

District Monitor

Vol 27 No 47

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REACHING RANGITIKEI READERS

December 6, 2018

Christmas around the district

Christmas parades were celebrated throughout the district last Saturday - starting with Bulls in the morning, Taihape at midday and Marton at 3.30pm.

Over 45 fabulous floats entered the Marton Christmas Parade, which was opened with a flypast by a 1944 Spitfire and 1945 Grumman Avenger from the Deere's Biggin Hill hangar at Ohakea.

Follett St Kindergarten won the school and kindy section; ANZ won the business section; Marton Boys & Girls Rally won the community entry and Murray Richardson won the car section.

Marton Park filled up with children of all ages to enjoy the lolly scrambles, which were followed by running races.

The turnout and quality of floats from businesses and organisations was excellent in each of the towns, proving Christmas spirit, as well as community spirit, is alive and well in Rangitikei.

Locals lined the streets and excitement was in the air. Organisers from all three towns were very pleased with the results.

See inside for more Christmas parade photographs - Bulls page 11, Taihape page 8 and Marton page 2. Photo: Terry Stillman.



The giant Christmas lolly scramble at Marton Park, on Saturday afternoon, after the Marton Christmas Parade.

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Christmas in Marton



A 1944 Supermarine Spitfire opened the Marton Parade along with a 1945 Grumman Avenger. Photo contributed.



Paimarie Kohanga kids.



Follett St Kindy - schools & kindys entry winner had a recycling theme.



ANZ won the business section.



Property Brokers open house
Photos Liz Rayner and Terry Stillman.



Marton Pipe Band had a busy day, leading the Bulls and Marton parades.

AT THE COUNCIL

Council Roundup November

The Bulls Community Centre is moving forward, with excavation on the site likely to start at the end of this week.

The site of the Marton A dam on Tutaenui Rd, which is no longer needed, will soon be put up for sale.

Council approved establishing a Youth Council for the District, to get input from young residents about Council decisions, as well as giving them the opportunity to learn governance and leadership skills. The Youth Council will be made up of residents 13-24 years old and members will be selected, not elected.

Council moves on kerbside recycling

By Belinda Howard

Rangitikei District councillors have voted to investigate the possibility of providing a kerbside recycling service for the District's urban residents.

Over half those who responded to the recent consultation favoured either a recycling or a rubbish and recycling service in the main towns.

A recent public consultation asked residents whether they would like Council to provide a kerbside recycling, or rubbish and recycling, service in the urban areas or stick with the current practise of residents take their recycling to transfer stations.

There were 541 responses in favour of a recycling or rubbish and recycling service, and 431 in favour of the current set-up. Council voted to ask for expressions of interest from providers to set up either a kerbside recycling service or a recycling and rubbish service.

There was some resistance from councillors to the idea, mainly on the basis that it would lead to an increase in rates. However, it was also pointed out that making kerbside recycling available would potentially lead to an overall reduction in cost for many, as they wouldn't have to buy as many rubbish bags.

Cr Angus Gordon also pointed out that "it's the right thing to do," likening it to making sure we treat and dispose of our sewage properly. He was also concerned that the current system, which relies on residents taking their recycling to transfer stations, caused problems for those who don't have access to transport, including the elderly and those on restricted incomes.

Council will now seek expressions of interest from companies that could provide the service. Those expressions of interest will include the cost of providing the service and Council will then decide whether it is a service that can be affordable for residents.

Council Confirms Contractors for Bulls Community Centre

W&W Construction Ltd of Whanganui has been confirmed by the Rangitikei District Council as the contractor to build the new Bulls Community Centre. Construction will start in early December and the build is expected to take around 12 months - a great Christmas present to locals in 2019!

The Centre will house a new town hall, library and information centre, town square, carpark and bus interchange. Mayor Andy Watson said it's a result of a lot of hard work by a dedicated team (staff and elected members) who wanted to see this project become a reality.

He added that it's been a long three years to get to this point and the community has every right to be proud of getting the project up and running and seeing it to fruition. Mayor Watson says the facility is likely to become an icon of Bulls and the Rangitikei and sets the bar very high for other town developments in the Rangitikei.

The first sod was turned on Wednesday at on the site of the new Bulls Community Centre and an announcement was made that a new motel will also be built on the site.

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Plenty of support for Bulls house project

BITS n' PIECES



The Artfull Christmas Bonanza is on Sunday December 9 from 10am - 4pm at the Marton Arts & Crafts Centre on the corner of Grey and Signal Sts.

Marton Community Christmas Carol Service - Sunday December 9, 5.30pm Marton School Hall.

Christmas Community Carol Service -St Andrews Presbyterian Church Turakina, Sunday 9 December at 6.30pm.

Mangaweka Carol Service, Friday December 7 at 7pm. Helen Gordon and the Arcadian Singers, Salvation Army Band at Mangaweka Community Church SH1, All welcome.

Spotlight Theatre - Twisted Tales show - matinee Saturday 15 December 3.30pm and Sunday December 16 at 6.30pm. Marton Players Theatre, 366 Wellington Rd. Tickets at Journey On In (next door) and Antionette 020 401 61105. Adult \$15, child \$5 - family 2a /2c \$30.



Some of the team involved in preparing the Walton St home in Bulls, for sale, from left: builder Matt Holden, Merv Connelly, RDC Cr Jane Dunn, Bronwyn Meads and Alan Marshall LAC Ohakea.

The Bulls Community Centre local fundraising group is refurbishing a home in Walton St and the proceeds of its sale will go towards the local fundraising contribution of the project from the Bulls community- a requisite of the new centre being built.

The idea of doing up a house to sell came from Lyndon Tamblyn. He approached Mike O'Byrne from Central House Movers who rained his generosity on the project.

Mike donated a \$40,000 house, had it professionally painted, with paint donated by Guthrie Bowron Whanganui and moved to it onto the site, free of charge and will provide a relocated garage to finish it off.

Rangitikei District Council donated the section which is at the end the Walton St cul-de-sac with rural view. Some very charitable trade Bulls tradespeople have offered their time under the watchful eye of project manager Merv Connelly who is also a volunteer. A crew from Ohakea Airbase is also in on the interior demolition. Dozens of their staff have already spent time at the site with more to come.

Builder Matt Holden has already spent hours renovating the house which is three bedrooms with a good layout suitable for a family. Hogget Doughty Contractors prepared the site. APB Electrical has provided electrical work. Micro Plumbing is providing a new bathroom, Kitchen Allsorts is providing a kitchen at a low cost including the rangehood. Bulls plumber Braden Hammond is doing plumbing work and others like Annabel Sidey have carried out work. Gibstopping, painting and decorating will follow. Anyone with interior decorating expertise is welcome to join in. There are still front and back decks to be built on too. The group is in search of a sponsor for the concrete laying.

The group plans to auction the property before winter 2019. Bronyn Meads says, "There is still quite a bit to be done. We have aimed the house at the first home buyer market leaving some work for the buyer to add their own touches. The community contribution is already over \$100,000 and the money raised by the sale of house will raise it considerably."

Mayor Andy Watson has been very supportive of the house project. He says, "We broke ground to start the Bulls Community Centre project on Wednesday with building contractors, W & W Construction Ltd who are undertaking the work. The site was blessed by iwi and archaeologists will be on site in case anything of historical value is uncovered.

I am thrilled we are at the thick end of the project after three years. The house sale will more than double the amount from

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Tutaenui Rural Women

Our plant market was a big hit again this year. Selling out is always a bonus but this year we also had a raffle which Louise Roeven won and Jean English picked up the second prize. Our afternoon tea went down a treat with many enjoying a well-deserved rest after all the shopping. Once again, many thanks to the locals as well as the put of towners that made the day a success and the Adna Poppe Memorial Bursary will have a well-deserved top up to help more people with their education. If you would like to find out more about the bursary you can contact Diana Stewart on 06 327 8064 or if you would like to know more about our organization, you can ring Jean on 06 327 7014 or PJ on 06 327 6306.

Our next occasion is our district Christmas dinner with Santa giving out children's gifts. A Merry Christmas to you all.



Turakina WI

The Monday November 28 Meeting was held at the Koitiata Community Hall at the Turakina Beach, followed by a potluck lunch prior to sister WI's and visitors attending the afternoon's programme starting at 1pm. Those members that made the outing for lunch at the Pukeko Café, Wanganui to acknowledge our 87th birthday in October, had an enjoyable time. The WI Awareness Week from the 8 - 14 October saw members placing their bouquets of flowers within the community, for some unsuspecting individuals to enjoy. And enjoy they did by the sounds of it, with the comments that have filtered back to the WI. With many sister WI's having their last Meeting of the year as their Christmas meeting, invitations had been received and those wishing to attend noting the days and times. Turakina has its final Meeting of the year on the 10 December, to be held in the Turakina Tennis Club rooms Turakina 1pm with a special Christmas Pot Luck Lunch prior. A visit from a Special Individual may be on the cards as well as. Annual Trophies to be returned please and nominations for 2019 Committee will be taken. Competitions for the December Meeting were decided and those for February will be finalized in December. During the afternoon members G Manning and J Gillam put all (in teams of 3) to the test with a game that had the first letter of a Christmas carol/song as a clue. This proved harder than some thought and yet when the answers were revealed all knew them. Swap a gift, lucky spots, lucky door entry, and the multi draw for the raffles along with afternoon tea, ended the afternoon.

Marion Friendship Club

This Thursday December 6 is our Christmas dinner at Cooks, Restaurant. -11.30am sit down, 12.30pm: booked in members only. No latecomers. Our games day went well, houseie, darts and cards. We all had fun. This Friday December 7 at

our Morris St Hall, our entertainment will be The Crochets, a wonderful men's choir from Feilding, this time will be carols, so don't miss them. Visitors welcome, hall open 12.30pm bring your lunch. Those helping with street raffles come and get your day and time reminders. Carols start 2pm, come and enjoy the day. Mrs Kingi from Edale is coming to speak to us from 1.30pm till about 2pm to tell us about Matron's only rest home and retirement village, many of us now require this knowledge so do come along and learn about it.

FROM THE PULPIT



And so it is Christmas ...

How we love Christmas. All that good cheer. Everyone being nice to each other, family, food, carols, pretty lights, decorating the tree... what's not to love?

When you think about Christmas what do you think of?

We all say we think about Jesus, but which Jesus?

The Baby Jesus in a manger, surrounded by shepherds and wise men perhaps?

This is the Jesus Christians tend to promote at Christmas is not? That Jesus is non-threatening. We can all cope with that Jesus. That Jesus asks nothing from us and the average person can accept that Jesus. And that Jesus ought to be celebrated, because the humble nature of His birth declares something special about God's intent in sending his only son into the world.

The problem is that when we stop there; when we leave Jesus in the manger, it becomes just a nice story.

So, what should we be saying at Christmas, what is the real message of Christmas?

It is the story of the Word made flesh. It is the story of the Son of God (in other words, God himself), coming as a human baby with one purpose, to die for us and make a way back to God. Jesus who was there at the creation of the Universe, (the very one the Bible tells us, for whom everything was created) humbled Himself and took on the form of a servant and died for us!

You see if we cannot look at the story of Jesus and see the cross, we cannot look beyond Christmas and see Easter; then, Christmas is no longer a celebration.

So, let's celebrate Christmas, but please let us make sure we tell the whole story.

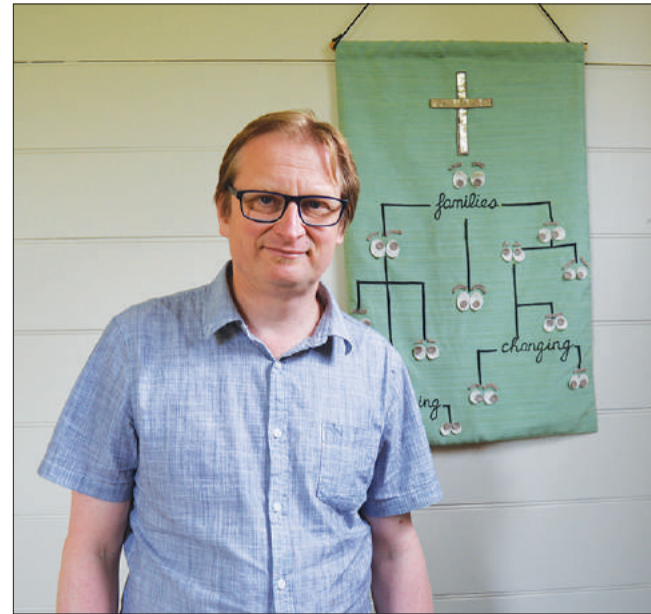
You are very welcome at St Andrew's or any of the other churches in the Rangitikei to celebrate Christmas with us - we would love to celebrate with you.

WE WOULD PARTICULARLY LOVE TO HAVE YOU JOIN US FOR THE MARTON COMMUNITY CAROLS THIS SUNDAY NIGHT AT MARTON SCHOOL - DEC 9 AT 5:30PM.

Wishing you all God's richest blessings this Christmas.

Rev Phil Warner
St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Marton

New minister for Lutheran church



Warren Paltridge, the new minister at St Martin Lutheran Church.

After a gap of almost nine years, St Martin Lutheran Church in Marton has a minister in residence again.

Warren Paltridge arrived in Marton about a month ago and is looking forward to working with his new congregation. Warren, originally from Palmerston North, trained for the ministry in Adelaide, South Australia and since then, has had parishes in Australia and New Zealand. His most recent parish was in the south of Melbourne, which is quite a contrast to Marton.

There are strong family connections with Marton for Warren. His grandmother, Lillian Schwarz, was from Marton and was a long-standing member of the St Martin congregation.

"It's a beautiful church here," Warren says. "It's a lovely building, with lots of land and space and it's quiet and peaceful. The church has been here 150 years, which is special"

Warren is looking forward to building and strengthening the the St Martin congregation and to bringing in new people, especially young people. "With a relatively small congregation, we need to build each other up and strengthen our community," he says.

Warren and his wife have four children, aged from six to 18 and the family is looking forward to becoming part of the Marton community.

Story and photo Belinda Howard.

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Christmas cheer at Marton Arts and Crafts Centre

The Marton Arts and Crafts Centre's Artfull Christmas Bonanza has a special guest this Sunday.

Marton's own Granny Christmas and her elves are spreading their special brand of Christmas cheer around the Centre this Sunday, 9 December, with a generous helping of Christmas trees, lights and decorations.

The Artfull Christmas Bonanza has more than 20 stalls booked, offering a range of hand-crafted gifts for last-minute Christmas shopping, as well as some fun hands-on art activities for kids of all ages.

"As well as several of our own members having stalls, organisers have been combing local craft fairs and inviting the best of the crafters and artists we found to join us for the day," Centre president Belinda Howard says.

"The art activities we have planned will give people a chance to make their own hand-crafted Christmas gifts as well and we've got wonderful Christmas raffles, a sausage sizzle and a great coffee cart. We'll be selling cold, home-made lemon drinks, and, if you want, you can get the used cup filled with potting mix and seeds to take home. Having Granny Christmas and her elves decorated the Centre for us for the day is really exciting. We're very grateful that we'll have a bit of their special brand of Christmas cheer."

The Artfull Christmas Bonanza runs from 10am to 3pm this Sunday, December 9, at the Marton Arts and Crafts Centre, on the corner of Grey and Signal Streets.



The first Christmas tree went up at Marton Arts and Crafts Centre ready for Sunday's Artfull Christmas Bonanza - there's many more to go.

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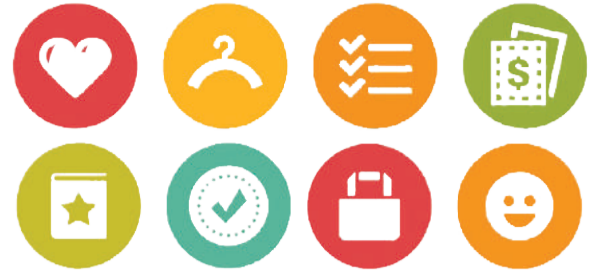
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Fire Brigade prize winner to learn about firefighting



Lea Godden was the lucky winner of a prize draw the Marton Fire Brigade ran at the Marton Market Day. Station Officer Kevin Darling presented the hamper to Lea, a teacher at Rangitikei College who lives in Marton and who had put her name on a sign-up sheet to find out more about becoming a firefighter, which put her into the draw. Lea was keen to find out about the Marton Fire Brigade and volunteering. Kevin says the Marton Brigade needs extra people. "We really want to focus on new people joining us. There is a range of jobs people can use their particular skills to support the brigade - from firefighting and computer work to station support." He says something the brigade also wants to focus on is home fire safety. "Marton is performing poorly in the structure fire area so we want to focus on local home safety." About 269 people signed up at market day and, of those, 96 requested a home safety visit from us - 47 from Marton. "We only did 3 last year, so there is a need." Kevin says, "If you want someone to come to your house and advise you how to keep fire safe - talk to someone from the brigade, ring the Marton Fire Station or talk to Kevin Darling. "We are trying to reach out and visibly help the community in Marton which might also lead to more members." The Marton Fire Brigade meets every Monday evening.

Story and Photo Liz Rayner.

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Fantastic Christmas Parade in Taihape

With predicted wet weather holding off and the prospect of lots of free lollies, meant a big turnout of families and characters at the 2018 Taihape Christmas Parade at midday last Saturday.

After assembling at Memorial Park, the 20 plus floats made their way up to Hautapu St, for the first of two laps around the circuit. With many entries comprising several vehicles and people, this all made for a very sizable parade.

First up was a police car, with flashing lights, closely followed by four Scottish bagpipers, and then a continuing stream of Christmas merriment with cleverly designed floats and walking personalities. Fire trucks, vintage cars and especially motorbikes, were crowd favourites.

A tough choice, yet the judges Cynthia Hammer, Richard Aslett and Shonda Devane jointly decided the winners: First: Byford's Construction 2014 Ltd, 'Santa's Bucket'. Second: Tessa Ball and Ann Abernethy - Ponies (Poppy and Onyx) and Cart. Highly commended: Combined Churches - walking group mixed ages. The awards were excitedly announced by MC Ariana Hansen, who then thanked all the helpers especially Sam and his team, from Traffic Safe, for safety management of the event. TCDT coordinator Eva George said, "It was wonderful to see the streets lined with kids and adults enjoying the festivities, and lollies, alike."

Afterwards, kids (and some adults) enjoyed free rides on Joe Coogan's huge tractors, while others rode pillion on motorbikes around the perimeter of Memorial Park. A fun day had by all.

Story and photos by Richard Aslett.



Christmas stars in their eyes



Village People tribute act, 'The Village Idiots' perform In the Navy, at the Taihape Musicians Club 70's Christmas party on Saturday night. Six other live acts, a full Disco, flares and fancy dress took the clubs attendees and guests right back to the fabulous 1970's.

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Marton Rotary Christmas Trees for sale soon



Two of Santa's helpers is checking the trees at last year's Rotary Christmas Tree sale.

Santa's other helpers, in the form of Marton Rotarians will sell Christmas trees on Saturday 16 December.

"For many years Marton Rotary has been selling freshly cut Christmas trees to the people of Marton and district. This, like many other Christmas traditions, is continuing this year," says David Smith.

On Saturday morning, December 15, these will be available from St Andrew's Presbyterian Church carpark (opposite the fruit and vegetable market). Trees will be of various shapes and sizes, so buyers will be able to choose one that suits their particular situation.

Selling is from 8.30am to midday. The cost is \$12.

Enquiries to David Smith 06 327 6513.

"Making our Community Great- Work with Us."

Chorus UFB layout continues in district



Chorus contactors are around Marton digging up grass verges laying the fibre cables for UFB in the Rangitikei. Marton was chosen as an area for early rollout of UFB which will make Marton business competitive nationally and internationally, with faster internet connections.

Recently, Chorus told the Rangitikei District Monitor, "The Marton Ultra Fast Broadband (UFB) Build has started with five of our sixteen build areas under action. Two of these are nearing completion for handover that will allow customers to connect.

"Marton township is scheduled for full completion by October 2019. Ratana/Whangaehu will be the next small town to start the UFB build, with a scheduled completion of August 2019." Timelines for the other areas will be confirmed in due course." Chorus says, on its website, chorus.co.nz/fibre... "fibre gives you a dedicated and consistently reliable connection. It isn't just about doing one thing online much faster. It's about everyone at your place being able to do everything they like online, all at the same time.

The company lists the following advantages...

Reliability - fibre provides a great experience with consistent speeds and no buffering even at the busiest time of day.

Capacity - dedicated capacity for multiple devices to watch, listen, play, post, work, and chat - all at the same time, without any loss of quality.

Fastest speeds - the faster your connection, the faster data moves through it which means you can do more in a shorter space of time."

Outside the Box

Happiness: are we there yet?

It seems that we can be so focused on happiness, on finding happiness, that it can, unfortunately, instead, cause us a lot of frustration and unhappiness.

Striving for ultimate happiness, feeling that we deserve happiness, wanting others to make us feel happy, wanting to buy happiness by accumulating stuff, can have the opposite effect. It can highlight the fact that we are not happy, that we are not there yet. As Oprah Winfrey said: "Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never ever have enough."

Gratitude does not have to be for the big things in life. Gratitude is best practised in small portions. Being grateful for the little things of no importance to anybody else. Practise gratitude for waking up this morning, for breathing, for seeing sunshine outside, for rain in the garden, for sitting quietly and enjoying the moment - before the day starts. Gratitude is practising an attitude that will bring happiness to this moment to now. It will make us feel that this moment, now, is good enough, that yes, actually: We are there. We have arrived. This is it! Happy. For now.

Happiness could be closer than you think - if you can learn to focus on now, and on practising gratefulness.

If you feel overloaded with too much striving, or carrying too many fears for tomorrow, consider giving us a call at Marton Counselling Centre: 06 327 5245.

www.counsellingcentre.org.nz
Rosanette du Toit

RANGITIKEI LINE BULLETIN

Results from Recycling and Rubbish Consultation

974 responses were received to the survey postcard asking for views on Council providing a kerbside rubbish and/or recycling service in the urban centres - i.e. nearly 25% of all households replied, showing the strong interest in this topic by the community. However, views in the survey responses were very mixed - 541 (56%) wanted Council to provide recycling or rubbish and recycling and 433 (44%) did not.

After considerable debate at its meeting on 30 November 2018, Council resolved to consider introducing a fortnightly kerbside recycling and weekly rubbish collection service in Bulls, Marton, Hunterville, Mangaweka and Taihape and seek Expressions of Interest to assess the interest in the market and to get an indicative price for providing this service. While the submissions from Ratana showed no interest in a Council providing a rubbish/recycling service, consideration is being given to how this could be feasible for Turakina and Koitiata.

Youth Council

Also on 30 November 2018, Council decided to establish a Rangitikei Youth Council, with an annual contribution of \$10,000 to be included in the 2019/20 Annual Plan. The Council will comprise 11 youth aged 13-24 years old - they will be selected by an interview panel made up of members of the Council's policy team, the Councillor holding the youth portfolio, and a representative nominated by Te Roopu Ahi Kaa. Applications are now open. The selection process will take place in February.

New Bulls Community Centre

Council has decided that Contract 1084 for constructing the new Bulls Community Centre in Criterion Street will be awarded to W & W Construction 2010 Ltd (a Whanganui-based firm) for the sum of up to \$5,348,837 (GST exclusive). Site works will begin in December, following a blessing and ground-breaking ceremony. Initial excavation will be supervised by an archaeologist - a legal requirement because there was human activity on this site prior to 1900. The target completion date is the end of December 2019.

Council appreciates and acknowledges the generous local support given to this project, not only in terms of donations but also in helping in various ways, with the relocated house project in Walton Street (provided by Central House Movers), which will be sold next year to help with the costs of the project.

New Amenities for Taihape Memorial Park

After further local discussions in Taihape, Council has formally confirmed its intention to build a new amenities block on Taihape Memorial Park on the site beside the No. 3 Field. This will allow Clubs Taihape to build its planned facility close by, making sharing of both much more feasible. The historic grandstand will remain as now, apart from some minor work. Council has acknowledged, however, that there will be earthquake-strengthening needed by 2027.

Restoration of South African War Memorial in Marton Park

The South African War memorial in Marton Park, which honours trooper George Hyde, the return to peace after the Boer War and the coronation of Edward VII (who succeeded Queen Victoria), needs skilled restoration work. Council has agreed to contribute \$12,618, a third of the estimated cost of the work, which includes restoration of lighting.

New toilets - Mangaweka Village and Queens Park, Hunterville

After consideration of several sites in Mangaweka Village, Council accepted the invitation from the previous owners of Papa Cliff Café to place the new toilet in its carpark. Installation was completed at the end of November. Also completed was a new toilet at the north end of Queen's Park, Hunterville, together with a compacting rubbish bin and drinking fountain. Most of the cost of these two facilities came from the Government's Tourism Infrastructure Funding schemes.

Events Sponsorship Grants

Council's Finance/Performance Committee recently approved ten grants from the Events Sponsorship Scheme. They include the New Zealand Boot-throwing Association, which is organising the World boot-throwing championships in Taihape in March 2019, the Rangitikei Shearing Sports, the Artful Christmas Bonanza organised by the Marton Arts and Crafts Centre and the Taihape Older and Bolder 'You Day'.

Update on abnormal El Niño

An abnormal El Niño weather event is looking likely for NZ over summer, according to NIWA meteorologist Ben Noll. In the latest update about the potential for an El Niño system, which NIWA has been keeping a watch on for several months, Mr Noll said there was now an 80 per cent chance it will happen. "El Niño conditions have still yet to officially arrive but the Pacific Ocean continues to make strides towards it," he said. This particular El Niño is likely to start late and is exhibiting some non-traditional characteristics in the ocean. "The most unusually warm sea surface temperatures are in the central equatorial Pacific – typically they are found further east, closer to South America."

RANGITIKEIRURAL

Mr Noll said this was known as a central-based El Niño, or El Niño Modoki. Modoki is a Japanese word that means "same, but different". Impacts from this El Niño are likely to deviate from those experienced during a conventional event. During summer, in a typical El Niño, New Zealand has stronger and/or more frequent winds from the west, leading to an elevated risk of drier-than-normal conditions in the east of both islands and above normal rainfall in the west. This year and into next year, while westerly air flow patterns are favoured, the summer season may come with a bit more variability. El Niño Modoki may be associated with periodic easterly-quarter wind flows that bring some beneficial rainfall to eastern areas.

The next three months is equally likely to have above average, or average temperatures, for all regions of New Zealand, with rainfall below normal, or near normal for most areas, Mr Noll said. There are several regions identified by NIWA that should be monitored closely for developing dry conditions this summer season, including: the lower/western South Island, Gisborne/East Cape, Bay of Plenty, Coromandel/Waikato, Auckland, and Northland. While El Niño can be confined to summer, the chance for this to carry on into autumn is elevated and stands at 55 to 60 percent. NIWA outlook: December 2018 – February 2019. Central North Island, Taranaki, Whanganui, Manawatu, Wellington. Temperatures are about equally likely to be above average (45% chance) or near average (40% chance). Rainfall totals are mostly likely to be in the near normal range (45% chance). Soil moisture levels and river flows are most likely to be in the near normal range (40-45% chance).

HEALTH SCENE

Embraces Te Rā Mokopuna - Safe Sleep Day with WDHB.

'Make every sleep a safe sleep' - that's the message Whanganui District Health Board is urging families of young children to take on board to avoid the risks associated with Sudden Unexpected Death in Infancy (SUDI). It is Te Rā Mokopuna National Safe Sleep Day on Friday 7 December aimed at raising awareness about SUDI and encourage families with new-borns or babies-to-be to use safe sleep devices such as woven wahukura and Pepi-pods, which babies can be safely placed in for sleeping. WDHB public health nurse Marianne Vine says SUDI caused by unintentional suffocation is preventable, and risks for babies can be significantly reduced when the rights steps are put in place. "While smoking and bed sharing are major risk factors leading to sudden unexpected death in infancy, we'd also urge mothers and families to think about safe clothing and bedding choices for their babies. The importance of babies and infants having clothing and blankets that can breathe, for example cotton and wool, is vital to preventing overheating which can lead to SUDI. This age group cannot regulate their body heat, which makes them among the most vulnerable." Mrs Vine says popular polar fleece and mink blankets are not OK for babies or infants. "Easy wash merino wraps are popular and are perfect for babies. The 'PEPE' framework is a simple guideline for SUDI prevention: PLACE baby in their own bed for every sleep (and close to parents/caregivers at night). ELIMINATE smoking in pregnancy, in the whānau and in the home. POSITION baby on their back for sleep. ENCOURAGE and support Mum, so baby is breastfed. It's a message supported by WRHN safe sleep coordinator Angela Weekly, who welcomes calls from people wanting a Pepi-Pod or wahakura. "In NZ, SUDI is the main cause of death for children aged between one month and one year. SUDI kills 40 to 50 babies a year. Risks of SUDI are higher for premature babies born before 37 weeks gestation; babies with low birth weight - lower than 2500 grams; babies of teenage mothers; babies of Māori and Pacific Island families; babies of mothers on medication which can lead to drowsiness; babies who have been exposed to smoking during pregnancy; and babies exposed to regular alcohol, smoking and/or other drug use in the household. If you - or a hapū (pregnant) woman you know has one or more of these risk factors, you may be eligible for a free Pepi-Pod or wahakura. Please contact Whanganui Regional Health Network on (06) 348 0109 or email reception@wrhn.org.nz for more information, or speak to your lead maternity carer or well child provider



Virtues of feeding a horse at ground level

Horses are grazers by nature and have evolved to forage throughout the day at ground level.

Their teeth are designed to wear most evenly when lowering the head, to grasp food and chew. As the horse lowers his head, his bottom jaw moves forward; placing the teeth into proper alignment. This therefore reduces the development of hooks and ramps, as the teeth get more even wear. Feeding the horse at ground level is also beneficial to your horse's respiratory health. When a horse is pulling hay out of raised hay rack/nets it has a much greater chance of inhaling dust particles.

A lower, stretched out neck is more open at the jaw. This open airway, with the help of gravity, enables drainage out of the nostrils.

Another benefit is that it stretches out the neck and back muscles that are often tight from work. Many riders spend a large part of their training developing and stretching these muscles under tack. Some people are reluctant to feed at ground level, due to the increased feed waste. However, due to the above health benefits, the horse's natural way of eating should be considered when designing stables/yards and feeding out.

SRVS CHRISTMAS HOURS
 Wishing all of our clients a safe and happy Christmas & New Year

Over the Christmas period, our hours will be as follows:

Bulls Clinic:	Marton Clinic:
Sat 22 Dec - 9-12	Mon 24 Dec 9-3
Sun 23 Dec - Closed	Tue 25 Dec - Wed 2nd Jan - Closed
Mon 24 Dec - 8-4	Thurs 3 Jan - 9-2 (Vet in-clinic 9-11)
Tue 25 Dec - Closed	Fri 4 Jan 9-2 (Vet in-clinic 9-11)
Wed 26 Dec - Closed	Mon 7 Jan normals hours resume (8-5)
Thurs 27 Dec - 8-5.30	
Fri 28 Dec - 8-5.30	
Sat 29 Dec - 9-12	
Sun 30 Dec - Closed	
Mon 31 Dec - 8-4	
Tues 1 Jan - Closed	
Wed 2 Jan - Closed	
Thurs 3 Jan - normal hours resume (8-5.30)	

For after-hours emergencies phone 06 3222 333

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A tree is a thing of beauty that adds value to your life, its worth spending money and time on.

About Garden Mulch

As summer is now around the corner, it's a good time to be thinking about getting outdoors and into the garden. In nature, the forest floor is covered with leaves, sticks and branches for most of the year. Using tree mulch on your garden beds or landscape mimics this process and protects the soil from harsh seasons, by regulating the soil temperature. Arboriculture woodchip contains wood and bark in a range of sizes and pieces. The variation in size benefits the soil by allowing water to infiltrate through, creating a knitted barrier between the soil and the environment. This means that it is particularly useful for large landscaping projects and for use on exposed or sloping sites. Wood chip, sawdust, and woodshavings are not composted, so must be laid on top of the soil and never dug in until they have rotted. This is to avoid them depleting the soil of nitrogen as they break down. Tips for mulching... 1. Weed the ground first. 2. Put down a layer of newspaper as a base. 3. Use a good thick layer of mulch (this will keep the weeds at bay). 4. Try to keep the stem of plants free, ensuring air flow around the base of the plant. 5. Keep mulch away from tree trunks to prevent rotting. 6. Mulch will settle once spread (so expect to have to top it up periodically). Wood mulch is an economical and readily available product, that is easy to apply and remove. Whilst also benefiting the soil, mulch adds texture to a landscape enhancing the visual appearance of a space. Beaver Tree Service sells high quality tree mulch by the truck load, providing an economical alternative to your standard bark mulch. Bryce Robb - Director/Head Arborist of Beaver Tree Service

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 027 313 3327

Christmas came to Bulls



Real Life Therapy by Shirley Henderson

Nail Polish Decisions

Confession time As I've gently matured, I've started to indulge myself a little.

So, dear people, hang in there. If you're flat out with pre-schoolers or running pre-teens all over the place, or trying desperately to "understand" the teenager (or the partner) in your life – or all the above and more – hang in there. Just by perseverance alone, you will make it out the other end and get to that age, when you can have the little treats.

My favourite little treat is to have my nails done. I spend a blissful hour with my lovely friend Ange.

The other day, Ange showed me her range of nail colours. Asked me, as they do, what I wanted. OMG – what did I want? Red, blue, green, yellow, black, sparkle, glitter, stripes, stamped patterns, one finger nail different to the rest, every one different, alternate fingers different, little diamante things on them? The list was endless.

This was a fun decision and it wasn't going to have a dramatic effect on the rest of my life. It was, after all, just nail polish!

What a range of decisions we make every single day. Every moment brings a decision which brings a reaction, which creates a memory. A memory that we take with us. If I had the awesome power to give you all one Christmas gift this year, it would be to empower every person to make only good decisions for themselves and their loved ones. Good, safe, loving decisions that create good, safe, loving memories.

Oh...and just the right amount of nail indulgence – you deserve it!

My Christmas tips:

- 1 If buying that 'special' gift means on-going debt – it's not special, it's trouble!
- 2 If ham sandwiches on the beach is your thing for Christmas – do it!
- 3 It's only one day – you will survive!

Love and light and a wonderful Christmas 2018 to you all.

Shirley Henderson Massage & Hypnotherapy



Wishing all of my lovely clients, and prospective new clients, the very best Christmas and an awesome 2019!

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text 027 269 0655

There was plenty of Christmas spirit and 43 floats at the Bulls Christmas Parade on Saturday morning. The Marton Pipe Band led the parade filled with colourful characters. Organiser Jan Harris says, "There were tons of community groups involved and everyone said how well they all did with their fantastic floats."

Bulls people turned out to watch and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Left: Bulls Cub Scouts on their Christmas float.



Left: Jan Harris talking with Santa and asking him to bring lovely presents to all the good children in Bulls.



Left: Two Busy Bees on the Bulls School entry.



Three Small House Movers.

Here Comes Santa.

Photos by Terry Stillman.



MARTON GOLF CLUB

Saturday 24 Nov stableford competition was won by Jason Westwood with 45 points: Other results: Desi Singer 39, Greg McIver 38, Peter Singer 37, Ken Westwood, Don Clark 35. Sat 1 Dec stableford: tThe good scores continued, with Graham McLay scoring 45 points, Stu Duncan 40, Greg McIver 38, Nik Maas 37 and Troy Calkin and Alan Stewart on 36. Twos: 3rd Stu Duncan. Twilight 21 Nov: golfer's stableford - D Fullerton-Smith 23, R Win 22, K Brueur 21, G Marshall 20. Non-golfer's medal - D Tucker 42, T Sutton 47, M Roberts 48, K Montgomery 52. Twilight 28 Nov: a large number of golfers joined in the twilight competition, enjoying the more settled weather after last week. Golfer's stableford - B Beatson 21, B White, S Amor, T Bliss-Bennett, A Clark 20, J Stewart, A Corser, A Shand 19, Gunna, S Olney, T Penn, K Brueur, L Belsham, JP Koteka 18, T Sutton, K Haefele 17. Non-golfer's medal: D Boyd 47, E Berry 50, D Tucker, J Webb 51, T Matthews 52, K Rowe 53. Twos: K Haefele, B Beatson. Our champagne breakfast was held on Sun 2 Dec and was well attended by sponsors and members. Thank you to Tim McVerry and his assistants for cooking the delicious breakfast. The ambrose golf was won by team 6 - Calvin Field, Carol Hausman, Shay Melis, Craig Skou. Team 5 was second - Linda Peina, Terry Hammond, Hamish McDonald, Hugh Bremner, followed by team 2 - Bryan Hamerton, Ron McDermott, Allie Bary, Les Wake., Louisa Craig, David Green, Dave Angove and Glen Jongen were the busiest team.

TAIHAPE GOLF CLUB

The hot, northerly thunderstorms were circling around players and visitors from Helcombe on Sunday's closing day for the Alan Cozens town vs country memorial. The competition is an average stableford of the town players against the country players, with town taking out the trophy by 39 points to 38. Leading the field, in hot form, was Richard Millner - amassing 44 points, which included 11 pars in a superb 80 off the stick. In second position was Matthew Thomas, who shot the lowest gross round of the year - 70 off the stick for 42 points. Kevin O'Brien and John Booth both had 41 points. James Fannin came in 5th for 40 points. Tied for 39 points were Andy Sprayer, Denis Robertson, Gary Thomas, Nick McGuinn and Dave Worsfold. JJ Walker, Merv Tapp, Jeff Dickens, and James Humphrey all came in with 38 points. Denise Millner led the ladies in with 34 points. Twos were recorded by James Humphrey on 12, Jeff Dickens on 12 and 14 while Danny Mickleson, Tony Parkes and Peter Fulton were all on 14. The longest putt novelty went to Danny Mickleson. This Sunday is the Taihape Golf Club Christmas cheer, with a scheduled tee off from 11am.

RANGATIRA GOLF CLUB

Ladies' closing day trophy winners: championship silver: N Martin, r/up L Worsfold. Bronze 1: J McAlley, r/up D King. Bronze 2: L Gordon, r/up N McCoard. Top qualifier silver: M Brennan. Bronze 1: J McAlley. Bronze 2: N McCoard. Summer tray: H Bismark, r/up M Walshe. Summer eclectics gross: J McAlley & M Walshe. Nett: J McAlley & M Walshe. Vera Illston trophy: N Martin, r/up M Walshe. Calendar plate: J McAlley r/up K Byford. D Worsfold memorial: D King, G W Bartlett. 4 ball: J McAlley & K Fallaver, r/up R Rainey & M Walshe. Dulcie Howie par: J McAlley. Joan Ross bracelet: J McAlley. Ester Hansen nett: J Griffiths. Captain's trophy: M Walshe. President's trophy ISTAS: N Martin. Ella McDonald trophy: J McAlley. Florence Rhodes stbfd: J McAlley. Mavis Taylor vets: JMcAlley, Nita McCoard trophy (grans): J McAlley. C Wall trophy - putting: K Byford. NZ Golf Mag trophy (S McDonald trophy): J McAlley. Ryde paramatta: J Griffiths. Club day eclectics gross: J McAlley. Nett: M Walshe. Extra day eclectics: M Brennan & J McAlley. Nett: M Washe. Golfer of the year: D King. Birdie tree silver: M Brennan. Bronze 1: M Walshe. Bronze 2: J Griffiths & M Young. Anne Powell trophy (ladies Xmas cheer - best local nett): J McAlley. Austin Hayward mug (most 2's): M Brennan. LGU Silver: L Worsfold. Bronze 1: J McAlley. Bronze 2: P Hurley. Spoons - silver: C Gregory. Bronze 1: D King. Bronze 2: L Gordon. Hole in one badge: N McCoard; M McAlley,

HAWKESTONE GOLF CLUB

Tuesday 20th - Mitre 10 Mega stableford. B Philps 25, J Stantiall 21, J Van Loo 20. R Karatea 19, G James 19, D Penfold 19, D Wright 19, R Little 18, C Parkes 17, G Burgess 17, B Parlane 16, R Cadwallader 15, E Bergen 15. Nearest pin: R Karatea. Prize list: top gun; J Stantiall & B Philps. Best medal; R Little. Putting; D Penfold & B Philps tied. Stableford: D Penfold. Tuesday 27th - Allied Pickfords foursomes: Brian Philps & Les Neumann 21, Jan Van Loo & Greg James 19, Joy Stantiall & Ross Little 19, Rae Karatea & Marty Cockburn 17, Gary Burgess & Bob Upchurch 17, Esme Bergen & Dave Wright 15. Saturday 24th - Central ITM season closing day - mixed and men's foursomes. Men; Glenn Cunningham & Dave Rohde nett 72.1, Matt Carroll & Grant Forbes 73.3, Mike Porter & Dave Wright 77.6. Mixed; Geoff Franks & Pam Charlesworth nett 71.1, Dave Todd & Suzanne Wells 74.7, Brent Hantz & Diane Todd 82.8. Month end nearest pins; s/men: G Cunningham. J/men: G Edwards. Women: S Wells. Saturday 1st Darlington Drilling Manawatu summer stableford. S/men; Willie Jensen (Waipawa) by lot from G Stanton 41, Barry Bond (Waipawa) 32, Dave Lawrence (Waipawa) 30. J/men; N Skelton 41, R McDermott 38, D Todd & P Scott 37. Women; S Wells 33, D Todd 32. Twos; M Carroll, D Todd & G Stanton #14. Jackpot not struck. Nearest the pins: s/men = Willie Morris (Waipawa). J/men = D Todd. Women = S Wells. 9 holes; G James 37, G Burgess & D Penfold 34, Rae Karatea 33. Coming events: Tuesday golf 9.30 am tee off. Saturday summer stableford - 11am tee off. Visitors and casual golfers play 9, or 18 holes, for only \$10. New members please inquire about our membership rates. All welcome. Contact Grant; 0210 572 931.

MARTON 9 HOLE GOLF

The results for Tuesday's stableford summer series round are as follows: 1st division: 1st Brian Shaw 18, 2nd Allan Fatcher 16 c/b. 2nd division: 1st Barb Crawford 22, 2nd Bob Barrett 21. 3rd division: 1st Jill Bryant 23, 2nd Gillian Campbell 21. The last round of summer series will be next week, followed by a sausage sizzle. Starters are: Richard Peirce & Mike Donlon. Cards: Mike Morland & Bryan Hamerton.

RANGITIKEI GOLF CLUB

Wednesday club - two's pay-out day: stableford. Overall winner of Kennett Motors trophy - Peter Young. Neville Berendt 42, Joseph Tapper 41pts, Daniel Waho, Henry Potaka, Dan

Sport continued on pg 15...

Raffle Results

Bulls & District Friendship Club Xmas Raffle Results

1 - 130 - Kelly Cockburn
2 - 220 - Shona
3 - 61 - M J Bradley
We thank you for your support.

Marton Croquet Club Christmas Raffle

Thanks to New World for sponsoring the prizes.

The winners are:
1 - 260 - Ham - Marj Martyn
2 - 22 - \$50 voucher - Dionne
3 - 554 - \$30 voucher - H Calkin
(drawn under police supervision)
Thanks everyone who helped.

Bulls Bowling Club Raffle Results

Xams hamper including ham - Wendy Kaye Snowden - Marton.
Groovy garden ornaments - Pat from Marton - Ann Hohua.
Duvet/laundry hamper - Duvet - Karen Greer, Laundry - Alicia - Bulls.

Marton Lodge No 51 Grocery Raffle

Drawn at Police Station.
Number 39 - E Webber.
Thank you for supporting our raffle and also heaps of thanks to Charlie Baker who sold the rest.

Garage Sale

28 Ahuru Street, Marton

Saturday December 8, 8am
Cleaning out bedrooms lots of bargains

31 Morris Street, Marton

Saturday December 8, 8am - 10am
Paimarie TKR. Household items, kids' stuff, linen etc

Public Notices



WARNING: RIVER LEVEL INCREASE

FLOW CHANGES IN THE MOAWHANGO AND RANGITIKEI RIVERS

Genesis Energy's resource consents for the Tongariro Power Scheme require flushing flow releases from Moawhango Dam. This release is the first of five releases for the summer of 2018-2019. The purpose of the flushing flow is to help improve the ecology of the Moawhango River. As the Moawhango River flows into the Rangitikei River, the flushing flow will result in an increased flow in both rivers.

The flows will be at least 26 cubic metres per second for 9 hours (flows are released Tuesday 9pm to Wednesday 6am from Moawhango Dam). The flushing flow will result in an increased flow in both the Moawhango River (from Moawhango Dam) and the Rangitikei River on the following date:

◆ **Wednesday 12 December 2018**

Please ensure anyone using these rivers is aware of these flow changes

If you have any questions or require further information please contact Chris Ormandy on 07 384 7209 or visit the Genesis Energy Website.

Community Christmas Lunch
Sponsored by *Marton Christian Welfare*
DECEMBER 25TH AT 11:30AM
MEMORIAL HALL, WELLINGTON ROAD, MARTON

On your own Christmas Day? New to the Rangitikei?

Come to the Rangitikei Community Christmas Lunch and join others for community spirit and some Christmas cheer. Donations most welcome. Fresh cut flowers would be appreciated, and can be left at the Memorial Hall by 9:00am Christmas morning.

If you would like to attend, please contact the co-ordinator Richard Corcoran on 021 293 8231, or Sarah Vickers on 06 327 7280, by 19th December. Please let us know if you need transport for the day.

Rotary Club of Marton Christmas Trees for Sale
(the real sort, with pine needles and the pine smell etc.)
St Andrew's Presbyterian Church car park (opposite the vegetable mart) Saturday 15 December. From 8.30am to midday \$12 per tree. Enquiries to David Smith 06 327 6513.

Adoption of Liquor Control in a Public Place Bylaw 2018

Pursuant to section 157 of the Local Government Act 2002, the Rangitikei District Council hereby gives notice that the Council adopted the Liquor Control in a Public Place Bylaw on 29 November 2018. The Bylaw will come into effect from Tuesday 18 December 2018.

Further information on Bylaws
Copies of the Bylaws are available from Council's libraries in Marton, Bulls and Taihape, from the Council's Main Office in Marton, from the Council's website www.rangitikei.govt.nz or you may request a copy to be emailed, or posted to you, by calling 0800 422 522.

Ross McNeil
Chief Executive

Huntley School
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Established 1896

Invites friends of the School to
A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS
to be held in
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Tuesday December 11, 2018
At 7pm
All Welcome

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Employment



Health Assistant

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The specific responsibility of this role is to support the school health nurse in caring for our young women. The successful applicant will be confident and passionate about working with adolescent women, ideally, have some health related experience working with young people and their families, be confident in administering first aid, and hold a clean driver's licence.

The hours of work will be 12 hours per week, term time only, 0900-1530 Thursday and Friday. This position will commence at the end of January 2019.

A position description and application form are available on our website, www.ngatawa.school.nz/vacancies

Please apply to the School Health Nurse, Jenny Price, at Nga Tawa Diocesan School, Private Bag 1101, Marton, 4741 or by email to employment@ngatawa.school.nz

Applications close on Monday 14 January 2019 and should include a covering letter, current curriculum vitae and completed application form.



School Bus Drivers

Help your community

About us:

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We have a limited number of positions available for school bus drivers. You may be semi-retired and have a genuine interest in working with children. Excellent communication, interpersonal skills and a positive outlook is a must.

Covering morning and afternoon school runs up to 4 hours per day, in the Marton and Feilding areas, Monday to Friday during the school term.

A Passenger Endorsement and class 2 licence are preferred but not essential. Extensive training will be given to the successful applicants from our approved industry training assessors. The successful applicants will be required to undergo a background and police check.

Be quick to catch this opportunity and come along for the ride!

Applicants for this position should have NZ residency or a valid NZ work permit.

To apply for these positions please post or drop your CV to our depot: 33 Matipo Street, Palmerston North or give us a call 06 355 4955 and ask for Tony or Steve. Applications close 28 December 2018

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Marton Saturday Mass 10am - followed by Reconciliation

Bulls Saturday Mass 6pm

Marton Sunday Mass 9.30am - 2pm Devotions
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ST ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MARTON

Family-friendly service at 9:30am. This Sunday is the second Sunday in Advent and our theme will be peace. Sunday school for all children.

Other weekly activities:
Companionship 11:00am to 2:00pm Wednesday - drop in
Kids on Broadway (School Years 5 - 8) Wednesday afternoon 4:30 - 6:30pm
Salt Youth (School Years 9 - 13) Friday night from 7pm - 9pm
All Welcome

Rangitikei Anglican Parish WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday December 9

8.00 & 9.30am St Stephen's, Marton
9.30am St Andrew's, Bulls
9.30am St John the Baptist, Hunterville

Wednesday December 12

10.00am St Stephen's, Marton

Contact: Parish Office 06 327 8398

ST ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH TURAKINA

Christmas Community Carol Service

Sunday December 9, 6.30pm. Rev. John Peill
Kids Friendly Church. Country Friendly Service
Light supper to follow. All Welcome

MARTON BIBLE CHAPEL

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Sunday December 9
10am

Mission Sunday Service & Communion with Kid's Club programme for ages 5-13

Speaker: Peter Drower
Subject: Ps 40: 1-10



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All Welcome

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Sport continued from pg 12...

Scotson & Ash Reed 40pts, Hone Morris & Lyndon Moore 39pts, Kelvin Burt, Bryan Northcott & Kevin Taylor 38pts, Joe Yorke, Michelle Mossop, Julian Elliot, Geoff Ingram & Brian Francis 37pts, Stew De Burgh, Neil Atkins, Peter Young & Bill Patene 36pts. Twos: Joseph Tapper - 3rd, Pat Pearce 5th & Daniel Waho 16th. Best stableford - no outright winner. Lucky draw: Bob Pittaway.

MARTON CROQUET CLUB

No play Monday 26 Nov, due to wet conditions. Wednesday 28 November: golf croquet; Mary Meek and Jenny Vickers 7 def 5 Brenda Isaacs, Jenny and Brenda 7 def 5 Mary, Mary and Brenda 7 def 2 Jenny. Association croquet; Selwyn Johnson and Robert McLay 26 def 25 Lyn Johnson and Murray McNae, Graham McIntyre and Gordon Thompson 17 def 12 Mary McNae and Eila Ogden. On Saturday, the North Island Croquet Council competition for players with a 4+ handicap was played at Marton. Six players from Taranaki to Wellington played over two days, with the winner being Robert McLay from the Marton club. Barbie Murray from Wellington was runner up. In the North Island C C open, played at Rose Gardens in Palmerston North, Liz McLay from Marton won the plate competition.

CROQUET MANAWATU-WANGANUI

Golf croquet interclub competition delayed. Week 5 result: a good win by Rose Gardens in this delayed match. However, they and other teams will have a hard time catching up Feilding, after the competition resumes in January. Marton 2, Rose Gardens 6. Individual results: Terry Klein & Neil Coates (RG) bt Lynda Thompson & Linda Hughes (M) 7-2; Kay Oldfield & Chris Reay (RG) bt Gordon Thompson & Marilyn Vallance (M) 7-4; L&G. Thompson (M) bt Klein & Oldfield (RG) 7-6; Vallance (M) bt Reay (RG) 7-1; Coates (RG) bt Hughes (M) 7-5; Klein (RG) bt L.Thompson (M) 7-4; Oldfield (RG) bt G.Thompson (M) 7-2; Reay & Coates (RG) bt Vallance & Hughes (M) 7-6. Points to date: Feilding 32 (+67), Levin 23 (+15), Rose Gardens 21 (+19), Wanganui 21 (-1), Rangatira 15 (-38), Marton 8 (-62).

MARTON SARACENS CRICKET

Matt Burke Engineering Marton Saracens were on the wrong end of another close game on Saturday, when they lost to Wanganui United, at Centennial Park, in the T20 competition. After posting a creditable 131 for 7 in their 20 overs, Saracens went down when United reached 133 for 4, in their 19th over. Saracens captain Andrew Spence won the toss and elected to bat. Balam Singh was first out, for 0, when the score was 15. Thomas Westwood followed for 17; the total at 26. Allan Pond (0) went at the same score and Mike Jacobs (another 0) departed 1 run later. Phil Galpin was then joined at the wicket by Spence. This pair batted sensibly and productively for the next 14 overs, taking the score to 124 for 5, when Spence was adjudged lbw to Lovey Singh for 35. Glenn Weitenberg and Liam McAleese both came and went (clean bowled first ball by Singh) to give the United quick a hat-trick! Rhys Watson joined Galpin and this pair added 7 runs in the last over, to take the total to 131. Galpin finished 60 not out and Watson 1 not out. Watson struck an early blow for Saracens when he bowled United opener Brad Watson for 8, before a solid 2nd wicket stand took United to relative safety. A few late wickets meant that the home team was back in the game but the visitors paced their chase well and won with 10 balls to spare. Watson took 1 for 34 from 4 overs, Tayler Burke 1 for 22 from 3.2 overs, Pond 0 for 31 from 4, McAleese 0 for 25 from his 4 and Rayner Building player of the day Galpin took 2 for 24 from 3 overs. Allan Pond was awarded the dick of the day honour for bowling 2 no-balls that earned the batsmen 'free hits' - then taking wickets with both of those 'free hit' deliveries! This Saturday, Matt Burke Engineering Saracens take on Wicket Warriors at Victoria Park, in the first round of the 40 over holiday competition.

BULLS BOWLING CLUB

There were terrific tussles between teams competing in the 65 and over games last week. Very close games all round, with the final between Owen Canton (partnered by Kevin Sprott) against husband/wife team of Maria & Edgar Jones. Maria and Edgar finally scored the winning shot, leaving only 2 points between them. The 'hams' tournament, sponsored by Central House Movers, was a great day, with very friendly competition. Weatherwise it was hot and windless, but play finished a little early, once a heavy downpour commenced. Winner was P Darbyschires's team, 2nd G Croad's team with M Hodges's team third. A great day was had by all. Next week the ladies - E Walker has been defaulted to us. The men have still to finish their handicap singles. The centennial committee has sold and drawn its Christmas raffles - please see notices. Rodger Homes is being played on Thursday 6 Dec - hope we get a good crowd. Marilyn is catering. January sees the start of the community bowls, starting on 16 January at 6pm, with teams of fours playing every week, until the final on March 6. Get your teams together folks, it's a lot of fun (each team can have 1 bowler) but flat shoes required. Cost is \$50 per team. Please contact club for details. A reminder that the last housie night for the year is on 11 December. As usual regarding the centennial, please contact the club on 322 1284, or bullsbowls@gmail.com and advise us if you would like to attend our festivities next April. Good bowling everyone.

MARTON BOWLING CLUB

Wednesday 28 November roll-up results - skips: 1st Murray Coleman- 3 wins, 14 ends 36 points. 2nd Ray Harding - 3 wins, 14 ends 29 points. 3rd Ron McDermott - 2 wins, 15 ends 16 points. Twos/ leads: 1st Ces Allen - 3 wins, 16 ends 38 points. 2nd Bev Toulmin - 2 wins, 12 ends 28 points. 3rd Josie Bismark - 2 wins, 12 ends 21 points. Saturday 1 December roll-up results: skips: 1st Elaine Saywell - 3 wins, 14 ends 24 points. 2nd Mickey Neumann - 2 wins, 12 ends 29 points. 3rd Michael Bentley - 2 wins, 12 ends 26 points. Twos/leads: 1st Ray Harding - 3 wins, 16 ends 27 points. 2nd Laurie Bismark - 2 wins, 11 ends 21 points. 3rd equal - Bev Toulmin & Peter Burberry - 1.5 wins, 9 ends 17 points. Up-and-coming events: Saturday 8 December - club men's singles @ 9 am. Sunday 9 December - Christmas hams 4s moo tournament @ 9.30 am. Tuesday 11: Hunterville Cakes @ 9:30 am. Saturday 15 December - Christmas party for all members and guests @ 6:30 pm.

SWIMMABILITY TARGETS PROPOSED FOR HORIZONS REGION

Horizons Regional Council has set its swimmability targets for the region's large rivers and lakes (suitable for swimming year-round) to 70 per cent by 2030 and 80 per cent by 2040. For summer, when most people swim, Council has set a target of 90 per cent by 2040. The Council's aspirations follow a 2017 amendment to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM), directing all regional councils to set targets to improve the quality of fresh water. The NPS-FM sets specific definitions of fourth-order rivers and larger, as well as lakes, with a perimeter of at least 1.5km, for the targets. Horizons chair Bruce Gordon says modelling for the Ministry for the Environment estimates work already planned will see the length of rivers in the region suitable for swimming increase from 43 per cent to 60 per cent over the 12 years to 2030. "While this modelling does not take into account factors such as climate change, economic or social drivers, or future changes to policy, Council has agreed to aspire to higher targets of 70 per cent by 2030 and 80 per cent by 2040," says Cr Gordon. "Horizons' targets will contribute to national targets of 80 per cent by 2030 and 90 per cent by 2040. "Council is aware that significant investment will be needed to meet targets higher than the current modelling predictions. However, we recognise that our communities aspire to better water

quality and have set ourselves ambitious targets. While our region is currently below the national average for swimmability, we are seeing a faster than average improvement," says Cr Gordon. "Our Sustainable Land Use Initiative (SLUI) that targets erosion prone hill country and our freshwater programme that assists farmers and community groups with fencing and planting, are beginning to make a difference. Further interventions and their associated costs are yet to be explored. However, we already know that taking a planned, whole of catchment approach and prioritising effort and investment where it would make the most difference works. Council is already reviewing its approach to freshwater. This includes proposed One Plan changes. Additionally, Horizons' non-regulatory work programmes, the commitment from our territorial authorities to upgrade wastewater treatment plants and manage stormwater better, landowner's investment in environmental improvements, and efforts of community groups will all contribute to improved outcomes for swimmability and overall water quality." Horizons natural resources and partnership group manager Dr Jon Roygard says that in 2016, Council upgraded its swim spot monitoring programme from 17 swim spots to 83 throughout the region. "From early November, until the end of April, samples are taken from these sites on a weekly basis and sent to an independent and accredited laboratory for testing. They are tested for faecal indicator bacteria, including E. coli (for freshwater) and Enterococci (for coastal waters). Our scientists also check each site for phormidium, known as potential toxic algae or cyanobacteria," says Dr Roygard. "The bacteria and cyanobacteria results are made available to the public on Horizons and Land Air Water Aotearoa (LAWA) websites, so they can make an informed choice about when and where to swim in our region. In addition to our swim spot monitoring programme, Horizons monitors water quality from sites across the region on a monthly basis. Water collected from these sites is tested for levels of nutrient, bacteria and sediment as well as for clarity and physico-chemical stressors, such as pH and temperature. We also have a network that measures some aspects of water quality on a continuous basis (every 15 minutes). All of this data helps us to make informed decisions about what work programmes we need to prioritise and implement to help improve water quality in our region. An independent report conducted by LWP Ltd, earlier this year, showed strong evidence of regional improvement in sediment and E.coli measures. These improvements have been linked to interventions to improve, or remove point source discharges to water and land management interventions, such as the work with SLUI, New Zealand's largest hill country erosion management programme. However, a further report by LWP for Horizons on river water quality state and trend analysis for the region indicates E. coli concentrations generally do not meet bathing suitability guidelines for the One Plan, or the National Objectives Framework. These results are consistent with the swimmability statistics for the region. A further finding was that, within the overall regional improving trends, some sites are showing declining trends. This further confirms that there is still work to do to improve the swimmability of the region's rivers. A next step will be to plan and undertake actions to achieve the new targets that Council has adopted," says Dr Roygard.

Cards title defended

From left: Aaron Paulger, Dave Gledhill and Alan Coleman, recently defended their Rangitikei Squash Club annual card playing trophy from last year. The annual euchre competition is played over four weeks at the club and has been running for several decades.



Symptoms of Heavy Digital Device Use on the Rise among Generation X

Lack of awareness and vanity are the two main reasons Kiwis don't seek treatment for an age-related vision condition, with Generation X being the worst offenders, according to experts.

Optometrists are warning that prolonged exposure to digital devices may exacerbate the symptoms of presbyopia, a common vision condition which, along with affecting eyesight, can leave sufferers with eyestrain and neck pain.

Presbyopia is an age-related condition, estimated to affect more than 2.2 million Kiwis aged over 40. The number of Kiwis in this age bracket is expected to increase to 2.6m by 2028, according to government statistics.

The disorder results in the eye being no longer able to focus on near objects. It is often characterised by digital device users needing to hold their phone further away from their face, or needing brighter lights to read by.

Optometrist Bruce Nicholls says the strain caused by trying to focus on small print, for long periods, can cause headaches and tired, or sore eyes.

He says that constantly switching our focus between devices, such as smartphones, tablets and PCs, as well as hard copies of printed pages, is putting our eyes under an unnatural level of stress.

"Presbyopia is a normal condition, which has always been present in humans but in recent years, our increasing dependence on digital devices has meant the frequency of symptoms like headaches, eye strain and neck pain occurring, seems to be on the rise.

"For many people, devices are in constant use, from the time we wake up, until the time we go to sleep.

"Many of us simply transition from one device to another, through the day, which places continuous pressure on eye muscles that become less able to handle this kind of workload as we age," he says.

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Property ID: M1352

19 & 21 Robert Street, Marton
\$229,000
DUPLEX INVESTMENT
 Smart buying with this 2 x 2 bedroom duplex with separate lounge rooms, separate kitchen/dining rooms, bathrooms with shower over bath and a 1,234sqm section. This is a great investment in your future as a landlord, or even if you are looking for your own place, with the added advantage of having rental income. Fully tenanted at \$340 per week.
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Property ID: M1353

Marton \$80,000
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Property ID: M1315

Marton \$70,000
DECIDUOUS PLANTING
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Property ID: M1346

Turakina \$100,000
COUCH POTATO
 Tucked away in the back of Turakina, you can escape the city rat race and take in the country air with this semi self-sufficient country retreat. 1 bedroom home, with separate sleepout. Open plan living, with modern kitchen and logfire heating. BBQ area and private yard, with numerous fruit trees, vegetable gardens, fowlhouse and glasshouse. Double garage/workshop, all set on a 1,012sqm section.
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