

# RANGITĪKEI Connect

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ISSUE 51

## FROM THE Mayor's Desk

Thank you to those people who have put up their hand to stand for Council or Community Boards. I am pleased that we have enough interest from people so that a by-election will not be needed post-election day results which I think will tend to be the case in a few Councils. The formation of Community Committees in Bulls and Marton will take place after the elections.



Late last week I called into have a look at the old Council library in Bulls, which we effectively handed over the Bulls Museum. One of the conditions of the handover was the building was to be earthquake strengthened to meet compliance. This work has been done, it looks great and was done at a relatively affordable price as I believe. Earthquake strengthening alternatives have come a long way over the last few years. As such I will be going to an earthquake strengthening presentation to be held at Te Matapihi on Friday 19 August. At a subsequent Council meeting I should be able to share comment from that event and many of the lessons learned.

Last weekend I had the pleasure of attending two community tree planting events - one in Taihape and one in Marton. In Taihape the community attended in force with about 80 people planting about 1400 trees in around 4 hours - a great effort! If you have not walked around the Hautapu River reserve you should see the trees and plants which are stunning. The Marton planting was to finish off the winter planting program around the Tūtaenui Reservoir (B&C dams). This dam walk is incredibly popular and as a result several people have asked me about the earthworks at the toe of the bottom dam. This is the site of the second well being drilled to provide a stable water source for Marton's drinking water, removing the need to use dam water. This is part of an \$11m planned upgrade improvement to Marton Water. Essentially it should address odour and taste issues.

I thank motorists for their patience in dealing with the SH1/SH3 roadworks. The roadworks are to put in place the new Marton to Bulls wastewater connection which will be part of the new Marton to Bulls sewerage system.

I am presenting to the Government's Select Committee this week regarding Council's response to the Water Services Entities Bill, i.e. Three Waters legislation. I understand that the Government is trying to deal with about 83,000 submissions, most of which will not be in support of the Bill. Our Council is one of those and we are arguing that the reforms are rushed, poorly consulted on and will result in taking away the public voice along with other concerns. Regardless of what people say, the Government's reform process is and will continue at pace.

**Ngā manaakitanga, Andy Watson, Mayor of Rangitikei.**

## RANGITĪKEI CIVIL DEFENCE RESPONSE TEAM

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

#### Looking for a challenge? Become a civil defence volunteer

The Rangitikei Civil Defence Response Team provides qualified responders to support Civil Defence Emergency Management and their communities during an emergency event. Working closely with Council, we look for team members who enjoy a physically and mentally challenging environment. We are team players with a common desire to serve their community. Team members work alongside and assist the emergency services and other responding agencies.

You'll be trained to:

- Provide support to emergency services
- Assist with public notifications and evacuations
- Provide support and staffing for our Emergency Operations Centre

- Respond to flood and storm events
- Establish and manage Civil Defence Centres
- Provide Light Urban Search & Rescue (USAR)

Within the response team there are a wide range of skills and roles to suit different needs. Our team trains fortnightly, from 7-9pm at the CDEM Depot, 46 High Street, Marton, however training commitments are matched to different roles and some require less commitment.

Check out what the team gets up to at [www.facebook.com/RDCDRT](http://www.facebook.com/RDCDRT)

To join the team or find out more information, please contact Paul Chaffe, Emergency Management Officer on [paul.chaffe@rangitikei.govt.nz](mailto:paul.chaffe@rangitikei.govt.nz) or 0800 422 522.



## YOUR COUNCIL YOUR SAY YOUR RANGITĪKEI

### Close Of Nominations Brings 29 Candidates

Council's Deputy Electoral Officer, Carol Gordon, advised that when nominations closed at midday today 29 candidates had put themselves forward for the local body elections being held on 8 October this year. "There was a last-minute influx of nominations which saw candidates be nominated for all vacancies in the district."

The newly formed Māori wards each received one candidate so both these candidates will be elected unopposed. They are Tracey Piki Te Ora Hiroa for the Tiikeitia ki Uta (Inland) Ward; and Coral Raukawa for the Tiikeitia ki Tai (Coastal) Ward.

Four candidates have entered the Mayoral race, they are Quinton Murray Berrett, Dave Christison, Simon Loudon, and incumbent Andy Watson.

The Central Ward is being contested by eight candidates for five vacancies - Marilyn Craig; Fi Dalgety; Richard Lambert; Simon Loudon; Greg Maughan; Annie McDowell; Dave Wilson and Grant Wilson.

The Northern Ward received four candidates for two vacancies Owen Bonnor, Les Clarke, Gill Duncan and Jeff Wong.

There were two candidates for the two vacancies in the Southern Ward, therefore Jarrod Calkin and Brian Carter were elected unopposed.

The four candidates for the Rātana Community Board were also elected unopposed - they are Lequan Meihana, Charlie Mete, Jamie Nepia and Grace Joan Taiaroa.

Five candidates are contesting the four vacancies for the Taihape Community Board the candidates are Emma Abernethy, Les Clarke, Craig Dredge, Peter Kipling-Arthur and Gail Larsen.

Mr Peter Beggs, Chief Executive said, "It is encouraging to see all Rangitikei District Council seats meet or exceed the required number of candidates. I congratulate those candidates who have progressed unopposed, and look forward to high community interest in determining which of the other candidates are elected to Council."

Full details for all the candidates are on our website. [www.rangitikei.govt.nz/elections](http://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/elections)

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES CLOSING SOON

If you have a community-based project or initiative that requires funding, Council can help. Check out the funding categories below and see if you are eligible. If you're eligible applications can be submitted easily online.

#### Funding rounds close on August 28.

##### Community Initiative Fund

This is a Council fund intended to support community based projects in the Rangitikei District that develop community cohesion and resilience.

##### Event Sponsorship Scheme

This is a Council fund intended to support events in the district that help to develop community cohesion and reinforce economic growth. There are three main categories of events: high profile, community, or high profile community events. Applications are

open to groups (not individuals) whose events take place within the Rangitikei, and that are not funded by the Rangitikei District Council ratepayers through other means.

To apply go to [www.rangitikei.govt.nz/fundingopportunities](http://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/fundingopportunities)

