

New era kicks off



• Wairoa District Council staff get behind their new CEO, Fergus Power.

A broad outlook and a strong focus on building our economic capabilities are the fundamentals being brought to the table by new Wairoa District Council Chief Executive Fergus Power. Mr Power has wasted no time in getting to work. "It's tremendous to have the opportunity to contribute towards a renewal of the

Wairoa District," he said. The role of Chief Executive includes advising the Mayor and Councillors on policy matters, ensuring policies adopted by the Council are correctly implemented, and overseeing the smooth running of departments - facilitating the significant flow of information that, on a day-to-day basis, helps ensure

the Council is well managed. One of the first major tasks will be to oversee the development of the draft Annual Plan, due for consultation soon. Mr Power is looking forward to meeting more people in the district, with plans currently being set in place to introduce him around the district with a series of hui.

\$30,000 boost to Lambton Square

Upgrade plans for Lambton Square have entered a new stratosphere with a major contribution from Transpower. A successful funding application via the Wairoa Young Achievers Trust has resulted in \$30,000 being granted to the project to bring the sports facility up to scratch. Added to the \$44,000 already committed by Council, the goal of completing the works in time to host the Ross Shield Tournament in September is now much closer to being realised. The list of tasks includes carrying out repair and maintenance works on the buildings, repairing the existing portable grandstand,



• 2013 Ross Shield team

providing additional seating, replacing the decrepit scoreboard and resealing the surface area. Improving these facilities will return Lambton Square to being a key social space, providing a community hub for sport and recreation clubs.

FOR YOUR DIARY

COUNCIL MEETINGS

8 April
13 May
10 June
8 July
12 August

COUNCIL FORUM

22 April
27 May
24 June
22 July
26 August

MAORI STANDING COMMITTEE

24 April 2014
30 May 2014
27 June 2014
25 July
29 August

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



CONTACT US

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Protecting Whangawehi

A desire to protect an important slice of nature has become an example of how common ground can yeild great results for our community.

A Memorandum of Understanding to ensure the protection and enhancement of the Whangawehi River and catchment area at Mahia Peninsula was signed at a ceremony at Tuahuru Marae on Saturday, July 16, 2011.

Since then, a second signing has brought more on board, and the formation of the Whangawehi Catchment Management Group.

Winners of the Supreme Award at the latest Trustpower Wairoa Community Awards, the group meet regularly with a focus on maintaining or improving the different cultural, ecological, recreational and economical values of the Whangawehi catchment.

Regular monitoring is carried out, along with landuse investigations, planting, funding applications and looking at ways to further involve the community.



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SIGNATORIES

- Wairoa District Council
- Hawke's Bay Regional Council
- Tangata Whenua of Mahia, represented by marae trustees of Kaiuku, Tuahuru, Ruawharo and Mahanga maraes
- Mahia Māori Committee
- Landowners of the Whangawehi catchment
- Department of Conservation
- Grandy Lake Forest
- Pat and Sue O'Brien

↓ YOUR SPOT



If you have a photo or artwork that reflects the Wairoa community, we'd love to print it. Email tamsyn@wairoadc.govt.nz or post to PO Box 54, Wairoa 4160

Variety Bash paid a visit to several schools in the district recently. The quirky car rally travels hundreds of kilometres during one week each year fundraising for Kiwi kids, distributing grants, and entertaining children. It's a mad-cap adventure full of eccentric vehicles, larger-than-life characters and heart-felt philanthropy. This photo shows Frasertown School kids having a blast.

↓ Whakatauki/ PROVERB

He ao te rangi ka ūhia,
mā te huruhuru te manu
ka rere

As clouds adorn the sky,
so do feathers enable a
bird to fly

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

Pool plans take shape



Detailed plans are currently underway for the Learn to Swim pool, which will include earthquake strengthening of the entire pool complex. Preliminary drawings show the new pool will feature a shallow area for babies, and a deeper area for pre-schoolers to master the basics of water confidence. Some of the current bleachers will be removed to make way for the extension, to be replaced by bench seating from which spectators can view either of the two pools. From the outside, the extension to the complex will consist of a simple

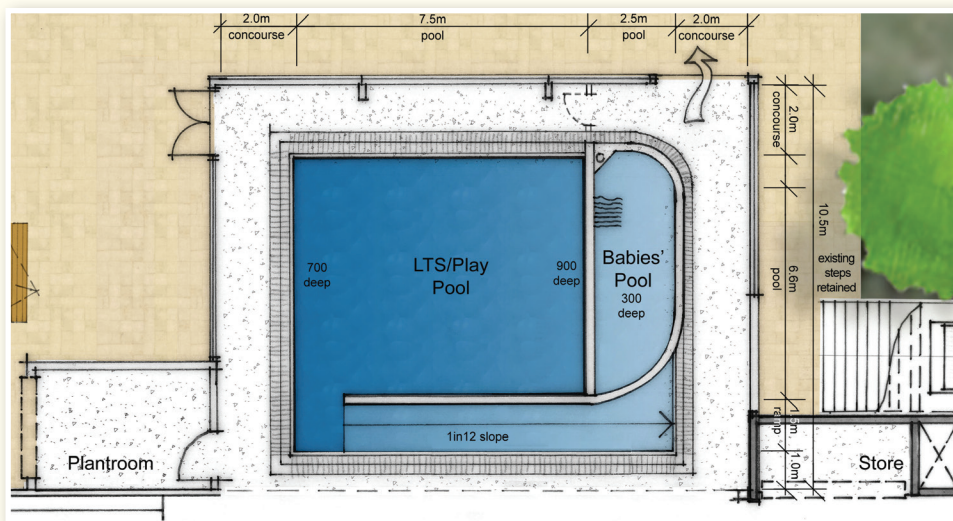
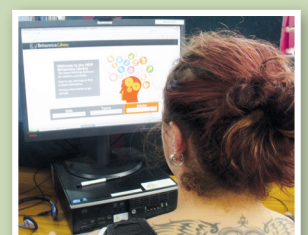
pitched roof shape, which spans out along the river side of the existing pool hall. A large amount of glazing is included in the plan, which will bring in plenty of light, while shading devices will be used when appropriate to limit glare on the water surface. Engineering Manager Jamie Cox said the earthquake strengthening had the potential to slow the project down somewhat, but it was vital to ensure the integrity of the building. "Earthquake strengthening work will be undertaken at the same time as the new building work. This

is the most sensible way to proceed to ensure two positive outcomes – a new pool and a strong, safe building," he said. Wairoa Community Centre Manager Sara Rangi said she was looking forward to continuing work with the architects to create a safe, effective learn to swim facility. Children will be able to reach the bottom, parents and children alike will feel more secure, and instructors can teach more effectively. Also, the main pool will be more available for public and lane swimming. "It's really exciting to

think this investment into our Community development has been approved and we are looking forward to the developments as they all unfold," she said.

WORLD OF KNOWLEDGE

We all know that not all information found online is the truth. For accurate research, look no further than the subscription databases available at the Wairoa Centennial Library. Screeds of info can be accessed from the comfort of home via the library website (www.wairoalibrary.co.nz). The service is free and is proving useful for all ages. For those without their own computer, the library has several that can be used for free by booking in with one of the staff.





WAIROA QUICK REPORT

Smooth driving ahead

Sealing work is expected to be rolled out around the district soon as the Wairoa District Council's road renewal strategy moves up a gear.

Sections of Awamate, Ruapapa, YMCA, Waikokopu and Hereheretau Roads, along with a section of SP38, are programmed for sealing as budgets allow.

Engineering Manager Jamie Cox said these sites had been identified following extensive monitoring.

"A key indicator of WDC's renewal strategy on unsealed roads is the monitoring of heavy metal build-ups to replace metal loss. As part of council's asset management plan

for roading, forward work plans were established to pinpoint the areas where intensive metal build up is required."

Following the application of metal to a road, a cost/benefit analysis is carried out to weigh up the cost of continuing to replace metal loss over time compared to the costs to seal.

Other factors are also taken into account, such as vehicle usage, forestry harvesting and dust impacts - consultation on which was carried out last year.

Final decisions on when the sealing work will take place will be based on available budgets and a detailed examination of additional on-site costs.

Fire season alert

All WDC fire restrictions have been removed. People are reminded to always take care when lighting fires. Contact WDC at anytime for advice.

Bob Marley exhibition

Don't forget to call in to the Wairoa Museum to check out the Bob Marley exhibition. The mainly photographic collection is proving popular, so make sure you get along before May 24.

Annual Plan update

WDC are working away on getting a draft annual plan together to go out to the community for consultation. Now is a great time to start thinking about what you would like to see in Wairoa. Once the draft plan comes out, share your ideas by making a submission. Keep an eye on the Wairoa In Focus, local paper and the council website for details as they come to hand.

ANZAC Day

Council will once again be hosting several official ceremonies to mark ANZAC Day on April 25. Representatives from both the New Zealand and Australian armies will be in attendance. Keep an eye out for details.

Kaupapa Rangitahi

A reminder that the YROA YNOT Youth Voice 'Kaupapa Rangatahi Conference' is taking place at Wairoa College on April 22-24, 2014. The team will be showcasing the best Wairoa youth have to offer, through inspirational workshops, tools and resources developed by youth. For further information call WDC Youth Project Facilitator Allison Maru on 0276664560 or email allison@wairoadc.govt.nz

Water reminder

Households on both private and public water supply need to be aware that some plumbing fittings have the potential to allow minute traces of metals to accumulate in fittings for several hours. Although health risk is small, the Ministry of Health advice is to flush a mug of water from the drinking water tap each morning before use.

Staff profile ↓



David Doole, Senior Rates Officer

Time on the job: 8 years

What he does: Oversees rates and collections. Maintains rates database.

Favourite activity in the district: Making good use of the Wairoa Community Centre and squash club.