



Monique Davidson

Message from the Chief Executive

Ni hao (kia ora/hello), I would like to acknowledge New Zealand Chinese Language week and the contribution the Chinese community have made and continue to make to our district.

It's five months since I started my new journey as Council's Chief Executive, motivated to make a difference and serve the Horowhenua community. I believe that organisational culture determines any organisation's success. For me it starts and ends with leadership and leadership is all about our people. Therefore, I've taken the time to understand Council's challenges and opportunities and along with the Executive Leadership Team and wider staff, we are committed to focusing on people, partnerships and priorities. It's a long road ahead and I remain enthusiastic about the journey we're embarking on – a journey focused on enabling what matters to you, our community. A future where Council, Iwi, local businesses and our community work together to find innovative ways to improve service delivery to serve the Horowhenua community.

I'm pleased to have gotten the recent evaluation report on the Future of the Levin Landfill Business Case to Council. Whilst the decision has been

deferred to the new Council, it has provided direction and the next steps in this challenging and complex matter.

In the short term I'll prepare a briefing paper for the incoming Council, outlining the options associated with the decisions, including risk and cost analysis and any other considerations on whether it should be included in the 2021-2041 Long Term Plan Amendment or the 2024-2044 Long Term Plan. In the long run Council needs to invest and put its weight into developing and driving a broader Waste Minimisation Strategy in partnership with Iwi, hapū and the community. That will ensure we'll make the right decisions not only on the Future of the Levin Landfill but all future service delivery and operations associated with waste services provided by Council.

A priority for us at the moment is the 2022 Local Government Elections. If you're an enrolled voter, you would have received your voter packs in your letterbox. Let us know if you didn't receive it.

If you are not enrolled, it's not too late – you can still request to cast a special vote. We've tried to make it easy for you to vote, you can even vote while doing your shopping. Make sure to return your ballot papers to us before 12 noon on Saturday 8 October 2022. More info on the ballot boxes and special votes on page 4.

The past couple of years have been challenging, and it's easy to feel disconnected from the people and places important to us. This week is Mental

Health Awareness Week, and I hope you're doing something this week that will give you joy. It doesn't have to be significant as long as it fills your cup. Whether you're reaching out to someone you have lost contact with, visiting your happy place, reading a book, or doing a coffee catch up. Reconnect with the people and places that lift your spirit and give you joy.

As the longest reigning monarch, we acknowledge Queen Elizabeth's remarkable service and devotion. She had a strong sense of duty and dedicated her whole life to the service of her people. Our thoughts are with King Charles III and the Royal Family. Condolence books are available at Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō, Shannon Library and Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom for people who want to pay their respects by writing a message.

On a final note, I would like to acknowledge the out-going Council and Foxton Community Board for their work over the past three years. Being an Elected Member is both challenging and rewarding, and requires a lot of time and commitment. On behalf of our community, thank you for your dedication which has helped shape and influence our district today, and into the future.

Xia ci jian (Mā te wā - see you next time)

Monique Davidson

Cooler summers at Jubilee Park

Horowhenua summers are going to be cooler with a new splash pad being built at Jubilee Park, Levin (affectionately known as 'the Donald Duck Park'). Work on the new splash pad and amenity block began on Wednesday 21 September. It will be complete within two months, weather permitting.

A popular water play feature across Aotearoa, splash pads are 'zero depth' fun, which shower, spray, mist and shoot streams of water at users. Designed on a hard, flat surface, as the water splashes onto this surface it is collected, filtered, sanitised and re-circulated to keep the water fun flowing in an eco-friendly way.

We consulted with our community in 2020, through the draft Long Term Plan 2021-2041 process, on

installing a new aquatic feature as the existing Jubilee Park paddling pool was ageing. This idea was met with great enthusiasm, and funding was allocated in our Long Term Plan 2021-2041 to develop a splash pad and new amenity block for our tamariki and whānau to enjoy. We engaged with local rangatahi to work alongside our contractors for the final splash pad design.

A new amenity block will be established alongside the splash pad, featuring two family changing rooms with baby changing tables, two fully accessible unisex toilets and a plant room for the operation of the splash pad.

The amenity block will replace the existing toilet block, which is no longer up to standard and has reached the end of its life.

Mindful of park users and neighbours, we want to keep disruptions to a minimum so have chosen prefabricated units to allow for a short construction time. Our contractors will be onsite from 7.30am to 5pm on weekdays.



Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō turns 10

29 September 2022 marks the 10th anniversary of Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō – Horowhenua's Culture and Community Centre.

Nationally, Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō became a flagship of its kind. A relevant and convenient destination to complement people's lives at home, school and work. Recreational, cultural, learning, digital and social experiences are located in one convenient, modern and accessible facility in the heart of Levin and the wider Horowhenua District. Ten years on, we want to reflect on the name Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō and the mana it has gifted the facility, kaimahi and our wider community.

The meaning of Te Takeretanga is the dispersal of knowledge. The Takere is also the hull of the waka where treasures are kept for safety. Like the hull of the waka, Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō holds many taonga for the benefit of all.

There are many meanings to the word kura, some are as follows:

- Red glowing light
- The hidden knowledge of our ancestors
- Taonga
- Learning place
- Someone or something of chiefly status

The word hau also has many meanings, two of which include:

- An internal energy
- Wind

Through both of these elements, knowledge is sought, maintained and dispersed.

Pō is the transition from the world of darkness to the world of light through knowledge.



School Holidays

Let your imagination bloom!

Spring into the library these school holidays for a fun programme of activities designed to let your imagination bloom.

From pinwheels to rock painting, birdhouses to butterflies, the school holidays never looked so bright.



Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō, Childrens Area
Weekdays 3 October to 14 October - 10am - 1pm

No registrations required. Recommended for ages 3 - 12.

Back to School

pool party

We'd love to see you and your family at our back to school pool party - come down and enjoy the DJ, inflatables, hydro slide, and more!



Friday 14 October
6pm - 8pm
Levin Aquatic Centre

Gold Coin Entry

Age on the go

Mark your diaries - the popular Age on the Go Expo is back!

Come along to this fun and free event on Friday, 28 October from 10am to 3pm at the Horowhenua Events Centre to learn more about a range of activities, services and products which enhance the lives of older people in our community.

Age on the Go, organised by Council, focuses on good health, connection, fun and support, with stall holders offering information on sport and fitness, mobility, social clubs, health, and Council services. There will be music, a café, entertainment, games, activities and more. Hundreds of people enjoy this event each year and we look forward seeing you there.

We're still receiving stallholder applications, so please email commdev@horowhenua.govt.nz or call us on 06 366 0999 if you would like more information about holding a stall for this popular event.

Head along on Friday 28 October, it's a great day out.



Hello Spring!



One of the first flowers we see in springtime, daffodils signify resilience as strong survivors who weathered winter storms. We welcome the warmer weather in our Spring edition of Puāwai as we learn how locally bred daffodils are shining brightly locally and overseas.

We meet the Levin Harriers who are making strides to embrace good health and our beautiful outdoors, share one of our brave reader's experiences with dementia and much more.

Pick up your copy from stands located throughout the district, or read it online.

horowhenua.govt.nz/Puawai

Cambridge Street North Wastewater Renewal

Cambridge Street (North) wastewater network are being upgraded to accommodate the growing demand projected for North East Levin and to renew the ageing infrastructure.

The upgrade of this network will both renew the existing pipes and ensure sufficient capacity for growth. It will improve the network performance and ensure the wastewater collection network is reliable and has minimal infiltration, blockages or overflows.

What the works involve

The project is to construct a 530m new wastewater main pipe on Cambridge Street (North) from house number 249 to the Tyne Street intersection.

The works involves deep trenching in the road, laying of new pipe, connecting adjacent households, backfilling the trench and reinstating the road with asphaltic concrete.

Work began on Monday 19 September. Motorists are advised that stop-go signs will operate until the project is completed. We apologise for any inconvenience it might cause.



Spinifex Planting Days

Bring your friends and whanāu and join us to plant a few plants to keep your beaches beautiful.



Saturday 8 October at Waikawa Beach at 9am

Meet us at Reay Mackay Grove Street



Saturday 15 October at Foxton Beach at 9am

Past the Top 10 Holiday Park

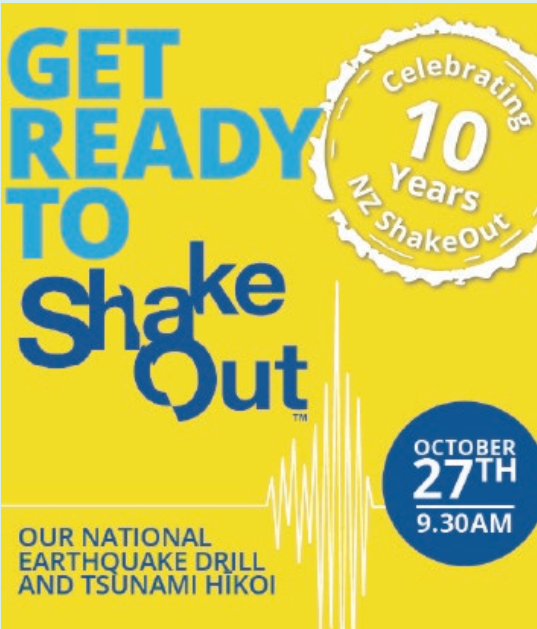
Spinifex is an indigenous native plant which binds the dunes and reduces erosion.



Get ready to Shake Out, Horowhenua

New Zealand ShakeOut is our national earthquake drill and tsunami hīkoi, taking place on Thursday 27 October 2022 at 9:30am. It's scheduled to remind people of what to do during an earthquake. Drop. Cover and Hold.

If you're in a coastal area, you can also practice the tsunami hīkoi. Sign up your school, workplace or household and join the 25,000 plus participants in the Manawatū-Whanganui region who have already signed up.



Santa is coming to town



Christmas Parade
Saturday 10 December 2022
from 5pm
Levin.

Join us for the traditional Santa Parade and a fun-filled family evening at Adventure Park.

The day begins with the parade at 5pm starting from York Street, travelling along Oxford Street and finishing in Durham Street.

Keep an eye out for more details.

Council Meetings



Inaugural Meeting of the new Horowhenua District Council
Wednesday 26 October 2022, 6pm
Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin.

Did you know?

You can watch meetings of Council online at:

horowhenua.govt.nz/councilmeetingslive

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

horowhenua.govt.nz/CommunityConnection



HAVE YOUR SAY. VOTE.

**“I vote for a cleaner environment
for our mokopuna.”**

Marama

Voting closes at 12 noon on Saturday 8 October 2022

Where are the ballot boxes?

LEVIN

HDC Civic Building (126 Oxford Street, Levin)

Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō (10 Bath Street, Levin)

Te Whare Mahana (32 Bristol Street, Levin)

Horowhenua Learning Centre (HLC) (102 Liverpool Street, Levin)

Levin New World (21 Bath Street, Levin)

Levin Pak'n Save (508 Queen Street, East, Levin)

FOXTON

Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom (92 Main Street, Foxton)

Foxton New World (Corner of Whyte Street and Main Street, Foxton)

SHANNON

Shannon Library (Plimmer Terrace, Shannon)

You can also post your voting papers in a New Zealand Post Box, however, make sure you have them in the post by Wednesday 5 October 2022 so they get back to us in time (by 12 noon on Saturday 8 October 2022).

What about special votes?

If you haven't enrolled to vote, you enrolled after 12 August 2022, your voting pack is damaged or lost, or you are on the unpublished roll you can cast a special vote.

Where can I cast a special vote?

Visit the locations below to enrol and request special voting papers. These are available from 16 September to 12 noon on 8 October 2022 at:

- HDC Civic Building – Mondays to Fridays (except Wednesdays) 9am to 5pm, Wednesdays 9.30am to 5pm*
- Shannon Library – Tuesdays from 10am to 12pm
- Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom – Thursdays from 10am to 2pm
- Te Whare Mahana – Mondays from 10am to 2pm*

**Excluding the public holiday on Monday 26 September 2022.*

If you can't come to one of the voting sites to cast a special vote, then we can send the forms to you. Email ashleymch@horowhenua.govt.nz or call 06 366 0999 and we can help.