



FROM MAYOR CRAIG LITTLE Waikare Gorge realignment

I am thrilled the government has committed to the Waikare Gorge realignment.

Last Friday, I travelled to the Waikare Bailey Bridge for the announcement made by the new Minister of Transport, Chris Bishop. Ironically, it was made on the second anniversary of Cyclone Gabrielle, which caused the closure of SH2 for three months, destroyed the Waikare Gorge Bridge, and resulted in a temporary single-lane Bailey Bridge being put in place.

The bypass will comprise a 4km deviation, bypassing Putorino and including a 160m-long arch bridge from one side of the gorge to the other and take around four years to complete.

We live in tough economic times, and I am grateful to Central Government and NZTA for getting this significant project over the line. This project is the testimony of our ongoing advocacy and support from Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti leaders who we have been working closely with to gain momentum on this vital project.

This project epitomises everyone along the East Coast working together for a common cause. I would like to thank the Minister of Transport, Chris Bishop, the previous minister, Simeon Brown, and local MPs

Katie Nimon and Dana Kirkpatrick for their ongoing support and also thank you everyone else who has made this project happen.

This Waikare alignment is a vital lifeline and, along with the flood mitigation project, are critical components of our healing process and building resilience for our community.

The alignment will help our people rebuild their lives, and as Prime Minister Christopher Luxon said to me after Cyclone Gabrielle, "Wairoa will build back better than before the cyclone," and he is right.

Our people know the importance of having a safe and resilient roading connection from Wairoa to the rest of Hawke's Bay. With no alternative route in place, this is a critical route for the entire East Coast. It is great to have something exciting to look forward to that will benefit our people's wellbeing.

Flood mitigation project

Our Council welcomed the Hawke's Bay Regional Council's decision to support the progression of the 1C flood mitigation option. We now have a firm recommendation in place so those affected can have more certainty to make a decision.

We also support the further refinement of

the profile and alignment of the proposed floodway to ensure the best possible flood mitigation solution while minimising potential impacts.

Our ultimate goal is to make our town as safe as possible, and it is critical that we continue to work closely with our impacted mana whenua/land, home, and property owners regarding the land access required to deliver flood mitigation for Wairoa. This is an incredibly difficult time for our impacted whānau, and we appreciate the way in which you have worked with us to date.

Those who are impacted have always been at the front of our discussions, and it is those who are affected who will make the decision on their whenua. And again, you are constantly in my thoughts and heart.

I would like to acknowledge the work that Crown Manager Lawrence Yule has completed. I have confidence in the process he has been leading to find a solution that will hopefully mean the people of North Clyde and others never have to go through another flood event again.

If you or your whānau have any questions, or if you need further help or support, please get in touch with the Project team – info@wairoafloodproject.co.nz or 027 236 7494.

The GAIETY Now Showing February 20 - 27

A Complete Unknown

M | 2hrs 20m
Thursday 20th February 5.30pm

Captain America: Brave New World

M | 2hr 5m
Friday 21st February 5.30pm
Saturday 22nd February 5.30pm
Wednesday 26th February 5.30pm

Alien Weaponry: Kua Tupu Te Ara

M | 1hrs 39m
Friday 21st February 8pm
Sunday 23rd February 2pm

Sonic the Hedgehog 3

PG | 1hr 50m
Saturday 22nd February 2pm

Mufasa: The Lion King

PG | 1hr 58m
Sunday 23rd February 11.30am

TINĀ PREMIERE

M | 2hrs 4m
Thursday 27th February 5.30pm



GREAT Business People

Osler's Bakery and Café

The legacy of Wairoa's main street Osler's Bakery and Café is in safe hands with fifth-generation family member Sarah Johansen at the helm of the business.

Osler's bakery and catering business has been in the Osler family since 1910 when it was established by James and Alice Osler. Over the decades it has built a reputation for its quality homemade range, from its famous homemade mince and cheese pies and seafood vol-au-vents to Māori bread and raspberry buns.

The bakery is famous both in and out of Wairoa, with visitors queuing up to try the range of pies, savouries, and sweet foods that fill the front shop cabinets.

Sarah, who is also a sixth-generation Wairoa Johansen, describes owning the iconic bakery and being part of her family history as 'very cool'.

The daughter of Leslie, who runs the office side of the business, and the late Alan Johansen, Sarah officially took over from her uncle, Charlie Whyte, last September.

Fresh from university she did a stint as the 'pie girl' learning the front of house before utilising her degree by working at the Wairoa and Gisborne District Councils in resource and environmental planning.

However, the Osler's calling was never far away, and she returned to the business

in April 2023 to learn the production side. "It has been important to understand all aspects of the business and the processes from making the products from scratch through to the tastebud tempters displayed in the front shop. We make and bake upwards of 500 pies a day for local trade and distribution and have over 20 staff so there is always a lot going on. Everything that we sell in the shop is homemade with the exception of the gluten free products."

Sarah describes Osler's as a familiar family favourite. "It's comfortable for us, and while I want to introduce new products, I also want to focus on doing our basics really well and being consistent. I see a future of building on the traditional success but merging that with fresh ideas and a modern take."

The award-winning bakery is big on supporting the community and also encouraging career pathways and opportunities for staff who currently range in age from 14 through to 70 plus.

While the bakery is the mainstay, the next-door tearoom is also a popular stop for catching up and for its famous cooked breakfasts. Catering is also a growth area with free delivery within the township. Sarah also welcomes people's feedback and suggestions.

"I love living in Wairoa and being part of Osler's and part of the community."



Monday - Friday 4.30am - 4pm
Saturday and public holidays 6am - 2.30pm
Closed on Sundays

Phone 06 838 8299 and check us out on Facebook

If you have a great business or service to promote, please contact Wairoa District Council at: ed@wairoadc.govt.nz

