

### FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Like so many others in our district I took part in ANZAC Day services. It is a time for us to reflect on the sacrifices by young men and women that left our shores, so many of them not to return.

My thanks to all of those who took part. As part of the day I attended the Ōhingaitei service at 10am. The young students from Hunterville School and locals read excerpts from letters sent home from the front which I found particularly moving. We will remember them.



Beth and I recently returned from holiday and I want to thank Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson for standing in for me and for handling the job incredibly well. It was a pity that the Harvest Festival had to be cancelled but it was the right call.

I Zoomed in for the Council Meeting while I was away that made the decisions around the Marton Pool and the Marton Water Strategy but left the Chairing to Dave. These were big decisions and I support them absolutely. We now have a future with the Marton Pool and while the water strategy project is frustrating in the delay, the money spent on the new bores is not wasted and what we are wanting is the best option for treatment processes. I and Council are committed to keeping you updated on progress over the next few months.

The Marton Swim Centre decision means that we can provide some certainty to our residents about the long-term future of the facility. I know how important this community asset is to the people of Marton, and I'm pleased that we've cleared another hurdle and can advance forward towards reopening as soon as possible.

The Marton Water Strategy has proven a very challenging project, and whilst the move away from nanofiltration is disappointing, Council were unable to justify the estimated operational costs. We've been presented with a viable alternative that will allow us some short-medium term relief, all while our team can investigate what the long term solution is.

To finish on great news, just before I went away I attended the Ballance Farm Environmental Awards where Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa took out the Supreme Award for Te Hou Farms (dairy farms), an achievement that they should be justifiably proud of.

Ngā mihi, Mayor Andy - Rangitikei District Council.

### MAJOR PROJECTS TRACKER

Wondering how our big projects are progressing?

There are quite a few steps involved in getting our projects from start to finish, with Council decisions along the way to make sure we're spending money responsibly. This tracker gives you an at-a-glance update on where things are at.

Project	Proposal	Designing	Consenting	Procurement	Building
<b>Taihape Town Hall</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community consultation</li> <li>Council approval</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concept</li> <li>Preliminary</li> <li>Developed</li> <li>Detailed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resource (if required)</li> <li>Building</li> </ul>	(finding someone to do the job)	(this is when you see boots on the ground)
		working through developed design			this is a 'design & build' contract
<b>Marton Office and Community Hub</b>		working through preliminary design			this is a 'design & build' contract
<b>Marton Swim Centre</b>					
<b>Marton Emergency Operations Centre</b>					contractor identified, pricing still to be agreed.

### Marton Water Strategy

**Status:** Short-medium term improvement measures are being put in place while long-term options are explored.

Read the full update: [www.rangitikei.govt.nz/marton-water-strategy](http://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/marton-water-strategy)

### COMMUNITY VOICES



#### AND THE WINNERS ARE...

It's been a hard slog for our committee to find this year's recipients of the Community Volunteer Awards, but they've managed it.

And whilst everyone nominated is worthy of recognition, these people were selected due to their outstanding service across a number of different organisations.

Congratulations to:

- Katie Deere (Marton)
- Lowie Harrison (Marton)
- Alan & Fay Giles (Bulls)
- Gary Johnson (Taihape)
- Jo Rangooni (Mayor's Award Winner)

Over the next month or so, we'll be presenting those above with their awards at specially organised morning teas/lunches with their friends, whānau and colleagues in attendance.

You'll also be able to hear from them through video interviews and written profiles on our website and in our Rangitikei Connect.



### ANZAC DAY THEME FOR #YHQ

In the most recent school holidays, President of the Marton RSA and Councillor Alan Buckendahl came to #YHQ to speak about the history of Marton RSA & Citizens Memorial Hall.

It was a great opportunity for tamariki to learn more about the reason for the space and the mana that the venue holds in the community.

Chayne and Marvitta from Te Kotuku Hauora at Te Rūnanga o Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa also gave up their time to come and share their knowledge and harakeke skills to YHQ, teaching the tamariki how to weave putiputi (flowers). These were then made into a wreath for the Marton ANZAC parade.

Tamariki also learned how to bake ANZAC slice/biscuits and created ANZAC themed artwork.

It was awesome to see the kids engaging with the theme over the holidays, and taking a greater appreciation for the sacrifices of those who serve in our defence force.



### YOUR RATES AT WORK



Hillside along Waiaruhe Road

#### ROADING

##### Waiaruhe Road

Located 20 minutes northwest of Taihape, our contractors have been working on stabilising a slump of approximately 400m, which reduced Waiaruhe Road to one lane back in 2022.

A geotechnical assessment of the hill identified a number of issues impacting on the slump, and since then Council and our contractors have been working to stabilise it.

This summer, the team removed dead timber and reprofiled half of the hill, as well as hydroseeding and working on some drainage improvements.

The rest of the work is due to be completed next summer, which includes planting of poplar and willow trees to help provide long-term stability.

#### WATER

##### Calico Line

We're installing a new watermain on Calico Line from the bridge over the Tūtaenui Stream through to Ngā Tawa School.

What to expect:

- Work started on Tuesday 21 April and is expected to take two months to complete.
- Traffic will be down to one lane with stop/go or traffic lights in place day and night
- This is a truck route, so please take extra care when travelling through.



Work on the Taihape water network continues (Ruru Road)

#### COMING SOON

##### Overnight water shutdown in Taihape

We want to give Taihape residents an early heads up that due to us replacing a watermain on Ruru Road, there will be an overnight water shutdown that will impact the whole town in approximately four weeks' time.

We'll be doing the work at night to minimise disruption for residents and businesses. Ideally, you won't even notice it's happened!

The date and time of the shutdown is still to be confirmed. We will notify residents as soon as we know more about the timing of this shutdown.

#### STORMWATER

We're installing a new stormwater pipe on Skerman Street (between Barnett Drive and Bond Street) that will help to reduce pressure on the network and improve some known surface flooding issues in that area.

What to expect:

- Work started on Monday 13 April and is expected to be completed in three months.
- Traffic will be down to one lane with stop/go or traffic lights in place day and night
- No parking near the work site
- This is a truck route, so please take extra care when travelling through

We're aiming to have two-way traffic flowing on weekends where possible, but that will depend on site conditions.

### NZ DEFENCE FORCE CAUTION TO RESIDENTS, LIVE AMMUNITION NOTICE

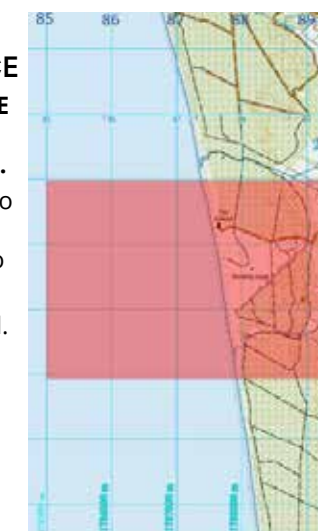
The NZDF are conducting activities using LIVE AMMUNITION in the area of Raumai Range/ Santoft Forest area on Saturday 16 May 2026.

We would like to inform residents that there is to be STRICTLY NO USE of the beach or sea in the marked area of the map during this time, due to the risk of serious injury.

The access gates to Santoft Forest will be locked. Please do not attempt to bypass the gates or access the area.

There will be notice boards and NZDF personal monitoring the beach to the north and south of the marked area. Please do not attempt to bypass these personnel or ignore them.

There will be numerous loud explosions and gunfire during this time.



Raumai-Santoft South

### RANGITĪKEI HERITAGE WEEKEND 2026

WHEN	All weekends in May
TIME	Open 10am-3pm over their weekend
LOCATION	Whole district
COST	\$2 Adults / Kids Free

Join the Rangitikei Museums in Taihape, Mangaweka, Hunterville, Marton, and Bulls as they celebrate Heritage Weekend 2026.

The theme this year is Famous Locals! And in a change from previous years, we're doing something different and featuring a museum each weekend during the month of May!

- 2/3 May Bulls Museum, 85 High Street
- 9/10 May Mangaweka Museum, 6355 State Highway 1
- 16/17 May Taihape Museum, 14 Huia Street
- 23/24 May Hunterville Museum, 10 Milne Street
- 30/31 May Marton Museum, 397 Wellington Road

Pick up your passport when you visit, if you get it stamped at all 5 museums over the month you will be entered in our prize draw!



### TAIHAPE COMMUNITY MONTHLY MARKET

WHEN	Every 3rd Saturday
TIME	9am -1pm
LOCATION	104 Hautapu Street
COST	Free

Local foods, produce, and crafts. A vibrant space that supports and connects our community!

### CROP SWAP MARTON

WHEN	Every 2nd Saturday
TIME	11am -12pm
LOCATION	Marton Community Hub
COST	Free

Do you have an abundance of fruit and vegetables? Bring your garden produce, seedlings, seeds, preserves, and 'know how' and share with others in your community.

