

COMMUNITY UPDATE

18 NOVEMBER 2022



Koromātua | Mayor's Message

Tēnā tatou katoa – warm greetings to you all, to us all, to everyone in our community of Kawerau.

As we start our new council three-year term (or triennium), I would like to extend my thanks and gratitude to you, our community.

Thank you to everybody who participated in the recent 2022 local body elections – from the candidates who stood for council through to the voting members of our community who chose to have their voice heard and to have their say. From the calibre of candidates who stood offering their skills, energy, passion and commitment to serve Kawerau, the voting public have collectively decided who will be at the Council table for the 2022-2025 triennium. Can I acknowledge candidates Craig McLean, Louise Kaihau Hiwarau, Vannessa Worrell-Kurth and Vivienne Puti Wilson who will no doubt continue to serve our community through their professional, voluntary and whānau-centred mahi.

We were honoured to bring in our 2022-2025 Council elected member team at the 'swearing-in' ceremony held at Rautahi Marae on 25 October 2022. It was an honour to invite you – our community – to share in the ceremony at our hapori-community marae. Humble thanks to the trustees and kaitiaki (guardians and protectors) of Rautahi Marae, along with all our Tangata Whenua, whānau and the community. Your support and acknowledgement of our new Council is appreciated.

I welcome and acknowledge Councillor Aaron Rangihika as our incoming Deputy Mayor. It was fitting that as elected members we were able to make our pledge to do our best at Rautahi Marae in public acknowledging our supporters, whānau and the community for whom we are here to serve.

As we start the new term, completing inductions and starting mahi | work we recognise that whānau and our community

seek and appreciate an openness and we look forward to welcoming the public back into our fortnightly meetings.

Another great occasion was the karakia and blessing of the Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre when it was reopened this week.

It is important to acknowledge the community and the Kawerau Amateur Swimming Club for your input and patience during this time. We resolved to complete this upgrade in the Annual Plan 2020-2021 and it has taken longer than planned.

Firstly thank you to Tūwharetoa ki Kawerau Kaumatua Te Haukakawa (Boycie) Te Rire for your karakia and blessing of our 'taonga'.

Thank you to our partners Lotto NZ, Trust Horizon and Oji Fibre Solutions for your support of this fabulous complex. Lotto NZ's support assisted us to complete the upgrade the swimming pool entrance and offices, swimming clubrooms and storage areas.

Trust Horizon has provided support for all aspects of the upgrade including drilling a new geothermal borehole to access heating for the pools, replace electrical systems for the splash pad and assist with electrical work within the pool's entrance and office areas.

It is also fitting to acknowledge Oji Fibre Solutions for the ongoing support over many decades by providing chlorine for the complex. Your continued support means an ongoing saving for the residents and ratepayers of our district.

Council knows how important this taonga | treasure is to our community and that it is well loved and utilised by many people as we saw at the reopening.

We look forward to many happy occasions by schools, whānau and the community at this beautifully upgraded complex.

Ngā mihi nui,

Her Worship the Mayor Faylene Tunui

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MAURIE KJAR AQUATIC CENTRE RE-OPENING

Thank you to Trust Horizon for assisting with the funding of \$154,121 for upgrades and maintenance costs of the Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre.

- ▶ \$66,247 to drill a new geothermal borehole that will heat the Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre.
- ▶ \$24,884 to replace the electrical systems for the splash pad at the Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre.
- ▶ \$62,990.60 to assist with the electrical work with the pool's entrance and office areas.

Thank you to Lotto NZ who have donated \$500,000 towards the Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre complex. This funding has contributed towards the build of the new office complex and entrance, swimming clubrooms and storage areas.



Top Left: Koromatua | Mayor Faylene Tunui cuts the ribbon to officially declare the Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre Re-opened.

Top Right: Pool Lifeguards with Tūwharetoa ki Kawerau Kaumātua Te Haukakawa (Boycie) Te Rire.

Middle: Koromatua | Mayor Faylene Tunui speaking as Elected Members, Kaumatua and Key Stakeholders watch on.

Bottom Left: Councillors, staff and members of the public enter the pool complex after it's official reopening.

Bottom Right: The namesake of the Pool Complex – Maurie Kjar

MAURIE KJAR ONE OF THE TOWN'S FOUNDING FATHERS



Council pays tribute to the namesake of the pool complex, one of the district's founding fathers - Maurie Kjar (pronounced care).

Maurie Kjar was born in Palmerston North in 1922 and educated at Palmerston North Boys High School. During World War II he served in the 18th armoured regiment in Italy. He left his position as office manager for the NZ Forest Service at the Waipa State Mill to join Tasman Pulp and Paper Company Limited in 1954.

His first position was as executive assistant to the sawmill manager. He swiftly moved through the ranks, holding several executive positions, including in the Commercial department at January 1962 before being appointed General Manager in 1972.

Maurie took a keen interest in community affairs in Kawerau and served three years, from 1959 to 1962, on the first Kawerau Borough Council. He was one of the band of dedicated workers responsible for the planning and construction of the Kawerau Swimming baths.

Maurie was a founding member of the Kawerau Cosmopolitan Club and a member of the Whakatāne Golf Club, the Kawerau RSA and an honorary member of the Kawerau Chamber of Commerce.

Mr Kjar was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1955.

Maurie passed away in Rotorua Hospital on June 12, 1974, after a long illness.

Maurie Kjar is pictured left and above with Ray Barnes; Merv McNally; Fred Waller; Bob Howell; Earnie Hennesy; Red Pepperell. These photos were taken in World War II at a Maadi Military Camp in Egypt nearby the Cheops Pyramid. [Courtesy of the Sir James Fletcher Museum]

LET'S MAKE KAWERAU WOOLLY NIGHTSHADE-FREE



Bay of Plenty Regional Council Toi Moana (BOPRC) are running a promotion this summer to encourage people to help control Woolly nightshade in specific areas of the rohe and this year that includes Kawerau, Ōpōtiki, Whakatāne and Edgecumbe.

Woolly nightshade is an aggressive and fast-growing pest plant. Seedlings that establish in summer can start producing seeds by autumn. The dust from its leaves can irritate the skin, eyes, nose and while its berries can be poisonous to mammals, birds can safely eat the berries and then spread the seeds to new locations.

If you have Woolly nightshade on your property - check out BOPRC's website at boprc.govt.nz/woolly-nightshade for what it looks like.

BOPRC can give advice on how to control it, provide a practical demonstration and / or supply you with a control pack to get started. Call BOPRC on 0800 884 880 or fill in an enquiry form online and quote 'woolly wipeout'.

CONSULTATION TOPICS

Council offers opportunities for the community to participate in its decision-making processes throughout the year. Currently there are four topics available for consultation:

Kawerau Reorganisation Initiative – Boundary Change Application between the Kawerau and Whakatāne District. Submissions close in March 2023.

Bay of Plenty Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Group Plan Survey - Complete the survey and go into the draw to win a 'Grab and Go' Emergency Kit.

Te Aoratake i te Anamata mō Ngā Kaunihera | Review into the Future for Local Government - Have your say on the Draft Report. Submissions close 28 February 2023.

Age-Friendly and Accessible Strategy - We aim to ensure that all groups who have an interest in Seniors and Accessibility are included in this process as the strategy is under review.

For more information on these topics and links to the respective submission forms, please visit our website at kaweraudc.govt.nz/contact-us/have-your-say-community-consultation



SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

During the October school holidays, The Department of Conservation (DOC) came out to the Kawerau District Library to show local tamariki how to build pest traps and teach them what affect these pests have on our native wildlife.

DOC Community Ranger Freddy Matariki Carr with two of our local tamariki; Manu Peters and Legend Brown-Marmont building a pest trap.

KTOWN COMMUNITY ANIMAL WELFARE CLINIC

It was a terrific turnout to the annual clinic run by the KTown Community Animal Welfare Society (KTown CAW) in collaboration with Kawerau District Council, BayVets and Vets4Petz.

The K-Town Community Animal Welfare Clinic held on 5 November, gives Kawerau residents the opportunity to bring their dogs along for free on-site flea and worm treatment, microchipping, veterinary advice and de-sexing vouchers. With over 70 dogs flea and worm treated, 23 dogs microchipped and around 30 dogs booked in for de-sexing.

Here's some photos of our day:

1: Local rangatahi with man's best friend.

2: From Left: Vet Nurse, Ellie Norman, Civil Defence Mascot, Stan, Team Leader - Animal Control & Compliance, Lisa Singfield and KTOWN CAW Founder, Julia Stevenson-Renwick.

3: Vets4Petz Vet Nurse with local pooch.

4: Local rangatahi with man's best friend



KAWERAU JUNIOR ATHLETICS IS BACK!

The Kawerau Athletics Club have got the club back up and running for tamariki aged three to 14 years young.

Athletics is a great sport - with throwing, running and jumping! Something for everyone and great for kids' co-ordination, skills and just good fun outside.

The organisers of Kawerau Athletics Club want to thank all whānau for their patience with the set up of this programme. The club will hold three sessions between now and Christmas at 5.30pm at Prideaux Park, before handing the field back for Christmas in the Park. Then the club will restart next February, after the school holidays.

The plan is to get the club up and running this season and get everyone into it and then watch this space for next season's (22/23) activities!

To get involved email kawerauathleticsclub@gmail.com



1. Three to four year olds fun run 2. Five to six year olds race 3 Seven to nine years old boy's race

25 NOVEMBER 2022 - RATES INSTALMENT 2 DUE DATE

Rates are due for payment by 5pm Friday, 25 November 2022.

Rates can be paid in a variety of ways, including direct debit, online banking, via phone with a direct debit/credit card, via the Council website kaweraudc.govt.nz/pay-rates or in the office with cash or EFTPOS.

If you have signed up for direct debit payment this will go out automatically on 23 November.

Contact Council on 07 306 9009 to discuss queries or payment options.

PUBLIC FORUM REOPENS FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS

The public forum is back. If you wish to raise an issue with the Council please arrive by 8.45am to sign in, advise the topic and be seated by the 9am start time.

Council Meetings are recorded and uploaded to our website at kaweraudc.govt.nz/videos-council-meetings

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS - 2022

15 November 2022 Rates Instalment 2 Due Date

21 November 2022 White Ribbon Day, 11am - 2pm, Circus Paddock

For more information and to show your support visit whiteribbon.org.nz

29 November 2022 Ordinary Council Meeting
Public Forum is back if you wish to raise an issue with the Council please arrive by 8.45am to sign in, advise the topic and be seated by the 9am start time.

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13 December 2022 Regulatory and Services Meeting

13 December 2022 Council Meeting

17 December 2022 Christmas in the Park

Find out more at kaweraunz.com/events/kawerau-christmas-park

23 December 2022 Council Offices close at 12 noon