



Firewood Saturday is back!

It's been a hot favourite with locals in recent years, and our Moturoa / Rabbit Island Firewood Saturday returns at the end of this month!

This year, proceeds will be shared between Fifeshire Foundation, which supports local people experiencing hardship and domestic crisis, and Nelson Tasman Hospice, which provides care and support for people living with cancer.

Firewood Saturday will be held on Saturday 31 October, with firewood available for \$100 per trailer load (about 2 cubic metres).

The wood is mostly pine. It has been cut into rounds but is unsplit, so you'll need to split it and give it plenty of time to dry over summer before it's ready to burn next winter.

Thanks to the generous support of Stand Forestry, Steve Thompson Ltd, and Downer, we'll have 200 trailer loads available.

Your wood will be machine-loaded onto your trailer to help keep things moving smoothly and avoid long queues. Just remember, our equipment can only load trailers, unfortunately not vans, utes or trucks.

When you buy your ticket, you'll be allocated a time slot between 8.00 am and 4.00 pm on the day. Tickets are limited, and you must have a ticket to receive firewood.

So, if you're looking ahead to keeping the home fires burning next winter, this is a great chance to stock up while supporting two fantastic local organisations.

Come and get your ticket from our Richmond Service Centre at 189 Queen Street or Motueka Service Centre at 7 Hickmott Place.

FUTURE FOCUS



Still time for Motueka Ward shared past engagement

There are still a couple of weeks to tell us what past experiences, opportunities or events have shaped the Motueka Ward.

Until 31 October, we want to hear about the memories, stories and experiences that have shaped our past. Your stories will help us build a picture of what has shaped the Motueka Ward.

Next, we'll be asking what life is like here today, so together we can build a fuller picture before we start talking about the future.

As part of our shared past, you might like to tell us about:

- A place that has changed over time
- A river, stream, beach, wetland, road, reserve or gathering place that matters to you
- How people used to live, work, travel, gather, grow food, connect or support each other



- Something people new to the area may not know
- What future generations should understand or experience
- What has helped people adapt to challenges
- Something you value most about living in the Motueka Ward

We've received some valuable contributions already, and there's still time to have a think and share your own.

We'll be at the Motueka Sunday Market, Deck's Reserve Carpark, on 18 October between 8.00 am and 1.00 pm. Whether it's part of your usual weekend routine or you are making a special trip, we'd love to have a chat and hear your stories.

You can get involved online anytime at shape.tasman.govt.nz/motueka-engage. Our drop box is at the Motueka Library until 31 October. Got a question or want to contact the project team? Email motuekaengage@tasman.govt.nz.

Motueka Service Centre relocation plans to be reassessed

Plans for the future location of the Motueka Service Centre are set to be revisited, following recent changes to Government legislation and strong community interest in the proposal.

The current Service Centre building in Hickmott Place has been sold, with the new owner taking possession in March next year. Earlier this year, Council approved a plan to integrate Service Centre operations into part of Te Noninga Kumu Motueka Library.

However, recent legislative changes mean earthquake-prone building requirements no longer apply to the former Motueka Library building on Pā Street. The building has been vacant for several years and was not previously considered a viable option because cost estimates included significant earthquake strengthening work.



At the Council meeting on 1 October, Deputy Mayor Brent Maru successfully moved a notice of motion to pause the previously approved integration plan while another option is explored.

Elected Members have asked staff to investigate the feasibility of relocating the Motueka Service Centre team, including customer support staff, to the former library building on Pā Street, provided it can be achieved within, or below, the budget already set aside for the project.

Deputy Mayor Brent Maru said the original proposal prompted considerable feedback from the community.

"There's been an outpouring of community concern about the suggested move, and this gives us an opportunity to fully investigate the costs of refitting the alternative site and compare any differences in future operational costs," he said.

Staff will now assess the option and report their findings back to Council by 29 October, helping Elected Members make an informed decision about the future home of customer services in Motueka.



Tasman makes its move in Kiwi Monopoly

Tasman District has landed a spot on the latest New Zealand edition of Monopoly, with the iconic Archway Islands off Wharariki Beach representing the top of the south.

The image showcases one of Golden Bay's most recognisable landmarks, capturing the rugged beauty of our windswept coastline. On the board, Tasman appears in the red property group, taking the place of Whitehall from the traditional London version of the game.

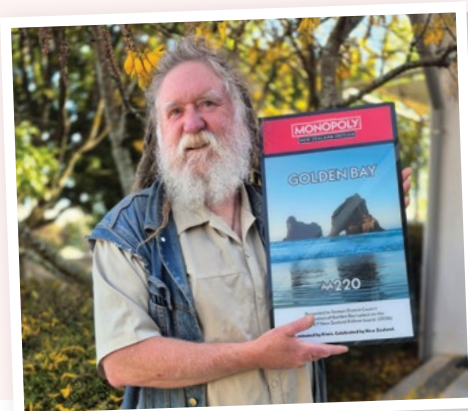
The Kiwi-themed board features landmarks from around the country, including the Sky Tower, Hobbiton, Ninety Mile Beach and the Moeraki Boulders. Even the Chance and Community Chest cards have been given a local flavour, with classic Kiwi sayings like "yeah nah" and "go big or go broke".

Golden Bay Community Board Chair Grant Knowles says it's fantastic to see this special corner of Tasman recognised.

"Many visitors come to Golden Bay specifically to see Wharariki Beach and the Archway Islands," he says. "The distinctive rock formations are known around the world thanks to their appearance as the default lock screen image on Windows 10 computers."

There is, however, one small point of controversy. While players move around the board using Kiwi-inspired tokens, one Australian favourite has slipped through the net. A jar of Vegemite features among the game pieces, leaving some to wonder why New Zealand's Marmite missed out.

Still, it's great to see Tasman featured alongside some of Aotearoa's most iconic destinations.



Funding community connections

There are so many positive things happening across the Tasman District, and we're proud to support the people and organisations making a difference in our communities.

This year's Community Grants funding round attracted an overwhelming response, with 171 applications requesting a combined \$547,872.50, around \$100,000 more than last year and nearly double the funding available.

The applications highlight the incredible community spirit across the District, with applicants reporting that 3,611 volunteers will be involved in delivering projects and services, averaging around 20 volunteers per project.

The largest funding requests came from the sport and recreation facilities category, while youth and children attracted the highest number of applications, with 37 received. More than a third of applicants provide services district-wide, while many others focus on supporting their local communities in areas such as Motueka, Richmond and Golden Bay.

Funding has been awarded to a wide range of initiatives and projects, including Bike Hub Nelson, which last year repaired and gifted more than 400 bikes to members of the Tasman community, while the Nelson Tasman Pacific Festival 2026 was also successful.

The Southern Cancer Society Trust's Tasman patient accommodation in Christchurch received funds, alongside Keep Richmond Beautiful for upgrades to Richmond walking tracks.

Money was also allocated for new books for Collingwood Memorial Library, while improvements to the Richmond Cenotaph Wall by Richmond-Waimea RSA got a grant too.

Keep an eye out in future editions of Newsline as we share the stories behind some of this year's recipients. A full list of successful applicants is available at tasman.govt.nz/community-grants.



Tasman welcomes NZTA proposal

A new roundabout on the Appleby Highway, upgrades at Queen Street lights, and possibly even a new Motueka River Bridge all appear in NZTA Waka Kotahi's State Highway Investment Proposal for the next decade.

The list of potential works recognises the need for connectivity and safety within the District. It builds on the current work surrounding the rapidly growing Berryfields area in Richmond and the impact on key arterial roads and the connected State Highways 60 and 6.

The much-needed improvements at the Lower Queen Street intersection get a little more certainty, as does the exit from McShane Road onto SH60 near Appleby. The developments will provide a greater choice and ease of travel throughout the area for both residents and industrial users.



Safety and resilience are also recognised as key investments for SH60 around Māpua and on the Tākaka Hill. With a growing population and the need to support any future regional plans, these roads provide a vital link to the west of Tasman.

Mayor Tim King says a pleasant surprise is the inclusion in the Investment Proposal for a potential replacement of the Motueka River Bridge, which is very welcome.

"Its reputation as a narrow and challenging bridge over one of the more dynamic waterways, the Motueka River, has long been recognised as needing replacement in terms of ease of use – it's also a key factor in the District's resiliency. While some years away in the strategy's timeframe, its replacement will be a positive factor in the forthcoming Spatial Plan.

Lucky Docks roll into Richmond

Getting around by bike just got a little easier, with the region's first Lucky Docks now up and running in Richmond.

These innovative bike stations provide a secure place to lock your bike, while also offering free charging for e-bikes and other devices. The stations are funded through digital advertising displays at selected locations, making them free for the public to use.

The first two Lucky Docks have been installed on Queen Street, with one located outside Richmond Library and the other at Sundial Square.

The new charging stations build on Tasman's strong cycling culture and help ensure our District keeps pace with other parts of New Zealand that are embracing cycling and active transport.

We helped get the project underway by working with Big Street Bikers to coordinate the approvals and installation process.

Lucky Docks are a great addition to our existing cycleway network. By making cycling more convenient and accessible,

they encourage more people to choose active transport and support the goals of our cycling strategy.

Care has been taken to position the stations so they don't block the footpath. The Richmond locations meet our requirements for visibility and accessibility, while also offering a strong advertising presence. This is important because advertising revenue helps fund the infrastructure, as well as its ongoing maintenance and operation.

And this is just the beginning. Plans are already underway for a Lucky Dock installation in High Street, Motueka, with several locations along Tasman's Great Taste Trail also being considered for future installations.



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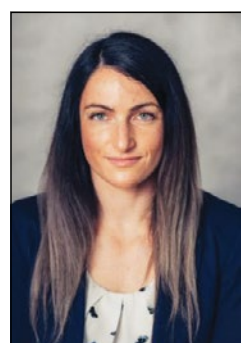
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Ruffus slipped off his perch

Recently, our staff responded to reports of a dog attack, with responders reaching the scene to find Ruffus had been rumbled but not ruined.

Ruffus is one of a pack of dog cutouts that have been deployed as part of a collection of tools to discourage birds from nesting at Motueka Aerodrome, but it appears he may have ruffled some feathers and got rolled in a recent bird-brained attack.

Realistically, a bird strike can be ruinous for aircraft, and flocking birds that are slow flying, less manoeuvrable or erratic, such as plovers, are one of our biggest challenges locally.



It's not a new issue; the first reported bird strike occurred in 1905, when the Wright Flyer, flown by Orville Wright, hit a bird over an Ohio cornfield.

At Motueka Airport, we use several discouragement tactics including gas-powered cannons that give off resounding booms, but the canine cutouts seem to be handling the responsibility of discouraging rogue flyers.

Our artificial canine deterrents are in a shape and form that appear threatening to the birds and discourage them from congregating, and even better, these cutouts don't need to be fed, microchipped, or registered and when they get knocked down – they can be resurrected.

Unnecessary vandalism costs all ratepayers. Ruffus will return.



Howard Forest sale supports long-term financial resilience

Howard Forest and the neighbouring Porika Block have been sold, returning a combined \$6.085 million and supporting our long-term investment strategy.

The 955-hectare Howard Forest and smaller Porika Block, located off State Highway 63 between Kawatiri Junction and St Arnaud, were placed on the market earlier this year. The sale process was managed by specialist forestry real estate company Arotahi Agribusiness and attracted strong interest.

Several offers were received, including bids for the combined blocks and separate bids for the Porika Block. The successful purchaser of Howard Forest was Ingka Investments Forest Assets NZ Limited, part of the Ingka Group, which owns home furnishing retailer IKEA and has extensive forestry holdings across New Zealand. The Porika Block was purchased by a family with strong historical connections to the land.



The sale is part of our ongoing approach to managing our portfolio of income-producing assets. By reducing our exposure to forestry, we are creating a more balanced investment portfolio.

Our Enterprise team manages a range of assets held within a closed account called a Diversified Resilience Fund. Income generated from these investments helps offset rates and contributes to the management of community reserves, including Moturoa / Rabbit Island.

The Diversified Resilience Fund sets money aside today to help support our communities tomorrow. By growing the fund over time, it will provide ongoing benefits for Tasman District and strengthen financial resilience.

Having a diverse investment portfolio provides greater financial flexibility and ensures resources are available if a major event, like a large-scale natural disaster, affects the region and local markets.

WATER WISE



Weather radar site sorted

The site of this region's new weather radar has been announced. Earlier this month, Minister for the South Island James Meager announced the radar will be located near Horoirangi Peak, about 15km northeast of Nelson City between the Glen and Cable Bay. It is expected to be operational by mid-2027.

For almost two decades, Tasman District Council's Hydrology team, led by now-retired Principal Hydrologist Martin Doyle, has been at the forefront of a campaign pressing for the radar.

Regional leaders joined the crusade, citing coverage from the Wellington-based MetService weather radar was hampered by the region's topography and too far away to provide detailed, localised information.

Martin Doyle says the new technology could give emergency management two to three hours warning of potential flooding, providing time to evacuate residents before roads are cut off.

He says the radar would fill the gaps between regional rain gauges – which are up to 50km apart.

"In the case of last year's flooding, we had no idea how much rain was falling in those gaps between gauges, so this will provide an eye in the sky giving a much clearer picture of the situation."

The new radar will cost up to \$5 million to install, with annual operating costs estimated at \$800,000. Funding will come from within MetService's existing budget.

YOUTH YARNS



Peace, art and a whole lot of creativity

What does peace mean to you? For 46 talented young artists around Tasman, the answer came through in colour, creativity, and some very thoughtful words.

The annual Peaceful Towns Art Competition is open to children aged from six to 15 and is part of an international competition run by the Mayors for Peace network, based in Japan. The initiative was launched in 1982 by the then Mayor of Hiroshima, Takeshi Araki, with a goal of encouraging cities around the world to work together for peace.

This year's theme was 'What does peace mean to me?' and Tasman's budding artists certainly rose to the challenge.

Art workshops in Motueka and Richmond, led by working artists Sue Birchfield and Caroline della Porta, helped get the creative juices flowing. When the entries closed, 46 works had arrived from across the District.

That left Mayor Tim King with the tricky job of choosing 10 finalists to go forward for international selection in November. The talent and heartfelt messages on display made the judging a tough task.

Finalists in the six-to-10-year age group are Rylee Stevens, Rylee Miller, Daan Houtenbos, Neas Portuondo Alvarez, and Annabel Perzigian.

In the 11-to-15-year group, Eliza Rynvos, Sunny Wilton, Hazel Wilson, Maddie Brown, and Erika Murray are finalists this year.

The finalists and participants were celebrated at awards ceremonies in Motueka and Murchison, with certificates, prizes, music, kai and plenty of smiles – plus a stirring haka at Murchison Area School's Pet Day.

Congratulations to all the young artists for showing us what peace can look like through your eyes.

Water safety paramount this summer

We dipped our toes in on the topic last edition, but as we move closer to the warmer months, we think it's worth continuing the conversation about water safety. Young or old, the overall message we want to get across is 'stop, think, stay safe'.

Wearing a lifejacket whenever you're on or near the water keeps your head above water when there's a risk of falling in.

Take two ways to get help and know how to call for help – if one doesn't work, you need a backup. This could include a phone in a waterproof bag, a VHF radio, a distress beacon, or even a whistle to attract attention.



Finally, check the conditions before you go near the water – it can be dangerous even on a sunny day, with waves, currents, river flow and cold water always a potential danger.

The Tasman Harbourmaster team will be visible and active throughout the summer. As always, our primary goal will still be education.

We're pleased to announce that Maritime New Zealand, through Safer Boating New Zealand, has confirmed funding support for the coming season. This funding, together with MPI Marine Biosecurity Ambassador Programme funding, will support boating safety education, marine biosecurity awareness, community engagement and on-water compliance activities over the summer.



Put your community in the plan

What matters where you live?
What should we understand as we
plan for Tasman's next 10 years?

In our first round of community conversations, people spoke about planning ahead, affordability and fair funding, local voice, protecting local identity, working together, water, the environment, and resilience. We are now taking that conversation further through seven topics that reflect both what communities have told us and the issues we are working through for the 10-Year Plan.

We want to understand what these topics mean in different communities. Tell us about the local experiences, circumstances and effects we should keep in view as we develop the plan.

Your experience of living and working in Tasman is the knowledge we are asking for. Choose the topics that matter to you and share a thought, experience or idea.

Your voice is an important part of shaping Tasman's future. Visit shape.tasman.govt.nz/lets-talk-tasman and tell us what we need to understand.

BOARD'S BUSINESS



Motueka Community Board

Have you ever driven past a new footpath, watched children enjoying an upgraded playground, admired flowers brightening a public space, or attended a community event and wondered, "How did this happen?" Often, it began with someone in the community speaking up.

That's where your Motueka Community Board comes in. Our role is to be the bridge between our community and the Tasman District Council. We listen to your ideas, concerns and aspirations, then advocate on your behalf to help turn good ideas into reality.

Whether it's supporting safer streets, improving parks and reserves, advocating for major community projects, speaking up when something doesn't feel right, or helping local organisations through discretionary funding, every decision we make is driven by one question: "Will this make Motueka an even better place to live?"

The most valuable resource we have isn't a budget or a building – it's you!

Some of the best conversations happen over a coffee, at the supermarket, during our public forum, or at one of our community drop-in sessions. Every suggestion, question and concern helps us better understand what matters most to the people who call Motueka home.

We encourage you to get involved. Come along to a Board meeting, share your ideas, celebrate what's working well, and let us know where improvements can be made. Together, we can continue building a vibrant, welcoming and resilient community.

Motueka has always been a place where people care about one another. By working together, we can ensure our town continues to thrive, not just for today, but for future generations.

WHAT'S ON IN TASMAN



Diwali 2026

Sunday 18 October, 11.00 am – 3.00 pm (drop-in), Decks Reserve Motueka.

Learn about Diwali with the Experience India team. Performances, food and market stalls, and community rangoli making. Come and experience Diwali for yourself!

Wellby Talking Cafés

- **Wednesday 21 October, 10.00 am – 11.30 am, Motueka Library.**
- **Wednesday 28 October, 1.30 pm – 3.00 pm, Age Concern Richmond.**

Come along for a relaxed cuppa to start your journey connecting with others who enjoy the same things. You can pop in for a quick chat or stay for a longer conversation with friendly people.

Beginner's guide to writing your memoir

Saturday 24 October, 10.00 am – 11.30 am, Richmond Library.

Join our free workshop with Tākaka writer Charlotte Squire. Please bring your own pen and paper. Learn how to get all that information out of your head and into a basic framework for your book; how to use your phone to record your story; what to do with your photos; how to publish your story and more.

It's on in Nelson Tasman

To keep up with events happening across the region, visit nelsontasman.nz/events.



Council hui

Meetings will take place in person and be live-streamed. To view live or previous meetings, visit youtube.com/@tasmandistrictcouncilmeetings. Unless otherwise stated, all meetings will be held at the Council Chamber, 189 Queen Street, Richmond. For details, visit tasman.govt.nz/meetings-calendar.

Golden Bay Recreation Park Management Committee

Monday 19 October, 10.30 am. Tākaka Service Centre, 78 Commercial Street.

Golden Bay Community Board

Monday 19 October, 1.00 pm. Tākaka Service Centre, 78 Commercial Street.

Motueka Community Board

Tuesday 20 October, 3.00 pm. Motueka Library Community Meeting Room.

Council Contracts and Procurement Committee

Thursday 22 October, 8.30 am. Heaphy Room, 189 Queen Street.

Strategy Finance and Performance Committee

Thursday 22 October, 9.30 am.

Animal Control Subcommittee

Tuesday 27 October, 1.00 pm.

Local Alcohol Policy Deliberations

Wednesday 28 October, 1.30 pm. No public forum.

Tasman District Council

Thursday 29 October, 9.30 am.

Emergency recovery period extended further

Tasman Mayor Tim King has extended the official emergency recovery period for Tasman District by another 28 days, continuing until Thursday 5 November 2026. This decision has been made in accordance with the powers provided under the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Act to ensure the continued safety and recovery of our communities.

Alcohol applications

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

Public holiday hours and services

On Monday 26 October for Labour Day, all service centres and libraries will be closed. Usual opening hours apply otherwise. We are always here to help when needed, call 03 543 8400 anytime.

There are no changes to the rubbish and recycling collections. All our resource recovery centres will be open as normal.

The eBuses on Routes 1, 2, 3 and 4 run on a reduced timetable on public holidays, while Routes 5 and 6 do not run on a public holiday. When viewing the timetables at ebus.nz select the holidays tab to see the schedules.

Rural sports funding closing soon

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 Saturday 31 October, so get in quick. For more information and to apply head to tasman.govt.nz/grants.

Maritime event

Event activity: Rabbit Island Rampage.
Date: 25 October 2026.

Location: Moturoa / Rabbit Island.

Under the provisions of the Navigation Safety Bylaw 2024, the Harbourmaster has granted authorisation for this event. Due to navigation safety requirements, water users not involved in this event may be excluded from defined areas during activities. Further details and any new events can be viewed at tasman.govt.nz/maritime-events.

Approved temporary road closures

Applicant: Westland Car Club

Event: Rally Sprint

Location: Matakita Road between 1.48km – 11.48km.

Date and time: Saturday 5 December 2026, 7.00 am – 7.00 pm.

Applicant: Richmond Unlimited

Event: Richmond Santa Parade

Location: Edward Street, Queen Street, McIndoe Place, Cambridge Street, Wensley Road, Washbourn Drive, Harkness Carpark, Salisbury Road.

Date and time: Sunday 6 December 2026, from 7.00 am Edward Street and 11.30 am all other roads, finishing Edward Street 2.00 pm and 3.00 pm all other roads.

Postponement date: Sunday 13 December 2026.

Applicant: Our Town Motueka

Event: Starlight Christmas Parade

Location: High Street from Poole Street down to Whakarewa Street, and Wallace Street from High Street down to the Decks Reserve Carpark.

Date and time: Friday 11 December 2026, from 6.00 pm for High Street and 3.00 pm for Wallace Street, finishing 9.00 pm.

Applicant: Nelson Marlborough

Traffic Management

Event: Tākaka Christmas Parade

Location: 5 Commercial Street to 100 Commercial Street SH60, and Junction Street and Reilly Street through to SH60.

Date and time: Saturday 12 December 2026, 9.30 am to 11.00 am.

Applicant: Richmond Unlimited

Event: Richmond Market

Location: Queen Street between John Wesley Lane and McIndoe Place.

Date and time: Monday 28 December 2026, 5.00 am – 6.30 pm.



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