



# Arapuni Village

## COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

### Arapuni Whānau

Welcome to the latest edition of the AVCA Newsletter, where we share stories of community spirit, initiatives, and updates from our wonderful village.

### Get Involved

Your ideas, suggestions, and participation make a significant impact on the success of our community projects. Whether it's the Sharing Shed or Book Libraries, your voice matters. Joining AVCA is your gateway to contributing to the growth and well-being of Arapuni. You'll have the opportunity to participate in community initiatives, events, and decision-making. Become a member and tell us what you'd like to see happen. There is a small annual fee of \$10 per person. Contact AVCA for a membership form.

### Stay Connected

Join our Arapuni Village Grapevine on Facebook for real-time updates, discussions, and community bonding. Together, let's continue making Arapuni a thriving and close-knit community.



## Win for Slow

Wonderful news! The Council has adopted a new Speed Management Plan (SMP) in support of government's and Waka Kotahi's national road safety strategy "Road to Zero". Arapuni Village has been added to the SMP.

Robert Cathie, Road Safety Coordinator SWDC, has confirmed the 50km/h zone will extend at the Putaruru end and stay the same at the dam end and that the 80km/h zone will be extended at both ends of the village.

This includes installing a permanent 80km/h speed limit on the following sections of road:

- Arapuni Rd from Horahora Rd to 135m north of Powerhouse Rd.
- Arapuni Rd from 320m south of Coates Rd (existing 50km/h threshold) to the boundary with Waipa District Council
- Johnson Rd from Arapuni Rd to the end.

A permanent 50km/h speed limit will be installed on Arapuni Rd from 135m north to 335m south of Powerhouse Rd.



## Market Day

Mark your calendars for a bustling Arapuni Village Market on Saturday, 2nd March, 9am-2pm. The market promises a delightful array of stalls featuring everything from delicious food to beautiful plants, crafts, clothing, toys, and gorgeous jewellery. This is an excellent opportunity to explore and support local talents and businesses. Contact Christy at [arapunimarket@gmail.com](mailto:arapunimarket@gmail.com)

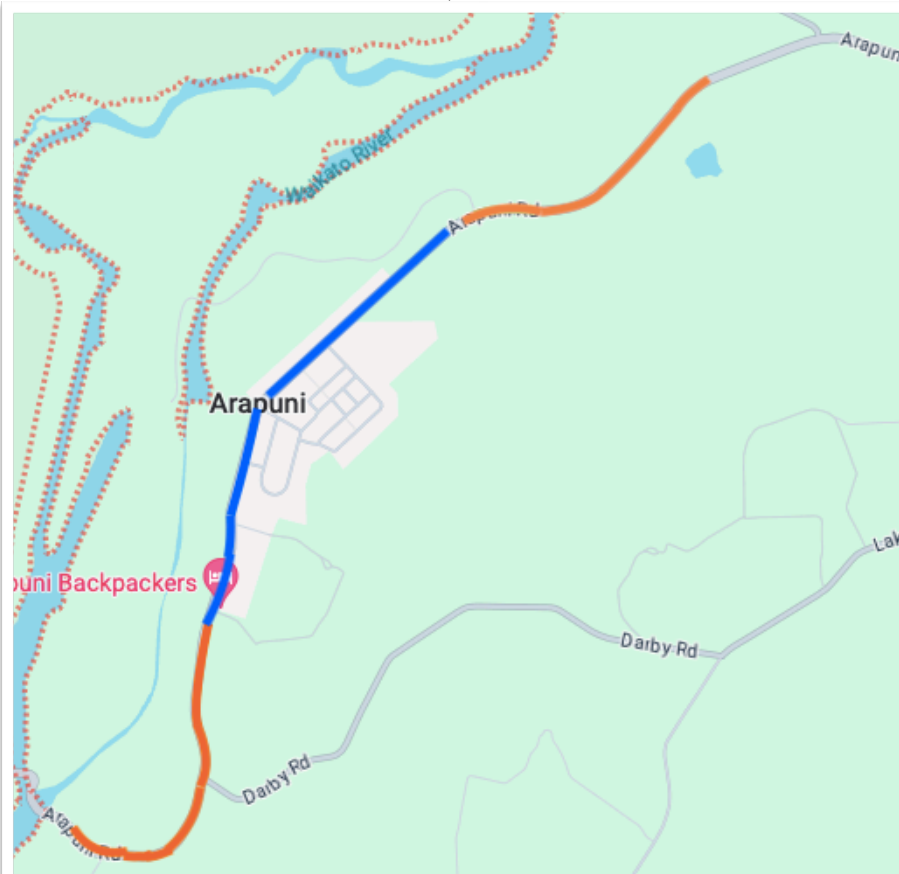
The SWDC is working with Waipa District Council who are currently in the early stages of their Speed Management Plan and are looking at having their side of the dam on Arapuni Rd reduced to 80km/h, if this happens we would link up so that from the Waipa side of the dam it would be 80km/h through to the 50km/h zone at the village.

SWDC can't give an exact date for the physical change as it cannot be completed until sign off, but Arapuni Village and Horahora Rd are at the top of the priority list.

Well done to everyone who submitted a proposal and attended the meetings and thanks to AVCA members past and present for keeping up the kōrero with Council.

## *Arapuni the Plan*

There was a good turn out of villagers to the Council presentation seeking feedback on the draft Arapuni Concept Plan. Council representatives were checking that the plan priorities were still relevant to the community. There was strong support for addressing traffic concerns and surprisingly we got a win here.



Indication of where the new speed zones will be installed. Orange indicates the 80km/h zone and blue the 50km/h zone.



## Fibre is Coming

The Arapuni Concept plan identified digital connectivity (or lack of) as significant frustration for residents.

There's progress here too with Chorus announcing that it is extending its fibre optic cable network to Arapuni, bringing faster, more stable broadband to our village. This significant development provides an alternative to wireless broadband, utilising light to transmit data, fibre optics ensures quicker speeds and minimal data loss.

The first phase of Chorus' fibre network expansion is targeting communities close to their existing network, enabling an efficient and rapid rollout. The fibre build programme is already underway and is anticipated to be completed by mid-2025.

The scheduled date to build fibre in Arapuni is late January 2025. This is only an estimated time frame and may change depending on Chorus' build schedule.

This upgrade is a big step forward in keeping Arapuni at the forefront of modern, high-speed connectivity.

The Council approach is district wide and they will not be replicating services in each centre. They heard that digital connectivity and village tidiness is still a concern. They also offered to facilitate discussions with Mercury Energy around the poor state of the driveway to the swing bridge used by visitors. Their intention is to take the feedback from the meeting and update the Concept Plan and recirculate it.

## Love a Good Book

Our village book libraries have been a cherished resource, providing literary delights to all. However, a recent concern was raised about books being taken for resale. After careful consideration, AVCA acknowledges that policing this issue isn't feasible. Instead, our focus is on maintaining the service.

To ensure our book libraries remain vibrant and inviting, AVCA has identified the need for repairing and repainting the library boxes. Additionally, we aim to enhance the quality of books available by removing any that may have seen better.

We're connecting with the kind hosts of our libraries to organise an inside and out spruce up. Let's work together to preserve and enhance this wonderful community resource. If you're able to help, let us know.

## Website Whoopsie

We have a small hiccup to share regarding the AVCA website. Regrettably, we forgot to renew the domain name, leading to the unavailability of our previous site. However, we're excited to announce our new online home at [arapunivillage.nz](http://arapunivillage.nz).

This streamlined site contains the key information you need about the Arapuni Village Community Association. The decision to transition to this domain was made with the intention of simplifying maintenance and ensuring easy access.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Mark Oliver Brawn for his past work on the original site and appreciate his assistance in transitioning to the new site.

Our website, along with this newsletter and the Arapuni Village Grapevine on Facebook, remains a vital communication stream to keep our community connected and informed.

[arapunivillage.nz](http://arapunivillage.nz)

**IN AN EMERGENCY  
STAY SAFE  
STAY INFORMED**

### Contact AVCA

#### Committee members

Anthony De Reus  
Dean Gittings  
Nicki De Reus  
Karleen Dove  
Hamish Stevens  
Rosie Cahalane.

- ♦ arapunivillage@gmail.com
- ♦ Facebook: Arapuni Village Grapevine
- ♦ arapunivillage.nz
- ♦ Hall suggestion box

Thank you for being a part of the Arapuni Village Community Association. Your involvement and enthusiasm make our village a better place for all.



## Stay Safe

In our commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of our community, we have established a Civil Defence register that maintains everyone's contact details in case of emergencies. This register plays a vital role in keeping everyone connected and informed during unforeseen circumstances. We encourage each of you to ensure your contact details are up-to-date.

If you're new to the village, reach out to Kathleen Edwards, and she will gladly add you to the register. Additionally, if there are any changes in your household, please let Kathleen know to keep our records accurate. Being well-prepared is a collective effort, and together we can look after one another.

Kathleen can be contacted by dropping a message in her letterbox, 2 Garrison St or text 021-2077-519 or email AVCA and we will pass on your information.

## Food for Thought

Zucchini anyone? A buzz of excitement surrounds the proposal to establish a Sharing Shed or Pātaka Kai in Arapuni. This communal food bank aims to foster a culture of sharing and supporting one another. You might have spotted these Pātaka Kai in other neighbourhoods where surplus fruit and vege can find an appreciative home. The proposal covers construction and location considerations for the shed and maintenance of its contents.

Are you interested in this fantastic idea and would you like to contribute to making this happen? If you are, get in touch. Share your thoughts with us on how to make this work, and let's cultivate a stronger sense of community together.



Cambridge Pātaka Kai