

RANGITIKEI Connect

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ISSUE 47

FROM THE Mayor's Desk

Winter is here and we know it is going to get wet and cold, certainly the recent amount of rain we've had is extraordinary. With wet weather we run into problems maintaining drinking water – read more about the issue we are facing in Taihape in the next column. My thanks go to the Taihape residents for being careful around their use. We have completed hearing submissions to and deliberations on the Annual Plan. The projected rate increase was 7.29% which is an average property increase of 6.29%. We are yet to formally adopt our rate increases but they will be slightly in excess of that as Council desires to fund some community works including supporting Hunterville, Koitiata and a district housing survey.

A fortnight ago there was an art exhibition at Te Matapihi featuring local artists in collaboration with Square Edge in Palmerston North. Unfortunately I was not aware that there was to be a formal opening on the Friday evening. I am disappointed I was unable to front this and I have apologised to a number of parties around our non-attendance. I am also now making a public apology for this. We hope to work more closely with Square Edge and our artists in the future for a possible annual showcasing event.

The 5th of June saw the celebration of Samoan Independence Day at Memorial Hall in Marton. As always our churches were all present with huge numbers for a wonderful service. On a sad note it would seem as though Rev. Farani Vaa will be likely given another overseas posting so we will probably be farewelling him from our district soon. I would like to thank Farani for the huge amount of service that he has given to our district and his involvement in a number of community events over the years.

Local elections will be held through August/September and a new council will be established in October. I encourage people to stand for these positions. If you would like some insight into what Council's role and function is, consider attending a Council meeting or talking with one of the Elected Members or myself.

Ngā manaakitanga, Andy Watson, Mayor of Rangitikei District



Taihape residents urged to continue conserving water.

Recent heavy rainfall has created pressure on the Taihape water treatment plant. Significant rainfall creates dirty water in the Hautapu river; this river water is the source of Taihape's drinking water. When it is dirty for long periods, treatment is more difficult and takes longer than usual. This means the output of clean water into the reservoir is slower than normal. During this time, water is being used faster than it is being treated and is causing the reservoir levels to drop.

Process improvement upgrades require a temporary shutdown of the plant and can only take place once the reservoir is sufficiently full – we are aiming for this to be 100%. In order to resolve the issue, we are relying on the community conserving water so the reservoir levels can increase. The reservoir is currently making slow gains and we thank the public for their ongoing cooperation.

Treatment staff have been working 24/7 to manage the issue and, when necessary, drinking water is being transported from Mangaweka to the Taihape reservoir.

The water is currently being treated to a high standard and should this change the public will be notified.



VISIT THE QR CODE
FOR TIPS ON
CONSERVING WATER

Are you eligible for a Rate Rebate?

A rates rebate is a partial refund for people who pay rates to the council. If you have not applied/received a rebate in the last rating year phone our Customer Experience staff who will send an application to you or you can pick one up from any of our offices. **The last day to apply for a rates rebates is 30 June 2022.** Visit www.rangitikei.govt.nz/ratesrebates to see if you qualify.

WHAT'S ON AT Te Matapihi

JULY EVENTS

Dave Hayward - 2pm | Tuesday 26 July

Christchurch born Dave Hayward, retired as the Sergeant Major of the army. His first-hand knowledge of the world of the twentieth century infantry soldier is recognised as unique.

Bulls Book Club - starting 5 July

Happening on the first Tuesday of every month at 11am
Contact matthew.patterson@rangitikei.govt.nz or 06 327 0083.

Community Movies - starting 6 July

Happening on the first Wednesday of the month at 2pm.
These are FREE events. For information call our friendly staff at Te Matapihi on 06 327 0083 or email: bullslib@rangitikei.govt.nz

NOTE: These events are subject to Covid-19 Traffic Light setting regulations and may be cancelled at short notice.



Security guards to monitor incorrect use of Bulls Bus Lane

Council is aware of cars and heavy vehicles incorrectly using the Bulls Bus Lane, including disregard of the 10kmh speed limit. Security guards will now be monitoring the bus lane to inform breaching motorists.



No vehicles other than buses should be passing through the new Bulls Bus Lane. Other vehicles using this lane can create safety hazards for bus users and the public. Bus only signage and markings are displayed at the entrance and throughout to highlight the bus only area. Public safety is our number one priority. The bus lane has not been designed as a thoroughfare for trucks or light vehicles. We ask that drivers respect patron safety and use public roads for travel.

Committee meetings no longer live streamed

As an outcome of the easing of Covid restrictions, our Council and Committee meetings are now being held face-to-face in the Council Chambers at our High Street office in Marton. The public are welcome to attend these meetings and a full schedule is available at rangitikei.govt.nz/council/meetings. Agendas are also made available via this link typically three days before a meeting. From the 30 June committee meetings (Assets / Infrastructure; Policy / Planning; Finance and Performance; Audit and Risk committees) will no longer be available online, however given the significant public interest in full Council meetings these will continue to be livestreamed through our Facebook page.



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Pay in person:
Taihape Library, Marton Office
and Te Matapihi, Bulls

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