

# Kawerau District Library & Sir James Fletcher

#### **Key Dates**

**October Library Hours** 

Normal Library hours are:

Mon – Fri 10am – 5pm Saturday 10 am – 1 pm Sunday CLOSED

Labour Weekend Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October - CLOSED

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

# What's On

The Book Club meet:

No Book Club this month

Usually meets 10.30 am

Meets 1st Thursday each month

Lego Club: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October – 3.30 – 4.30pm Aimed at 5 – 12 year olds

Envirohub
Precious Plastic Workshop (TBC)
Let's Make Earings!
5<sup>th</sup> November
10am – 12 midday

DORA (Bus) Visit 29<sup>th</sup> October – 2 November

# **Around the Library**

It's school holiday time again and Janice and the team have put together a great program for the next two weeks. If you are looking for some fun activities for the kids, then come on in. Weather permitting, there is an outdoor painting and outdoor games session on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October in collaboration with Sport BOP. You can find the 2 week holiday program on the last page of the newsletter.

There's a new exhibition going into the foyer over the next couple of weeks. Damian, Shaun and the Museum team have been sorting and sifting to bring you more Kawerau history. If you haven't been on The Library and Museum Facebook page, make sure you take some time to have a look. The team have also been sharing some fabulous photos of events and people online. Can you recognise anyone? Plus, this month's Museum page in here, features the Kawerau Powerboat Club of the 70'3 and 80's on Lake Pupuwharau – it's a great read.

DORA (Digital On-Road Access) bus is coming back to Kawerau Library the week after Labour Weekend. The bus will be parked out the front of the Library from October  $29^{th} - 2^{nd}$  November. There is more information on the last page and keep an eye out for times and days where specific groups can join us, plus the times where anyone can join us.

Another exciting collaboration is coming up with Envirohub Bay of Plenty. We are workshopping the wonders of recycled plastics and their new Precious Plastic initiative – solutions for Single Use Plastics. This is part of a global, open-source enterprise comprising a range of innovative machines for small-scale plastic recycling. We hope to have more than one workshop to showcase how our recycling efforts can be part of the solution and not add to the problem.

Lastly, we are now into Daylight Saving time and our evenings are getting brighter. This means the kids are outside playing or looking for new activities to participate in. Make sure you pop into the Library to find all the new books aimed at activities for kids, plus all the fabulous new books they can read – or you can read to them. We've got you covered for art, recycling/upcycling, making trolleys, decorating bedrooms, making the best blanket fort ever, or planting seeds for the summer garden.

Keep an eye out for new small events popping up to start your journey towards Christmas. Let's have some fun sharing ideas for getting into the Christmas spirit and making this Christmas special.

# **Museum News**

# **Unearthing Kawerau's Hidden Powerboat Legacy: A Journey** from Childhood Scepticism to Historical Exhibition

As a child growing up in Kawerau, I often heard my parents reminisce about the thrilling jet boat races that once drew hundreds of spectators to Lake Pupuwharau. These tales seemed as fantastical as Santa Claus – entertaining, but surely exaggerated. Little did I know that years later, I'd be the one bringing these stories to life for a new generation.

In my teens, Lake Pupuwharau was a far cry from the bustling hub of activity my parents described. My friends and I would explore the overgrown area, finding it more suitable for dirt biking and teenage hijinks than any sort of organized water sports. The lake, when not disturbed by our youthful antics, was undeniably beautiful beneath the watchful gaze of Putauaki. Yet, I remained sceptical about its supposed powerboating past.

Fast forward to my role at the Museum, where a single photograph changed everything. Speedboats line the banks of Pupuwharau, surrounded by parked cars and eager spectators. It was refutable proof that my parents' stories weren't nostalgia-fueled exaggerations.

Inspired by this discovery, I embarked on a mission to find out more about this forgotten chapter of Kawerau's history. The museum's records yielded some information, but I quickly realized I needed to cast a wider net. I delved into Ken Moore's book *Kawerau: Its History and Background* and scoured old newspapers for mentions of the powerboat club. The internet provided scientific papers about the lake and a brief history prepared for the Whakatane District Council. Even with these resources, I felt I was only scratching the surface.

A breakthrough came when I turned to social media, posting a plea for information on the Museum's Facebook page. This led me to Leo Meharry, a former club president, whose firsthand accounts and personal photographs proved invaluable. Through conversations with Leo, the vibrant history of the Kawerau Powerboat Club began to take shape.

Armed with this wealth of information, we set out to create a mini exhibition in the library foyer. The centerpiece is an enlarged historic photograph that brings Kawerau's powerboating past to life, accompanied by a carefully crafted 200-word text that distils decades of history.

Just days after installation, I received an excited call from my mother, urging me to check out the 'big picture of the lake with the speedboats' in the library, as evidence of the stories she had told me, and which I hadn't believed. The irony wasn't lost on me.

This project has been a reminder of how easily local history can slip away if not preserved and shared. It's also a testament to the power of community memory and the importance of bridging generational gaps. What started as childhood scepticism has blossomed into a celebration of Kawerau's vibrant past, inviting residents both old and new to connect with a piece of our town's forgotten legacy.

#### -Shaun Dredge.



DSC00693: Coventery on the shore of Pupuwharau – Image courtesy of Leo Meharry



2018.58(1): Lake Pupuwharau (Kawerau) - Speed Boats



2017.5.19: Queen Carnival - Float Parade, Speed Boat Club

# **October Featured Titles**



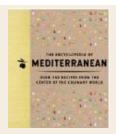
Author: Keeble, Michaela

The book is born from the experience of growing up in a strong Māori whanau in a country and wider world that offers a conflicting version of what is right and of value. Paku Manu Ariki is trying to understand his role in his family, community and the larger world. His preoccupation is who is the boss-- his nanna at the marae, his older siblings, or any number of atua? His steadfast dad, his Pakeha mum, the "leader of the free world", or Paku Manu Ariki himself?



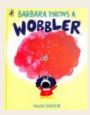
**Author:** Smith, Alison Victoria

Covers everything from choosing patterns and fabrics, to fitting and construction, including techniques that can be applied to both womens and menswear. Discover everything you need to know to tailor garments - from selecting the right tools, to creating a toile, and picking the perfect hand stitch. Through 10 detailed garment projects, including shirts, jackets, coats, and trousers, you'll master the techniques of tailoring, with step-by-step instructions.



Author: Coastal Kitchen, issuing body

Whether you're a seasoned home cook or just starting your culinary adventure, this book equips you with everything you need to prepare authentic Mediterranean dishes right in your own kitchen. From crowdpleasing tapas and meze to hearty mains and delectable desserts, these dishes showcase the Mediterranean's signature ingredients like fresh produce, nourishing grains, aromatic herbs and spices, and of course, plenty of olive oil. 350 recipes for soups, salads, entrees, desserts, and more Stunning full-color photography. Tips and techniques that help you extract maximum flavor from each ingredient. cookbook isn't just a celebration of Mediterranean cuisine, but of the Mediterranean lifestyle, which balance, emphasizes variety, and enjoyment in eating. Savor the flavors of the Mediterranean, one delicious dish at a



Author: Kerss, Tom

Barbara is having one of those days. First she has a sock problem, and then there's a strange pea... All of a sudden, her Wobbler is out of control! What can Barbara do on a day like today? Barbara has a lot to learn about the ways of wobblers in this badmood-banishing story.



Author: Peecher, Robert

If you love gritty gunslinging Westerns, damsels who cause distress, and High Plains lawlessness, then throw a rope on your best saddle horse, pack an extra box of shells, and let's ride together to Beer City. But you'd best make certain you got six beans in the can on that lead pusher, because the bandidos and the gamblers and even the working gals are coming loaded for trouble in No Man's Land.



Author: Shaw, Tina

Maxine has been losing things lately. Her car in the shopping centre carpark. Important work files-and her job as a result. Her marbles? 'Mild cognitive impairment', according to the doctor. Time for a nursing home, according to her daughter, Rose. Rose has her own troubles with memory- a recurring vision of a locked cupboard, claustrophobic panic. Something in the shadows. Something to do with the old family house in Kutarere. Back in that house by the beach, Maxine and Rose try to find their bearings. But they can't move forward without dealing with the past-and the past has a few more surprises in store.



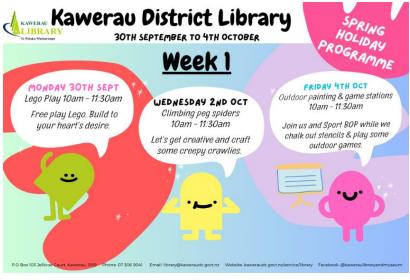
Inspire kids to put down their screens and get crafting with this family-friendly, photo-illustrated guide packed with projects and techniques. Adapted from Kids' Ultimate Craft Book from the Editors of Quarry Books, Super Fun Crafts for Kids gives you everything you need to help kids get started with these easy and exciting crafts: beading, braiding and knotting, crochet, knitting, and sewing. Dozens of full-color photos make learning easy for kids and adults alike.

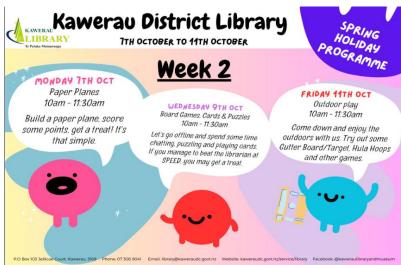
# final thoughts...

The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today. – H. Jackson Brown. Jr.

# School Holiday Program

For the next two weeks the team will be entertaining and sharing ideas for the school holiday program. Check out the activities on offer below.





# Join the Holday FUN!

### **DORA**

**DORA** is coming to the Kawerau District Library!

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October to Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

**DORA** (Digital On-Road Access), set up in 2012, is a 33-year-old school bus that has been converted into a high-tech digital learning centre. DORA can take up to 15 people on board at one time for computer and internet training. The bus is equipped with technology and internet connectivity. It is a completely self-contained digital classroom.

This year **DORA** is helping support people to understand the benefits of having access to their health records online. With the challenges our health system is facing currently, we can help ourselves by using these online platforms.



We are also inviting local organisations to come and share the space with us. There are many helpful apps relating to diet, exercise, mental health or emotional health and even games to keep our brains active.

Whether you want to access more online help or learn how to join a Facebook group, pop along and join us aboard **DORA**.

**Contact:** Sue Gould on 07 306 9041 or email, sue.gould@kaweraudc.govt.nz

#### Check out the library eDatabases











