



WELCOME TO OUR *Monthly Newsletter*

Chair Update



As we move further into the year, it's been fantastic to see the continued energy and positivity across our local business community.

Our recent Business After 5 networking function at the Dannevirke Regent Cinema was a great success, with a strong turnout, plenty of good conversation, and valuable connections being made. Events like these are a reminder of the strength that comes from businesses supporting one another, and we thank everyone who attended and contributed to such an enjoyable evening. Book your business in for one of these networking spotlighting events with one of our committee members.

Planning is also now well underway for one of Dannevirke's most loved community events; the Christmas Parade. It may seem early to be talking Christmas, but organising an event of this scale takes many hands and careful preparation. We are delighted to share that funding support from the Dannevirke Pharmacy has been secured to assist with the parade, helping ensure this cherished event continues to bring festive cheer to our community.

And we are working on making this a memorable day, watch this space as the year unfolds.

Thank you again for your ongoing support of the Chamber and of each other. Together we continue to build a vibrant and connected business community.

Your Chair,
Tracey Friend

In this newsletter:

Latest projects, events,
resources, and more.

Keep Reading!

Dates for your Diary:

- Chamber of Commerce After 5s Event : 26th May 2026, 5.15pm-Onwards
- The Dannevirke Market: 17th May 2026, 10am-1pm
- Food Bank Appeal Night: St Vincent De Paul x Dvk Regent Cinema "Holy Days Fundraiser" Film: 27th May 2026, 6pm-Onwards
- Dairy Women's Network: Pink Ribbon Breakfast Dannevirke: 29th May, 10am-1pm

Take the
BUDGET CHALLENGE 
Show us what matters most to you.

When everything matters, what matters most? Tararua District Council launches Budget Challenge to help shape the next 10 years

Tararua District Council is asking the community to help make some of the biggest decisions facing the district over the next decade.

As part of early engagement for its next Long Term Plan (2027–2037), Council has launched a new interactive tool, the Budget Challenge:
www.tararua.govt.nz/budgetchallenge

The online tool allows people to build their own version of the Council budget by choosing how much to invest across key services such as roads, parks, libraries, and environmental work. People who prefer non-digital options can also participate through a physical version of the challenge which is at Council service centres, or a printed version in the Bush Telegraph.

Feedback gathered during this early engagement phase will directly inform the development of the draft 2027–2037 Long Term Plan.

Council will analyse both individual responses and overall trends from the Budget Challenge, alongside feedback from community events and conversations across the district. This will help guide elected members as they decide what goes into the draft plan.

The early engagement period runs from 20 April to 31 May 2026.



business.
govt.
nz

Sick Leave:

What you need to know:

If your employees are sick, encourage them to stay home. It will give them a chance to recover, and it will prevent other people from getting sick.

Learn what to do when someone gets sick, what they're entitled to, and how to manage sick leave.

Learn more via:

<https://www.business.govt.nz/people-and-leave/leave-and-holidays/sick-leave>



1 in 6 New Zealanders are disabled. OneInSix.nz is your hub for information and resources to drive disability employment.

When you employ the 1 in 6 New Zealanders who are disabled, you'll experience more creativity, positive change, and stronger teams. Access advice, information and support to successfully employ disabled people in Aotearoa.

Check out OneInSix.nz - a free employer resource.

After 5s: **April 2026**



Our April After 5s event was hosted by Dannevirke Regent Cinema. Big thank you to Executive Committee and volunteers for hosting us.

The team was able to share with us the many milestones they have achieved since taking over almost 4 years ago. They also shared options on how the business community can help show support.

We had a great time watching a sneak peak of some new trailers and some of us were lucky enough to go behind the scenes into the projector room.

If you or your business is interested in hosting an After 5s event, please get in touch with the Chamber today: info@dannevirkechamber.co.nz



Looking for Professional Development (PD) opportunities for your team?

Tararua REAP offer a diverse range of engaging, practical courses that make great PD options, including:
Self Defence, Canva, Spreadsheets, Oamaru Stone Carving, Pounamu, Fire Warden Training, Psychological First Aid + More

Each session is designed to build confidence, develop useful skills, and create meaningful team learning experiences.

Get in touch to discuss the courses that would best suit your team and how we can tailor deliver courses to meet your needs.

<https://www.tararuareap.co.nz/courses-and-events>

April – May Service Spotlight

The Service Spotlight for April has now been extended to the end of May for DART Panel & Paint.

This gives everyone the opportunity for a chance to meet the team while also going into the draw to win a \$50 voucher to spend at any Chamber of Commerce Businesses.



DART Panel & Paint

Visit or Book in for any inquiries at:
9 Barraud Street Dannevirke,
Phone: (06) 374 8730

Host a Pink Ribbon Breakfast.

For the **10** New Zealand women who are diagnosed with breast cancer every day.

Host a catch up on Thursday, 21 May, or any day in May!
And – Receive your free host kit

Support New Zealand women with breast cancer
Feel great connecting with friends, workmates and whānau while raising life-saving funds to support breast cancer research, education and patient support. More info :
<https://fundraise.bcf.org.nz/event/pinkribbonbreakfast>

THE LAMASON-BUCHENWALD MEMORIAL PROJECT

WHAT DID PHIL LAMASON DO?

RNZAF Squadron Leader Phillip John (Phil) Lamason, NZA03460, DFC and Bar, (then aged 25 years) was, along with 167 other Allied airmen, wrongly Incarcerated in the horrific conditions of Buchenwald work/death camp in Nazi Germany in 1944.

Lamason quickly emerged as the natural leader of this disparate group of captives. Phil Lamason's determination, positivity, courage and non-violent selfless actions ultimately delivered justice for the group of airmen.

HOW YOU CAN HELP...

The Phil Lamason Heritage Centre Trust (Inc) Is a registered charity with the NZ Charities Commission, number CC52057.

Donations of (NZ) \$5.00 and over are eligible for tax credits.

Further donations to help ensure the satisfactory completion of this project can be made through the following channels:

Directly to The Phil Lamason Heritage Centre Trust (Inc) Account: 06-0613-0113032-00 (The Phil Lamason Heritage Centre Trust Inc, ANZ, Dannevirke.)
Through the link provided on the Trust's website: www.phillamason.com or by email to: contact@phillamason.co

By making contact directly with Mike Harold, Chairman of the Phil Lamason Heritage Centre Trust (Inc): 02102205413.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION VISIT:
www.phillamason.com



A message from Exec:

We would like to thank all of our members for your ongoing support, collaboration, and commitment to our local business community.

We remain committed to advocating for local businesses, creating opportunities for connection, and helping showcase everything that makes our community unique.



Book in for a **FREE DENTAL CHECK**

Keep your four-legged workforce in prime condition!

Valid until 30th June, TVS have free dental checks for working dogs - no cost and no obligation.

Call the clinic to book an appointment:
Dannevirke: 06 374 6062



REMINDER:
After 5s Event
hosted by MSD,
26th May 2026
5.15pm -
Onwards
RSVP NOW

YOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| • Tracey Friend – Chair | • Buffy Lock | • Robynne Cload |
| • Alison Amboy – Deputy Chair | • Buffy Mabey | • Calder Woodfield |
| • Xavier Labutte – Secretary | • Lindy Cooper | • Angela Strawbridge |
| • Julenne Nguyen – Treasurer | | |

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