17th December 2025

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Volume 25 Number 50

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Calling all Santas! Get your gear on, and get ready for the 2025 Santa Fun Run this Saturday 20th December! Reindeer, Christmas trees, elves, candy canes and sparkling stars are also welcome along with the Santas! This Fun Run (or walk) will be an easy way to get some exercise in before the big feast on Christmas Day.

Teams or individuals can enter, so get yourself, or your group/whanau together, and plan your fancy dress attire. Drop into Tairua Information Centre to register before the Day. Adults pay \$15, 5-14yrs pay \$10 and under-5s are free.

The course has been designed for participants to take in the beauty of our harbour as they walk, skip or run the 5km course. Starting at Pepe Reserve, entrants will head along the coast around to The Esplanade and back. For the littlies there is a 500 metre alternative starting at the Reserve. To fit in with the tide, the event "opens" at 1pm with the races starting at 2pm, followed by a prize-giving at 3.15pm

With prizes galore, photo opportunities, a free sausage sizzle and refreshments. What more could you ask for? Get registered now!

This summer event has been sponsored by Powerco and TCDC. All proceeds will be going to the Information Centre's building fund.

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Tairua Pauanui Community Board news

Press Release 12 December 2025

Improved community engagement which will lead to updating the Tairua Pauanui and Hikuai Community Plan, is the key focus for the new Tairua Pauanui Community Board members.

In the short time since the new board was elected, and subsequently inducted, the four board members and two district councillors have put together their objectives for the next three years.

Warwick Brooks is again chairing the board which comprises of Barry Roberts, also Tairua, and two new Pauanui representatives in Georgina Bond and Michael Bush.

Alison Smith and John Freer are the district councillors.

Board members want to maximise the opportunity being driven by the new mayor and his councillors to increase the impact of community boards, this including having the chair attend council meetings with speaking rights.

Aligned is the need to now determine the key matters that residents, ratepayers and stakeholders want the board to focus on.

The steps to achieve this have started with board members all being allocated areas of interest across the two communities – examples being who will link and be the key contact with the many groups and clubs that make up the community.

Primary here are the residents and ratepayers' associations and the local business association which the board hopes to partner with on some initiatives. Added are the many groups, clubs and organisations which cover everything from education to health services, emergency services and sports and recreation.

Feedback on what are the topics which are most top of

mind for stakeholders is already underway. Board members want to hear from residents and ratepayers on where they want the board's focus to be applied.

Chairman Warwick Brooks said the election clearly showed affordable rates are the top of the list and he is pleased this is also an objective of district councillors. "It is important for us to be focussed and therefore place our attention on those things that our community want," said Warwick. "Now we want you to tell us what these are so that we can update and get them into the community plan."

Warwick said the list would be targeted and consist of aspects which could be achieved. "There is no point in us taking on things that will never be achieved, we don't have the time or the resources. Therefore, we don't want to create a huge wish-list and then end up not delivering anything."

The residents and ratepayer's associations will be asked to assist with the gathering of the information and feedback. Warwick said board members would attend events and meetings to listen to what people wanted the board to work on.

Information will then be collated by the board members with recommendations back to stakeholders during February. "We are not spending a whole lot of money on this, we do not want to complicate the situation, it is simply determining what matters to everyone, providing us with the information to go into the community plan, which will be our guide to delivering what our community wants," said Warwick.

He said all board members are looking forward to working with the many groups and clubs, Warwick encouraging people to contact both board members and the councillors.

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Cables lie on the seabed at the Pauanui Waterways entrance and between Pleasant Point and Tairua. Another cable is located on the seabed just past the entrance to Whitianga Marina.

Keep boats well clear to stay safe.

The cables are marked with warning signs onshore and by buoys on the water.

If you suspect you've snagged a cable, don't try to free it. Record your position, abandon your gear, and contact Powerco's emergency line 0800 27 27 27.

Tairua and Pauanui underwater cable locations



Whitianga underwater cable locations





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SANTA FUN RUN ALL AGES 5KM & 500M EVENTS PEPE HARBOUR, TAIRUA SATURDAY 20TH DECEMBER SAUSAGE SIZZLE REFRESHMENTS OPEN FROM 1:00PM RACE STARTS 2:00PM

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