



## KŌRERO MAI



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# RANGITIKEI Connect

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ISSUE 114



## John Turkington Forestry Rangitikei Youth Awards 2025

On Thursday 29 May, youth from around the district gathered to celebrate their success at the John Turkington Forestry Rangitikei Youth Awards for 2025.

Approximately 120 people attended the awards held at Te Matapihi in Bulls, including nominees, their whānau, elected members, invited guests and sponsors. A record 66 nominees were put forward for awards this year across eight categories. All award winners received cash prizes from sponsors of the awards to recognise their successes and help with any future endeavors they may wish to pursue.

The winner of the John Turkington Forestry - Best Overall Youth Award was Rangitikei College head girl Denise Pio.

"This rangatahi is one of a kind. She's the type of rangatahi that radiates excellence in everything she does. Whether she's in the classroom, on stage, in the community, church, or with whānau. She brings her full heart, energy and dedication. She leads, inspires and uplifts those around," says Rangitikei Youth Council Chairperson Cyria Lowrie.

Rangitikei District Council would like to congratulate all the winners and nominees for their success this past year and we look forward to seeing you achieve amazing things in the future.

Category	Winner	Highly Commended	Commended
Hautapu Pine Rural Youth Award - Northern	Isobel Phyn	Ketana Musgrove	Sofie Kendrick
The Downs Group Rural Youth Award - Southern	Olivia Madison Ward	Ella Chaffe	Katelin Perkins
Te Rūnanga o Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa - Youth in the Arts Award	Eva Drelizis	DAHLIA (band)	Waihirere Fifield-Hakaraia
Mayors Taskforce for Jobs - Youth in Work Development Award	Jack Inwood	Zara Weston	Te Arawa Ratana
New World Marton - Youth in Sport Award	Poppy Joy Priddle	Aggie Shearer & Claudia Younger	
River Valley - Youth Eco Warrior Award	Ketana Musgrove, Aaron-Lee Sime & Tseleste Tahau	Rose Jeffery, Poppy Jeffery & Uijina Lee	
Rangitikei Anglican Parish - Youth of Hope Award	Te Arawa Ratana	Denise Pio	Teesha Te Ua-Wright
Evans Hendersons Woodbridge - Youth Leadership Award	Denise Pio	Harmony Kinloch	Ella Chaffe

## Ngā Awa Block wins silver award at New Zealand Commercial Project Awards

Rangitikei District Council's Ngā Awa Block has collected a silver award at the New Zealand Commercial Project Awards held in May.

The awards are owned by the Registered Master Builders Association and are the only competition in New Zealand of its kind that recognise entire project teams for their work, with a focus on sustainability across all the categories.

With the support of Council, contractor W & W Construction of Whanganui, entered the Ngā Awa Block into the Civic Project category. The judging criteria is based on design, contract management, construction and delivery of outcome and an overall assessment.

The judges said that the project blended practicality with architectural innovation to deliver a multifunctional space for sports, recreation, and public use, noting that the standout feature of the completed building is the cross-laminated staircase that leads to a control room for umpires and referees. Prefabrication of components of the building was noted as a strength of the project, streamlining construction and minimising waste.

Completed in August 2023, Ngā Awa Block is an amenities building in Taihape for various sporting and recreation organisations in the community. Council collaborated with Taihape residents on the building and what was needed, and so far, it has seen a significant uptake of users, particularly during winter sports months.

Council would like to thank and congratulate W & W Construction on this award and well-deserved recognition of the outstanding work they have done creating a facility that is important to the Taihape community.



## Rates rebate threshold for SuperGold cardholders raised in Budget 2025

The Government has announced changes to the rates rebate threshold for SuperGold cardholders, raising it from \$31,510 to \$45,000.

The changes, which take effect from 1 July 2025, mean that SuperGold cardholders and their households with rates higher than \$2,000, and income of up to \$45,000 will be able to receive the maximum rebate. This is about the rate that a couple receiving superannuation will have as a household income. Those SuperGold cardholders income higher than \$45,000 will be eligible for a smaller rebate.

The maximum rebate for the scheme will also increase from \$790 to \$805.

Ratepayers can apply for the new maximum rebate under the new abatement thresholds after 1 July 2025. Application forms will be available from councils and will also be able to be downloaded from the New Zealand Government website and then submitted to Council after 1 July 2025.

Any over-65's with questions about eligibility can contact us on 0800 422 522 or by contacting [info@rangitikei.govt.nz](mailto:info@rangitikei.govt.nz).



## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS 2025

### CANDIDATE INFORMATION EVENING

Monday 30 June - 4pm  
Kokako Street Hall, Taihape

Monday 30 June - 7pm  
High Street Office, Marton

## Avoid the pound, license your hound!

### Dog registrations due by July 1

If you own a dog or dogs, then it's time to start planning your annual registrations! Every dog must be registered every year (from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026).

There are discounts available for those that register their dogs prior to 31 July.

For more information and to download a registration form, visit our website.



[www.rangitikei.govt.nz/dogs-rego](http://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/dogs-rego)

