

MAYORAL COLUMN

WAIROA COMMUNITY PATROL

I spent an evening out and about with Wairoa's Community Patrol, and I must admit it was a real eyepener.

I have total respect for this group of volunteers who are the eyes and ears of the town.

I was lucky to do the patrol with group co-ordinator Charlie Northcott and patroller Rob Gregory.

Being part of the evening made me realise how lucky we are to have

away.

The patrol encourages people to contact the police station and leave details on which address to monitor, the contact person and departure and return times.

The patrollers check the security of the property and leave a pre-printed card advising of their visit.

Wairoa is very fortunate to have this group of volunteers who care and want to make a difference. The group is a true asset and one we need to look after.

NATIONAL CERTIFICATE IN MĀORI MANAGEMENT

I would like to congratulate our 15 Council staff members who have been studying towards their National Certificate in Māori management.

This course is run through Skills Active Aotearoa and incorporates five modules of te reo, Te Tiriti o Waitangi, relationship building, stories of tupuna and tikanga on the marae

Council's Māori relationships manager Duane Culshaw is co-ordinating the learning along with Skills Active advisor and former Wairoa woman Chauntelle Brown.

The course is self-directed and small wananga are held every fortnight to verify the work that has been ongoing.

We started this course in August last year, and I have to admit it has been very intense, but I have also learned an incredible amount. Wairoa has set the goal of being one of the first bi-lingual towns in New Zealand.

In 2017 Council adopted the Te Kaupapa Here mo Te Reo Maori ke Te Kaunihera o Te Wairoa (the Wairoa District Council Te Reo Maori policy). The adoption of the policy follows the Council's commitment (in 2012) to Wairoa becoming bi-lingual by 2040 under the joint agency Te Wairoa Reorua initiative.

We cannot achieve this goal by sitting back and instead need to actively work to make progress.

It has been great to have an opportunity to upskill staff and the recent wananga at Waipapa-a-iwi Marae at Mohaka demonstrated the progress we have made.

RAIL OPENING

The reopening of the Wairoa Napier rail line is a major benefit for our town and district.

I would like to officially thank this Coalition Government for strengthening our transport network and giving us back our rail option.



Reopening the line between Wairoa and Napier will provide many opportunities, and I look forward to the positive spinoffs, including the Wairoa based railhead.



Mayor Craig Little

volunteers like this assisting the Police and helping look after our town.

I was particularly impressed with their professionalism.

The group has been going for around nine years, and while they are always looking for more people to join the patrols, they also have a great bench of patrollers.

Group co-ordinator Charlie Northcott said the people who join the patrol were interested in the town and in making it a better place. The group plays a significant part in making a difference, with the regular nightly patrols helping minimise minor crime and graffiti that plagues urban communities.



KIA ORA FROM THE WAIROA COMMUNITY PATROL

In an average year, the volunteers cover around 6529 kilometres, patrolling for around 800 hours and observing nearly 200 incidents. The main focus of the group is simply awareness.

The patrollers share information on behaviour in the community, which is vital to keeping the town safe.

A vital part of the patrol function is working with the Police.

The group also has a positive relationship with the Wairoa District Council where patrollers report any relevant information such as problems with parks and reserves, airport security, infrastructure, roaming dogs and livestock, and fly dumping.

The patrol was a major driver behind the closed-circuit television system which runs in town.

The group assisted the Council to install the CCTV cameras in the main street and monitors the footage from the Police Station base. The CCTV has been beneficial in monitoring and identifying bad behaviour or incidents in the main street.

The Wairoa patrol also helped to design a service for homeowners who are out of town and want their homes checked while they are

FOR YOUR DIARY

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

FINANCE, AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 2 July: 10.00am

COUNCIL FORUM

Tuesday, 2 July: 1.30pm

MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE

Thursday, 11 July: 12.30pm

COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, 23 July: 1.30pm

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 30 July: 1.30pm



CONTACT US

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PRIORITY BUILDINGS

Consultation on thoroughfares that warrant prioritisation

MAKE A SUBMISSION

Closes 19th July 2019

For more information & to find out how to make a submission visit

🌐 www.wairoadc.govt.nz, search for #consultations

