

RANGITIKEI Connect

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ISSUE 27

FROM THE Mayor's Desk

I have commented on the LTP submissions and the Three Waters frequently and I'm sure that people feel as though they are over this. With this report I will add that it looks as though we are grouped for Three Waters in what is called Region B which means that our supply for water and wastewater services may well be coming from the northern part of the North Island – Bay of Plenty, Taranaki etc. This was a surprise to me as I had expected that we would be linked with Manawātū, Palmerston North City and Wellington. I am off to Local Government Conference this weekend and I am sure that carrots will be put out by the Minister to get buy-in from a number of Councils that are considering not being part of the Three Waters. I will update you on my return and at that stage we will be likely to know whether Government has decided to mandate or legislate these changes. Watch this space!



I would like to comment on a couple of recent things that have happened. Firstly, we have just had the District Youth Awards held at Te Matapihi last week. Thank you to the large number of people who nominated youth and provided sponsorship for those awards. A special thanks to John and Angela Turkington for being the principal sponsors. The Outstanding Youth and overall winner was Atawhai MacDonnell from Taihape. She was entered in several different categories, one of which was Change Maker – this describes Atawhai to a tee. She is an incredible young woman who will obviously go far – my congratulations to her for winning an extremely well deserved award.

Finally, because I am trying to lose weight, I walk the Tūtaenui Reservoir nearly every evening and as such I've been able to see first-hand the incredible amount of work that has been done by the dam restoration group – lining of walkways, the culverting and planting has just been incredible. That work is also being mirrored by the work being done in Taihape, lead by Matt Thomas and others, and the link between the Papakai and Memorial Parks. There is a planting day coming up on 7 August – I will be there and I would encourage as many people to turn up with a suitable planting spade and attitude to support those making a huge difference in our community.

Ngā mihi, **Andy Watson**, Mayor of Rangitikei District.

Project Updates

Marton Memorial Hall

The upgrades to the Marton Memorial Hall are almost complete with rewiring of the building and installing modern fire alarms still to be finished. A new ceiling will be installed, and then the hall will be reopened. Planning for a second stage of upgrades has commenced which will include heating of the main hall, disabled access toilets, exterior lighting and fire retardant paint inside the building. Further information will be shared regarding future closures of the hall when dates are confirmed.



Bulls Water Supply Infrastructure

Recently, Council and our shared services partner Manawātū District Council completed the construction of the new Bulls Reservoir (near the old Bulls water tower). The purpose of the reservoir, rising main and pump station is to enhance security of water supply, and to accommodate future growth in Bulls. In early 2022, construction will begin on a rising main which will connect the reservoir to a pump station. The pump station is currently being designed.

Marton to Bulls Wastewater Transfer Pipeline

Council's Project Management Office (PMO) ran the first stage of a two-stage procurement process for a contractor to build the 14km pipeline between Marton and Bulls to transfer treated wastewater. The contractor will also build the water rising main in Bulls and the wastewater rising main in Taihape. The PMO was delighted to receive nine submissions, which were all of a high quality. Four contractors have been shortlisted, and they will receive the tender documents for the final stage of procurement within the next month. Construction is expected to start in late 2021.

Landfill Remediation, Pūtōrino Road

The remediation of the historic landfill on Pūtōrino Road is nearing completion. The landfill material has been excavated, and the sheet piling will be removed by 16 July 2021. The final stage of the project is returning some clean material to the site which will be compacted and form part of the river bank, and planting of appropriate trees to ensure bank stability.



Marton Market Day will be back for 2021!

Council will become the interim caretakers of Marton Market Day, after lead organisers Project Marton officially disbanded in late June, leaving a cloud around the future of two of Rangitikei District's biggest events, Marton Market Day and Marton Harvest Festival. Planning is under way for this year's Marton Market Day and registrations for stall holders are officially open. Applications are available on www.martonnz.com, by emailing events@rangitikei.govt.nz or alternatively paper registrations are available at the Council office at 46 High Street, Marton.

Council wishes to thank the countless numbers of volunteers and staff that have supported Project Marton and the work that has been done in the community over the past years.



Long Term Plan adopted

At its Council meeting 8 July, Councillors formally adopted the Rangitikei District Council's 10 Year Long Term Plan 2021-2031. Council would like to thank everyone who participated in pre-engagement, marae hui, consultation meetings and those who made submissions.

The Framing our Future - Long Term Plan 2021-2031 will be available on our website soon.

www.rangitikei.govt.nz/framingourfuture

Vocational Road Trip for local youth a success

Last month, 30 local secondary school students took part in two Mahi Tahī (Rangitikei's Employment Programme) vocational road trips. Working in partnership with Whanganui-Rangitikei Skills & Talent and Whanganui & Partners, the road trips showcased career opportunities within our district. The students attended several local businesses including Ngā Wairiki-Ngāti Apa, Te Hou Farms, Rangitikei District Council, Collagen Solutions, BJW Motors and Dave's Tyre Service.

The youth explored opportunities in IT, GIS data analysis and project planning. They learned about milking, general farming, berries, bees and future possible career pathways.

Overall feedback was extremely positive and the possibility of doing more vocational road trips are on the table. Council wishes to thank all those involved in making these road trips possible.



MAHI TAHI
RANGITIKEI EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME

How did we do this year?

Help us, help you, by answering our Annual Resident Survey 2021...



www.rangitikei.govt.nz/howdidwedothisthisyear?

Closes 26 July 2021

EVENT SPONSORSHIP SCHEME



OPENS 19 JUNE AND CLOSSES 22 JULY 2021

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