

NEWSLINE

PĀNUI

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Dr Anne Wecking (Tasman District Council) and Dr Thomas Caspari (Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research)

At the dirt face of expanding soil knowledge

Our land scientists and Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research staff have been busy undertaking an extensive soil mapping campaign as part of a two-year commitment.

Co-funded by the Ministry for Primary Industries, the campaign is worth more than \$400,000 and complements soil legacy knowledge, feeding new data into the national soil map portal (Smap).

As a result, new 1:50,000 scale maps will be available for Wai-iti, Motueka and Riwaka, Moutere Valley and Tapawera.

Work has already occurred in Golden Bay, with the focus shifting to the clay-based soils of Moutere in April and May.

The soil surveying work is not invasive. Often a small pit is sufficient to see the soil changing in different depths and investigate its texture by rolling the mineral particles in between fingers and thumb.

Classifying soil is not an easy undertaking. Information from legacy data, which Tasman District Council holds, needs to be compared with field data, then digitalised and translated into common language.

Once finalised, most of the information can be accessed for free on Smap online at soils.landcareresearch.co.nz/smap-tasman.

Resource scientist for soil Dr Anne Wecking said the Smap work is crucial for Tasman District and acknowledged the campaign's success has been helped by the access granted by landowners.

"The soil mapping campaign enables us to merge old and new knowledge. In a few years, we aim to have a unified soil map layer available, not only at the Council but for the public to use too."

Anne has documented work undertaken at Upper Tākaka in a video which can be viewed on our YouTube channel.

More information can be found on our website, tasman.govt.nz, search 'valuing our soils'.

MEET YOUR REPRESENTATIVES



Councillor Dana Wensley – Richmond Ward

Growing up in Motueka in the 1970s, libraries and community halls were very important to me.

Swimming pools, community services and the library were also important to my mother, while roads, infrastructure and affordable rates were important to my father. I grew up on water from a private domestic well and a septic tank for waste collection, but still, Motueka Borough Council (as it was then) shaped my life.

How would I be different if early councils had not dedicated money to the Motueka Library? How would

other families be different if the Council did not fund sports fields and recreation centres? What would your life be like if Tasman District Council did not collect rubbish and recycling, or provide safe drinking water?

Tasman District Council is a large institution with significant commitments to infrastructure delivery, community services, environmental monitoring and reporting, and delegations under crucial legislation such as the Health Act and the Resource Management Act.

So much about local government is changing. Where this will lead us, I do not know. What I do know is

that the community must remain the focus of all these reforms. Your voices must be heard.

In my final column to you I make a plea. Play your part. Be involved. Read what your council is doing. Submit on consultations. Speak at public forums. Email or phone your councillors. Without your voice we are ineffectual. We may not always make the decisions that fit with your individual best interests, but we make decisions for the community as a whole. That is our job, and one we take seriously.

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” Helen Keller.

Stand for Tasman’s future

Encouragement and support are being offered to first-timers considering standing for Tasman District Council in this year’s local election.

Nominations open in mid-July for the 8 October election.

Former two-term Tasman Councillor and four-term Tasman Mayor Richard Kempthorne says now is the time for potential candidates to be considering their nomination.

He says the role of Councillor or Mayor isn’t for the faint-hearted.

“To be a councillor you need to cope with processes that often take time, if you’re an impatient person who doesn’t tolerate systems it’s not a job for you, but if you have the District’s

wellbeing as a focus, it’s an extremely rewarding and fulfilling role.”

Richard’s advice to prospective councillors is to ask yourself why do you want to be there?

“It’s not a job for someone feathering their own nest or trying to do something to suit themselves. The ideal councillor is honest, open and trustworthy, personal agendas don’t work around a council table.”

Richard suggests those considering standing for council should contact someone who has been on council in the past and talk through what’s involved in the role.

He says another good option is to go to the Council’s website and look at recent meeting agendas and take note of the topics, because those



are the issues that councillors will be deciding on going forward.

“You don’t need to read all the reports, just get a grasp of the general topics. This will give you an overview of much of the work a councillor does.”

Richard says our community needs people who live here, work here, feel and think here.

“Tasman residents are looking for confidence and trust in their elected council members.”

A full video interview with Richard Kempthorne is available on our website, tasman.govt.nz/elections.



SUSTAINABLE TASMAN

Give composting a go this May

Many of us find it difficult to get excited about compost, after all, it's just rotting stuff lying on the ground, isn't it? No, it isn't. It is nature's food for the soil, naturally fertilising and conditioning the earth.

The first week of May is International Compost Awareness Week and we're providing opportunities to dig down and find out more about the benefits of composting at your place.

Did you know that a survey of waste dumped at our regional landfill site at York Valley discovered that close to 20% of material was organic waste, much of which could have been composted at home?

When organic waste is dumped in landfills it breaks down and releases methane, a potent greenhouse gas.

To encourage households to get into composting, we offer a \$20 subsidy for Tasman residents to purchase a compost bin, Bokashi bin, worm farm or worms from participating retailers. Everyone who purchases using the subsidy in May will go in the draw to win an at-home compost tutorial with a local expert to get your system humming.

We have full details about composting systems, including a helpful video on our website tasman.govt.nz/compost.

Another useful website that can help reduce the amount of food waste we produce is lovefoodhatewaste.co.nz



which offers tips and hints on planning weekly meals and grocery shops, storing food correctly and eating or freezing leftovers.

Or if you don't have space for composting head to sharewaste.org.nz to see if there's anyone in your neighbourhood with a bin or worm farm that you can connect with who is willing to take your food scraps.

Composting food and garden waste has so many benefits for your soil, and it's easier than you might think!

Keep a look out to keep the rook out

We're asking everyone to keep their eyes peeled for an unwelcome flying visitor in the top of the south – the Rook.

We recently had a report from the Richmond A&P showgrounds of a Rook or Crow, following a sighting of a Rook on Stephens Island in the outer Pelorus Sounds. The bird has likely arrived after flying from the North Island before leaving again.

We have had two other single birds arrive in the last three years, typically being seen around this time of year,

on each occasion we have been able to remove the birds and stop them establishing a population.

These birds can be very mobile and hard to track. However, they are an exclusion pest, and we need to catch this one.

Rooks are a large glossy black crow-like bird that grows up to 450mm in length.

Rook populations are controlled in New Zealand and tend to avoid humans. However, they prey on introduced and native species, including small and ground-nesting birds, lizards and invertebrates and



eat birds' eggs. They have also been known to peck out and eat the eyes of living sheep and lambs that are immobile as a result of disease or restraint.

Rooks are also an agricultural pest, damaging pasture and feeding on newly sown crops.

If you see this bird, please call us immediately on 03 543 7224 or after hours call 027 224 1583.

Community feedback on high-level options for coastal management

Over September and October 2021, the Coastal Management Project team undertook community engagement on options to respond to coastal hazards and sea-level rise. The options were grouped under four broad categories: accommodate, protect, avoid and retreat.

A number of broad themes have been identified from the feedback, including:

- There was a common desire to implement coastal management measures/actions to respond to coastal hazards and sea-level rise.
- There was general support for the accommodate and avoid options; and mixed views on the use of soft protection versus hard protection options, and the retreat option.
- The range of views considered the respective costs, benefits and potential adverse effects of each of the options, demonstrating the complexities and challenges of coastal management.
- A number of comments and ideas for alternative measures within each of the options were suggested.
- Some responses provided feedback on the staging and timing of options or that the suitability of individual options should be considered at a local level on a case-by-case basis.
- Other general feedback included comments on climate change science, governance, protection of biodiversity and inland ecological migration, and climate change mitigation.



The feedback will be used to inform the next steps in the Coastal Management Project work programme, alongside future central government guidance including RMA 1991 reforms and the National Adaptation Plan (due August 2022). Long-term adaptive planning work will take several years to complete, and the community conversation will be ongoing.

For more information including the summary of community feedback report, visit tasman.govt.nz/coastal-management.

New life poured into Teapot Valley restoration

Three years after the fire that devastated the Teapot Valley hillside, restoration is well underway.

Funded by MPI's Billion Trees programme, our four-year Jobs for Nature project aims to restore fire-affected hillslopes that were burnt in the 2019 Pigeon Valley fire, as well as re-connecting remnants of alluvial forest along Teapot Valley Stream.

The restoration site covers around 60 ha, including several areas of intact forest in good condition, hosting a diversity of plant and bird species.

Other areas of the site have more limited native vegetation, but some natural regeneration is occurring which will be supplemented with in-fill planting to increase plant diversity and abundance.

In areas most impacted by the fire, full revegetation is required, with 16,000 native plants on order for planting this winter and another 17,000 plants in winter 2023. As well, some experimental direct seeding will be carried out, with native seed introduced to areas cleared of weeds. If successful, direct seeding provides a cost-effective complement to planting, particularly over large areas.

Weed control in the site started in mid-2021 and will continue throughout the project.

Project manager Fiona Ede says that the ongoing support of landowner, Tasman Pine Forests Limited, has been instrumental in getting the project underway, and she is excited about what the project will achieve.

"This is a great opportunity to learn how fire-affected vegetation

communities recover and how we can accelerate their recovery through planting, direct seeding and effective weed control promoting natural regeneration."

Fiona and her team have also been monitoring the existing vegetation, which will be done again at the end of the project.

Fiona says comparing before and after data will provide valuable insights into the effectiveness of the restoration activities.



Good practice for outdoor burning

Heading into the winter months, smoke from outdoor burning causes many problems; calm, clear days with cold temperatures do not allow the smoke from outdoor burns to rise and disperse, this smoke sits low to the ground under an inversion layer. Extra care must be taken at these times as the smoke can cause significant adverse health, nuisance and amenity effects on neighbours and in the local area.

Outdoor burns are banned year-round in Richmond and Motueka townships. Other townships and the outskirts of Richmond and Motueka are zoned 'fire sensitive' which bans outdoor burns from 1 June until 1 September (unless burning diseased horticultural crops).

Where outdoor burning is allowed, follow these good practices:

- Check the weather conditions, wind speed and direction and continue to check throughout the burn.
- Wind speeds of 10–25km/hr is ideal.
- Burn well-seasoned, dry vegetation only.
- Stack vegetation and untreated wood loosely to allow airflow in.
- In winter only burn between 10.30 am and 4.00 pm. Do not add any more vegetation after 3.00 pm.
- Do not leave a fire to smoulder overnight – restart fires the next day.



- Get the fire burning hot as quickly as possible and keep it hot throughout the burn – lower temperatures mean more smouldering and smoke.
- Minimise the frequency and number of fires as much as possible.

More tips are available in our outdoor burning good practice guide at tasman.govt.nz/outdoor-burning.

Don't forget to check if you need a fire permit from Nelson Tasman Fire and Emergency NZ at checkitsalright.nz.

Shift down a gear and share with care

At one of our prime locations in Tasman, we have a specific area where pedestrians get priority on the road.

The Māpua Wharf precinct at the end of Aranui Road is a 'shared zone' which has been specially designed to slow traffic and make it safer for pedestrians. Please note the wharf area itself is restricted to service vehicles only.

In shared zones, there are no formal footpaths. The concept relies on the removal of typical street elements including line-markings, signage and kerbs, with the addition of extra street furniture such as seats, cycle parking and landscaping. This is designed to slow vehicle speeds and make it easier for everyone to interact safely.

At Māpua Wharf, the needs and comfort of people on foot are



paramount. Cyclists and drivers in these areas are expected to travel at walking pace and are legally required to give way to pedestrians.

However, pedestrians must not impede traffic either – it's a case of sharing with care.



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Inconsiderate parking makes footpaths unusable

Cars obstructing footpaths are not only illegally parked, but they also put other people at risk and it's a growing problem in Tasman, particularly with trades vehicles.

Motor vehicles that are parked over footpaths are a potential hazard for everyone, especially for people with disabilities, mobility issues, older people, children and parents with prams.

In many cases, pedestrians may be forced to walk on the road into oncoming traffic – something that young children don't have the skills to judge well – or they may have to walk over gardens or uneven terrain which poses a hazard for those like

the elderly who are unsteady on their feet.

Drivers may think they are being courteous to other motorists by getting their vehicles clear of the roadway, but they are mistaken.

Our enforcement staff are focusing on this problem and \$40 fines will be issued to owners of offending vehicles. Fines can be issued if we receive a photo clearly showing the offence and vehicle registration, with the location, date and time.



Community grants open Sunday 1 May

Every year we set aside a pool of money from rates to assist groups and organisations across Tasman District with our Community Grants Scheme.

The criteria is broad and covers a range of categories including but not limited to service groups, festivals and sports clubs through to welfare groups, arts, culture, heritage and environmental organisations.

If your community group has a project that needs funding and you feel your group could be worthy of consideration for a grant, check our website for previous recipients to see who got what.

Your community group can apply for funding to cover costs such as administration costs (limited), one-off projects, project development costs and service delivery costs.

Our annual Community Grants are aimed at enabling us to work with communities by encouraging community-based solutions.

We're supporting our community to find ways to improve the delivery of services or infrastructure and

underpinning the work of volunteers across the District.

Priority will be given to projects that address an identified community need and align with our community outcomes.

Applications open on Sunday 1 May and close Sunday 31 July.

Full details of the application process are on our website tasman.govt.nz/grants.

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NEWSLINE UPDATES



KEEPING YOU INFORMED ABOUT NEWS AND EVENTS IN THE TASMAN DISTRICT • 29 APRIL 2022

Tākaka Reuse Shop closure

The Tākaka Reuse Shop will be closed for nine days from Saturday 30 April until Sunday 8 May so our contractor can install roller doors on the building. It will be open again as normal on Monday 9 May. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause, and appreciate your patience while this work is carried out.

Annual Plan submission deadline looms

Time is running out to have your voice heard as we look at what we spend and how we are going to pay for it during the next 12 months. Our Annual Plan consultation document is available on our website and from libraries and service centres around the District.

There are two options on the table. Delivering the programme outlined in our 10-Year Plan plus the additional costs for the 2022/2023 year will result in an increase of 7.7% in overall rates revenue. Or by deferring some work and making savings we can reduce that to a 5.51% increase.

Our final online information session is on Tuesday 3 May, 6.00 pm – 7.30 pm. Submissions close Wednesday 4 May with public hearings scheduled for Wednesday 18 May. All information is available at tasman.govt.nz/annual-plan.

Moturoa / Rabbit Island – Nelson Marlborough Fish & Game Pheasant Hunt

Public access to the eastern half of Moturoa / Rabbit Island will be closed on three days this winter while an organised game bird hunt takes place. Please note that the closure will include all of the beach front 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. This year the hunts will take place on the following dates:

- Saturday 4 June, 7.00 am – 1.00 pm (Sunday 5 June reserve day)
- Saturday 25 June, 7.00 am – 1.00 pm (Sunday 26 June reserve day)
- Saturday 23 July, 7.00 am – 1.00 pm (Sunday 24 July reserve day)

For more details contact Jacob Lucas at Nelson Marlborough Fish & Game on jlucas@fishandgame.org.nz.

Keep Richmond Beautiful AGM

The next meeting will be held at 3.00 pm on Wednesday 11 May at the Tasman District Council Chambers. A short AGM will be followed by a presentation on the wetland restoration and native planting in the Waimea Inlet. All welcome.

Residents Survey calling

You might get a call on your landline or cellphone during May from Research First. They're doing research on our behalf into Tasman residents' satisfaction with Council. Responses are confidential. Find out more on our website, tasman.govt.nz.

COUNCIL HUI



Under Covid-19 restrictions, meetings will take place via Zoom video conferencing. Public forum presenters are required to present via Zoom. Visit tasman.govt.nz/meetings-calendar for the Zoom link.

Animal Control Subcommittee
Wednesday 4 May, 3.00 pm.
No public forum.

Regulatory Committee
Thursday 5 May, 9.30 am.

Submissions Hearing
Monday 9 May, 9.30 am.

Golden Bay Community Board
Tuesday 10 May, 9.30 am.

Saxton Field Committee
Wednesday 11 May, 9.30 am.

Submissions Hearing
Wednesday 11 May, 1.00 pm.

Operations Committee
Thursday 12 May, 9.30 am.

Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit
Friday 13 May, 9.30 am.

Enterprise Committee
Friday 13 May, 1.30 pm. No public forum.

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WHAT'S ON IN TASMAN



Youth Week

Second Hand Sunday

Sunday 15 May, 9.00 am – 2.00 pm.

Second Hand Sunday is a fun way for Nelson and Tasman residents to declutter and re-home unwanted household goods for free. If you have items you want to give away, simply register online before 10.00 am Friday 13 May to be included on the list of participating addresses. Print off a poster to put on your mailbox and put your items on your driveway at 9.00 am on the day.

A list and map of participating addresses will be available to download from 12.00 pm Friday 13 May. Check out the map to plan your fossicking route and pick up some free second-hand items! The event will take place rain or shine. Remember to keep a safe distance from others and wear a mask when collecting items. For more information and to sign up, go to tasman.govt.nz/shs.

Explore local heritage

Tuku 22 Whakatū Heritage Month is a celebration of all things local history taking place throughout May. Visit tasmanlibraries.govt.nz

to discover exciting events taking place at Motueka and Richmond libraries. We have an introduction to our new online local heritage archive Tasman Heritage and oral history project, guiding you through Ancestry and reintroducing our popular Family History Friday. Free.

The law and you

If you're an employer or an employee, you may need some free legal advice. Kaye Lawrence from the Nelson Bays Community Law Service will be at Richmond Library on Tuesday 3 May from 10.00 am – 11.00 am to guide you through your rights and responsibilities under New Zealand Employment Law. Free.

Wriggle & Rhyme

Bring the little one in your life to Wriggle & Rhyme at Richmond or Tākaka Library, 10.00 am – 10.30 am every Tuesday during term time. It's a great opportunity to explore music, songs, movement, rhythm, instruments and stories while making new friends and spending quality time with your 0 – 2 year old. Free.

This year, Tasman Youth Week from 7 – 15 May focuses on wellbeing. In collaboration with Sport Tasman and the Golden Bay Recreation Centre, we are hosting Youth Week events in Richmond, Motueka and Tākaka.

We're inviting young people aged 12 – 24, to take part in workshops on visual arts, creative journaling, wall climbing, woodwork, yoga and skateboarding, and to explore how these simple activities can positively affect their wellbeing.

Youth Week is a nationwide festival of events organised by young New Zealanders to celebrate the talents, passion and success of local young people. It aims to amplify young people's valuable contributions to their communities by supporting them to design, deliver and evaluate all aspects of the week. We want Aotearoa to be a country where young people are vibrant and optimistic and are supported and encouraged to take up challenges.

Events are designed to encourage young people to take on challenges, share ideas and focus on the positive aspects of being young. The week also recognises youth workers, youth service providers and others working with and for young people.

Full details of Youth Week activities and events are listed on the Tasman Youth Hub website, tasmanyouthhub.co.nz.



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