

# RANGITIKEI Connect

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ISSUE 71

## FROM THE Mayor's Desk



Kia ora koutou, on 6 July Councillors and senior staff had an amazing day out. Te Runanga o Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa hosted us first at Te Poho o Tuariki at Hendersons Line and later on a bus trip to visit a couple of their commercial developments of their diary farm at Te Hou (Flockhouse) and at their strawberry venture at Kaitoke. Pahia Turia (Chair) and Grant Huwyler (CE) took us through the history of loss of their lands, the process of settlement with the Crown and subsequent commercial developments and land purchases. It has been a story of poor treatment by the Crown and New Zealand and a fantastic development post-settlement. They are one of our biggest companies and are the largest dairy farming operation in our district. They have a policy of only investing in their rohe (area) and have chosen to invest in community outcomes of employment and health. Their purchase and operation of the Stewart Street surgery in Marton is a stand out decision that I applaud them for. For me, the visit to Te Hou, the old Flockhouse farm in partnership initially with the Dalrymples and Ātīhau-Whanganui Incorporation was a standout. To see a new 80 stand rotary dairy shed being constructed and to see the care taken to make the farm a New Zealand sector leader was remarkable. I thank Pahia and Grant for the day.

Our Chief Executive Peter Beggs' last day with Council is 18 August and he will be here for the opening of the new amenities building, Ngā Awa Block, in Taihape on 12 August, another major project he has helped drive.

The John and Angela Turkington Youth Awards were held at Te Matapihi on 30 June. Thank you to the Turkingtons for continuing their sponsorship of not only this event but also for the numerous other events they support. There were a large number of local companies that supported different category awards on the night and I congratulate the Youth Council for running the event. Kelly Widdowson and Kayla Hyland lead the Youth Council and this event was amazingly achieved on a \$3000 budget – how they did that I don't quite understand but I thank them for it. The overall Youth of the Year winner was Rebekah Gribbon. Rebekah is the young founder, owner and operator of Highland Evolution which offers highland dancing lessons, opportunity for leadership and overseas participation in competition for youth and young ladies involved. Rebekah is an incredibly well deserved winner.

Te Matapihi was also used to host the staff awards on 7 July. The awards termed the "Matariki Stars of Council" helped celebrate Matariki, the Māori New Year and recognise winners and nominations from across Council. Christin Ritchie was the Matariki Supreme Award winner of the night. Congratulations to all on your excellence.

Ngā mihi, Andy Watson, Mayor of Rangitikei.

## New Sculpture for Hunterville

The extensive work done by the Hunterville Community Committee has seen the project to have the installation of a Core10 Steel Huntaway sculpture on the Village Green across from the Hunterville Town Hall.

The sculpture includes the Hunterville Huntaway Festival Shepherds Shemozzle Overall winner's details from over the years.

The Community Committee would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone involved for your support in making this happen.



## AVOID THE POUND LICENSE YOUR HOUND!

### Last chance for Dog Registration!

Time is running out to avoid a late payment fee for dog registration. Pay before 31 July 2023.

You can pay online [www.rangitikei.govt.nz/dogs](http://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/dogs) or pay in person at Taihape Library, Marton Office, Hunterville Village Bookshop or Te Matapihi, Bulls.

For more information phone our Customer Experience Team on 0800 422 522



## Taihape Ngā Awa Block is nearly ready for kick off!

A well needed addition to the Memorial Park facilities, the Ngā Awa Block is nearly completed and will be ready to be handed over to the community to use. The new building includes four changing rooms, each with toilets and showers, two smaller multi-purpose rooms, extra referee rooms, and a small commentators/observation room. The building will be fully accessible, there will be three public toilets, two of which include showers and a car park. This project has seen a number of delays, with the construction project team working closely together to mitigate any issues. While this has been completed later than expected, the building will be standing strong for many generations to enjoy.

The opening and blessing of the facility will be held on **Saturday 12 August at 10am** with some refreshments and a sausage sizzle to celebrate this milestone with the community.

During the official opening of the Ngā Awa Block there will also be a tree planting to commemorate His Majesty King Charles the Third's Coronation.



## Help beautify our district with Chorus Art

Do you enjoy getting your creative vibe on? Can you paint?

The Chorus Cabinet art submissions have opened, and Rangitikei has four spots up for grabs! If this sounds like you, and you want to be a part of making our District a more vibrant place to be in-check out link and get in touch with Chorus!

[www.chorus.co.nz/community/cabinet-art-programme](http://www.chorus.co.nz/community/cabinet-art-programme)



## Mid-Winter Late Night Shopping

Bring your friends and something warm to wear and join us for an evening of late-night shopping in Marton, **open until 7.30pm, Thursday 20 July.**

Our local retailers will be open late providing excellent service and fantastic food and drinks.

## THE HAUTAPU RIVER PARKS COLLECTIVE

# Planting Day

## Calling on volunteers for Planting Day

Ngati Tamakopiri, Friends of Taihape and supporters, have joined forces to enhance and beautify Taihape's Hautapu River Parks.

This is the final of three annual plantings of 2000 native plants each, generously funded by the Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI).

Come along, **9am-2pm Saturday 5 August** and be part of a fun Family Day with purpose. This year's planting will be beside the river.

*Postponement Day (due to weather)  
Sunday 6 August*

Thanks to MPI, Mokai Patea Services (MPS), for the lunch, and Mayor Andy for the sausages.

For more information 027 255 1409.

EVERYONE WELCOME!