

# COMMUNITY UPDATE



9 JULY 2021



## from the Mayor

It has been an interesting few weeks. We wish to thank all the people and organisations who submitted to the Long Term Plan 2021-2031.

At the June Council Meeting, we continued the Deliberations which showed good levels of support for the three consultation topics. We also received a good spread of submissions about other areas of Council services and the community.

We are now preparing our Long Term Plan 2021-2031, which is being audited with a view to Council adopting it on 27 July.

We will then formally respond to all submitters with the decisions and actions being taken by Council including the next round of consultation regarding the development of Stoneham Park (the old Soccer Club grounds).

It was an end of an era recently as the last jumbo paper reel rolled off the No.3. paper reel at Norske Skog Tasman. For more than 60 years the paper mill and the Tasman workforce have been a huge contributor to our community.

We look forward to celebrating the paper mill's operation on Saturday, 17 July at the Kawerau Town Hall.

This of course spurred many media requests about the future of the district. As we keep saying, Council has been actively supporting economic development. That support includes boundary changes of land into the Kawerau District for the efficiency of commercial operations.

After a recent presentation, we have pledged our support to an initiative involving the installation of a natural gas pipeline that will eventually transition to hydrogen. This has the potential to benefit many Kawerau engineering support firms, which are experiencing huge volumes in business from customers throughout New Zealand.

In the Three Waters space, we continue to seek more data to clarify the impacts so we can then come back to our community.

- Mayor Malcolm Campbell

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### New 135 Bay Hopper Bus Service being well utilised

Figures show the new 135 Bay Hopper bus service has been well utilised by Kawerau residents since it started on 31 May 2021. Patronage has increased significantly between May and June 2021. The number of senior passengers using the bus service has more than doubled in that period.

#### Did You Know?

- ▶ The new Bay Hopper bus service runs on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday (excluding public holidays).
- ▶ The bus goes to Whakatane four times a day (see the timetable).
- ▶ BEE Cards are available for purchase \$5 at the Kawerau i-SITE.
- ▶ The bus service will do drop-offs and pick-ups throughout the route in Kawerau.
- ▶ See the map and detailed timetable for approximate pick-up and drop-off times in the District and along the route.

Maps and detailed timetables of the stops around the Kawerau District are available at the Council Offices, i-SITE, the Council website and [www.baybus.co.nz](http://www.baybus.co.nz)



## Update for Ratepayers who apply for a Rates Rebate

If you usually apply for a Rates Rebate – please wait until you receive the Rates Instalment 1 notice in early August.

The Rates Rebate Scheme is a Government funded scheme designed to benefit homeowners on low incomes.

The rates for the coming 2021/2022 year will be set on 27 July.

The Instalment 1 rates notices will then be sent out to ratepayers in early August. This rates instalment is for payment by 5pm on 27 August 2021.

Ratepayers who wish to apply for a Rates Rebate need to have received their Instalment 1 rates notice to apply.

Please note: to apply for a rates rebate you need to be the owner of the property (the rates need to be on your property account).

The Government has signed off the new income and rebate thresholds for the 2021/2022 year:

Maximum Annual income \$26,510.00

Maximum rebate \$665.00

Although a ratepayer's income may exceed the annual maximum, a rates rebate may still be available. The rates rebate is also available to people who own a property under a licence to occupy.

For more information, please search Rate Rebate on the Council website [www.kaweraudc.govt.nz/residents/rates/rates-rebate-scheme](http://www.kaweraudc.govt.nz/residents/rates/rates-rebate-scheme)

## Nominations Open for Kawerau Young Achiever Awards

Nominations are now open for the 2021 Kawerau Youth Achiever Awards. Nomination forms are on the Kawerau District Council website and hard copies are also available at the Council Offices.

The 2021 Kawerau Young Achiever Awards will be held on Wednesday, 25 August 2021 at the Kawerau Town Hall.

Last year 127 youth received awards in the first-ever virtual awards ceremony staged due to COVID-19. This year, the Kawerau Youth Council are planning for the usual event in person at the Kawerau Town Hall.

Nominations close on 14 August 2021.



The 2020 Kawerau Young Achiever Awards MCs Metariki Turuwheua and Nikki Hendi

## Heidi Parks Work Experience

Recently Tarawera High School year 13 student Heidi Parks has been working towards her dream job at working for Council.

For five weeks, Heidi spent two afternoons a week completing work experience at the Council, thanks to a connection by Jeanette Tioke of REAP's Journey Together programme.

Heidi spent time with staff across a variety of roles including health and safety; governance, customer services; administration; Library and Museum; regulatory services; i-SITE;

building control; communications and engagement and events.

Heidi is no stranger to Council, as she has been a member of the Kawerau Youth Council for five years and is the current deputy chair. Heidi is also a disabilities advocate and member of the Kawerau Disabilities Access Forum.

There were plenty of highlights and Heidi is grateful for everyone's time and support. "It may be because I've been a Youth Councillor for so long, but Council feels like a second home and I've always felt included."



In her last year of school, Heidi is applying for a computer course next year but her future goal is to work for Council.

## Dog Registration Renewals

Its dog registration time and invoices have been emailed and posted out to residents who own dogs. **Registration fees must be paid by 31 July this year.** You will need to know your dog identification number (which is on the registration renewal form). You can complete the registration process:

- ▶ Online via the Council's website [www.kaweraudc.govt.nz](http://www.kaweraudc.govt.nz)
- ▶ At the Council Offices
- ▶ By credit or debit card over the phone 07 306 9009





## St John Health Shuttle – driver volunteers needed

### This new service needs you!

#### We are working to launch the Kawerau Health Shuttle service in Spring 2021.

Help transport people in our community from their home to their medical appointments and back home again.

To learn more about becoming a St John Health Shuttle Volunteer please attend one of the recruitment sessions:

Wednesday 14 July

Concert Chambers, Ranfurly Court, Kawerau

Sessions at 12.30pm - 2:30pm - 4:30pm

- ▶ Phone or text Angela on 0272203376 if you are interested, but can't attend.
- ▶ Visit the website and register your interest [join.stjohn.org.nz/role/siid/5119/125](http://join.stjohn.org.nz/role/siid/5119/125)
- ▶ Or contact Council on 07 306 9009 and leave your name, contact phone number and email address.

Note: Prospective volunteers need to bring two forms of ID to the recruitment session and your email address, and only need to attend one of the sessions.



*One of the greatest gifts you can give is your time*

## Swimming Pool Closed



Due to the water temperature issue, Council wishes to advise that the Maurie Kjar Memorial Swimming Pool Complex is temporarily closed.

The water temperature of all the pools is around 13 degrees Celsius which is too cold to swim.

Initial investigations indicate the steam bore has blocked from a natural build-up of silica, but due to the geothermal pressure, this needs to be safely investigated and rectified by experts.

Council has booked in the appropriate geothermal well drillers and notified WorkSafe as we are obliged to do due to the geothermal pressure and safety implications.

Unfortunately, the repairs cannot be carried out until mid-July, so the pools will be shut during the month of July.

Council apologises for the inconvenience especially with the July school holidays about to start.



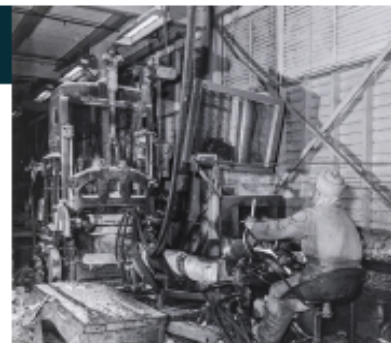
Past and present employees and the public are invited to join in celebrating Tasman paper being part of the Kawerau community for the last 68 years.

Norske Skog Tasman will be hosting an event open to the public on Saturday 17 July 2021 in the Kawerau Town Hall from 12pm to 6pm.

Photos and videos from the Kawerau District Museum and mill library will be on display featuring the life of the paper mill and its people from construction to closure.

Food and drinks will be available to purchase from Mata beer and food vendors.

Please share this invitation to celebrate the contribution of the Tasman Paper Mill during the past 68 years.



## Digital Sessions from the library



### BETTER DIGITAL FUTURES for Seniors

#### Want to build confidence and discover what you can do on the internet?

Kawerau District Library is offering another four-week Digital Session starting on Tuesday, 27 July from 10.00am to 12.00 noon at the Kawerau Library.

The initiative is thanks to the partnership between the Kawerau District Library and Digital Inclusion Alliance Aotearoa.

- ▶ Build confidence and discover what you can do on the internet through our free digital skills course.
- ▶ Get help going online.
- ▶ Learn new skills and build confidence with computers and the internet – free.
- ▶ Courses are offered in a safe, friendly environment at Kawerau Library.
- ▶ Anyone aged 65-plus is welcome to join.
- ▶ Course covers introduction to digital devices, the internet, email and browsing the web.

4 weekly sessions starting Tuesday July 27, 10.00am – 12.00 noon at Kawerau Library

Class size is limited to eight. Feel free to bring your own device – smartphone, tablet, laptop.

For details, talk to Wendy Montrose at the library or phone 07 3069041

## Council Vacancies

The following job vacancies are available at the Kawerau District Council.

### YOUTH SUPPORT LIBRARIAN

Fixed term (40 hours per week)

The scope of this role encompasses reading for pleasure, digital content creation and curation, events and managing the Library's Youth Collections and Services. If you are passionate about promoting the value of reading, libraries, print and digital literacy, and foster life-long learners and library users – this may be the role for you.

### LIBRARY CADET and COUNCIL CADET (2 positions)

Fixed Term, Full-Time to 30 June 2022

An opportunities for two entry-level positions that would be suited to school-leavers or those entering the workforce. As a result of receiving funding, two new Cadetships have been created, one based in the Kawerau District Library, and the other working across the Council Groups and Services. These roles are designed to provide work experience to the Cadets, and to assist various managers with their day-to-day operations and services. Responsibilities include: Library work; Customer service; Admin and clerical work; Working with the teams and services in our Gardens, Pools, Solid Waste, Regulatory and Planning; Assisting with community events and Civil Defence.

Please check out our website for closing dates. Interested to know more or want to apply?

For more information about these roles, the position description and application form:

Visit the Council website [kaweraudc.govt.nz/about-council/careers/vacancies](http://kaweraudc.govt.nz/about-council/careers/vacancies) Email [vacancy@kaweraudc.govt.nz](mailto:vacancy@kaweraudc.govt.nz)

Call into the Council Offices during office hours.

NOTE: To apply please make sure you complete the application form and submit it with your Curriculum Vitae (CV)

### LIBRARY ASSISTANT

Permanent Part-Time (Saturday Roster for 3.5 hours)

A flexible and enthusiastic team member to join the Kawerau Library and Museum team and work on Saturdays (two out of three Saturdays). Core duties include operating the circulation desk, customer IT support, book covering and cataloguing. The role requires excellent customer service and communication skills. Experience working in a library is an advantage.

### ENGINEERING FOREMAN

Fixed Term, Full-Time

Reporting to the Engineering Manager, we are seeking an Engineering Foreman who is skilled in a range of areas to manage small projects and work in the Engineering department for a one year fixed term period. This is a general role, supporting all aspects of engineering, operations and services at Kawerau District Council.

When applying for this role, any qualification in the trades or similar fields will be an advantage. Candidates must hold a full current Class 1 drivers licence, and ideally a Class 4 Truck licence. A forklift and loader licence or the ability to obtain those licences will also be an advantage.

