20th March 2024

Website: www.tairuaadvertiser.nz Phone/Fax: 864 8170 Email: tairua.advertiser@xtra.co.nz

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Skatepark set to open mid April

Tairua Skatepark has been taking shape for the past few months with visible progress being made each week. The crew has been on-task from very early each morning to late afternoon to complete the project in time for a proposed official opening on Monday 15 April. Another local project (like the Taparahi Bridge on SH25A) that has come in under deadline!

The various ramps and the bowl have been poured, leaving just a few of the flat areas to be concreted. Site furniture is being installed and the acoustic mound, the sloping bank between the Skatepark and the rugby endgoal, is being shaped.

Local Skatepark

advocates are thrilled with the approaching opening of their long-held dream. Mother of two keen skaters, Rachel McDowell, was a keen supporter of the project, even heading to court with her children for the High Court appeal in Hamilton. Although she wasn't part of the organising group, Rachel is full of admiration for the "amazing committee of woman who really pushed the Skatepark to get it done!"

Rachel's husband, Glenn built a huge ramp and many small ones in their backyard to provide skating opportunities for the children. And to hone skills, Rachel takes her skaters to Whitianga for weekly skate lessons. Rachel sums up how Aerial view of Tairua's new skatepark. The official opening is Monday 15 April.



oto: tcdc.go

most pro-skatepark families will be feeling at the news of the official opening only weeks away, "We are very excited for it to be opening, for everyone!!!"

Contractors are concerned that the public may try to usurp the official opening by breaking into the fenced work area but warn that any use before the set date is likely to wreck the skatepark. The concrete still

needs to be sealed to avoid it being damaged and there are still a lot of unseen hazards around the construction site. Please respect the work that has been done, and the workers who are creating this amenity and stay behind the fences until April 15.

The final landscaping and planting around the site will be completed when the temperatures drop.

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> In Tairua, contact: Colleen Coyle 027 486 4744 or Michelle McLean 027 290 1507.

Age Concern expands services

Age Concern Hauraki Coromandel recently announced the extension of its service to Tairua.

Beginning on Friday 12 April, they are bringing the "Steady As You Go" strength and balance programme and "Chinwag Café" tea and coffee morning to town.

Steady As You Go sessions are designed, and proven, to increase strength and balance. The beauty of the programme is that it can be enjoyed seated or standing, with the aim of maintaining a healthy and active lifestyle. Each session consists of 45 minutes of exercise in a lively and friendly atmosphere. All abilities and mobilities are welcome. You will be supported to work with what is comfortable for your body.

Following the Steady As You Go class, you can enjoy Chinwag Cafe which is all about connection through conversation by sharing your news and finding out what's happening in your community.

Together, Steady As You Go and Chinwag Cafe provide the ideal opportunity to stay connected to the community whilst strengthening your body and refreshing your social calendar!

Age Concern is basing both activities at Tairua Community Hall every Friday morning. Steady As You Go runs from 9 to 10am and Chinwag Cafe follows from 10.30-11.30am. Both sessions are open to everyone, with a suggested koha of \$2 per session.

To mark the launch of this new initiative, Age Concern will host a "Taster Morning" from 9am until midday on Wednesday 27 March. It will be the perfect opportunity to experience the sessions, hear about Age Concern's services, enjoy a cuppa and have your questions answered. For further information, contact Francine on 07 868 9790.

GARAGE SALE

SATURDAY 23rd March 8.30am. Household from garden goods, plants, books etc. Everything must go! 269 Main Road,

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