3rd July 2024

Website: www.tairuaadvertiser.nz Phone/Fax: 864 8170 Email: tairua.advertiser@xtra.co.nz

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Hazard app closure, stay informed

For nearly a decade the NZ Red Cross Hazard App has been available to the public. Designed to support communities before, during, and after disasters, a key function of the app was to issue hazard alerts. Over the time the Hazard App has been available, alerting the public to hazards has been developed at a national level and people now have a variety of ways to stay informed during emergencies. As a result, Red Cross decided to close down the Hazard App, effective now.

Hazard App users received notifications in June to help them access other services. The Red Cross website

also lists a range of ways to stay informed during emergencies.

App user or not, it is timely for all of us to be reminded to be aware of the natural disasters we may face here in New Zealand. We should aim to be familiar with, and recognise, natural warning signs and take appropriate action. Waiting to get an alert before acting is not wise. If you feel your life is in danger, don't wait for an official warning, take immediate

We live in an area that, if an earthquake occurred, a resulting tsunami could have a devastating effect. So, if you feel an earthquake that makes it hard to stand or lasts more than a minute: Drop, Cover and Hold during the shaking. When safe, walk, run or cycle immediately to the nearest high ground or as far inland as you can.

Two apps that Red Cross recommend are GeoNet which provides earthquake data, alerts, and status, and MetService NZ, which gives updates for extreme weather events. For Peninsula wide information and updates, TCDC's website is good.

In times of large-scale emergency, the National **Emergency Management** Agency (NEMA) and Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) can send Emergency Mobile Alerts via the mobile networks and these are transmitted to phones that are capable of receiving them. Sadly, not all mobile phones can do this. If in doubt about yours, check with your telco.

Despite the Red Cross app being axed, Red Cross says that it isn't giving up on us. It will still be supporting communities when they need it most through: their Disaster Welfare and Support Teams who are on the ground after disasters providing shelter, support, and relief; their Good and Ready programme which helps build readiness for, and resilience to emergencies and disasters; and Psychological First Aid courses that help communities be better able to meet emotional and practical needs after distressing events like floods or earthquakes.

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'Ello, 'ello, 'ello A word from our local constabulary

Kia Ora Koutou

I hope you all enjoyed reading a bit about the Tairua Policing history that I wrote about in my last report. I believe it is important to acknowledge the history and I enjoyed listening to some of the stories from previous officers during my research, unfortunately some not suitable for publishing. The focus was around the station and tied house history. I would have liked to have spoken about each officer who had been posted here but that would make for a novel. In short, since 1983, twelve Police officers have been stationed in Tairua/Pauanui. I was the tenth

An incident in May saw a local Tairua resident seriously injured by two dogs. TCDC are fronting the investigation and are the lead agency for this matter therefore we are unable to make any further comment on this.

An alcohol-fuelled disorder in Pauanui caused some to wake with sore heads the following day, particularly afew innocent bystanders who stepped in to stop the fighting and ended up being assaulted. Three vehicles were damaged in the chaos and the matter has been referred to our youth aid team after the young offenders were identified. A common trend here is the lack of parental supervision when young persons are out, consuming alcohol and still learning about consequences.

A couple living in a caravan in Pauanui has generated some publicity about recent events. We have spoken to them about various matters and have also offered support where it is needed. Facebook is a useful tool for information sharing and

community notices however it can also cause unnecessary anxiety for many residents who don't need to be concerned. Please ensure to report any suspected offences directly to Police and talk to your local neighbourhood support coordinator if you are sharing or requesting information.

Do you know anyone who has lost a sum of money near the Four Square in Tairua? If so, please get in touch, tell us the amount and what was written on the envelope, to be reunited with your hard-earned cash.

A few drink drivers caught over the limit this last month have been very similar with their excuses so I would like to clarify the obvious. If you are just going around the corner, then walk. If it was 'just a couple' think again. If you feel you are being targeted because you left a licensed establishment, you are correct. The old phrase 'You should be spending your time catching the real criminals' seems to sit well with those who lack accountability. It is all our responsibility to keep our roads safe and we will continue to check drivers for alcohol, simple.

It's been great to see the Tairua skatepark pumping with kids. I can personally comment that, overall, it has been a great culture and atmosphere down there. Some concerns were passed on about kids scootering home along Hornsea Road in the dark. Please ensure kids use the footpaths or sufficient lighting if on the roads.

Stay Safe, Nga mihi Dylan Tairua Police

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Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause while we are completing our channel works.

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