# Kawerau District Council newsletter - May 2017





Kawerau Youth Council members Majean Rogers, Taylor van Gulick and Iraia Nuku with the national award.

### Youth council's hard work recognised

Kawerau Youth Council's dedication to the community was celebrated last month when it was named one of New Zealand's best youth groups, thanks largely to its 2016 projects.

Youth Minister Nikki Kaye presented the award to councillors Iraia Nuku, Taylor van Gulick and Majean Rogers at the Beehive on April 10 as part of the NZ Youth Awards. Kawerau district councillor Berice Julian, who works closely with the youth council, also attended the ceremony.

Kawerau District Council youth projects officer JJ Rika is delighted with the award. "Kawerau Youth Council (KYC) is an excellent example of youth doing good things in their town and this award is a reminder of that. However KYC is forever evolving, with new members applying each year, and the real work will be in trying to maintain this status as one of NZ's top youth groups and how well youth councillors can adapt to social and economic change while maintaining their core values.

"The award also represents the support from parents and caregivers, local youth support agencies and Kawerau seniors, schools, iwi and whanau. It is a reflection of the community working together to support a brighter future for Kawerau," JJ said.

The Ministry of Youth Development runs the awards to recognise and celebrate young Kiwis who have achieved outstanding results and made a significant contribution to supporting youth in their community.

It was the first time KYC had entered and it came during a busy month. "During that time the Edgecumbe flood had just happened and their Flowquest Fun Day event was coming up. It was very busy. But what impressed me was KYC's ability to go straight into work at the Rautahi Marae welfare centre as soon as they got back," JJ said.

In 2016 Kawerau's youth councillors volunteered at many local events including the Anzac service, Woodfest and Christmas in the Park. It co-hosted the Chiefs rugby team and co-ordinated associated activities, held Cinema in the Park to build relationships between youth and senior citizens, and ran Kawerau on the Rise, a successful week-long health festival, with the Dream Chaser Foundation.

"Our youth council is dedicated to the community and works extremely hard to support the town's young people. They're a fantastic group with a huge amount of passion and enthusiasm and I couldn't be prouder," JJ said.

#### Cyclists' safety important

#### to community

Congratulations to the Youth
Council on the award it won in
Wellington last month. This group
of young people does some sterling work for our community, so
it's great to have this recognised
on a national stage.

Riding unicycles or bicycles with no front wheel has become a popular activity around town and this poses some safety issues, both for the cyclists themselves and for other road users.



We are working with cyclists to reduce risk but we ask that parents also ensure children/young adults understand the dangers of cycling on one wheel.

If you're riding your bike or unicycle, please stay out of the CBD and off the footpaths. There have been issues with cyclists riding on footpaths and not giving way to pedestrians, and we want to avoid people getting hurt.

Our economic development team is very busy, with Kawerau's industrial endeavours moving swiftly now. We've had some really positive feedback around the container terminal project. Regarding the planned particle board plant, the Fenglin Group has 12 months to complete the consent process. We are working closely with all partners involved.

It's great to see Asaleo Care has put Kawerau on the national stage with its latest Purex television ad showcasing some of the district's scenery. Congratulations and well done to the Asaleo Care team.

Recently there has been a number of former residents coming back to Kawerau to live and this is phenomenal.

The Anzac Day service last month was once again a success.

Thanks to Rautahi Marae, local servicemen's clubs and the armed forces for the support.

Lastly, thanks to everyone in the Kawerau district who pulled together last month to help the Edgecumbe evacuees. We are mindful that there are still people from Edgecumbe in our district, and council and the community continue to support them as best we can.

We are working closely with Whakatane District Council in this regard.

#### **Upcoming meetings**

Council: Tuesday, May 30, 9am

Regulatory and Services Committee: Tuesday, June 13, 9am

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#### Councillor

#### contacts

Mr Malcolm Campbell, JP
(Mayor)
(07) 323 8633 (business)
(07) 323 7772 (residential)
027 457 6122
mayor@kaweraudc.govt.nz

Cr Warwick Godfery
(07) 323 8835 ext 201(business)
323 7771 (residential)
warwick@manna.org.nz

Cr Carolyn Ion
(07) 323 4164 (business)
(07) 323 9046 (residential)
0274 156 458
ion.family@xtra.co.nz

Cr Berice Julian
(07) 306 9310 (business)
(07) 323 9190 (residential)
berice@xtra.co.nz

Cr Sela Kingi (07) 323 8025 027 509 2328 sela@tuwharetoa.org.nz

Cr Chris Marjoribanks
(07) 323 8025 ext 215 (business)
(07) 312 5570 (residential)
021 223 3761
chris@tuwharetoa.org.nz

Cr Rex Savage
(07) 323 7287
jonda.smith@compassnet.co.nz

Cr David Sparks
(07) 308 6817 (business)
(07) 323 7776 (residential)
david@baywidecls.org.nz

Cr Faylene Tunui (07) 323 7574 022 320 8840 faylene.tunui@gmail.com

# Cyclone clean-up efforts continue

Council has been busy clearing up around town this month, following Cyclones Debbie and Cook in April.

Two bunds have been built upstream of Doug Wilson Cres to divert water coming off farmland away from houses.

A footpath in Doug Wilson Cres has been lowered to reduce ponding.

Two further bunds are being constructed across the end of Dippie and Ramsden Places to stop water flowing down Beattie



This large tree toppled over just below Bell St.

Rd from entering these streets and possibly causing flood damage.

There has also been a lot of cyclone-related tree work going on. Council manager, operations and services Tom McDowall says an estimated 50 trees on roads and reserves were lost and staff members are working hard to clear these up.

#### Free pop-up car seat check a success

Earlier this month the Eastern Bay Road Safety Programme, in liaison with authorised car seat technicians, held a free car seat inspection and education session in Kawerau.

The April 10 session coincided with Road Safety Week (May 8-14) and included tips on how to choose the right car seats for children and information on how to install and use them correctly, as well as prizes and giveaways.

"Car seats, booster seats, and seat belts are often used incorrectly," said Whakatane District Council road safety communications advisor Frances Maia.

"No caregiver wants to get it wrong. That's why we ran this event, so everyone could come along and know for sure their kids are secure in their car restraints."

Child restraints are designed and tested for children in different weight ranges and parents

should be checking this when selecting a seat.

Research shows many parents still struggle to use the right car seat for their child and fit

it correctly. Common mistakes include moving the child into a larger car seat too soon, and not securely fitting the car seat in the vehicle.

Poor fitting can mean the seat won't protect a child in a crash. Road Safety EASTERN BAY OF PLENTY

"The importance of properly fitting a child seat cannot be over-stated," Frances said.

For more information visit the Eastern Bay Road Safety Facebook page @Road.Safety. EBOP.



# Welcome to new Kiwi citizens

A citizenship ceremony was held on Tuesday, April 4 for Iman Mohammed Kareem Kareem from Iraq and William James Robert Payne of Britain.

Congratulations and welcome to both new citizens.

#### Rating information database now available to public

Pursuant to the Provisions of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, public notice is hereby given that Kawerau District Council's Rating Information Database is available for public inspection. The purpose of the Rating Information Database is:

- To record all information required for setting and assessing rates.
- To enable a local authority to communicate with ratepayers.
- To enable members of the public to have reasonable access to the information in the database relating to the calculation of liability for rates.

The Rating Information Database may be inspected at the District Office, Ranfurly Court, Kawerau during the office hours of 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

Any ratepayer named in the Rating Information Database can object to the information in it on the following grounds:

- A rating unit listed in the district valuation roll has been omitted from the database.
- Information from the district valuation roll has been omitted or incorrectly entered into the database.
- Information entered into the database (other than information from the district valuation roll) is incorrect.
- A lawful amendment to the district valuation roll has not been entered into the database.

Objections to the Rating Information Database must be lodged with Kawerau District Council.

# Wendy now on hand to help adult readers

Kia ora, Kawerau. My name is Wendy Montrose and I am the new adult programmes and activities officer at Kawerau Library and Museum.

My job is to organise and deliver programmes, training, events and promotions to adult users of the library and museum. It can cover anything from helping you find your way around the digital world to researching your family history, getting the best out of the library and its services or expanding your knowledge on your chosen subject.

One of the first things I am keen to do is start a writer's group for budding authors or just anyone who enjoys putting pen to paper, be it poetry or prose.

I was born in Kawerau and spent all my growing-up years on Galway Street, going to North School and Kawerau College. I now live on the



Kawerau side of Manawahe because there's no better place to live in the world than the Eastern Bay of Plenty. I have worked in education with people of all ages and you may have seen me behind the counter in the local BNZ.

I want you to tell me how I can help you get the most out of the library and museum, because libraries are about more than books and reading. Come into the library and introduce yourself, tell me your ideas and together we'll work out a programme of activities.



Kawerau District Library's Tween Book Club helps kids aged 9-12 discover the wonderful world of literature.

# Library club gets tweens talking books

Anyone looking to encourage reading for pleasure need look no further than Kawerau District Library's Tween Book Club. Once a month, children aged 9-12 meet to discuss books, play games and hang out with friends.

The next meeting is on Monday, June 12 from 5.30-6.30pm and will focus on the 2017 New Zealand Book Awards for children and young adults.

If your tween loves books or you'd like them to discover the wonderful world of literature, phone (07) 306 9041 to register your interest.

#### Community members are police eyes and ears

Hi everyone, from your hard-working team at the Kawerau Police Station.

It's been a while since I wrote an update

for this newsletter and there's plenty to catch up on around town from a Police point of view.

Crime in and around town continues to decline, with crimes such as burglary and car theft trending down for the third year in a row. Youth crime is the same level it has been for the past few years.

The only area showing an increase is family harm offences. I believe

this is due to a greater willingness to report incidents, which is a good thing. So let's keep it up and get the vulnerable people in our community the help they need.

We continue to work with many groups in the community to keep you feeling safe. In the past couple of weeks I have attended a council meeting, spoken to Kawerau Probus and Kawerau and Districts Ageing in Place (KADAP).

Every time I've attended a meeting or

spoken to a group I have left with a smile on my face after seeing all the positive and enthusiastic people making a difference in

our community behind the scenes.

I'm proud to be part of the greater Kawerau team.

During school term times there shouldn't be kids wandering the streets from 9am-3pm. If you see children on the streets during school hours please call Police or the school involved so we can get them back to learning and away from the temptation of making poor decisions.

Lastly, you are our eyes and ears. You know who

belongs in your street and what is suspicious. If you see something that doesn't look right, please call us on (07) 323 1400 anytime.

We would rather be called out 99 times for something innocent than miss one opportunity to catch the bad guys red-handed.

Until next time, stay safe.

- Sgt Fenwick, Officer in Charge, Kawerau Police.



# Farewell to beloved community figure

Sarge, the pound guard dog that was much-loved by council staff, SPCA volunteers and many members of the community, was sadly put to sleep earlier this month.

The difficult decision was made after Sarge was diagnosed with heart disease.

He had been the pound dog for nine years and will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Sarge will be officially farewelled later this month.



## KAWERAU COMMUNITY AWARDS CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Do you know someone who has made a significant contribution to the Kawerau Community?

If so, please let us know

Nominations are invited for the second annual Kawerau Community Awards. There are four categories of Awards:

- Volunteer Work
- Group Contribution
- Contribution by a Young Person
- Community Impact

Awards criteria and nomination forms are available from the District Office, the District Library and Council's website: <a href="http://www.kaweraudc.govt.nz">http://www.kaweraudc.govt.nz</a>.

Nominations close at 12 noon on Friday 26 May 2017. Awards will be presented during National Volunteer Week (18 – 24 June 2017).

Malcolm Campbell JP MAYOR



FEATURING: LIVE BANDS, TAMARIKI ZONE, KAI STALLS, KAUMATUA LOUNGE, DANCE CREW, KAPA HAKA

# May/June events

#### Oho Ake - Rise Up Concert, May 27

Oho Ake Concert aims to uplift the mauri of everyone affected by the April floods. All proceeds will go towards those affected.

From 11am at Te Teko Racecourse.

## **Gravity Sports Club 6 HR Adventure Race, June 10**

The 2017 6 HR Adventure Race will see competitors of all ages test their physical and mental abilities on a mystery course. See www.sportsground.co.nz/kaweraugravitysports for more information.

# Annual general meeting

Kawerau Big3 Wednesday, June 14, 2017 From 5.30pm Kawerau Navy Club Nau mai haere mai.