

## Straight to your letterbox



Welcome to the first edition of the new look Wairoa In Focus. There's always plenty going on between council and the community, and our aim is to get this news straight to your letterbox.

Just to make sure we've covered all the bases, the newsletter will also be available at the Wairoa i-SITE,

library, council offices, various local businesses and on-line at [www.wairoadc.govt.nz](http://www.wairoadc.govt.nz).

Have a read and let us know what you think – this is a new venture and we're keen to hear your feedback.

We're also keen to include your contributions. On page two you'll see 'Your Spot', which will feature a photo or

artwork chosen to reflect the community we live in. Look out for it each month, or even better, send something in for us to include.

To get in touch, email [tamsyn@wairoadc.govt.nz](mailto:tamsyn@wairoadc.govt.nz), call 838 7309 or write a letter to Tamsyn Morunga, Wairoa District Council, PO Box 54, Wairoa 4160.

## Fight fires for rural communities now

Now is a good time to start thinking about volunteering for rural fire duty.

With several months to go before the burn season hits, there is plenty of time to sign up and get into training.

Rural fire stations are maintained at Tuai, Ruakituri and Māhia, and depend entirely on volunteers to keep running.

Traditionally, rural fire units have been made up of people from all sorts of backgrounds, from farmers to retirees, all with a common drive to do their bit for the community.

It's also a great opportunity to learn new skills, not only in fire fighting, but also first aid, radio communications and HT driving. All equipment is provided, and training is free.

Anyone interested in finding out more about what it takes to be a rural volunteer firefighter

should contact Deputy Principal Rural Fire Officer Michael Walker at Wairoa District Council on (06) 838 7309 or email [michael@wairoadc.govt.nz](mailto:michael@wairoadc.govt.nz)



• Deputy Principal Rural Fire Officer Michael Walker with new kit destined for a rural fire unit.

### FOR YOUR DIARY

#### COUNCIL MEETINGS

- 13 August 2013
- 10 September 2013
- 8 October 2013
- 12 November 2013
- 10 December 2013

#### COUNCIL FORUM

- 27 August 2013
- 24 September 2013
- 22 October 2013
- 26 November 2013

#### MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE

- 30 August 2013\*
- 27 September 2013
- 25 October 2013\*
- 29 November 2013
- \*Meeting held on a marae

*Meetings and Forums are held at the Queen Street office council chambers, and are open to the public unless otherwise specified.*



### CONTACT US

Wairoa District Council  
 Queen St, Wairoa  
[info@wairoadc.govt.nz](mailto:info@wairoadc.govt.nz)  
[www.wairoadc.govt.nz](http://www.wairoadc.govt.nz)  
 (06) 838 7309



# Nominate now for Council elections

Nominations are now open for the 2013 Wairoa District Council elections.

If you've ever had a desire to represent your community in local government, then now is the time to put your hand up to be one of six councillors or mayor.

Councillors serve for a term of three years and are charged with making budgeting and planning decisions that have a major impact on our community.

There's no doubt it's a serious responsibility. Elected representatives are required to attend monthly meetings and forums, and special meetings as required, where they must make decisions reflecting the interests of the entire community.

The payoff is that it's an opportunity to play a major role in directing the future of the district.

Those wishing to take up this opportunity can pick up a

nomination form from the WDC office reception or [www.wairoadc.govt.nz](http://www.wairoadc.govt.nz).

The cut-off date for nominations is 12 noon on Friday, August 16, after which a list of all candidates will be published.

Voters also need to take note of that date, as it is the last day to enroll.

If you are not sure if you're on the electoral roll already, then it is easy to check at [www.elections.org.nz](http://www.elections.org.nz) or by calling in to the council office on Queen Street. There are various ways to enroll, including online at the elections web address, or freetext your name and address to 3676, call into the PostShop or call 0800 ENROL NOW (0800 367656).

Anyone not enrolled by Friday, August 16 will not receive voting papers in the mail.

Remember, this is your opportunity to have a say in who runs the district.

## ELECTION TIMELINE

**NOW** - Nominations open/roll open for inspection

**August 16** - Nominations close (12 noon)/roll closes

**September 20** - Delivery of voting documents

**October 12** - Election day. Voting closes 12 noon.

**October 17** - Declaration of results



## TE REO Whakatauākī/ Proverb

Ko te kai a te rangatira, he kōrero. Ko te tohu o te rangatira, he manaaki. Ko te mahi a te rangatira, he whakatira i te iwi

The food of a leader, is discussion. The sign of a leader, is generosity. The work of a leader, is to unite people

BISHOP MANUHUIA BENNETT

Wairoa District Council supports the goal of becoming an official bi-lingual district by 2040.

## ← YOUR SPOT



This photo was taken during a planting day on Mokotahi Hill at Mahia Beach. Members of the community organised and carried out the planting of 2570 native plants in a bid to preserve the integrity of the hill for future generations.

*If you have a photo or artwork that reflects the Wairoa community, we'd love to print it.*

*Email [tamsyn@wairoadc.govt.nz](mailto:tamsyn@wairoadc.govt.nz) or post to PO Box 54, Wairoa 4160*



# Sorting platform zeros in on waste

Considering the material he's working with, Bob Drysdale runs a tidy ship at the Wairoa Landfill. The QRS Site Supervisor keeps a keen eye over the operation, even more so since the introduction of the new sorting platform last month. In line with Wairoa District Council's 'zero waste' policy, the platform has been built to act as a staging post for rubbish before it makes its way to either recycling, the landfill cell or to be sold as scrap. People have a choice of either making use of the free recycling service before bringing the rest of their rubbish to the platform, or bringing their entire rubbish collection straight up to the platform for staff to sort. If choosing the latter, it inevitably means paying more. "It really puts it back on people to pay more attention to their rubbish and what they need to do with it," Mr Drysdale said. WDC Engineering Manager Jamie Cox said the point of the initiative is to reduce the amount of rubbish going straight into the landfill. "The days of dumping into an unsupervised tip face are behind us. We all have a responsibility to think more carefully about where rubbish is going." To put it into perspective, at the current rate of dumping,

the landfill would be full in a decade. "It's simple - if we address the amount of waste going in, our landfill will last longer," he said. WDC are working with waste management partners QRS to encourage people to sort their rubbish before they get to the landfill to make it easier on themselves and staff. This might mean taking a little more time to load the trailer so that everything is easy to separate. The first stop should be the free recycling centre to drop off glass, plastics, cardboard and recyclable metal, then head over the weighbridge to the sorting platform.

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**"We all have a responsibility to think more carefully about where rubbish is going"** JAMIE COX

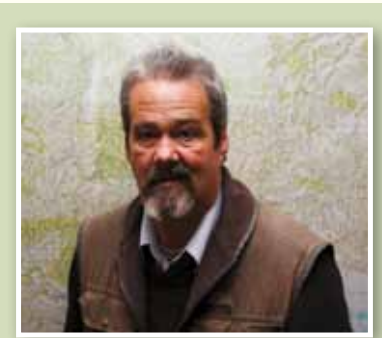
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Staff are continually on hand to answer any questions and sort through rubbish. At the forefront of all this work is the idea that if it can be reused, then do it. Dumping in the landfill is the last resort. Great effort goes into sorting out and retrieving



• QRS Landfill Site Supervisor Bob Drysdale oversees the new sorting platform.

anything that can be made use of elsewhere. What can't be recycled or sold as scrap is deposited in the cell and compacted by heavy machinery. There is still work to be done. Signs will be placed in the large turnaround area to direct people where they need to dump larger waste items, such as whiteware or broken electrical goods. In the meantime, staff are on hand to help out with directions. In a few weeks time, staff and management will sit down and evaluate how the new system is working, and what details need to be ironed out. When asked if he thought the idea would catch on, Mr Drysdale was pragmatic in his answer. "Anything's a good idea if it means less rubbish going into the ground." To find out more about landfill charges and hours of operation, visit [www.wairoadc.govt.nz](http://www.wairoadc.govt.nz) and click on 'Services'.



## New animal control officer

Paul Dorrestein (pictured) has joined the Animal Control team. He's looking forward to learning the ropes, having moved to Wairoa from Lower Hutt only a few months ago. This is a timely opportunity to remind dog owners that registrations are due at the end of August. Notices have been sent out, so make sure you check the details and get the form back to council with the appropriate fee. Discounts are available to those who pay before the end of July. If you have a new dog and are unsure how to register it, either phone the council or visit the website for details.



# WAIROA QUICK REPORT

## Pumps all go at Māhia

Māhia Beach residents are a major milestone closer to having their wastewater scheme up and running this year.

The public infrastructure part of the project was commissioned earlier this month, meaning everything is now in place and ready for private connections.

When it is fully operational, waste will be pumped from the main pumping station on Lochiel Street, and up a pipeline called the rising main.

This takes it over the hill behind the township and down to the treatment facility beyond.

One of three treatment

ponds are ready to go, with the remaining two expected to be operational in coming months.

This project is the most significant capital works to have taken place in the district for decades, involving years of planning, consultation, and extensive design and construction.

Costs for the project will be covered by a combination of government subsidy and targeted rates for those connected to the scheme, rather than the entire Wairoa community.

This rating model will begin in the next financial year, once final costs are established.

## Staff profile ↓



**Trudy Clark, IT Systems Administrator**

**Time on the job:** Nearly 30 years

**What she does:** Looks after all the computer equipment and systems to ensure everything is running as it should and that people have the right IT tools to carry out their work. Also assists the Finance Department and is the Deputy Electoral Officer.

**Favourite place in Wairoa:** Beaches, the river, the walkway and cafes, as these are all places you can meet interesting people.

### Local Government reorganisation

The Local Government Commission issued a public notice in March 2013 calling for alternative applications after 'A Better Hawke's Bay' Trust applied to reorganise local government into one, unitary authority for the Hawke's Bay region. Some eastern areas of the Rangitikei and Taupō Districts located in the Hawke's Bay region are also affected. Nineteen responses were received, including one from Wairoa District Council requesting a staged approach, unifying only Napier and Hastings Councils initially. This month the Commissioners visited the region to meet councils and the original applicant. Other meetings with key stakeholders will occur in the near future. The LGC is continuing to gather information on current local authority arrangements and performance and other issues of relevance, such as communities of interest. WDC is updating information as it comes to hand on [www.wairoadc.govt.nz](http://www.wairoadc.govt.nz).

### Marine Parade upgrade

This project has been deferred to August/September.

### Liquor law changes

The wheels are turning to implement recent changes to the liquor act aimed at reducing alcohol abuse. Wairoa District Council are working on a Local Alcohol Plan (LAP), which will be created in consultation with police, relevant organisations and the wider community. This will include the formation of a committee charged with overseeing the plan.

### Tuai water

The upgrade to the Tuai water supply continues to take place, including the installation of a UV treatment facility. Payment for this project comes from a long-standing Tuai infrastructure fund and a substantial Government subsidy.

### Ōpoutama Community Wastewater Scheme

The pipeline for the public infrastructure portion of this project is currently being installed. Once this is up and running, private connections can commence.