

# WAIROA DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS

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## FROM MAYOR CRAIG LITTLE

In recent times, Mother Nature has given our district a bit of a hammering between weather events, Cyclone Gabrielle and the June flooding.

After a couple of tough years, and still challenges ahead of us, it is encouraging to be looking towards a brighter future with projects like flood mitigation and the Waikare Gorge. These developments can only strengthen our district and build resilience.

While Mother Nature has made her presence felt, it is also in Wairoa's natural environment where our future lies.

As a community, we must lead our tourism growth together. We have tremendous opportunities here. We know many visitors want to get away from the city lights and enjoy a genuine New Zealand experience. We have the chance to turn our isolation and ruggedness into a tourism opportunity where visitors can get away from the rat race and enjoy nature at its best.

We are blessed with Lake Waikaremoana, rivers, beautiful beaches, and the Morere Hot

Springs, along with tramping, cycling, fishing, surfing, and the list goes on. In New Zealand, we are seeing that tourism is beginning to open up again, and Wairoa is quite literally a tourist playground.

Relocating our visitor information centre to the main street is a step in the right direction and we hope this move will also support local retailers by putting more foot traffic into our town centre.

We have additional growth areas around our land. We know our farms produce outstanding stock, and we need to support our rural sector while also making the most of forestry in our district to ensure it will benefit our communities. We are seeing more diversification into horticulture, from apples to limes and citrus. This diversification spreads our risk and maximises land opportunities.

Wairoa has an abundance of water. It is ironic to watch the Hawke's Bay Regional Council and Central Hawke's Bay looking to spend millions of dollars on dams and water storage where Wairoa has water richness, which also brings opportunities.

Aggregate is another resource Wairoa is blessed with. But despite having metal in quarries and rivers, resource consents make it impossible to extract the metal. This limits an income stream for Wairoa and also costs us more in roading as we are forced to bring aggregate from out of town, which is another cost.

Right now, we need to be focusing on what we do have and maximising opportunities from power generation to aquaculture, gas reserves and anything else our people can think of.

The Council is constantly advocating at a national level to grow Wairoa's economy, and I look forward to some of our possibilities being recognised and capitalised on.

We are at a pivotal position for Wairoa's future. Areas that have challenged us in the past are now solutions-focused with new housing developments and job creativity, particularly through our iwi.

We need to harness what we have, grow our economy and together make Wairoa the best it can be.



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.

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

### FINANCE, ASSURANCE, AND RISK COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 25, 12.30pm

### COUNCIL FORUM

Tuesday, April 1, 10am

### ORDINARY COUNCIL

Tuesday, April 1, 1.30pm

### INFRASTRUCTURE AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 8, 10am

### STRATEGY, WELLBEING, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

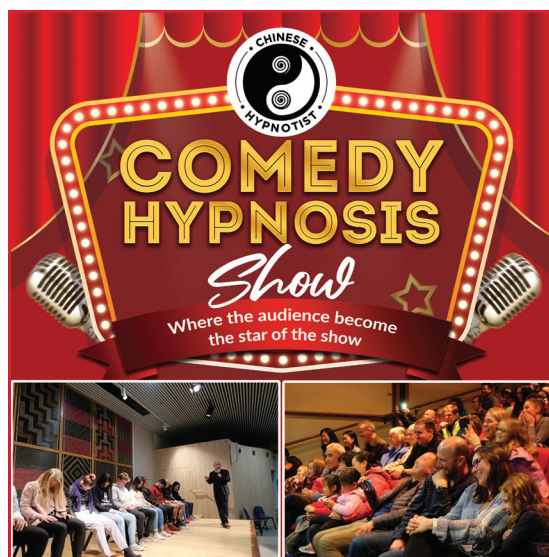
Tuesday, April 15, 10am

### MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 22, 10am

### YOUTH COUNCIL

Tuesday, April 22, 3.30pm



### Comedy Hypnosis Show

A Comedic Hypnotist Show is coming to The Gaiety Theatre Friday 11th April at 7pm doors open around 5pm.

To book, click the eventbrite link on The Gaiety Theatre's Facebook page.

### After Hours Service

If there is an outage to a Council service outside of regular business hours please call 06 838 7309 - 24/7.

### Public Notices

Wairoa District Council's public notices can be found by going to [www.wairoadc.govt.nz/public-notice](http://www.wairoadc.govt.nz/public-notice)

## WAIROA DISTRICT ROAD CLOSURES

**8am Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025 to  
5pm Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

Pursuant to section 342(1)(a) of the Local Government Act 1974, notice is hereby given that the Wairoa District Council, for the purpose of constructing retaining wall and renewal of stormwater asset will close the following roads to all vehicular traffic:

- Kitchener Street between Kauri Place and Scott Street
- Intersection of Kitchener Street and McLean Street

Between 8am Wednesday 12th March 2025 to 5pm Saturday 12th April 2025

A detour will be available for each closure.

Any further queries can be directed to the Wairoa District Council on 06 838 7309.

K Tipuna  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Coming in early March

## LITERARY SHOWDOWN: FACE-OFF

Adult Reading Programme

Let the battle begin... Relax and enjoy books from an array of authors from around the world.

**Adult Reading Programme**  
Wairoa Library's Adult Reading Programme starts soon!  
For more information or to sign up head to the Library or call 06 838 8450

## GAITY Now Showing March 13 - March 20

### Alien Weaponry: Kua Tupu Te Ara

M | 1hrs 39m

Thursday 13th March 5.30pm

### TINĀ

M | 2hrs 4m

Friday 14th March 5.30pm

Wednesday 19th March 5.30pm

### Mickey 17

M | 2hr 17m

Friday 14th March 8pm

Sunday 16th March 2pm

### Mufasa: The Lion King

PG | 1hr 58m

Saturday 15th March 2pm

### Captain America: Brave New World

M | 2hr 5m

Saturday 15th March 5.30pm

### Sonic the Hedgehog 3

PG | 1hr 50m

Sunday 16th March 11.30am

### Snow White PREMIERE

TBC | 1hr 50m

Thursday 20th March

Brought to you by

