

# Kawerau District Council newsletter - December 2017



## Fun had by all at Christmas event

**The 2017 Kawerau Christmas in the Park, held last Saturday, was once again a success, drawing locals and visitors in droves to share a fun day out.**



**Top local bands Made Alive, enix Band, Tait Kora and Dunamis performed, along with special guest Annie Crummer, and the entertainment was enjoyed by all. Organisers would like to thank the event's sponsors and the Kawerau community for its support.**

**Top left and above: People enjoy the activities on offer at Kawerau Christmas in the Park. Left: Councillor Warwick Godfery supports the community event.**

# Thanks for all the hard work in 2017

As another year ends I want to recognise the hard work of council staff members. They work tirelessly to organise events, manage the pool, keep the town clean, safe and beautiful, and countless other things, and they all deserve thanks.

Thanks also to the community for past and continued support, particularly during events such as the Edgcumbe floods.

I'm aware people have been asking about the River Rd land development. We are working with Generation Homes on this to make this happen. However there is a process to go through and it will take time. We will update everyone as things progress.

Earlier this month deputy mayor Faylene Tunui, Council CEO Russell George and I attended



the New Zealand China Mayoral Forum in Wellington.

The December 4 forum was the second such event aimed at enhancing co-operation between New Zealand and Chinese local governments and establishing better connections between Chinese and New Zealand cities.

It focused on sustainable economies and balancing economic development and the environment. Trade and investment opportunities in tourism, education and primary industries were discussed, as well as social well-being and environmental protection.

About 15 Chinese cities were represented at the forum. Our attendance better prepares us to strengthen our community's ties with China, particularly in light of planned developments within our community.

If you're heading away this summer, please ensure your property is secured and arrangements have been made for pet care.

Finally, Merry Christmas and happy holidays from the council.

# Successful year for our youth leaders

Kawerau Youth Council's hard work in 2017 was honoured on December 12, with members presenting the year's highlights at the last Kawerau District Council meeting for 2017.

They will receive certificates for their contributions to the community at the youth council's end-of-year function.

Council youth projects officer JJ Rika says it was great for the youth council to have the opportunity to showcase its work throughout 2017.

The youth council had a big win in April when it was named one of New Zealand's best youth groups as part of the NZ Youth Awards.

Other highlights for 2017 include the inaugural annual FLOWQUEST Fun Day, a free interactive family fun festival that ran alongside the Canoe Slalom New Zealand National Championships in April.

The youth council also helped with the Edgcumbe flood



## The 2017 Kawerau Youth Council has had a busy year.

recovery, Woodfest and King of the Mountain, and was involved in the Kawerau Christmas parade on December 16, with a tropical-themed float.

"Our youth council is dedicated to the community and works extremely hard to support the town's young people." JJ said. "They're a fantastic group with

a huge amount of passion and enthusiasm and I couldn't be prouder."

The Kawerau Youth Council thanks local agencies, Kawerau District Council, the Ministry of Youth Development and family and friends for all the assistance in 2017. It looks forward to a great 2018.

# Our local hero

Congratulations to councillor Berice Julian, who has been named an Eastern Bay local hero in the 2017 New Zealander of the year awards.

Berice's nomination was thanks to the Kawerau Youth Council, which put her forward to recognise her tireless work for the community. In addition to serving as a councillor Berice was a long-time Scout leader and is a sports coach and manager.

Her nomination has met with a positive response on social media, with comments including:

- "This woman is amazing and definitely a stalwart among our community.

Her involvement in education, youth services and sports is incredible."

- "Berice, you truly are a legend and a great role model. Such a tremendous person! Congratulations for the nomination."

- "Her tireless and often thankless contribution to netball in Kawerau is highly commendable and so too are the many other community events she puts her hand to.

Congratulations, Berice, from all Council staff.



# Be in quick for summer reading

Kawerau District Library celebrated the launch of its summer reading programme with a performance from the Travelling Tutaras.

Kawerau South and Kawerau Putauaki school children attended and all had a great time.

Places on the summer reading programme are going quickly so any interested children should register soon if they haven't already. Summer reading is all about reading for rewards over the school holidays.



# Remember your animals this summer

The summer holidays are coming, which means if you're heading away it's time to think about your pets and start planning who will look after them while you're gone.

## **Pet boarding**

If you are putting your pets in a boarding kennel, you may like to visit these first to ensure you're happy with it

- Keep vaccinations up to date
- Some boarding kennels provide bedding, or you may choose to supply your own
- Book kennels early; some have a waiting list.

## **Taking your pets on holiday**

There are more pet friendly motels and camping grounds that will let you bring your dog with you, book early so that you're not disappointed.

## **Tips for travelling with pets**

- Exercise your dog before the trip to tire him out, so you'll have a less-excitable travel companion.
- If your pet is prone to motion sickness, speak to your vet in advance
- Take doggie poo bags
- Ensure that you have plenty of fresh water for the trip.
- Don't let your pet roam around the car unrestrained. Opt for a secure crate to contain the animal or get special pet-friendly seatbelts
- Take frequent breaks so your pets can do their business, stretch their legs, eat and drink
- Your pets should always be on a leash when outside the car
- Never leave your pets in a hot car.



## **Leaving your pets at home**

If you are leaving your pets at home, you must find a good carer for them

- Make sure there is enough food on hand for your animals and that your carer knows how much to feed them.
- Emphasise that your pets must have clean drinking water available at all times.
- All dogs need exercise every day
- Leave a list of contact numbers for emergencies and make sure your vet's telephone number is in a prominent place.
- If your dog hasn't been microchipped, consider getting this done by your vet or council.
- Remember to leave a collar on your dog with the registration disc attached, so if it goes missing it can easily be traced to you.

If your dog is staying home these holidays, feel free to let the council know when you are intending on going away and update your contact telephone numbers in case of emergency.

# Police prioritise road safety this holiday season

It's rapidly approaching the time of year when the jolly fat man arrives with goodwill and presents for everyone who's been good, and it appears that this year there may be a few extra people on the list.

I am happy to report crime in Kawerau continues to trend downwards, with recorded offences well below last year's impressive figures. Everyone in town deserves a pat on the back as we couldn't do it without the help of lots of groups and agencies, and members of the public and their willingness to call us 24/7 when they see suspicious stuff happening.

Less crime means less victims and everyone feeling much safer, which is top of our Christmas wish list.

Keeping people safe on the roads is a priority for us over the festive season. I urge everyone attending Christmas functions or parties to

make arrangements for getting home safely without drink driving. This includes things such as organising a sober driver or alternative transport, or staying the night at your event venue.

We will be actively targeting drunk drivers and if you are stopped by Police - day or night - you can expect to be breath-tested. I make no apologies for this. I have had to tell too many families that their loved ones won't be coming home because of poor decisions around alcohol use.

It's also the time of year when many of you go away on holiday so I also remind you to take steps to secure your property.

Have a good Christmas and a happy holiday break.

- Sergeant Al Fenwick

## Chit chat event returns to town

**PechaKucha 20 X 20 is coming back to Kawerau.**

**Kawerau District Library is holding its second PechaKucha 20 X 20 Night in February 2018. Would you like to be a presenter?**

**The first PechaKucha 20 X 20 Night in September was a huge success, with 50 people braving the weather to hear about dragon boating in China, cycle touring, post-traumatic stress disorder, Civil Defence and the Air Training Corps, among other things.**

**The audience laughed, cried, learned things and was thoroughly entertained.**

**If you think you have a story you'd like to share and you would like to present please email Wendy.Montrose@kaweraudc.govt.org for details.**

**You never know, it just might be one of the best nights out you've had in a long time.**

## Prizes up for grabs

Local writers' group Write on Kawerau is running a short story competition this summer and encourages anyone with an interest in writing to enter.

Theme: It happened one summer. Word count: 1000 words maximum, not including the title. Please include word count.

Entries can be emailed as a Word doc or PDF attachment to Wendy.Montrose@kaweraudc.govt.nz with 'Short story competition, It happened one summer' in the subject line, or dropped into the library in an envelope with 'Short story com-

petition, It happened one summer' on the front.

Remember to include your name and contact details.

Your name or any other identifying information must not appear on your manuscript. Stories must be the entrant's own work and previously unpublished.

Anyone aged 18 or over is eligible to enter. The contest opens on January 1 and closes at 5pm on January 31.

First prize is \$100, second prize \$50 and third \$25.

Full competition rules and conditions will be online at [www.kaweraudc.govt.nz/services/library](http://www.kaweraudc.govt.nz/services/library)



**Kawerau District Council is on Facebook.**

Check out our page for news and event updates.

[www.facebook.com/KawerauDistrictCouncil/](http://www.facebook.com/KawerauDistrictCouncil/)

## Summer security for your home

Have you ever come home from a wonderful holiday to find your home has been broken into? If so, you're not alone. About 60 percent of burglaries occur when no one is home and so clearly this is something that we should take seriously. Here are some things you can do to minimise the risk.

- Cancel papers and mail delivery.
- Tell trusted neighbours and friends you'll be away and for how long; leave them your contact details, spare keys and alarm PIN if you have one.
- Inform your local Neighbourhood Support co-ordinator and Kawerau Community Patrol members. They can patrol your property while you're away.
- Ask someone to pop in each day and draw the curtains, switch lights on and off, collect junk mail and so on to make your home look occupied.
- Lock all doors, windows and gates, including the garage and shed.
- Lock away any garden and DIY tools that could be used to break into your home, as well as garden furniture, and remove keys from all locks and put them somewhere safe.



- Put internal/external lights on time switches
- Operate external lights on timers or solar switches
- Draw curtains or close blinds If your neighbours can't. Consider buying automatic closing devices for curtains and blinds.
- Don't leave messages on your answering machine that indicate you're away.
- Be careful what you post on social media. It's not advisable to let everyone know you're away.



## Local writers' group going strong

The writers' group started earlier this year at Kawerau Library is proving a hit, with the weekly meetings

drawing a regular crowd and new faces. Adult programme and activities officer Wendy Montrose says the turnout

has been fabulous and she's continually amazed at the writing talent shown by those attending.

## Community news in brief

### Pound options sought

Council's dog pound is coming to the end of its life and Council is looking at options for its replacement.

Council is working with the SPCA on designing a pound that will cater for the future needs for dog control and welfare in the district and enhance the collaboration that exists between Council and the SPCA. The planning also involves investigating the feasibility of buying a pet crematorium where Council will provide a pet cremation service for the community.

### Building starts on barbecue roof

Construction of the Maurie Kjar pool barbecue roof starts in February and is expected to take two months. It will see the barbecue area expanded and a new roof put on.

### Concert chambers upgrade

The Concert Chambers upgrade is complete.



This has included removing the asbestos ceiling and replacing it with tiles, and earthquake strengthening. The building was not unsafe but is used as an operations centre in Civil Defence emergencies and therefore has to meet higher safety standards than other buildings.

# CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR Holiday Arrangements 2017/18

## DISTRICT OFFICE & AA SERVICES

The District Office and AA Services will close at **12.00pm (midday)** on **Friday 22nd December 2017** and re-open **8.00am** on **Wednesday 3rd January 2018**.

## REFUSE & RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

Refuse & Recycling collections due on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2017 **will now** be collected on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2017 and collections due on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 **will now** be collected on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Please ensure all bins are at the curbside by 7.30am on the day of collection.

## TRANSFER STATION

The Transfer Station will **only** be closed on Christmas Day. On all other days, normal opening hours apply (12.00pm to 4.00pm).

## THE LIBRARY / MUSEUM

Friday	22 December	10.00am - 12.00 noon
Saturday	23 December	<b>Closed</b>
Sunday	24 December	<b>Closed</b>
Monday (Christmas day)	25 December	<b>Closed</b>
Tuesday (Boxing day)	26 December	<b>Closed</b>
Wednesday	27 December	10.00am - 5.00pm
Thursday	28 December	10.00am - 5.00pm
Friday	29 December	10.00am - 5.00pm
Saturday	30 December	10.00am - 1.00pm
Sunday	31 December	<b>Closed</b>
Monday (New Year's Day)	01 January	<b>Closed</b>
Tuesday (Stat Hol)	02 January	<b>Closed</b>
Wednesday	03 January	10.00am - 5.00pm (normal hours resume)

## KAWERAU i-SITE

Monday-Sunday	18-24 December	8.30am – 6.30pm
Monday (Christmas Day)	25 December	<b>Closed</b>
Tuesday	26 December	8.30am – 6.30pm (normal hours resume)

## DOG, NOISE AND STOCK CONTROL / COMPLAINTS

For assistance with dog, noise and stock control problems, please telephone 306 9009 (anytime).

## MAURIE KJAR MEMORIAL SWIMMING POOL

Sunday (Xmas Eve)	24 December	8.00am - 12.00 noon
Christmas Day	25 December	<b>Closed</b>
Tuesday - Friday	26 -29 December	8.00am - 6.00pm
Saturday	30 December	8.00am - 8.00pm
Sunday	31 December	8.00am - 8.00pm
Monday (New Year's Day)	01 January	Normal hours resume

For Private Hires and BBQ Hires, please contact the pool staff, or telephone 323 6109 during pool hours. Please note that Private Hires are only available outside pool opening hours.

**His Worship the Mayor, Councilors and staff  
wish the residents of Kawerau a very  
happy and safe festive season.**

*The Waterwheel Historic Trust presents*

# FARMING ~ LIKE ~ GRANDDAD

*Fun day out for all!*

**Sun, 28<sup>th</sup> Jan**

10am-3pm SH30, Kawerau  
(opposite Military Rd)



## Coming events Dec 2017 - Feb 2018

### Monthly market, December 21, 8am - 2pm

Kawerau's daytime market boasts plenty of stalls selling hot foods, snack foods, clothing, plants, fresh produce, home-made goods, crafts and homewares.

### Farming Like Granddad, January 28, 10am - 3pm

The Waterwheel Historic Trust once again presents this fun event. See Clydesdale horses plowing, sheep shearing, vintage tractors and farming machinery. There will also be a working waterwheel collection.

### Tarawera Ultramarathon, February 10, from 6am

The race course winds from Kawerau to Rotorua, taking in lakes, forests and waterfalls along the way. 62km, 87km, 102km and 100km endurance race options. Phone 027 600 0397.

## Upcoming meetings

**There will be no council meetings held in January 2018. Meetings resume in February.**

**Regulatory and Services Committee,  
February 13, 9am**

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**Council: February 27, 9am**

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## *Councillor*

### *contacts*

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