



FROM MAYOR CRAIG LITTLE EXCITING TIMES AHEAD

Our district has some really exciting plans coming to fruition, making it an exciting time to be living in Wairoa.

I am really encouraged by the levels of investment and commitment in our district, by our growing population, and by the feeling that things are slowly picking up.

We have survived two flood events, and while the scars are still here, and my heart goes out to those who are still impacted, we are making progress and working towards Wairoa being better prepared and protected for these types of events in the future.

To me, two of the biggest hurdles we still face are the lack of an aged care residential facility and respite care and our roading connectivity issues.

Our Council and elected members have been working with key partners in our community to progress both these issues. From a health perspective, this has included lobbying Government Ministers and putting pressure on to ensure our district has parity. To support our elderly, we need appropriate funding from the Government, recognising that the Government has a duty of care for everybody's health and welfare – including those living in Wairoa.

We are also working hard to increase options around our isolation, particularly in emergency events. To me, a key route is the lake road – State Highway 38.

Our Council has advocated for decades that all of SH38 should be a recognised State Highway – particularly given the vulnerability of the SH2 network and the ongoing risks of Gisborne and Wairoa being isolated from the rest of the country.

NZTA has signalled it wants to reduce funding for a section of SH38 and wants the Council to have a responsibility for some of the funding of this road.

We have made it very clear that our Council will not be funding this road, as it is part of the NZTA network and is not a Council-owned road. We struggle enough to fund our own roads and simply don't have the capacity to take on a road outside of our own roading network.

In its present state, this road provides minimal benefits for our community, with the costs of maintenance exorbitant and unaffordable for our community, especially due to the road's current condition, remoteness and ruggedness.

We cannot place the financial burden on our ratepayers of maintaining a road that is not in our network, particularly as our Council has no ratepayers on this road. The government wants local government to focus on doing the basics well. This road is not one of our basics – it is part of the NZTA national network, and we cannot afford to prop it up.

CAPTURING THE VOICE OF OUR YOUTH

It is really encouraging to see a new local rangatahi platform being launched through Ka Hao te Rangatahi.

This initiative is a partnership between Wairoa Taiwhenua and the Wairoa District Council, spearheaded by Council elected members Michelle Tahuri and Trevor Waikawa and Wairoa Taiwhenua Trustees Esta Wainohu and Maria Cairns.

Ka Hao te Rangatahi is about supporting the next generation of rangatahi leaders to grow, thrive and lead with confidence.

If you are aged 18-30 and live in the Wairoa district, we welcome you to be part of this new kaupapa.

Council has always recognised the importance of engaging with our rangatahi. Historically, the Council has supported initiatives such as Yroa Ynot and the Youth Council, and the

learnings from these groups have served as a foundation for Ka Hao te Rangatahi.

I am a firm believer in listening to and encouraging the voice of our youth, as they are our future. Applicants do not need experience with the commitment project-driven, with opportunities to learn, grow, and be supported and mentored every step of the way.

It is great to have the support of Wairoa Taiwhenua, and I look forward to watching Ka Hao te Rangatahi become established through this groundbreaking approach, which will see our youth voice authentically represented.

Expressions of interest from potential board members have opened, with the appointment of board members and the community launch planned for next month. To register your interest, please email: esta@kahungunu.iwi.nz

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.

Council Meetings

Assurance, Risk & Infrastructure Committee

Wednesday, March 25, 1pm

Council Forum

Tuesday, April 7, 10am

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Tuesday, April 7, 1pm

Environment & Economic Development Committee

Tuesday, April 14, 1pm



DOG REGISTRATION PAYMENT PLAN

Setting up a payment plan over the year can help reduce the pinch when it is annual registration time.

To find out more www.wairoadc.govt.nz/services/animal-education/dog-owners

CUPPA & KORERO

Wairoa District Council are holding Cuppa & Korero Sessions.

We would love for you to come along and share your aspirations and explore how Council might be able to support your community.

North Clyde

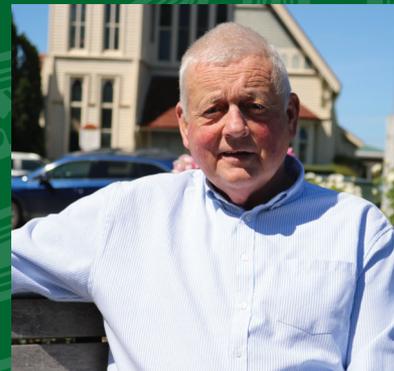
Wednesday 18 March
5pm - 7pm
Wairoa Taiwhenua

Raupunga

Tuesday 24 March
5:30 - 7pm
Te Huki Marae

Frasertown

Tuesday 31 March
5:30 7pm
Pakowhai Marae



Wairoa Mayor Craig Little

The Digital Hub

Free Computer Course Dates

Intro to Tablets

Friday 13 March 10am - 11.30am

Learn how to navigate your tablet, connect to the internet and use apps. (Tablets supplied for course).

Real Me & MyMSD

Friday 20 March 10am - 11.30am

Learn what a Real Me account is and how to create one. Register for MyMSD and learn how to navigate their website.

Ancestry.com - Library Edition

Friday 27 March 10am - 11.30am

Learn tips for effective searching on Ancestry.com.

Enquire at Wairoa Library or call 06 838 4658

The GAIETY Now Showing Cinema & Theatre March 12 - 19

Scream 7

R16 | 1hr 54m

Thursday 12th March 5.30pm

Crime 101

M | 2hr 15m

Friday 13th March 5.30pm

Mārama

R16 | 1hr 53m

Friday 13th March 8pm

Wednesday 18th March 5.30pm

Holy Days PREMIERE

PG | 1hr 41m

Saturday 14th March 2pm

Wuthering Heights

M | 1hr 36m

Saturday 14th March 5.30pm

GOAT

PG | 1hr 40m

Sunday 15th March 11.30am

Epic: Elvis Presley in Concert

PG | 1hr 36m

Sunday 15th March 2pm

Project Hail Mary PREMIERE

M | 2hr 36m

Thursday 19th March 5.30pm

