



Kāpuia Pānui 2022/08

Tēnā koutou and welcome to the eighth edition of Kāpuia Pānui for 2022.

Other information

1. Tauranga mosque burglary and arson

Police and Muslim leaders met in Tauranga this week after a mosque in the city was burgled. A car was also set alight just outside the mosque on the same night as the burglary. Police are investigating and have been asked by Muslim leaders to provide support to Muslim communities ahead of the Eid Festival this weekend.

2. March 15 Bravery Awards

Nine people who risked their lives in acts of great bravery during the Christchurch terror attacks were recognised at a special ceremony conducted by the Governor-General Dame Cindy Kiro at the Christchurch Town Hall on 5 July.

Dr Naeem Rashid died challenging the terrorist at the Al Noor Mosque, allowing others to flee. He was awarded the New Zealand Cross, along with Abdul Aziz, who chased the gunman away from the Linwood Islamic Centre. Dr Rashid's award was accepted by his family.

Senior constables Scott Carmody and Jim Manning received the New Zealand Bravery Decoration for their exceptional courage in arresting the terrorist.

Liam Beale was awarded the New Zealand Bravery Decoration for stopping to help the injured after hearing gunshots when he was driving past Al Noor Mosque.

Lance Bradford, Wayne Maley, Mike Robinson and Mark Miller, who was killed in a crash near Cromwell earlier this year, received the New Zealand Bravery Medal for their efforts helping the victims.

3. First anniversary of the Ministry for Ethnic Communities

The Minister for Diversity, Inclusion and Ethnic Communities Priyanca Radhakrishnan put out a press release on 6 July to mark the first anniversary of the Ministry for Ethnic Communities. In the release she notes the importance of the Ministry having a Chief Executive whose sole focus is representing the concerns and aspirations of ethnic communities at the top table of the public service. She also noted the Ethnic Graduate Programme to enhance diversity in the public service, and her commitment to improving diversity across state sector boards. In the year to date, the Ethnic Communities Development Fund administered by the Ministry disbursed \$4.2 million in support of 310 community projects and initiatives to celebrate different cultures and strengthen social cohesion. You can read the Minister's full press release by clicking this [link](#).

In the community

4. Dates of significance

- 9-13 July: Eid-al Adha (Islam) marks the culmination of the hajj and is distinguished by communal prayer (ṣalāt) at daybreak on its first day.
- 13 July Asalha Puja (Buddhism) celebrates the very first teachings from Buddha.

Kia pai tō koutou rā whakatā. Noho ora mai,

The Kāpuia Secretariat