

# WAIROA DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS

(06) 838 7309 | [info@wairoadc.govt.nz](mailto:info@wairoadc.govt.nz) | [www.wairoadc.govt.nz](http://www.wairoadc.govt.nz) | [www.facebook.com/wairoadistrictcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/wairoadistrictcouncil)



## FROM MAYOR CRAIG LITTLE

No one could have predicted that Wairoa would be subject to two significant flood events in the space of 18 months. At the end of last year, I thought 2024 would be Wairoa's year of rebuild - not another Civil Defence flooding emergency. And now, as we head into 2025, we can only hope that the worst is behind us.

Our community, especially those directly impacted by flooding, have been through a lot. People and businesses are struggling, and there are still whānau unable to return to their homes through no fault of their own. There is still a lot of work to be done and every day we are slowly moving forward. While the Council alone cannot fix all these issues, we are doing our best to support our district's recovery to enable Wairoa to come back better and stronger than before.

Our biggest project is the Wairoa Flood Mitigation Project led by Crown Manager Lawrence Yule. This is terrifically challenging work, and there will be directly impacted whānau, homes and land. My heart goes out to these directly impacted people, and my thoughts are with you.

Wairoa has always been susceptible to flooding - yet we have never had any flood mitigation. Now, thanks to the \$70m ringfenced from central government, we have a chance to

reduce our flood risk. We know there is no silver bullet, but this project, along with other improvements, must help to make us less vulnerable. Thank you to everyone who is supporting the flood mitigation project, from those people in our community who may be directly impacted to Lawrence and his team.

While recovery and resilience are a priority, Wairoa has some exciting opportunities ahead, with the projects mainly supported through external funding. We expect the main street Winter's development and i-site visitor centre relocation to be completed in the first quarter of next year. This will complement the Marine Parade river reserve landscaping around the lighthouse which is currently being worked on. We are also upgrading River Parade at North Clyde as a tourism opportunity which mobile businesses can operate from. It is exciting that Morere Hot Springs has reopened, and I would like to acknowledge those who have been catalysts in making this happen. Council's focus on waste minimisation is also ramping up and we are continuing to work on a recycling centre for Mahia.

It was a pleasure to attend the Wairoa Young Achievers Trust (WYAT) 20th birthday celebrations held earlier this month. WYAT is a very effective community-driven organisation that also administrates the Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs funding, which



sees local rangatahi receiving training and employment opportunities. Well done to the WYAT board and staff - your organisation is an asset to our community.

I would like to thank my fellow elected members, Council staff, and Council contractors for their hard work throughout the year. I would also like to acknowledge our Civil Defence team, which consists of mainly Council staff and emergency responders such as Police, Fire and Ambulance staff, who unfortunately have been required in 2023 and 2024.

Thank you to our partners for your support - iwi, local businesses, community groups, agencies, services and volunteers - you are vital to our district.

In closing, I wish you a Merry Christmas, a happy well-earned holiday break and a prosperous 2025.

Take care and stay safe.

## MAHANGA WATER RESTRICTIONS

Wairoa District Council is implementing temporary water restrictions on Council supplied outdoor water use in the Māhanga Beach residential area. These restrictions are essential to ensure the continued availability of Māhanga non-potable supply water for essential needs and to ensure sufficient water is available in the event of a fire emergency. Restrictions are in accordance with Section 7.3 of the Water Supply Bylaw 2022.

Effective as of 16th December 2024, the following outdoor Council supplied water use activities are prohibited:

- **Watering of lawns and gardens:** No outdoor irrigation or sprinkler use is permitted.
- **Car/Boat washing:** Washing of vehicles or boats with a hose is prohibited.
- **Filling of pools, fountains, or other water features:** The use of water to fill swimming pools, hot tubs, fountains, or decorative ponds is prohibited.
- **Other outdoor water uses:** All other non-essential outdoor water use activities are restricted.

Thank you to the Māhanga community for your support in conserving water from the Māhanga water supply. A reminder also, this supply is non-potable. As a precaution, all water from the Māhanga water supply should be boiled before use.

## Christmas Closures

### COUNCIL OFFICE

The Queen Street office will close midday Friday December 20 and reopen Monday, January 6, 2025.

### ISITE

Will be closed on Christmas Day and open on all other statutory holidays and weekends from 10am - 4pm.

### WAIROA LIBRARY

Closed from midday Friday, December 20 and re-opening on Monday, January 6, 2025.

### REFUSE AND RECYCLING

#### Wairoa Recycling Centre and Landfill

Fraser Street, Wairoa  
**OPEN:** Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday 8am - 2pm  
**CLOSED:** December 25, 26 & January 1, 2

#### Mahia Recycling

376 Kaiwaitau road  
**OPEN:** Daily 9am - 12pm from December 13 - January 17  
**CLOSED:** December 25, 26 & January 1, 2

### COMMUNITY CENTRE

Closed from Tuesday, December 24 and reopens on Saturday, January 4, 2025.

### QRS

A local emergency roading response team is on stand-by during the holiday period. Please report any emergency local roading issues to Wairoa District Council's 24-hour number (06) 838 7309.

#### Mahia Refuse

Additional Friday collection for the Mahia area between December 13 and January 17. Please note, this is in addition to the Monday collection and does not stop at Nuhaka.

#### Tuaiti

**Refuse collection:**  
Monday 23rd December  
Monday 30th December  
**Recycling Collection:**  
Tuesday 24th December  
Tuesday 31st December

All other services remain unchanged

For any Council related services over the holiday break please call the Council's 24/7 number 06 838 7309

The **GAITY** **Now Showing**  
December 19 - January 16

### Kraven The Hunter

R16 | 2hrs 7m  
Friday 20th December 5.30pm  
Friday 27th December 5.30pm  
Thursday 2nd January 5.30pm  
Friday 10th January 8pm

### Gladiator II

R16 | 2hrs 28m  
Friday 20th December 8pm  
Friday 27th December 8pm  
Friday 3rd January 8pm

### Moana 2: Reo Maori

PG | 1hrs 40m  
Saturday 21st December 2pm  
Sunday 29th December 11.30am  
Saturday 4th January 2pm  
Sunday 12th January 11.30am

### Den of Thieves: Pantera PREMIERE

TBC | 2hrs 10m  
Thursday 9th January 5.30pm  
Wednesday 15th January 5.30pm

### Wicked

PG | 2hrs 40m  
Saturday 21st December 5.30pm  
Saturday 28th December 5.30pm  
Saturday 4th January 5.30pm  
Saturday 11th January 5.30pm  
Thursday 16th January 5.30pm

### Moana 2

PG | 1hrs 40m  
Sunday 22nd December 11.30am  
Saturday 28th December 2pm  
Wednesday 1st January 5.30pm  
Sunday 5th January 11.30am  
Wednesday 8th January 5.30pm  
Saturday 11th January 2pm

### Mufasa: The Lion King PREMIERE

TBC | 1hr 58m  
Thursday 19th December 5.30pm  
Sunday 22nd December 2pm  
Thursday 26th December 5.30pm  
Sunday 29th December 2pm  
Friday 3rd January 5.30pm  
Sunday 5th January 2pm  
Friday 10th January 5.30pm  
Sunday 12th January 2pm

**Tickets from \$12 Hot Food available**



**LONG OR STRONG? GET GONE!**  
Visit [HBemergency.govt.nz](https://HBemergency.govt.nz) to view the tsunami evacuation zone.

  