



# Reopening of Karori Youth Centre

The Karori Community Centre management committee has approved the reopening of the Karori Youth Centre (behind the Mobil Gas Station in Karori Road opposite the Mall) as a youth drop-in facility between 3pm and 6pm on Mondays and Wednesdays and 3pm and 8pm on Fridays commencing on a date to be determined in January 2015 and, in the meantime, between 4pm and 7pm on Friday 12 December and Thursday 18 December this year. The drop-in facility, at its discretion, will offer young people (under 21 years of age) a helping hand, a sympathetic ear, light refreshments, and selected recreational activities. Prospective attendees need only turn up and introduce themselves to designated supervisors drawn from a mature and experienced leadership group (under the overall authority of the management committee) personally selected and chaired by committee member Barry Lovegrove the first Youth Advocate appointed under the new Children Young Persons and Their Families Act in 1989 and who went on to represent hundreds of young people in the Youth Court (and many more in civil jurisdiction) and inspired a number of innovations in the youth justice system in the Far North before his appointments as a District Court Judge in 1995 and a Panel Convenor of the New Zealand Parole Board in 2002 - positions which he relinquished on his retirement last year. He has also worked for the International Labour Office in Geneva, holds a Masters Degree in Politics from Reading University (UK), taught law in African and Asian universities, and is currently President of the Karori Lions Club and a committee member of the newly formed Karori Association with responsibility for Youth, Education and Cultural Integration.

When rooms in the Karori Youth Centre are not in use as a drop-in facility or for other youth-related purposes, they will be available for hire in the normal way with all income falling into general revenue.

In other respects, the Karori Youth Centre will continue its 17 year sponsorship of the Annual Karori Youth Awards and, consistent with its 22 years of uniquely tailored services on behalf of young people in Karori, expand its functions as needs, means, and circumstances permit.

8 December 2014

