



Come trick or treating
October 31st 4.30 - 6pm

↳ That little shop in Bulls

Can't wait to see all your
fantastic costumes.

lamberts

BUSINESS SYSTEMS

Thank you for
Supplying all
printing solutions
for the Bulls and
District

**THANK
YOU**

BULL-IT-INN ENQUIRIES

November articles or adverts
need to be submitted by the
25th of October to
office@bulls.kiwi

BULL•IT•INN



BULL•IT•INN

Te kawerongo o Bulls



SHOCKING PINK FUNDRAISER

Join us for a fun filled ladies night

Proudly presented by:
The Bulls & District Community Trust

THURSDAY 26 OCTOBER, 6PM
TE MATAPIHI, Criterion Street, Bulls

**ENTRY BY WAY OF A \$25 DONATION TO THE
SHOCKING PINK CHARITY**

We are also supporting **PAMPER PAPER BAGS.**

This year instead of raffles & auctions we are asking for you
to bring pampering products. Your donation will go in a
pamper paper bag that will be gifted to women going
through cancer treatment.

R18

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL by 22 October

Further information about Pamper Paper Bags & drop off
points if you can not make this fabulous event
are available on our Face Book page
"Bulls NZ" or contact us
office@bulls.kiwi or 021 174 5951



Supper provided, cash bar available



YOU HERD IT HERE



Hi everyone!

We have the Breast Cancer Fundraiser this month, it will be a fun ladies night, don't forget to book your seats!!



We had a wonderful Clean Up Week with so much rubbish being picked up in and around the town.

Thank you everyone who supported and participated in the Clean Up Week New Zealand. A huge thank you to:
Mayor Andy Watson, The Bulls Fire Brigade, Kerri from Downer, Rangitikei District Council, Bulls Community Committee and all our fabulous volunteers and wombles. Enjoy the below photos :-)



ROYAL NEW ZEALAND AIR FORCE



Change of command. Today, Air Vice-Marshal Darryn Webb received Te Pokairewa, the Chief of Air Force kakahu, from Air Vice-Marshal Andrew Clark during a Change of Command parade at Base Ohakea.

"My connections with the Air Force run deep, and it's an absolute privilege to stand here this afternoon." ~ Air Vice-Marshal Darryn Webb, Since joining our Air Force as a pilot in 1990, Air Vice-Marshal Webb has accrued over 6000 hours of flying experience, participating in numerous operational missions and deployments. He has commanded RNZAF units at every level and held strategic positions, including Defence Capability and Strategic Commitments and Engagements.

Beyond Defence, Air Vice-Marshal Webb was Head of Managed Isolation and Quarantine, seconded into the All of Government response. He was appointed a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) in the 2022 New Year Honours list for services to the NZDF in recognition of this role.

Air Vice-Marshal Andrew Clark leaves the Chief of Air Force role to take on the position of Director-General of the GCSB.





WELCOME TO THE BULLS RSA

55 High Street, Bulls 06 322 0875

New members are always welcome, come on in and have a look around.

Annual Subscription is \$40. Our opening hours are as follows:

- ◆ Monday closed except for Public Holidays
- ◆ Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday 4pm till close
- ◆ Friday 3pm till close
- ◆ Saturday/Sunday 1pm till close

Our low membership fee of \$40 gives you the following benefits:

- *Monthly birthday draw – put your names into the container, if it's your name drawn a \$30 bar tab is loaded to your membership card.
- *Membership Draw – Friday nights between 6.15 and 6.30pm (must be present to claim)
- *Plus Saturday Nights between 4pm and 6pm is a 2nd Membership Draw (must be present to claim)
- *Joker Draw Friday nights 7.00pm \$500 Jackpot.
- *Access to all affiliated clubs in NZ
- *Courtesy Van available.
- *Karaoke the last Friday of the month.

Courtesy Van

Courtesy Van available, donations welcome to help with the upkeep/fuel when it is in use.



WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Texas Holdem Poker

THURSDAY NIGHTS

Handle night, \$5.50 between 4-8pm

FRIDAY NIGHTS

Darts, Pool, Meat and \$50 Raffles

Poppies Kitchen—Friday Nights

We do not have 3 course meals, but we do have Poppies Kitchen snacks at very reasonable prices.



YOU HERD IT HERE

CAPTURE-A-BULL

BULLS
New Zealand



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS

People in Bulls:

Junior: Daisy Whisker with *Birthday In Bulls*

Senior: Renee Richardson with *My Healthy Bastards*

Bulls through your lens:

Junior: Paetyn Macaulay with *Bulls Bull*

Senior: Glen Nepia with *Bulls Through My Lens*

Nature:

Junior: no entries

Senior: Colin Bartlett with *Sunset over Ohakea Construction Works*

Peoples Choice:

Colin Bartlett: with *Tui*

Please email office@bulls.kiwi to collect your prize.

WINNERS ON DISPLAY @ TE MATAPIHI



Do-A-Bulls In & Around Bulls

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 October Blessing of Animals | 8 November BCC Meeting |
| 9 October School Term 4 Starts | 10 November Out lunches |
| 9 October Youth Club Starts | 11 November Bulls Rose Show |
| 21 October Mangaweka Mega | 25 November Marton Market Day |
| 23 October Labour Day | 2 December Bulls Christmas Parade |
| 26 October Pink Ribbon Fundraiser | 19 January Marton Country Festival |
| 28 October Hunterville Shemozzle | 27 Jan Turakina Highland Games |
| 1 November Pottery Class | 10 February Fest-a-bull |

TE KAWAU TENNIS

Friday coaching starts 28 October. Anyone who didn't register at love tennis and wants to join contact Heather 027 883 6551



HOUSIE

Tue 11th & 25th of October @ 7pm sharp

BULLS BOWLING CLUB
Criterion Street
"ALL WELCOME"
18+

POTTERY WORKSHOP

WEDNESDAY 1ST NOVEMBER

Brought to you by The Bulls & Districts Community Trust

COME AND HAVE FUN

@ TE MATAPIHI MAKING A COIL BOWL



**6.30PM to
8.30PM**

\$65

Email: office@bulls.kiwi
to secure your spot
LIMITED SPACES



WE NEED YOU

Are you passionate about our youth?

Do you have skills, expertise & experiences to share?

Join us in empowering our youth by becoming a mentor & guide to their future success!

We're seeking individuals from all walks of life who have a genuine desire to inspire and support the younger generation. Whether you're an accomplished professional, a skilled artist, a tech guru, a creative thinker, or a passionate hobbyist, your knowledge and experience are invaluable assets that can shape young lives.



Bulls & District
COMMUNITY TRUST

The 146th BULLS Rose & Flower Show

Saturday 11 November 2023

Te Matapihi

Bulls Community Centre

Open 12 to 4pm

Gold Coin Entry

Stalls Open 10 to 4pm

Café Open from 12 to 4pm

Brought to you by:

Highland Evolution Dance & Fitness

\$10 per head Buffet Lunch

PRE ORDERS AVAILABLE

Schedules available from
Platts Pharmacy & Te Matapihi

Show Co-ordinator & Secretary

Michelle Brown - 027 644 4009

General Enquiries & Stall Bookings

Heidi Macaulay - 021 174 5951



SHOCKING **PINK** FUNDRAISER

Proudly presented by:
The Bulls & District Community Trust

We are supporting **PAMPER PAPER BAGS**

This is an opportunity to provide pampering products for women going through cancer treatment. If you would like to donate, place the items in the paper bag and we will deliver them!

The following are some ideas of what you might like to put in . . .
Magazines, chocolates, beauty products - such as hand cream or face masks, word finds and crosswords, playing cards, nail polish, body scrub, lip balms, fluffy socks, gloves, beanies, blankets, scented candles, vouchers or similar items.

You may also like to include a message of support with your donation.

If you are interested in supporting this campaign and cannot attend the fundraiser please drop your donations into That Little Shop in Bulls, Te Matapihi Bulls, Limitless Streetwear Feilding, Highland Evolution, Marton, Mitre 10 Marton & Bayleys Palmerston North before 26 October

Any queries please contact
office@bulls.kiwi or 021 174 5951



Do-A-Bulls In & Around Bulls

BULLS YOUTH CLUB

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE BULLS & DISTRICT COMMUNITY TRUST

FREE FREE FREE

SCHOOL TERM 4
MONDAYS

3.30 to 5pm INDOOR BOWLING Ages 7 & up

WEDNESDAYS

3.30 to 5pm MINECRAFT Ages 7 to 13

4 to 6pm DUNGEONS & DRAGONS Ages 12 and up
TE MATAPIHI, BULLS



FREE FREE FREE

WEDNESDAY OF SCHOOL TERM 4

3.30 to 5pm POOL & DARTS Ages 7 to 18

At the Bulls RSA

(Children 7 to 12 must have supervision)

Register your interest at: office@bulls.kiwi



Pānui Hauora / Community Health News

UPDATES FROM BULLS MEDICAL CENTRE

Kia ora from Bulls Medical Centre.

HPV SELF TESTING

Bulls Medical Centre Ltd

Bulls Medical Centre Ltd The primary tests for Cervical Screening in New Zealand (previously called a "Smear" Test) has changed to a Human papillomavirus (HPV) test, with the option of Self-Testing. Our nurse's are excited that we have the new HPV self swab kits available. if you are due or overdue for your cervical screening please come in and have a chat with us. Feedback so far has been very positive with most of those who have done the self swab being happy with how easy, safe and accurate self testing is.

OCTOBER WEEKENDS ON CALL:

Saturday & Sunday
30 Sept & 1 Oct 8 to 11.45am

Saturday & Sunday
14th & 15th 8 to 11.45am

Saturday & Sunday
28th & 29th 8 to 11.45am

Outside these hours:

Whanganui Accident and Emergency
100 Heads Road, Whanganui 06 348 1300



ALL OVER THE
RANGITIKEI

Here to help!



Genuinely Dedicated
Heidi Macaulay
RESIDENTIAL & LIFESTYLE SALESPERSON
027 848 9125
heidi.macaulay@bayleys.co.nz
Mid West Realty Limited. Licensed under the REA 2008.

BAYLEYS ALTOGETHER BETTER

THE LITTLE TOWN WITH BIG HEART

Mangaweka Mega

DISCOVER THE MAGIC OF
MANGAWEKA
WHERE HISTORY IS ALIVE!

Free Entry

FEATURING

Community Garage Sale
Mega Book Fair * Fakes & Forgeries
Live Music * Vintage Displays

Sat - 21 October
9am - 3pm

contact: mangaweka.mega@gmail.com
For Fakes & Forgeries see
mangawekagallery.webs.com

teamlewis.co.nz

innovation
REAL ESTATE IS OUR PASSION

Call FREE
0800 627 866
or 027 444 4845
office@teamlewis.co.nz

*real estate
is our passion!*



CAROL

MIKE

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TEAM WRAY
REDEFINING REAL ESTATE IN THE
Rangitikei



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Licensed Sales Consultant
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david.wray@harcourts.co.nz



ANGELA WRAY
Licensed Sales Consultant
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angela.wray@harcourts.co.nz

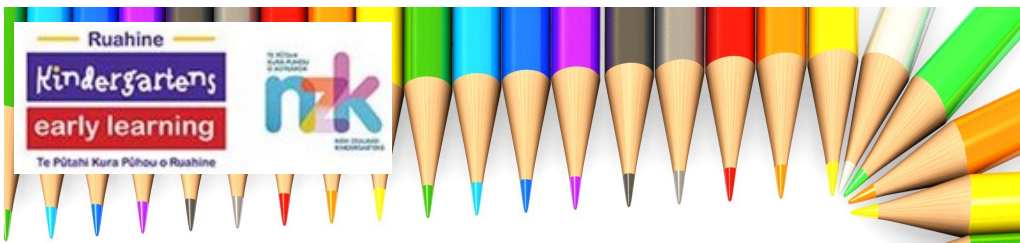


Team Manawatu Realty Limited. Licensed Agent REAA 2008

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Great Agent - NO BULL! Call free on 0800 627 866
Licensed Salesperson under the Real Estate Agents Act 2008

innovation
REAL ESTATE IS OUR PASSION



Ruahine Bulls Kindergarten



We have been embracing spring at Ruahine Bulls Kindergarten, with outside messy play, sand and water being popular aspects of our core curriculum for tamariki. We are excited to have refurbished our lazy river and to have had a lamb visit, as these are great ways to form connections with the world around us.



BULLS & DISTRICT COMMUNITY TRUST
 To our funders, we would like to thank you for your ongoing support in 2023:
 COG's, DIA, Lotteries, Rangitikei District Council, Pub Charity, Whanganui Community Foundation, Catalytic Foundation and Dudding Trust



Pānui Hauora / Community Health News

We act as a support service for those who need advice, direction, and assistance with their day-to-day management of a brain injury.

- Liaison Officer
- Support Groups for Clients & Whanau
- Information and Resources about Brain Injuries
- Advocacy service
- Area Whanganui-Waverley-Waimarino-Rangitikei

Community House, Room 104,
 60 Ridgway Street | PO Box 102, Whanganui 4541
 P 06 347 9721 | M 027 227 1202
 E liaison.whanganui@brain-injury.org.nz
 FB @BIAWhanganui

Every day, 90 New Zealanders sustain a brain injury – there's help on hand

We are here to support family/whānau and any one in our community affected by Dementia

If you have concerns about Memory loss; Changes in cognitive behaviour or a Diagnosis of Dementia

And would like to see Fiona to discuss your concerns, please ring or email her to book a time to meet.

Fiona will be in Rangitikei on Monday 30th October 2023

Taihape 9.30 a.m.—12.00 noon
 &
Marion 1.30 p.m.—3.30 p.m.

Contact details:
 Fiona 027-557-4073
 Email: livingwell@alzheimerswhanganui.org.nz

BULLS WEIGHT WATCHERS GROUP

We meet at the RSA Wednesdays at 6pm.

This is a safe, non-judgmental environment where everyone will be made to feel comfortable sharing their experiences and supporting one another.

Come along to this free group and meet others on similar journeys.

Please call Marie on 027 674 1095 for further information or simply turn up.
Everyone is welcome!

Guiding those affected by Stroke through the journey to recovery.

If you or someone you know needs support post-stroke, don't hesitate to contact our local Community Stroke Advisor Diane email: dianem@strokecentral.org.nz or Phone: 028 8500 0470

Hapori whānui/Community Groups

BULLS & DISTRICT FRIENDSHIP CLUB

We meet each Friday in our hall on the corner of Daniel & High Street at 2pm. Always great entertainment, each week with a cuppa to follow.

We visited Levin Friendship Club on the 21st of September for their 66th Birthday.



Friday the 22nd of September was our 35th birthday with visitors from Levin, Ashurst & Palmerston North, a great afternoon was had by all.

Pop in and check us out you will be made very welcome

Enjoy the day light savings and keep well.

For further information please contact: Elaine Jeffree 322 1494

BULLS COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

Their next meeting will be held Wednesday 8 November 6pm, Bulls Community Centre, Te Matapihi.

All are welcome to attend.

Contact The Chair prior if would like to speak. Time can be allocated for public interest discussion.

Please contact Greg Smith (Chair BCC) 0220226475



BULLS RSA LADIES

Our committee usually meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month in the RSA Lounge, Bulls RSA at 1pm.

We had a visit to the Levin section for their coffee day, a great day was had by our members.

On the 21st of September 5 of our members attended the Foxton women's section for their coffee afternoon & entertainment, another great afternoon.

Take care and enjoy the extra daylight hours.

For information contact: Elaine Jeffree 322 1494



SOUTH RANGITIKEI DOG TRAINING CLUB

Every Tuesday Starting on the 10th October

at our Club grounds at the

Bulls Domain we start at 5.30pm

Contact Margaret or leave a message on 021 0222 8626



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S PEN

TERM 3 2023

Kia ora koutou,

Term 3 is done and dusted and our term 4 calendar is already pretty full! But we wouldn't have it any other way.

We ended term 3 on a high! On Friday we had a full on day. We began with Lamb & Calf judging - huge thank you to Totally Vets for our fabulous judges. Then we all introduced our pets before heading into a grand parade. In classrooms we had lots of enviro activities taking place. We also planted our new orchard thanks to Pūtea Hapori Urupare Āhurangi, Community Climate Reponse Funding from Horizons and Whaea Claire for applying for it!

Then after morning tea we headed out to the field for some fun in the sun. We had gumboot throwing, three legged competitions and egg and spoon races to name a few. Then we had a sausage sizzle, icecreams and juices before we put on a fun rural themed concert for everyone to enjoy.

It is awesome how much our kaiako/teachers/staff put into our tamariki and one of the greatest ways of connecting positively with our whānau is by placing importance on events that maximise whānau participation. What an awesome community.

**Ngā manaakitanga,
Kim Gordon - Tumuaki**

Please enjoy these fun photos of the day below:





Marton SWIM Club



For fitness and lessons
(spaces limited)
FUN & AFFORDABLE

Ages: 7 - 17
Tuesdays and Thursdays
5.30pm - 6.30pm

Terms 4 & 1

Contact: Bec Sorensen 0273219102

Email: martonswimclub2019@gmail.com

FB: Marton Swim Club



Rangitikei
ATHLETICS CLUB

We are excited to share that opening night for the 2023-2024 Athletics Season is fast approaching!

We hope that you will join us on October 9 for the first round of "Give it A Go" at Rangitikei College starting at 5:00 pm for children under 7 years old and 5:45 pm for children over 7 years old.

If you already know that you would like to register your child for the Athletics season please complete the form available on our FaceBook Page *Rangitikei Athletics Club* or contact rangitikeiathletics@gmail.com.

If you haven't been part of the club and want to know more, please come along to the first Monday to see and hear what we are all about. We aim at providing a safe and welcoming environment that encourages movement and activity through running, jumping and throwing for all ages and abilities.

BULLS AIR SCOUTS GROUP

Join us at the Scout Hall in Wilson Street, girls and boys are welcome in all sections.

Keas aged 5 to 8 Monday nights 6pm to 7pm
Cubs aged 8 to 10 Monday nights 6pm to 7.30pm
Scouts aged 10 to 15 Monday nights 6pm to 8pm



BULLS SCOUT HALL

28 Wilson Street Bulls
October 28th 2023
Not before 9am Please
Something for all
Sausage Sizzle/Cake Stall

We are now collecting items for our next Massive Garage Sale. Good quality items please, NO rubbish as these costs us to dispose of. Text or Phone Lynell 0274312184 or email bulls@group.scouts.nz

BULLS RIVER GROUP

Are you passionate about our river and the river walkway? And want to be a part of what happens there or simply offer your ideas?

Then register your interest at office@bulls.kiwi to be a part of the Bulls River Group.

Lets make this beautiful asset of Bulls a place everyone can enjoy.



STEADY AS YOU GO Building Strength & Balance

Every **WEDNESDAY** at the Bulls Friendship Hall.

From 10.00 to 11.00am
\$3 per session

For more information or to enrol in a class, please contact Janet Lewis on 06 345 1799
saygo@acwhanganui.org.nz

Or just come along, we would love to see you!



Hapori whānui/Community Groups



THE BULLS TOY LIBRARY

Located at 198 Bridge Street, Bulls (in the Anglican Church hall)

NEW OPENING HOURS BELOW

Click & Collect - book your toys online and they will be ready to pick up!

We always welcome new members, feel free to pop in during our sessions and have a look, or you can sign up online at: <https://bullstoylibrary.setls.com.au>

Find us on Facebook to keep up to date!

We have several different membership options which allow you to borrow up to four toys and three puzzles at a time:

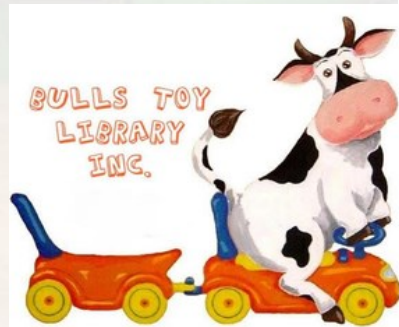
NEW FEES from 1st September

- 12 months for \$75
- 6 months for \$45
- Casual fortnightly membership for \$10

For those larger families (or those who just want more toys!) we have these 12 month options:

- \$90 to borrow six toys and three puzzles
- \$105 to borrow eight toys and three puzzles

Our new opening hours are: Tuesdays 3pm to 5pm & Saturdays 9am to 12pm



The Bulls Food Pantry
OPEN EVERY FRIDAY
from 3.30pm-4pm

ST JAMES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HALL ON
DANIELL STREET

All are welcome!

If you have any donations please call:
Annabel on 027 448 3777
or email office@bulls.kiwi



LOVE LOCAL

BULLS POST OFFICE

The first Post Office in Bulls was in the store of Mr James Bull and is believed to have opened in 1860. It was known as "Middle Rangitikei" Post Office. On 1st December 1871, Mr Harland F Ward took up duty as the first permanent Postmaster.

Mr C. L. White was appointed Registrar of Births on 1st April 1895 and the first birth was registered 2nd April 1895.

In 1872 the name of the Post Office was changed to "Bulls" in order to perpetuate the name of Mr James Bull.

The first available record of the mail service in the Rangitikei District is contained in the report of the Postmaster General for the year 1859 – 1860. A telegraph office was opened in Bulls in 1871. In 1872, 1114 telegrams were sent and their value was £93 pounds 19 shillings and 9 pence. In 1872 a money order and savings bank were opened and during the following year 168 money orders were issued for £793 and 74 were paid for the sum of £388.

The telephone exchange was opened in September 1905 with 12 subscribers, hours of attendance 9 -5.

July 27th 1906, the new two storied brick Post Office in Bulls was opened, at a cost of £2300. (\$4869 in todays money) This was to be one of the most up to date country offices in the colony. This was to be completed with a clock at a cost £165 (\$349.370) in todays money. Half of which was from the residents of the district.

The building was supposedly fire -proof but was gutted from sparks from the burning shop next door. A new interior was built in the shell of the old building and re – opened 22 August 1910. The clock tower was added to the building, installed and started 6th September 1912.

In 1983 a new Post Office was built on the section next to the old one. The clock was moved into the new building and still works today, as the Post Office building was sold to the local doctor.

The Post Office was tendered out and is situated at the local chemist shop.



LOVE LOCAL

ALIVE AND WELL AT THE BULLS MUSEUM

The little Museum that punches above its weight

Hello again from the Bulls Museum. By the time you are reading this, you will be into daylight saving mode and I know this is not everyone's "cup of tea" and hopefully if these winds stay away, who knows we may be able to enjoy a few extra hours in the evening.

A fabulous evening at LaBull was held recently to update the Bulls community with regard to the Bulls former library building, which the Bulls and Districts Historical Society has leased off the Rangitikei District Council. Thank you to all those who attended and for those who unfortunately couldn't make it, a scale model is on display in the Bulls Museum for your perusal. Thank you to Jen and Lyndon for hosting this event.

We have new supplies of numbered Tasman Series Memoirs books, written by Bill Pottinger who has just recently passed. These are proving very popular as 3 copies are winging their way to the UK at the moment. We have more museum polo shirts in stock for those wishing to purchase as well as magnets. These fundraising products are proving very popular. Our numbers are fantastic so far this month with 164 visitors with 11 days till the end of the month.

Many overseas visitors, many purchasing magnets and the like. Did you know there is a concrete bunker on Wilson Rd that was formerly an air raid shelter?
Just another snippet from the Bulls Museum.



Hapori whānui/Community Groups



THE SCOTTS FERRY COMMITTEE are fundraising for their community wetland planting by selling these posters for \$20 each...no frame included.

These are the names of the houses in the Scotts Ferry Village.

Please contact Elaine Bishop via email on bishop@xtra.co.nz to order.



BULLS TO SCOTT'S FERRY RURAL WOMEN NZ

Scotts Ferry Rural Women NZ received information on scams in a packed Ohakea Room at Te Matapihi, Bulls on 29th August.



Damian Turner Steel, digital Infrastructure Specialist from Rangitikei District Council was an excellent last minute replacement speaker.

Information was provided about scams on:

Landlines - Cell phones - Computers - Identifying scams at the workplace
Creating strong passwords - Bank scams - Digital market place scams
Use of apps and passwords - Avoiding public Wifi

Annabel Sidey, President of Scotts Ferry Rural Women NZ thanked Damian for coming from Marton, and providing factual information, to an appreciative audience.

We meet the fourth Tuesday of the month. We are here to support women and their families in town and country through meetings, outings, discussions and friendly get togethers.

For more information contact: Annabel Sidey 021 162 3019

FOODTOGETHER

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES THROUGH HEALTHY KAI

With the cost-of-living crisis hitting us all hard at this time a lot of people are looking at alternative options to buy fresh food for their families. An initiative that has run well in Palmerston North for many years and that we are investigating bringing to Bulls is a Foodtogether co-op.

A Foodtogether Co-op allows communities to offer a variety of fruit and vegetable packs to local customers. Offering great value for money, Foodtogether boxes are ordered online the week prior to delivery. On delivery day, customers make their way to the pick-up point and collect their pre-paid order of produce. The cost of the box is no more than \$20 and each Foodtogether box is made up of a variety of fresh seasonal fruit and vegetables totalling 6-8 varieties. The produce is different each week so you will never get bored eating the same thing week in and out.

Expressions of interest sought now. If you are interested in being a customer of this initiative, let Heidi Macaulay at Te Matapihi – Bulls Community Centre know, or email her on office@bulls.kiwi to register your interest.



You will be under no obligation to buy if you register your interest, we are merely gauging interest at this stage.

The 146th Bulls Rose & Flower Show

Please return any trophies from last years

Bulls Rose & Flower Show to Heidi at

Te Matapihi, Bulls Community Centre

Cleaned & Engraved before Monday 23rd October 2023

Thank you

Council News



0800 422 522 (24 hrs) | info@rangitikei.govt.nz |  RangitikeiDC

FROM THE Mayor's Desk

Kia ora koutou, on Sunday 17 September I had the pleasure of attending Te Matoro o te Tumuaki Tuawaru o te Haahi Rātana which was a meeting of the followers of the Rātana faith held in the Marton RSA and Citizens' Memorial Hall.

This was an opportunity for the mana whenua of Marton being Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa to formally meet at a Church

Service with the new Tumuaki, Sonny Tamou. The Memorial Hall was full to bursting and this was a very significant occasion for both Rātana and our iwi and I was very pleased to be able to represent Council. I attend numerous functions at Rātana and sometimes attend their Church Services in the Temple and I feel as though I am very much part of the community so it was nice to be able to sit alongside them and support them on Sunday.

At the moment all of New Zealand and Local Government are effectively in a holding pattern while we wait for the outcome of the general election. Whichever party is elected there is likely to be significant change in things such as the Resource Management Act and the provision of services within the Three Waters – wastewater, drinking water and stormwater. We are currently in the middle of a planning cycle called the Long Term Plan and the government position will be crucial to understanding what our responsibilities will

be in these areas. If there is to be a change of government, which some of the media seem to predict, there will be an enormous number of changes that Council will have to work with. Often with elections, Local Government and Central Government people talk about "what can a new party or council do in the first 100 days?". This tends to be a catchphrase but in this case the first 100 days will be absolutely crucial in terms of our planning cycles. Both Council and staff literally wait with bated breath as to what their roles will be.



On top of that Council is also going through a process around who would deliver our roading maintenance contracts over the next nine years. Our contract currently sits with Higgins and while there are a limited number of contractors who would have the capacity to be able to deliver, I would love to see contracts awarded where local contractors can be part of those discussions. Being honest, the state of our roads are a huge concern to both myself and Council. The maintenance of them is dropping away and the amount of money that the government has to spend in this space is driving that change.

Ngā mihi, Andy Watson, Mayor of Rangitikei.