

THIS WEEK
4 page issue!

Tairua Pauanui The Local Advertiser



WHAT'S YOUR SCORE?
Use the letters to make 4+ letter words

O	H	S
I	G	L
T	T	P

Beat Barry's 22.
Words must contain the middle letter. Plurals OK if 'S' is in the grid.
Barry's answers online, under "issues".

29th April 2026 Website: www.tairuaadvertiser.nz Phone: +64 7 864 8170 Email: tairua.advertiser@xtra.co.nz Volume 26 Number 17

Pepe Bridge replacement ready for the kick-off!

Things are falling into place for the start of the Pepe Bridge replacement project!

Tairua Community Hall and its car park will become the construction base and "laydown" area for materials and machinery for the duration of the project. All hall users have now been accommodated in alternative venues.

As we head into May, work will start with the piling for the temporary footbridge. This means that the road bridge will be closed overnight from

Tuesday 12 May to Thursday 14 May, and again from Monday 18 May to Thursday 21 May, from 7pm-6am on each of those days. The road will open for short periods during the closure. The piling work will cause some noise and vibration during this period.

It is expected the project will unfold as follows:

- consents granted and enabling work started in May, with full construction getting underway in mid-July.
- construction of a temporary footbridge and the

relocation of services in the area.

- demolition of the old footbridge.
- building of the new southbound lane.
- the old road bridge demolished.
- the new northbound lane constructed.
- project completed in late 2027.

Throughout the project, walking and vehicle access will be maintained across the Pepe Estuary. Practically, there will be some periods of closure for both pedestrians and vehicles when certain phases of construction are in progress. Fulton Hogan, the contractors, are very aware

of how inconvenient any disruptions to normal bridge use will be and ask that we remain patient as they work as quickly and efficiently as possible to keep disruptions to a minimum.

A Bridge Community Liaison Group has been formed, consisting of representatives from Tairua Business Association, Residents and Ratepayers, Community Board, TCDC, Tairua School, Walk Tairua, Tairua River Trail, Tairua Environmental Society, Pepe Road residents, Fulton Hogan and NZTA. Members of this group will bring queries or issues from their memberships and communities and report back to them.

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Short & Sweet

Tairua River Trail volunteers are holding a tree planting day this Saturday 2 May from 10am. They could do with your help. The group has over 100 trees to plant at various places along the Trail. If you would like to lend a hand you'll need to take your own drinking water, closed shoes, and a spade. For the meeting place and details, contact Jeanette on 027 498 4764.

Pink Ribbon events are on the horizon. My Thai in Tairua is hosting a Pink Ribbon Brunch on Sunday 17 May from 11.30am to 2pm. Tickets to the event cost \$50 and can be secured by calling 022 084 1323. \$20 from every ticket sold will go to Breast Cancer Foundation NZ.

In Pauanui, Pink Ribbon fundraising for Breast Cancer Foundation NZ has been organised for Saturday 23 May. It starts off with a Breakfast at Puka Park, followed by an Afternoon High Tea at Pauanui Club, then a Japanese Night at Cabana Kitchen & Bar will complete a full day. In the lead up to the 23rd, an on-line auction will be hosted by Hello Friday. This will start on Friday 1 May. As you shop in the Village, look out for raffle tickets on sale. There are always many and fabulous prizes up for grabs. To round off the weekend, Cabana Kitchen & Bar will host the live raffle draws on Sunday 24th, from 3 to 5pm. Go along and enjoy the live music and celebration atmosphere!

A group of our local firefighters will be fundraising for Blood Cancer NZ by participating in the 2026 Firefighter Sky Tower Challenge on Saturday 23 May. To see participants and to donate, visit: <https://firefighterschallenge.org.nz>

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The times they are a-changin' so get your piece of history!

If you were out and about on Sunday you may have encountered a hardy group getting in their last ever jump from the Pepe Bridge before work starts next month on its replacement. Organised by Tairua Residents and Ratepayers, the event signals the end of an era. Soon, the old bridge will be gone and will fade to be a distant memory.

However, Tairua Information Centre has come up with a brilliant idea to commemorate the old Pepe Bridge and fundraise towards the new Info Centre building – a commemorative tea towel!

In Centre Manager, Eve's, words, "Celebrate a piece of local history with our beautifully designed Pepe Bridge commemorative tea towel!"

Featuring a detailed illustration of the iconic Pepe Bridge, it really is a tribute to

one of our landmarks that has connected our community (literally) since its installation in 1943. Our other landmark, Paku, also features in the design, and both elements are connected by a low tide flow across a sandflat harbour.

This tea towel is more than just a kitchen essential. Being made from high-quality, durable cotton it's perfect for everyday use but would also be a thoughtful gift for friends, family, and anyone who holds Tairua close to their heart. Eve says, "Bring a touch of nostalgia into your home—or share it with someone special!"

Limited stock is available, so don't miss out! To launch this special souvenir item, the information centre is running a multi-buy deal, two for \$40 but only during 1-8 May. After this time, the regular price will be \$25 each. All proceeds will go to the building fund.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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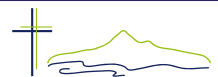
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