

# COMMUNITY PĀNUI | UPDATE



22 NOVEMBER 2023

## Māori wards in the Kawerau district

Thank you for having your say on whether Council should establish one of more Māori wards in the Kawerau district for the 2025 and 2028 elections.

When this issue went to print, the Council's Extraordinary Meeting was being held on Wednesday, 22 November at 11am (and so we do not have the update of the decision in this issue).

The process of engaging with Tangata Whenua Iwi and the community about this issue was positive and Council thanks all our hosts and those who attended. Council received some 165 submissions via the online survey, social media and via hard copy survey forms sent out in the newsletter.

There was the further opportunity for Tangata Whenua Iwi and the community to provide their feedback directly to the Mayor and Councillors at the public forum from 11am of the Extraordinary Meeting on 22 November.

The report outlining the engagement process that Council had carried out and all the submissions received will be tabled before elected members each have their say. Then the Council will work through the resolutions and take a vote.

As per the electoral process outlined as part of the Local Electoral Act 2001, Council may consider whether to establish one of more Māori wards in the Kawerau district by the 23 November 2023.

If Council voted yes to Māori ward/s for the Kawerau district, this timeline means they can be introduced for the 2025 and 2028 triennial elections.

If Council voted no and chose not to establish one of more Māori wards in the Kawerau district, this decision can be revisited in 2026 for the 2028 and 2031 triennial elections.

Regardless of the outcome, Council agreed on 6 September 2023 to undertake a representation arrangements review.

## KAWERAU CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK

**BOOK THE DATE!**

**16 DEC  
2023  
PRIDEAUX PARK**



**The Kawerau Christmas in the Park, the Eastern Bay's premier festive entertainment event, is set to be another stunner.**

Council has been fortunate to receive funding from five different organisations including; NZCT (NZ Community Trust), Lion Foundation, Bay Trust, Trust Horizon, and Lotto NZ. Combined their donations and the contributions from the council and local businesses and organisations, which mean we have received our target budget of \$195,000.

Kawerau Christmas in the Park kicks off at 11am, with the Kawerau New World Santa Parade. The prize giving will be on stage at 12:15pm. Anyone interested in having a float in the parade can collect entry forms from the Kawerau site in Plunket Street. The float registration deadline is Friday December 8. The theme this year is The History of Kawerau and it is free to enter.

The Radio 1XX Community Christmas concert (Afternoon show) will highlight local talent, directed by Pari Maxwell with a team of community volunteers and with MC Colin Magee (Radio 1XX). The artist will be announced on Monday 4 December.

The evening variety show, directed by Pari Maxwell, is set to be a variety of top-class artists and acts aimed to entertain all age groups.

**The event is family-friendly - drugs, alcohol, and gang regalia are not permitted. Prideaux Park is a smoke and vape-free venue.**

**Security will be in operation.**

# Kawerau Neighbourhood Support Management



## Call to Action for a new committee

Kia ora Kawerau Neighbourhood Support members

This is the Regional Coordinator for Neighbourhood Support BOP, stepping in temporarily to put out a big call to the Kawerau community for interested community members to reform a Kawerau committee.

Unfortunately, the previous committee has now moved on, along with the previous coordinator in Kawerau. What this now means is there is no committee for Neighbourhood Support in Kawerau and with over 900 households registered, there is clearly a need for a new committee to be formed and hopefully are an injection of energy into the great work Neighbourhood Support does.

We are seeking interest from the Kawerau community to form a new Kawerau Neighbourhood Support committee, you can be an individual or representing an organisation from Kawerau and all you need to bring to a new committee is: this would be a voluntary role

- Would you like to become part of a team to make a difference in our community
- Giving back to the community and making our neighbourhood safer and a great place to live
- Appoint and Support a Kawerau Neighbourhood

## Support Area Coordinator

If you are passionate about the Kawerau community and have the spare time to lead a new committee, you can contact the Regional Coordinator initially to express your interest by emailing

Email Richard: nsrotorua@gmail.com

Neighbourhood Support is a nationwide community-led movement that brings people and neighbourhoods together to create safe, resilient, and connected communities. We believe that a well-connected community helps to improve safety, resilience, and wellbeing for all.

For more information on what Neighbourhood Support is all about, visit the national website

[www.neighbourhoodsupport.co.nz](http://www.neighbourhoodsupport.co.nz)

## Summer Liquor Licencing Update

Event organisers who want to apply for a special licence to sell or supply alcohol are reminded they need to submit applications at least 20 working days ahead of their planned summer events.

Between 22 December 2023 and 15 January 2024, there are no 'working days', which means events planned for February 2024 must have applications lodged by Thursday, 7 December 2023 and events planned for January 2024 must be submitted in November 2023 or earlier.

Special licences can cover one-off or short duration events, and sometimes larger events, such as wine and food festivals. People who want to sell or supply alcohol over the Christmas period and into February need to know the rules and be prepared.

## Oji purchase most of Norske Skog Tasman

Oji Fibre Solutions' purchase of some of the Norske Skog Tasman assets was completed last month.

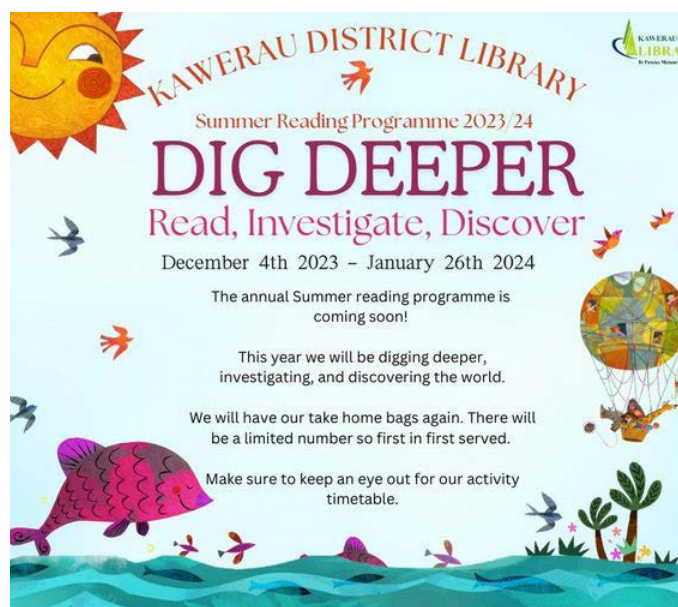
## Off Highway Road

Work is well underway with the construction of the off-road highway that will connect industry and forestry operations.

## Geothermal Well Testing

Mercury Energy is completing drilling activities in three sites over the coming months, the first of which is located off the Kawerau Straights. This work is far enough away from any residential areas not to cause any noise disturbance.

In addition, Ngāti Tūwharetoa Geothermal Assets completed a week-long testing regime of the well located off Spencer Avenue. This testing work has now been completed.



## Car Seat Clinic

On November 15, Kawerau had a car seat safety clinic hosted by Eastbay REAP and the Eastern Bay Road Safety Program. The clinic focused on ensuring car seats were safe and correctly fitted into vehicles. Car seat technicians assisted with the fittings for people who needed help.

They were teaching parents and caregivers the fundamentals of car seats so they could execute those practices in the future, either for themselves or a friend who needs help. Eastbay REAP gave away car seats to the parents who needed them and other essentials to ensure their well-being and our pēpi.

Held in the Kawerau New World carpark, the event lasted two hours and attracted a good turnout of people who wanted to ensure their tamariki would be safe on the road.

Eastern Bay Road Safety Program, which Council contributes to, completed the initiative last week in Whakatāne, and their next clinic is in Murupara on December 1.

Eastbay REAP has recently established itself in Kawerau. The team has many resources to support the community's needs across early childhood, school, adults, and community education sectors. Their new service provides packs for new parents and tamariki that they can use together to help achieve sustainable development goals.



## New Staff Welcome

### Justise Apiata

#### Library Cadet



Recently, we caught up with Justise Apiata, our new library cadet.

Justise heard about the cadetship through Mayors Taskforce for Jobs coordinator Amy Hayes, who was supporting an initiative to get youth their driver's licences. With help from his sister, Justise put together an application and got the job.

After a month with Council, Justise's favourite part of the job is interacting with the customers and assisting anyone who needs help. "The job is a good opportunity to gain experience and test my limits by going outside my comfort zone," Justise says.

He was born and raised in Kawerau but briefly moved to Rotorua for a few years to shorten the daily commute to school. After moving back, he still studied at Rotorua Boys High and travelled there daily with his sister. He is very family and friend-orientated and enjoys spending his free time surrounded by and looking after them.

Other hobbies that Justise has are looking after his new fish and reading.



### Kyla McClutchie

#### Communications Coordinator



We recently caught up with Kyla, the new communications coordinator.

Kyla has just completed her three-year Bachelor of Business degree at the University of Waikato, where she majored in economics and marketing.

One of the papers that Kyla did was an internship where she worked alongside the Tauranga Arts Festival organisers and was a part of the process to get the festival up and running. From doing this, Kyla gained experience in marketing, which she will be able to use in her new role. Her favourite part of working at the festival was seeing events come to fruition.

Kyla recently moved from Tauranga to Whakatāne. She is looking forward to gaining experience and understanding the ins and outs of marketing and communications.

## Dog Control

In October, the Dog Rangers' team responded to 101 requests for service. The jobs ranged from kennel checks to attacks – 28 jobs related to kennel checks, microchipping, releasing dogs from the pound and infringement enquiries. There were 73 statutory occurrences mainly related to barking (28) and roaming (33). There were also eight incidents: six dog rushes, one attack on a human and one attack on another animal. In addition, this month, there were 14 dogs impounded - with three dogs returned to their owners, and four surrendered.

The dog team has preventative measures in place, and the council supports a dog welfare community clinic on **Saturday, 2 December 2023, from 9:30 am to 11:30 am.**

## Fluoridation Update



On 22 July 2022, Kawerau District Council received a directive from the Director General of Health, to fluoridate the drinking water of Kawerau District.

The Director General of Health has under section 116E of the Health Act of 1956, the authority to do so, and failure to comply with the directive is an offence under section 116J.

Last year, Council started work on this project to install the required infrastructure to fluoridate the water supply. Currently it is expected that all works and commissioning will be completed mid-2024.

Council plans to continue to provide the two unchlorinated drinking water taps on River Road at the Pumphouse and at the Kawerau New World carpark.

## Upcoming Events And Meetings

### 21 November 9am to 2 pm

White Ribbon Day at the Circus Paddock

### 24 November 5pm

Rates are due

### 24- 26 November:

Championship obedience trials, Prideaux Park

### 12 December 9am:

Regulatory and Services meeting

### 16 December

Kawerau Christmas in the Park

### 22 December 12noon

Council Office closes.

## Drinking Water Pipe project on track

Most of the older water pipes in Kawerau are 60 years old and the council is completing a replacement project of the water pipes. The council is funding the zone two and three replacements with a \$2 million loan uplifted on 26 October for these water asset renewals.

Meanwhile, in October there was no dirty water, pressure or other water complaints reported.

## Stoneham Park Residential Development

The Operative District Plan became effective on Friday, 6 November 2023 to enable the Stoneham Park residential development. Work is progressing with the reserve exchange of the land on Fenton Mill Road and Stoneham Park. Technical assessments are being completed prior to the resource consents being lodged for the subdivision.

## Building Team Work

In October, our building control team completed 14 Land Information Memorandum ('LIM') reports and one Project Information Memorandum ('PIM'). Our team has also inspected three swimming pools to ensure that the fencing was safe and up to code.

## Civil Defence Emergency Management

Congratulations to Ian Lamb, the council's Senior Building Officer who has completed tier two rapid building assessor training. The training enables him to complete building assessments in declared emergencies. Ian will also be able to lead a team of building assessors where required. This achievement is an accomplishment for Ian and for Kawerau as the skills and resources will be of significant benefit when and if a natural disaster occurs.

# KAWERAU



## EVENT TIMETABLE

**10:00am**

Christmas parade floats meet at Ron Hardie Recreation Centre

**11:00am**

New World Kawerau Santa Parade starts, and completes one lap of town before ending behind the Rec Centre

**12.15pm**

Prize-giving (on stage at Prideaux Park)

**12.30pm – 5.15pm**

Radio 1XX Community Christmas Concert

**7.15pm -10:00pm**

Evening variety show and fireworks