

Lay of the land preserved



• Archivist Ross Harrison Snow

Painstaking efforts to preserve the thousands of maps that document our district have recently been made that much easier. A new plan cabinet is the latest addition to a long-term project to streamline the Wairoa District Council archives.

Professional archivist Ross Harrison Snow said the cabinet was an important element in ensuring maps dating as far back as the 1880s

would be kept in optimum conditions for survival. "Some of these earlier maps could crumble if mishandled, but we still want them to be accessible. People often request to see certain maps, so with this specialised filing system, they can do so easily," he said.

Once maps are unfolded, they are flattened with a bone tool, pressed, then numbered and filed in the cabinet. The entire process takes many weeks,

requiring great patience. "Our aim is to end up with a database where people can type in a search term and be directed straight to the map they require," he said. In addition to maps, records contained in the archives include documents dating back to 1877.

To find out more about the archives, get in touch with WDC Administration Manager James Baty at (06) 838 7309.

Show you care by voting now

Voting papers are out and it's time to decide who will represent your interests in the district via the 2013 Local Government Election.

Each paper lists candidates for the Mayoralty and six Council seats, alongside candidates for the Hawke's Bay Regional Council's Wairoa constituency and the Hawke's Bay District Health Board.

Electoral Officer James Baty said everyone on the electoral roll should receive a voting paper and it was important to fill it in and return it before the cut-off date of 12 noon on Saturday, October 12.

"These elections only happen every three years, so we encourage people to take a stake in their community and use their vote," he said.

Returned voting papers will be kept in a secure location until the final counting day on October 12.

"The process is strictly monitored, with all votes being scrutinised by at least two people during the final count. It is very labour intensive, but necessary for such a serious undertaking."

Anyone who has not received a voting paper should contact Mr Baty at Wairoa District Council on 838 7309.

Local Elections 2013

**YOUR VOTE
YOUR COMMUNITY**

FOR YOUR DIARY

COUNCIL MEETINGS

- 22 October 2013 (inaugural meeting)
- 12 November 2013
- 10 December 2013
- 11 February 2014
- 11 March 2014

COUNCIL FORUM

- 26 November 2013
- 25 February 2014
- 25 March 2014

MAORI STANDING COMMITTEE

- 24 October 2013*
 - 29 November 2013
- *Meeting held on a marae

Meetings and Forums are held at the Queen Street office council chambers, and are open to the public unless otherwise specified.



CONTACT US

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Future of our council

The Local Government Commission were in town recently to update the public and field questions about the future organisation of governance in our area.

Central Government have indicated that changes are set to take place in the way Local Government is organised. This could mean changes in representation, responsibilities and how Councils currently operate.

A group called 'A Better Hawke's Bay' have put forward an application to the Local Government Commission (LGC) for the Central Hawke's Bay District Council, the Hastings District Council, the Napier City Council, the Wairoa District Council and the Hawke's Bay Regional Council to be united into one body - a unitary authority. Some eastern areas of the Rangitikei and Taupo Districts located in the Hawke's Bay region are also affected.

The LGC called for alternatives, and received 19 responses, including one from Wairoa District Council.

Now, the LGC is working through a process to develop recommendations on what changes, if any, will take place in how local government is organised here.

WDC aims to keep everyone updated with new information as it comes to hand.

This information can be found at www.wairoadc.govt.nz under 'Your Council', and on the Commission's website - www.lgc.govt.nz.

WHEN WILL WE KNOW?

The Local Government Commission are currently working through all the proposals put forward for reorganisation to determine what changes, if any, it should recommend.

There are many factors involved in this process, but the basic timeline is as follows:

Late Oct-Dec - If the LGC decides to release a draft proposal, it will be after elections, but before Christmas.

Feb-Mar - Hearings will be held throughout this period.

June-July - A final plan will be released

If the public vote to adopt the new proposal, a transition committee will be set up to ensure that the new arrangement can be in place by early 2015.



← YOUR SPOT

The town resounded with the sound of stamping feet, swinging piupiu and strong voices during the annual district schools' Kapa Haka Festival, hosted by St Joseph's Primary School. The event provided the perfect opportunity for small communities to come together and enjoy the talents of their tamariki.

If you have a photo or artwork that reflects the Wairoa community, we'd love to print it. Email tamsyn@wairoadc.govt.nz or post to PO Box 54, Wairoa 4160

↓ TE REO Whakataukī/ Proverb

Ka honorē ana tātou te wā a mua, ka whakamanawa te wā o nāianei, kia whakatakoto ai te tūāpapa mā ngā uri e whai ake nei

When we honour the past, we celebrate the present, in which to lay the foundation for our generation to follow

Wairoa District Council supports the goal of becoming an official bi-lingual district by 2040.

Top quality H₂O for Tuai



• New tanks go in as part of the Tuai water treatment upgrade.

Crystal clear drinking water at the turn of a tap is now a reality for Tuai residents hooked up to the water reticulation system. Days of boiling water to make it drinkable are a thing of the past thanks to a new plant featuring microfiltration and UV treatment that obliterates everything from campylobacter to e-coli. The initiative to smarten up the Tuai drinking water system was driven by a nationwide Ministry of Health push to make sure all communities have access to healthy, potable water from the tap. WDC Water Treatment Plant Manager Morgan Goldsmith said regular testing of the Tuai reticulation revealed it contained unacceptable levels of contamination, making it a priority case for improvement.

“We had a situation where health was at risk, particularly for the young and elderly. In contrast, we now have a system where even if the spring becomes contaminated, the plant is

robust enough to filter the water to safe standards. This is a major win for the community,” he said. The Ministry of Health came on board with the majority of the funding for

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“This is a situation where we’ve dealt not only with the present needs, but also put in place infrastructure that will last well into the future.”

MORGAN GOLDSMITH

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 the \$290,000 project, with the rest paid for by the Tuai reserve fund. Mr Goldsmith was instrumental in the design of the plant, which taps into the Waimako spring. “This spring was chosen, in consultation with landowners, as the water is

generally of a good quality and is easily accessible.” Once drawn into the plant, water is pushed through at a rate of 4.6 litres per second, and is available to the 52 properties connected to the system, including the local school.

The plant has been designed to increase in capacity should the need arise, and even has the potential to extend if required in years to come. “This is a situation where we’ve dealt not only with present needs, but also put in place infrastructure that will last well into the future,” Mr Goldsmith said. Engineering Manager Jamie Cox said the project was an example of how the WDC and Ministry of Health can work together, along with the community, to come up with a positive solution to a serious problem.

“We can now turn our attention to other communities within our district who also require work on improving their water supplies,” he said.

FISHY BUSINESS

Food gathering is a way of life in our community, whether it be in the back country bush or the bountiful ocean. However, it is worth reminding keen hunters and fishers that while it is fantastic to provide a feed from nature, it is not so great to leave the leftovers lying around.

Fish heads are proving to be a particular nuisance – not only are they creating an unpleasant smell, but they are also a waste of food. There are plenty of alternatives to dumping. Ask around and find out who likes to cook fish heads - or even have a go at cooking them yourself. Another option is to pay a visit to www.freefishheads.co.nz and look at ways of making use of what can be a great resource.

Get certified here

The intricacies of practicing commercial-grade hygiene standards were explained to over a dozen willing participants at a recent Food Safety Course.

Wairoa District Council regularly runs the NZQA sessions, facilitated by HTP Industry Training Solutions, with the aim of ensuring anyone working in commercial food preparation and service are fully qualified to do so.

WDC Environmental Health Officer Victor Minter said the courses were an opportunity to get certified without having to go to an out-of-town training provider.

“People working in the

commercial food industry are required to meet certain standards, and it is a council responsibility to make sure these standards are adhered to. Taking part in these courses when they’re offered is a pro-active way of meeting regulations,” he said.

Courses to obtain a Club Manager’s Certificate and General Manager’s Certificate for licensed premises were also regularly organised.

Anyone wanting to know more about when the next round of courses will take place in Wairoa should contact Mr Minter on 838 7309 or email victor@wairoadc.govt.nz

Staff profile ↓



Andrew Morton, Financial Planning Manager

Time on the job: Nearly two years

What he does: The money man. He works with budgets, financial planning and makes sure everything is accounted for.

Favourite thing about Wairoa: Walkway, biking and no commute!

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WAIROA QUICK REPORT

Know your neighbour

The message from Get Ready Week 2013 is to knock on the door, lean over the fence, or do whatever’s required to get to know your neighbour. In an emergency, you and your neighbours can help spread the word and keep your community safe. The more you know, the more you can help. So put the jug on, sit down and have a yarn with the folk next door. Get Ready Week ran from September 23-29.

What to do with a water leak

Leaky toilets and other problem pipes may be resulting in high water bills for those connected to water meters. People are reminded to keep an eye out for leaks - as meters are only read every three months.

If you have a water leak on your property, the best person to call is a registered plumber.

Wairoa District Council is responsible for maintenance of the town’s water reticulation system, which ends at the isolating valve located at the boundary of each section.

Dump wisely

Main street rubbish bins are not the place for household rubbish - please take it to the landfill. Rubbish collectors estimate around 50 percent of the waste picked up from the public bins is from people’s homes, rather than the incidental rubbish that these bins are designed for. It is illegal to dump household rubbish in public bins.

Hui-a-iwi draws near

A new Māori Standing Committee will be decided at a hui-a-iwi involving all marae at 10am on Saturday, October 19 at Takitimu Marae. This final hui follows a series of meetings held by each of the district’s eight tākiwa, or marae groupings. Representatives will be put forward by each tākiwa, and a ninth representative will be chosen during the final hui. This group will form the new MSC, which will serve a term of three years.