

Visual Identity Project

Stage one of the Visual Identity Project culminated in a three day community expo at the Gaiety Theatre last month.

The Gaiety's doors opened to our community so that they could actively participate in the expo. Wairoa District Council economic development officer, Katie Bowen said "we had such a great time with so many members of our community during the three day expo. People were wandering around, having a look at the displays, participating in conversations and really contributing to the project. Can I thank everyone who came, who participated and who contributed so generously, even Cyclone Pam wasn't able to stop our community from coming together, it was just so great."

"We had school children, members of our business community, tourism providers, members of the Maori Standing Committee and a multitude of residents from throughout the District. It was so great to see us all come together to support this project."

Facilitator Peter Kenyon led workshops to encourage the community to express their thoughts about the district, including what they treasure most and how they want the district to be seen in the future. "We want to make sure that the visual identity represents the community, strengthens and unites it and provides a way to promote the district in an authentic way."

"We want the people of Wairoa to be actively involved in that process." Mr Kenyon was impressed by the creativity of the approach that was chosen to create the visual identity. "Many people forget how important it is to talk to people, hear what's important to them and what they are thinking. Only when you listen to people can you create a strong visual identity that has the support of the entire community", Mr Kenyon said.

Mrs Bowen said "during the expo we asked many questions and some of the comments confirmed to us that we are on the right track. People in Wairoa care so much about our district and its future."

"Even the youngest members of our community have clear ideas about how they want Wairoa to be represented. Our children were so eager to do their bit to strengthen our community. It was great to hear responses from people when we asked them what makes the Wairoa district unique."

"The Wairoa community really engaged during the three day expo at the Gaiety theatre. We were able to get an indication on how people think and feel and what they expect of the future. This will help us to move on to the second stage, the creation of a strong and cohesive visual identity that the people of Wairoa have contributed to."

"We are currently analysing the feedback we received and stage two of the Visual Identity Project will be the collation of the data that we gathered and designing creative concepts. Stage three will be a comprehensive roll out of the new Visual Identity for Wairoa. Thank you once again to everyone who supported the project."



FOR YOUR DIARY

COUNCIL MEETINGS

28 April
26 May

COUNCIL FORUM

14 April
12 May

MAORI STANDING COMMITTEE

17 April
8 May

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



CONTACT

Wairoa District Council
Queen St, Wairoa
info@wairoadc.govt.nz
www.wairoadc.govt.nz
(06) 838 7309



Wairoa plays host to guests from Kitaibaraki (Wairoa's friendship city in Japan)

Wairoa played host to visitors from our friendship city Kitaibaraki, Japan in early February and last month (March). Representatives from Kitaibaraki City Council, Deputy Mayor Naoko Ishida and chairperson and assembly member Mutsumi Toyoda were welcomed to Wairoa in February to strengthen links between the Wairoa District Council and the wider district. Our guests expressed their deep appreciation for the hospitality and welcome they received while visiting Wairoa.



Wairoa also played host to eight youth ambassadors from Kitaibaraki last month (late March). The purpose of the visit again was to strengthen the relationship between Wairoa and Kitaibaraki and to support the principles of cultural exchange and developing and growing understanding. The relationship between our two communities has been in place for nearly two decades and we look forward to this friendship thriving into the future.



Walking Access Commission Guidelines for unformed legal roads

Access to our natural outdoor landscapes (our rivers, lakes, beaches and forests) is part of Wairoa's culture and identity. Our rich recreational heritage contributes to our quality of life as well as enhancing our awareness of the natural environment. However, public access to these places is not always clear and people are often unsure about where they can and cannot go.

Guidelines have been produced by the NZ Walking Access Commission and these are designed to explain the law and practice relating to the administration of unformed legal roads (paper roads) from a public access perspective.

The WDC wishes to highlight a particular issue regarding paper roads and walking access. It is unlawful to block a public right of free passage unless this is done by a territorial authority using a statutory power. In accordance with s 344 of the Local Government Act, cattle stops and swing gates may be placed across unformed legal roads in certain circumstances and must be authorised by council. The installation of gates and cattle stops will be at the expense of the occupier and swing gates must not be locked and must have a sign on it stating that it is on a publically accessible road.

Anyone who wants to install a new gate or cattle stop on a paper road now must seek permission from council. Please contact Aram Goes for more information or visit <http://www.walkingaccess.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/ULR-Guidelinesfor-web.pdf>.

Traffic Calming Improvements

To make the streets of Wairoa safer for both pedestrians and car drivers, a project was just started for Traffic Calming Improvements along Queen Street and SH2.

The work has begun on Cnr of Queen St/SH2 and the areas around Clyde Court, Clyde Court Public Toilets, Write Price, KE carpark, EIT, iSite etc. This work will be carried out through to May.

The Wairoa District Council is not intending to close any roads while this work is being undertaken, but there could be some very minor disruptions. We advise alternative routes at all times to avoid unnecessary congestion.

Feedback from our Community

"I stand to say thank you to the Mayor, CEO and councillors involved in pushing for change in the building department at Council. I now look forward to having an inspection and have no qualms ringing the building department for queries etc.



I used to have anxiety knowing I had an inspection booked or having to discuss issues. There has been a culture change. I feel now that the building department is here as a service to the ratepayer and are willing to find an answer for your problem which is practical and viable.

We all know New Zealand has a high building standard and things are much more demanding since the Christchurch earthquake. This standard can only sometimes be a guideline as not every job is a new build where the code can be 100% up to date. I feel the building department understands this and are willing to work with us! We as builders are more liable now with licencing so if we take shortcuts it's only going to bite us.

From what I hear talking to other builders and subcontractors it's all positive feedback towards the building department, so it's great to see the changes happening at Council."

Digby Toothill

ANZAC Day 2015

This year we will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli. A date that has deep significance for New Zealanders and Australians alike. Plans are underway for this year's Wairoa ANZAC Day Commemorations and we would like to thank all those involved in this year's planning. A programme will be available closer to the date and there will not be any significant deviation from previous commemorations. The programme will begin with a Dawn Service at Kaiuku Marae, Mahia and will culminate in a Civic Service at the War Memorial Hall. There will be a representative from the New Zealand Defence Force and the Australian High Commission. The Wairoa District Council is liaising with the local RSA branches and other stakeholders to acknowledge not only the contribution of our veterans during World War One but all our veterans and servicemen and women who have served our country. A minutes silence is not enough.

Mobility Car Parking

There are a number of mobility parking spaces throughout the district. These spaces are only to be used by individuals who are permit holders. Mobility parking permit holders can use mobility parking spaces, which are wider than standard parks and closer to venues. These spaces are marked with the disability symbol, and in many areas are now painted blue. Permit holders have to pay to be allowed to park in these designated spaces and are able to use these spaces because they have mobility issues. Mobility spaces are usually closer and better situated to amenities. If a vehicle is parked in a mobility parking space without the required permit being displayed, the owner of the vehicle can be fined \$40. Please remember that mobility parking permit holders have to pay to be allowed to use these parking spaces and they have a genuine medical reason for being a permit holder. Be fair and keep these spaces available for mobility parking permit holders.



Locke Street, Wairoa

Civil Defence

Wairoa District Council Emergency Management Officer, Tim Allan, wishes to thank the Wairoa Community for their response to Cyclone Pam.



Ruataniwha Road Walkway

The WDC asks that no horses are to be ridden on the limestone walkway down Ruataniwha Road (ending at the Show Grounds). This will reduce the walkway's integrity and it has the potential to cause damage. Inevitably repairs will become an additional cost to our ratepayers in terms of fixing damaged sections. Please be aware and encourage people not to ride their horses on this walkway.

Intern

Kia Ora, I am Katharina, or Kathi and I am from Austria, specifically Gaaden, with a population of 1,500.

I came to Wairoa to do an internship as part of the media and communication studies I'm doing in Austria. At the Wairoa District Council I'm working on various projects in communications. One big part of my work was the visual identity project and the preparation of the community expo that took place from 16th to 18th of March. For me it was great to see that people here care so much about the place they live in, are willing to solve the existing problems and care about each other.

Another project I'm working on is getting in touch with Universities from Germany, Austria and the Scandinavian countries, to develop relationships and make the internship programme of the Wairoa District Council even stronger.

I'm also doing some creative projects and work with a graphics programme. Maybe you have seen the poster for the community expo. Creation of this was one of my projects.

Back at home in Austria I'm a volunteer firefighter and spend much of my free time on this cause. That's why it is very interesting for me to share ideas and thoughts with the firefighters from the local fire service and learn how firefighting is done here in New Zealand.

I'm looking forward to other projects that are still to come. I feel so welcome here in Wairoa and I couldn't think of any better place to do this internship than in Wairoa.



Wairoa Township Walkway

The WDC also advises people not to use motorised vehicles on the main walkway in town along the Riverbank (Marine Parade and Kopu Road). This walkway has been designed for cyclists, pushchairs and pedestrians and not for the additional weight of motorised vehicles (motorbikes, quadbikes or cars). There is potential for serious accidents and additional repairs to occur with people using motorised vehicles on the walkway. Please consider the safety of our children and other regular users of the walkway and do not use motorised vehicles on this walkway. The police have advised that they will also be monitoring the walkway.

Facebook

The Wairoa District Council's Facebook page has just passed 1,500 likes. Our Facebook community is the largest of any territorial authority in Hawke's Bay. Please encourage family and friends to like our Facebook page to be kept up-to-date with the latest news from the WDC.

<https://www.facebook.com/wairoadistrictcouncil>

