

Ōtaki UPDATE



*A monthly newsletter
from your local council*

Little Greenie open home

If you've ever wondered what one of the country's most energy efficient homes looks like, take yourself to Ōtaki's Clean Technology Centre on Saturday 9 November and see for yourself.

The 3-bedroom 'Little Greenie' house is being built as part of a national training course for apprentice carpenters. The course is being run in association with WELTEC, supported by Council and located at the Clean Tech Centre off River Bank Road.

The course, in its first year, aims to increase public awareness of the benefits of sustainable housing, up-skill new and existing trades people in sustainable building techniques and construct community and civic dwellings.

The display home is open between 10am and 3pm and there will be demonstrations of its air tightness and efficiency. Everyone is welcome from potential homeowners to architects, designers and builders.



Electric rubbish truck formally accepted

Ōtaki residents may have already seen New Zealand's first electric rubbish truck picking up waste from public bins around the community.

The electric truck is now officially part of Council's vehicle fleet. It had to pass 32 mechanical, electrical, software and on-road acceptance tests before it was formally accepted. These tests were overseen by independent experts to ensure the truck met the required standards.

"We used it on what would be its regular routes around the district during this testing phase to see how it operated and identify where any improvements were required," says Council's Energy Advisor Jake Roos.

The truck was also tested on a 'rolling road' at Ōtaki's Clean Technology Centre to check the battery capacity and driven 2,000 trouble-free kilometres before it was given the seal of approval to officially start work. It replaces one of Council's diesel rubbish trucks which had reached the end of its useful life.

The electric truck, the first of its kind in the southern hemisphere, is cheaper to run and maintain than diesel trucks. It also produces less noise, fewer carbon dioxide emissions and absolutely no air pollution. The cost savings on fuel and maintenance outweigh the additional cost of purchasing the vehicle over its life time.

Arts Trail coming soon

Whether you're an art enthusiast or have never looked at a painting in your life, don't miss the Kāpiti Arts Trail on November 2 and 3.

This is the 13th annual Arts Trail which has grown to become one of the most significant cultural events in the district.

If you want to visit Ōtaki artists in their studios, you can meet Jennifer Turnbull, Olinka Heath, Bronya Clare, Ernest Papps, Craig Arthur Watson, Margaret Hunt, Paula Archibald, LA's Cowshed Craft Studio, Bee Doughty-Pratt and Bruce Winter.

More than 30 artists will also be exhibiting and selling their work at six Art & Artisan Hubs throughout Ōtaki and Te Horo. These hubs are located at Trinity Farm, Te Whare Toi, Artscape, Blue Skies Art Gallery, Backwal Gallery and

Lavender Creek Farm. In addition, Ōtaki Museum will be hosting a ceramics exhibition.

If you're keen to go further than Ōtaki, the trail goes as far south as Paekākāriki via all the towns in between.

Check out the Kāpiti Arts Trail brochure (available at libraries, cafés and galleries throughout the district) to see what artists are participating and where they're located.

Alternatively, take it by chance and look for the orange Kāpiti Arts Trail flags as you drive around the district!

For more information, go to: www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/arts-trail



Ceramic sculptures by Paula Archibald

IN BRIEF

Election results

Penny Gaylor remains the Ōtaki Ward Councillor. The Ōtaki Community Board is James Cootes (re-elected), Colin Pearce (re-elected), Rob Kofoed (new) and Christine Papps (new).

Ōtaki Pool closure

A reminder that Ōtaki Pool is closed for repair work until 17 December.

Ōtaki residents can swim free at the Aquatic Centre and, from 2 November, at Waikanae Pool by showing a voucher or proof of residency with ID.

Transfer station closure

Ōtaki Transfer Station will be closed on 1 and 2 December due to a new operator taking over the site. Ōtaki residents and commercial collectors can take their waste to the Otaihanga Transfer Station on those days if necessary.