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Volume 42, Number 38
October 1, 2026

French researcher visits Whanganui to learn about our river's legal personhood

BY DOUG DAVIDSON

In 2017, Te Awa o Whanganui became the world's first river to be recognised as a legal person, with the legislation continuing to attract international attention.

There have been many visits from academics and researchers from throughout the world wanting to find out how it has been working and with the possibility of promoting similar legislation in their countries.

The river's legal personhood was the outcome of more than a century of struggle by the local iwi for recognition of their rights and those of the river, reflecting their deep and long-standing connection with the river and its ecosystem.

Antoine Rieu, a lecturer in organisation studies and researcher specialising in social and environmental justice at Université Gustave Eiffel was here recently.

He says, "I have been inspired by many movements, but the Te Awa Tupua experience is one of the most significant ones." He points out that the French National Assembly has a draft bill submitted back in June regarding the Loire River, which "specifically mentions the Whanganui River in the preamble using language similar to 'Ko au te awa, ko te awa ko au – I am the river and the river is me'."

"Beyond legal personhood, the relationship between the local iwi and their awa has a lot to teach us, outside Aotearoa New Zealand too," Antoine says. "It's not about applying a one-size-fits-all solution, but about recognising the relationships that communities and organisations already have with their natural environments and shifting our values accordingly. Ultimately, it's about justice, self-determination and sustainability."

During his seven-week stay in Aotearoa New Zealand, Antoine met iwi representatives, members of Te Kōpuka nā Te Awa Tupua (the strategy group set up under the Te Awa Tupua Act, bringing together iwi, councils and river users to develop a shared strategy for the river), scientists, business representatives from a range of sectors, and members of the district and regional councils.

He also attended a hui of Te Kōpuka and the He Pūkenga Wai symposium. Early on, iwi told him to "go and meet the river". His one regret is that, as he visited in winter, he was unable to travel on the awa, something he hopes to do when he returns.

He also met with Keith Beautrais who is on Te Kōpuka nā Te Awa Tupua. Keith represents environmental interests. He has a personal interest not only in the Whanganui Te Awa Tupua, but also in what is happening in France regarding possible legal personhood with the Loire and the Seine Rivers. He explains: "My great-grandfather came to New Zealand and the upper Whanganui from the Loire area back in 1875. Our family has six generations of connections."

Keith says, "I've enjoyed the privilege of joining Te Kōpuka nā Te Awa Tupua. Local iwi have been very construc-



Keith Beautrais

tive, making it clear that we all belong." The positive wellbeing approach of the iwi can be seen, he adds, "in the 'Te Pūwaha river entrance' where their input and that of the community is strong. They take suggestions very seriously."

He gives the example of ensuring construction staff were given time for discussions on the cultural significance of the river. They also arranged for rock for the development to be brought in from the Whanganui River headwaters of Ruapehu rather than from Rangitīkei.



Antoine Rieu

Antoine plans to return to Whanganui to share his findings and discuss them with local iwi and river communities, to keep learning from them and to support their work. In the meantime, he will contribute to the two non-governmental organisations he belongs to, one on the rights of nature and the other on sustainability education, publish academic papers and reports, and incorporate the results into his university teaching.

It seems appropriate that his French surname of Rieu means "little river".

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New appliance delivery and install services offered

Whanganui locals delivering professional, reliable service

Born and bred in Whanganui, Brendon Easton has turned his local roots and industry experience into a business that's quickly becoming a trusted name across the region: Easton Appliance – Delivery & Install. The business provides fast, professional delivery and expert installation of appliances for both major retailers and private customers.

A business built from experience and community need

The company began around three months ago, after ARC's sudden closure left a noticeable gap in the appliance delivery and installation sector. Several of the younger appliance staff went on to start their own specialist businesses – one focusing on appliance repairs, another on small appliance repair work – and Brendon launched Easton Appliance – Delivery & Install.

Bronwyn, with her strong background in administration, now manages the business operations. Together, they've built a service that's efficient, friendly, and genuinely customer focused.

Brendon says, "We had been preparing for all eventualities. I enjoyed the work, and we already had a business plan ready to carry on doing what I love."

Growing demand from private customers

Easton Appliance works directly with individuals, a part of the business that's expanding rapidly. Brendon's hands on expertise means he can:

- Deliver and install all major appliances
- Set up TVs and complete wall mounting
- Assemble flat pack furniture
- Provide patient, knowledgeable guidance during setup

Bronwyn describes him as "an absolute whiz" with "plenty of patience".

Full service – including recycling and removal

Brendon offers a complete service, including removal of old appliances for a small fee. Wherever possible, he recycles items through local organisations and companies, keeping waste out of landfill and supporting community initiatives.

Local people, local service

Having attended Gonville, Rutherford and Boys' College, Brendon is deeply connected to Whanganui. His business reflects that — reliable, hardworking, and committed to helping locals get their homes set up properly.

Contact Bronwyn for all booking information: 022-479-5020



Brendon Easton ready to install your new appliance or flat-pack

Port Cruise on the Wairua riverboat this Saturday

The Motor Vessel Wairua's navy cadet fundraiser port cruise had to be postponed as it was too windy. It will now be on Saturday 3 October.

There are some seats left. The cost is $60 for adults, $30 for a child or $150 for a family at 4. You can book at info@motorvesselwairua.co.nz.

The cruise will depart opposite Pākaitore/Moutoa Gardens at 4.30pm sharp. It will take 90 minutes, and Sam Mordey of the Wairua will provide the commentary. He has run this cruise a number of times and they have proved to be very popular.

All money raised will go to the TS Calliope, which is the local Navy Cadet unit for young people aged 13 to 20. They meet every Wednesday from 6.45 to 9.15pm during school terms. The aim of the programme is to develop self-disciplined, confident and responsible young people through military-style leadership training. They engage in hands-on activities like sailing, powerboating, robotics, drone flying, first aid, firearm safety and community service.

The fundraising is to replace vital safety gear, such as VHF radios and life jackets.

Bringing a bit of German to Whanganui with Oktoberfest this Saturday

Brass, beer, food and a few polkas – what more could you want from a Saturday night?

Oktoberfest Whanganui is back for its third year, with music from Brass Whanganui, once again bringing a little bit of Germany to the Whanganui Musicians Club.

The first Oktoberfest in this series was held in 2024 and attracted over 100 people. It was a great night and, judging by the response, something Whanganui was keen to see again. Last year's event proved that it wasn't just a one-off, and now it is back for round three.

Brass bands and Oktoberfest have always gone pretty well together, so Brass Whanganui will be doing what brass bands do best – filling the room with plenty of loud, lively music. Expect oompah tunes, polkas and some familiar favourites, with plenty of opportunities to sing along, tap your feet and perhaps get up and have a dance.

There will be beer from Lumberjack Brewing in Te Puke, owned by Brass Whanganui member Ian O'Malley. There will also be German-inspired food, because you can't really have an Oktoberfest without something good to eat!

Dressing up is encouraged, although you certainly don't need to go out and buy a pair of lederhosen especially for the occasion. Come as you are, come in costume, or just come along for the music and a few drinks with friends.

So gather a few friends, come along for the evening, and see what all the oompah is about.

Oktoberfest Whanganui is on Saturday, 3 October, 5–9pm at the Whanganui Musicians Club. The event is R18. Tickets from OktoberfestWhanganui.co.nz



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95 year old moves to Whanganui to train for NZ Masters Games

An athlete described as inspirational by celebrated Whanganui coach Alec McNab is now living in the River City.

He's Jim Blair, aged 95, who is training at Williams Domain for next year's Downer New Zealand Masters' Games.

Jim has had a lot of success at World Masters' Games, having won gold medals in Finland, South Korea and Poland, along with silver and bronze medals in various countries.

He was in jumping events in his younger days, but will be in throwing events at the Masters' Games next year.

He said he would retire as an athlete when he could no longer compete.

He remains effective in age group competition. He broke a world record for the weight throw in Australia this year.

He might not have many competitors in his 95–99 age group next year in Whanganui. But he said that, while he might win by default, he enjoyed meeting 80–85 year olds.

Jim has played a variety of sports at a good level in his recreational career. He recalled on the West Coast of the South Island a busy sporting day and night.

He refereed two Saturday morning soccer games, played rugby at 1pm, soccer at 2.45pm and then played indoor basketball for West Coast against a touring Mormons' team in the evening.



Jim Blair throwing a javelin

Jim was chosen to play in 1956 for the New Zealand football team. He was offered a trial with Aston Villa in England, but reluctantly declined the opportunity because he was starting a family and building a house.

One of his enjoyable sporting moments was playing football in an Old Timers' game with New Zealand's most distinguished player, Winton Rufer.

Jim is pleased to have settled in Whanganui. He described the city as having a very good climate and being a nice place to be in being not too large.

He said he had known Whanganui as a younger man through football and cricket. His late brother Bob played cricket for New Zealand, opening the bowling.

Alec McNab described Jim Blair as not only inspirational but remarkable. He said Jim had attended club nights at Whanganui, and young club members could not believe his age.

"He still competes well," Alec said.

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Whanganui landmarks shine a pink light on breast cancer

Whanganui will be hard to miss this Breast Cancer Awareness Month, with three local landmarks set to light up in bright pink during October.

The Royal Whanganui Opera House, Virginia Lake Fountain and War Memorial Centre are taking part in the Global Illuminations campaign, joining a total of 114 landmarks and prominent buildings glowing pink all across Aotearoa.

The pink lights are more than an eye-catching display – they're a show of support for New Zealanders affected by breast cancer. They're also a powerful reminder that finding breast cancer early gives people the greatest chance of successful treatment and survival.

The campaign also shines a light on Breast Cancer Foundation NZ's Pink Ribbon Street Appeal, happening on Friday 16 and Saturday 17 October. Thousands of volunteers will be out with their pink buckets, raising money for the charity's vital work in breast health education, research, specialist nursing support, and advocacy for faster and fairer diagnosis and care.

Breast Cancer Foundation NZ chief executive Vanessa Sorenson says seeing communities turn pink shows what can happen when people come together: "Every year, more than 3,700 New Zealanders are diagnosed with breast cancer and around 650 die from it. Behind every number is someone who matters deeply to their whānau, friends and community – and we know more of those lives can be saved.

"When Whanganui lights up in pink, we hope it gets people talking and reminds them to take care of their breast health. Know what is normal for your breasts, have any changes checked by a doctor and attend mammograms when you're eligible.

"There are so many ways to play a part this October. You can volunteer for the Pink Ribbon Street Appeal, make a donation, share reliable breast health information or simply remind someone you care about to check their breasts. Every action takes us closer to a future where more people with breast cancer live – and live well."



Royal Whanganui Opera House lit up pink

Breast Cancer Foundation NZ encourages women of all ages to get to know the normal look and feel of their breasts and regularly check for changes. Most breast changes won't be cancer, but any new or unusual change should be checked by a doctor. From age 45, women can have a free mammogram every two years through BreastScreen Aotearoa.

Volunteers are still needed for the Pink Ribbon Street Appeal. To sign up or find other ways to get involved in Breast Cancer Awareness Month, visit breastcancerfoundation.org.nz/bcam

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Musicians Club's Fandangle Tribute to Annie

Whanganui lost one of its formidable creative talents earlier this month with the passing of the wonderful Annie Keating. Annie was a founding member of our thriving Musicians Club whose success has a lot to do with her work over many years as club Secretary. As with everything she did throughout her life, Annie poured her heart and soul into the club, and she will be greatly missed.



Annie Keating. Photo credit: Bevan Conley

That is why the club's October meeting will be a *Fandangle Tribute to Annie*, ("fandangle" being a term of affection used often by her father when she was growing up). Her brother Johnny will be performing with his band Outawork Genius, and already Whanganui favourites the Rustlers and Bad Juju have put their bands forward to join in the celebration.

This is Fridaynui, the first Friday of the month, and Whanganui's most celebrated Open Mic kicks off at 7pm. There is sure to be a wealth of local talent coming out to join the party, so make sure you come early to put your name on the whiteboard if you want a spot on the famous stage.

The club nights have been rock solid all winter, and we look forward to having you join us whether you come to perform, dance to the music or simply enjoy an evening of great entertainment with people who meet regularly to keep the music live. This month is dedicated to Annie and all her whānau and friends. Come join us.

Friday 2 October, 7pm at Whanganui Musicians Club, 65 Drews Ave. General admission $20, members $10 – memberships available at the door.

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Beatlemania set to take over New Zealand



Beatlemania On Tour Announces National New Zealand Tour for Oct-Nov 2026

Get ready to 'Twist & Shout!' as the Beatlemania On Tour tribute concert heads to New Zealand for a full national tour this October and November. The show will be at the Royal Whanganui Opera House on 24 October, 8pm.

Since launching in 2009, the Australian-based production has built a global following, selling out performances across North America, Europe, South Africa, Middle East, Asia and Australia. Now the show returns to New Zealand for the first time in 10 years, with a celebration of the music that defined a generation.

Audiences can expect a two-hour audio-visual spectacular featuring over 40 of The Beatles' greatest hits performed live and in their original key. With meticulous attention to detail, replica costumes, period instruments and theatrical lighting, the production captures the energy and spirit of the world's most influential band.

The show's setlist reads like a soundtrack to the 1960s, including classics such as Hey Jude, All You Need Is Love, Yellow Submarine, Let It Be, Twist & Shout, Yesterday, Come Together, Get Back, Love Me Do, Blackbird, Help!, Eleanor Rigby, Here Comes the Sun and Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band, among many others.

This is more than a concert, it's a celebration of music history that's not to be missed! Visit beatlemaniaontour.com for tickets and more information.

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Tickets from Ticketek.co.nz or the Royal Whanganui Opera House



Top hats, tails and villians - the sinister side of Victorian style

By Karen Hughes

This October, the Museum's *Outfit of the Month* fashion talk takes a darker turn, exploring two items of 1870s men's fashion – and the toxic legacy hidden beneath the stately appearance of a Victorian top hat.

Stephanie Wood, the Museum's Kaihāpai Taonga/Curator, Fashion and Textiles, will examine a beaver-fur top hat and a men's black worsted wool dress suit from the Museum's collection. With Halloween approaching, Steph will explore both the Gothic associations of Victorian fashion and the harmful effects of fur hat production in the 19th century.

The process used to cure animal pelts and turn fur into felt for hats, known as carotting, involved mercuric nitrate. Prolonged exposure to mercury vapours could cause mercury poisoning, including a condition known as erethism or 'mad hatter disease'. Symptoms could include behavioural and mood changes, hallucinations, tremors, memory loss and seizures.

The phrase 'mad as a hatter' became associated with the effects of mercury exposure among hat makers and later entered popular culture through characters such as Lewis Carroll's Mad Hatter in Alice's Adventures in Wonderland.

"The Victorian period gave us some wonderfully dramatic fashions – tall hats, dark suits and silhouettes that could look elegant or imposing," says Stephanie. "But beneath that stately appearance is a much darker history."

"And then there's the Gothic side of Victorian fashion. Add a little fog, a darkened street and a character with questionable intentions, and you have the visual language of Gothic horror. It's fascinating to see how real fashions of the time have become so strongly connected with the villains we know from popular culture."

The black beaver-fur top hat belonged to John Randal, who migrated from England to Whanganui in 1875. A skilled builder, Randal constructed houses, businesses and several churches in the district. It is one of 88 objects and photographs from the collection of the Randal family of 'Titchfield', later 'Holly Lodge', at Papaiti, Whanganui.

Regular followers of the *Outfit of the Month* series may recall the 1910s muslin dress featured in March, which also came from the Randal family collection. The collection was donated to the Museum by Annie and John Randal's granddaughter, Mrs Evelyn Vincent (Evelyn Dorothy Randal), in 1985.

The second item to feature in the talk is a black worsted wool dress suit made by London tailor Curtis & Brooks of Fleet Street and donated by Mrs Wooten from the estate of Mrs H.B. Fitzherbert in 1979.

The *Outfit of the Month* talk takes place at Whanganui Regional Museum at 12.15pm on Friday 2 October. The talk is free and no booking is required. Koha (donations) to support the Museum's ongoing heritage preservation work are always welcomed.

The top hat and dress suit will remain on display throughout October.



Photographer & Collections Assistant (Kaiwhakaahua me te Kaiāwhina Kohinga), Kathy Greensides holds the beaver-fur top hat.
Photo credit: Karen Hughes/Whanganui Regional Museum

Pigeon racing results

The pigeons were liberated at Otorohonga again but the weather conditions were more of a challenge for the birds. This showed in the results with the birds arriving home various groups rather than all together.

Congratulations go to Brad Fairweather whose bird clocked in at 11.35.03. Its speed was 1279.24m/m or 76.754km/hr. Next was Heather Verstraeten 1276.99m/m or 76.619km/hr. Third was Alois Verstraeten 1276.57m/m or 76.594km/hr, followed by Jim Pullins 1272.21m/m or 76.332km/hr, Dave Lact 1256.58m/m or 75.348km/hr, Shane Guddop 1247.52m/m or 74.875m/m and Don Lacy 1176.18m/m or 70.57km/hr.

Next weekend, most of the pigeons will race from Riverhead while a small number will fly from Owhiro Bay to prepare them for racing from the South Island.

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INTERNATIONAL COFFEE DAY

OCTOBER 1



Globally 125 million people depend on coffee for their livelihoods

International Coffee Day is a global celebration held every year on 1 October, honouring one of the world's most beloved beverages – and the people behind every cup. From farmers and roasters to baristas and everyday coffee lovers, this day highlights the journey of coffee from bean to brew. More than just a morning ritual, coffee is a cultural connector, a community builder and an economic lifeline for millions across the globe.

International Coffee Day now serves as a global platform to promote sustainable coffee practices, support smallholder farmers and celebrate innovation in the coffee industry.

While coffee is enjoyed in countless ways across the world – from Italian espresso bars and Swedish fika breaks to Ethiopian coffee ceremonies and Vietnamese iced coffee – the shared love of this aromatic beverage brings people together in a way few other drinks can.

On International Coffee Day, people are encouraged to learn more about where their coffee comes from, the people who grow it and how their choices as consumers can drive ethical, sustainable change.

Globally, more than 125 million people depend on coffee for their livelihoods. Yet many coffee farmers live below the poverty line, facing volatile markets, climate change and limited access to resources. Smallholder farmers produce roughly 70 percent of the world's coffee, yet they often receive just a fraction of the value their beans generate in the market.



This day is about closing that gap. By raising awareness of fair trade, organic practices and direct trade relationships, International Coffee Day helps consumers and companies make better choices. It reminds us that behind every latte is a farmer, a field and a fragile system that needs support.

It also invites a deeper appreciation for the art and science of coffee – from the baristas who perfect every pour to the innovators improving processing techniques to reduce waste. At its core, International Coffee Day is about justice, joy and connection. It's about saying thank you to the people who make coffee possible – and ensuring they have a future in it.

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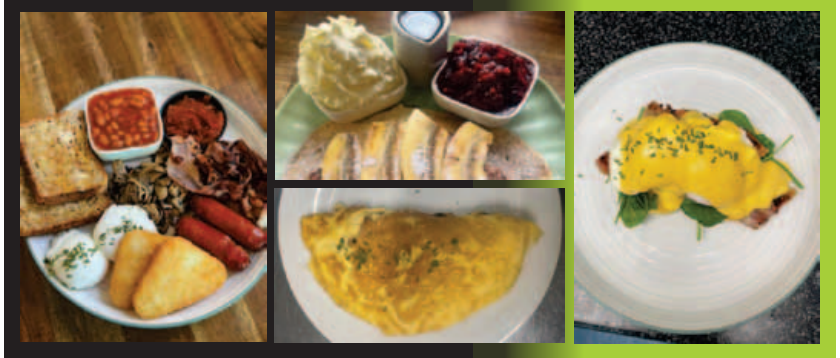
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Connecting with Carl

- By Carl Bates, MP for Whanganui -

Earthquakes, free trade and fewer consents



What do earthquakes, free trade and fewer consents have in common?

They all relate to laws passed in the closing weeks of the 54th Parliament, without the need for any new taxes to be introduced.

Firstly, Parliament unanimously refocused the earthquake-prone building (EPB) system to make it more in proportion to actual risk. The new laws appropriately focus on risk to life, saving communities billions in remediation costs. For Whanganui alone, the saving will be around $24 million.

As we could see occurring with some buildings in town, expensive and often unrealistic remediation costs that are disproportionate to risk, threaten buildings becoming derelict. As a result of the changes, low-risk concrete and wooden buildings will no longer have EPB status. Instead, we are enabling those savings to be invested elsewhere, to grow businesses, jobs and the economy.

Secondly, back in 2023, National promised to sign a free trade agreement with India in our first term in government. Not only did Prime Minister Christopher Luxon deliver on that promise, the New Zealand and Indian Governments have now ratified it.

For Whanganui and our wider region, the opportunities provided by the India FTA are exciting. Sheep meat and wool become tariff-free from 20 October, the day the agreement comes into force. 95% of our timber and wood products exported to India will also be tariff-free from day one.

Indian consumers love our m?nuka honey, and with tariffs reducing by 75% over five years, we will see more of our region s manuka honey exported there. Importantly, New Zealand is the first country to be given a tariff reduction for honey products by India, which gives our local honey producers a massive opportunity.

Thirdly, the Resource Management Act (RMA) was well-intentioned when it was first passed in 1991, but over the ensuing years its changes made it unfit for purpose. Last week, New Zealand's planning laws got a major shake-up when National delivered on another 2023 commitment repealing and replacing it to enable things to get done across the country.

The new legislation provides a faster, clearer, and less costly planning system that better supports housing, infrastructure, primary production, and economic growth, while protecting our natural environment.

For our farmers and growers, the changes remove unnecessary complexity, better reflect real-world farming and horticultural practices, and provide greater certainty for investment and day-to-day operations. The changes aim to cut consents by around 45%, allowing developments to proceed without a resource consent if they follow the plan and stay within set environmental limits.

Reducing red tape and supporting innovation and trade are key drivers to growing the New Zealand economy. These three changes reflect National s focus on fixing the basics underpinning our economy, at the same time as building the future for every Kiwi.



Farmers, as in this recent woolshed meeting with Hon Mike Butterick, are positive at the prospect of tariff-free trade with India

Rachel Gray awarded 'Residential Rising Star Salesperson of the Year' - across all NZ Real Estate companies

A couple of weeks ago, Rachel Gray had a week that reads like a highlight reel. It was the week she won a REINZ Award, sold five properties, and placed in the Top 20 for the region with Property Brokers. Rachel has been a real estate agent for only two years.

Vicky Todd, Branch Manager for Property Brokers Whanganui/Waverley said, "Rachel's achievements so far are a testament to her level of professionalism and the way she looks after her clients."

Rachel came to Whanganui in 2006 with her family from Auckland, and very soon Whanganui felt like home. The community welcomed her, the pace suited her, and the lifestyle offered something Auckland never quite could: space to breathe, grow, and build a life that felt deeply connected.

Rachel built up her interior design business but then she decided on a career change. She sat down, looked at her life, and asked herself what she truly wanted in a career. She wanted challenge, variety, connection and purpose.

Real estate was the only profession that ticked every box. And once she stepped into it, everything clicked. The pace, the relationships, the problem solving – it all felt like home.



Rachel Gray

Real estate didn't just become her career. It became her passion.

Her success wasn't luck. It was the culmination of years of consistency, long days, late nights, and a reputation built on trust. She admits she is a workaholic. Real estate isn't just a job for her – it's a rhythm she lives in. She's always thinking, planning, organising, and pushing forward.

A complicated marital separation showed her inner strength. She discovered resilience she didn't know she had, independence she hadn't yet claimed, and a sense of self that now anchors her.

It didn't break her. It built her. And it shaped the woman she is today – grounded, confident, and quietly formidable.

The next chapter is full of possibility. Rachel is looking forward to more adventures with her partner, new professional goals, and – if her track record is anything to go by – a few more real estate awards.

REVIEW: Lin Duo / Departure

Concert Chamber War Memorial Centre Sept 02

Reviewer: Albert Sword

Another amazingly eclectic concert from Chamber Music Whanganui/New Zealand, almost impossible for one reviewer to encapsulate the enormous program. From Baroque (J S Bach), to Romantic (Johannes Brahms), to Modern (Bartók; Kodály; Webern; Ping). A HUGE program for these two master musicians, totally riveting, with committed and appreciative listening from the CMW audience.



Tony Lin and Dolfin-Lin Duo

Tony Lin's excellent notes lay out the concert and how the Dolfin-Lin Duo came about. Dolfin and Lin met at a music festival in Italy in 2021. Since then, they have explored much of the sonata form chamber music available, resulting in this excellent program.

The Kodály Magyar Rondo was a perfect introduction to the moderns to come. Kodály's music makes me purr with pleasure, and the duo understood and read Kodály flawlessly. Webern's 1928 Sonata, very brief, only one page of music, but conforms to all sonata 'rules,' lay undiscovered until 1965. To quote Lin… packs a powerful dose of highly condensed expressionism, charged gestures and volatile mood shifts.

An interesting mood swing before the incomparable JSBach: D major, Sonata for Viola da Gamba and Harpsichord, which, as with many of Bach's works, started off with different instrumentation, and has settled here, perfectly, into Cello and Piano. Gorgeous, witty, energetic and yes, just plain joyful. Dolfin and Lin at their relaxed, wonderful best.

The Gao Ping sonata Departure makes for another superlative: deep understanding of a combination of Chinese and Western cultures and classical music making. Lin has long championed Gao Ping. Ping can be challenging, even for the most sophisticated listener, but, in the hands of Lin and Dolfin, the challenge is accepted. I like to listen to Ping, eyes firmly shut, and revel in the musicianship of the master duo.

Sometimes when hearing a duo, it is possible to hear one instrument over the other. I seem to hear the cello dominant in Bartók's Rhapsody #1. Of course, the piano is there, always a perfect partner, but my ears seem to pick up the cello. Here Dolfin shows off his thrilling, truly impeccable technique. Bartók often uses folk dances and songs, always recognisable, within his music. Joyous.

And the final offering in this programme, Brahms' Sonata #1 in E minor/ OP38, older in form but firmly rooted within the Romantic period, and a joy for performers and listeners alike. The two musicians interweave and play, passing the lead generously and effortlessly. Lin says '…has a dream-like charm…,' and of course he is spot on; the fugal counterpoint, pure Brahms delight, delight, delight.

Chamber Music Whanganui again has given us a most wonderful concert. Bravo tutti!

Horizons Notes

A personal view with Cr Alan Taylor



One of the most rewarding tasks I have had while a councillor at Horizons has been as panel member responsible for assessing our environmental grant money applications. These applications are made by community groups to the Kanora Kaiora Taketake Indigenous Biodiversity Fund, the Pūtea Hapori Urupare Ahuarangi Community Climate Response Fund, and the Freshwater Community Grants Fund. We were delighted with the quality and aspirations of the proposed projects.

In total, grants approved for the year amounted to near $550,000 from this funding.

Applications seek community (public) driving of projects that enhance our region's biodiversity and improve resilience to the challenges of climate change and freshwater degradation. Sometimes, understandably, these objectives merge, because that's how our environment works as we appreciate the interconnectedness of all things physical and metaphysical. Council appreciates this joined-up (sometimes called "donut" or "circular") thinking. A common trait has been the success of applications that involve education of our young people (from pre-school through secondary school level) reminding us that it's never too early to begin to appreciate te taiao (the environment). Examples of successful applications include harvesting of rainwater by pre-schoolers in Ohakune, natural environment restoration by secondary pupils of Dannevirke High school which will incorporate biodiversity and freshwater enhancement through an understanding of western science and an appreciation of mātauranga Māori, further planting and restoration of the Somme Parade riverbank in Whanganui, and a four-partner collaboration investigation of freshwater contaminant levels in the Whanganui and Kai Iwi catchments.

Whanganui was more than well-represented in the applications, leaving me proud of the enthusiasm expressed and quality of applications from our district.

Applications for 2027 funding open in the new year. If you have a project you believe worthy of consideration, please check out the criteria on our website (www.horizons.govt.nz).

Ko te taiao te pokapū o ngā mea katoa e mahia ana e mātou (the environment is at the centre of everything we do).

– Alan Taylor

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Across all NZ real estate companies



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Open Day this Saturday with free beginners ballet and preschool class

Whanganui Ballet and Dance Academy (WBDA) has completed a very successful year of ballet, modern and contemporary examinations.

Vocational exams for Royal Academy of Dance provide serious ballet students with pathway training towards professional training and/or teaching careers.

This year, eight senior students sat RAD vocational exams. One person received High Distinction (over 85%), five received Distinction (75% to 84%), and two High Merit (65% to 74%).

We encourage high achievement at WBDA, by providing a teaching environment that encourages discipline, growth and the "how and why" of technique.

Artistry is encouraged by musical awareness and fostering the joy of dance in our non-syllabus classes, a touring group and biannual productions at the Whanganui Royal Opera House.

We also offer contemporary, modern and hip hop classes as an alternative to ballet.



Beginners ballet class



Shiloh, Emily, Emma and Payton recently sat RAD Vocational exams and passed with Distinction.

One of our most popular classes is preschool dance.

"I really believe that developing a preschoolers imagination alongside basic movement skills, gives them confidence and self belief. It really does set children up for their school years and is also a stepping stone towards more formal dance and sport training," says WBDA Director Anna.

Come along to our Open Day this Saturday to try a free Beginners Ballet and Preschool class (10.30am Preschool dance and 11.15am Beginners ballet).

Please contact Anna for information regarding our full schedule of classes.

Anna Chandulal, MA Hons, RAD RTS, ARAD, ISTD Associate Dip | Director

Whanganui Ballet & Dance Academy

E: anna@whanganuiballet.co.nz

M: 64 27 237 9176

W: Whanganuiballet.co.nz

AMBRIANA 2-in-1 Outdoor Jacket designed in Whanganui

Kiri McKee and her partner have been providing free mobile shower services through their community initiative, Hope Mobile Showers.

Kiri says, "Witnessing first-hand the effects of cold on our community, from our elderly to those who are vulnerable, I saw another need – practical clothing that could provide more than warmth.

Twelve months later, after working through four developing designs, Kiri has created the AMBRIANA™ 2-in-1 Outdoor Jacket, designed for durability, protection and breathable comfort. While wearing a sample around town, Kiri has been approached by people drawn to the jacket's look and obvious warmth.

The black AMBRIANA™ jacket is made from softshell, while the other two use different fabric combinations, including wool, calico and durable wear-and-tear fabrics. All feature a hood and two zips.

AMBRIANA™ 2–in–1 is a jacket first. What distinguishes it from other warm jackets is its integrated extension, neatly tucked inside and released by undoing the domes. It transforms the jacket into a comfortable space to sit or rest, with a unique feature allowing your feet to be tucked inside and sealed with zips and domes for added warmth, comfort and protection.

AMBRIANA™ 2–in–1 is designed for people who spend time outdoors, travel, camp, weekends at the marae, support loved ones from the sidelines, or simply need extra warmth and comfort. As Kiri says, "AMBRIANA is designed around real-life needs."

Registered in New Zealand under Design Registration No. 437415, AMBRIANA™ 2–in–1 jacket also comes with a convenient carry bag. The name was inspired by Kiri's family ancestry and her Irish lineage on her father's side.

Kiri continues to uphold her community commitments through her Give Back initiative, the "Jacket Metre". As the brand grows, the initiative will contribute towards providing jackets to people in need.

This is Kiri's first product, with children's sizes nearly complete and future apparel and outerwear planned as the brand develops. Her motto is simple: "If you have a vision, don't let anything hold you back – just do it."

As she says, "Giving back is not simply something we do alongside the brand. It is part of who we are. Warmth with purpose. Clothing with care."

AMBRIANA™ can be found at ambriana.co.nz.



Kiri models one of her jackets

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One man, one guitar: Paul Ubana Jones bring virtuoso magic to Whanganui

Guitar wizard Paul Ubana Jones is touring, and Whanganui is on his schedule. Porridge Watson is hosting his unique acoustic style for a one-off evening performance on 3 October.

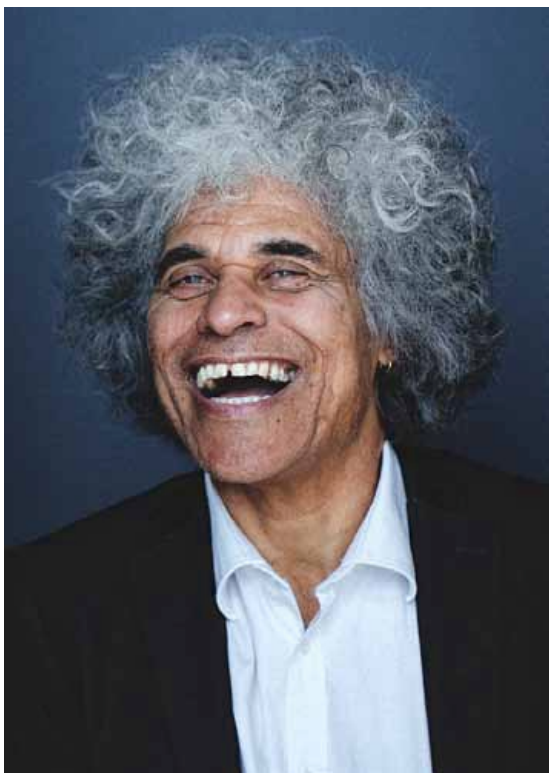
If you haven't experienced the sound of Paul Ubana Jones, then this this your chance: expect a unique blend of blues, soul, folk, rock, and jazz, complex fingerpicking, and a highly improvisational solo performance from this singer-songwriter with a career spanning over four decades. Those who know, know, and are bound to make their way to Porridge Watson for an evening with Paul Ubana Jones.

Throughout his career, Paul has shared the stage and toured with the best: BB King, Bob Dylan, Taj Mahal, Keb Mo and Crowded House.

Porridge Watson, 30 Drews Ave

Saturday, 3 October, 7pm

Tickets at undertheradar.co.nz



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Whanganui's Driving Miss Daisy wins New Franchisee of the Year Award 2026

Ray Jaggard and Maryann Roberts, owners of Whanganui's Driving Miss Daisy franchise, attended the recent Driving Miss Daisy Conference in Christchurch to connect with other franchisees, the head office team, and business support. They came away with more than face-to-face connections, receiving the New Franchisee of the Year Award 2026.

It was a humbling moment for the couple whose core focus is providing the best service they can for their clients. Taking over the service about 15 months ago, their top priority has been "treating people right, respecting people, and just looking after them" – a team that delivers.

Ray says, "We never thought it was going to be us. We were just there to enjoy the weekend. To connect with all the other people and throw ideas around.

"I messaged all the team that night with a photo of us holding the award, and said, 'Congratulations, guys. This is not just me and Maryann, it's all of you.'"

What made Driving Miss Daisy Whanganui the winner ahead of the 10 other new franchisees?

The team's high standard of professionalism, respectfulness and caring, and the great feedback clients and businesses gave to Driving Miss Daisy Head Office, including feedback from rest homes. For Ray, Maryann and the team, this reason alone is a massive source of pride.

But there is more: Ray and Maryann have doubled their fleet from two to four, with a fifth on the way; four of the vehicles are designed to carry wheelchairs. The team of companion drivers has grown from three to eight, and a strict training process has kept everyone on the same page, delivering consistent service.

"We're one of the first franchises in the country to actually have every single team member complete all the training before they even start work," says Ray.

The top-notch training, like all aspects of the business, is about people: keeping them safe and connected to the community.

It's real contact, including over the phone. Ray says, "I think one of the biggest things is when a client rings, they talk to a person. That makes a massive difference. They feel comfortable because they know we've got the message: 'Yes, we've got your booking, and we will be there.' And it's that reliability that takes all the anxiety away."

From grocery shopping and important appointments to outings, Ray says, "We are family when family can't be there." Driving Miss Daisy is there for you 24/7, 365 days a year, with door-to-door service. Ray has even started taking bookings for Christmas Day!

Speaking of Christmas, Ray and Maryann will be throwing an extra special Christmas celebration for the team, but as for details, his lips are sealed.

Maryann, who is the principal at Aranui School, will no doubt be at the top of Santa's Nice list this year, too. Because, as Ray says, "At the weekends, when I need a break or if I'm out driving, she'll answer the phones and assist clients. She's wonderful."

For more about the team, follow the Facebook page: Driving Miss Daisy Whanganui.



The team at Driving Miss Daisy Whanganui

Art Over East celebrating birthday with a public open day

Art Over East has decided to celebrate their third birthday by holding an Open Day on 5 October 2026. This group of talented people get together every Monday to create their art and share their skills and knowledge while having a few laughs. Then they enjoy a social cuppa with their lunch.

The group is working towards a big exhibition in 2027 so the idea of an Open Day to display their work this year and invite everyone – the public, friends and family – to come and watch them work was greeted as a great idea.

Come and visit our friendly space, talk to the artists, and have a chat and a cuppa as well. Each artist will be working, but also showing their work. There will be art for sale (cash or online banking but not eftpos). Our group works in a variety of different media and styles, from pencil drawings to water colour, acrylics and pastel. Landscapes, botanicals, portraits and abstracts, bold colours and delicate fine work – it will all be found in this group.

For those who would like to have a go, there will be some spare art supplies and a table – maybe you have a hidden desire to paint or draw or even a long-forgotten talent that could unfold.

Art Over East meets at the St James Church Hall Boydfield Street every Monday from 9.30am to 3pm.

We look forward to welcoming you all on 5 October any time between 9.30am and 3pm.

Any questions please contact Sandy Leaitua on 02108771987, Gordon Mauff on 022 5849 542 or Tina Wright on 021 119 3142.



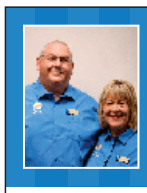
ART OVER EAST

OPEN DAY

Monday 5 October 2026
9.30am to 3pm
St James Church Hall,
Boydfield Street, Whanganui East

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There will be artworks on display and some for sale.



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PETS



Pet allergies: a spring problem worth taking seriously

Spring may bring longer days and the first signs of warmer weather, but for pets it can also bring a sharp spike in allergic reactions. PD Insurance claims data reveals allergic reaction claims surged approximately 182% from winter to spring in 2025, with spring recording nearly three times as many allergic reactions as winter.

The reasons behind allergic reactions can vary considerably. Some are relatively easy to identify, while others remain a mystery even after a veterinary examination. The signs can range from mild to potentially life-threatening. Pets experiencing an allergic reaction may show itching, agitation, panting, swelling, rashes, sneezing, congestion, inflammation, vomiting, lethargy, trouble breathing or eye discharge, to name some signs.

Potential triggers can include, but are not limited to, inhaled or contact allergens, to parasites, insect bites and stings, and secondary yeast or bacterial infections. Michelle Le Long, COO of PD Insurance, says knowing what's behind a reaction can help pet owners take practical steps to manage it. "Where possible, reducing exposure to known triggers, such as checking your pet after time outdoors, can help minimise reactions alongside any treatment recommended by your vet."

Start with the signs and keep a record

Dr Hayley Hunt, Chair of PD's veterinary partner Healthy Pets NZ, says dogs are generally more susceptible to seasonal allergies than cats as they often spend more time outside and in different places. Environmental triggers can produce a reaction similar to hay fever in humans, and for some pets the problem can persist for years.

"The challenge is that there isn't always one obvious cause," she says. "There can be multiple allergens, and they can change with time and exposure." For pet owners trying to work out what is triggering a reaction, Dr Hunt recommends keeping an 'itch diary'.

Note where your dog has been, what they have been doing, when the signs appear and whether there are particular times or locations where things become worse. If you are using a treatment, record how your pet responds to it. Photographs can also be useful. As Dr Hunt points out, pets have a habit of appearing considerably healthier once they arrive at the veterinary clinic, and some signs can appear and disappear rapidly.

Shampoos, food and bedding are not confined to a specific season but can also play a part. Dust, mould and pollen accumulating where a pet sleeps may contribute to ongoing irritation. The objective isn't necessarily to diagnose the allergy at home. Rather, the information can help build a clearer picture for the vet and potentially narrow down what is causing the reaction.

Bites, stings and plant exposure

Claims from 2025 included reactions associated with bee and insect stings, spider bites, bluebottle stings and contact with plants such as wandering jew (Tradescantia). Examples include pets developing swollen faces, widespread red lumps, rashes and inflamed paws, while others experienced vomiting, lethargy, excessive licking or sneezing.

Ongoing treatment

Le Long says "Certain breeds such as terriers, retrievers and bulldogs, to name a few, are especially known to be allergy-prone."

Depending on the individual animal and veterinary advice, management can include washes, topical treatments, tablets or injections.

Ultimately, navigating through the peak allergy season requires a bit of proactive care. By combining a watchful eye with professional veterinary support, owners can keep their pets comfortable and safe through severe seasonal spikes, and all year round.

The reluctant dog trainer - puppies

Puppies are baby dogs. Just as babies are baby humans.

Babies *and* puppies have relatively few needs: sleep, food, companionship and to be made physically comfortable.

The difference is that baby humans cry while baby dogs bite and nip.

Until your puppy learns that you know when and how to help them, biting is one of the ways they use to tell you something is wrong. The *louder* they have to ask, the harder and more desperately they bite.

So, before thinking that biting is "wrong", answer these questions for your pup.

Is my puppy tired?

During the day, pups need about an hour of awake time, broken up by periods of undisturbed sleep, for as long as possible. When a pup loses concentration and starts biting or chewing everything, that's usually your "bedtime" cue.

Does my puppy need me?

You are their world. It's easy to look at them, talk to them and be around them without being *with* them. Sit on the floor. Let them climb on you. Love them in *their* world for a while.

Do I need to calm down or spend a few more moments *with* my puppy?

It's very easy to match a puppy's excitement with human excitement. But puppies wear out quickly. Fun games suddenly become too much, and even you walking around creates energy and excitement. An overtired puppy grabbing your ankles or clothes is simply saying, "Calm down, be *with* me."

First thing in the morning especially, your pup may simply need a little longer saying "good morning" before you get on with your day.

Is my puppy uncomfortable?

While toilet training, puppies will often tell you they're "full" by becoming nippy. Quietly take them outside and stay with them!

Is my puppy hungry?

Puppies naturally eat and *then* sleep. A tired puppy may also feel hungry. Give them a meal or small snack in their cosy crate, and they will soon fall asleep.

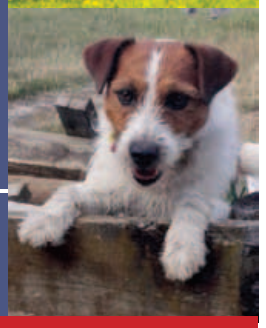
Baby puppy biting isn't bad behaviour. It's just a baby dog asking for help.



Dahlia is a mixed breed aged 3 months, 3 weeks. She is desexed, up-to-date with vaccines and wormed. She is available for adoption from the SPCA Whanganui. Go to the website, spca.nz to register to adopt.

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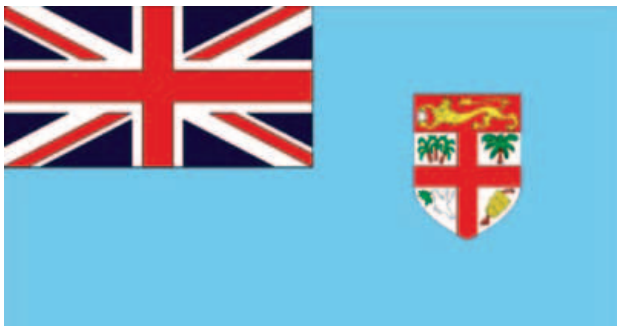


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Fijian Language Week

October 4 - 10

"My language starts at home and I need to speak it every day"

Fijian Language Week 2026 runs from 4–10 October 2026, with the theme "Na noqu vosa me tekivu mai vale ka me'u na vosataka e na veisiga" ("My language starts at home and I need to speak it every day").

With a population of nearly one million people, as well as thousands of people of Fiji descent living in New Zealand, the existence of Fiji Language Week holds great importance. It is celebrated through language, song, dance, cultural displays, and community events.



Fijian students at Born & Raised Pasifika Early Childhood Centre 'Duavata' which means 'One together'.

In Whanganui, there will be a Fijian Community Church service this Sunday at 4pm to celebrate Fijian Language Week. It will be held at the Wesley Methodist Church on Wicksteed St.

From Wednesday to Friday from 7pm there will also be different activities, including quizzes and food at the AOG church on the corner of Puriri and Harper Streets. These will be organised by the three confederacies or areas of Fiji, which are Kabuna, on Wednesday, Bureba-saga, on Thursday, and Tovata, on Friday.

On Friday 9 October, at midday, there will be a shared whānau lunch at Born & Raised Pasifika in Aromoho to celebrate Fijian Independence Day, with Fijian food, meka, coconut grating, and more.

Common Fijian greetings

Some common Fijian greetings are as follows:

- Bula – Hello / Welcome (most common greeting).
- Ni sa bula – A more polite or formal "hello".
- Yadra – Good morning.
- Ni sa yadra – Polite good morning.
- Moce – Goodbye/ Good night.
- Sota tale – See ou later/Until we meet again.
- Vinaka – Thank you.
- Kerekere – Please.

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STEELFORM

WHANGANUI vs KING COUNTRY

HILUX HEARTLAND 2006 2026 CHAMPIONSHIP

Cooks Gardens WHANGANUI

THIS SATURDAY 1.00pm

Whanganui hoping for a victory over King Country

By Jared Smith

There is one prize with "Meads" in the title that Steelform Whanganui will want to have sitting in the Cooks Gardens offices after the last regular season home game this Saturday.

Now seventh-place in the Hilux Heartland Championship after a couple of tough defeats, Whanganui will host this year's surprise competition high flyers in King Country, who likely only need a bonus point to create history for their union by finishing top of the table for the first time since Heartland's introduction in 2006.

Whanganui, hoping to finish as high as they can on the points table with a victory – although this will most likely by the second-tier Lochore Cup playoff group instead of the Top 4 teams that contest the Meads Cup – will be defending the sole prize left in their cabinet: the Sir Colin Meads Memorial Trophy, known as the "Pinetree Log".

The Pinetree was introduced for regular season Heartland fixtures or games of significance between the two neighbouring provinces to honour the 55-test All Blacks legend Colin Meads, who during his legendary rugby career played in multiple "Wanganui-King Country" combined representative teams against touring international sides.

The prize was the idea of WRFU Life Member, executive and historian JB Phillips, who in 2017 approached Sir Colin's close friends John and Ruth Palamountain to commission a trophy, with the blessing of the Meads family.

Blair Symes of Display Associates in Whanganui constructed the trophy, made of pine wood, for the derby game at Cooks Gardens, won by the home side 80-3.

Whanganui successfully retained the log until the "Friendly" match in the Covid-affected 2020 season, in the first of three thrilling games at Tauramanui Domain, where King Country finally lifted the prize, 16-11.



Douglas Horrocks lifting the Pinetree Log in 2025
Photo credit: Kate Belsham, Ivy Digital

It has swept back and forth since – Whanganui regaining in 2021 and holding it the next year, while King Country reclaimed it in 2023 (in Tauramanui) and successfully defended for the first time in 2024.

Whanganui finally broke their Tauramanui curse last season to regain the Pinetree, winning 29-24.

As well as the battle for the Pinetree, there is another milestone moment on the cards.

Winger-centre Alekesio Vakarorogo has moved up to 52 tries in Heartland Championship games, just behind the overall record of 53, held by South Canterbury's Kalavini Leatigaga (2016–2025).

It would be fantastic if Vakarorogo could get a share, or the entirety, of the national record on his home ground.

Kickoff is 1pm.

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STEELFORM
WHANGANUI vs KING COUNTRY
HILUX HEARTLAND CHAMPIONSHIP 2006 2026
Cooks Gardens WHANGANUI
THIS SATURDAY 1.00pm

Juniors rep teams gearing up for Hurricanes Youth Rugby Council tournaments

By Jared Smith

The WRFU's junior representative rugby teams are gearing up for their big Hurricanes Youth Rugby Council tournaments both at home and in the Hawke's Bay.

Starting Wednesday, 30 September, the Longrun Spouting Whanganui Under 18 Girls team are competing at the U18 Girls Provincial Union Development Camp against the other teams from the HYRC catchment.

Under coach Tiana Kauika, the U18 Girls had a great start to th eir preseason with a 26-17 victory over Taranaki U18 in Patea, before facing a dominant Manawatu U18 squad in Palmerston North, who won 113-0.

They rebounded with a 29-24 win over King Country U18 on Saturday in Taihape, which sets them up for the tournament, being held at Napier Boys High School through until Sunday.

Following that will be the Under 16 Girls Provincial Union Development Camp at the same location, with the Summit Electrical Whanganui U16 Girls looking to follow up their success from last year when they won the Division 2 competition.

Under returning coach Sereima Vakuruivalu, Whanganui impressed by holding the full Wellington U16 Girls squad to just a 37-17 win in Newtown, and then returned to Cooks Gardens to draw with Horowhenua-Kapiti U16, 22-22.

Then on Saturday, the team put on a dominant performance against Wairarapa-Bush U16's winning 80-5 at Sprriggens Park in their last pre-camp fixture.

And Whanganui Collegiate's three rugby grounds will host the HYRC Under 16 Boys tournaments starting this coming Monday, 5 October.

The Division A competition for the Don Broughton Shield consists of the U16 teams of Wellington, Manawatu and two from Hawke's Bay.

The AB Equipment Whanganui Under 16 Boys are in the Division B grade for the Saracens Cup against Poverty Bay, Horowhenua-Kapiti and defending champions Wairarapa-Bush.

Coached by Glen Collins with assistance from Rohan Kui, Whanganui U16 played their 1st round match ahead of the tournament proper against Wairarapa-Bush last Saturday on the artificial turf at Trust House Memorial Park in Masterton, with the home side picking up a big 73-12 win.

Whanganui therefore need to beat Poverty Bay U16 on Monday and Horowhenua-Kapiti the next day in order to qualify for the Cup final on Wednesday, which, as a safe bet, would likely be against Wairarapa-Bush again.

Poverty Bay will want to make the final themselves, having beaten Horowhenua-Kapiti 53-17 in Napier on Saturday.

Hawke's Bay Black will be favourites in Division A after winning 70-5 in their 1st round derby with Hawke's Bay White, while Wellington edged Manawatu 20-17.



Violet Soverel from the Summit Electrical U16 Girls
Photo Credit: Kate Belsham, Ivy Digital

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INTERNATIONAL DAY of OLDER PERSONS

1 OCTOBER 2026

incorporating the
LIVING WELL, AGEING WELL EXPO

OCTOBER 6
10am - 3pm

Whanganui War Memorial Centre

Proud to support
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Drop in and see us at:
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Phone 348 8288
claw@claw.co.nz

Theme: rethinking systems for long lives

International Day of Older Persons is a global celebration to shine a spotlight on the important role older people play in our communities and recognise the insights, experience, skills and contributions of older people are valuable at every age and in every workplace.

The UN theme for this year is 'The Age of Longevity: Rethinking Systems for Longer Lives".

There are lots of ways you can be a part of the action and celebrations, showing older people how much you value their uniqueness, experience and ideas. Here are some ideas:

- Challenge ageism assumptions
- Tell your story with your friends about older people who have influenced or inspired you.
- Share a meal, visit, or phone call with an older person to stay connected, or thank an older person in your community.
- Check out organisations such as Age Concern New Zealand and their information and services.

Find out what events are on at your local Age Concern.

LIVING WELL IN WHANGANUI?

Not sure where to start? Start with us.

Looking for a local group, activity, service, support or somewhere to volunteer?



Search our Community Organisations Database or get in touch with us.

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Kōwhai Centre - Community Day programme

offering social connection and respite for carers

We all recognise the value and wellbeing benefits of remaining in our own homes, connected to our community and surrounded by the people and places that matter most.

The Kōwhai Centre provides a welcoming and supportive place for older adults living in the community to spend meaningful time during the day. For those living alone, it offers friendship, stimulation, laughter and companionship. For those living with a spouse or family carer, it provides valuable respite – giving carers time to recharge while participants enjoy social connection, meaningful activities and time outside the home.

Together, this supports independence, strengthens relationships and helps people continue living well in their own homes.



At the Kōwhai Centre, getting to know each person is at the heart of what we do. We want to understand who they are today, who they have been, what they have achieved, and the people, experiences and interests that make their life meaningful.

Our focus is not on a diagnosis, but on the person. Participants can simply be themselves. There are no expectations about what they should or should not be able to do. Instead, we celebrate their strengths, personality, stories and lived experience.

To help us create this personal connection, we invite participants and their whānau to complete an Eden Tree of Life. This provides our team with a snapshot of the person – capturing important memories, milestones, relationships, interests and values. It helps us connect in ways that are personal, respectful and genuine, ensuring each day is shaped around the individual rather than their condition.

Perhaps the most heartwarming benefit of the Kōwhai Centre is the power of connection. Friendships develop, stories are shared, laughter fills the room, and people naturally begin to encourage and support one another. Seeing participants connect through shared experiences, offer a listening ear or simply enjoy the company of others creates a wonderful sense of belonging.

The Kōwhai Centre is open to people in the community, with a particular focus on those experiencing memory loss, mild to moderate dementia or cognitive changes. We work closely with Alzheimer's Whanganui and recommend their seven-week Cognitive Stimulation Therapy (CST) programme as a great introduction. Participants can then attend Kōwhai Centre on alternative days.

For more information, phone (06) 349 1400, email kowhainui@psc.org.nz or visit enliven-central.org.nz.

FARM TO FORK OUR MENUS

MENU A
10 September
5 October
5 November
3 December

Roast of Pork, Gravy & Apple Sauce
Roast veg, mashed potato, peas, broccoli

Beef n' Beer Stew
Creamy mashed potato, peas, broccoli & wilted spinach

Lemon & Herb Steamed Fish
Creamed spinach, Hasselback potato, green beans & broccoli

Chicken Saagwala
Served on a bed of rice

Lamb & Kumara Pot Pie
Potato mash, silverbeet, broccoli & roast pumpkin

MENU B
17 September
15 October
12 November
10 December

Roast Beef & Gravy
Roast veg, mashed potato, peas, broccoli, sweet n' sour beetroot

Devilled Sausages
On mashed potato, cabbage, peas & broccoli

French Lamb Stew
Mashed potato, creamed spinach, broccoli & beans

Smoked Fish Pie
Potato top, wilted spinach, green beans, roast kumara

Chicken & Pumpkin Lasagne
Served with spinach, broccoli, peas

MENU C
24 September
22 October
19 November
17 December

Roast Chicken Breast
Stuffing & gravy, roast veg, mashed potato & peas

Tangy Meatloaf
Mashed potato, broccoli, cauli, bake, peas, cabbage

Prawn & Chorizo Rice Bake
With fresh herbs

Sausage & Caramelised Onion Quiche
With paprika potato & leek gratin

Lamb Puttanesca
Potato mash, herby carrots, green beans, spinach

MENU D
1 October
29 October
26 November
7 January

Corned Beef with Mustard Sauce
Mash potato, cabbage, peas, saucy cauli, roast pumpkin

Baked Potato with Lamb Mince
Shredded cheese & sour cream

Slow-Cooked Chicken Casserole
with mash of potato green beans, broccoli

Dan-Dan Noodles
Stir-fried vegetables & spring onion

Lemony Crumbed Fish
Potato mash, broccoli, tomato ragu & beans

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INTERNATIONAL DAY of OLDER PERSONS

1 OCTOBER 2026

incorporating the
LIVING WELL, AGEING WELL EXPO | OCTOBER 6 10am - 3pm | Whanganui War Memorial Centre

Living Well Ageing Well Expo on next week

Living Well Ageing Well/Te Ara Kite Oranga Expo is at the Whanganui War Memorial Centre on Tuesday 6 October from 10am to 3pm.

The idea for an Expo originally came from U3A Whanganui, who were keen to bring back an event specifically focused on older people in our community, as Whanganui hasn't had an event like this for several years.

This sparked conversations between local organisations about how they could work together to bring an event like this to life. The planning group includes Whanganui District Council, Te Oranganui, Whanganui Regional Health Network, Age Concern Whanganui, Your Way | Kia Roha, U3A Whanganui and Grey Power Wanganui.

During planning, Grey Power Wanganui shared that the Minister for Seniors, Hon Casey Costello, would be visiting Whanganui on 6 October for their Grey Power Wanganui meeting. The timing aligned perfectly, and the Living Well, Ageing Well Expo began to take shape.

The Expo has grown into a significant community event, with around 55 organisations, services and community groups involved.

It is a free community event and will give people an opportunity to connect with local services, discover what support and activities are available, and find information that can help them live and age well in Whanganui.

There will be guest speakers throughout the day, with Minister Costello delivering the keynote address from 2pm to 3pm. Other speakers include:

- Tim Crowe – Civil Defence & Emergency Management, 10.15am to 10.45am
- Josie Hartley – Safety in the Home, 11am to 11.30am
- Michaela O'Brien – Enduring Powers of Attorney, 11.45am to 12.15pm
- Dr Jan Gregson: Brain Health, 1pm to 1.30pm

Ngā Tai o Te Awa's line dancing group and IDEA Services Kapa Haka will be performing around lunchtime.

The organising group is really excited to see the event come together and hopes it will be an enjoyable and informative day for older people, their whānau and the wider community.

"A special thank you goes to all of the exhibitors, including the organisations, services and social groups who will be part of the Expo. Their involvement and support are a huge part of bringing this event to life, and we simply couldn't do it without them."

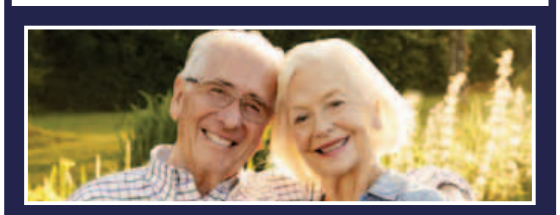


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Where the money goes when profit isn't the goal

New Zealand's aged care sector is at a tipping point. Demand for aged care services is expected to **grow by more than 90% over the next two decades**, while the system already shows signs of strain: bed shortages, services closing, and providers struggling with rising costs and workforce pressures.

The August 2026 A place to grow old report from the Aged Care Ministerial Advisory Group warns that **demand for residential care beds will exceed supply in some areas within five years**. The decisions being made now will shape whether older New Zealanders can access care where and when they need it.

So as the sector faces pressure to find more money, build more beds and attract more staff, another question is worth asking: where does the money already flowing through aged care go?

For more than 70 years, Enliven Central has taken a different approach. Our focus is care, with retirement villages helping to make that care possible. **As a not-for-profit organisation, money generated through our care services and retirement village operations is reinvested back into our charitable purpose that maintains the care of our residents, and the upkeep of our buildings rather than being distributed away from the organisation to other interested parties. Our purpose is to care for all people at the most vulnerable times of their lives, to make a lasting and positive difference.**

This purpose shapes how Enliven Central develops its services and communities. At a time when standard aged-care rooms* have become increasingly rare, **Enliven Central continues to provide both standard and premium rooms, with over 70% of our rooms being *standard***. This mix reflects a clear priority: providing care for the average older New Zealander. Research from Te Ara Ahunga Ora Retirement Commission shows **40% of people aged 65 and over have virtually no income besides NZ Super**, so our focus stays on accommodation the average older New Zealander can afford, not what can command a premium price. As New Zealand faces a growing shortage of aged residential care capacity, more beds will be needed, but so will choice about the type of accommodation available and where it's provided.

That is the model behind Enliven Central, part of Presbyterian Support Central (PSC), a registered charity and one of New Zealand's established not-for-profit health and social service providers.

Enliven Central operates 22 sites across the lower North Island, including nine retirement villages and 13 care homes. **All proceeds from the sale of retirement villas and apartments are reinvested back into Enliven Central's aged care facilities and services**, while any spare funds support Family Works Central, our social services arm working with children, families and whānau.

This different formula creates a unique relationship with Enliven Central residents. "This is the best place to live in; I feel like I have come home," says Pauline, a resident at Kōwhainui Home in Whanganui.

This unique relationship carries through our retirement villages, "I like the way Enliven is set up as a not-for-profit organisation," says Kandahar village resident Trevor. "It tends to make things a bit more comfortable for me and was what I was looking for."

His mother was an Enliven resident in the early 2000s, and he's watched his own village develop since moving in, from a Community Centre that's created more opportunities for residents to come together, to events organised by the Residents' Committee and by residents themselves. "It's been a highlight for me to see how the village has evolved since I came here," he says.

His experience points to something easy to overlook when aged care is discussed in terms of 'beds, funding and capacity': **what happens to a person's sense of community when they need to move into a care setting**. For Enliven Central, that connection shows up in its network of homes and villages across the lower North Island, giving older people the chance to age close to the community, surroundings, whānau and friends they've always known.

When an organisation's drive and purpose is to push money back into residents' daily experience, it can mean investing in things beyond the basic requirements of running a care home: opportunities for connection and creativity, music and therapeutic activities, improvements to shared spaces, and initiatives that support choice, purpose and independence. It also means investing in the people that are providing the care.

Joy de Los Santos knows what that looks like. A registered nurse from the Philippines, Joy began working as a Healthcare Assistant at Kandahar Court in Masterton before colleagues and managers encouraged her to enter Enliven Central's training programmes. With mentoring and support, she progressed to Registered Nurse and now works as Clinical Coordinator at Enliven Central's Levin Home for War Veterans.

For Joy, the value of aged care is about more than a career pathway. On her first shift in Kandahar's dementia care home, when she was still finding her feet in a new country, a resident reached across the table and held her hand. "It's alright, dear. Everything will be alright," the resident told her. Joy says the moment deepened her compassion and has stayed with her throughout her career.

Her progression is an example of what investment in people can achieve: training and mentoring don't just benefit the employee; they build the experience and capability within a care home that our residents rely on.

"Not everyone is given the opportunity to care for some of the most vulnerable members of our community," she says. "It is a deeply meaningful role that allows you to make a genuine difference, while growing personally and professionally."

That reflects Enliven Central's wider approach, drawn from the Eden Alternative philosophy of care: not simply managing the ageing process, but supporting companionship, purpose, choice and connection. For residents, that means being known as individuals and being the very heart of our organisation. For staff, it means real opportunities to grow. And for the wider community, it means the funds generated through aged care services stay within the charitable purpose and intent.

Does that remove the financial challenges facing aged care and Enliven Central? No. Wider funding and workforce pressures need system-level solutions, which is exactly what the Ministerial Advisory Group has called for. But ownership and focus do shape what happens to money once it enters an organisation.

As a not-for-profit, Enliven Central has residents as its beneficiaries; any surplus goes back to our charitable purpose, supporting elders, the people who care for them, and the communities they live in that make New Zealand a very special place to live and grow old in.

For Enliven Central, the answer is people.

Because getting older doesn't mean living less.

enliven CENTRAL

Because getting older doesn't mean living less

enlivencentral.org.nz/rethink-ageing

* Standard Room/Bed: A room in a residential care facility without additional features, for which residents are not charged additional fees beyond the standard public rate.

WORLD TEACHERS' DAY

5 OCTOBER 2026

Teachers: leading in crisis, reimagining the future

World Teachers' Day was first established in 1962 when Dr Radhakrishan was made the second President of India. He requested that this day be a day of celebration and thanks in recognition of the contribution and efforts of all the teachers in India.

The event gained international recognition and evolved into what we know today as World Teachers' Day to celebrate people in the teaching profession from around the world.

UNESCO runs a campaign for Teachers' Day to help the world gain a better understanding of



teachers and the impact they have on the development of students within society.

World Teachers' Day is celebrated in over 100 countries, typically on 5 October, although this coincides with school holidays in New Zealand. In Whanganui, Aranui School plans to "publicly acknowledge our teachers on the Aotearoa's Teachers' Day" on 30 October.

In 2026, the theme for World Teachers' Day is "Teachers: leading in crisis, reimagining the future". With learning being an essential part of life and a child's development, teachers play a crucial role in society. They are responsible for teaching the leaders and innovators of tomorrow, and World Teachers' Day is a great opportunity to celebrate the ways that teachers have responded to unforeseeable circumstances over the past few years.

It also serves as a reminder that investing in teachers means investing in the future. Well-supported educators create stronger classrooms, empowered students, and healthier communities.

The day also raises awareness about important issues such as teacher shortages, professional training, fair salaries, workplace conditions, and access to quality education worldwide.

Thank a teacher to help a Kiwi kid



Thank a Teacher ambassador, Samantha Richards

Most of us can remember a teacher who supported us. Someone who noticed our potential, built our confidence or simply made sure we didn't feel left behind.

Now, thanking them can help put school essentials into the hands of tamariki who might otherwise go without.

For October, Warehouse Stationery and The Salvation Army's Thank a Teacher appeal invites Kiwis to create a free personalised card for a teacher who made a difference. For every card created, Warehouse Stationery will donate $2, up to $50,000, to help provide school essentials to children experiencing hardship.

One small mihi for the teacher who helped you. One practical way to help the next kid through the classroom door.

Create a card at www.warehousestationery.co.nz from 5 October to 1 November.

Inspiring Minds, Shaping Futures.

St George's proudly celebrates our incredible staff this World Teachers Day. Thank you for making learning extraordinary.

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Ki Te Taumata

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We acknowledge and thank these heroes of our classrooms and programmes.

ENROL NOW FOR 2027!

St Johns Hill School
Te Kura o Kaierau

WORLD Teachers' Day 5 OCTOBER

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A teacher nurtures, uplifts and builds the future.
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You make a lasting difference in the lives of our ākonga and whānau.

KAITIAKITANGA | MANAAKITANGA | RANGITIRATANGA | KOTAHITANGA

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SUPPORTING WORLD TEACHERS' DAY
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www.whanganuihigh.school.nz

A big thank you to all our hard-working teachers on World Teachers' Day

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NEW ZEALAND Grandparents Day DO SOMETHING GRAND NZ

This Sunday 4 October

Woven Whānau supports grandparents bringing up mokopuna

Since 2021, Woven Whānau has supported grandparents and extended whānau who have stepped forward to care for their mokopuna. Since then, more than 140 grandparents and whānau have connected with Woven Whānau for support.

Government research estimates that around 22,000 children and young people in Aotearoa are cared for by relatives, highlighting the significant number of whānau providing care outside the immediate family home (Oranga Tamariki, 2024).

It is difficult to know exactly how many grandparents are raising mokopuna across our region. Children may enter their care through formal arrangements involving the Family Court or child protection services, while others enter through private whānau arrangements.

Whatever the pathway, taking on the day-to-day care of mokopuna can bring significant change, responsibility and uncertainty. Woven Whānau provides informal support shaped around the needs of each whānau. This might be a single phone call providing information, advocacy or connection to another service, or several points of connection over months or years. There is no set timeframe for support.

Connection is at the heart of what Woven Whānau offers. A grandparent-led peer support group meets each Thursday morning, while Grandparent Dinners are held twice each term, with up to 60 grandparents and their mokopuna attending for a free meal and connection with other whānau on a similar journey.

This year, Woven Whānau also hosted a wellbeing morning, with 29 grandparents attending – an opportunity to pause, feel cared for and be pampered by their community.

At its heart, Woven Whānau is about making sure grandparents do not have to walk this journey alone.

Wellbeing morning held



The three classic cars and some of the grandparents getting ready for their car rides.

Woven Whānau organised a morning of care, pampering, and wellbeing for whānau caregivers recently. As Jo Voice from Woven Whānau said, "it was to show our support for the wonderful work grandparents raising their mokopuna do."

Thirty-two grandparents responded to the offer and had the choice of a number of activities including:

- Classic car ride. Three owners volunteered to drive their beautiful cars – Matthew with his 1996 Jaquar XJR, Jim with his 2018 Mustang and Bruce and his 1973 Jaquar E Type XKE. (The RCP journalist was given a ride in this two-seater classic.)
- Bach flower and reflexology consultation
- Hair wash and blow wave
- Mini makeup makeover
- Guided art activity
- Hand massage
- Rongoa (traditional Māori healing)
- Men's haircut.

All activities, including a sumptuous morning tea, were free to the participants and were paid for thanks to a High Tea fundraiser Woven Whānau had organised earlier. The events were held at UCOL and Jo said, "we are super grateful to UCOL for hosting." Throughout the morning there was a "peaceful hum".

The event went smoothly thanks to staff from Woven Whānau, three helpers from Age Concern and five volunteers – Allison, Winnie, Lari, Laryne and Ann.

What is Grandparent's Day?

New Zealand Grandparent's Day is about celebrating the grandparents of New Zealand. It's a day that celebrates all the joy and value that grandparents bring to the lives of Kiwi kids. Whether they be grandparents by blood, or grandparents by love, we celebrate them.

This especially includes grandparents bringing up their mokopuna. Oranga Tamariki research from 2024 estimates there are about 20,000 children living with about 13,000 informal kin (or whānau) caregivers, frequently grandparents in Aotearoa New Zealand

There are three purposes for New Zealand Grandparent's Day on 4 October:

1. To honour grandparents and members of our senior community.
2. To give grandparents an opportunity to show love for their children's children.
3. To help children become aware of the strength, information and guidance older people can offer.

Jigsaw whanganui
kaupapa whānau - thriving children, flourishing families



Our support network is here to help all whānau

Social Work | Family Harm Programmes | Programmes for Parents | Advice and support information for families

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jigsawwhanganui.org.nz

Ph 06 345 1636 I Suite 10, 236 Victoria Ave, Whanganui
Email: admin@jigsawwhanganui.org.nz

WOVEN WHĀNAU

Proudly supporting

NEW ZEALAND Grandparents Day DO SOMETHING GRAND NZ

PARTNERING WITH PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS RAISING THEIR MOKOPUNA, CONNECTING FAMILIES, BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES TOGETHER IN WHANGANUI.

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Real Estate with Steven & Jared

"Brothers in Real Estate"





Agency sale versus private sale - Which gets you the best outcome?

In this region, property owners who use a real estate agency to sell their property can expect to get 15% more in price than they would by selling the home themselves, as shown in research from the Real Estate Institute of New Zealand (REINZ).

Sometimes private sales work brilliantly for getting a good price, but this is proven to also be rarely.

We do understand why a property owner would consider listing privately - the tangible savings from having no selling commission to pay could be appealing.

However, as licensed sales professionals and marketers, we know how to add value to the transaction and negotiate on your behalf for the best price the market will pay.

Some challenges which prohibit a sale when listing privately

1. You may not feel comfortable negotiating the price with a buyer. Direct contact can weaken your position with a purchaser. A third party, such as your real estate sales consultant, can work through the negotiations with the objective of achieving the best market price.

2. The average house visitor will not admit freely to you their likes and dislikes, yet these feelings must be brought out into the open to understand to identify true buyers and what needs to happen for them to make an offer on your property. A sales consultant can ask those questions.

3. You may find it hard with follow-up calls with a purchaser, as it may be interpreted as anxiousness to sell in a hurry.

4. Most buyers seek the services of a reputable real estate salesperson, as they know they are safe guarded under legislation, and the buyers also realise the pitfalls of direct negotiations with the vendor. They feel more secure dealing with a professional for reassurance or guidance.

5. Some people want to come and look at your home just out of curiosity and are not interested in buying. We ask questions on your behalf and screen the 'lookers' from the qualified buyers. Qualifying interested parties also increases the privacy and safety of your home.

6. We guarantee our work. We only get paid commission when your house is sold.

7. Buyers can be put off private sales as there is no accountability for fair conduct under the Fair Trading Act 1986. Under the Real Estate Authority (REA) regulations, salespeople have a legal duty of care to both buyer and seller.

Conclusion

In the end, the most important aspect of the sales process is when it comes down to the wire at the final stage of negotiations.

This is when most sellers need to have a skilled and experienced salesperson to communicate their real position for agreeing to sell to the purchaser.

Our best work is often done in the last hours of the process. This is when most clients need our services and our expertise.

The bulk of sellers appoint us because they see the value for three reasons - our superior market knowledge, ability to drive quality purchaser traffic through your property, and our skills to negotiate and get the best the market will pay for your property.

We understand the 'Kiwi DIY' culture to trying to sell it yourself, and fair enough.

However, if selling privately is not for you or you have already tried, then **we encourage you to contact us** and we can work out how to assist you in achieving the best the market price and improving your chances of selling - ideally with competing offers for your property.

Steven Schwamm AREINZ & **Jared Smith** - **0800 176 4321**
stevenandjared@arizto.co.nz
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Tea and Topics next week - Citizens Advice Bureau

Gonville Library is proud to present the next Tea and Topics on Thursday, 8 October 2026, 10am to 12pm with Whanganui Citizens Advice Bureau: "Help when you need it" with presenter Manjori Sanyal.

Life can sometimes present us with questions, problems or situations where we simply don't know where to turn. From understanding your rights and responsibilities to finding the right organisation for support, the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) is there to help people navigate life's challenges.

The local CAB will be visiting the Gonville library for an informative and engaging talk about the services they provide and how they support people in our community.

CAB provides a free and confidential service, offering independent information, advice and support on a wide range of issues. Whether you have a question about consumer rights, employment, housing, family matters, government services or simply need help finding the right place to get assistance, CAB can help point you in the right direction.

"Sometimes people don't realise that there is help available until they find themselves facing a difficult situation," says Manjori Sanyal. "We want people to know that they can come and talk to us and that there is no such thing as a silly question."

Tea and Topics will have its usual format, with a hot drink and a biscuit being served between 10am and 10.30am. The presentation will start at 10.30am and there will be ample opportunity afterwards to ask questions or share stories.

Heritage Art Auctions - rebranding and expanding - consultants wanted

Faced with the choice of phasing out his auction business or rebranding and expanding, 80-year-old Henry Newrick has opted for the latter. He reckons that if his grandfather Harry Newrick was able to run the Sarjeant Gallery until his mid-80s, then he should be able to at least match, if not exceed, his record.

Accordingly, from 20 November, Heritage Art Auctions will not only continue to sell paintings, prints and photographs by auction but will also extend its range of services to cover jewellery, gold, silver, coins, bank notes, watches and stamps.

Knowledgeable consultants are being recruited to assist with cataloguing. If you have specialist knowledge in any of the above areas and would like to be considered for a consultancy role, please contact Henry on 027 471 2242.

Henry anticipates that for the foreseeable future, art-related items will continue to make up about half his business with the balance coming from the new categories being offered. Heritage auctions plans to continue operating from its existing premises at Heritage House, 136 St Hill Street and will be accepting entries for its November sale from Monday 19 October.

From 20 November the auction house will be known as Heritage Auctions NZ and will have an additional domain name – www.HeritageAuctionsNZ.org. For more information contact Henry Newrick on 027 471 2242.

The Whanganui Jazz Orchestra on the move



Singer Bridget Cook

Our Jazz Orchestra needs no introduction to the Whanganui music community. Riwai Hina continues to lead the band from strength to strength and into uncharted waters as the orchestra prepares for five performances in three days at the Christchurch Big Band Jazz Festival over the Labour Weekend later in the month. This tantalising project is the result of Riwai's ambitions for the orchestra and his connections in the jazz world that come from a lifetime's commitment to big band music.

On Saturday afternoon 3 October, they will play at the opening of the Greenhaugh Estate outside Palmerston North as a conference venue before appearing at the Jazz Club's monthly meeting at the St Johns Club on Sunday 4 October. And on Sunday 11 October, they will be the guests of the Manawatu Jazz Club.

The full orchestra now numbers some twenty musicians and features tight ensemble playing, brilliant soloists and wonderful singers. A performance of the WJO has something for everyone.

This will be an historic month for the orchestra and the excitement is growing. This is ground breaking experience for our jazz community. Come and take part in this great adventure.

The orchestra is still raising money to fund the trip. Anyone can make a contribution – no matter how small – by visiting the givealittle website. All donations are much appreciated: givealittle.co.nz/cause/help-send-the-whanganui-jazz-orchestra.

Whanganui is a remarkable town in many ways, and our jazz community is being recognised nationally for its vibrancy. Our Jazz Orchestra is a powerful expression of how making music together contributes to creating cohesion in our community.

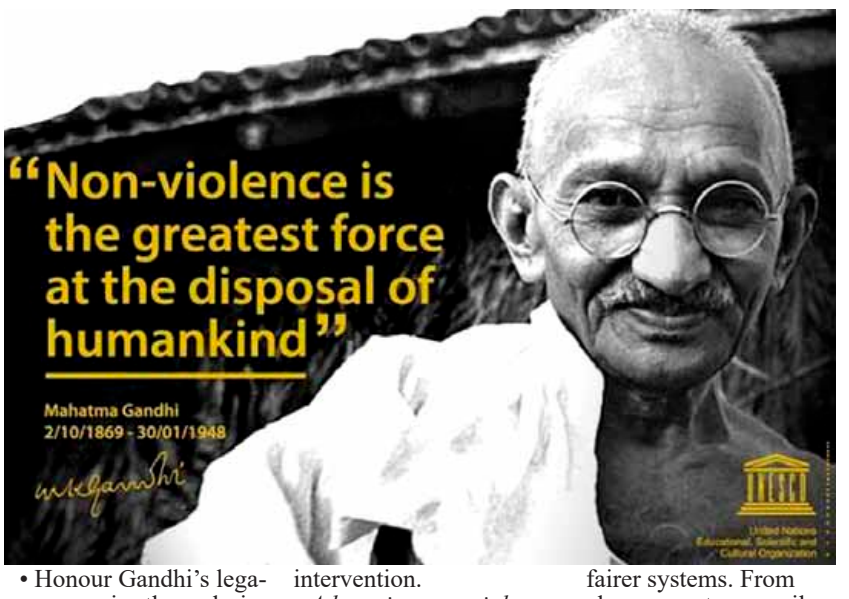
We look forward to having you join us as we once again celebrate the great jazz tradition.

The Whanganui Jazz Orchestra performs Sunday 4 October, 6.30pm at the St Johns Club, 158 Glasgow Street.

Members of the St Johns and Whanganui Jazz Clubs $15. Memberships available.

international day of Non-violence October 2

Advancing peace and dialogue



Observed on Thursday, 2 October 2026, the International Day of Non-Violence honours the birth of Mahatma Gandhi, whose leadership and philosophy of non-violent resistance inspire movements for civil rights and social change not only in India, but also worldwide. The day invites people and institutions to spread the message of non-violence, strengthen dialogue and advance a culture of peace and understanding.

The Goals of the International Day of Non-Violence are:

• Spread non-violence through education: encourage learning, training, and public awareness that reject physical violence as a means of change.

• Foster a culture of peace: strengthen tolerance, understanding, and cooperation across communities and nations.

• Honour Gandhi's legacy: recognise the enduring relevance of non-violent action in achieving just ends through just means.

• Mobilise civic action: highlight three core avenues of non-violent strategy, protest and persuasion, non-co-operation and non-violent intervention.

Advancing non-violence in practice

Non-violence is a technique for effective political action not passivity. It channels conflict into constructive, people-powered strategies that withdraw consent from injustice and build fairer systems. From classrooms to councils, commitments to human rights education, intercultural dialogue and ethical civic participation turn ideals into outcomes.

'There is no way to peace – peace is the way.'

The Whanganui Jazz Orchestra
St Johns Club
158 Glasgow St, Whanganui
SUNDAY 4 OCTOBER
6.30pm-8.30pm
Doors open at 5pm for meals, snacks & bar.
Members-$15 - Membership available at the door
Jazz Club/St Johns Club members & their guests welcome.
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Sweet lessons in kindness at Rutherford as students give back through baking

Over the past three weeks, students from Rutherford School have been baking up a storm alongside volunteers from Good Bitches Baking (GBB) Whanganui, creating delicious treats while learning the importance of giving back to their community.

The baking programme has provided students with a hands-on opportunity to develop practical skills, build confidence, and experience the joy of helping others through simple acts of kindness.



Rutherford Intermediate students show off their baking ready to give to local charities

The first baking session saw students making chocolate cupcakes, which were carefully decorated in their school house colours. Once packaged and presented in beautifully decorated boxes, the cupcakes were delivered to Jigsaw Whanganui and the Whanganui City Mission, bringing a touch of sweetness to the day for staff, clients, and visitors.

The second baking session focused on traditional favourites, with students baking fresh cheese scones and custard tea biscuits. The delicious treats were then delivered to MIST and Alzheimer's Whanganui, where they were warmly received by recipients and support teams alike.

Throughout each session, students follow recipes, measure ingredients, prepare and bake the goods, decorate the delivery boxes, and package everything ready for distribution. The process not only teaches valuable baking skills but also helps students understand the positive impact even small gestures can have on others.

More importantly, the programme has fostered meaningful connections between GBB volunteers and the students. Through baking together, students have gained a greater understanding of community service and the importance of supporting people who may be facing challenges and could benefit from a little kindness and sweetness in their day.

Good Bitches Baking Whanganui greatly appreciates the opportunity to work alongside the students and support staff at Rutherford School. Head Bitch Tania Taylor and GBB committee members have thoroughly enjoyed spending time with the students, watching their confidence grow, seeing their enthusiasm in the kitchen, and sharing the values of kindness, generosity, and community spirit.

"The students have embraced every part of the process, from mixing and baking through to decorating and packaging the treats," said Tania. "It's rewarding to see them take pride in what they create and understand the difference their baking can make to someone else's day."

The partnership has been a valuable experience for everyone involved, combining practical learning with community service and creating lasting connections along the way.

With two successful baking sessions completed, GBB is looking forward to returning in Term 4 for a third and final bake of the year, helping to finish the school year on a high note while continuing to spread kindness throughout the Whanganui community.

For Good Bitches Baking and Rutherford School alike, these sessions have shown that a batch of baking can be much more than a recipe. It can be an opportunity to learn, connect, and make someone's day a little brighter.

Wendy-Anne from Alarm Watch wins Security Industry Award

Wendy-Anne Emmerson was nominated by Alarm Watch for the award of 'Monitor Communications Centre Operator of the Year' for the New Zealand Security Industry Association's annual awards held in Wellington recently.

General manager Damien Hegley, says, "There were 20 nominations for this award with Wendy-Anne making the short list of three." Wendy-Anne herself was convinced that "I'm not going to win it," but she did.

In his nomination for Wendy-Anne, Damien said that, "In truth, 'Operator of the Decade' would be more fitting, given her extraordinary longevity, dedication and contribution to the alarm monitoring industry."

Wendy-Anne has had 26 years in the industry, initially with Alarm Watch, before relocating to Auckland, working for Monitor NZ. When she returned to Whanganui, she also returned to Alarm Watch and is "an integral part of our organisation".

Her dedication is phenomenal. "On one of her days off she regularly assists our Data Manager to ensure customer and bureau updates are processed promptly." She also makes herself available should a morning operator be unavailable.

Damien concluded his nomination by stating that "Wendy-Anne Emerson embodies everything this award stands for: professionalism, dedication, initiative, and genuine care for customers, technicians and colleagues."

Alarm Watch, which currently employs 70 staff, has won a number of awards over the years, including Best New Product and Operational Manager of the Year – both two years ago.

Wendy Anne received her award in the Beehive in front of 200 of her peers, including a large contingent of Alarm Watch staff.



Wendy-Anne Emmerson with her award

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AW ALARM WATCH

World Architecture Day
October 5

&

Festival of Design Aotearoa
16–25 October 2026

What good design costs, and what it saves

This World Architecture Day, Whanganui architect Duncan Sinclair is inviting you to pause and consider how design shapes the world around you, and how it can quietly make everyday life better.

"It's a paradox that good design often goes unnoticed," says the founder of Black Pine Architects. "When things are well designed, they just feel right. When something doesn't work, you notice straight away."

To think about what that means for a place like Whanganui, Sinclair finds it useful to consider four "scales of influence", moving from the wider region down to the room you're standing in.

The natural starting point is Te Awa Tupua. The river and its catchment tie together the region's towns, forests, farms and marae, and Sinclair sees design at this scale as working with nature rather than against it.

"It's hard to contain nature, so you treat her as a co-designer and give space to do her thing," he says.

"The built environment can then fit into that picture. Roads can go where they won't keep washing away, runoff can be guided so it protects the water and soil that feed the region. It's all interconnected."

At the town scale, Whanganui already has plenty going for it: a manageable size, a beautiful natural setting, a heritage main street and institutions like the Sarjeant Gallery. The opportunity, Sinclair says, is ensuring infrastructure design supports those assets, from housing density to public transport, and keeps the centre vibrant and easy to reach.

Streets and neighbourhoods are the next level. This, he suggests, is where daily life unfolds because it is where kids walk to school, people head to work and neighbours bump into each other.

"A street that works for a child on a scooter or an older person crossing the road tends to work better for everyone. Details such as trees, slower traffic, safe footpaths and places to sit can have an outsized effect on health and a sense of belonging."

Then there are the buildings themselves. Many New Zealand homes are still cold, damp and costly to heat, but Sinclair points out that it doesn't have to be that way. Fresh air, daylight, energy efficiency and healthy materials are all well understood.

"The next question is how we go beyond that, to create buildings that give back more than they take."

What ties it all together is the way each scale supports the others.

"A warm house on a hostile street is only half a win," he says. "A great street in a town that sprawls loses its life. Good design joins them up."

Black Pine Architects has an Open Day on October 18 as part of the Festival of Design Aotearoa. Entry is free.



Victoria Avenue closed to traffic for the public to enjoy during Vintage Weekend 2021. Photo: Mark Brimblecombe

Theme: Housing is a human right. Build it



Whanganui Heritage Walking Tour / Old Buildings, New Uses: Adaptive Reuse Walking Tour. Join Whanganui District Council Heritage Planner Scott Flutey for a walk around central Whanganui, putting a lens over examples of older buildings successfully upgraded in recent years. Friday 23 October, 10.30am-12pm, Whanganui War Memorial Centre, FREE. Bookings required at www.festivalofdesign.co.nz

The theme of World Architecture Day 2026 is "Housing is a Human Right. Build It". It is celebrated in parallel with the United Nations' World Habitat Day. In 2026, both days highlight the urgent global housing crisis, and the need for equitable access to adequate housing.

The theme emphasises:

- Housing as a fundamental human right, not a luxury.
- The global housing crisis.
- The role of architects in shaping policy, affordability, and equitable access to housing.
- The need for inclusive housing models and reuse of existing building stock as sustainable solutions.

Connection to World Habitat Day 2026

The UN's World Habitat Day theme for 2026 is "Adequate Housing for All", reinforcing the shared focus on housing rights and sustainable development.

World Architecture Day 2026 underscores architecture's role in:

- Addressing climate change and rapid urbanisation
- Designing healthier, resilient, and sustainable communities
- Advocating for housing policies that ensure dignity and inclusion for all.



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Festival of Design Aotearoa

Festival of Design Aotearoa
Celebrating how design shapes life in New Zealand
16–25 October 2026
Full programme of events on festivalofdesign.co.nz

Make, build, play and explore: A family guide to Festival of Design Aotearoa

Whanganui UNESCO City of Design

HIVE

A host of free, hands-on experiences for children and families form part of Festival of Design Aotearoa this October, spanning LEGO, zine-making, an after-dark lighting show, glassblowing and more.

Running from 16–25 October across Whanganui and Palmerston North, the festival includes a range of interactive events designed to get tamariki and their families making, experimenting, playing and exploring.

• Join in the fun with **Whanganui Fun Palaces:** Laboratory of Fun (16–18 October, from 10am, Whanganui War Memorial Centre forecourt), listen to Small Talks, watch a secret play, play in the box wars, parade, make a mess, make some weird noise with Neil and Rosie with their extraordinary instruments, make a song without words with Whetu, and more.

• **Night Lights Activation** across Pukenamu Queen's Park (16-25 October, Sunset-11pm) an after-dark lighting show that will transform Pukenamu Queen's Park, including the Whanganui War Memorial Centre, Whanganui Regional Museum and Te Whare o Rehua Sarjeant Gallery, into an illuminated public design experience. Free and family-friendly, Night Lights invites everyone to explore the precinct after dark and see familiar buildings, architecture and landscapes in a completely different way.

• As part of the programme, **Creative Spaces/Zine Machine** (16–17 October, 1pm) invites families to create their own handmade zines using collage, stamps, paper and ink, while Trashion and Instrument Making for the 'Trashion Parade' (16–17 October, from 2.30pm) turns discarded materials into wearable art, costumes and homemade musical instruments, to be worn at the Trashion Parade.

• **LEGO** fans can head to WELL-LUG Brick Builders: Architecture that Connects (16–18 October, from 10am, Whanganui War Memorial Centre), where talented builders will showcase original builds using LEGO to explore architecture, creativity and connection.

• Families can also see the creative process up close at Hothaus: **Glassblowing Demonstration** (Sunday 18 October, 10am–12pm, New Zealand Glassworks), with artists Amanda Dziedzic and Laurel Kohut demonstrating contemporary glassblowing. Take a behind-the-scenes look at what goes into making contemporary objects from an age-old material.

• In Palmerston North, Josh Taylor: **Eco Submarine** (23–25 October, from 10am, Te Manawa Museum) is an interactive game designed for 8- to 13-year-olds, allowing players to pilot a submarine, salvage materials and help restore underwater habitats through gameplay inspired by real-world science and engineering.

Festival Director Sam Ryan says the family programme is an important part of making design feel accessible to everyone.

"Whether you have a LEGO-obsessed eight-year-old, a budding artist who wants to make their own zine or simply want to see something completely different together as a family, there's plenty to discover – and many of these experiences are completely free," says Ryan.



Festival of Design Aotearoa. Photo credit: Alanah Brown

Festival of Design Aotearoa is a national festival celebrating how design shapes life in New Zealand and beyond. Anchored in Whanganui – Aotearoa's UNESCO City of Design – and extending to Palmerston North, it brings together designers, artists, technologists, businesses and communities through exhibitions, workshops, talks, performances and public experiences.

Festival of Design Aotearoa, 16–25 October 2026, Whanganui and Palmerston North.

For the full programme, event details and bookings, visit the Festival of Design Aotearoa website www.festivalofdesign.co.nz

A rare combination of places and politics on stage

Anthonie Tonnon has become a well-known figure on the Whanganui scene, from championing public transport and "driving" the 107-year-old Durie Hill Elevator. His skills as a songwriter and musician stretch beyond Whanganui boundaries; Antonie is a Taite Music prize-winning songwriter. He is presenting his new live show, *Cinematographer*, in Whanganui during the Festival of Design Aotearoa,

Cinematographer, three years in the making, combines live electronic music, cinematic storytelling and visual design; featuring visual DJing by Erica Sklenars, videography by Theo Taylor, styling by Karlya Smith and design by Daniel Alexander. Tonnon will play the roles of DJ, singer, documentarian and revolutionary lecturer.

The show explores two timelines: the Situationist International in France and Italy during the 1960s, and Whanganui, New Zealand at the turn of the millennium.



Anthonie performing at WOMAD 2024. Photo credit: Kirsty Pearson

"*Cinematographer* is part film, part francophile performance lecture, part disco club set," says Tonnon. "It's a world that we've built for this new music, exploring some newfound passions – the French avant-garde, cinema, urban politics of the 1960s, turn-of-the-millennium dance culture and documentary films, and the glorious, mystifying city of Whanganui."

Whanganui Royal Opera House

Friday, 23 October, 8.30–9.30pm

Tickets are available from Eventfinda.co.nz

$35.88 including fees

Sound Canvas
An audio visual experience by Brass Whanganui
16–17 October, 2026
Christ Church Anglican
soundcanvas.co.nz
Festival of Design Aotearoa
MAD
Brass Whanganui

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Festival of Design Aotearoa

Celebrating how design shapes life in New Zealand

16–25 October 2026
Whanganui & Palmerston North

festivalofdesign.co.nz





NIGHT LIGHTS

See familiar buildings transformed through light after dark

As night falls, Pukenamu Queen's Park and Whanganui's Cultural Precinct are transformed through light. Architectural illumination and projection mapping bring the Whanganui War Memorial Centre, Whanganui Regional Museum, Te Whare o Rehua Sarjeant Gallery and surrounding precinct features to life, creating a connected after-dark design experience through one of the city's most significant public spaces.

Free and family-friendly, Night Lights invites everyone to explore the precinct after dark and see familiar buildings, architecture and landscapes in a completely different way.

16-25 October, 7.30pm

Pukenamu Queen's Park Whanganui

LEGO TALK

Preparing for a Better Future by Design

Dr Bo Stjerne Thomsen explores how people learn through designing, testing, sharing, and improving ideas that matter to them. Through examples from LEGO, partners, schools, and communities around the world, this keynote shows how making and designing can move learning beyond the transmission of knowledge toward discovery, reflection, and innovation.

As the future demands more creativity, collaboration, and judgement, we must redesign learning itself.

18 October, 11.00am

Whanganui War Memorial Centre

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SPORTY LOOK! NOW $21,995

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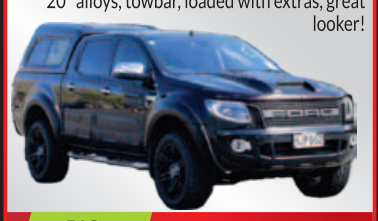
1.6L, auto, AWD, NZ new, GPS, bluetooth, sunroof, cruise control, nice colour, great but!



POPULAR MODEL! NOW $14,995

2013 FORD RANGER XLT

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BIG BEAST! NOW $23,995

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2015 FORD RANGER XLT

3.2L, auto, 4WD, only 93,000kms, canopy, nudge bar, towbar, monsoons, tidy ute, great price.



NICE VEHICLE! NOW $32,995

2026 TOYOTA HIACE

2.8L, turbo diesel, auto, only 26kms, 6 seats, reverse camera, bluetooth, safety package, tints.



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Jordan Maraku wins band comps with Rutherford and High School



Jordan on the left, Principal Hayden on the right (in the cap), along with Ben and Flip the Switch band members.

Jordan Maraku is the music teacher at Rutherford Intermediate and the director of not only Rutherford's band but also a band from Whanganui High School. Recently, both bands won top awards as follows:

• Ngā Hau e Whā from Whanganui High School won the top award in the Smokefree Tangata Beats in Wellington, and

• Flip The Switch from Rutherford Intermediate won the top Regional Bandquest for students under 13 in Palmerston North. (The name followed on from the previous year's band name of 'Lights Go Out.')

Jordan, helped by Ben who is a Brass Whanganui band member and Kapa Haka teacher at Rutherford, has a great history in winning music competitions. This is the ninth year in a row that bands from Rutherford have won the Regional Bandquest competitions.

Two of the Rutherford-based bands did very well in previous Tangata Beats competitions, which are normally dominated by secondary schools. In 2023, their band Reckless won third place, and in 2025 Lights Go Out, which included students from Rutherford, Whanganui High School and Cullinane College, won the regional Smokefree Rockquest and the regional Tangata Beats competition.

The High School connection came about this year when four members of the winning Rutherford band in 2023 – Gio, Moata, Arne and Cazna – became part of the High School band, Ngā Hau e Whā. In 2025, this group persuaded all the band students from Rutherford who were moving on to secondary school, to come to Whanganui High School and join the band.

Members of the band wanted Jordan to be their music director which High School agreed to. The band believed that, with Jordan, they could win the Tangata Beats top award – and they did, being crowned national champions at the 2026 Smokefree Tangata Beats National Final.

Jordan and Ben, along with the Rutherford Intermediate Principal Hayden Hepburn, took the Rutherford band to the Tangata Beats final in Wellington to meet the members of the Whanganui High School band and to introduce them to what happens at a nationals.

Whanganui hosts training day for Community Patrol NZ volunteers



RCP journalist Doug Davidson (centre) with Community Patrol volunteers Patrick and Dave.

Wanganui Community Patrol is a community-based organisation aligned with Community Patrol NZ (CPNZ), where volunteers work alongside local Police as extra "eyes and ears" to help keep the district safe. Over 100 patrollers joined our local volunteers at a recent CPNZ training day in Whanganui from across the Central Police District – from Taranaki down through Rangitīkei, Manawatū and Horowhenua.

The training days focus on sharpening skills in observation, reporting and working alongside Police. Chris Lawton, Chairman of CPNZ, said, "Training days build confidence, consistency and safety, and, just as importantly, the networks between patrols and police that make the work effective.

"We were fortunate to have had two Central District Inspectors leading sessions: District Prevention Manager Inspector Brett Calkin and District Road Policing Manager Inspector Steve Crawford, as well as others. That direct police involvement keeps our patrollers aligned with district priorities."

Volunteers provide non-operational support by carrying out observations, reporting suspicious activity, monitoring CCTV cameras in the CBD, and visiting areas of local interest as directed by police.

Phil Pollero, Patrol Leader, Chairman of Wanganui Community Patrol, says "We've got a very good relationship with the local police. Our Police Liaison Officer is Senior Constable Keith Thomson (Tomo). He looks after us particularly well."

Chris Lawton, with his finger on the pulse nationally, says the volunteers "Provide a visible, reassuring presence that deters crime and supports police. With around 5,000 patrollers nationwide contributing thousands of volunteer hours, they genuinely help keep communities like Whanganui safer."

Phil and Chris agree that recruiting volunteers is an ongoing process. Phil says, "We're always on the lookout for new patrollers. If people are interested, we're very keen to hear from them. They can give as much or as little time as they like. Some patrollers will do one patrol a month while others may do three or four. A patrol is generally about five hours."

When asked how the community can support Wanganui Community Patrol, Chris Lawton says, apart from volunteering, "Sponsorship – vehicles, fuel, equipment and venues all make a real difference. And simply report what you see; patrols work best when the whole community is engaged."

Wanganui Community Patrol also have a small group of trained patrollers who are available to be called out to assist in emergency management situations.

If you are interested in becoming part of the Wanganui Community Patrol crew, or want or offer other support, contact Phil via email: secretary@wanganuicommunitypatrol.nz

Carl Bates honoured by professional peers

Chartered accountant, experienced chairman and director, business owner and MP for Whanganui; Carl Bates has filled all these roles in a professional career spanning nearly 25 years. It is a career Chartered Accountants Australia New Zealand (CAANZ) has now recognised with one of the profession's significant honours.

Last Thursday night, Bates was honoured by his peers when he formally received his Fellowship of Chartered Accountants Australia New Zealand (FCA).

Peter Vial, CAANZ New Zealand Country Head, explained that Fellowship is awarded through a peer nomination and assessment process, recognising chartered accountants who have made an outstanding contribution to the profession, wider business community and society.

"Congratulations to Carl on being made a Fellow of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand," Mr Vial said.

In introducing Bates before he was presented his fellowship by CAANZ Vice-President Julia Fink, past Local Board Chair Wiehan Labuschagne referred to Bates' involvement on The Lockdown Collection, a COVID project in South Africa to support and enable artists whose livelihoods disappeared overnight with national lockdown, noting it was "a case study of how Chartered Accountants can create real-world social value".

In a speech to guests, Bates noted that the Whanganui branch of CAANZ awarded him a scholarship in 2000 when he embarked on his studies, "So to stand here more than 25 years later receiving Fellowship from the same professional community is a very special full-circle moment."

He paid tribute to Matt and Clare Doyle of PKF Doyle & Associates for their support early in his career. Bates also reflected on his late Aunty Sharon Grant (née Hudson), with whom he studied at Massey University and who later became a partner at Doyles.

Bates acknowledged his mother Raewyn, who was also his business partner for nearly 20 years. He spoke of the privilege of building a business together and the significant role she played in his professional journey.

Bates spent 12 years based in Africa, where his work with businesses and boards developed his interest in governance and where he met his wife, Candice.

"My current role asks a great deal not only of me, but of Candice and our family. So Candice, thank you. I simply could not do what I do without you," Bates said.

With the recognition evening providing a rare night away from the campaign trail, Bates did well to resist the opportunity to remind everyone to "Party Vote National".

There will, no doubt, be plenty of opportunities to hear that from him over the coming weeks.



Carl and wife Candice with Carl's Fellowship certificate

Volunteers needed for tram

Mable, tram No 12, Whanganui's iconic tram – taken care of by Tramways Trust – is gearing up for another big summer season, offering locals, national and international visitors alike, a taste of vintage transport. She would love your help, from painting, cleaning, and mechanics, to keep her running smoothly and looking her best, or even taking the driving seat. Mable wants to give the right impression to visitors.

There is some training required to drive, conduct, or assist in the Tram Shed while Mable is running. The training includes a trip to the Wellington Tramway Museum in Queen Elizabeth Park to test your skills on a longer tram track. Jim Ennis, who is responsible for the training in Whanganui, says, "People thoroughly enjoy the trip to Queen Elizabeth Park. It's not difficult to operate the tram in Whanganui, because it's a short track." If you're interested in training as a driver, conductor or assistant, contact Jim on 027-480-1596.



Whanganui's tram

Patrick Seconi, Chairman of the operations committee, who is edging close to his 20th year volunteering for the Tramways Trust, says, "Join in, you're meeting other people. Just come and enjoy yourself."

Contact Patrick on 0274-495-683, or visit the Tram Shed, 27 Taupō Quay, on a Thursday morning, 10am-12pm, Saturday morning, or Sunday 1-3pm, to find out more.

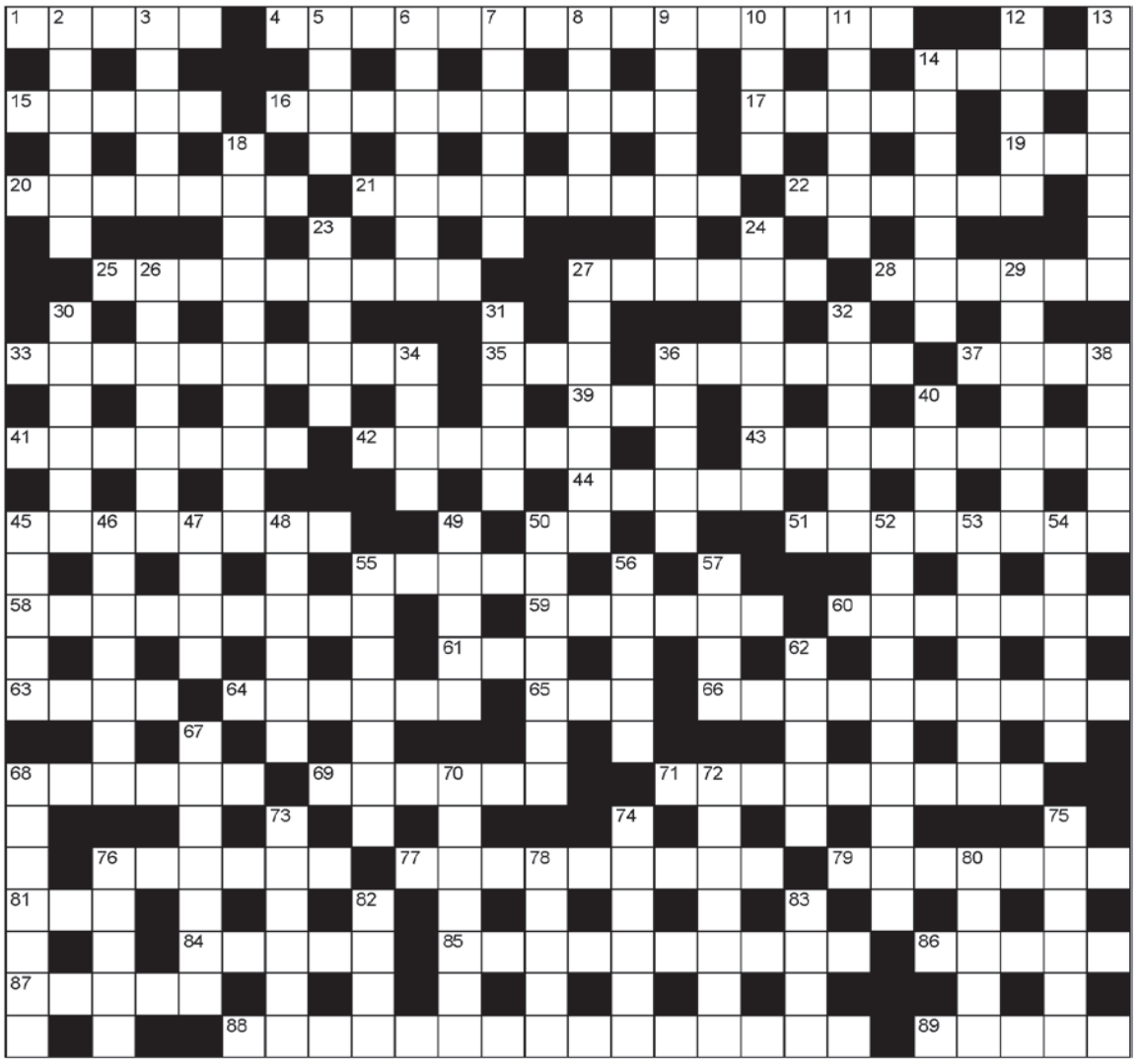
The tram runs every Sunday from 1-3pm.



Jumbo crossword

ACROSS
1 Group of birds (5)
4 Desert a friend in difficulties (5,2,3,5)
14 Municipal (5)
15 Children (5)
16 Obstreperous (10)
17 Mistake (5)
19 Bite (3)
20 Zero (7)
21 Trembling motion (9)
22 Purpose (6)
25 Deputy (9)
27 Summary (6)
28 Funeral vehicle (6)
33 One actively involved in government (10)
35 Peppery (3)
36 Courtroom panel members (6)
37 Pull up (4)
39 Large bird (3)
41 Argument (7)
42 What follows (6)
43 Pirate (9)
44 Flexible, supple (5)
45 Slimy act (anag)(8)
50 Sixth note (2)
51 Column base (8)
55 Leg support (5)
58 Made clear (9)
59 Ring (6)
60 As a rule (7)
61 Floor covering (3)
63 Caprice (4)
64 Admit defeat (4,2)
65 Decline (3)
66 Large juicy gourd (10)
68 On land (6)
69 Signal light (6)
71 Sugared (9)
76 Formerly Formosa (6)
77 Newness, originality (9)
79 Smudged (7)
81 Regret (3)
84 Commerce (5)
85 Annoyance (10)
86 Investigation (5)
87 Bisect (5)
88 Use unfair tactics against (3,5,3,4)
89 Witty (5)

DOWN
2 Class (6)
3 Squash (5)
5 Wicked (4)
6 Rendition (7)
7 Tainted (6)
8 Unexpected development in a storyline (5)
9 Visually offensive thing (7)
10 Exploited (4)
11 Compassionate (6)
12 Incident (5)
13 Ceremonial staff (7)
14 Spreading plant (7)
18 Infection-killing drug (10)
23 Blemish (5)
24 Undress (7)
26 Small piece cut off (7)
27 Kneecap (7)
29 Withdrawal (7)
30 Send word (6)
31 Small tree (5)
32 Sage (6)
34 Poverty (4)
36 Military faction in power after a revolution (5)
38 Danger (5)
40 Bogus (4)
45 Tropical parrot (5)
46 A language (7)
47 Wading bird (4)
48 Very sour-tasting (6)
49 Cut corners (5)
50 Reading stand (7)
52 Prudently and with wise self-restraint (10)
53 Cat breed (7)
54 Flowering (6)
55 Stuck (7)
56 Buy off (5)
57 Imperfection (4)
62 Direct (5)
67 Performer (7)
68 Lawlessness (7)
70 Friendly (7)
72 Laundry vessel (7)
73 Spiced dried sausage (6)
74 Grab rudely (6)
75 Spoken (6)
76 Relates (5)
78 Drinking tube (5)
80 Less common (5)
82 Flavouring plant (4)
83 Deceive (4)

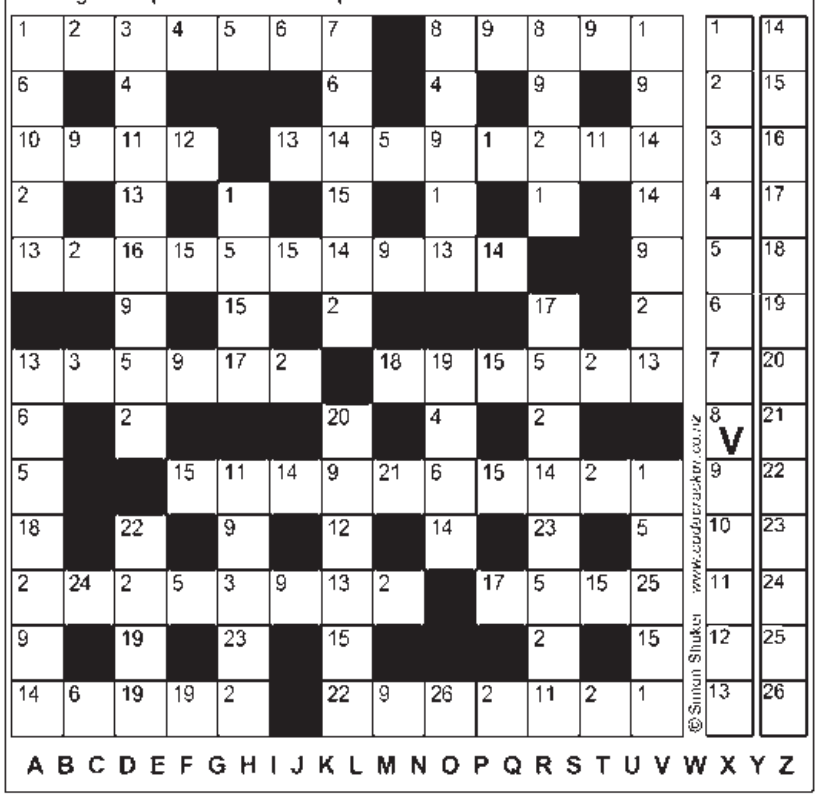




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SIMON SHUKER'S CODE-CRACKER Extra 927

EACH number in our Code-Cracker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. For example, today 8 represents V, so fill in V every time the figure 8 appears. You have one letter in the control grid to start you off. Enter it in the appropriate squares in the main grid and solve the starter word. Fill in other squares in the main and control grids with the found letters and look for the next word. Follow the word trail through the puzzle to its completion. *Visit www.codecracker.co.nz*



Sudoku

3				2	7	4		
9						2		8
		1	3		5		6	
		2	6					
			8		9			
					2	5		
	7		4		3	8		
2		9						3
		4	2	6				7

HARD

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

Previous solution

8	3	5	2	9	7	1	6	4
9	7	1	5	6	4	3	8	2
2	4	6	8	3	1	5	9	7
4	2	9	6	5	8	7	1	3
6	1	3	4	7	2	9	5	8
7	5	8	9	1	3	2	4	6
5	9	7	3	8	6	4	2	1
3	8	2	1	4	9	6	7	5
1	6	4	7	2	5	8	3	9

Previous solution

1 D	2 R	3 I	4 Z	5 L	6 E	7 S	8 V	9 X	10 K	11 A	12 U	13 O
14 B	15 C	16 Q	17 T	18 F	19 Y	20 P	21 J	22 W	23 M	24 H	25 G	26 N

All puzzles © The Puzzle Company
www.thepuzzlecompany.co.nz

Previous crossword solution

ACROSS: 1 Obese, 4 Alfresco, 9 Divert, 14 Broke, 15 Gulliver's Travels, 17 Comma, 18 Rag, 19 Rejoice, 20 Magnesium, 21 Unclad, 24 Initiated, 25 Astral, 26 Touchy, 29 Adaptation, 31 Lip, 32 Hatred, 33 Bump, 35 Eye, 37 Opus, 39 Indonesia, 40 Spectator, 41 Rogue, 42 Gardener, 47 Besmirch, 51 Users, 55 Eavesdrop, 56 Promising, 58 Seem, 59 Tie, 60 Disc, 61 Angina, 62 Ace, 63 Hypothesis, 66 Modest, 67 Ghouls, 69 Architect, 72 Asleep, 73 Menagerie, 75 Library, 77 Tad, 80 Turns, 81 Error of judgement, 82 Raise, 83 Breaks, 84 Annoying, 85 Faced.
DOWN: 2 Boulevard, 3 Salvo, 5 Lure, 6 Retract, 7 Stained glass, 8 Overs, 9 Disgust, 10 Vice, 11 Romany, 12 Board, 13 Lengthy, 14 Balloon, 16 Vaccination, 22 Tidied, 23 Lactose, 24 Imposed, 25 Appear, 27 Counter, 28 Serene, 30 Nuns, 32 Hedge, 34 Porch, 36 Stem, 38 Pea, 42 Greed, 43 Revised, 44 East, 45 Errand, 46 Vesta, 48 Sightseeing, 49 Inspect, 50 Cue, 51 Upright, 52 Speaks, 53 Dodecahedron, 54 Nigh, 57 Impair, 64 Ignorance, 65 Isolate, 66 Mystery, 68 Useless, 70 Chiefly, 71 Terror, 72 Admit, 74 Aorta, 76 Rumba, 78 Asia, 79 Ruin.

5x5

G		U		P
	I		E	
A		I		E
	I		E	
E		G		S

Insert the missing letters to complete ten words — five across the grid and five down. More than one solution may be possible.

Previous solution

T	A	C	O	S
A	W	A	S	H
M	A	N	I	A
P	I	N	E	D
S	T	A	R	E

WHAT'S ON IN THE COMMUNITY

Alcoholics Anonymous
Phone 0800 229 6757. If you have a drinking problem maybe we can help. AA Wanganui area meeting list: Sunday, St Johns Lutheran Church Hall, 51 Liverpool Street, Wanganui, 9am; Monday, Friendship Hall, Morris Street, Marton, 7.30pm; Tuesday, St Johns Lutheran Church Hall, 51 Liverpool Street, Wanganui, 12.30pm; Wednesday, St Luke's Church Hall, 34 Manuka Street, Castlecliff, 7.30pm; Thursday, St Johns Lutheran Church Hall 51 Liverpool Street, Wanganui 7.30pm; Al-Anon (family support) Fridays, Gonville Library meeting room, 12.30pm. Ph 0508 425 266.

Creative Fibre Whanganui
92 Peat Street Whanganui. Held once a week, Tuesday night 7pm-9pm and Wednesday morning 9.30am-1pm. Come and join our friendly group to spin, knit or weave wool or other fibres. Contact Barbara 021-365-067 or Gill 021-529-753.

Free computing
It is never too late to start your computer journey; our classes are for all ages and abilities. Come along and improve your computer confidence to start with, then learn how to format a document, create a spreadsheet and even put together slides for a presentation. Pick up a brochure from UCOL or call 0800 468 265 and enrol now!

What's On Notices
What's On in the Community notices are $10 for up to 50 words with the option of a colour heading for an extra $2 and/or a border for an extra $10. Contact River City Press, 52 Ingestre Street, Whanganui, by Tuesday 2pm to place your advert.

Friends Of Castlecliff Coast Care
Monday 5th October 9.30am. Meet at Castlecliff beach reserve. Look out for the red ute and trailer on the domain between Rangiora st and Manuka St.We will be weeding ice plants and mulching native plants. Bring your gardening gloves. See our Facebook page for details.

Hato Hone St John Book Sale
8-10 October. Thursday-Saturday, 10am-4pm. Magazine bundles, CDs and DVDs, Novels, Non Fiction, Gardening, Religion, Jigsaws, History, Science Fiction, NZ. Help support St John Whanganui. 25 Tawa Street, Whanganui. Something for everyone.

Healing Rooms
Do you need Christian prayer for Healing? Healing Rooms are open from 1.30pm to 3.30pm, every Wednesday in the Upper Lounge at Christ Church Community Centre, 243 Wicksteed Street. No appointment necessary and no charge. For further information, contact Mary on 022-152-5306.

Labour Party Hub
Open Monday to Friday, 10am-2pm. You are welcome to call in and check you are on the electoral roll and talk about Labour policies. Candidate Angela Roberts will be in the Hub on Friday 2nd Oct from 12 onwards.

Let's Ride: New Season | Same Freedom
Motorcyle Awareness event at Marshall Motorcycles. Saturday 3 October, 10am-12pm, 143 Ridgway St, Whanganui. Free coffee and sausage sizzle. Guest: Philip Bryant – Ride Forever Trainer. Free sign ups for Ride Forever courses. Supported by Horizons Regional Council, Ride Forever (An ACC Initiative) and Mootorcycle Awareness Month.

Matarawa Community Church
Our next service is on Sunday 5th October at 11.00am. It is a very special occasion because we have the Highland Pipe Band in attendance and a BBQ to follow the service. Plus the opportunity to enjoy food, Scottish music and warm companionship and, of course, a very warm welcome.

Rivercity Pickleball
Still wondering what this pickleball is all about? You are welcome to come and have a look. Our usual club sessions at Jubilee Stadium are Sundays 4.00pm-6.00pm, Wednesday 9am-11am, Thursday 6pm-8pm. To have a go – beginners must register: email rivercitypickleballnz@gmail.com

This Week at Wisdom Is Yours
Monday Hatha Yoga 5.30pm Grounding breath, gentle strength, and a calm start to your week. Tuesday Flow Day Qi Gong 9.30am – Yin Yoga 5.30pm Wednesday Qi Gong 5.30pm A peaceful mid-week reset through mindful movement. 3rd October from 10.30am Meditation with Emerging Medium Melanie, Followed at 11am by Tarot & Tea – also hosted by Melanie. A nourishing morning of insight, connection and intuitive exploration. 59 Victoria Ave, Whanganui 063455002

Wanganui Mahjong Club Inc Annual General Meeting
Monday 19 October, 1pm, Masonic Club Rooms, Dublin Street, Wanganui.

Weekly Twilight Art
Commencing Monday October 5, 7-9pm, Cooks Gallery, Trafalgar Place off Ridgway St. $3 Reference books available. Objects for still life. Assistance if required. Bring your own materials.

Whanganui Spiritual and Awareness Centre
Join us Sundays 7pm at the Quaker Meeting House, 256 Wicksteed St. Experience guest speakers and mediums, a healing meditation, raffle and supper. Connect, reflect and enjoy uplifting company. Koha appreciated. Everyone welcome. See our Facebook page for details or call 027 697 6308.

Whanganui Film Society
Whanganui Film Society, Monday 5 October 7pm: THE APARTMENT (1960, PG) Jack Lemmon and Shirley MacLaine shine in Billy Wilder's bittersweet comedy about ambition, romance and moral compromise. Davis Theatre, Watts St. Members only. Join at nzfilmsociety.org.nz/whanganui.html

Whanganui Vintage Fair
Retro, Antiques, Collectables, Vintage Clothing including modern brands. Books, toys, jewellery, metalware, carpets, furniture, pottery, art, china, Crown Lynn, glassware, coins, bottles, kitchenalia, paintings. Food and Cafe onsite. Springvale Stadium, October 25th (Sunday) 9.30-3.30 $2 entry. Ample parking. A great day out. Something for everyone. FB: Whanganui Vintage Fair.

Write for Rights, Whanganui Amnesty
12-2, Thursday October 8th, Gonville Library. All welcome. Your letters can save lives. Contact Rhona or Ruth. rhonavickoce@gmail.com ruthktidemann@gmail.com

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OBITUARY: Peter Hackett

Whanganui racing lost a valuable asset with the passing of Peter Hackett.

He was part of a family of farriers and closely connected to the Sport of Kings. Mr Hackett, who died following an accident, was aged 71.

His funeral was held in the Eulogy Lounge at the Wanganui Racecourse.

Mr Hackett was a long-time sponsor of the Parikino Sports. He loved both the horses and the people in the racing industry, racing horses himself.

He retired with a farmlet, which was notable for being tidy.

He had been a good polocross rider and enjoyed singing with the microphone on Karaoke nights. Mr Hackett maintained his fitness by riding an e-bike.

His twin brother, John, and another brother, Murray, travelled from Australia for Peter's funeral.

Peter Hackett and his brother Ian (Banjo) Hackett followed their father, Colin, as farriers in the region.



Sadly passed away recently...

Miriama Alice BROOKS,
on 27 September 2026, aged 46 years.
Anthony Charles (Gibbo) GIBBONS,
on 23 September 2026.
Moira Frances LUFF,
on 25 September 2026, aged 84 years.
Garth Reginald Gunn MASON,
on 25 September 2026.
Esther Margaret (nee Voss) MCIVOR,
on 23 September 2026, aged 85 years.
Hera Frances POMANA,
on 23 September 2026, aged 70 years.
Adrian Paki RURAWHE,
on 30 September 2026, aged 64 years.
Colleen Mary Josephine TREADWELL,
on 26 September 2026, aged 90 years.
Teena WRIGHT,
on 25 September 2026, aged 67 years.

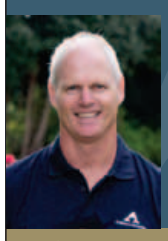
Volunteers needed urgently

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- Swimming Coach
- Prison Programme Support Person
- Assistant Swimming Coach
- Club Secretary/Admin Support
- Club Treasurer
- Grants Officer
- Bureau Interviewer
- Book Sale Assistant
- Library Staff
- Shop Assistant, Whanganui East
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Online Friend
- Community Centre/Library Assistant
- Fundraiser Coordinator
- Meals on Wheels Drivers
- Mobile Blood Drive Support Assistant

If you are interested in any of these Volunteer positions, please call or come and see us. Room 110, 60 Ridgway Street, Community House, "The old post office building" Wanganui. Opening hours: Monday–Thursday 9am–4pm. Ph (06) 3479430. Email: whanganuivolunteercentre@xtra.co.nz or visit our website for all our current positions: volunteerwhanganui.org.nz

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SITUATIONS VACANT

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Part-Time Property Maintenance Person

(30 hours per week – Term Time Only)
Primarily responsible to the Property Manager and to the Principal

We are looking for a part-time Property Maintenance person within our Support team to cover a staff member on extended leave.

A good level of fitness is required and an excellent understanding of Health and Safety matters, as well as: small-scale maintenance skills; a good level of carpentry skills; the physical ability to move furniture around the school; a good awareness of internal and external lighting requirements, and willingness to carry out emergency cleaning when necessary.

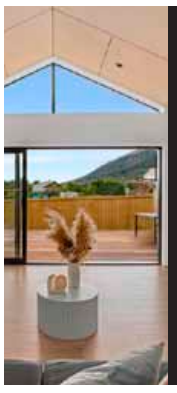
Initiative and effective communication skills with teenagers and adults are also central to this position.

A job description is available by emailing **principal@whs.ac.nz**

Please send your covering letter and CV to: **principal@whs.ac.nz**

Applications close at 4.00pm on Friday 9 October 2026

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PUBLIC NOTICES

SECTION 101 SALE AND SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL ACT 2012

Bains Limited, 1 Polson Street, Whanganui has made an application to the District Licensing Committee at Whanganui for a renewal of an On Licence in respect to the premises situated at 1 Polson Street, Whanganui and known as **Castlecliff Hotel**.

The general nature of the business conducted under the licence is a Hotel.

The days on which and the hours during which alcohol is sold under the licence are **Monday to Sunday, 9.00am to 2.00am the following day.**

The application may be inspected during ordinary office hours at the office of the Whanganui District Licensing Committee at 101 Guyton Street, Whanganui.

Any person who is entitled to object and who wishes to object to the issue of the licence may, not later than 25 working days after the first date of the publication of this notice, file a notice in writing of the objection with the Secretary of the District Licensing Committee at DLCadministration@whanganui.govt.nz.

No objection to the issue of a license may be made in relation to a matter other than a matter specified in section 131 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

This is the second publication of this notice.

The first notice was published on September 24, 2026.

SECTION 101 SALE AND SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL ACT 2012

George Hospitality Group Limited, PO Box 12-011, Inner City, Palmerston North 4444 has made application to the District Licensing Committee at Whanganui for the issue of an On licence in respect of the premises situated at 45 Anzac Parade, Whanganui known as **The Cobb/Speedway Garage**.

The general nature of the business conducted under the licence is a Tavern.

The days on which and the hours during which alcohol is intended to be sold under the licence are **Monday to Sunday 8.00am to 2.00am the following day.**

The application may be inspected during ordinary office hours at the office of the Whanganui District Licensing Committee at 101 Guyton Street, Whanganui.

Any person who is entitled to object and who wishes to object to the issue of the licence may, not later than 25 working days after the first date of the publication of this notice, file a notice in writing of the objection with the Secretary of the District Licensing Committee at DLCadministration@whanganui.govt.nz

No objection to the issue of a licence may be made in relation to a matter other than a matter specified in section 105(1) of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol 2012.

This is the second publication of this notice.

The first notice was published on September 24, 2026.

SECTION 101 SALE AND SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL ACT 2012

Jenta Limited, 48 Ridgway Street, Whanganui has made application to the District Licensing Committee at Whanganui for the renewal of an On Licence in respect of the premises situated at 48-52 Ridgway Street, Whanganui, known as **The Rutland Arms Inn**.

The general nature of the business conducted under the licence is a hotel.

The days on which and the hours during which alcohol is sold under the licence are **Monday to Sunday, 8.00am to 2.00am the following day.**

The application may be inspected during ordinary office hours at the office of the Whanganui District Licensing Committee at 101 Guyton Street, Whanganui.

Any person who is entitled to object and who wishes to object to the issue of the licence may, not later than 25 working days after the first date of the publication of this notice, file a notice in writing of the objection with the Secretary of the District Licensing Committee at DLCadministration@whanganui.govt.nz.

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This is the second publication of this notice.

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Ivy Goldfinger

Diana's Daffodils

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IN YOUR COMMUNITY

IHC Whanganui Association AGM

5.30pm MONDAY, 19 OCTOBER
46 Alma Road, Alma Gardens

Guest Speaker: Phil Clarke
IHC Library, Wellington

Light refreshments served

Contact: Linda Keith
021 230 4095

TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O Whanganui DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council meetings

October 2026

You are welcome to attend Whanganui District Council public meetings.

Strategy and Policy Committee	Tuesday, 6 October 9.30am	Council Chamber, 101 Guyton Street
Risk and Assurance	Thursday, 8 October 1.00pm	Council Chamber, 101 Guyton Street
CCO and Economic Growth Committee	Tuesday, 20 October 9.30am	Council Chamber, 101 Guyton Street
Operations and Performance Committee	Thursday, 22 October 9.30am	Council Chamber, 101 Guyton Street
Council Meeting	Tuesday, 27 October 9.30am	Council Chamber, 101 Guyton Street
Strategy and Policy Committee	Thursday, 29 October 9.30am	Council Chamber, 101 Guyton Street

Agendas and livestreaming are available at:
whanganui.govt.nz/agendas

If you have flu-like symptoms, please stay home and tune into the livestream.

whanganui.govt.nz

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9 Tui Street	BEO $399,000	1.30 - 2.00pm
135 Harrison Street	BEO $505,000	2.30 - 3.15pm
11 Lincoln Road	BEO $495,000	3.30 - 4.00pm
Sunday		
32 Purnell Street	$865,000	11.00 - 11.30am
12 Downes Avenue	COMING NEXT WEEK	
34 Treadwell Street	$538,000	1.00 - 1.30pm
60 Marybank Road	$710,000	2.00 - 2.45pm
17 Bell Street	$855,000	3.15 - 3.45pm

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SPORTS NEWS

New fund aims to get whānau playing

The Y Central and Ruapehu REAP is inviting local schools, marae and community organisations to bring their creative play ideas to life during Play Week 2026, with applications now open for the Pop-Up Play Fund.

Initiated by Sport NZ, Play Week takes place from Monday 19 October to Sunday 25 October 2026 and aims to promote the value of play. This year's theme, *Whānau play where whānau are*, highlights the importance of making play easy to access and responsive to the interests, spaces and strengths of each community.

To help communities celebrate Play Week this year, Y Central and Ruapehu REAP is offering eligible groups across Whanganui, Rangitīkei and Ruapehu up to $300 to create fun, inclusive and community-led play activities for tamariki, rangatahi and whānau.

Sport Whanganui Healthy Active Learning Lead, Jen Bagshaw says, "Play helps tamariki build confidence, creativity and movement skills, as well as strengthening connections with whānau through quality time and fun, shared experiences."

"Creating opportunities for whānau of all ages to play together during Play Week – and any time – supports both active lifestyles and stronger relationships."

The Pop-Up Play Fund is supported through Sport NZ's Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa Fund. Sport Whanganui is working alongside The Y Central and Ruapehu REAP to distribute the Pop-Up Play Fund across Whanganui, Ruapehu and Rangitīkei.

Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa is a partnership between Sport NZ and Regional Sports Trusts that funds programmes and projects providing play, active recreation and sport experiences for tamariki and rangatahi.

Applications opened on 21 September and close on 9 October. Schools, marae and local community organisations can find links to the application forms on The Y Central and Ruapehu REAP Facebook pages. Whanganui groups should apply through the Y Central, Ruapehu and Rangitīkei groups should apply through Ruapehu REAP.



Social Walking Football open for all ages



After a successful Winter season of Walking Football at Wembley Park, the Walking Football Community group, led by Terry Jones, is ready to launch a new way for more people to stay active and connected: Summer Twilight Walking Football League, including for businesses and local organisations.

The emphasis is on fun. No experience of football is required, just a readiness to have a laugh with mates, and an opportunity to make more friends. There's no need for football boots or shin pads, just low-impact footwear like sneakers, and comfortable clothing.

"Football can be a bit rough-and-tuff in all the football leagues, even in the social. So it puts a lot of people off, and particularly women and older players. So what we thought is, we should instigate walking football on a Tuesday evening," explains Terry.

Adding, "We have such a laugh and a joke when we play. There is no physical contact, no tackling, because you're not allowed to run, you power-walk for the ball."

Two games will be played, 30 minutes each, with a 15-minute break in between.

Terry says, "It's six-aside, but it's actually a really good idea to have a bigger team, to have a team of 8, 10, 12 players. That way, you can have rolling substitutions; people can come on and off, play for 10 minutes, then have a drink, and watch some of the action."

The proposed start date is 13 October; a great way to make the most of lighter evenings with the introduction of Daylight Saving on 27 September. The cost for a team to play from October through to March 2027, with a brief Christmas break, is about $150 for up to 12 players. Individuals are welcome to join too, and Terry will place them on a team. Contact Terry on 022 1905 016 for more information and to register your team.

Wanganui Croquet Club results



Croquet Summerset Winter Cup Winners - Jennt Forrest and Tony Polkinghorne

The Golf Croquet season's competitions started Tuesday, 22 September with the Summerset Cup. This is a doubles advantage play competition. Members entered into the competition enter individually, and once entries are closed they are drawn into pairs. This season there were twenty-four individual entries resulting in twelve pairs. The pairs were drawn into two groups of six, with the format being one round of five games with the pair finishing top in each group going into a best-of-three final. Games in both groups were hotly contested. The pair of Jenny Forrest and Tony Polkinghorne finished top of Group A winning all five of their games. Group B was a lot tighter with two pairs on four wins. Through the countback process, Pam Badcock & Sue Aiken edged out Sherry Pedley & Toni Brider in this Group.

The final featured two very competitive pairs fighting for every hoop. The first game was decided at the 13th hoop with Jenny and Tony winning. The second game went to the 14th hoop with both pairs on their last peg. Eventually, Jenny and Tony sealed the Cup victory by taking the second game 7–6.

Indoor bowls results

Indoor Bowls results

Wanganui Team third in the NZ Mixed 4s Zone final. The team were as follows: Les Heywood, Chrissy Adams, Craig Bourne and Karen Lawrie.

Champion of Champion Singles: 1st: Les Heywood (Eastown Club) **R/Up:** Ian Harnel (Castlecliff Club).

Champion of Champion Pairs: 1st: Les Heywood and Robert Sinclair (Eastown Club) **R/Up:** Alton Heaslip and Pam Dawson (Castlecliff Club).

Target Shooting results

Target Shooting

Westmere: Ian Mottram 96.04, 97.01/193.05, Shaun Peat 92.02, 93.01/185.03, Connor Bunn 85.01, 47.00/132.01, Emmett Bunn 88.01, 86.01/174.02, Ian Hodges 94.02, 91.02/185.04, Owen Bunn 93.02, 91.03/184.05, Hannah Cameron 88.00, 91.03/179.03, Andrew Cameron 88.01, 89.02/177.03, Lisa Laurence 88.02, Jed Glasgow 92.01, 88.01/180.02, Renee Glasgow 82.00, 81.00/163.00.

Barracks: Aria Hill 95.03, 96.02/191.05, Dave Westcott 97.02, 96.03/193.05, Raewyne Simpson 95.01, Tom Turner 96.04, 96.04/192.08, Trevor Rush 86.02, William Hird 89.00, Patrick McCartie 94.02, Lucian Prime 93.01, James Prime 96.06, Marshall Munro 86.00, Glen McCartie 94.02, Finlay Rhodes 93.01, Liam Penwarden 91.02, Spencer Sutherland 91.02, Pieta Martin 91.03, Blake Greenlees 85.00, Jackson Hay 88.00, Dakoda Philp-Wright 91.01.

Marton: Tony Bayler 100.08, 98.05/198.13, James Jewell 98.04, 98.06/196.10, Brogan Baldwin 98.06, 97.06/195.12, Gary Cuff 96.03, 97.04/193.07, Fred de Burgh 94.02, 98.03/192.05.

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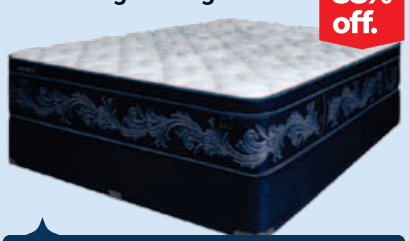


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View Sun 4 Oct 12.00 - 12.30pm
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Imagine having the best of Whanganui right on your doorstep, while coming home to your own private, low-maintenance retreat. Tucked away from the street and thoughtfully positioned in a highly convenient central location, 118A Glasgow Street offers an enviable combination of comfort, privacy and effortless living. Built in 2007, this substantial 149 m2 (approx) brick home has been designed for easy living, with three generous bedrooms, a family bathroom plus separate toilet. At the heart of the home, the open-plan kitchen, dining and living area is made for gathering and entertaining.



Nikki Greenwood
M 021 136 8500

Gonville 81A Swiss Avenue



Sunny, elevated and easy-care

3 1 1 1

For Sale Buyers $429,000+
View Sun 4 Oct 1.00 - 1.30pm
Web pb.co.nz/**WGU236723**

Tucked away from the road in a quiet, elevated position, this comfortable three bedroom home offers low-maintenance living with a great mix of privacy, sunshine and practicality. Built in 2010, the home is double glazed, with gas heating to keep things cosy when needed. The light-filled open-plan living area provides an inviting space for everyday living, with two ranch sliders opening out to sheltered and private patio areas, perfect for enjoying the sun, entertaining friends or simply relaxing outdoors.



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