



FROM MAYOR CRAIG LITTLE OPENING OF THE NEW PERMANENT TE REINGA BRIDGE

It was a wonderful milestone to see the Te Reinga, Ruakituri and surrounding communities reconnected at last week's official opening of the new permanent Te Reinga Bridge.

For just over four years, these communities have suffered, and I have nothing but admiration for people's resilience. The loss of the bridge literally split the Te Reinga community in half. Over the years, there have been a series of temporary measures, including driving the 'long way around,' which turned a one-way 20-minute trip into two hours.

The loss of the bridge impacted whānau, farmers and service delivery, and I know people have suffered and borne the cost.

The new, improved bridge, designed to last 100 years, is built to modern standards that are significantly more advanced than those used for the original bridge.

The building of the bridge has also been a significant project for local contracting company QRS. We are fortunate that this Council-owned company was able to take on such a large project, with assistance from specialised sub-contractors.

Thank you again to the central government and NZTA for recognising our needs and fully funding this vital connection project to the tune of around \$15.5 million. It was great to have local MP Katie Nimon at the bridge opening, and I acknowledge the support she has shown Wairoa.



The new permanent Te Reinga Bridge was officially opened with a ribbon-cutting last Thursday. Holding the scissors was local kaumātua Ereatarā Tutehuinga NiaNia (Eric), along with key supporters, Mayor Craig Little, local woman Chrissy Sainsbury, local MP Katie Nimon and local rangatahi.

I am thrilled to have bridged this connectivity gap and to have improved our future resilience through secure connectivity.

Thank you to all those who have made this possible. And again, a particular thank you to those impacted communities who have experienced four years of hope to heartbreak and now have a new permanent connectivity link in place.

Catch up with Mayor Craig Kanohi ki te Kanohi Face to Face

If you have anything you would like to discuss with the Mayor, please call the council offices on 06 838 7309 to arrange a meeting time. The Mayor is available to meet on Wednesdays or by appointment.



The new permanent Te Reinga Bridge is now officially open.



Wairoa Mayor Craig Little

Council Meetings

Environment & Economic Development Committee

Tuesday, April 14, 1pm

Māori Standing Committee

Tuesday, April 28, 1pm

Assurance, Risk & Infrastructure Committee

Wednesday, April 29, 1pm

Please note that the Assurance, Risk & Infrastructure Committee meetings have been rescheduled for the year. Please see www.wairoadc.govt.nz/our-council/meetings for updated meeting dates.

The GAIETY Cinema & Theatre Now Showing April 9 -16

Hoppers

PG | 1hr 45m

Thursday 9th April 11.30am

Friday 10th April 11.30am

Thursday 16th April 11.30am

Holy Days

PG | 1hr 41m

Thursday 9th April 2pm

Wednesday 15th April 2pm

Project Hail Mary

M | 2hr 36m

Thursday 9th April 5.30pm

Thursday 16th April 5.30pm

The Super Mario Galaxy Movie

PG | 1hr 38m

Friday 10th April 2pm

Saturday 11th April 2pm

Sunday 12th April 11.30am

Thursday 16th April 2pm

Ready or Not 2: Here I come

R16 | 1hr 44m

Friday 10th April 5.30pm

Epic: Elvis Presley in Concert

PG | 1hr 36m

Saturday 11th April 5.30pm

The Magic Faraway Tree

G | 1hr 50m

Sunday 12th April 2pm

Wednesday 15th April 11.30am

Scream 7

R16 | 1hr 54m

Wednesday 15th April 5.30pm

SPORT NZ RURAL TRAVEL FUND

Keeping our tamariki and rangatahi active is rewarding, but it can come at a financial cost.

The Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund helps support rangatahi living in rural communities participate in sport. The Rural Travel Fund is for junior teams aged between 5 and 18 years.

The fund is a great way to support local kids in their sporting endeavours by removing the barrier of travel costs and increasing participation and access to a range of sports.

The annual funding round is open now and closes on 5pm Monday 4th May 2026.

For further information, please phone the Wairoa District Council on 06 838 7309, email latoya@wairoac.govt.nz or go to www.wairoadc.govt.nz/our-district/grants-funding/sport-nz-rural-travel-fund/

25 April 2026 ANZAC DAY WAIROA

5:45am
Kaiuku Marae Dawn Service
Mahia East Coast Road | Mahia

8:30am
Taihoa Marae Service
State Highway 2 | Wairoa

10:00am
Frasertown Civic Service
Carroll Street | Frasertown

5:45am
Mohaka Marae Dawn Service
Mohaka Township Road | Mohaka

11:45am
Wairoa Civic Service
Wairoa War Memorial Hall | Wairoa



Acknowledgements to Wairoa artist Chance Rohe, who designed the graphics in this banner.

KORERO FROM THE ARTIST: Kei Wareware Tātau - the imagery used in the poppy graphic above is derived from conversations I've heard and had about our Tipuna who fought in the World Wars. The Māori Battalion. Kōrero tuku iho heavily aligned to us and how we are a result of their sacrifice. We shall never take life for granted. We shall never forget. Your sacrifice, created my future. Thank you.