After-5 contact ETI. Chairperson Aroha Rudkin 027 873 0064

Workshops

We asked whose interested in workshops and a few of you responded. Customer Service and Strategic/Succession Planning. We will be in touch with dates etc....

Business Awards

April 2018

This is sooooo exciting. There's a lot of work to be done between now and then and that includes supporting you, the business owner. Get started today and learn how to grow your business opportunities.

Register online at www.businessmentors.org.nz

Window Dressing

Windows are the face of your business and many of our shop windows are in dire need of a face lift. So, in readiness for the Two Big re-unions, the Eels later this year and the High School next March, we would like to run a "Window Dressing" workshop. June Nevin is a recent arrival. June brought the old nunnery on High Street. She renovated it and opened it as The Inn at the Convent B&B. And, she has been super busy this summer marketing the Forgotten World Adventures. She's joined ETI and her enthusiasm is infectious. June has a background in design, has owned business and has kindly offered her lifetime experiences to do a "Window Dressing" workshop.

We will post dates in our next newsletter, so watch this space.....

Winter Wonderland Festival –3rd—8th July 2017

Exciting isn't it. Look what can happen when 6 women sit around having a meal and a glass or two of wine. It has taken on a life of its own and planning is well underway.

We have secured some funding for a Window Display Competition to be judged by our community, and ask businesses to light up their shop windows for the whole week 3-9 July. We will keep you posted in the local papers and on our website.

1st Place - \$500

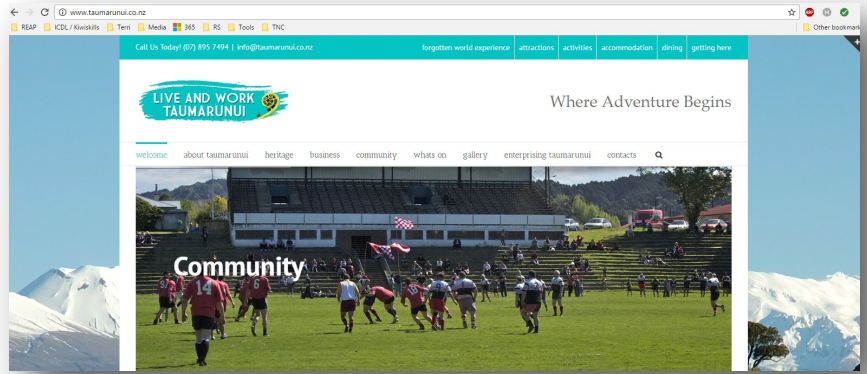
2nd Place - \$300

3rd Place - \$200

Taumarunui Website

The Taumarunui website is a great resource that we are currently under using. In the coming months this site will be reviewed, updated and made more user-friendly. There will be opportunities for local businesses to be advertised and have their information up there. Keep an eye on the website as we make our way through these changes.

www.Taumarunui.co.nz



REVITALISATION PROJECTS

We have 2 projects on the go. The first is the Heritage Boards project. We intend to have 8 heritage boards through Manson's Gardens which will depict the heritage of the shops the businesses and the people in Hakiaha. Currently we have funding for two boards and are working on these now with our local historian Ron Cooke. We have made funding applications for the others.

If anyone is interested in sponsoring a board please contact Karen Ngatai

The other project is painting The Lines Company boxes at the southern end of Manson's Gardens. It is our intention to have art that depicts adventure tourism.

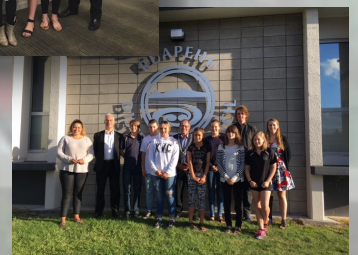
We are very pleased that Manaaki Trust have joined our volunteers team and are now taking over the maintenance of the gardens under the train mural behind the Bill Boards. We can not thank you enough Manaaki.

We must also acknowledge the dedicated bunch of volunteers who turn up on demand and weed around the rhododendrons on the highway. Again we can't thank you enough.

YOUTH COUNCIL

16 Ruapehu Youth Councillors aged 12 – 24 were sworn in to office in early March 2017. 10 Youth Ambassadors to represent the Taumarunui-Ohura area and 6 to represent the Waimarino-Waiouru Area. Each group of ambassadors meet once per month in separate meetings, one in Taumarunui and the other alternates between Raetihi and Ohakune. April has seen our youth complete their individual submissions to Ruapehu District Council's Exceptions Annual Plan and also a workshop of our Youth's own Annual Plans. Our Taumarunui Youth have voted to;

- review RDC's Graffiti Strategy
- undertake public speaking training
- undertake social media and campaign management training
- hold a town wide sports day end of May
- plan for more tree planting projects in September
- plan for and work with council on the southern entrance, creating memorable tourist photo ops (such as photo boards like Taupo's) and working on a top secret theme campaign which will be presented to Council in July
- hold a Youth in Emergency Services expo in October
- facilitate a Young Professionals evening



For more information, to speak to a youth councillor or youth council coordinator please contact Sammi at Council 07 895 8188