# **Newsline Issue 583 – 15 November 2024**

# Pūkāea ready to be heard on Tasman waters

A warm welcome – including karakia and kai – heralded the blessing, official naming and maiden launch of the new Tasman Harbourmaster vessel, Pūkāea.

Pūkāea is a 6.3-metre boat built right here in Tasman by DNA Boats.

She is designed to be a safe, versatile, community-focused asset for education, community events, and essential navigational safety work. A welcome upgrade for our former small boat Hydro, this new addition will join the Sentinel in helping to keep Tasman waters safe.

Harbourmaster Pete Renshaw said the boat’s design is unique for our coastline and the role she will play in education and community focus.

“Whether it’s hosting educational programmes for youth, supporting community events, or serving as a reliable workboat, I believe this vessel is ready to meet the needs of our community.

“With its ability to be easily towed by road, she will be able to reach even more places where she’s needed most, increasing our resilience and offering greater public value for years to come.”

The name was given to the vessel by Sharlene Maniapoto of Te Ātiawa ki te Waka-ā-Māui Trust and supported by the iwi advisory group to Tasman District Council on cultural narratives.

Pūkāea are traditional Māori instruments, long wooden trumpets normally sounded by the sentinels or watchmen of the pā as a warning signal. They were also used in times of ceremony and to welcome manuhiri (guests).

Our heartfelt thanks go to everyone who made this project possible, from the designer and builders to iwi and the multiple teams at Council.

# New Tapawera Water Treatment Plant in the pipeline

Work is about to begin on the new Tapawera Water Treatment Plant with bore drilling expected to start within the next six weeks.

This project will install two new exterior bores and construct a replacement Water Treatment Plant building to improve the treatment process for water in Tapawera by upgrading systems that work to treat water using UV, chlorine, and filtration.

The bores will be drilled and developed, then pump tested and sampled over the next five months. Other work will then follow in mid-2025 to install the underground power supply components, before the building and internals are constructed in 2026.

The plant will be commissioned and online by Christmas 2026, then we can decommission the existing plant and bores on the other side of the road.

Having a resilient water supply that continues to meet national drinking water standards is the big driver of the initiative. The new plant will treat the water to a higher standard and be more reliable, but flow and pressure won’t change.

There should be little effect on the water supply during the life of the project, other than some short shutdowns when connecting the plant to the existing network and commissioning.

We’ll need some temporary traffic management on Tadmor Valley Road when we reach the construction stages but that should also be minimal.

For more information, go to tasman.govt.nz/tapawera-projects.

# How deep is your cove?

In a great collaboration between our Harbourmaster, Environmental Monitoring and Natural Hazards teams, we have recently completed bathymetric mapping of sub-tidal channels in parts of the Waimea and Moutere inlets.

It’s a tricky word to pronounce, but in simple terms, bathymetry is the study of the underwater depth of ocean, lake or river floors....and in this case, estuaries.

The accurate mapping of these channels is a key requirement of a wave modelling project being run by the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) with Envirolink funding for the natural hazards team.

This will help provide improved information about coastal inundation processes around the margins of the two estuaries. It will also be of value to the Harbourmaster team’s efforts to ensure navigational safety.

While we have Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) surveys of the estuaries, the LiDAR surveys are not able to penetrate water so do not capture the morphology of sub-tidal channels – this new mapping completes the coverage of the estuaries in these sub-tidal areas.

This work was also carried out with the help of Nelson City Council’s hydrology team, who lent the team a ‘SurfBee’ autonomous surface vessel (USV) for the surveying.

Waimea Inlet (3462ha) and Moutere Inlet (764 ha) are shallow, well-flushed tidal lagoons that discharge to Tasman Bay. Both have high ecological values, as valuable nursery areas for marine and freshwater fish, shellfish beds, as well as being very important for birdlife.

Because of this, both inlets are subject to ongoing monitoring programmes to ensure they stay healthy for many years to come.

# Bring it and save

Do you realise that using your own takeaway cup at some cafés and restaurants around Tasman District could get you a discount?

We’re on board with an initiative called ‘Bring It’ which is growing in popularity around the country. It focuses on reducing waste and promoting reuse in our community.

Millions of single-use cups are sent to landfill every year and there are many towns/cities around New Zealand promoting single-use cup-free, known as SUC Free.

Lots of other places including Nelson City are getting behind this movement and we’re joining them. Cafes, customers and the planet will benefit from Bring It.

Cafés will save money on buying fewer single-use cups, the customers will save money on their coffee, and there will be fewer cups sent to landfills. The discounts cafes offer vary from 30 cents to 50 cents off.

We have been visiting cafés around Tasman and many are getting behind Bring It with more than 20 already on the growing list of participants.

If you’re a café that isn’t involved and would like to be, send Lucy an email at lucy@bluemoth.co.nz.

If you’re a customer, just ask at your favourite cafe if they’re part of Bring It and get your discount. Help us reduce waste and promote reuse here in Tasman.

Check out the full list of cafes that have signed up at tasman.govt.nz/bring-it.

# Cleaning up a raft of wrap in the river

Wild Rivers Rafting has recently been out on the water with two volunteers removing the remains of baleage wrap from along the Buller River.

This plastic waste entered the Maruia and Buller Rivers during the 2022 floods. The baleage wrap was found tangled in trees, around rocks, and in the sand on our Westcoast beaches.

We provided funding towards this clean-up, and the waste is being disposed of via our community clean-up fund.

There have been several of these clean-ups organised over the past two years, ably assisted by the local community, farming groups and businesses, all of it voluntary and very much appreciated by those who use our rivers, oceans, and beaches.

We ask that farmers think carefully about where they store their baleage, their used wrap, and where they position their rubbish pits. Please store bales and the waste wrap after feeding out on high ground well away from flood-prone areas.

We also want people to keep an eye out for historic rubbish pits near waterways that may be prone to opening during large flood events.

Baleage wrap recycling is available through Plasback Recycling, visit plasback.co.nz.

If you have any questions, please reach out to rural.info@tasman.govt.nz.

If you are planning a community clean-up event, we can provide free rubbish disposal. Visit tasman.govt.nz and search ‘community clean up’ to find out more.

# Let’s get rid of Gunnera

Our pest of the month for November   
is a prickly potential spreader that we hope to keep out of Tasman.

*Gunnera tinctoria* – otherwise known as Chilean Rhubarb – looks like a large rhubarb plant with spikes on the leaves and has historically been planted around pond edges as an ornamental plant.

Due to its pesty tendencies in waterways, Gunnera is a National Pest Plant Accord listed species, meaning it is banned from sale, distribution and propagation in Aotearoa.

It is listed as a Sustained Control Pest in our Tasman-Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan. This means it is a requirement of occupiers in Nelson Tasman to control Gunnera and prevent its spread to other areas.

Gunnera is from South America. It can grow over two metres tall and produces long seeding cones containing up to 80,000 tiny seeds. These are spread by washing down open drains and river systems.

In heavily infested Gunnera areas, it has been proven that small birds can eat the seeds and spread them well away from water systems. While it likes damp feet, Gunnera can also grow away from water.

We recommend spraying foliage with Triclopyr 600 EC or cutting off at ground level and pasting the stump with Vigilant (picloram) or double-strength glyphosate gel.

# Coast caring for the future

When you visit the beach this summer, take a moment to look around and chances are that you are looking at some of the hard work done in our Coast Care programme.

For more than two decades, our Reserves and Facilities team has been leading the Coast Care programme, working alongside local communities to restore and protect our coastal environment.

Coast Care is a community-based initiative focused on improving the health and resilience of our beaches, with volunteer programmes in place at key coastal areas.

Coast Care plantings have been established at Pūponga, Pākawau, Collingwood, Parapara, Patons Rock, Pōhara, Rototai, Ligar Bay, Tata Beach, Torrent Bay, Little Kaiteriteri, Stephens Bay, Tapu Bay, and Moturoa/Rabbit Island.

These nature-based restoration efforts, which include planting native dune species and removing invasive plants, are vital for enhancing the natural defences of our coastal areas.

Native dune plants, like spinifex and pingao, play a crucial role in trapping wind-blown sand and stabilising dunes, forming a protective barrier that buffers the shoreline from erosion, sea-level rise, and storm surges.

By strengthening these natural systems, Coast Care is helping to increase the resilience of our coastline to the impacts of climate change. This then helps safeguard the ecological integrity of our beaches and the adjoining coastal properties and infrastructure that rely on healthy, stable dunes for protection.

The success of Coast Care is largely due to the dedication of volunteers, local iwi, schools, and community groups, whose efforts ensure our coastal areas stay safe and beautiful for future generations.

# Library borrows from the sun

The rollout of solar power generation on our buildings and community facilities continues. Tākaka Memorial Library is the latest to go fully online with no emission, silent clean energy generation with the installation of solar panels on the roof.

The system of photovoltaic cells was funded through climate change initiatives with a payback period of close to only nine years.

The estimated annual electricity bill savings for the Tākaka Library is $5,160.

On average a little more than 60% of the electricity generated from the panels is used by the library while the remaining power is exported back to the national grid.

We realise that the Tasman District needs to be prepared for a future of changing climate. As well as mitigating problems, we must work together to ensure that we, as a community, are prepared and ready to adapt to our ever-changing environment.

We also generate electricity from photovoltaic panels on the roofs of Richmond Library, Motueka Library Te Noninga Kumu, and the Brightwater Water Treatment Plant.

You can see real-time data of our solar generation at tasman.govt.nz/our-solar-power-generation.

# Hi-tech ways to watch waters

Ensuring our waterways and streams are healthy and safe is part of the important work we do every day.

Protecting the health of our freshwater protects the health and wellbeing of the wider environment and our communities.

We do this in many ways, but one way that very few people know about is our network of automated stream monitoring systems that alert us to changes in urban waterway conditions.

Often people will drain their pools into neighbourhood streams thinking it’s harmless and won’t cause any problems – but it does. The chlorine that keeps contaminants at bay in your swimming pool will kill bigger bugs and fish when discharged into streams and waterways.

We record water flow, temperature and conductivity so even something that seems invisible can be detected.

Conductivity is essentially how well the water can conduct electricity and if certain contaminants are present this increases, so we know when salt water or chlorine from swimming pools is discharged.

Unlike paint or other coloured contaminants, it will go unnoticed to the naked eye, but to the aquatic life in the stream, this is a shock to the system and may be deadly to them.

But the automated systems can only do some of the work to ensure our streams and waterways stay healthy.

If you notice any discharge of liquid or rubbish into waterways or any spillage on land where it may enter waterways phone us on 03 543 8400 24 hours a day.

# Sharrows point the way

Have you seen those markings painted on the road with a double arrowhead combined with a bike’s outline and wondered what they mean?

They are sharrow markings – they’re a safety measure that is becoming more common around the District.

Wensley Road in Richmond has had them for more than six months, but some people are still unsure about what they mean.

The word comes from a combination of share and arrow. A sharrow is a marking that shows a cyclist can share and position themselves within a traffic lane with other vehicles.

Examples are in busy town centres where on-street parking creates hazards from car doors being opened, or where narrow traffic lanes mean there may not be enough room for cars to safely overtake cyclists.

Sharrows have been used internationally since the early 1990s and we’ve been using these markings on Tasman roads for the past few years.

So, the next time you notice sharrow markings on the road, be aware that vehicles and cyclists are sharing the same space.

# Pathway project paused

Recent funding decisions by NZTA Waka Kotahi have delayed the construction of the Upper Moutere path from the village to the Recreation Centre.

As early as 2008, the Moutere Hills Residents Association workshopped ideas for a footpath to link the village to the community centre and sports ground.

The concept then made it to our list of district-wide footpath projects, but construction was put on the back burner in 2021 when negotiations with landowners couldn’t be completed.

The project got back on track again earlier this year, and construction was scheduled for this summer, however it’s now hitting another hurdle.

Our 10-Year Plan had assumed that government funding through NZTA Waka Kotahi would be providing 51% of the money for the shared pathway, however, in early September we received unwelcome news that no NZTA Waka Kotahi funding was approved for this project, or in fact any other improvement projects we had planned.

On 24 October 2024, elected members met to consider whether we could afford to provide added funding in 2024/25 for the path, but it was decided this wasn’t possible due to the need to limit increases in rates and debt.

So, the path will now be completed in 2025/26, effectively using two years’ worth of Council funding.

# Encouraging eBus survey results

We recently conducted a public transport survey of eBus passengers, with 214 responses. Questions covered everything from frequency and reliability to safety and security.

eBus scored very highly across several areas, with an overall satisfaction rating of 94%.

Vehicle quality and service access both at 93% had the highest satisfaction, with change information 69%, and service frequency 76%, indicating some areas where the service can improve. A common request from passengers was for services both earlier and later each day.

The results from this survey are included in a report to NZTA Waka Kotahi.

The results, along with Shape submissions and customer service requests will form a report to the Regional Transport Committee to outline any upcoming adjustments to the eBus service.

# Tis the season for sealing

There’s the duck shooting season, a whitebaiting season, and don’t forget the festive season, but have you heard of the sealing season?

Warmer temperatures and longer days mark the beginning of the road sealing season across Tasman where residents will notice a lot more road work activity from our Tasman Alliance partners Downer.

The resealing programme, from now until around March, is vital to keeping our roads safe for everyone. It’s typically needed when a road surface starts to lose its waterproofing and grip qualities.

This year, with changes to traffic management requirements, there should be fewer disruptions for road users. New rules allow our crews to get in and out faster, reducing disruption, and making the operation more efficient and cost-effective.

This sealing season, we are running longer work sites than previously to allow the crew more space to work in each traffic management establishment. This reduces the cost of moving sites and will allow maximum productivity from machinery.

... And the good news is there will be fewer road cones.

We will let residents and businesses know about any roadworks on their streets ahead of work starting. We also share important road works activity via the Antenno app – download it for free from the app store on your phone.

# Artists shine in peace competition

Our fourth annual children’s Peaceful Towns art competition attracted 29 submissions.

Young artists from Motupipi, Motueka Steiner, Ranzau, Waimea Intermediate, Birchwood, Tasman Bay Christian, Henley, St Paul and homeschools entered this year’s competition.

To inspire the children’s works and educate them about peace, two workshops were held in Richmond.

Mayor Tim King presented certificates to all participants and the 12 finalists at a special ceremony at Motueka Library. Artwork by Shaviva Winslade was especially praised by Mayor Tim.

Shaviva says her painting was inspired by a hope for peace for every human, regardless of their race, culture, age or social status.

Another outstanding artwork was submitted by our regular participant, and last year’s international winner, Gracie Quinney. This year Gracie encouraged her younger sister and brother to also participate.

Seven of the finalist’s works will be sent to Mayors for Peace to participate in the international competition with results released late next month.

# Armstrong acknowledged following resignation

After five years of service, David Armstrong decided to resign as a member of the Motueka Community Board, effective Friday November 1, 2024.

We would like to acknowledge his contribution over the years, not only for the Community Board across two terms, but also advocating for the best interests of the wider Motueka Community.

David has been an active member and executive of many Motueka community organisations, including Vision Motueka, Keep Motueka Beautiful, Kai Fest, the Motueka Online website, and Our Town Motueka, before being elected to the Board in 2019.

He served as deputy chair during that initial triennium, moving to chair in   
2022 at the start of his second term. Last year, he stepped aside from the chair role but he has continued to be a visible presence around the table.

We wish David all the best as he embraces retirement and all his future endeavours.

David’s resignation doesn’t automatically trigger a by-election. However, the Board will decide at their upcoming meeting on 19 November whether his spot will be filled or will remain vacant for the rest of the triennium.

# Old telephone box gets new life

Remember the old red telephone box? They used to be everywhere and taken for granted, but they’ve now been relegated to history and virtually forgotten – except on Moturoa/Rabbit Island.

The old red phone box, sitting outside the old caretaker’s house on the island, has been given a facelift with a lick of bright “New Zealand Post Office” red paint.

The public phone in the box used to be the only contact with the outside world 50 years ago, at a time when you could only cross the causeway to Moturoa/Rabbit Island either side of high tide.

Some may have memories of racing out to the phone box to call an ambulance when that cousin, who always did something dumb, broke their leg playing bullrush at the family’s New Year’s Day barbecue.

But, with a cellphone now in everyone’s pocket, the old public phone became outmoded and was decommissioned years ago, although the phone is still in the box.

So, in the interest of preserving a small slice of local history, our Reserves Team decided to give the old box a bit of a spruce-up with a repaint.

The old box has taken on a new lease of life by becoming a popular choice as a backdrop for wedding photos.

# What’s On in Tasman

### Motueka Repair Café

Saturday 16 November, 10.00 am – 1.00 pm, Motueka Library.

Offering free repairs to reduce waste and help the environment. Bring your broken items to be assessed and hopefully repaired by a friendly team of volunteers.

### Second Hand Sunday

Sunday 17 November, 9.00 am – 2.00 pm.

A fun, free way for Nelson and Tasman residents to declutter and re-home unwanted household goods. If you have items you want to give away, simply register online before 10.00 am Friday 15 November to be included on the list of participating addresses. A list and map of participating addresses will be available to download from 12.00 pm Friday 15 November. For more information and to sign up, go to tasman.govt.nz/shs.

### Motueka Positive Ageing Forum

Tuesday 19 November, 11.00 am, Motueka Over 50s Social Hub, Pah Street.

Come and hear about the transport options available in Motueka for those without a car. We will have information on the eBus, and transport options from Nelson Tasman Community Transport Trust and Motueka Health Shuttle.

### Bar-tailed Godwits talk

Friday 22 November, 6.00 pm – 7.30 pm, Motueka Library.

Summer visitors to the Waimea Inlet, bar-tailed godwits, undertake the longest non-stop migration of any bird species. David Melville from Birds New Zealand will speak about these extraordinary birds, some of the challenges they face from habitat loss and degradation, and encouraging efforts being made around the Yellow Sea to conserve the remaining habitat.

### Stitch Bloom embroidery group

* Friday 22 November, 10.00 am – 1.00 pm, Tākaka Library.
* Friday 29 November, 10.00 am – 1.00 pm, Richmond Library.

Come and embroider with Fleur Woods. Drop in anytime during these sessions, meet Fleur, and add some stitches to this beautiful floral collaborative piece. No stitching experience is required.

### Outdoor movie night – Shrek

Saturday 23 November, 6.30 pm, Wakefield Recreation Reserve.

The Waimea Youth Council invites you to enjoy a fun evening outdoors. There will be food available from 6.30 pm, live music from 7.00 pm, and the movie Shrek will kick off at 8.00 pm. Free lollies!

### Staying safe driver workshop

Thursday 28 November, 10.00 am – 12.30 pm, Mohua Social Services Tākaka.

Need to refresh your driving skills and knowledge to stay safe driving on the road? This free workshop provides an opportunity to review your driving practices and knowledge, with the use of videos and discussion with a driving instructor. For more information or to book your spot, please call Jackie at Age Concern Nelson Tasman on 021 195 8108.

# Newsline Notices

### Want to be the first to see Newsline?

Did you know you can read Newsline online? We put up a digital version on our website and email it to those who have signed up to our mailing list. This means you should get it in your inbox before it reaches your letter box! Visit tasman.govt.nz/newsline and follow the link to join the mailing list.

### Approved temporary road closures

Applicant: Westland Car Club  
Event: Rally Sprint   
Location: Matakitaki Road between 1.48km – 11.48km.  
Date and time: Saturday 7 December 2024, 8.00 am – 6.00 pm.

Applicant: Richmond Unlimited  
Event: Richmond Santa Parade   
Location: Edward Street, Queen Street, McIndoe Place, Cambridge Street, Wensley Road, Washbourn Drive, Harkness Carpark, Salisbury Road.  
Date and time: Sunday 8 December 2024, from 7.00 am Edward Street, 11.30 am all other roads, finishing Edward Street 2.00 pm, and 3.00 pm all other roads.  
Postponement date: Sunday 15 December 2024.

Applicant: Golden Bay Work Centre Trust  
Event: Tākaka Christmas Parade   
Location: 5 Commercial Street to 100 Commercial Street SH60 Tākaka, Junction Street, Reilly Street through to SH60.  
Date and time: Saturday 14 December 2024, 9.30 am – 11.00 am.

Applicant: Richmond Unlimited  
Event: Richmond Market   
Location: Queen Street between John Wesley Lane and McIndoe Place.  
Date and time: Monday 30 December 2024, 5.00 am – 6.30 pm.

### Alcohol applications

Visit tasman.govt.nz/alcohol-notices to see the latest alcohol licence applications.

### Public notice

This notice is to advise that Darren Leader has been appointed as a Ranger and a Poundkeeper in accordance with the Impounding Act 1955.

### 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.

Joint Committee of Nelson City and Tasman District Councils  
Tuesday 19 November, 9.30 am. Nelson City Council, 110 Trafalgar Street.

Motueka Community Board  
Tuesday 19 November, 4.00 pm. Motueka Library, Wallace Street.

Submissions Hearing – Dog Control Bylaw Deliberations  
Wednesday 20 November, 9.30 am.

Environment and Regulatory Committee  
Thursday 21 November, 9.30 am.

Nelson Tasman Civil Defence Emergency Management Group  
Wednesday 27 November, 9.30 am. Emergency Operations Centre, 28 Oxford Street, Richmond.

Tasman District Council  
Thursday 28 November, 9.30 am.

Nelson-Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit  
Friday 29 November, 9.30 am. Nelson City Council, 110 Trafalgar Street.