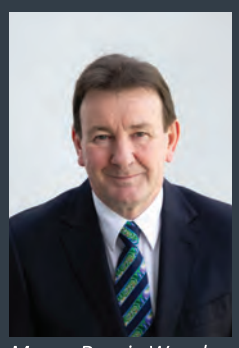
Community Connection

Issue 168 June 2022

Horowhenua DISTRICT COUNCIL



Mayor Bernie Wanden

Message from the Mayor

Kia ora koutou

What a month! As they say, it never rains but it pours. Less than a month after a tornado struck Levin, on 20 May 2022, Council's Civil Defence Emergency Management was again deployed, urging the community to take care and stay off the roads unless travel was essential. With severe thunderstorm watches in place for Horowhenua and persistent and heavy rainfall, our wastewater network came under pressure and had to process three times more than the usual inflow. While our wastewater network was trying to cope with the additional strains, residents were urged to help relieve pressure on our drinking water supply by conserving water.

I was proud of how resilient the Horowhenua community was and how again we came together in a crisis, helping each other and caring for neighbours and whānau. A shout out to our emergency services partners, contractors, linespeople and Council's Civil Defence Emergency Management team who ensured the community stayed safe during the floods.

Mayoral Relief Fund Extended

Council and Government activated a Mayoral Relief Fund to provide financial assistance for those impacted by the tornado on 20 May. I want to urge that if you suffered from the tornado event, this fund could help with any losses or costs incurred due to this severe weather event.

Assistance from this fund can be used to fund damaged property or costs not covered by insurance and can be used for counselling if required by a household member. Applications have been extended to **5pm Thursday 30 June 2022**.

See the article below for more information.

Annual Plan 2022/2023

The 2022/2023 Annual Plan will be adopted at a Council Meeting in June. The full document will be available on our website or in printed version at Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō, Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, the Civic Building, and Foxton and Shannon Libraries by the end of July. Council looks forward to delivering these projects to our Community.

Matariki Celebrations

This is the first year Matariki will be officially commemorated as a public holiday and we are ready to celebrate! Horowhenua will light up with more than 20 Matariki celebration events around the district during June and July, organised by Muaūpoko Tribal Authority, Ngāti Raukawa ki te Tonga and Council. Join us as we mark the Māori New Year, all events are free and everyone is welcome. Read more on pages 2 and 3.

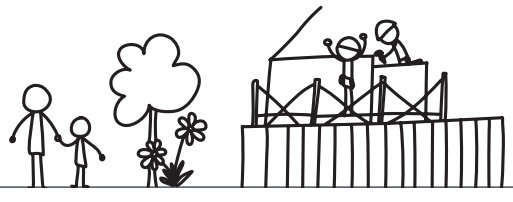
Ngā mihi o Matariki, te tau hou Māori, ki a tātou katoa.

Wishing you all a happy Matariki.

Bernie Wanden

Horowhenua Mayoral Relief Fund Deadline Extended

We have extended the deadline for applications to the Mayoral Relief Fund to 5pm on 30 June 2022. This welfare fund is for people in the Horowhenua area who have suffered due to the 20 May 2022 tornado event.



This fund can help with remedying property damage from the tornado or other costs incurred as a result of the severe weather event, including essentials for daily life and costs not covered by insurance.

Assistance may be given to fund:

- Damaged property
- Essentials for daily life
- Costs not covered by insurance
- Where there is financial burden due to the tornado event
- Counselling.

The fund was established the day of the tornado with Council contributing $100,000. Central government matched that contribution and Horowhenua New Zealand Trust added $50,000 to the fund. Many local businesses and individuals also gave generously, and the total amount of the fund reached $265,211.00.

All Black Codie Taylor, whose roots are in Horowhenua, had an active TradeMe auction for a signed All Blacks jersey with all proceeds to be added to the fund.

We encourage anyone affected by the tornado to apply. You don't have to have suffered the worst extent of the damage to be eligible.

horowhenua.govt.nz/MayoralReliefFund

Feedback from the community

"Thank you, we appreciate the help. I have never been in this situation before. We were certainly proud of the community support following the tornado, and this takes it to another level."

"I would like to thank Council for the support as we were hit by the tornado pretty badly. Our car got damaged and we had holes in the walls of our house. Without this financial support, we would be in a worse predicament. We are new to Levin, and I am blown away by the help we have received. From homemade blankets to financial help has made a terrible situation much less stressful."

Puanga Matariki

24 JUNE TO 10 JULY 2022

Nau mai, haere mai ki te whakanui i a Puanga rāua ko Matariki.

Celebrate with us the rising of Matariki and the beginning of the Māori New Year.

Matariki is the Māori name given to the cluster of stars that rise at dawn in midwinter, signifying the start of a new year. During this time Māori mourn loved ones lost during the year, forecast the bounty of the new year and send their deepest dreams and desires to the heavens. There are an estimated 500 stars in total in the Matariki cluster, and a small number can be seen without a telescope. The cluster is often referred to as the mother and daughters – Matariki being the mother with her daughters.

Join us to learn about the Māori New Year, and gather with family and friends to reflect on the past, celebrate the present, and plan for the future.

This year's Puanga Matariki events will take place between 24 June – 10 July. Organised by Horowhenua District Council in partnership with Iwi, a variety of fantastic events will be on offer, focusing on each of the stars of Matariki.

aquatics HOROWHENUA

Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō
Horowhenua Culture & Community Centre

Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom

libraries HOROWHENUA

MUAŪPOKO TRIBAL AUTHORITY INC.

Puanga Matariki 2022 Events and Activities

Celebrating Matariki together after periods of isolation is a great way to reconnect with friends from all walks of life within the community. It brings all generations together to share understanding and personal experiences and learn about the meaning of Matariki in Aotearoa New Zealand. All activities are free, and all are welcome.

To find out more information about Matariki events visit *horowhenua.govt.nz/matariki*

Matariki Photo Competition
Finalists will be on display at Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō between 23 June – 28 July 2022

Matariki Children's Activities
There will be a range of themed activities for tamariki at Horowhenua Libraries throughout Matariki

JUNE 24
Swim the Takutai (Virtual swim challenge)
24 June - 24 July
Levin Aquatic Centre

JUNE 24
Te Putanga mai o Matariki – Karakia at Punahau with Muaūpoko
Friday 24 June, meet at 5.30am
Punahau (Lake Horowhenua)

JUNE 25
Puanga – Night Lights over Foxton
Saturday 25 June, from 4.30pm - 8.30pm
Te Awahou Riverside Cultural Park, 92 Main Street, Foxton

JUNE 26
Puna Kaukau Swim
Sunday 26 June
6.45am – 7.30am
Gladstone River (swing bridge)

JUNE 28
Matariki for Littlies
Tuesday 28 June, 10.30am
Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō

JUNE 28
Rongoā Display
Tuesday 28 June, 1pm - 3pm
Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō

JUNE 29
Matariki Day Out
Wednesday 29 June
10am, Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō

JUNE 29
Movie night
(AstroKid in Te Reo Māori)
Wednesday 29 June, 6.30pm
Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō

JUNE 30
Te Ahunga mai o te Paki o Matariki – Karakia at Foxton Beach with Ngāti Raukawa ki te Tonga
Thursday 30 June, meet at 5am
Foxton Beach (Pinewood Rd entry, Estuary Flats and beach access)

JUNE 30
Matariki for Tamariki
Thursday 30 June, 3:30pm - 5pm
Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom

JUNE 30
Harakeke Star Workshop
Thursday 30 June, 1pm - 3pm
Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō

JULY 1
Kapahaka and Community Kai
Friday 1 July 2022, from 5pm onwards, Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō

JULY 1
Movie night (AstroKid in Te Reo Māori)
Friday 1 July, 6pm
Te Whare Oranga – 13 Venn Street, Shannon

JULY 3
Matariki ki Otāuru
Sunday 3 July, 10:30am - 3pm
Te Maire Park, Shannon

JULY 6
Movie night (Cousins)
Wednesday 6 July, 6.30pm
Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō

JULY 7
Matariki for Tamariki
Thursday 7 July, 3.30pm - 5pm
Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō

JULY 8
Matariki for Tamariki
Friday 8 July, 3.30pm - 5pm
Shannon Library

JULY 8
Taitoko Matariki Night Market
Friday 8 July, 4pm - 8.30pm
The Mall Carpark (Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō)

Local Elections 2022

Local Government elections are held throughout New Zealand every three years.

Have your say on who represents your community by voting in the 2022 local elections.
You can vote from 16 September to 8 October.

Key dates

15 July
Candidate nominations open

3 August
Pre-candidate information briefing

12 August
Candidate nominations close 12 noon

17 August
Candidates announced

16 September
Voting opens

8 October
Elections Day and voting closes 12 noon

Get ready to vote.

Who can vote?

To be eligible to vote in a local body election you must:

- be 18 years of age or older
- currently live in New Zealand
- be a New Zealand resident, permanent resident, or citizen
- have been living in New Zealand continuously for 12 months or more. If you're registered to vote in Parliamentary elections, you're automatically enrolled as a residential elector to vote in local authority elections. The address where you're registered as a Parliamentary elector will be in the council district for the local authority elections.

To enrol, check or update your enrolment details

If you're not sure if you're enrolled or your details have changed, check or update your details online by visiting the *VoteNZ website* or call 0800 36 76 56.

Not on the roll?

Enrol by 12 August so you can vote. If you enrol after 12 August, you will need to cast a special vote.

Council's Pre-election Report 2022

Whether you're planning to stand for Horowhenua District Council or preparing to vote, there are essential things to consider ahead of this year's local government elections.

Council's Pre-election Report 2022 will be available in mid July. Check it out and learn more about Council, the key challenges, our finances and other decisions and projects.

More information

votelocal.co.nz
horowhenua.govt.nz/Elections

Let's Kōrero Horowhenua - Council reviews Alcohol Bylaw and seeks community engagement

We're reviewing the current Alcohol (Liquor) Bylaw 2015 and seeking the community's feedback on the proposed Alcohol Control Bylaw.

Drinking alcohol in public places can lead to increased crime and safety concerns, including noise, litter, graffiti, public urination, vandalism, theft, intimidation, violence or reckless driving.

We're proposing to adopt the new Alcohol Control Bylaw which keeps most of the current Alcohol Bylaw 2015 but includes the following proposed changes:

- minor amendments to help make the information provided easier to understand and follow;
- an extension to the Alcohol Ban area in Levin to include along Oxford Street, Levin extending to Ward Street and Rina Streets, including Ward Street and Rina Street;
- the addition of the Foxton Riverloop Reserve into the Alcohol Ban area for Foxton;
- enables Council to declare temporary alcohol control areas for a specified event or period of time;
- add additional signage or maintain existing signage to indicate either the existence or boundaries of alcohol ban areas; and
- any changes relating to offences and penalties.

Help us shape the future of Horowhenua

letskorero.horowhenua.govt.nz/alcoholbylawreview

Submissions on the proposed bylaw close at 5pm on Friday 22 July 2022.

Council Meetings

Extraordinary Council Meeting
Wednesday 29 June 2022, 3pm
Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin.

Finance, Audit & Risk Committee
Wednesday 29 June 2022, 4pm
Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin.

Did you know?

You can watch meetings of Council and the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee online at:

horowhenua.govt.nz/councilmeetingslive

Want to receive Community Connection in your email inbox? Sign up online:

horowhenua.govt.nz/CommunityConnection

enquiries@horowhenua.govt.nz www.horowhenua.govt.nz HorowhenuaDC 06 366 0999 Private Bag 4002, Levin 5540
126 Oxford St, Levin 5510 **Customer service hours:** Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm and Wednesdays 9.30am to 5pm.