

RANGITIKEI Connect

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ISSUE 57

FROM THE Mayor's Desk

For this week's Connect what I am doing is effectively giving up my space to highlight the recent Armistice Day Celebrations.

During the Service that was held at Marton Park Denise Pio had written and delivered her thoughts around Armistice Day. Denise is a Year 10 student from Rangitikei College. The piece had been written entirely by her and I found it incredibly moving and delivered flawlessly. This is that piece -

Kia ora, hello and good morning to you all. My name is Denise Pio. Today is a special day, Remembrance Day.

A day to remember those who have gone before us in the time of war... but what does this mean to me and why should I remember? Well, before I go into that, let's cover some background information about what is Remembrance day. In 1914, 28th of July, World War One, otherwise known as the Great War, started. This included Aotearoa New Zealand, Australia, Britain, France and Russia, going against their enemies, Germany, Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire.

For four years straight, the war went on. During these years, many gave their lives and fought for their country. New Zealand being involved, faced many horrific battles, such as the Landing at Gallipoli. However, one day, both sides agreed on an Armistice. By signing this agreement, the war will come to an end and soldiers will reunite with their loved ones. So with that being said, on the 11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month... Guns were silenced and cheers erupted throughout the world.

Armistice day or Remembrance Day is now celebrated worldwide as the day that the Great War stopped. For the first 2 minutes at 11 am on the 11th of November, many people stop for a moment of silence to remember those who served their countries during this war. Millions died, injuries were faced, and many survived but what I can assure you of, is that no one in that war, came out the same.

This brings me back to my main question. What does it mean to me? I, had never been involved in a war or know how people felt during such difficult times. All I know is that with what I learned, I have become more aware and grateful for the time that I have emerged. To me, remembrance day is a time to pay respect and remember all those who lived and died for future generations. All, soldiers, doctors, children, men and women.

Today, 104 years ago, I can see pain, suffering, torture, and struggles disappear. With this, I can also see sadness and sorrow for many lives lost. Today isn't just of the past, it is also a reminder for the time ahead. I feel lucky that I am living in an environment where violence isn't part of my daily struggle. The thought of my loved ones also feels rather important on this particular day.

I am reminded that everything I have and love has a certain amount and time. It means that I should treasure and protect it while I can, and so should you. This isn't a day of remembering just our New Zealanders or Australians that lived a life of service. I feel honoured for being able to express my gratitude to all who have lived a life of service. For without them, I would never have turned out as the person that I am today.

During this time, it is good to remember the past, but it is also really important to live for the present and future. Let us remember also our families, friends and all those who have passed on. Please keep in mind that time is precious and so is life. If we don't end the war, the war will end us. What does remembrance day mean to you?

Thank you and God bless you.

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



Denise Pio - Rangitikei College



Tutaenui Whānau Fishing Weekend

Join us for the Tutaenui Whānau Fishing Weekend hosted by Wellington Fish & Game and Rangitikei District Council on **Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th November.**

Get the whānau together and have a go at catching some of the 400 rainbow trout that will be released into the reservoir waters. The reservoir offers some of the best perch fishing in the region too!

All anglers will need to be licensed - these are free for under 12s and can be organised on the day or buy a fishing licence ahead of the event, please visit fishandgame.org.nz/licences/buy-a-licence

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS!

Community and Reserve Management Committees



We're looking for people who are passionate about their communities to join our Community and Reserve Management Committees for the 2022 - 2025 triennium.

Our Community Committees provide a local link and point of contact for Council liaison with the community.

We have four community committees in the District - Bulls, Hunterville, Marton and Turakina Community Committees.

Our Domain/Reserve Committees act as caregivers of these areas and progress their development through a range of projects. Council has one reserve management committee and one domain management committee. These are the McIntyre Reserve Management and the Santoft Domain Management Committee

Nomination forms are available on our website, at all administration buildings, Council Libraries, Te Matapihi, Hunterville Village bookshop and the Turakina Mobil Service Station.

Nomination forms must be returned to Council by 12pm Friday 18 November.

Community invited to attend memorial tree planting

To acknowledge the passing of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, Rangitikei District Council will be planting a memorial tree at Marton Park Follett Street on Saturday 26th November at 10am.

The new tree, a Copper Beech, will be planted near the site of the large Conifer tree that was recently removed due to decay.

Please join Mayor Andy Watson, Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa and the Marton RSA for this special planting to remember The Queen and her years of service.



Building and Resource Consents over the Christmas/New Year period

Do you need your Building and/or Resource Consent to be processed before Christmas?

Please make sure to submit your Building and/or Resource Consent no later than Monday 21 November 2022 to allow time for processing. Keep in mind, if you have any further information requests after this date this may delay the processing time or acceptance of your Building and/or Resource Consent.

Any Building and Resource Consents submitted after Monday 19 December 2022 will not be processed until Wednesday 11 January 2023 due to the Christmas/New Year break.

RANGITIKEI
YOUTH COUNCIL

Join the
Rangitikei Youth Council
for 2023!

Applications open now for Youth Council 2023!

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