# **Newsline Issue 571 – 31 May 2024**

# Krusty Krab checks reservoirs

The Chasing M2 PRO Submersible Remotely Operated Vehicle, or the “Krusty Krab” as it’s been dubbed, could be coming to a reservoir or drinking water storage facility near you.

The Krusty Krab is the newest bit of kit that our Waters Team has in its toolbox.

Drinking water quality assurance rules require us to inspect water storage facilities at least annually and the Krusty Krab is an excellent tool for exploring inside them.

There are around 130 tanks and reservoirs that need to be checked across the Tasman District.

The remotely operated vehicle has an ultra-high-definition camera and powerful lights to produce detailed crisp underwater images.

The team is looking for internal cracks, corrosion, or damage that could cause leaks, failures and ways that contamination could make its way into the stored water.

Previously when we’ve done inspections, we had to either drain the tanks, or in the bigger reservoirs, send in divers which could introduce another set of issues like potential contamination.

In the past, each inspection could take up to a day to complete, but using the Krusty Krab we can now do up to 15 inspections a day and create comprehensive reports supported by video.

# Better Off Funding reallocation

We’ve recently reallocated some of our unspent Better Off Funding to increase water infrastructure investment and the development of our Water Services Delivery Plans.

With the change in Government and the introduction of the Local Water Done Well programme, Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) – through Crown Infrastructure Partners – has been working alongside us to identify any opportunities to redirect unspent Better Off Funding (BOF) into water infrastructure projects.

Projects where either the whole project or components of a project have not been committed were prioritised in this decision.

A total of $713,200 will be redirected under this change.

$200,000 will benefit water supply projects in Motueka, $5,000 for installation of CCTV at Collingwood’s Wastewater Treatment Plant, while the other $508,200 will go towards establishing the water services delivery plan and establishment of a Council-controlled organisation to implement the Local Water Done Well programme.

We are aiming to start on these new projects later this year.

Tasman received $5.64 million in 2021 from DIA to benefit the wider community and iwi outcomes through tranche one of the Government’s Three Waters Better Off Support Package.

This has helped a number of worthwhile initiatives and improvements get off the ground within the region, and in many cases to completion.

Four Tasman BOF projects have been subject to the funding reallocation, although three of these have only had a partial amount redirected.

Unfortunately, we were unable to proceed with the Tākaka Skate and Skills Park within the approved completion date which meant the full $50,000 BOF provision for a feasibility study, community engagement, and design, has been redirected.

# Who is the best port of call in a maritime emergency?

Tasman Harbourmaster’s key role is to ensure safety on the water and that maritime law and local bylaws are being observed.

Reporting any accident or incident on the water at the earliest opportunity – after you are safe, of course – is not only a requirement, but it also means situations can be addressed quickly and can potentially help save others from the same incident. You can do this via our online portal tasman.govt.nz/report-a-maritime-incident or via maritimenz.govt.nz/forms/incident.

For general enquiries, you can contact the Harbourmaster team on 03 543 8400 or via our website tasman.govt.nz/contact-the-harbourmaster.

However, during maritime accidents or incidents, your first point of contact for assistance on the water should be one of the following:

* For maritime emergencies, call 111 ‘Police’ or Mayday on VHF 16, set off a PLB/EPIRB. The Tasman Harbourmaster is contacted directly by the Police or RRCC if they are required to assist.
* For non-emergencies, call \*500 for Coastguard. Make a pan pan call on VHF 16, or call a local tow/salvage operator.
* To report suspicious or illegal fishing activities, call 0800 4 POACHER (0800 476 224).
* To report marine mammal/conservation incidents, call 0800 DOC HOT (0800 362 468).

It is the skipper’s responsibility to have a plan while out on the water and make good decisions. If you need help, calling early can make a big difference.

For more information, head to saferboating.org.nz and check out their Safer Boating Guide.

# Repair cafés on the rise

Motueka’s Repair Café is all about bringing people together to give new life to damaged or broken items.

It’s part of Repair Café Aotearoa New Zealand, supporting a growing network of local cafés across Aotearoa with the goal of running repair events that build connections, support community resilience and reduce waste.

We’ve supported the Motueka Repair Café with a Community Grant and Waste Minimisation Grant, with volunteers pitching in many hours to bring together a thriving community of skilled local repairers.

These include a registered electrician, wood repairer, darner, computer operating systems troubleshooter, general repairers, blade sharpener and sewing repairs.

You’ll find them at Te Noninga Kumu/Motueka Library’s community meeting room on the third Saturday of each month, from 10.00 am until 1.00 pm.

Save that broken toaster from the landfill and get it repaired, for free!

Meanwhile, we have been working to set up a similar repair café in Mohua/Golden Bay, and we are now happy to announce the first Mohua/Golden Bay Repair Café will be on Sunday 7 July from 2.00 pm until 5.00 pm at the Mohua Social Services Community Hall.

We want to make this a regular event in the Bay, with a repair café every two months, and moving around different locations from Tākaka to Collingwood.

The project is being pulled together by an awesome group of volunteers and they are looking for people who can help with hosting an event, as well as skilled repairers.

If you’d like to help, contact claire.webster@tasman.govt.nz.

# Understanding air quality in smaller towns

During the past few years, we have carried out surveillance work to better understand air quality in some of our smaller towns – Motueka (2018 – 2023), Brightwater (2022), Wakefield (2022), and Murchison (2023).

We have been measuring the levels of smoke and small particles in the air over wintertime using a monitoring network of ‘dustmote’ sensors.

Microscopic specks of air pollution are officially known as ‘Particulate Matter’ and are labelled PM10 for the larger ones and PM2.5 for the tiniest of particles.

Our surveillance air quality monitoring programme focused on PM2.5, in anticipation of future rule changes to requirements about monitoring and managing PM2.5.

High concentrations of these types of particles can create health problems, particularly for the elderly and small children.

Results of monitoring show that specific locations within these smaller towns are exceeding the World Health Guidelines for PM2.5 on two or more days over the monitoring periods.

The emissions profiles were consistent with emissions from wood burners.

Until a new standard for PM2.5 is introduced by central Government, our focus will be on education and advice to support our communities to reduce smoke pollution from home heating.

Check our website for best practice wood burner advice, including helpful videos on building an upside-down fire and dry firewood tips: tasman.govt.nz/good-wood.

# Watching this woolly plant pest

Woolly nightshade (*Solanum mauritianum*) is an invasive pest plant from South America which is widespread in Tasman.

However, in Golden Bay, this weed is still at relatively low levels. In our Regional Pest Management Plan, woolly nightshade is a Sustained Control Pest in Golden Bay only. This means that people in Golden Bay must control the weed before seeding every year.

Woolly nightshade is named for the distinctive dusty hairs that cover the leaves and stems which are released when the plant is disturbed and can irritate skin and the respiratory tract.

It is a shrub or small tree with a strong capsicum-like smell. It is also known as tobacco weed, for the tobacco-like leaf shape.

The plant produces purple flowers, followed by dense clusters of berries that ripen from green to yellow. Berries are consumed (and the seed subsequently spread) by birds. This pest grows quickly and can form dense tall stands.

Plants generally grow between two and four meters high but can grow up to 10 metres tall in the right conditions. The plant has a life span of up to 30 years.

It is allelopathic, meaning it prevents other plant species from germinating near it by producing toxins that poison the soil.

Our Biosecurity Officers recommend stump treating with Picloram gel, or foliar spray with 60ml Triclopyr and 10ml surfactant per 10L of spray.

We also recommend donning a dust mask and long sleeves when dealing with big infestations.

# Relationships stronger with Te Kāhui Hononga

Enhancing our iwi relationships is important to us but it also requires a lot of kōrero with many parties.

Along with our legal obligations to consult and engage, the development of better relationships with our iwi partners and Māori communities takes commitment, leadership and investment.

In doing so, we create mutual benefits which bring all parties together.

Waiho i te toipoto, kaua i te toiroa – keep close together, not wide apart.

Fortunately, we have an amazing group of people within our Council whānau whose job is to assist with effective and appropriate engagement with nine local iwi and partner organisations, as well as underlining our statutory obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Our Te Kāhui Hononga team is based in the Chief Executive Office and consists of Kaihautū Hononga Renee Thomas, Kaitohutohu Hononga Nell Kelly, and Kaiāwhina Hononga Kimiora McGregor.

They are also assisted by Kelly Hayes who is with us on a fixed-term cadetship role under Te Aka Pūkenga programme.

Edna Brownlee is still part of the team in an ex-officio role, and she now works from Ōtautahi where she gets to spend more time with her mokopuna.

Hui, field trips and cultural events keep these wāhine busy throughout the week – and often the weekends – while their presence in the office environment has also helped support staff and gain more insight into Te Ao Māori.

In recent months, there have been some important developments that have strengthened council-iwi relations.

This includes the historic signing of the Together Te Tauihu partnership agreement between eight iwi and Tasman, Nelson and Marlborough councils, as well as Tasman’s appointment of iwi representatives to our council committees.

# Free holiday activities, a hit!

Four free family events run by our partners CLM in Tasman during the April school holidays have proven to be a tremendous success.

More than 800 people enjoyed the activities in four of our parks.

The Treasure Hunt at Lord Rutherford Park in Brightwater was highly popular with close to 150 people taking part and feedback ranged from, “a great choice of park” and “thanks for including Brightwater in the list of venues”.

Art in the Park at Washbourn Gardens drew a crowd of close to 220 participants. Parents and caregivers were rapt with the event with many comments like “this is the perfect event for the whole family”, and “we appreciate how it was made for all ages.”

The Treasure Hunt at Ben Cooper Park was by far the most popular of the organised holiday activities with more than 330 people enjoying fun and games along with a good old-fashioned treasure hunt.

The final event of the holidays was The Amazing Race at Faulkner Bush Reserve in Wakefield where more than 110 participants took part, with some having been to all the other holiday events as well.

The good news is that the success of these events means they are likely to be back next holidays – watch this space!

# Barbara, a beacon in the bay

In the final profile of our Outstanding Community Service Award recipients, we meet Golden Bay’s Barbara McKay.

For nearly six decades, Barbara has woven a tapestry of positivity and community spirit that spans generations. Her tireless efforts have left an indelible mark on the Collingwood area.

Barbara’s journey of service began with the Country Girls Organisation, where her passion for community engagement ignited. From there, she transitioned into roles with the Young Farmers Executive, orchestrating memorable events and programmes that enriched the region.

Her commitment to rural life led her to the Rockville Women’s Division Federated Farmers and, to this day, she is still an integral part of the Bainham Rural Women, lending her talents as a pianist and catering coordinator.

However, Barbara’s contributions extend beyond organisational duties. A master with knitting needles, she has crafted countless merino baby singlets, gifted with love to local newborns through Rural Women. Her prowess in the kitchen is equally renowned, with her lamingtons, peach creams, and cinnamon oysters becoming staples at community events and gatherings.

In an era when sewing was a necessity, Barbara generously shared her skills, tutoring countless locals in the art of garment making. And who could forget her annual ballroom dancing lessons, ensuring that every school dance was a memorable affair?

Barbara McKay remains a steadfast supporter of Collingwood Rugby. Whether baking for functions or cheering from the sidelines, her dedication to the local team has never wavered, embodying the true spirit of community.

# A special spot for Wakefield teens

The ultimate hangout spot awaits Wakefield teens at the Wakefield Village Hall!

Every Wednesday evening from 6.30 pm – 8.30 pm, the hall is transformed into the coolest destination in town, exclusively for Year 9 to Year 13 students.

Featuring indoor games galore, from ping pong to foosball, a chillout zone perfect for catching up with friends, and themed nights like movie marathons and cooking sessions – all free.

It’s not just a hangout; it’s a sanctuary where Wakefield teenagers can feel safe, connect with peers, and maybe even make some lifelong friendships.

So, mark your calendars and spread the word – the Wakefield Youth Hangout is about to become your new favourite spot every Wednesday.

Search Wakefield Youth Hangout on Facebook or Instagram to stay up to date with what’s happening.

# A missing link filled

The gap between two existing footpaths on Motupipi Street and Abel Tasman Drive in Tākaka has finally been filled.

We’ve signed a lease agreement with Fonterra for the land that the path is on. We are extremely grateful to Fonterra for getting on board and allowing us to get this path in place for the community.

The new shared aggregate path is 2.5 metres wide with a pedestrian crossing near number 83 Motupipi Street which will greatly improve cyclist and pedestrian safety along this popular route.

Money for this shared pathway project came from the previous Government’s Better Off Funding to benefit the wider community and iwi outcomes.

# Shared spaces require shared responsibility

In our community, ensuring everyone’s safety on the roads and paths is paramount, regardless of your mode of transportation. Whether you’re walking, pedalling, skating, or driving, it’s crucial to share the space responsibly.

As new shared spaces are created around Tasman, it’s essential for all users to exercise caution and consideration.

Cyclists, for instance, should reduce speed when encountering other users and be prepared to stop if necessary. Similarly, pedestrians and runners should step aside when stationary, and dog owners must keep their furry friends under control.

While skateboarders and push scooter enthusiasts may enjoy performing tricks, it’s best to reserve those for the skatepark. As for drivers, minimising distractions and staying vigilant behind the wheel is key to ensuring everyone’s safety.

A topic sparking much conversation lately is the introduction of shared crossings. These crossings serve a dual purpose, accommodating both pedestrians and cyclists.

These shared crossings are effectively two crossings side-by-side – one is a zebra crossing for pedestrians, and the other is a green cycle crossing for cyclists.

Cyclists are not obliged to dismount at these green-painted crossings but must proceed cautiously.

Drivers, too, must be mindful of the give way signs at these crossings, reminding them to stop for pedestrians and cyclists.

With mutual consideration and understanding among all users, we can all enjoy our shared paths safely.

# Library to see another century

A major renovation of Wakefield’s old library should see the community building live on for another century.

The property on Edward Street was gifted by Joseph Gibbs to the Trustees of the Wakefield Library in 1912 and then to Waimea County Council in 1959. In 1989, the property was transferred to Tasman District Council.

During the past few months, we have partially replaced piles and repainted the building.

Some rotten weatherboards were replaced with specially milled timbers to ensure we maintained the same heritage profile. The building was also re-roofed.

Inside, we removed the false ceiling and redecorated. Insulation was put in the ceiling and under the floor, with many old, damaged heritage features repaired and given a new lease of life.

Part of the work also included the installation of a heat pump system and a new kitchen bench.

With all the time and effort put into bringing the building up to scratch, the old Wakefield Library adds to the heritage fabric of the village and should be fine for another 100 years.

# What’s On in Tasman

### Wellby Talking Cafés

* Wednesday 5 June, 1.30 pm – 3.00 pm, The Wholemeal Cafe, Tākaka.
* Tuesday 11 June, 10.00 am – 11.30 am, Tapawera Community Centre.
* Tuesday 11 June, 1.30 pm – 3.00 pm, Richmond Library.

Come along for a relaxed cuppa to start your journey connecting with others who enjoy the same things. You can pop in for a quick chat or stay for a longer conversation with friendly people. There is no need to register, just turn up on the day.

### Motueka Art Group exhibition and workshops

Sunday 2 June – Saturday 8 June, Motueka Library.

A week of art talks, art workshops and a local artists’ exhibition. Visit our website for all the details of this marvellous art series, tasmanlibraries.govt.nz.

### Community planting day

Sunday 9 June, 9.00 am – 1.00 pm, Stringer Reserve on Stringer Road. Parking roadside.

Join the Battle for the Banded Rail in their community planting efforts. Everyone is invited! Please bring gloves, a spade and drinking water. Wear solid footwear and clothes suitable for the weather conditions. Morning tea is provided. For more information, email Kathryn at bandedrail@gmail.com.

### Dragon Boat Festival

Sunday 9 June, 1.30 pm – 3.00 pm, Richmond Library.

Come celebrate with us! Be transported through time by Leo Jin and his amazing guqin, an ancient seven-stringed Chinese instrument and try your hand at Chinese calligraphy with Wendy Liu.

### Author talk – Kathryn Lovewell

Thursday 6 June, 10.00 am, and Wednesday 12 June, 5.30 pm, Richmond Library.

Don’t miss this opportunity to attend a visiting English author’s inspirational interactive session discussing her book, The Voices in My Head. Equip yourself (and your children if you have them) with life-long skills for confidence, self-regulation and inner peace.

# Golden Bay Community Board

The Golden Bay Community Board has funding available for special projects in Golden Bay/Mohua and we want to get your feedback on what you want to see funded. There is a total budget of almost $38,000 to spend on the projects.

Projects that the Board has identified are:

* Christmas decorations for Commercial Street and Tasman Street
* A welcome to Golden Bay/Mohua sign
* Funding towards the Pakawau playground
* Funding towards a tunnel house for the hanging baskets
* Replacing the fencing outside Dangerous Kitchen on Commercial Street
* Upgrading the existing CCTV network
* Contributing funding to the Rockville community pool.

We would love to hear from our community about these projects. Have your say by ranking these projects in order of preference at shape.tasman.govt.nz/gb-special-projects.

If you prefer to do things in person instead, you can also have your say at the Tākaka Service Centre.

Consultation is open now and closes on 16 June 2024. The Board will then discuss the feedback and decide on which projects will receive funding at the Board meeting in July.

# Newsline Notices

### Public holiday hours and services

On King’s Birthday, Monday 3 June, all service centres and libraries will be closed for the day. Usual opening hours apply otherwise. We are always here to help when needed, call 03 543 8400 anytime.

There are no changes to the rubbish and recycling collections. All our resource recovery centres will be open as normal.

The eBuses on Routes 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be running, but on a reduced timetable. Routes 5 and 6 will not run on a public holiday. When viewing the timetables at ebus.nz select the holidays tab to see the schedules.

### Rating information available

Our rating information database includes information such as the property location, valuation number, capital and land value as of 1 July 2023, and current year’s rates – remember the names of property owners and ratepayers are not listed in the database. Rating information is available for you to view at any Council Service Centre during office hours. You can also view this information online at tasman.govt.nz/rates-search.

Notice given under section 28, Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

### Get funding for your community project

Do you have an exciting community project in the pipeline? Community Grants help get some of our most valuable community projects off the ground, and this round of funding is open until Wednesday 31 July.

Funding is available for projects that are either Tasman-based or will benefit Tasman residents, meet a community need and have community support. Priority will be given to projects that align with our community outcomes and can show financial support from other sources as well. Visit tasman.govt.nz/grants for more information and to apply.

### Moturoa / Rabbit Island – Nelson Marlborough Fish & Game upland game bird hunt

Public access to the eastern half of Moturoa / Rabbit Island will be closed for three days this winter while an organised game bird hunt takes place. Please note that the closure will include all the beachfront at the eastern end. There will be no hunting on the beach or within 100 metres of the high tide mark.

Fish & Game organise the hunts, which are permitted under the Moturoa / Rabbit Island Reserve Management Plan. The hunts are timed to coincide with low tide to avoid any effect on shore birds. For more details contact Jacob Lucas at Nelson Marlborough Fish & Game on jlucas@fishandgame.org.nz.

The hunts will take place between 7.00 am – 2.00 pm on Saturday 1 June (rain day Sunday 2 June), Saturday 22 June (rain day Sunday 23 June) and Saturday 20 July (rain day Sunday 21 July).

### Council hui

Meetings will take place in person and via Zoom. For details, the Zoom link and recordings of previous meetings visit tasman.govt.nz/meetings-calendar. Unless otherwise stated, all meetings will be held at Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond.

Environment and Regulatory Committee
Thursday 6 June, 9.30 am.

Saxton Field Committee (Hearing – submissions to amendments to Saxton Field Reserve Management Plan)
Friday 7 June, 9.30 am. Nelson City Council, 110 Trafalgar Street.

Golden Bay Rec Park Management Committee
Wednesday 12 June, 9.30 am. Golden Bay Rec Park, Tākaka.

Saxton Field Committee (Deliberations on amendments to Saxton Field Reserve Management Plan)
Friday 14 June, 9.30 am. Nelson City Council, 110 Trafalgar Street.