



FEBRUARY 2019



Community Update

Kawerau District Welcomes New Citizens



A ceremony held in January welcomed two new citizens. Pictured are Mr John David Barrett and his whanau; and Mrs Ma. Rhea Gebert and her family, together with His Worship the Mayor Malcolm Campbell, Deputy Mayor Faylene Tunui and Councillors Berice Julian and Sela Kingi.

Pipe scouring trial successful

Council is working hard to resolve the discolouration affecting some parts of the town water supply. Engineering staff have completed a trial on the effectiveness of air scouring to remove build-up inside the reticulation pipes which is causing the colour.

Two different areas and pipe materials and diameters were tested successfully and Council is working on the details to roll out the process to the rest of the district in coming weeks.

Meanwhile, if you have discoloured water, please ring Council and report it; we're continuing to water-flush affected pipes while we work towards an overall solution to the problem.



FROM THE MAYOR

As this newsletter went to print, there was weekend rain forecast – and I sincerely hope we get some good downpours to move us away from the extreme fire danger currently facing our district.

Everything is tinder dry and it's almost beyond belief that we've received recent reports of fireworks being let off in town. This can only be described as idiotic behaviour when conditions are pretty much at flashpoint.

I ask everyone to be super vigilant about the fire risk and

obviously call 111 if you see smoke.

Council has put in place measures to lessen fire risk from our activities. Any unnecessary work that could cause spark has been halted; we've been wetting down some areas and arranging for the removal of dry grass under fire service supervision.

Again, please be vigilant until this extreme fire risk resolves; the last thing we want is to experience a situation such as the recent fires in the Tasman District.

Police numbers to increase here

Police numbers in Kawerau will be boosted over the course of 2019, with three Constables and a Senior Sergeant to run the station joining the team.

With the hot weather we are currently experiencing it's timely to remind the community about not leaving windows at home or in the car open when unattended. Opportunist thieves will take advantage of any chance you may give them.

Also, if you are taking advantage of the weather by spending time in the great

outdoors, please be aware of the extreme fire danger.

Finally if you have tried calling the station recently you will realise that all calls now go through a centralised call centre which means it takes a bit longer to get through. If you need the Police for anything urgently don't be afraid to call 111. It will get you the quickest response and remember, if you need to talk to someone about a non-urgent local issue our door is open 8am – 4pm, Monday to Friday.

PROHIBITED FIRE SEASON

The prohibited fire season enforced earlier this month by Fire and Emergency New Zealand is still in place in the Kawerau District (and all our neighbouring districts including Whakatāne, Ōpôtiki, Rotorua, Tauranga, Western Bay and Taupô).

Permits are now needed for **all** outdoor fires except gas and coal BBQs and hangi. Read more about the details on the website

www.kaweraudc.govt.nz/services/fires

Tarawera Forest is closed because of the **EXTREME** fire risk and will remain closed until further notice. People must observe the closure and please be mindful of the current conditions within the district.

Official advice from Fire and Emergency New Zealand is:

Call 111 if you see any signs of fire or suspicious

activity.

Go to <http://www.checkitsalright.nz/> for fire season status and rules relating to outdoor fires.

Do not mow long, dry grass if there's a chance of hitting a rock. If a mower's metal blades hit even a tiny rock, it can cause a spark and ignite a fire.

Take extreme care when performing hot work outdoors, such as grinding, welding or metal cutting.

Refuse collection changes

Residents in all properties on Valley Rd (from the round-about to Tamarangi Drive), Blundell Ave, Boss Road, Ion Road and Marshall Street, last week received letters about changes to refuse, green waste and recycling collection.

From Monday, 4 March kerb-side

collection day in the notified areas will be moved from Wednesday to Monday. Council regrets any inconvenience this may cause as residents get used to the new timetable.

Anyone with any concerns should contact the Customer Services Team at District Council.

REMINDER - Do you have more than one dog



Did you know that you need to apply to the Council for a Kennel Licence, if you want to keep more than one dog within the Kawerau District?

When applying for a Licence, you will need:

- * To fill out an application form
- * Good secure fencing
- * Kennelling/Bedding suitable for the size and number of dogs you own
- * Kennels to be of a good structure and water tight
- * Kennels to be kept at least 13 metres from your neighbour's dwelling; and three metres from any boundary (unless you have neighbours approval to be closer)

No More Plastic Bags!

What will you use instead?

Learn how to make bags and rubbish bin liners out of newspaper.

On Thursday 7th March at 11am

Kawerau 'Doing more with less' will be at the library to show us how.

Newspaper supplied.

Bring an old favourite T shirt and we'll show you how to turn it into a reusable bag.

Davanti conference hits town

Delegates to what has been described as “not your normal conference” will descend on Kawerau later in the month.

Business and technology consultancy Davanti has chosen Kawerau as the destination for its annual conference, a key component of which will be gifting human resources to the community.

Davanti staff will share their professional expertise with students and community group members based at Kawerau Life Connect and band together with Cafe Conversations volunteers to paint a sizeable boundary fence along Fenton Street. The fence painting

project builds on the earlier success inspired by Joyce Cox, who worked with Council, Department of Corrections and Resene Paints to tidy up the fence line on Tamarangi Drive.

Kawerau District Council Policy Advisor and Cafe Conversations convenor Sandra Haines said she’s delighted that Davanti has chosen to include the Fenton Street fence in their activities. “There have been so many positive comments about how good Tamarangi Drive is looking and this provides a wonderful opportunity to improve the look of Fenton Street for local people as well as visitors.”

Defibrillators Save Lives

Did you know that the location of a potentially life-saving defibrillator is only a phone-app away?

The free phone app AED automatically finds where the closest defibrillator to your current location.

For those without mobile phones, you can find defibrillators at the following locations, as well as major local industrial sites:

- Maurie Kjar Memorial Pool
- Kawerau District Council (customer service counter)
- New World Kawerau
- Kawerau Cosmopolitan Club
- Kawerau Ambulance Station
- EMC Ambulance Ltd
- Tuwharetoa Geothermal Office
- Z Kawerau

COUNCILLOR CONTACTS

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Reading on the rise

A whopping 298 books were read by children over the holidays as part of Kawerau Library's annual Summer Reading Programme.

This year's theme – *The A-maze-ing Read* captured the imaginations of 74 children who registered for the programme; reading and reaping rewards in the form of prizes as well as increased reading skills.

Librarian, Jacqueline Godfery, was amazed at the children's passion and

enthusiasm for books.

Free school holiday activities were also held at the library; from anime art to coding, author talks, and an Amazing Race.

"The Amazing Race was a highlight, with great feedback from teams whose mental and physical abilities were put to the test."

Competition winners were Luana Ngamotu, Damian and Bianca Waalwijk, Matthew and Nathan Reihana-Asquith, and the Singh family.

PechaKucha returns

By popular demand, PechKucha returns to Kawerau Library on Thursday 23 May (and again in November).

For those new to the concept of PechaKucha, the format is 20x20: 20 images each displayed for 20 seconds. The images advance automatically while the speaker tells their story.

Library Adult Programmes and Activities Officer Wendy Montrose says anyone can be a presenter. "That's the beauty of PechaKucha Nights. Some PechaKuchas tell great stories about a project or a trip. Some

are incredibly personal, some are incredibly funny, but all are different, and they turn each PechaKucha Night into 'a box of chocolates'.

Our first PechaKucha Night entertained 50 people with presentations as diverse as dragon boating, cycle touring, and PTSD to Life Coaching and the horror of war."

If you're interested in being a presenter, please contact Wendy (Phone 3069041 or by email: Wendy.Montrose@kaweraudc.govt.nz).

LIBRARY BRIEFS

Reusable Library Book Bags for sale in the library.

Beautiful cloth bags made right here in Kawerau by Myrtlebelle's Mama Pepe group are for sale in a range of designs for \$5 each; perfect for keeping your library books safe and sound.

Write on Kawerau

The writers group meets on Wednesday mornings at 11am in the Library tree house.

Join the group or follow them on Facebook to see what they're up to. A reprint of their book of short stories, *Tales from the Tree House*, will be on sale in the library in

March.

The Book Discussion Group

The meeting time has changed for this. Next meeting will be held in the tree house on Thursday March 14 at 10.30am.

See you there.

Free computer courses have started again.

The library runs free basic computing courses in its Stepping Up programme. Check out the library website, Facebook and in-house for the March programme. Places are limited and registration is essential.



Race winners, the Singh family



Kirsty from team Go Girls makes her way around the bike track while balancing a book on her head



Team Avengers make their way over an through obstacles blindfolded



COMMUNITY
DOGWALK

**Community Dog Walk
from Boyce Park to
Firmin Field**

- All dogs on Leads please -

**Join Council Dog
Rangers for a dog
walk on Monday,
4th & 18TH March
at 9am**



All Dogs Welcome

