

FROM THE Mayor's Desk

Tena koutou katoa, as always we have had a number of events in our district recently.

The Cowpers hosted their annual 4x4 event last weekend in Turakina which was incredibly successful and this follows the equally successful Harvest Festival in March and ANZAC Day commemorations across the district in April. A common feature with our events this year has been the worry of rain. This has been the wettest year that I can remember for a very, very long time. While we tend to reflect on leisure and entertainment pursuits let's spare a thought for a second around our farming community. A number of our crops such as maize, wheat and barley have had a challenging season. Yields probably have not been at optimum levels, it has been difficult getting sheep shorn and stock into freezing works etc. We must remember that our economy is built on this rural sector and the difficulties of farming in a problematic year are incredibly challenging so this is a plea from me to remember our farming roots.

There have been a huge number of submissions to our Annual Plan and Spatial Plan process. I'd like to take the time to thank all of those people who have either submitted or turned up at public meetings or given their thoughts. On some of the key choices we seem to have very clear direction on how we move forward. Deliberations, or decision making, will occur on 1 June so that we have the annual plan finalised by the end of the financial year June/July.

Ngā mihi, Andy Watson, Mayor of Rangitikei.



Community voices heard

A community with a voice, is a community that cares. This year we saw a sharp increase in the number of submissions for our 2023/24 Annual Plan and an excellent response to our consultation on our Community Spatial Plan. 268 written submissions were received for the 2023/24 Annual Plan and 180 written submissions for the Community Spatial Plan. The feedback provided in the submissions plays a key part in assisting us with our decision making moving forward. It is fantastic to see such a positive response.

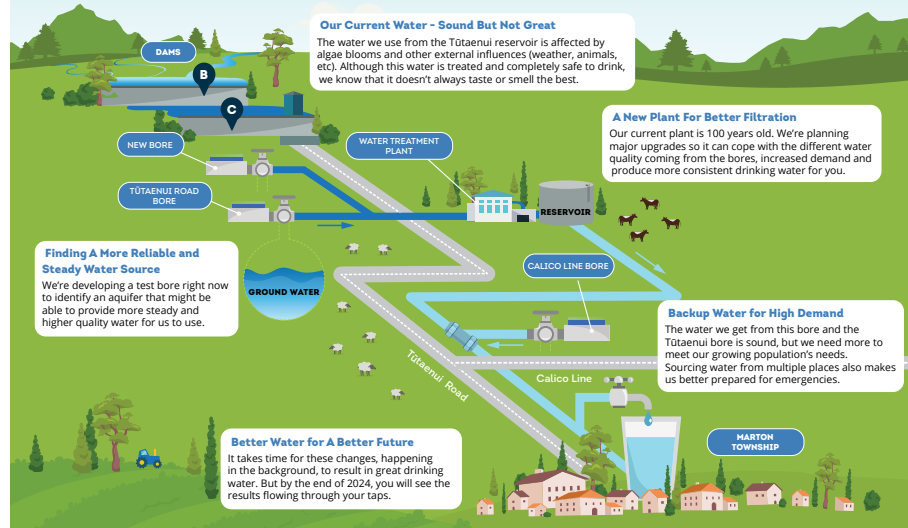
Public hearings held in Taihape and Marton on the 11-12 May gave opportunity for those submitters who wished to speak to present verbally. Over the two days 45 people addressed Council on the Annual Plan and Spatial Plan. Speakers were given ten minutes for each submission to present, and to answer questions from Elected Members. All submissions and feedback on the Annual Plan will be considered by Council on 1 June and any changes made will be incorporated into the updated 2023/24 Annual Plan work is ongoing on the Community Spatial Plan.

Thank you to all who took the time to send submissions and those who presented, your input and voice is an important part of us shaping the future of our district.



Pae Tawhiti
RANGITIKEI BEYOND
DRAFT COMMUNITY
SPATIAL PLAN

We're Building Our Way to Better Water



We know the drinking water in Marton isn't great, and we're working on a solution.

Our plans include:

- Identifying a more reliable and steady water source
- Finding more water to cater for our population growth
- Upgrading our 100-year-old water treatment plant for better filtration

Want to learn more? Check out our website www.rangitikei.govt.nz/marton-water-strategy

JOB VACANCIES

Senior Project Engineer

In this specialist role, you will be responsible for providing engineering expertise with a primary focus on the delivery of civil projects within the Capital Projects Group and to support the Assets and Infrastructure Group with engineering advice.

Information Services Support Assistant

This is an entry level role, and you will be part of a team working to ensure that our Council systems operate at optimal efficiency, and that the maintenance and implementation of systems are carried out to maintain business continuity.

We are keen to hear from suitable candidates who have, or can develop, what we are looking for. www.rangitikei.govt.nz/vacancies



It's time to pay your rates...



The fourth instalment of rates are due on Monday 22 May!

Make sure to keep an eye on your email or letterbox for your next rates instalment notice. Or, if you pay by automatic payment, make sure your payment amount is correct so you can keep your rate payments up to date. You can also pay online at www.rangitikei.govt.nz/paymyrates.

If you would prefer your rates to be emailed to you in the future, please enter your details via this link: www.rangitikei.govt.nz/ratesbyemail

6 WEEK GOLF PROGRAMME

Taihape Lobby's six-week golf programme

The Taihape Lobby, in collaboration with Golf NZ, are excited to launch their six-week golf programme. Taking place from 23 May to 27 June, come along for FREE lessons and learn all the basics of golf at the Taihape Golf Course. Transport to the golf course leaves from The Lobby at 3.15pm, with classes going from 3.45pm to 4.45pm every Tuesday. Available for ages 9 - 23. Spaces for this course are limited. Please contact Kayla Hyland 027 316 2652 for more information and to secure your space.

WHAT'S ON AT Te Matapihi

Check out what's coming up at Te Matapihi - Bulls Community Centre in June! These are FREE events. For more information on these events, please call our friendly staff at Te Matapihi on 06 327 0083 or email: bullslib@rangitikei.govt.nz

Tuesday 6 June: Author talks - Jude Knight

Come along to Te Matapihi at 11am to hear author Jude Knight discuss the 'Six reasons romance is feminist'. This event will have an optional gold coin donation with all proceeds going towards the Mayoral Relief Fund for Cyclone Gabrielle.

Wednesday 7 June: Community Movie

Join us at 2pm for our free monthly movie at Te Matapihi. This month we'll be watching **Satellite Boy**, an Australian movie about a boy who lives in an old drive-in cinema with his grandfather and gets lost in the Outback when he goes to the city to save his home from demolition.

Do you need help using modern gadgets?

Whether you need help using your mobile phone, computer, tablet, or accessing the internet - we can help!

Contact Matthew at the Bulls Learning Hub on 06 327 0083 or email matthew.patterson@rangitikei.govt.nz to book in a time to answer all your technology-related questions.

