

FROM THE Mayor's Desk

Kia ora koutou, last weekend saw the opening of the Ngā Awa block on Memorial Park in Taihape. This block will provide changing rooms and facilities for most of the sports in Taihape including rugby, shearing, horse events, tennis, netball and also be used by the local schools etc. The project came in on budget which is brilliant but I needed to apologise at the opening for the delay in process which meant that rugby didn't have the changing rooms for this season. That delay was really due to Covid-19 and Cyclone Gabrielle as a number of the fittings were sourced from companies operating out of Hawkes Bay. A significant crowd gathered for the opening function and this was combined with a sausage sizzle, candy floss and a chance to look through the new facilities. We were pleased to be joined by several local dignitaries to celebrate the completion of what will be a fantastic asset for Taihape. Following the opening of the amenities block there was a ceremonial planting of a totara tree next to the grandstand to commemorate the coronation of King Charles III. The totara is a kaitiakitanga 'guardian' tree for the area and is in keeping with the many totara growing throughout the Papakai walkway and behind Memorial Park.



The next major project for our district and Taihape will be the earthquake strengthening of the administration block in the main street that has been closed due to compliance issues. There will be a public meeting shortly with the users of the facility to look at what other things we need to do to bring the building up to code. Details will be widely communicated.

Ngā mihi, Andy Watson, Mayor of Rangitikei.

Farewell to CE Peter Beggs

We had the opportunity to come together as staff to thank and farewell Peter on Monday morning. Peter finishes his time with Rangitikei District Council on the 18th of August to take up his new challenge at Apollo Projects in Christchurch.

Peter was gifted a pounamu taonga as an acknowledgement of his time with RDC.

We will very much miss Peter's enthusiasm and dedication to his role here and wish him and his family all the best on this exciting new chapter.



Theft and damage to Taihape and Build Council Facilities

Unfortunately, it seems we have some light-fingered people moving through our District. The men's toilet at Taihape Memorial Park is closed due to the copper piping being stolen and the accessible shower facility at Te Matapihi is also closed due to vandalism and theft of fit out components.

These are facilities that are provided for everyone in our communities, it's really disappointing to see them damaged and now unavailable for use.

Please if you have any information around the damages/thefts let us know. For more information phone our Customer Experience Team on 0800 422 522

Report it on www.rangitikei.govt.nz/fixit



Opening of the Taihape Ngā Awa Block and the Coronation Tree Planting

The Ngā Awa block has been completed and has been handed back to the community. The upgrade has provided 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.

The opening and blessing of the facility was held on the 12th of August at 10am.

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

Locals joined us in celebrating the completion and opening of this fantastic addition to our Taihape community with a family day of food and games.



Mayor Andy Watson planting the commemorative totara tree.

CONNECT HORIZONS REGIONAL TRANSPORT

Have your say on Horizons Regional Public Transport Plan

Our region is home to people dotted between many diverse communities which people make connections between for a variety of reasons - visiting friends and whānau, work, education and more.

Transport improvements, ranging from new highways to upgraded rail services, give us the opportunity to improve how we connect those communities through public transport.

The Regional Services Review is your way to let Horizons Regional Council know what new regional public transport options you want to make it easier to travel across and beyond our region.

Give us your thoughts and ideas at www.haveyoursay.horizons.govt.nz



THE HAUTAPU RIVER PARKS COLLECTIVE Planting Day

Planting Day Success

Ngāti Tamakopiri, Friends of Taihape and supporters joined forces on 5 August to enhance and beautify Taihape's Hautapu River Parks.

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

The planting was well supported with many locals attending.

Thanks to MPI, Mokai Patea Services for the lunch, and Mayor Andy for the sausages. Thanks also to the Rangitikei District Council for their great staff support.

THANK YOU!