

RANGITIKEI Connect

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ISSUE 52

FROM THE Mayor's Desk



At the last Council meeting one of the principle discussions was around what we refer to as Tranche 1 funding for the Government's Better Off funding package. Our share of this is \$3.3m and we will need to apply for it.

Council's thinking was certainly to apply for maximum amount we are eligible for and part of the thinking behind that was the second tranche of funding may not be available if there's a change of Government. Within that available funding the things we are considering are first of all, housing and district plan work, climate change work, the Hautapu River project run by Friends of Taihape, money for rejuvenation of town centres, some flood design work for Marton and the balance of the money being used to bring forward the Taihape Civic Centre rebuild project with investigation and design.

Council is nearing the end of its term of office. Councillor Coral Raukawa and Councillor Tracey Piki Te Ora Hiroa have been appointed unopposed in the new Māori Ward seats as sole nominations. In the Southern Ward, Councillor Brian Carter retains his seat and we welcome new Councillor Jarrod Calkin, both were appointed unopposed. I would like to take this opportunity to mention that Councillor Carter has just been recognised as having served 50 years as a volunteer fire officer with the Bulls Fire Brigade – truly an outstanding feat.

On 20 August the artworks outside the Te Matapihi building were unveiled by the artists Pip Devonshire and Reweti Arapere from Ngāti Parewahawaha and Ngāti Raukawa. The artworks are superb and tell the story of the surrounding district, highlighting the awa – Rangitikei river and the associated iwi and being contemporary in nature, sit incredibly well with the design and function of Te Matapihi.

I recently attended an earthquake strengthening seminar at Te Matapihi, presented by Dr Dmytro Dizhur and Roger Wilkinson showing that the world of earthquake strengthening has moved on with much more modern techniques making it more affordable to preserve the earthquake prone buildings we have in our district. Thanks to our Economic Development Advisor Jaime Reibel for co-ordinating this informative seminar.

I also attended a planting day in Marton to finish off the winter planting program around the Tūtaenui Reservoir (B&C dams). The reservoir 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.

I would like to congratulate local Edale resident Dickie Hammond on "100 not out" – Dickie celebrated her 100th birthday on 29 August with well wishers queuing up at her door. Dickie is quite the local celebrity and myself and Council congratulate her on this milestone.

We are now in the election period and the critical message here is that people must vote. It is quite concerning that turnout in recent elections has been very low across the district. Voting papers will start being delivered on 16 September - please have your say.

Ngā manaakitanga, Andy Watson, Mayor of Rangitikei.

New defibrillators installed across Rangitikei

We've installed four new automated external defibrillators (AEDs) across our District.

An AED can increase someone's chance of survival by up to 80% if applied immediately. We want to make accessing AED's easier for our communities.

The new locations include:

- Te Matapihi – Bulls Community Centre (24 hour access)
- Taihape Library (24 hour access)
- Council Depot, King Street, Marton (24 hour access)
- Council Offices, High Street, Marton

Rangitikei District Council Health Safety and Wellbeing Advisor Marcelle said, "AED's can be the difference between life and death so it was really important for us to make these more accessible for our communities."

AED's are used to revive someone when they go into sudden cardiac arrest. A cardiac arrest occurs when the heart stops pumping blood around the body. You should use the AED if you can't feel a pulse and the person isn't breathing. For more information on the signs of cardiac arrest visit heartfoundation.org.nz

Each of our AED sites are fitted with a set of instructions. Once you begin using the AED a loud instructional voice recording will prompt you through the steps. Although they might look a bit intimidating, it's as easy as tying your shoes.

Visit aedlocations.co.nz for a full list of AED's in our towns.



YOUR COUNCIL YOUR SAY YOUR RANGITIKEI



Did you know, less than 50% of eligible voters voted in the last local government election. Your voice matters, have your say by voting in this years election.

Every three years Rangitikei District Council takes part in a local election. The local election is your opportunity to choose who you want to represent you on our council. 2022 marks the latest election cycle and in October you can vote for your preferred candidate. Once voted in, these candidates will remain for three years until the next local election in 2025.

Local government elections are important. Your District Council is responsible for many of the community services and infrastructure you engage with every single day.

From roads to playgrounds, and drinking water to libraries, council plays a huge role in keeping our communities ticking. Our mayor and councillors influence how these services and infrastructure look, so it's important you have a say on the people that represent our district. Voting in the local elections is your opportunity to do this.

Help us make the decisions that shape the future of our district.

Who is standing for our district in this election?

Mayor	Northern Ward (2 vacancies)	Central Ward (5 vacancies)	Taihape Community Board (4 vacancies)
Quinton Murray Berrett	Owen Bonnor	Marilyn Craig	Emma Abernethy
Dave Christison	Les Clarke	Fi Dalgety	Les Clarke
Simon Loudon	Gill Duncan	Richard Lambert	Craig Dredge
Andy Watson	Jeff Wong	Simon Loudon	Peter Kipling-Arthur
		Greg Maughan	Gail Larsen
		Annie McDowell	
		Dave Wilson	
		Grant Wilson	

Tiikeitia ki Uta (Inland), Tiikeitia ki Tai (Coastal), Southern Wards and the Rātana Community Board seats were elected unopposed.

For more information on the elections visit rangitikei.govt.nz/elections

Mobile Library Hitting Our Streets

With support from the Whanganui District Library, starting from 25 August and every fortnight after, the mobile library will be visiting the following locations:

Koitiata Hall	9.30am-10.15am
Rātana Hub	10.30am-11.15am
Whangaehu School (book drop only)	11.30am-11.45am

If the interest is there, we will look at expanding our run into our other small communities that don't have easy access to a library. For more information email libraries@rangitikei.govt.nz



RANGITIKEI
YOUTH COUNCIL

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Tuesday 27 September
RSA and Citizens' Memorial Hall
5.30pm
Supper provided

For more info contact:
Kelly.Widdowson@rangitikei.govt.nz
or 027 715 8584

Hosted by
Rangitikei Youth Council

LOCAL ELECTIONS 2022