



SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN

'Everyone Santa' is the theme for this year's Wairoa Christmas Parade. Scheduled for Saturday, December 9, the parade is always a fun-filled fixture.

The key to a successful parade is participation. I hope that many businesses, schools, and organisations register and take part in this festive event. The 'Everyone Santa' theme will allow everyone to demonstrate the spirit of Christmas by wearing their local versions of Santa and Mrs Claus costumes. The theme is a chance to celebrate Christmas with lots of sparkling lights, decorations and other yuletide trimmings.

Our district is still in Cyclone Gabrielle recovery mode, and the parade will allow us to have some fun and distract us from the other challenges we are facing.

Thank you to our sponsors for helping make this event possible, especially Wairoa Taiwhenua, which has once again stepped up, along with Wairoa New World and Kahungunu Executive.

For those who enter floats, there are plenty of prizes up for grabs with categories for best commercial, education provider and community organisation, as well as best costume age group prizes for boys and girls. Registrations close on Friday, December 8. Email rubyanne@wairoadc.govt.nz for your registration form or collect it from the Wairoa i-Site office.

MAYORAL MORNING TEA

Local senior citizens are invited to join in a morning of fun, entertainment and festivities.

The Mayoral Christmas morning tea is scheduled for Friday, November 24, with as many local senior citizens and kaumātua as possible encouraged to attend.

The Mayoral morning tea is one of my favourite events and a chance to catch up with many people who have done so much for our community.

The event will be held at the War Memorial Hall from 10am to noon. To assist with catering, please register your attendance by phoning the Council on 06 838 7309.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ECKO HOME

Ecko Home – Wairoa's main street gift and homeware store, has been named a finalist in the Resilient Business category of the upcoming Hawke's Bay Business Awards.

I am thrilled for owner Lauren Johansen, especially in the resilience category, as Lauren has demonstrated her will to carry on. The popular business was impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle, with floodwaters seeping under the door and into the shop and the carpet acting like a sponge, sucking the water through the building and affecting everything at ground level, from fixtures to stock.

Lauren, a fifth-generation retailer, was not deterred and made the most of the situation by giving the shop a facelift, repainting and brightening up the interior, offering a feel-good experience that has a more natural and relaxed look and feel with a concrete floor and easy-to-navigate shelving and display areas.

Lauren always puts Wairoa first, and as one of our many selfless business leaders, well and truly deserves to have made it this far, and we wish her all the best."

The Datacom Hawke's Bay Business Awards are delivered annually by the Hawke's Bay Chamber of Commerce. The awards recognise and celebrate business excellence in Hawke's Bay and play an important role in promoting and strengthening economic development within the region. The awards evening is on Friday, November 17.

TAUTOKO WAIROA

Tautoko Wairoa simply means supporting our local economy by shopping and buying locally.

The more money that is spent locally means the more money there is to go around our community, which must be a good thing. I think it is important that, as well as our own domestic shopping, that bigger businesses and companies working in Wairoa are also vested in supporting our local businesses. It is essential that our economy is a two-way street, we don't want to see people making money in our town but not giving anything back.

Our local businesses are vital, they are the heart of our community, and we need to look after them so they are strong and can, in turn, look after us. There are a lot of businesses involved in cyclone work that could be giving back to our community. QRS continues to be a fine example of a company that gets stuck in, does the work and then returns back to the community through dividends to the Council and also through significant sponsorship. It would be great to see some of these other businesses, particularly those working in the cyclone recovery space, reinvesting some of their profits back into Wairoa.

QRS OPERATIONS HUB OPENED

The recent opening of the QRS operations hub was a proud moment for the QRS board and staff, the Wairoa District Council and our district.

QRS demonstrated it is at the heart of our community with its invaluable Cyclone Gabrielle response and recovery work. Wairoa was isolated, but through our locally owned and locally based contracting business, we could meet the challenges and demands caused by the cyclone.

The opening of the modern and convenient operations hub offers a streamlined space and efficiencies for QRS staff and a venue for connecting communities. This project was supported through the Provincial Growth Fund, now known as Kanoa, and is an excellent asset for our community.



Mayor Craig Little

MEET THE MAYOR KANOHI KI TE KANOHI

If you would like to have a meeting with the Mayor, call the council offices on 06 838 7309 to arrange a meeting time. He is available to meet with people on Wednesdays.

FOR YOUR DIARY PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

FINANCE, ASSURANCE AND RISK COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 21, 1.30pm

COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, November 28, 1.30pm

TRADING IN PUBLIC PLACES POLICY CONSULTATION

Wairoa District Council is proposing adopting a Trading in Public Places Policy to regulate the conduct of public trading and to ensure appropriate standards of public health, safety and visual amenity are maintained.

LARGE WATER USERS POLICY CONSULTATION PLAN 2023

Wairoa District Council is proposing to adopt a Large Water User Policy to help allocate Council's potable water resources efficiently and sustainably.

To make a submission online go to www.consultations.nz/wdc/
Email feedback@wairoadc.govt.nz
Submissions can also be made by post or in person to the Wairoa District Council Governance Team, 97 Queen Street Wairoa 4108.