

Newsline



Keeping you informed about news and events in Tasman District



Reservoir Creek Dam

Council awarded positive rating **P.2**

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Reservoir Creek Dam Decommission

The Council has recently awarded a contract to Downer NZ Limited to decommission the Reservoir Creek Dam in Richmond. Work will involve the installation of a new spillway from the reservoir, which will lower the water level in the reservoir by approximately 2.5 metres. The work is required to reduce the potential risk of failure of the dam structure in the future.

Work began on 9 September 2013 and is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

The dam was built in the 1800s as a water supply source for Richmond Borough, it has not been used for this purpose since the 1970s and has shown some signs of failure in recent years and the existing spillway is inadequate.

While the work is being carried out there will be no public access to the dam. A new walking track is planned to provide access past the dam once the works are complete. Public access will no longer be available on the existing private road.

The work will take place on Council land with access through Cropp Place, Easby Park and a right-of-way over private property. The Council welcomes feedback on any aspect of the works, particularly if the project affects your property.



You can view the project's progress on the Council's Construction Webcam at www.tasman.govt.nz, search 'construction webcam'.

Tasman District Council awarded positive rating

Standard & Poor's has completed an extensive evaluation process and issued the Council with a long term AA- credit rating with a stable outlook.

The rating is the same as the country's four major trading banks, and only one step below that of Auckland and Wellington councils. It is a positive reflection of the Council's financial management and maintaining it will require less borrowing than forecast.

The annual credit rating review will give the Council, and external commentators, the ability to measure its financial management and the impact of the changes envisaged at the conclusion of the planned review of the Council's financial strategy. In the meantime the rating agency's scrutiny will provide a level of constraint and will certainly assist the Council to set clear financial limits.

A higher rating is possible if the Council's financial performance significantly improves. Maintaining the rating alone will require

careful management of the Council's capital program and a reduction in forecast debt levels.

In addition, the rating gives lenders an internationally recognised and respected framework to judge us on and therefore enables us to secure lower interest rates. The immediate benefit in having the rating is that the Council will save 10 basis points (0.1%) on most of its borrowing costs and in some instances more.

What is a credit rating?

Credit ratings are opinions about credit risk published by a rating agency, in this case the multi-national financial company Standard & Poor's. They express opinions about the ability of an organisation, such as a council or government, to meet its financial obligations.

Standard & Poor's rating should not be viewed as an assurance of credit quality or an exact measure of the likelihood of default. Rather, it denotes a relative level of credit risk that Tasman District Council presents.

Rural Land Use and Subdivision Rules Review

Ongoing pre-engagement exercise

Over the last 15 years the Tasman District has experienced continuing pressure for subdivision and development, particularly residential development, in rural areas including on land with high productive value.

As a result the Council has embarked on a community engagement process to obtain information about:

- How rural housing rules could be changed to reflect demands from the rural community;
- The value to be placed on productive land while managing demand for subdivision; and
- How best to manage the effects of business activities in rural areas.

This is the first stage of a thorough review in which the preferences of the Tasman community are being collected, discussed and included in the development of proposals for further discussion. This consultation process is focussed on gathering information to ensure the views and preferences of those who contribute are included and considered within the decision-making process.

The drop in sessions and public meetings have been designed to encourage discussion, allowing people to air their concerns and interests as well as being an opportunity to hear the views of others. The sessions that have been held so far have been relatively popular, with some venues busier than others. An estimated 185 people have attended a session.

The next Rural Land Review session takes place on Tuesday 15 October 2013, 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm at the Richmond Council Chambers.

These drop in sessions form only part of the engagement process, which runs until 29 November 2013.

Interested people and organisations can read the background information that the Council has prepared, and fill in the feedback forms on the Council's website, www.tasman.govt.nz. Print copies of the documents can also be picked up from Council's Office and Service Centres.

Once the engagement exercise is finished, the community feedback will be considered by the Council. Then, a draft plan change will be developed, which will be circulated for public comment. Thereafter, a plan change will be notified and the formal plan change process regulated by the Resource Management Act commences. This formal process provides further opportunities for public input.

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New Senior Management Role Filled

Susan Edwards is the Council's new Community Development Manager, a new role created by the recent organisational changes. The new role essentially combines the former roles of the Strategic Development and Community Services Managers. The previous Community Services Manager, Lloyd Kennedy, retired earlier this year. Since that time Susan has managed both roles.

Susan, previously the Council's Strategic Development Manager, was selected after an open recruitment process which created a great deal of interest with a number of high calibre candidates stepping forward.

The Community Development department is responsible for strategic policy and planning development; delivering front line customer and community services including the libraries and recreation activities and facilities; and provides the link between the Council and the community. Following Susan's appointment the strategic development and community services departments are being restructured to meet these requirements, a process that will be complete by December 2013.

Recycling bins for Christmas



Believe it or not the summer holiday period is fast approaching, and this is traditionally Council's busiest recycling period. For many households a single recycling bin is not enough and so Council is making it easier for everyone to get hold of an extra bin. It's much easier and safer for our contractor if materials are in an official bin – cardboard boxes and fish crates are not really suited to the job.

Each household within the rating area for recycling is entitled to two recycling bins and extra bins are now also available from Council Service Centres as well as Council's Resource Recovery Centres.

If you're looking for rubbish bags, these are also available at Council Service Centres, and now come in two sizes: the original white bags and the big yellow bags.

So next time you're at Council you can pick up rubbish bags and an extra recycling bin for the summer holidays.

Time is running out to have your say

12 noon this Saturday, 12 October 2013, is the absolute deadline for you to cast your vote in the Local Government Elections 2013. If you haven't posted your voting form by 10 October 2013, then you can deliver it in person to one of the Tasman District Council's facilities listed below.

Any voting forms received after 12 noon on Saturday 12 October 2013 **will not count** towards the final results.

Tasman District Council Office (and for special voting)

189 Queen Street
Richmond

Motueka Service Centre

7 Hickmott Place
Motueka

Murchison Service Centre

92 Fairfax Street
Murchison

Takaka Library

3 Junction Street
Takaka



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New biocontrol agent released

Caterpillars of an unwanted Australian immigrant, the Gum Leaf Skeletoniser (GLS), were found in Tahunanui in 2010. Pheromone* trapping indicated the Nelson population, while small, was too well established to be eradicated.

The GLS was originally found in Auckland in 2001 but it was too widespread to be eradicated. Over the last nine years, it has spread around the upper North Island.

The caterpillars can impact on humans as well as on trees. They are covered in protective hollow spines containing venom that can cause itching and rashes if they touch skin. In sensitive individuals, they can produce painful welts that last for several weeks. The hairs of dead caterpillars or those on skins shed during moulting retain their ability to sting.

The young caterpillars feed on the softer green leaf tissue of gum leaves, avoiding the veins, leaving a skeletonised appearance. The older caterpillars are capable of eating the whole leaves. As well as feeding on several common species of eucalypt, the caterpillars can damage silver birch, copper beech, plum and some species of oak.

Biological control is the most effective way of keeping caterpillar numbers down and slowing the rate of spread of the adult moths. Scion (previously the Forest Research Institute) selected a small

Australian parasitic wasp as the most promising agent after extensive testing. These wasps have been successfully released around the established populations in the upper North Island.

In August, foliage containing young GLS larvae were collected and sent to Rotorua and exposed to the parasitic wasp in controlled conditions, where they injected eggs into the larvae. The foliage was brought back to Nelson by a Scion scientist and attached to trees containing the GLS larvae with the assistance of a Tasman District Council biosecurity officer and a contractor. The Council will continue to monitor the spread of GLS in our region and the effectiveness of the biocontrol agent.

Caterpillars can be easily identified by the following:

- A body covered with many long hairs
- Pale yellow colour with black and grey markings
- A distinctive black 'hat' on their head. 'Hats' are taller on older caterpillars

If you suspect Gum Leaf Skeletoniser caterpillars, avoid handling them and prevent children from touching them. For identification or more information, contact Biosecurity staff at Tasman District Council on Ph. 03 543 8400.

**A pheromone is a chemical released by an animal or insect that triggers a response in members of the same species*



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Writechoices

Summer Reading Programme

Time is rushing by and our annual children's summer reading programme is on the horizon once more.

We're making some small changes to the way the programme runs this year. We're hoping to make things a little more user-friendly for you. More details will be available in the 8 November 2013 issue of Newline.

Renew your own library books

Did you know that you can renew your own library items from home?

All you need to do is go to My Account on the library website – it's the little button above the Search the Catalogue box on the website home page.

Log in using your library card number and your pin number.

When you get to your account, click on the Checkouts link in the right-hand box.

Then select the items you want to renew, click Renew and you're done.

If you don't have a pin number, contact your local library by phone or email us. Go to www.tasmanlibraries.govt.nz/contact-us for details.

Technology at the library

Are you struggling to get your smart phone under control? Are you getting the most out of your various computing devices? Do you have questions about technology that you'd like answered but you feel a bit shy to ask?

During November we're highlighting the resources that the library has on offer to help you navigate your way through this complex techie world. We're planning some drop-in sessions with our staff experts, a Q&A board where you can post your questions for us to answer and we hope to have our local tech stores demonstrating some of the latest phones, tablets and other new technologies in Richmond Library.

Keep an eye on the library website for more details in late October.

www.tasmanlibraries.govt.nz

Your library – your technology hub

Storytime at your local library

If you're looking for ways to encourage the reading habit in your child why not try our regular pre-school storytime sessions.

Storytime is a fun, hands-on session with songs, movement and rhymes for the under twos and their caregivers.

Tiny Tots at Richmond Library runs every Tuesday during term time at 10.00 am. Motueka's Babytime sessions happen on Fridays at 10.00 am.

Takaka Library offers storytime for a wider age group, 4-8 year olds, on the first Saturday of the month at 10.30 am.

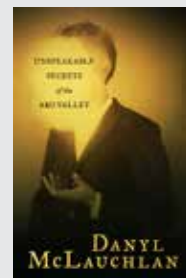
These sessions are a lot of fun and a great way to connect with other parents as well.

Your library – opening a world of imagination and inspiration for you.

New in the library



The White Princess
by Philippa Gregory



Unspeakable Secrets of the Aro Valley
by Danyl McLauchlan



Maddaddam
by Margaret Atwood



The Ocean at the End of the Lane
by Neil Gaiman

Check our new site out for yourself at www.tasmanlibraries.govt.nz

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Public Notices

Navigation Safety Bylaw:

Temporary Reservation – Motueka River – Sunday 13 October 2013

Tasman District Council's Harbourmaster has granted a temporary reservation of the waters of the Motueka River between McLean's Domain (near McLean's Road) and the Alexander Bluffs road bridge (near Rocky River Road) for a paddlecraft race between 8.00 am and 1.00 pm on Sunday 13 October 2013.

The effect of the temporary reservation will be to prevent other boating activities from occurring during the race. Event Marshalls have the authority to require other users to vacate these areas as required. Jetboat and Jetski (PWC) users should note that during the reservation, navigation on the Motueka River (at any safe speed) may still occur between the McLean's Domain and the Tapawera bridge, and between the Motueka state highway bridge and the Alexander Bluffs bridge. Other conditions have been imposed and may be viewed at www.tasman.govt.nz/recreation/boating-fishing/special-events-and-activities

Temporary Reservation and speed-limit uplifting – Lake Rotoiti – 9 and 10 November 2013

The Rotoiti Power Boat Club will be conducting a high-speed power boat racing event at Kerr Bay, Lake Rotoiti between 8.00 am and 6.00 pm on Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 November 2013.

Pursuant to powers provided to the Harbourmaster, the speed limits imposed by the Bylaw in relation to vessels within 50 metres of another vessel, or within 200 metres of shore or a structure are suspended for those vessels taking part and controlling the event. Also, exclusive use of Kerr Bay, Lake Rotoiti is provided for. Access to and from West Bay ramp is not restricted.

Vessels wishing to transit through or enter the reserved area during the event may do so only after consulting with an event Marshall, and then may only do so when, and under such conditions that, the event organisers specify. Event communications will be using Channel 17 on Marine VHF radio.

Other conditions have been imposed and may be viewed at www.tasman.govt.nz/recreation/boating-fishing/special-events-and-activities

Public Notices

Nominations for Waimea Plains Freshwater and Land Advisory Group

Do you want to be involved in decision making for water quality management in the Waimea Plains?

The Council is setting up an advisory group to enable greater involvement by the community and stakeholders in developing the water quality management provisions for Waimea water resources. Nominations for membership on the advisory group are being invited from people with a significant interest in water management in the Plains. The ten member advisory group will be made up of councillor and iwi representatives and eight members of the community. The purpose of the group will be to consider the existing and potential future water quality challenges in the Waimea Plains and develop solutions for managing the water quality effects of land use activities.

Any recommendations from the advisory group will contribute to further development of policy and rules in the Tasman Resource Management Plan. The Council's Environment and Planning Committee will select the Advisory Group members from the nominations received. A person seeking membership can be self-nominated or nominated by another person or organisation, however members will be appointed as individuals, not as organisation representatives. In considering membership of the group the Council will take into account the balance of interests required for:

- the geographic spread of members,
- knowledge of the range of water body uses and values, and
- the ability of the applicants to work in a collaborative, consensus-seeking manner

Further information and online application forms are available on Council's website or application forms can be obtained from Council's Richmond Office or the Service Centres.

Nominations must be received at the Council by 4.00 pm, 1 November 2013.

24 Hour Assistance – Phone your local office

Richmond 03 543 8400
Murchison 03 523 1013
Motueka 03 528 2022
Takaka 03 525 0020

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Newslineupdate

Public Notices

Draft Psychoactive Products Policy

The Psychoactive Substances Act 2013 established a new licensing system for psychoactive products, often referred to as 'legal highs', and persons who wish to manufacture or retail such products. The Act also allows councils to develop a Local Approved Products Policy to control the location, density and proximity of retailers of psychoactive substances.

The Tasman District Council has opted to produce a Draft Local Approved Products Policy which proposes the following:

- (i) Premises licensed for the sale of approved psychoactive substances must be located within the central business zone, as defined in the Tasman Resource Management Plan, in Richmond, Motueka or Takaka.
- (ii) Premises licensed for the sale of approved psychoactive substances are not permitted within 100 metres of a kindergarten, early childhood centre, school, library, community centre, reserve, playground or place of worship.
- (iii) New licenses for the sale of approved psychoactive substances are not permitted from premises within 150 metres of an existing premises holding a licence (interim or full) to sell approved products.

The full Statement of Proposal can be viewed during ordinary office hours at Council's Richmond Office, Service Centres and libraries. It can also be viewed or copied from the Council's website www.tasman.govt.nz

All submissions on the proposal are to be in writing and posted or delivered to: The Administration Advisor, Tasman District Council, Private Bag 4, 189 Queen Street, Richmond 7031, or they may be emailed to info@tasman.govt.nz or faxed to 03 543 9524. Persons wishing to be heard in support of their written submission should note that the date proposed for oral submissions is 15 November 2013.

Submissions can be made any time until 4.30 pm on Monday 4 November 2013.

Mapua parking changes

The Tasman District Council Consolidated Bylaw – Chapter 7

Summary of Information

Traffic Control Bylaw 2005 in force since 30 June 2005. Since that date the bylaw has been amended a number of times but a full review was never undertaken. The Local Government Act 2002 requires that a review of a bylaw and Section 156 applies requires a Special Consultative Procedure. The purpose of the Traffic Control Bylaw review is to allow the existing bylaw to remain in place while a more extensive review is completed in 2014; and to ensure that the enforcement of existing restrictions and the proposed additions is not affected.

The addition to the bylaw is:

Mapua Wharf Precinct – closed to vehicles for parking from 20 December to 7 February inclusive on an annual basis.

Mapua Wharf Precinct – closed to vehicles for parking every Sunday.

Mapua Wharf Precinct – closed to vehicles for parking every public holiday.

The only exceptions to this addition are goods service vehicles and vehicles picking up or dropping their boats from the boat ramp.

The purpose of this addition is for Tasman District Council to provide a pedestrian friendly environment during the busy tourist season and on Sundays when pedestrian and cycle traffic on the wharf precinct are high.

At other times of the year, the wharf precinct is available for vehicle parking.

The full Statement of Proposal is available for viewing during normal Council hours at the Council's Richmond office and its Service Centres and libraries.

The Statement of Proposal is also available on the Council website at www.tasman.govt.nz along with details on how to make a submission.

Submissions should be received by 4.30 pm on Monday 28 October 2013.

Community Notices

Community Plantings

Community plantings in Tasman District are in full swing and we are keen for volunteers to lend a hand and plant for an hour or so. There will be a cup of tea after each planting. Families are welcome too, all you need is a sturdy pair of shoes and a spade if you have one. The remaining plantings for this year are:

Murchison Riverside Planting – 12 October 2013 at 10.00 am, at the end of Hotham Street

Murchison, Kahikatea Walkway – 19 October 2013 at 10.00 am, take the entrance off SH60 in front of the golf course

For further information please contact Kathy Tohill-Curnow on Ph. 03 543 8492.

Notice of Meeting – Rural Land Review

Tuesday 15 October 2013, 7.00 pm–8.30 pm, Richmond Council Chambers.

Over the last 15 years the Tasman District has experienced continuing pressure for subdivision and development, particularly residential development, in rural areas including on land with high productive value.

This is a powerful force for change in rural areas and the Council wants to discuss with the community to decide what you want to see happen, now and for the future. It is an issue that affects the whole District not just rural areas.

Further information can be found on Council's website www.tasman.govt.nz

King of the Forest Loggersports

Pigeon Valley Steam Museum, Wakefield. 2–3 November 2013.

Local and visiting teams compete on Saturday for a substantial prize pool, and Sunday continues displays of logging from days gone by. For more information contact Rex Kelly, Ph. 03 542 3124.

Council Meetings

Agendas and Minutes for Council Meetings can be viewed on Council's website at www.tasman.govt.nz

Environment and Planning Commissioner Hearing (Anderson and C&F Trustees)

Tasman Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond, Monday 14 October 2013, 9.30 am. No public forum

Full Council (Inaugural meeting)

Tasman Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond, Thursday 24 October 2013, 11.00 am. No public forum

Full Council

Tasman Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond, Thursday 31 October 2013, 9.30 am. Public forum

Corporate Services Committee

Tasman Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond, Thursday 7 November 2013, 9.30 am. Public forum

Audit Subcommittee

Tasman Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond, Thursday 7 November 2013 at conclusion of Corporate Services or 1.30 pm. No public forum

Ruby Coast Arts Festival 2013

Ruby Coast Arts is proud to present two weeks of arty happenings on the magical Ruby Coast, Mapua. Join local artists for a series of hands-on workshops, take a sneaky peek into their studio spaces during the Open Studios Weekend and enjoy the window art as you mooch around the local shops.

The festival kicks off with innovative Window Art in the Mapua Village from 19 October 2013 until 3 November 2013.

The Festival Launch Party is on Thursday 31 October 2013, 7.00 pm at the Mapua Hall, \$10 at the door. This event will be a celebration of art and creativity of the Ruby Coast. Buy a piece of local art from the silent auction, view artist displays, enjoy wine, nibbles and like-minded arty company! The workshop tutors will also be on-hand to discuss their workshops with you. The party is preceded by a casual 'walk & talk' of the window art. Meet at the Mapua Hall at 6.00 pm, guided by Lynn Price. Entry is FREE.

Workshops: from 1 – 11 November 2013. There are many creative workshops on offer by local artists, in and around the Mapua Village. Let your creative spirit loose and try something new, or up-skill an existing passion. Workshops include painting, drawing, sculpture, mosaics, jewellery making, encaustic wax, print-making and more! Full details of the workshops at: www.rubycoastarts.co.nz/workshops



'Rock and wave', Jane Smith, www.chocolatedogart.co.nz

Flush your taps

Research carried out by the Institute of Environmental Science and the Ministry of Health has shown that some New Zealand water supplies contain minute traces of lead that are near to or exceed the maximum acceptable level specified in the New Zealand Drinking Water Standards. Traces of metals – in particular lead – are of concern because over time they pose a potential health risk, especially if consumed from childhood.

It is important to note that the lead is not coming from the water supplies themselves, but primarily from metals in some household fittings that may be dissolved into the water. The amount of lead that will dissolve from a fitting depends on how plumbosolvent* the water is; the temperature of the water; the composition of the plumbing fittings and how long the water has been in contact with it.

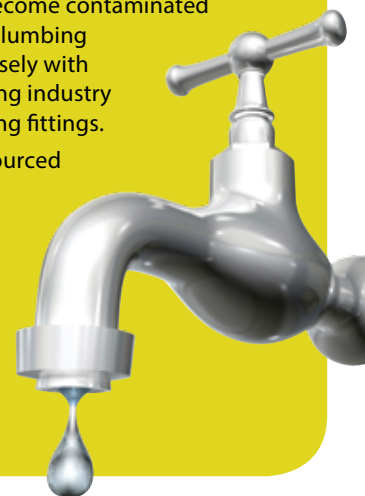
The fact that most New Zealand waters are of very good quality and contain little dissolved substances such as calcium and magnesium salts contributes to their plumbosolvency, which is widespread in New Zealand. For instance the Ministry of Health therefore

recommends that people do not drink the first mugful of water if their tap has not been used for several hours overnight.

Instead, people should run the tap for a second or so, which will quickly flush-away any water that has become contaminated with lead or any other metals from the plumbing fittings. The Ministry of Health works closely with Standards New Zealand and the plumbing industry to develop quality standards for plumbing fittings.

Additional details on this issue can be sourced from the Ministry of Health website – www.moh.govt.nz.

* plumbosolvent = The types of water that have the ability to dissolve lead (usually soft waters) are known as 'plumbosolvent' because of their ability to dissolve lead (from the Latin word plumbum).



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