



**Creating safe, resilient and connected communities.**

## WHAKATANE DISTRICT NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT JULY 2025 NEWSLETTER

*Neighbourhood Support is a nationwide community-led movement that brings people and neighbourhoods together to create safe, resilient and connected communities. We work alongside NZ Police and other partners to equip neighbourhoods to improve safety, be prepared for emergencies and support one another so that our communities are great places in which to live.*

*To learn more about creating safer, more caring and connected streets in our town, contact area coordinators Jane 0272551351 or Nancy 027 2551350 or email [whakatanens@xtra.co.nz](mailto:whakatanens@xtra.co.nz)*



## Coffee with a Cop

On a sunny morning in June, our Whakatane community came together for a warm and engaging “Coffee with a cop” – an annual initiative organised by Whakatane Neighbourhood Support and proudly supported by Whakatane Police and Robert Harris cafe.

With 45 Free coffees generously provided by the cafe around 50 community members dropped in for casual Korero and connection with 10 police officers across the region. The event drew a diverse range of police personal including the Eastern BOP Area Commander, community constables, a youth aid officer, a family harm officer and three enthusiastic new recruits – bringing a wealth of experience, insight and openness to the table.

The relaxed setting allowed for genuine conversations, laughter and positive engagement – strengthening trust and relationships between police and the people they serve. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, highlighting the power of shared spaces and small moments to create safer, more connected communities.

Following the success of this event, a second Coffee with a Cop in Edgecumbe is already scheduled for July, 2025 – part of our ongoing commitment to collaboration, visibility, and whanaungatanga. Together, we are building stronger, safer communities – one cup of coffee at a time!

To see what we get up to Follow our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/WhakataneNS/>

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## How does Neighbourhood support work?

Its really quite simple. We assist Neighbours to form small street groups of households known as a Neighbourhood Support street group. The group shares contact details among its members so that contact can be made in an emergency or as the need arises. The purpose of the street group is to connect neighbours, encourage them to get to know one another, share contact information, and minimise burglaries and car crime in the area. The group also shares information that will help reduce the risk and fear of crime and support each other. Area coordinators Jane and Nancy can be contacted on [email above](#).



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## Learn Basic CPR for Free

We have held 3 sessions so far this year with Awanuiarangi Road and Edgecumbe Lions Club.

3 Steps for Life:

- Learn Basic CPR for FREE
- Find out how to locate and use AED
- Hands on Learning with Ivan Judd St John's educator



FREE 60 minute sessions which are also suitable for young people 12-13 and up. The session is hands on and you'll learn all about what to do in an emergency, how to do lifesaving CPR and how to find and use an AED.

Many of our young people may spend time staying with grandparents, family or out and about with friends - or they may be the only other person around if the unthinkable were to happen to a parent or sibling at home. It's so important for them to learn exactly what steps to take in an emergency. We are wanting to hold more sessions so if you are interested in this please contact Jane



## Smoke Alarm Fire safety Campaign

Whakatane Neighbourhood Support is very proud to be working with Fire and Emergency New Zealand to offer free Home Fire Safety advice visits to households in our community. Get a free home safety check from our local trained very experienced friendly team from Whakatane Fire and Emergency. They are offering advice to help keep you and your home safe from fire and other hazards.

A home safety visit also includes checking smoke alarms and providing advice on where they should be installed and how they should be maintained. Each household will receive at least one FREE smoke alarm. To ensure everyone in the house gets the earliest possible warning, they recommend installing a smoke alarm in every bedroom, hallway and living area.

In late 2021, a fire tore through areas of the Williams family home, taking everything in its path. The blaze started because their heater was too close to a clothing rack in the living room. The family escaped before the heat and smoke became unsurvivable, thanks to a smoke alarm in their lounge.

A functioning smoke alarm may not save your belongings, but it could save your LIFE! If you are wanting to get a check done please contact Jane or Nancy.



## Kawerau Neighbourhood Support

Earlier this year, Kawerau Neighbourhood support was reestablished with a new committee and Lyndal Kennedy employed as the new Neighbourhood Support Kawerau Area coordinator.



### **Meet Lyndal Kennedy – A True Champion for Kawerau**

Born and raised in Kawerau, Lyndal is deeply passionate about her hometown and is committed to giving back to the community she loves. A dedicated volunteer, she generously contributes her time and energy to a wide range of initiatives – most recently with Land Search and Rescue (LandSAR).

Lyndal also volunteers with the Kawerau Rotary Group, Bay of Plenty Conservation Board, Onepu Community Park, and Rotorua Botanical Society. She previously served as Chair of the Edgecumbe College Board of Trustees and continues to be actively involved in various local causes.

Since joining Neighbourhood Support, Lyndal has already helped sign up 50 new members – a fantastic start to building a safer, stronger, and more connected community. Her energy and passion are key to the

revitalisation of Kawerau Neighbourhood Support, which encourages residents to strengthen neighbourhood bonds and build resilience together.

**Want to get involved or learn more?**

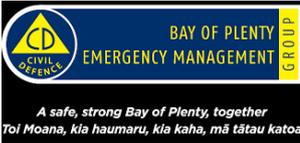
Contact Lyndal at: [nskawerau1@gmail.com](mailto:nskawerau1@gmail.com)

Or pop into the Kea Building and say hello – she's there **Tuesday to Friday**.

# Thankyou

Whakatane District Neighbourhood Support would like to acknowledge and sincerely thank our partners FENZ, NZ Police, BOP Emergency Management, NSNZ.

and funders for their generous continued support, also our appreciation to the Beacon and 1xx for their support and promotion of us.

 <p><b>BAY OF PLENTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT GROUP</b> <i>A safe, strong Bay of Plenty, together Toi Moana, kia haumarū, kia kaha, mā tātau katoa</i></p>	 <p><i>New Zealand</i> <b>POLICE</b> <i>Nga Pirihimana o Aotearoa</i></p>	 <p><b>FIRE EMERGENCY</b></p>	 <p><b>Lottery Grants Board</b> Te Puna Tahua LOTTO FUNDS FOR YOUR COMMUNITY</p>
 <p><b>BayTrust</b> Supporting Great Communities</p>	 <p><b>Pub Charity</b> THE HEART OF COMMUNITY FUNDING</p>	 <p><b>grassroots</b> trust</p>	 <p><b>AOTEAROA GAMING TRUST</b></p>
 <p><b>WHAKATĀNE - ŌHOPE Community Board</b></p>	 <p><b>WHAKATĀNE</b> District Council <i>Kia Whakatāne au i ahau</i></p>	 <p><b>ONE DOUBLE X</b></p>	 <p><b>B</b></p>

Nga mihi mahana - Whakatane District Neighbourhood Support team.