

## Planting honours Sir James



• Children from Te Kura Kaupapa Māori O Ngāti Kahungunu o te Wairoa learn the finer points of planting trees.

Te Kura Kaupapa Māori O Ngāti Kahungunu o te Wairoa ran a planting day to mark the birthday of Sir James Carroll, alongside the walkway that bears his name and leads to the memorial cabbage tree marking the place of his birth on August 20, 1853.

The river bank and walkway area had become overgrown with weeds and pampas grass, blocking access to both the river and the memorial. This vegetation was cleared and planting holes were dug by a periodic detention group in preparation for the new plants.

For the past year, Te Kura students have been

collecting seed and growing plants, including pohuehue, mingimingi, akeake, ti kouka, nikau and kowhai, especially for this site. Braving the rain, groups of students took it in turns to plant the banks surrounding the cabbage tree that marks the birth place of Sir James.

WDC is very grateful for the support and labour of the staff and pupils of Te Kura Kaupapa Māori O Ngāti Kahungunu o te Wairoa, as well as the Department of Conservation, Department of Corrections and all of the other people and organisations involved with this project.

## Universities on board for summer

Plans for a Wairoa-based student summer school continue to develop, making our town well on the way to being a sought-after placement location for New Zealand undergraduate and postgraduate students. So far, Wairoa District Council has finalised agreements with the University of Auckland Law School, and the University of Waikato. Law is the first subject to be confirmed for the summer school, but other disciplines will be represented, including GIS, IT, Business Studies, Engineering, Tourism, Māori Studies, Graphic Design, Journalism, Governance, Planning, Videography, Communications, Social Media and Tourism.

CEO Fergus Power said he was very happy to report that the University of Auckland Faculty of Law and University of Waikato have now both entered into formal Memoranda of Understandings with Wairoa District Council, establishing an advanced student Summer School presence - equivalent to 1/6th of an academic year.

“This is a win-win situation for both the students and the Wairoa community. The students will gain valuable practical experience and enjoy the fabulous environment and people, while the community benefits from the solutions arising out of these bright minds.” *Continued page 4*

### ↓ FOR YOUR DIARY

#### COUNCIL MEETINGS

9 September  
14 October  
11 November  
9 December

#### COUNCIL FORUM

23 September  
28 October  
25 November

#### MAORI STANDING COMMITTEE

26 September  
31 October  
28 November

*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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# Remembering Sir James Carroll



Last month marked the birthday of Sir James Carroll, who was born in Wairoa on August 20, 1853, the sixth of eight children. His Sydney-born father, Joseph Carroll, was of Irish extraction, and was Wairoa's first European farmer. His mother, the chieftainess Tapuke, was born at

Makauri (near Gisborne), but had moved to Tūranga (Gisborne) with her tribe at an early age. In 1893, Sir James contested the Waiapu (European) electorate and defeated C. A. de Lautour – a veteran politician. Carroll retained this seat until he was defeated by W. D. Lysnar

in December 1919. He was subsequently appointed to the Legislative Council, where he remained until his death in 1926. Carroll was known as Prime Minister Richard Seddon's right-hand man and confidential adviser in all the Government dealings with the Māori

people. In February 1896 Seddon appointed Carroll Commissioner of Stamp Duties; he thus became the first Māori to hold a ministerial portfolio. He became Minister of Native Affairs in December 1899, retaining this portfolio in the Hall-Jones and Ward Ministries until the Liberals were defeated in 1912. For three months in 1909 and seven months in 1911, Carroll was Acting Prime Minister of New Zealand. Early in life Carroll married Heni Mataroa. There were no children but they brought up 30 foster children. His interests outside politics were many, including boxing, wrestling, athletics, and bowls, both as a spectator and as a lively participant. He was also fond of horse racing and kept his own stables. (*Te Ara - Encyclopaedia of New Zealand*)

## Dog regs under scrutiny

The Wairoa District Council urges owners of dogs to register their animals quickly rather than risk infringements for offences. Infringement fees range from \$100 for minor offences to \$750 for more serious offences. Remember that it is a privilege to have a dog, not a right, and that it is an application to register, not an invoice or bill. WDC will begin property checks to ensure that all dogs are registered, micro-chipped and that owner obligations regarding animal welfare are being met. The Council encourages responsible caring ownership of animals and a safe environment for all of the community. If you are unsure of your current status you should contact the animal control team at the

Wairoa District Council, phone 838 7309. It is a statutory requirement that dogs are registered and chipped as well as being properly cared for and it is a Council responsibility to ensure that this happens. If the Council believes that an offence against the Dog Control Act 1996 or the current Dog Control By-laws has occurred, then the council will need to investigate the offence and it may inspect properties to do so. WDC staff are happy to assist owners with any enquiries regarding questions on owner responsibilities, how they may overcome problems with their dogs, or any other problems our community may be having regarding the keeping of animals.

**Whakatauki/ PROVERB** ↓

Tama tū tama ora, tama noho tama mate.

An active person will remain healthy while a lazy one will become sick.

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

↓ **YOUR SPOT**



A fine winter's day at Mahia.

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

# Freedom camping update



Freedom camping is in the spotlight again as Wairoa District Council works on a new bylaw that reflects the nature of our district and provides a tourist-friendly destination for visitors.

The issue has been debated a number of times over the years, and unlike some communities around New Zealand, Wairoa has taken a generally welcoming approach.

This is particularly so for self-contained campervans, recognising the contributions that these visitors can make to our economy.

There are a number of reserves around the district and locations within Wairoa township where campervans are specifically welcomed - WDC has built a liquid waste disposal system in Memorial Park off the end of River Parade for the benefit of these travellers.

The new Freedom Camping Act became law in 2011, enabling councils and the Department of

Conservation to re-write any Freedom Camping Bylaws under a specific law rather than the more general Local Government Act 2002 (LGA). Under the LGA, only areas specifically identified could be used for freedom camping, whereas under the new legislation, all areas controlled by WDC or the Department of Conservation can be used for freedom camping, except where it is specifically prohibited.

The New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Inc. (NZMCA) has indicated that in order for Wairoa District to be promoted in their publications to their members as a freedom camping friendly destination, any bylaw must be formed under the new Freedom Camping Act 2011. To aid councils, a model freedom camping bylaw has been developed by the NZMCA in consultation with the Department of Internal Affairs, the Department of Conservation and Local

Government New Zealand. These organisations are all generally supportive of this more welcoming approach.

After monitoring the impact of the freedom camping that was allowed under the existing bylaw, WDC found that freedom camping in certified, self-contained motor caravans did not adversely impact on the environment and was generally good for the economy of Wairoa.

WDC now aims to work with the NZMCA to become a freedom camping friendly destination in order to assist Wairoa to become a tourist destination.

WDC, in conjunction with the NZMCA and the Department of Conservation, is preparing a draft bylaw based on the national model FCB bylaw that reflects the needs and special features of our district, and contains a list of places where freedom camping is not a suitable activity.

The draft was discussed by a workshop of Councillors

and members of the Māori Standing Committee last month.

A key discussion point at the workshop was concerning which areas in the district WDC should encourage freedom campers, and where restrictions should apply. It was generally agreed that certified self-contained motor caravans presented few problems or issues and were generally acceptable across the district.

However, tents and small, non self-contained vehicles needed to be looked at much more carefully, and they will need to be restricted to areas that have facilities to cope with their needs.

Once the draft bylaw is finalised by the Councillors and members of the Māori Standing Committee, the proposal will be public notified and copies will be available from the Council office and website.

[www.wairoadc.govt.nz](http://www.wairoadc.govt.nz)

# New manager takes office

Wairoa District Council CEO, Fergus Power, has announced that David Tipoki has been appointed as Māori Relationships Manager.

Mr Tipoki will be returning to Wairoa from Australia. "David brings a wealth of experience in dealing with both businesses and communities," Mr Power said.

Currently a Health and Safety Representative and co-negotiator for the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement discussions for the Transit Australia Group of companies, Mr Tipoki has over thirty years concurrent experience in the cultural, community and entertainment sectors.

For fifteen of those years, he was engaged in advocating cultural awareness - presenting a Māori cultural show for Arts Council bodies throughout Australia. He has also served on community initiatives such as the Queensland Transcultural Mental Health Service.

Mr Tipoki has been involved in numerous Māori gatherings in Australia, organising and facilitating hui and wananga for whakapapa as well as translocation issues. Mr Tipoki joins the Wairoa District Council on September 1 and will provide the Council

and the Māori Standing Committee with ongoing advice on Māori policy and development issues.

Mr Tipoki is no stranger to the Wairoa District, being the son of Turi and Waka Tipoki.

Raised with traditional values, Mr Tipoki says that he has infused these into the living environment of Australia where he acquired a broad view of some of the many issues faced by Māori living in a modern world. In returning to Wairoa, Mr Tipoki says that he is both happy to be returning to his papatipuranga, and eager to utilise his life experiences to further the aspirations of Māori within the district.

Mr Power noted that the title of the position had been altered from 'Māori Liaison Officer', to 'Māori Relationships Manager' - reflecting the increased emphasis which the Council was placing on the management of relationships with all iwi, hapu and whanau throughout the district. "The Māori Relationships Manager will now report directly to me, rather than through a Tier 2 Manager as had previously been the case. This appointment represents an important milestone, and we all look forward to David's arrival."



## WAIROA QUICK REPORT

### Council's office hours

In order to better serve the needs of our community and fit in with people's busy lives, the Council's offices are now open from 8am Monday to Friday. The closing time of 4.30pm remains unchanged.

### New Zealander of the Year Award

Nominations are now open for the New Zealander of the Year Awards (close 30 September). These awards recognise, encourage and reward New Zealand's most vital asset - its people. The Awards seek out and honour the incredible achievements of individuals, organisations and community groups from all walks of life who inspire us through their commitment, hard work and successes. The Award Category Criteria are listed online at [www.nzawards.org.nz](http://www.nzawards.org.nz) or please contact the Awards Office - Freephone 0508 692 927.

### Award-winning marmalade

Congratulations to Lorraine Dickie and Graham Lancaster from Lancaster Citrus who won the award for best marmalade at the New Zealand Farmers Market Awards in Fielding recently. It is great to see value being added to the high quality Wairoa citrus fruit.

### continued from pg 1 ... Summer School

These arrangements will also provide the opportunity for students originally from Wairoa to return home during semester breaks while still gaining important course credits.

"It is an added incentive, and along with reducing study costs for University students from Wairoa, means our academic talent doesn't have to seek opportunities elsewhere," Mr Power said.

Students will be with us for periods of 8-12 weeks, and will be supervised by appropriate senior managers or specialists, and will be working on a range of topics such as commercial and local government law, economic development, financial reporting and intranet information sharing systems, social media, tourism, and engineering projects. International relationships are also being actively pursued.

This initiative is being expanded to incorporate students from other New Zealand universities, as well as those from overseas. Already the Council has firm interest from students from Germany and Austria.