



Waimea Community Dam gets the big tick for commissioning

A very important milestone has been reached in the completion of the Waimea Community Dam project, with all consent and Tasman Resource Management Plan obligations associated with the commissioning of the dam now met.

This means that from Monday 16 September, the dam is deemed fully operational, and we can begin providing the anticipated benefits to urban and consented water users across the Waimea Plains.

The \$207.5 million dam is one of the region's most important infrastructure projects and the largest dam built in New Zealand for over 20 years.

For those who have advocated for or contributed to the dam's construction, reaching this stage is the culmination of many years of efforts to secure the water

supply and maintain increased flow to the Lee and Waimea Rivers.

With a maximum capacity of the dam at about 13 million cubic metres, the size of the reservoir – Te Kurawai o Pūhanga – mitigates the impact of a drought greater than a 1:50 year event.

The flow from the dam will support both horticulture and the domestic water wells near Appleby that supply water to the combined Richmond/Nelson water network. Māpua, Ruby Bay, Brightwater and Wakefield also use bores in the Waimea Plains, benefitting from the recharged aquifers.

For both affiliated and unaffiliated resource consent holders, the commissioning is also important as it means 'Fully Operational WCD' conditions applicable to the respective consents coming into force.

TE AO MĀORI



Kia tika te whakahua – learn to say our Tasman place names correctly

This week is Te Wiki o te Reo Māori | Māori Language Week, so we thought it would be a great time to practice the pronunciation of our local place names. Using the correct spelling and pronunciation helps keep important stories behind place names alive.

Here's a couple of tips to get you started:

- 'r' is commonly called a 'rolled' r – the sound you should aim for is something similar to an English 'd' – but softer e.g. judder.
- The 'ng' is said as it sounds in the English word 'singer'.
- 'wh' is usually pronounced as an English 'f' sound.

If you can master the vowel sounds, then the rest will follow.

Here are 20 commonly mispronounced place names in our District, and how to say them correctly:

- **Motueka:** Move away from "Motchewayka", say Maw-too-eh-kah.
- **Mārahau:** Instead of "Marrahow" try Mar-rar-hoe.
- **Moutere:** Forget "Mootree", the correct pronunciation is Mow-teh-reh.
- **Pōhara:** Rather than "Poehara" it should be pronounced Paw-har-rar.
- **Pākawau:** "Packer war"? Try Paar-kar-woe instead.
- **Tākaka:** Say 'Takaka' with a long vowel in the first 'a' – Taa-kahkah.
- **Tōtaranui:** Don't say "Tote-chranui". Say Taw-tar-rah-nui.
- **Rangihaeata:** Ever wondered how to say it correctly? It's not "Rangy-hata", it's Rung-ee-high-ah-tar.
- **Te Waikoropupū:** Don't give up and say "pupu springs", say Wai-caw-raw-poo-pooo Springs.
- **Tarakohe:** Forget "terra-ko-ee", the correct way to pronounce it is Tar-rar-caw-heh.
- **Motupipi:** Don't say "Motchewpipi", try Maw-too-pee-pee.
- **Maruia:** "Marra-where" ... is that? It's actually pronounced Ma-roo-ee-ah.
- **Wharariki:** Instead of "Far-ricky" practice saying Far-rar-ree-kee.
- **Aorere:** It's not pronounced "Oh-rrery", try saying Oww-reh-reh.
- **Riwaka:** Move away from saying "Rewalker" and instead try Ree-wah-kah.
- **Waiwhero:** It's not "Why-where-row", try Wai-fear-raw instead.
- **Tapawera:** There's no need to shorten it to "Tap", give Tar-par-weh-rah a go.
- **Māpua:** Say "Māpua" with a long vowel in the first "a" – Maa-poo-ah.
- **Kahurangi:** It's not "rangy", try saying Kar-who-rung-ee.
- **Mangarākau:** Instead of manner-rack-cow, say Mar-nga-raar-coe.



Māori Ward retained

At a special meeting on Thursday 5 September, Councillors voted to retain our Māori Ward.

Driven by the 6 September deadline imposed by the coalition government, we decided to retain the Māori Ward for the 2025 election.

In doing so, we will also be holding a binding referendum to decide the future of the ward for the 2028 and 2031 local government elections.

The referendum, costing between \$35 – 55,000, will be held at the same time voters are choosing their elected members in 2025.

Even if the results of the binding referendum do not support the Māori Ward, we will still have a Māori Ward in the next triennium.

There is no extra cost to ratepayers in having an additional councillor as the remuneration pool determined independently does not recognise the number of councillors. The pool will be divided amongst those voted in to represent the interests of the District.

The current representation review will continue to determine the ward boundaries, the number of councillors and the inclusion of community boards.



Jellyfish employed to clean stormwater

A new stormwater connection in Richmond is using the latest technology to ensure pollutants are kept out of the marine environment.

Our Gladstone-Poutama stormwater connection has been built between the Berryfields subdivision and the Railway Reserve next to Jubilee Park.

We've installed a 'Cascade gross pollutant trap' and 'Jellyfish storm filter' outlet into Poutama Creek.

The Cascade trap will remove hydrocarbons, litter and debris from stormwater runoff while the Jellyfish uses special filtration cartridges which look



like tentacles to further remove pollutants from entering waterways. The Jellyfish cartridges are simply lifted out and water blasted clean when necessary.

We are using both new engineering technologies to keep our waterways as clean as possible while being easy to maintain.

A gravel path that will double as maintenance access has been included in the work to provide a better connection between Eton Street and the Railway Reserve.



Grants encourage young leaders

We are providing opportunities for young people in the Tasman community to develop their leadership skills with help from a Youth Leadership Grant.

Every year we provide scholarships of up to \$500 per person to take part in youth leadership opportunities. Last year, Freya Ibbotson went to Vanuatu for the Future Leaders Academy Pacific Student Leaders Course with aid from a grant.

She says she can't even begin to convey how life-changing this experience was, not only for her leadership skills but also for her personal growth and plans for future endeavours.

"The week was truly one of the most exciting and fulfilling weeks of my life, and stemmed so many interpersonal and international bonds, knowledge of the world and deep connections with other students on the course."



Freya says the skills she gained in leading a team, communicating with those around her in a leadership context, and solving obstacles while leading, will come in incredibly helpful.

"Thank you to the Tasman District Council Youth Leadership Grant again for your support in my attendance of this course, and I strongly recommend the Future Leaders Academy Pacific Student Leaders Course to any aspiring leader who has a passion, want for change, and determination in leadership."

You can find out more and apply for our Youth Leadership Grant at tasman.govt.nz/grants.

Pictured above: Future Leaders Academy Pacific Student Leaders Course in Vanuatu.



Disc golf comes to Moturoa / Rabbit Island

Regular visitors to Moturoa / Rabbit Island may have noticed a proliferation of small stainless-steel mushroom-like structures popping up in some areas.

They're not miniature alien sculptures, they are disc golf baskets which are part of our newly established disc golf course on the island.

Disc golf is growing in popularity, but what is disc golf?

It's a low-impact outdoor recreational activity, started in California in 1975 with the invention of the official disc golf target – the metal disc golf basket. Since 2000, the game has been growing rapidly worldwide, and New Zealand now has around 50 officially basketed courses.

The Nelson Tasman Disc Golf group approached us in 2021 seeking support and assistance for the development of a course at Moturoa / Rabbit Island. Since then, there's been a lot of work and a financial contribution from the previous government's Better Off Funding Support Package.

The new 18-basket course is being developed in the Conifer Park and Bike Park area immediately east of Conifer Park and west of Rimu Road.

If you're super keen, some baskets are already in place so you can give it a go now. However, we expect the full course to be set up within the next couple of weeks.



Vandals create further problems at Appleby Bridge Reserve

Thousands of dollars that could be spent on other community facilities are having to be diverted to repair damage caused by vandals in reserves at Appleby.

Our Parks and Reserves Team is deeply concerned about a recent surge in anti-social behaviour. These people's actions have led to significant damage and have had a severe financial impact on our operations.

People using motorbikes, quad bikes, and four-wheel drives have bypassed bollards and engaged in reckless and damaging activities. This includes skidding through grass areas and plantings, and vandalising structures and signs, resulting in considerable damage.

The latest bill for these repairs is around \$10,000, which has affected our ability

to allocate funds to other projects. In addition, encounters with some members of the public have put our staff and contractors at risk.

We're addressing the problem and working closely with police and security firms to find and hold those responsible accountable.

We want to ensure that we have safe and well-maintained places for everyone in our community to use and enjoy.



Velvetleaf a conundrum for crops

Have you seen this pest plant? For the health of our crops, we hope not.

Velvetleaf (*Abutilon theophrasti*) is an Exclusion Pest in the Tasman Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan.

This means that to our knowledge it is not established in this region, and we want to keep it that way.

Velvetleaf is an annual, broad-leaved herb that grows up to 2.5m tall. It is regarded as the world's worst cropping weed, capable of causing up to 70% reduction in crop yields. This is because it produces chemicals that inhibit water uptake and photosynthesis in many crop species.

It takes its name from the velvety feel of its large circular or heart-shaped leaves, which become smelly when bruised or crushed.

Velvetleaf has buttery yellow flowers (3cm across) which appear from spring through to autumn. The seed capsules are distinctive and resemble a cup with many segments.

Seeds can survive an incredible 50 years, and can be spread by farm machinery, livestock, and as a contaminant of grain or silage. It is resistant to many herbicides, so is difficult to control.

If you think you have velvetleaf on your property, or you have seen it somewhere in the District, please don't attempt to control it. Instead, get in touch with our Biosecurity Team at biosecurity@tasman.govt.nz, or call 03 543 8400.

Pictured: Velvetleaf leaves and seed capsules. © Trevor James.



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Make a library booking online

Everyone knows our libraries have books but were you aware that now you can book a library meeting room online?

All you need to do is go to our library website – tasmanlibraries.govt.nz – and with a few clicks of your mouse, you can hire a meeting space or manage your own online bookings.

The cost varies depending upon the group using the room and how long you need it. For non-profit/community groups it's \$10 for an hour or for a half day (4 hours) the cost is just \$30. For commercial, business or government departments it costs \$30 an hour or \$150 for a day (>5 hours).



At Richmond Library, three meeting spaces are bookable online. They are the Constance Barnicoat Room, Margaret Mahy Room and the Learning Pod. Alternatively, you can call in, email library.information@tasman.govt.nz or phone 03 543 8500.

At Motueka Library Te Noninga Kumu, you can book the Community Room or Small Meeting Room online, or you can come in, email motuekalibrary.referencedesk@tasman.govt.nz or phone 03 528 1047.

For bookings at the Tākaka Library, you need to call in or phone 03 525 0059.

New plantings to awaken the senses

It was all hands on deck as friends, families and neighbours got together for a major planting effort at Richmond's Langdale Reserve.

Residents approached us a while ago to develop the area which had previously been a pond. They asked for a neighbourhood meeting place and for a sensory garden to be planted.

Sensory gardens are designed to stimulate one or more of the five senses of sight, smell, sound, taste, and touch.

So late last year we got the project underway with the hard landscaping going in and we waited until this planting season to get the plants in.

On a Saturday a few weeks ago, under the guidance of our contractor Nelmac Kūmānu and our reserves team, dozens of people, young and old, were on the tools planting a myriad of plants and shrubs to enhance the reserve.

Plants that went into the ground included lavender and flowering fragrant shrubs, fruit trees including apples, pears and citrus, and there are even strawberries and textured groundcovers. Seating and signage are yet to be installed.

Thanks to the staff from Nelmac Kūmānu who gave up their Saturday to help with the planting mission and provide a fantastic barbecue.

The new Langdale Reserve has been planted to develop and move with the seasons to provide year-round changes.



TRANSPORT TALES



Impatient drivers cause road closure

Concern about the safety of road workers has led us to the decision to close part of Queen Victoria Street in Motueka for up to two months.

During the early phase of the work in the area, workers and other motorists were put in danger by many impatient drivers running red lights controlling the work site.

The closure affects Queen Victoria Street, from the intersection of Pah Street for several hundred metres toward Whakarewa Street.



The road will be open outside work hours, but during the closure, the alternative route will be via Grey Street.

Access to Pah Street West and Queen Victoria Street North shouldn't be affected by the closures.

Our contractor is working with residents in the closed area to ensure they continue to have access to their properties.



Your opinion matters!

If you live and work in Tasman, you have a voice in its environmental management and sustainability for freshwater, urban development, management of land and coastal features and natural hazards.

Starting in November, engagement and consultation opens on a wide range of environmental policy matters that have significant importance to our District.

Consultation will start with the Port Motueka issues and options report and the draft Port Tarakohe structure plan at the end of the year. We will be seeking feedback on the Landscape, Coastal Environment and Natural Character draft plan change in early 2025.

Building on the Future Development Strategy, we are preparing a draft of Urban Plan Change 81. Its goal is to provide sufficient residential and business land capacity for at least the next 10 years.

In overview, draft Plan Change 81 will prioritise suitable supply and a variety of homes in the right locations, and provide for sufficient business opportunities in key areas including Moutere, Richmond, Wakefield, Brightwater, Tākaka, Motueka, Murchison, and Tapawera.

Environmental policy is a long-term strategic piece of work, it helps to guide and shape our communities. It is a framework that is implemented by teams across the Council.

Your voice ensures our environmental policy reflects the wishes of our community and guides our work in support of a sustainable and thriving Tasman.

You can find out more about this and the upcoming engagement at shape.tasman.govt.nz/environmental-plan-changes or email us at environmentplan@tasman.govt.nz.

Freshwater Farm Plan pause – what it means for Tasman



Central Government is currently reviewing the Freshwater Farm Plan (FWFP) regulations. These regulations do not yet apply in the Tasman District and the future timing of when they apply will be determined by the review process.

The announcement made by Central Government on 3 September, that the legislated rollout of FWFP will be paused, relates to the regions where the regulations already apply (Waikato, Southland, West Coast, Otago and Horizons).

This formal pause, for those currently subject to the regulations, provides some certainty around existing timeframes for farmers within those regions while the review is underway.

Pausing the rollout before the end of this year allows everyone a chance to take stock and consider changes to make the system more workable and cost-effective.

We appreciate that this brings some uncertainty. What is evident is that the FWFP regulations themselves will

remain, and we wait for further direction from Central Government on the final form they will take.

There is a lot of great work happening within catchments to manage the risks to freshwater. Farmers and catchment groups are being encouraged to keep up with their efforts in anticipation of the FWFP rollout following the review.

Our Soil and Land Use Team, through their Catchment Facilitators, will keep you up to date with news and events. They are presently working behind the scenes collating catchment information and ensuring everything is in place for the successful development of these plans.

Further information is available on the Tasman Rural Hub – tasman.govt.nz/rural-hub. If you have any questions, contact a facilitator at ruralinfo@tasman.govt.nz or phone 03 543 8400.



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You could qualify for a rates discount

Did you know there's a rebate scheme offered by the Department of Internal Affairs that could give you a discount on your rates?

If you fit the criteria, you could get a credit of up to \$790, depending upon things like your income, number of dependents and rates you pay.

A rates rebate is a partial discount on a rates bill and simply means you pay less for your rates. If you own your home and are on a low income, you may be eligible for the rebate.

People who applied last year within the Tasman District will automatically be sent a letter and form to apply again this financial year.

You can't claim a rebate for the rates payable on a property that's used mostly for business, farming, commercial, or industrial purposes, or a home that isn't your usual place of residence like a holiday home.

Please apply as soon as you can, although you do have until 30 June 2025 to apply for a rebate for the current financial year.

If you're not sure if you're eligible, head to our website for more information – tasman.govt.nz and search 'rates rebates', otherwise call us on 03 543 8400 and we can check your eligibility for you.



Humans and dogs happier together

Every year, we produce a report looking at our dog control policies and practices and this year the results look promising.

There seems to be a more harmonious relationship between people and our canine population.

While the resident registered dog population has increased slightly, 12,577 compared to 12,439 last year, complaints about them have decreased.

In the past 12 months, there were 102 fewer complaints received compared to the year before.

The most notable reduction in problem areas were reports of wandering and barking dogs.

The full report is available on our website, visit tasman.govt.nz and search 'dog policy'.



WHAT'S ON IN TASMAN



Susan Michell – book talk

Sunday 22 September, 1.00 pm – 3.30 pm, Motueka Library.

Join us to hear about Susan Michell's new novel *Eating Salt in Africa* based on living and travelling in Tanzania. Susan will have her book available for purchase: \$30, cash only.

World Day of Peace: A Hiroshima Survivor's Testimony

Thursday 26 September, 5.30 pm, Richmond Library.

At just 8 years old, Teruko Yahata experienced the unimaginable exposure to the Hiroshima bombing, only 2.5 km from the hypocenter. Her story is one of survival, resilience, and hope for a world united in peace. Teruko will join us online at the Richmond Library to talk about her experience. Interpretation by Naoko Koizumi. This is a free event open to all.

Beginner's guide to writing your memoir workshop

Saturday 28 September, 10.30 am – 11.30 am, Richmond Library.

Don't know where to start with writing your memoir? Join our free one-hour workshop with Charlotte Squire. Please bring your own pen and paper.

Spring school holidays at the library

Monday 30 September – Thursday 10 October, all Tasman District Libraries.

The children's team are offering engaging activities for your children over the spring school holidays. The theme is Discover Papatūānuku and activities will include Storywalks® in our local parks along with Craft and Lego® Fun programmes. For more information, visit tasmanlibraries.govt.nz.

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NEWSLINE NOTICES



Flush your taps, check your roof

Some plumbing fittings have the potential to allow minute traces of metals to accumulate in water standing in the fittings for several hours.

Although the health risk is small, the Ministry of Health / Manatū Hauora recommends that you flush a mugful of water from your drinking water tap each morning before use, to remove any metals that may have dissolved from the plumbing fittings.

We recommend this simple precaution for all households, including those on public and private water supplies.

Everybody should try to save water whenever they can so you could collect the small amount you flush from the taps and use it for something else like watering plants (but not the veggie garden).

If you have a rainwater supply, flushing taps won't help. You need to check your roof and guttering for materials that may contain metals that could contaminate the water: lead flashing, lead-headed nails and lead paint, for example. These should be replaced if you find them.

Commemorating Waitangi Day Fund

Up to \$300,000 of contestable funding will be available through the Commemorating Waitangi Day Fund, which is run by the Ministry for Culture and Heritage – Manatū Taonga. Grants are usually between \$5,000 – \$10,000 and support events that bring New Zealanders together to recognise our national day and increase our awareness and knowledge of Te Tiriti o Waitangi / The Treaty of Waitangi and its signing.

Applications are now open until 5.00 pm Monday 7 October 2024. For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/3MtF6XT>.

Alcohol applications

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

Rural sports funding available

Live rural and need a little help participating in sports? The Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund offers help with travel costs for rural sports clubs and rural school teams. The fund helps young people aged 5 – 19 participate in local sports competitions. This round of funding closes Thursday 31 October. Head to tasman.govt.nz/grants for more information and to apply.

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.

Submissions Hearing (Draft Public Places Bylaw)

Monday 23 September, 10.00 am

Golden Bay Community Board

Monday 23 September, 1.00 pm. Tākaka Service Centre, 78 Commercial Street.

Submissions Hearing (Draft Cat Management Bylaw)

Tuesday 24 September, 9.30 am.

Submissions Hearing (Draft Dog Control Bylaw)

Wednesday 25 September, 9.30 am.

Operations Committee

Thursday 26 September, 9.30 am.

Tasman District Council (Representation Review Hearing and Deliberations)

Wednesday 2 October, 9.30 am.

Community Awards Subcommittee

Thursday 3 October, 9.00 am. No public forum.

Strategy and Policy Committee

Thursday 3 October, 9.30 am.

Audit and Risk Committee

Thursday 3 October, 1.00 pm. No public forum.