



KŌRERO MAI



Your feedback is important. Scan this QR code to provide feedback on our services and facilities.

RANGITĪKEI Connect

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ISSUE 110

FROM THE Mayor's Desk

Kia ora koutou, I'd like to start this week by saying thank you to the organisers and staff of the Marton Harvest Festival, which was a fantastic occasion once again. Celebrating the heritage of Marton and paying tribute to the industry that provides significant benefit to the wider district, this is one of the highlights of the year and attracts thousands of people from around the central and lower North Island. This year, I managed to climb up the big slide and rode down with MC for the Day, Matt Chisholm, which was great fun.

At Council last week, we held a public workshop with elected members and went through options for the reopening of the Marton Swim Centre. There's an update in this Connect, but no decisions have been made. Council staff were asked to provide elected members with more details on the options and come back with some recommendations for us to consider so we can plan ahead.

We've started to receive some submissions for our Annual Plan & Co, which is out for consultation. Last week, I along with other elected members attended meetings in Taihape and Marton to discuss the plan with people who were interested in hearing more. We're not making any significant change to what we said we'd do in the Long Term Plan last year, but this is an opportunity for you to provide us with feedback on whether you agree with our proposed programme of work for the 2025/26 financial year, and I encourage you to do so.

It's the school holidays and I want to make mention of the amazing work that our Community Hubs team have been doing in putting together school holiday activities across the district. They do a great job and these activities are always well attended by parents and children. You should see what's on near you and head along to take part.

It's Easter this weekend coming, followed by ANZAC Day the following Friday. I will be attending the Marton Dawn Service and the Turakina 10am service to commemorate those who have served in the New Zealand Defence Forces, and those who made the ultimate sacrifice for the freedom we have today. I encourage you to have a look at what's on near you. There are several services being held around the district for people to attend, and we have details on our website on when and where these are. Have a safe and enjoyable Easter break with your friends and family. **Andy Watson, Mayor of Rangitikei.**



LEST WE FORGET



From left to right: Michaela Wilson, Matt Erard, Craig West, Lyall Hedges, Mayor Andy Watson, CE Carol Gordon, Dave Nicholls Arno Benadie, and Darryn Black.

Downer New Zealand awarded roading contract

Rangitikei District Council is proud to announce that Downer New Zealand Limited has been awarded with our Roding Maintenance Services contract, with an official signing of the contract taking place last week. Downer was selected as Council's preferred contractor in a publicly excluded item at its Council meeting held on Wednesday, 26 February. The contract will begin on 1 July 2025 for an initial three years, with options for renewals through until 2034 for a total of nine years.

"We have over 1200 kilometres of roads in our district, and it's vital to our communities that our roading network is able to service the needs of our residents, businesses, farmers and visitors. Downer has a great reputation for delivering outstanding service, and we look forward to working with them on this new contract," says Rangitikei District Mayor Andy Watson.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS 2025



Marton Pool Update

In February, we told you that Council engaged engineers to complete a comprehensive assessment of the Marton Swim Centre.

Phase two has been completed, which identified critical work required to get the pool open and also proposed some enhancements to the complex, for consideration.

In March, Council received an update from staff detailing four repair options for the swim centre. These included short, medium and long term options, with costs ranging from \$1 million to \$12 million. The simplest option is to restore the swim centre to its condition prior to the partial roof collapse, whereas the most complex option is to look at an upgrade that would futureproof the facility for 50 years.

A recorded workshop was held on 10 April with elected members and our contracted engineers to go over the options in more detail, and give Councillors information to consider regarding the future of the facility.

This is available to view on our YouTube channel. [@rangitikeidistrictcouncil](#)

RANGITĪKEI COMMUNITY HUBS

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Check out some of the awesome school holiday activities that we have happening at our community hubs this week and next.

We've got virtual reality headsets, arts and crafts, colouring in, sewing, lego and lei making, to name just a few things.

Please note that due to Easter and Anzac Day, we will have reduced hours at the community hubs during the holidays.

- Marton Community Hub – Closed Easter Weekend and Anzac Day.
- Taihape Community Hub – Open with no changes.
- Te Matapihi – Open with no changes.

#YHQ and The Lobby's Easter Hunt is on!!

Details on our Community Hubs Facebook page.

[rangitikeicommunityhubs](#)

FREE
HOLIDAY FUN



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We need to receive your feedback by 5pm on Monday, 5 May 2025



WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO RANGITĪKEI?

Consultation closes 5pm Monday 5 May.
For more information and to make a submissions visit: www.rangitikei.govt.nz/consultations



JOHN
TURKINGTON
FORESTRY

RANGITĪKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL

YOUTH AWARDS 2025



RANGITĪKEI
YOUTH COUNCIL

NOMINATIONS
OPEN

Do you know a young person or a group of youth aged between 12 and 24 that are exceptional... Of course you do. Make a nomination now!