

# Sounds of summer

A full schedule of entertainment will keep Taupo humming throughout summer.

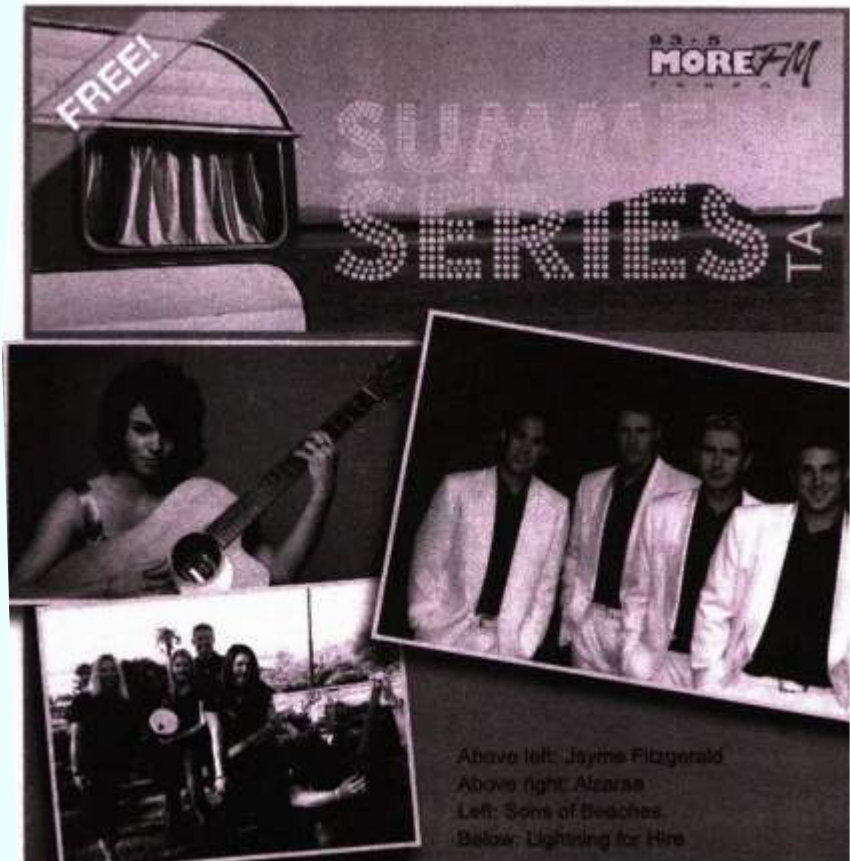
With twenty-three free concerts in the next six weeks and two notable commercial concerts, Taupo locals and visitors will have no shortage of summer entertainment.

Organised by Events Capital and Taupo District Council, the concerts will be held in two popular outdoor venues. Beginning on Monday, is Roadside Attractions – four weeks of free lunchtime music in the Great Lake Centre courtyard, and then every weekend in January is the annual Sunday Series at Riverside Park, with all acts covering a variety of genres.

‘It’s a really exciting season of music for the Taupo District,’ says Event Marketing Manager Warwick Hall. “Not only has the district stepped into the commercial concert arena for the first time with two great gigs scheduled for January and February, but the MoreFM Summer Series is back bigger and better than ever.”

The popular New Year’s Eve celebration, NYE09, is also back with two great cover bands – the traditional midnight countdown and fireworks. “We have also expanded the line up to include Lightning Rider who will, quite literally, fire up after the fireworks,” says Mr Hall.

All concerts are family friendly and concertgoers are encouraged to bring picnics and a rug. NYE09 is alcohol-free, while the Sunday Series concerts (which start at 6pm – an hour later than previous years) will have



Above left: Jayma Fitzgerald  
 Above right: Alzara  
 Left: Sons of Beaches  
 Below: Lightning for Hire

the liquor ban temporarily lifted. “Because wine goes with a picnic, right?” laughs Mr Hall.

A new addition to the Summer Series calendar is the Anniversary Gig on 31 January. For 2010,

Mr Hall. “The day after the concert is a public holiday, so come and join us at Riverside Park.”

The two commercial concerts booked for Riverside Park are expected to be very successful. The first, on 2 January, is Dave Dobbyn with Gin Wigmore. Then on 27 February, the MoreFM Winery Tour will perform in Taupo featuring five of New Zealand’s most loved and celebrated Kiwi music icons: Tim Finn, Bic Runga, Dave Dobbyn, Boh Runga and Che Fu.

“This is quintessential Kiwi music experience,” says Mr Hall. “The tour comprises 18 shows across 16 venues nationwide. We’re thrilled they’ve realised Taupo should be included!”



the genre is blues – three highly credited blues bands will play a four-hour gig. “There’s nothing blue about a long weekend,” jokes

For full details of the Summer Series line-up and ticketing information for the commercial concerts, visit [www.summerseriestaupo.co.nz](http://www.summerseriestaupo.co.nz).