

RANGITIKEI Connect

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ISSUE 89

FROM THE Mayor's Desk

Kia ora koutou, so much has happened at Council since the April Council meeting but because of space I want to limit this to highlighting local events.

On 8 May local volunteers from Forest & Bird together with the National Office opened a new access bridge at Mangahoe, Sutherlands Bush Reserve. The bridge was financed and constructed by Forest & Bird nationally but a huge number of hours have been spent by volunteers rebuilding the tracks. I have walked the reserve and it certainly is a special place.

Our district is well known for its events and the Cowper's Suzuki Extreme 4x4 challenge held last month in Turakina was exceptional – it was a stunning day that drew huge crowds of thousands and is filmed for TV which highlights our district nationally - what could be better.

Winter netball has kicked off and on 5 May I went north for the Open Day at Taihape and the first use of the Ngā Awa Block building. Teams from Hunterville, Taihape and Ohakune areas meant the place was packed. My congratulations to the organisation committees that run these days.

Speaking of sport, on the weekend I attended the "Women in Sport Aotearoa" fundraising function in Palmerston North hosted by John and Angela Turkington. Around 400 people attended to listen to panels of high profile people talking about things such as encouragement to women to be involved in sport and coaching. A highlight for me was to listen to a Q&A session with Barbara Kendall our Olympic icon of New Zealand and IOC board member. I believe, with the auction, the night raised in excess of \$60,000 for women in sport. Angela and John support so much in our district and deserve our congratulations.

Don't forget next weekend the 18th & 19th of May all of our district museums will be open between 10am-3pm. Go do a road trip, I will, to Hunterville, Taihape, Bulls and Marton and learn about our district's history – you won't be disappointed.

Ngā mihi, Andy Watson, Mayor of Rangitikei.



Where's it @ Rangitikei Long Term Plan update

We just want to say thank you to all those who put in submissions to our Long Term Plan. All up, we received 453 submissions from people regarding the plan, or specific aspects of the plan that they took an interest in.

On Thursday, 18 April, we held hearings where those that had submitted could speak and expand on the submissions they made, which was informative for the elected members and staff.

At our Council meeting being held on Thursday, 16 May, Council will be deliberating on the feedback that was received during the consultation period, with the aim to have the Long Term Plan adopted by the end of June.

Keep an eye out on our website and social media for updates on how this process is progressing.



Look for these markers

Orienteering comes to Tutaenui Reservoir



We are excited to announce that we have a new free and fun activity available in the Rangitikei.

A collaboration between RDC, The Tutaenui Stream Restoration Project and Red Kiwi Orienteering Club has resulted in a permanent orienteering course being established out at the Tutaenui Reservoir. You can choose between an easy, moderate or hard course, print out a map or download to your phone and head out to find the markers.

This is a fantastic activity for families, and we are looking forward to seeing people out there with map in hand.

www.redkiwi.org.nz/permanent-orienteering-courses

It's time to pay your rates...

Rates are due on May 20!

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



Rural Intersection Activated Warning Signs

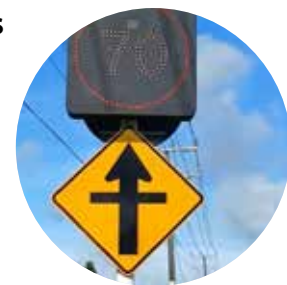
Our roading team have installed Rural Intersection Activated Warning Signs (RIAWS) at the intersection of Pukepapa and Makirikiri roads.

The intersection at Pukepapa and Makirikiri roads is one of the most dangerous in the district, and a number of accidents have happened here over the years, including some that have been fatal. The roading team have been working on installing the RIAWS for a number of months now.

Powered by solar panels, the signs work with sensors on Makirikiri Road sending a signal to the signs on Pukepapa Road when a vehicle is approaching the intersection. The signs will then instruct drivers to slow their speed to 70km/h.

There are also sensors in the road that will send signals to the signs if a vehicle has not made it to the intersection (for example it may have turned off onto a nearby property). This ensures that the signs will display the correct information so that drivers can be best informed.

While we can't control how people drive on our roads, it's hoped that these signs will help mitigate potential issues that could lead to accidents. At this stage, this is the only intersection that the signs will be installed at, but it's possible they could be installed in other locations.



SPOT PRIZE
One visitor (randomly selected) will win a Rangitikei themed prize pack!

Past *AND* Present
Heritage photos of our regions
18th - 19th May 2024

MUSEUMS OPEN 10 AM TO 3PM EACH DAY | ENTRY FEE: ADULTS \$2 / KIDS FREE

TAIHAPE · MANGAWEKA · HUNTERVILLE · MARTON · BULLS

For further information contact: Mel Bovey 06 327 0099 | melanie.bovey@rangitikei.govt.nz

Rātana Community Board By-Election 2024

A by-election is required to fill an extraordinary vacancy on the Rātana Community Board. The vacancy has arisen from the recent resignation of Mr Lequan Meihana.

Nominations

Nominations for the above position are now open and must be made on the official nomination form.

Completed nomination documents must be received by the electoral officer no later than noon on **Wednesday 22 May 2024**.

To download a nomination form or for more information see www.rangitikei.govt.nz/by-election-ratana-2024

