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ISSUE 59

# Ngã mihi Kirihimete me ngã manaakitanga mõ te Jau Hou

**FURTHER CALL FOR** 

**NOMINATIONS!** 



FROM THE

Mayor's Desk

hristmas is just around the corner and my diary has bee full of school and business end of year functions.

Last week I attended the Marton School Bronze Enviro-School Reflection Day. Several of our schools are Enviro Schools - a

programme run in conjunction with Horizons Regional Council. I was stunned all of the classes had prepared presentations on saving the environment. We had a tour of the school to see the plantings that have been done and the new fitness track and the pump track. But what really impressed me was the effort that one of the teachers, Mr Randell, had gone to. He had personally donated a huge number of native trees (about 185) one for each pupil at the time and had arranged that nine totara would be planted in the right place to celebrate Matariki with another totara recognising Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa. Mr Randell you are a star and it is special teachers like yourself that we will remember forever.

The Dudding Trust has just finished advising applicants of the latest funding round. Approximately \$870,000 has been distributed by the Trust. The Dudding Trust ring-fences applications to our district, in the past it has granted money to organisations and schools that had no direct link or benefit to the Rangitīkei, now it is our local Trust and where would we be without it?

On 13 December I attended a function at Ohakea celebrating the arrival of the first P8 long range maritime surveillance plane - the first of four to arrive. We have all driven past Ohakea and looked at the impressive new hangars and buildings being built. Many of the new staff at Ohakea have elected to build homes in our district, to join sports clubs here and to support our towns. This is a chance to formally welcome them.

Finally from myself and Council Merry Christmas, enjoy the holidays, catch up with family and friends and please, please travel safely. **Best wishes, Andy & Beth Watson.** 

### Nominations open for Bulls Community Committee

If you would like to stand up and represent the voice of your community, Mayor Andy Watson will be holding a public meeting at Te Matapihi, Bulls on Wednesday, 1 February at 6pm for anyone interested in standing for the Bulls Community Committee.

Nominations close at midday on Wednesday 8 February 2023. Nomination forms are available at Community and Reserve Management Committees, at all administration buildings, Council Libraries and Te Matapihi.

For more information, visit our website

www.rangitikei.govt.nz/Bulls-Community-Committee-Nominations

# Rangitīkei District Council temporary operating hours

The operating hours for our council offices, libraries and waste transfer stations will be changing over the Christmas period.

- Council offices will be closing from midday Friday 23
   December 2022 and will reopen on Monday 9 January 2023.
- All libraries will be closed from midday 24 December to 26 December 2022.
   Marton Library will also be closed on 27 December 2022, and the 1-3 January 2023.
- All waste transfer stations will be closed on 25 and 26 December 2022, and 1 and 2 of January 2023. Operating hours may also differ slightly outside of these days.

If you have an urgent issue to report, please remember you can always call us on our 24/7 phone number 0800 422 522. This will be open throughout the holiday period.







#### **Community Volunteer Awards nominations open now!**

We've had some requests from the community asking us to recognise those who go above and beyond for our district. Well, get ready Rangitīkei! Because for the first time in 2023, we'll be bringing together the inaugural Community Volunteer Awards!

The Community Volunteer Awards 2023 offer an opportunity to recognise all the wonderful volunteers we have in our community who have contributed significantly to the community service, welfare, sport and recreation, culture, arts and education sectors.

As this is our first-ever award ceremony we want to make sure we recognise current and past achievements, so we're opening up our nominations to anyone who has made a significant contribution over the last few years.

If you know someone who should be recognised for their efforts, someone who gives up their time and always goes that extra mile to make our community a better place - make sure to nominate them for the Community Volunteer Awards 2023.

Nominations close at 5pm on Monday 6th February 2023.

To make your nomination, visit www.rangitikei.govt.nz/communityvolunteerawards

Ahakoa he iti, he pounamu – Tiny treasures are of great value.



## Funding received for play trailer and new equipment

Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa have provided funding to the Rangitīkei District Council and the Taihape Community Development Trust for a play trailer and new equipment which will pop up at events throughout the district from late January 2023. The community will be able to book the play trailer for events too!

A big thank you also goes to the team at Sport Whanganui for supporting us to secure this funding. Make sure to keep an eye on our socials to find out when the trailer arrives and how you can book it for your events.

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

#### Council Workshop (Annual Plan Discussions)

Thursday 26 January

All workshops are open to the public, unless there are specific items which Council resolves to consider 'public excluded'.

9.30am

### Why has my water changed?

It's summer and the water consumption in Marton is high. During the warmer summer

months, the Tutaenui reservoir is subject to algae blooms that in turn causes taste and odour challenges in the town water supply. Some residents will start to notice the drinking water change. While the water that comes from your taps is safe to drink, we know that it can look, taste and smell unpleasant.

We're currently working on projects and plans to ensure everyone has access to consistent, high quality drinking water. This includes:

- The drilling of a new borehole at Tütaenui Reserve as main water source (currently underway).
- Design and refurbishment of the water treatment plant.

This project is expected to be completed in late 2024. In the meantime, if you would like alternative drinking water, you can access free filtered water year-round from the Marton RSA and Citizens Memorial Hall.

For more information about our plans to improve Marton's drinking water, visit our website: rangitikei.govt.nz/projects



