

FROM THE

Mayor's Desk

Kia ora, recently I attended the AGM of the Marton Christian Welfare (Op Shop). This is a fantastic committee made up of the membership of each church, service clubs such as Lions and Rotary and supporters. Financially it is an outstanding business with a \$400,000 income and a profit of \$310,000. What it does with that profit is exceptional - this last year it returned \$260,000 by way of grants to the community. It also provided welfare support and essential food to many families in need. The shop is essentially staffed by volunteers and they deserve support from the community and welcome donations of clean clothing etc.



On 2 October myself and several Councillors attended a walk-through at the Taihape Community Health Centre. The provision of health services for our district is an issue that I have raised within the Long Term Plan process, really wanting to be able to provide financial support for these services. With the withdrawal of the four well-beings by Government, this will be incredibly challenging and may have to be paused at the moment. I applaud the work that is being done in Taihape within the community and in particular the amount of effort that Cr Piki Te Ora is involved with under Mokai Patea Services. Where we are able, we should be supporting these initiatives.

The Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ), funded by the Ministry of Social Development, has been incredibly successful for Government and Local Government. In the times of Government cutbacks we continue to receive \$9-10m a year to find jobs for people. The success of our team headed by James Towers and Louise McCoard is always at the top of the results nationally. On 4 October Mayor Max Baxter from Otorohanga stepped down as Chair. Max has been the driver for the success and his farewell was attended by Minister Upston, LGNZ staff and many of the mayors. Thank you Max for a job well done.

On Saturday 2 November I attended Tuia te Here Tangata, the final wānanga for the year for the Tuia Programme in Wellington. It was a time to come together to celebrate and reflect on the year. The Tuia programme develops the leadership capacity of young Māori in communities throughout New Zealand and is run under the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs initiative. As Mayors we select a rangatahi each year and provide mentorship to assist that young person's development as a local leader. This year I have had the pleasure of working with Nyssa Nepe from Marton and I've enjoyed watching her journey. Nyssa will prepare a report to Council about her experience towards the end of the year.

Lastly, over the last few Mayoral messages there have been a number of references to the Three Waters space. Most of this work has been done by Mayors and Chief Executives in understanding the Government direction, which is always subject to change, and looking at options for our Councils. We are now at the stage where we can talk to the community and iwi around the process and our options. I encourage everyone to attend the drop-in sessions and public meetings in Marton, Taihape and Bulls and I am also happy to talk to any individual or group provided I can timetable it. These meetings will be about explaining the process and timeframes.

Ngā mihi, Andy Watson, Mayor of Rangitikei.



Marton Market Day

is back for 2024!

★ 200+ stalls ★ Circus Act

★ Mechanical Bull ★ Mega Maze

★ Climbing Tower ★ Mini Jeeps

★ Obstacle Course ★ Play Trailer

★ Bouncy Castle

★ Bubble Ball ★ Retail Stores

★ Food Stalls ★ Live Music

9am - 3pm | 7th December 2024

Broadway and Marton Park

FREE ENTRY

SHOP

RANGITIKEI

Spend \$20 at any store

or service provider in the Rangitikei

between 28 October and

19 December 2024 and enter the draw

to win one of 8x \$100 prezzy cards





Scan QR Code to enter

8 PRIZES TO BE WON OVER 8 WEEKS!

www.rangitikei.govt.nz/

shop-local-rangitikei



Local Water Done Well

Local Water Done Well is a central-government mandated initiative to address concerns about Aotearoa New Zealand's water infrastructure and water quality.

It seeks to do this by:

- Requiring councils to develop a fit-for-purpose plan to deliver water services to its residents.
- Ensuring water services are future-proofed and financially sustainable.
- Introducing greater central government oversight, and economic and quality regulation.

Rangitikei District Council is responsible for the delivery and management of water services (drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater) for the Rangitikei District. Like councils across Aotearoa New Zealand, the Rangitikei District is facing varied and increasingly critical challenges maintaining and future proofing its water services.

Successive governments have recognised these challenges and introduced models to support councils. These models have included 'Three Waters' and 'Affordable Water Reforms.'

Local Water Done Well is the current coalition government's water services model. It was introduced shortly after their election in October 2023.

To put it simply, while Three Waters and Affordable Water Reforms took a centralised view of the way water services are managed, **Local Water Done Well** takes a more localised view – with central government oversight.

Local Water Done Well requires councils across Aotearoa New Zealand to develop a Water Services Delivery Plan

By September 2025, councils nationwide are required to develop a Water Services Delivery Plan that outlines how it will deliver and sustainably finance the water services it maintains into the future.

Each council's Water Services Delivery Plan must deliver to guidelines created by central government. The plan must include:

- How the council plans to deliver water services to its residents – a 'water services delivery arrangement'.
- How its water services delivery arrangement will be implemented.
- How the council plans to maintain water quality, and the long-term financial sustainability of its water services delivery arrangement.

Before writing the **Water Services Delivery Plan**, Rangitikei District Council needs to decide on the most practical water services delivery arrangement for our district. Council staff and elected members are very much in a period of understanding and exploring the options available. It is important to note no decisions have been made at this stage.

What do you think?

Staff and elected members are interested in your early questions on the **Local Water Done Well** approach to water services delivery. We would like to invite you to the following community meetings to discuss **Local Water Done Well** and what it means for the Rangitikei:

Taihape: 6th November 2024		
Drop-in session with Mayor Andy	2:30pm-3:30pm	Taihape Library
Public information evening with Mayor Andy	6pm-7pm	Kokako Street Hall
Bulls: Wednesday 13th November		
Drop-in session with Mayor Andy	10:30am-11:30am	Ohakea Room - Te Matapihi
Public information evening with Mayor Andy	5pm-6pm	Town Hall - Te Matapihi
Marton: Monday 18th November		
Drop-in session with Mayor Andy	10:30am-11:30am	Friendship Club Hall
Public information evening with Mayor Andy	6pm-7pm	Friendship Club Hall

Rangitikei residents deserve to have access to clean, reliable and sustainable water services. Our aim is to deliver a Water Services Delivery Plan that is operationally and financially efficient, secure, and sustainable.

We will keep you informed as this work progresses. For more information and updates visit www.rangitikei.govt.nz/local-water-done-well