

# NEWSLINE

22 MARCH 2019  
ISSUE 444



## Amazing water saving efforts – thank you Tasman!

Over the past two weeks our District has finally received some of the rain we desperately needed to begin replenishing our water sources and allow us to begin lifting or relaxing water restrictions across the District.

For two months prior to that, parts of our District, particularly the Waimea Plains, Motupiko and Golden Bay, experienced record low rainfall levels.

Your efforts to conserve water over that time were phenomenal. The sacrifices made by the vast majority of you achieved a huge amount, including:

- Preserving our dwindling water supplies for longer
- Protecting our environment. Even though this drought was worse than 2001, river

flows held up better and saltwater levels in our groundwater remained lower

- Allowing us to hold restriction levels at each stage for longer, despite continuing drought conditions
- Keeping at least some water flowing to both the rural and urban business sectors that provide employment for our region and keep the economy ticking over.

A feature of this drought was the extreme soil moisture stress experienced across the District.

River flows in the Waimea area held up reasonably well, much better than in 2001 when the river dried up completely in places. We learned our lessons from that drought. This year we implemented water restrictions much earlier. We also built the bund in the Lower Waimea River to prevent saltwater contaminating our freshwater supplies during king tides.

A huge thank you to all of you who did your bit for the community by reducing your water use.

### Drought in numbers

The water saving people connected to the Council water supply in the Waimea area made during the peak week of the drought (compared with average summer use):

30%

The cut in allocations made by water permit holders in the Waimea Plains (that includes primary producers and other industry) at the peak of the drought:

65%

50

Golden Bay experienced greater than a one in 50-year drought

The Aorere River at Devils' Boot recorded greater than one in 80-year drought flows

80

## Mayor's message

The vast majority of us never believed what happened on Friday 15 March in Christchurch would, or could, ever happen in New Zealand.

We have seen footage of similar events elsewhere in the world but never thought that something so horrifyingly callous could take place in our own streets. Even harder to bear is that many of the victims, their families and friends came to New Zealand to escape persecution and enjoy the freedom to believe in a better life, a freedom we sometimes take for granted.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to everyone impacted by the horrific events in Christchurch. I know our community and country

joins me in condemning this dreadful act. We extend our sympathy, love and full support for our Muslim community during this time whether they are in Christchurch, Nelson and Tasman or anywhere else in New Zealand.

New Zealanders are welcoming of all ethnicities, proud to share the many things we hold dear and embrace the things they treasure. Everyone has the right to be accepted, safe and free to believe in a greater good – let us not allow one act of evil take that from us.

How wonderful it is to see the rain. I cannot recall the last time I said that during the summer months!

The rain is welcome both for the fire efforts still in progress in Pigeon Valley to remove the remaining underground hot spots, and as a start to provide relief from the drought. The rain has enabled us to reduce restrictions in many areas. It is wonderful to now to see a green tinge on the paddocks which were previously brown but farmers aren't out of the woods yet. It is important to make a plan, check your budget is realistic, and perhaps take advantage of the dry conditions to do things you are not always able to do. However, those affected by the fire or drought still have a long way to go before their feed situation is back to normal.

Many are still in the midst of restoring burnt paddocks to be able to care for their stock, reinstate fences and so on and we are still working towards a way of arranging further funding for those affected. In the meantime, I am pleased to say payments are being made from the Mayoral Disaster Relief Fund and I encourage those who have been affected by the fire, and who have not already done so, to complete an application. Those affected by drought may also apply for partial

reimbursement of freight costs, for obtaining additional feed.

It was an honour to meet Sir John Kirwan at the event organised on Friday 15th March at the Hope Community Church. A former All Black and now an ambassador who has raised awareness of depression and anxiety, he discussed how it affects us all differently; how it changes the way we think, feel and deal with the tough times, and that it is OK to talk about it. If you would like further information the website is [www.depression.org.nz](http://www.depression.org.nz)

For the many people affected by fire and drought, look out for yourselves and each other.



**Richard Kempthorne**  
Mayor



## In case you missed it...

A summary of recent Council meetings and the decisions made.

### Extraordinary Full Council - 7 March 2019

- Agreed to the next steps for water restrictions should the drought continue. The next steps would be to cut business water use by 30 – 50%, followed by escalation to a complete water use ban except for essential human health, sanitation, animal welfare, firefighting, the functioning of food retailers and medical and care facilities. After rain over the past two weeks we expect these steps are unlikely to be required this summer.

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# The bigger picture – managing stormwater, protecting the environment

A new holistic approach to managing stormwater in Richmond aims to improve flood resilience as well as protect our waterways and the environment.

Stormwater management in Richmond has traditionally focussed on the collection of stormwater from roads and roofs to convey it rapidly towards the coast through a network of pipes and drains.

Past flood events in Richmond have shown us that our piped network does not have enough capacity to deal with extreme rainfall.

Some of our natural waterways have been piped or straightened to allow for development. This has, in some cases, increased flood risks, but also affected the health of our streams and their ability to sustain life.

Oils and metals that accumulate on our roads from brakes and tyres, together with other contaminants, are washed away

during rainfall, causing pollution of our streams and inlets.

Richmond’s expected population growth, in combination with the effects from climate change such as increased rainfall and rising sea levels, will put even more strain on our stormwater network and the environment.

### A new approach

These challenges mean we need to change the way we approach stormwater management. We have developed an integrated stormwater management plan to take into account all these issues across the entire Richmond catchment, which encompasses all of Richmond and much of Hope. The Richmond Catchment Management Plan brings together our current knowledge of the catchment and stormwater networks, identifies issues

and sets out a series of actions to help us achieve our vision and aspirations.

Once finalised, the plan will provide long-term direction for the management of stormwater within the Richmond area. It will bring together stormwater and flooding information, environmental information, and social and cultural information on a whole-of-catchment basis.

### Have your say

You’re invited to have your say on the draft Richmond Catchment Management Plan, which is open for public feedback from Friday 22 March to Wednesday 1 May 2019.

You can read more about the plan and complete an online submission form at [www.tasman.govt.nz/feedback](http://www.tasman.govt.nz/feedback).

## Forest fire concert – date change

A concert to give the community the opportunity to say thank you to emergency services and Civil Defence personnel involved with the Pigeon Valley fire will now take place on Saturday 13 April.

Come along to listen to the Warratahs and friends and show your support for our hard-working first responders.

**Saturday 13 April, Richmond Park Showgrounds, Lower Queen Street, 1pm.**



## Rural road grading delayed due to fire risk

Over the past six weeks lots of our work has had to be put on hold due to the extreme fire risk.

One activity that has significant risk of creating a spark is the grading of rural roads.

We appreciate some roads are overdue for grading, and we ask for your understanding at this time.

Once the fire risk has lessened, we'll start grading again but it will obviously take time to get all the roads graded.

We appreciate your patience.







## Effects of drought ongoing

The drought has had a significant impact on our communities across the District. Growers have been forced to abandon some crops, farmers have had to destock, and other businesses had to reduce their operations due to the lack of water.

These decisions affect not just the individual farmers or business owners involved, but their families, their staff and eventually the wider community as their loss of income translates into less money to go around in our region.

Many in our District have been and will continue to be under significant stress because of the drought. Please look out for friends, family and neighbours, and urge them to seek extra help if they need it.

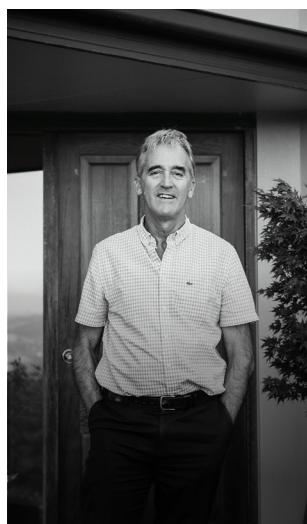
The Ministry for Primary Industries website is a good source of information about the help and support that is available for the rural community - [www.mpi.govt.nz](http://www.mpi.govt.nz).

## Dam in a drought

The Waimea Community Dam will provide a much higher level of water security to everyone who needs water in the Waimea area – including the urban communities of Richmond, Hope, Brightwater, Mapua, Ruby Bay and their rural extensions.

If the dam was operational this summer, we would not have needed to introduce water restrictions in the Waimea area over the past two months – no outdoor use ban for residents, no usage cut for urban business, no allocation cut for irrigators and other water permit holders (unless they have chosen not to be affiliated with the dam).

From January we would have released water from the dam to top up flows into the Waimea River, maintaining a minimum level of 1100 litres per second. The river got as low as 420 litres per second at the Appleby recorder on 7 March 2019 during this year's drought. The dam holds enough storage that we could have seen out the drought until about May without any need for restrictions except for unaffiliated permit holders..



### BEAT THE MAYOR

Tasman Mayor Richard Kempthorne has reduced his household water use from 350 litres a day down to 97 litres a day.

If you can top his efforts you'll win the chance to dunk him!

Head to [www.tasman.govt.nz/](http://www.tasman.govt.nz/) feedback to find out more.

## Change to Richmond water billing

We're changing the way we read meters and bill for water in Richmond, which may mean you receive your bill at a different time of year from usual.



In the past we have read all the meters for Richmond across a four-month period, with payment due at different times for different parts of Richmond.

From now on, all meters in Richmond will be read every April and October. Your water bills will be due for payment on 20 May and 20 November.

As a result, you may find your first bill this year is higher or lower than usual. This doesn't mean you are paying any more or less than usual for water, it just reflects a longer or shorter billing period.



# Million-dollar boost to Mayoral Disaster Relief Fund

The Lottery Grants Board has agreed to allocate up to \$1 million to the Tasman Mayoral Disaster Relief Fund.

The Lottery funding will be available for community benefit purposes. This may include repairs to community facilities, support to community organisations and to repair land damaged by the cutting of fire breaks.

If you were affected by the Pigeon Valley fire, you may be eligible for financial assistance through the fund. Applications are open now. Head to [www.tasman.govt.nz](http://www.tasman.govt.nz) to make an application. You can also pick up hard copy forms at any Council office or library.

## Who can apply?

The fund is open to Tasman District and Nelson City residents, ratepayers or business owners, and not-for-profit organisations, who have suffered financial or emotional hardship as a result of the fire event that began on 5 February 2019.

## In order to be eligible for the grant:

- applicants must be experiencing hardship as a result of the fire event that started in
- Pigeon Valley on 5 February 2019 at the time of their application;
- priority will be given to those who are/were a permanent resident (owner/occupier or occupier), ratepayer, or owner of a business located in Tasman District at the time of the fire;
- applicants must not be eligible for funding assistance from any other source/government organisation for the same item/s. (They may still be eligible if that

funding assistance has not substantially reduced the financial loss or hardship suffered);

- if a business, that the business has suffered a significant drop in income caused directly by the fire and was viable before the fire and can recover successfully, is the primary source of income to the business owner, pays staff a wage and the business is located in or provides services in the Tasman District.

## What is the purpose of the fund?

The fund provides assistance on a one-off basis for extraordinary circumstances, where real need can be shown. The fund is a last resort measure when people have exhausted other appropriate sources such as Work and Income New Zealand (WINZ) and other government agencies.

## Priority will be given to:

- essential items/essentials of daily life (e.g. food, accommodation, utilities) not covered by insurance or other fund;
- extra financial burden (including significant loss of income) / costs due to the fire not covered by insurance or other fund; and
- family or personal crises, support for which is not covered by insurance, another agency or fund;
- extraordinary costs for not-for-profit organisations, for the caring of animals
- where costs are not covered by insurance or another agency or organisation.

## What can the grant be used for?

Grants may be used for any purpose related to the severe fire event. However, there is no guarantee of funding.

## What will happen to any money left over?

In the event that there is money left over, the Councils will identify projects that will benefit the community in the areas most affected by the fire. Any remaining funds will be put towards those projects.

## Who administers the fund?

There are six members who have been appointed to administer the fund. These are the Mayor of Tasman District, the Mayor of Nelson City, two councillors (one from each Council), an iwi representative and a representative from the Rata Foundation.

## Drought relief – feed transport payments

The Ministry for Primary Industries has provided \$40,000 to support feed transport costs to farmers in Golden Bay, and a further \$10,000 for farmers elsewhere within Tasman District.

Farmers are able to apply for this funding through the Mayoral Disaster Relief Fund.

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## Kaihautū appointed to support fire recovery

We'd like to welcome Archdeacon Harvey Ruru, who has been appointed Kaihautū to support the Council through ongoing fire recovery efforts.

Following on from the generous support offered by iwi liaison representatives during the state of emergency, the Kaihautū will work to ensure iwi values are embedded in decision-making and that obligations to mana whenua are acknowledged throughout the recovery process.

Harvey says: "I will be based in the Civil Defence Emergency Operations Centre where the iwi liaisons from NZ Police Inspector Dexter Traill, Barney Thomas from DOC and Shane Graham from Te Puni Kokiri were pivotal in ensuring iwi cultural considerations were

supported and strengthened throughout the Tasman fires state of emergency.

"Thank you to Mayor Richard Kempthorne, Tasman District Council chief executive Janine Dowding, Council kaumatua the venerable Andy Joseph and the many Council staff for your support.

Thank you also to the nine iwi Manawhenua Te Tau Ihu who have endorsed this position".



# NEWSLINE UPDATES



KEEPING YOU INFORMED ABOUT NEWS AND EVENTS IN THE TASMAN DISTRICT • 22 MARCH 2019

## Get involved in Tasman's future

With the help of the community, we're planning for the future of Tasman District.

Growth projections for the next 30 years indicate we can expect to need an extra 14,000 homes in Nelson and Tasman, as well as extra business and commercial land to cater for demand.

Tasman District and Nelson City Council have to decide where future homes, businesses and recreational space should go – but we can't do that alone. We need your help.

Decisions about where to allow housing and business growth are important and will change the shape of our communities in the coming years.

From 8 April to 6 May we're running an extensive consultation programme to help us develop the joint Nelson Tasman Future Development Strategy. We want to hear your views on the options to help us make decisions that will reflect the way Tasman residents want to live in future.

### Public information sessions

You're invited to come along and chat with us to find out more about the options and share your thoughts.

**Mapua:** Monday 8 April, Bill Marris Room, Mapua Village Hall.  
Drop-in session: 3.30 – 6.00 pm

**Golden Bay:** Tuesday 9 April. Takaka Service Centre meeting room, Commercial Street.  
Golden Bay Community Board meeting: 9.30 am. Drop-in session: 1.00 pm - 4.00 pm.

**Wakefield:** Monday 15 April. St John's Anglican Church, Edward Street.  
Drop-in session: 3.30 – 7.30 pm

**Motueka:** Tuesday 16 April, Tasman District Council office, Hickmott Street.  
Drop-in sessions: 3.00 – 4.00 pm, 7.00 – 8.30 pm.

**Tapawera:** Friday 3 May, Tapawera Community Centre  
Drop-in session: 3.30 – 6.30 pm

**Tasman:** Wednesday 24 April, Tasman School hall, Aporo Road.  
Drop-in session: 4.00 – 6.00 pm

**Moutere:** Thursday 11 April, Moutere Hills Community Centre community room, Moutere Highway.  
Drop-in session: 4.00 - 6.30 pm

**Richmond:** Monday 29 April, Richmond Mall.  
Drop-in session: 12.00 – 5.30 pm

**Kaiteriteri:** Wednesday 1 May, Kaiteriteri Recreation Reserve, Ngaio Conference Room. Drop-in session: 4.00 – 6.00 pm.

### Find out more:

More information is on our website, head to [www.tasman.govt.nz/link/fds](http://www.tasman.govt.nz/link/fds)

## Motueka Kai Fest

Sunday 7 April 2019, 10.00am - 3.00pm, Decks Reserve, Motueka  
This annual signature event celebrates Motueka's abundant produce with local food stalls and demonstrations, a parade and pageant honouring the elements and gods that make things grow, music, performances and circus displays. If you want to take part in the cook off, and for other info, visit the Facebook page or website: [www.motuekakaifest.nz](http://www.motuekakaifest.nz). Entry is free.

## Richmond Aquatic Centre lane pool to close for retiling

From 25 March to 25 May 2019, the lane pool at the Richmond Aquatic Centre will be closed while tiles are removed and replaced. All the other pools at the centre will remain open.

Several of the existing tiles on the lane pool are cracked or chipped and must be replaced to ensure the safety of everyone using the lane pool. We are looking at options for re-using the water in the lane pool when it is drained to allow for the tiling. Thanks for your patience while the work is carried out.

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# NEWSLINE UPDATES



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## ROAD CLOSURES



### Proposed Closures

Pursuant to the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulations 1965, notice is hereby given that the Tasman District Council for the purpose of a **Nelson Car Club Rally Sandy Bay Hill Climb** Event proposes to close the following road to ordinary vehicular traffic for the period indicated hereunder.

During the proposed period of closure the following provision will be made for ordinary vehicular traffic which would otherwise use the road: **NIL**.

Any person objecting to the proposals is called upon to lodge notice of his objection and grounds thereof in writing, **before Monday 22 April 2019** at the office of the Council at: 189 Queen Street, Private bag 4, Richmond 7050 or via email [info@tasman.govt.nz](mailto:info@tasman.govt.nz).

Road proposed to be closed to ordinary vehicular traffic: **Riwaka-Sandy Road from its intersection with the State Highway (SH60) to just over the crest of the hill (at 41 02'36.45" S 172 58'45.85 E elevation of 781Ft).**

Period or periods of proposed closure: **Sunday 19 May 2019, 8.00am to 5.00pm.**

Pursuant to the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulations 1965, notice is hereby given that the Tasman District Council for the purpose of a **Nelson Car Club Rally Dovedale Road Sprint** Event proposes to close the following road to ordinary vehicular traffic for the period indicated hereunder.

During the proposed period of closure the following provision will be made for ordinary vehicular traffic which would otherwise use the road: **NIL**.

Any person objecting to the proposals is called upon to lodge notice of his objection and grounds thereof in writing, **before Monday 22 April 2019** at the office of the Council at: 189 Queen Street, Private bag 4, Richmond 7050 or via email [info@tasman.govt.nz](mailto:info@tasman.govt.nz).

Road proposed to be closed to ordinary vehicular traffic: **Dovedale Road from the Dove Creek Bridge to Pigeon Valley Road.**

Period or periods of proposed closure: **Sunday 16 June 2019, 8.00 am to 5.00 pm.**

### Approved closure

**Applicant:** National Advanced Drivers School Ltd

**Event:** Defensive Driver Training

**Location of road closure:** Marchwood Park Road, Motueka. Full length of road.

**Date and time:** Monday 25 and Tuesday 26 March 2019, 10.00 am to 3.00 pm.

Rates penalties waiver for those affected by Pigeon Valley fire

If you were affected by the Pigeon Valley fire and have had penalties added to your bill, we have a policy that allows us to waive them.

We encourage anyone in this situation to apply for a penalty waiver under clause (a) or clause (d).

Customers are also invited to get in touch with the rates team to arrange a payment plan if they are unable to make up the rates currently owing by the time the fourth rates instalment is due 20 May.

Head to [www.tasman.govt.nz/link/rates-penalty-waiver](http://www.tasman.govt.nz/link/rates-penalty-waiver) for more information.

## COUNCIL MEETINGS:

**Unless otherwise stated, all meetings will be held at Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond.**

### Joint Committee Meeting

Nelson City Council. Tuesday 26 March, 9.30 am. Public forum

### Full Council Meeting

Thursday 28 March, 9.30 am. Public forum

### Community Development

Thursday 4 April, 9.30 am. Public forum

### Golden Bay Community Board

Takaka Meeting Room. Tuesday 9 April, 9.30 am. Public forum

### Creative Communities Subcommittee

Motueka Service Centre, 7 Hickmott Place, Motueka. Tuesday 9 April, 10.00 am.



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# WRITE CHOICES



## Get your hands on an Ockham finalist

The 2019 Ockham New Zealand Book Awards finalists have been announced. Four of our best-known novelists – Lloyd Jones, Fiona Kidman, Vincent O’Sullivan and Kate Duignan – have been shortlisted for the \$53,000 Acorn Foundation Fiction Prize. The Royal Society Te Apārangi Award for General Non-Fiction finalists are Joanne Drayton for Hudson & Halls: The Food of Love; Maurice Gee for Memory Pieces; Chessie Henry for We Can Make A Life, and Anna Rogers for With Them Through Hell: New Zealand Medical Services in the First World War. If you’re looking for your next good read, these books and authors are all a great place to start. Place your hold today.

## Creative collage at Motueka Library

Motueka Library invites arty types and craft lovers to gather for a fun and creative collage session with artist Sue Clark. You’ll get to slop, slap, and stick with beads, buttons, ribbons, paint, nuts, bolts and more. Explore your inner creativity and make something fabulous to take home. 10.00 am - 12.00 pm, Thursday 28 March. It’s free and everyone is welcome. Phone Motueka Library 03 528 1047 for more information.

## Cultural architecture talk at Richmond Library

There is one event remaining in our Te Ao Māori series celebrating the beauty and diversity of the Māori world. This will be a

free talk by architectural designer Keni-Duke Hetet from Waka Group Architecture in Nelson. Keni-Duke will be talking about the work his firm has done on the new Te Āwhina marae facilities in Motueka, and the considerations the firm needs to make when designing for cultural facilities such as marae. The Cultural Architecture talk is from 5.30 pm-6.30 pm on Wednesday 3 April.

## Cooking for a cause at Takaka Library

Join us from 1.00 pm - 2.00 pm on Friday 29 March for a recipe book talk and cooking demonstration from the Mohua Social Services fundraising recipe book Abundance: A Delicious Collection of Wind-fall Recipes. You are also invited to share your own recipes for possible inclusion in future editions of the recipe book. This event is free and everyone is welcome.

## Arty April school holiday programme

Wondering what to do with the kids or grandkids over the upcoming April school holidays? Tasman District Libraries has a great range of activities planned for children and teens. Visit our website [www.tasmanlibraries.govt.nz](http://www.tasmanlibraries.govt.nz) for the dates and times of great workshops taking place at Motueka, Murchison, Richmond and Takaka libraries, such as Spoiler Alert (teen reading programme), and the Teen Takeover Style Me Sustainably workshop for environmentally and fashion conscious teens. For technology lovers kids aged 7+ there’s Techy Time, which involves playing

with awesome gadgets such as 3Doodler pens, Ozobots, Bluebots, Makedo and more.

## Autumn surprise reads

Want to take the decision-making out of reading and find something new or surprising? Get yourself over to Motueka Library to pick up a carefully curated surprise read. Books have been specially chosen by Motueka’s librarians, and wrapped in paper so you can’t judge the book by its cover. Grab an Autumn Surprise Read to discover new genres and authors throughout April.

## Calling all techno-kids!

Don’t miss out on Richmond Robotics, Richmond Library’s popular after school robotics club for kids aged 8-13. The next term of Richmond Robotics runs from 3.30 pm - 5.00 pm, Mondays between 13 May and 24 June. Visit Eventbrite or contact Richmond Library. Phone 03 543 8500 to book your spot. Richmond Robotics is fun, hands-on and exciting.



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