

**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 11:50 AM  
**To:** [enquire@hawkesbaytourism.co.nz](mailto:enquire@hawkesbaytourism.co.nz)  
**Subject:** Update from Hawke's Bay Tourism, on behalf of Hamish Saxton

Kia ora koutou,

Our hearts go out to all those impacted by the events of the last few days. The devastating damage to every corner of our region, from the very top of the Wairoa District all the way down to Central Hawke's Bay, is unimaginable.

I acknowledge that many operators in communities without power and/or connectivity will simply be unable to receive this communication. However, for those operators that are able, we would like to know a) how you are individually faring, and b) what support you may require.

I ask that you get in touch with two of our team who are based in Havelock North:

- Heather Matthews [heatherm@hawkesbaytourism.co.nz](mailto:heatherm@hawkesbaytourism.co.nz) 022 306 2237
- Ben Hutton [benh@hawkesbaytourism.co.nz](mailto:benh@hawkesbaytourism.co.nz) 021 508 135

Please be aware that the Napier-based members of the team, specifically Hamish, Jess, Hilary and Lisa, continue to be without power and have only sporadic connectivity. However, Hamish and Jess will be at the Hawke's Bay Tourism office at 19 Waghorne Street, Ahuriri daily at 9am for anybody wishing to drop in.

Hawke's Bay Airport is operational with a revised schedule – full details on their website:

<https://hawkesbay-airport.co.nz/>

Cruise ship activity at Napier Port has been paused until such time as the city and region can appropriately support their arrival.

The reopening of SH51 between Napier and Clive for essential traffic is heartening, and we await further news about key gateway roads so that visitors currently in Hawke's Bay can depart.

We encourage people to rely on official sources of information for the latest updates:

- Hawke's Bay Civil Defence Emergency Management:  
<https://www.hbemergency.govt.nz/>
- Waka Kotahi: <https://www.journeys.nzta.govt.nz/hawkes-bay/traffic-updates>

We understand many accommodation facilities in Napier who are housing stranded visitors are beginning to struggle with supplies and laundry, while hospitality operators are similarly experiencing difficulties with food storage.

Those operators who are in a position to offer assistance may like to reach out to their stricken colleagues with offers of support.

Finally, we acknowledge the cancellation of the 2023 Art Deco Festival, which was set to bring so much vibrancy to the region over the coming days.

Stay safe, and look after each other.

Ngā mihi  
Hamish Saxton  
CEO Hawke's Bay Tourism