

Community Connection

Issue 197 MAY 2024



Bernie Wanden

Message from the Mayor

Kia ora Horowhenua,

Firstly, I would like to take a moment to express my gratitude to everyone who joined in commemorating ANZAC Day at services

across our district. It's always a moving experience to see young and old come together to honour the spirit of ANZAC Day and remember the sacrifices of the service men and women of generations past. Lest we forget - Hītara waha huka.

My sincere thanks to the Defence Force for supporting our services, along with Muaūpoko Tūturū Group, Waiopēhu and Horowhenua Colleges' Head and Executive students, Horowhenua College Services Academy, the RSA, and Levin Brass Band.

And speaking of community events, wasn't the Annual Big Dutch Day Out at Te Awahou Riverside Cultural Park absolutely fantastic? It was great to be part of the opening of Dutch Week in Foxton again. This was the 14th year we celebrated Koningsdag, Kings Day in Foxton. It's events like these that highlight the vibrancy and diversity of our district. With so many visitors every year, it's clear that our community knows how to come together and celebrate in style, and in orange. A big shout out to De Molen Windmill, Foxton Trust, and Oranjehof, The Dutch Connection for pulling this fun-filled day together to celebrate our Dutch culture and community here in Horowhenua.

Now, let's talk about staying connected. Have you heard about "Catch up with Mayor Bernie"? It's an opportunity for us to have a casual chat about anything and everything - whether it's Council related matters or just a friendly catch-up. Our next session is on Friday 31 May from 10.30am to 12.30pm at Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō, with

sessions in Foxton and Shannon the following weeks. I'd love to see you there.

Council is committed to supporting meaningful community development, and we understand the crucial role that positive community wellbeing can have in growing our people and Horowhenua. I encourage you to make use of the opportunity to give your feedback on the Community Wellbeing Strategy 2024-2027, read more on page 2.

Government recently announced its plan to rescind the 2021 legislation which enabled councils to make their own decisions on whether to establish a Māori Ward. The 2021 legislation resulted in our Council establishing a Māori Ward, with two Māori Ward Councillors who have contributed to the decision-making process from a Te Ao Māori perspective. I have valued this input, which compliments the input of other Councillors, all working for the good of our district. Council is waiting on next steps from the Government which, should this legislation change proceed, will involve decisions needing to be made in August this year.

If you're someone who likes to stay up-to-date with the latest Council information, I highly recommend downloading the Antenna app. It's the fastest way to get all the updates you need, whether it's from the Council or any other important news. So go ahead, download it from Google Play or the Apple App Store. If you know someone who could benefit from it, be sure to spread the word.

Let's stay connected, whether it's at our community events, our catch-up sessions or through the wonders of technology.

Ngā mihi,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bernie Wanden".

Mayor Bernie Wanden

HOW ARE WE REALLY DOING?



Scan the QR code to complete the survey about Leadership and Reputation.

This survey should take less than two minutes to complete and we'd love to hear your thoughts.



Council Meetings

- 8 Council Public Forum**
Wednesday 8 May 2024,
12.15pm to 12.45pm
Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin
- 8 Council Meeting**
Wednesday 8 May 2024, 1pm
Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin
- 15 Risk and Assurance Committee**
Wednesday 15 May 2024, 1pm
Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin
- 22 Community Wellbeing Committee Meeting**
Wednesday 22 May 2024, 10am
Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin
- 27 Te Awahou Foxton Community Board Meeting**
Monday 27 May 2024, 6pm
Ngārongo Iwikātea Room, Te Awahou
Nieuwe Stroom, 92 Main Street, Foxton

Meeting dates and times are subject to change. Please refer to horowhenua.govt.nz/Council/Council-Meetings for the full meeting schedule, minutes and agendas.

In the Works

Mangahao Road and Shannon Water Treatment Plant

Council is currently upgrading the raw water main to the Shannon water treatment plant. Before finalising any cutovers, we're seizing the opportunity to replace the aging pipe water network within the treatment plant. This proactive approach is prompted by past bursts along the access track to the plant. Tatana Contractors have been diligently replacing these pipelines over the past few months, with the first phase completed last week. The second phase, affecting the entire Shannon area, was scheduled for the nights of 1 May 2024. Once completed, the raw water main supplying the plant will be fully upgraded.

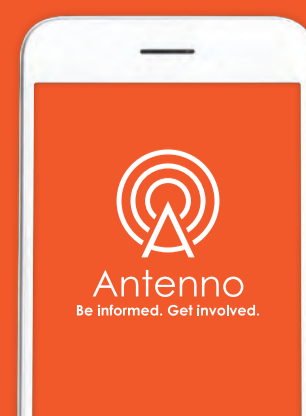
Stafford Street, Shannon

We've also recently completed replacing the final section of the old water main on Stafford Street. This particular section experienced recurring issues over the years but is now set for the next century.



Download free app Antenna to report issues, as well as receive alerts and notifications.

www.horowhenua.govt.nz/Antenna



Help us shape the Community Wellbeing Strategy



At Horowhenua District Council Community Wellbeing is at the heart of what we do.

Feeling connected to your community has a positive effect on mental health and emotional wellbeing. It gives a sense of belonging and social connectedness offering extra meaning and purpose to everyday life.

Our vision is a safe, vibrant, inclusive and connected community, and through the Community Wellbeing Strategy (CWS) 2024-27 we're setting out how we will build stronger communities in the next few years.

We've engaged with a number of community groups to hear what they think we need to focus on. Now it's your turn – do you agree with these priorities? What would you add? Have you got some great ideas? We'd love to hear from you!

Kōrero mai | Have your say

Tell us how we can build an even stronger community in Horowhenua. It's easy to share your thoughts with us:

- Take our quick polls
- Share your ideas using our ideas tool
- Fill in our online form

Feedback will close at **5pm on Sunday 12 May 2024.**



To learn more and share your views, visit:

letskorero.horowhenua.govt.nz/community-wellbeing-strategy



Housing

We need to focus on access to affordable housing.



Growth & Transport

We plan for growth, advocate for improvements and partner with agencies to deliver effective social services.



Community Connection

We create a sense of connection to Horowhenua and feeling of belonging.



Culture

We respect Te Ao Māori, value and highlight cultural diversity and celebrate vibrancy.



Community Safety

We elevate physical safety and ensure there are no barriers to community participation.



Environment and Climate Change

We protect our natural environment to enhance wellbeing.



Health & Wellbeing

We promote equal access to health services and facilities that promote wellbeing.



Sense of Place and Belonging

We have facilities, open spaces and events that enhance people's wellbeing.



Wait to water

Water your lawn only when it really needs it.

To test this, step on the grass. If it springs back up, it doesn't need watering. If it stays flat, it does.

For more water saving tips visit:

horowhenua.govt.nz/WaterSavingTips



Thursday 9 May

- Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō
- Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom
- Shannon Library

Time: 10:30am to 12:30pm



Foxton and Foxton Beach water restrictions have been lifted!

Thank for your efforts in this precious resource during the restrictions.

Water conservation Level 2 remains in place for Levin and Ōhau until further notice.

For more information visit:

horowhenua.govt.nz/WaterConservation



Don't stack glass above the top of your crate.



Keep it safe, keep it steady, and prevent hazards.

To learn more about rubbish and recycling visit:

horowhenua.govt.nz/WhatGoesWhere

Community Engagement

Friday 3 May 2024

Drop-in Session
Shannon Library
11.30am to 1pm

Monday 6 May 2024

Drop-in Session
Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom
11.30am to 1pm

Tuesday 7 May 2024

Drop-in Session
Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō
11.30am to 1pm