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Baden's epic motorcycle journey for charity ends after accident, but the good work continues

BY LOUISE FOLLETT

Baden Brown journeyed for seven months across the globe, enduring temperatures ranging from 45°C to -7°C, blizzards, and challenging border crossings, all on a motorcycle. For the most part, he travelled alone, man and machine.

The purpose of this epic journey was to raise funds for a hospital in Chennai, India, which gives vital care to people living in poverty. Baden has raised NZ$120,000 to date and fundraising continues.

What also endures is Baden's unwavering belief in the goodness of humans across the globe, which he experienced firsthand. The inspiration for the journey was Colleen Redit, a person who has goodness in bucketloads. Colleen, originally from Whanganui, has lived in India for over 60 years, aiding the poor. She established the Christian Missions Charitable Trust (CMCT), with the Chennai hospital being at the heart of her work.

Baden says, "Colleen is the reason why I did this. She went to India in 1964 to help people in the very poor areas of Chennai. And she's still there today. She's in her twilight years and not able to do what she really wants to do, but in her wisdom, she has passed on what she was doing to Indian people."

The intention is for the hospital, once refurbished with overseas support, to be self-sustaining, and Baden's journey and fundraising aim to work toward this goal.

Planning such an audacious trip, one Baden confesses takes a touch of "crazy" to embark on, took years.

With the support of several kind sponsors, Baden set off on 25 February this year. Go Air Land & Sea generously funded the sea and air transport of his bike.

"I flew to Brisbane and met up with the bike and started the journey through Australia."

Baden journeyed south to Melbourne, across to Perth. Then he flew from Perth to Singapore and met the bike in Malaysia. Customs issues held up the bike for two weeks, which had a knock-on effect on the next part of his journey through China, as Baden had a date to meet a touring party. If you are travelling on your own or with a foreign-plated bike, Chinese law requires you to hire a registered Chinese travel agency or tour operator and be accompanied by a licensed local guide.

"I got the bike from Malaysia customs on the 10th of April, the day I was meant to meet the tour party in Shangri-La, China. The tour company rebooked for the 16th, so I had six days to get from Malaysia right up into Shangri-La, China: a 4000km journey through Malaysia, Thailand and Laos – where a fuel crisis restricted availability." Baden circumvented this problem by filling his tank in Thailand.

At the Thailand-Laos border, Baden was happy to meet an Australian traveller, Mick, heading in the same direction.

"He joined me for this part of the trip, which was fantastic because going through land borders with a bike is quite tricky."

Finally, Baden reached China.

"At the Chinese border, I had to get a special license into China because I'm over 60, so you have to have your license redone. I had to do an eye test, an ear test, a cognitive test.

"I had to complete a computer test to show I actually understood what was going on in China."

The solo journey continued to the tour group meeting place – Shangri La, the capital of the Diqing Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, over 3000 metres above sea level – and the climb would get even higher.

"We travelled through Tibet together, a wonderful place. Honestly, that would be the highlight of the trip.

"We stayed at Everest Base Camp for a night at 5200 metres altitude, which was challenging."

At this altitude, humans struggle with thinner oxygen, but the group's gradual ascent helped them acclimatise. The motorbike was another matter, as Baden discovered.

"The reality is mine is an older bike. It's a 2003 Honda XL650 Transalp.

It has carburettors, which means it probably should have been adjusted more, or had different jets, before I went in there.

Continued on page 3



Baden Brown in Rikaze Tibet, camping in very cold weather.

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Hatrick Hall - a local venue with history and heart

Located at 27 Hatrick Street, Hatrick Hall is part of the Wanganui Commercial Club Inc, a club with roots stretching all the way back to 1903. It was founded by Whanganui businessman, entrepreneur and mayor, Alexander Hatrick.

Hatrick Hall sits behind the Commercial Club, and access will be from Hatrick Street. The club will be building a fence between the Hall and the Spriggins Park. There is free on-site parking

The hall and surrounding areas have been updated and refreshed while keeping its character. The kitchen has also received a major upgrade, and new mood lighting and heating has been installed.

It has been a real community effort, with club members and supporters contributing their time, skills and materials to help bring the hall together.

But the most striking is a feature mural created by local artist Michelle Sigley – The Flawsome Artist – which covers most of the wall. It brings colour, personality and a real sense of character. It also makes a great backdrop for photos.

The hall is available for hire. BYO is permitted, and with no close neighbours, there is no need to worry about disturbing the house next door. The hall is 19 metres long by 9 metres wide.

While there are enough tables and chairs for a meeting, hirers can bring their own tables and chairs, crockery, decorations, catering and other equipment to transform the space to suit anything from a relaxed family gathering to workshops, fundraisers and community events, and special occasions such as a birthday parties and wedding ceremonies.

The Club wants the hall to be an affordable option with charges of $150 for four hours or $300 for a full day, which typically can go from lunch one day to lunch the next day. For more information, go to www.hatrickhall.co.nz. For bookings, email bookings@hatrickhall.co.nz



Hatrick Hall with a fantastic new mural along the wall.

Summer Sun & Your Eyes: The Importance of UV Protection



By Optical Assistant Jessica Alder

Summer is on the horizon, bringing longer days, warmer temperatures and more time outdoors. As we embrace the sunshine it is important to remember to protect our eyes from harmful UV exposure.

Research published by McKenzie et al. 2006 found that in summer New Zealand experiences 40% higher peak UV levels than other countries on a similar latitude in the Northern Hemisphere. This is due to seasonal thinning of the ozone layer, the earth's elliptical orbit and air quality.

Inadequate protection from UV exposure can have short-term and long-term effects on our eyes. Short term exposure can lead to photokeratitis (corneal sunburn), squinting and fatigue while repeated UV exposure may contribute to more serious eye conditions such as cataracts, Macular Degeneration and abnormal growths on the surface of the eye.

So, what should we be looking for when choosing a pair of sunglasses? Beyond style, lens quality, UV protection and frame coverage all matter. Polarised lenses can reduce reflected glare from surfaces such as water and roads, improving visual comfort. Frames that provide good coverage and fit closely to the face can also help minimize UV and light entering from the sides.

Maui Jim is a great example of how lens technology can go beyond simply reducing brightness. Its PolarizedPlus2 technology eliminates up to 99.9% of horizontal glare with patented treatment that selectively manages different wavelengths of light. This technology enhances colour and contrast and provides 100% UVA and UVB protection.

So this summer don't just soak up the sun – protect your eyes from it.

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Local rock band to celebrate with show after half a million streams

Whanganui band My Damned Kind, formerly Narcosis, pivoted from Metallica tribute shows to original music. The band has now hit nearly 500,000 streams on N1 Music and is celebrating with a rock show at Frank Bar on 23 October, alongside Whanganui bands Silver Sonics and Burn the Machines.

The stars are aligning for My Damned Kind, who also learned this week that a release "God of Hate" from their most recent album *Dogma* has hit No. 1 on N1 Music for Rock in New Zealand. These are hard-earned wins in a competitive independent music landscape and a great boost for the live return after two years off.

Mathew Lorigan, lead guitarist and vocalist for My Damned Kind, says, "We're looking to get out there and make a bit of noise again."

The bands joining My Damned Kind will be adding to the volume.

Mathew Lorigan says, "Burn the Machines are awesome. They've got a bit of a new lineup going on and doing some Seattle music rock covers, you know, so some real good, you know, just general good rock."

Andrew Weatherall's original band Silver Sonics completes the lineup.

Mathew says get along to experience this indie-rock, neo-psych, pop/rock band, "If people haven't heard them, I'd definitely recommend that they do, because they've got a really good sound going on."

If you want to get into the new album sound before the gig, go to mydamnedkind.bandcamp.com/album/dogma to grab a digital version.

Tickets for the rock show are available from Eventfinder for $20 plus a booking fee. There will be door sales too at $30 if it doesn't sell out.



My Damned Kind performing next Friday at Frank Bar.

TICKETS GIVEAWAY

River City Press is giving away a double pass to a lucky reader. Email rivercitypress@xtra.co.nz with My Damned Kind in the subject line along with your name and contact details in the body. Alternatively, drop your entry at RCP, 52 Ingestre Street. Entries close on 20 October.

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Fashion icon Karen Walker to headline major Whanganui events

Karen Walker will deliver the 2026 Bill Milbank Memorial Lecture at Te Whare o Rehua Sarjeant Gallery on 4 November before joining local fashion retailer Just Looking the following evening for a special runway show supporting Alzheimer's Whanganui.

The visit by one of New Zealand's most influential creative figures is expected to draw fashion, business and arts enthusiasts from across the lower North Island and highlights Whanganui's growing reputation as a destination for major cultural events.

Internationally acclaimed designer Karen Walker is renowned for building a distinctive global brand from New Zealand, with work spanning fashion, jewellery, eyewear and publishing.

Sarjeant Gallery director Andrew Clifford said securing Walker as this year's Bill Milbank Memorial Lecturer was a significant coup for the city.

"Karen Walker is one of New Zealand's most significant creative leaders. Through her remarkable career she has demonstrated how imagination, resilience and originality can transcend national boundaries and connect with audiences around the world," he said.

"We are delighted to welcome Karen to Whanganui. Her visit reflects the calibre of speakers and events we are increasingly able to bring to the city through Te Whare o Rehua Sarjeant Gallery. Her perspective on creativity, leadership and collaboration promises to inspire not only those working in the arts, but anyone interested in innovation and business."

The annual lecture honours the legacy of former Sarjeant Gallery director Bill Milbank, who led the gallery for 27 years. Established to spark discussion around creativity, culture, innovation and entrepreneurship, the lecture series has quickly become a key event on Whanganui's cultural calendar.

Walker will speak about the role creativity plays in business success, leadership and cultural vitality, drawing on her own journey from New Zealand designer to global entrepreneur. The lecture will be followed by refreshments.



Karen Walker

Her Whanganui visit continues on 5 November with A Night to Remember with Karen Walker, a runway show hosted by Just Looking in association with Alzheimer's Whanganui.

The runway show will include styles from the Karen Walker range alongside other leading labels stocked by the long-standing Victoria Avenue retailer. Guests will enjoy bubbles, canapés and have the opportunity to meet Karen, as following the show the evening will continue with in-store shopping.

Together, the two events offer Whanganui residents the rare chance to hear from one of New Zealand's most successful creative entrepreneurs and meet a designer whose influence extends well beyond the fashion world.

Tickets for both events are on sale now via the Sarjeant Gallery and Just Looking.

Baden's epic motorcycle journey for charity ends after accident, but the good work continues

Continued from page 1

It has carburettors, which means it probably should have been adjusted more, or had different jets, before I went in there.But I didn't, so I had to just cope with it.

"At 5000 metres, it was snowing, blowing, and the bikes was down to first gear."

What goes up must come down, through Nepal and into India. There were no more altitude issues, but the temperature rose – from -7°C in Tibet to 45°C in India.

Baden was once again travelling solo, but he would soon be at the heart of his journey, Chennai, India, with Colleen Redit, the Christian Missions Charitable Trust (CMCT) and the hospital – a humbling experience.

"I did a big loop of India right from the north, down to Chennai, where the mission organisation is, where Colin Redit is, and I spent six weeks in India.

"I wanted to drive through Pakistan and Iran to Turkey and then on. Because of the war, I couldn't do that. The border between India and Pakistan was closed, so I had to put the bike on a boat at Mumbai over to Turkey."

Baden visited Anzac Cove and Chunuk Bair, a poignant reminder of the sacrifices young men made, and it put his own challenges into perspective.

His challenges would soon take on a more frightening turn, when three hours into Albania from Greece, his "man and motorcycle" journey took an abrupt end when he awoke in an Albanian hospital with no recollection of the accident. Without any scans, the hospital released him.

"The next morning, I was walking up the street in Tirana. I had no data on my phone, no internet, and no cash. I had no boots, because they'd taken those off, and blood on my face.

"I must have looked a real state. But sfter three attempts I finally found a café that would let me use their internet. I was able to contact a person whom I was meant to be meeting the night before. They came and picked me up. They were really great."

Finally, he was taken to another hospital where scans revealed he had a complete ACL, MCL and MPFL ruptures and a lucky escape from more serious injury.

He's philosophical about the abrupt ending that disrupted the rest of his European journey, because it gave him the chance to spend more time in Ireland and Scotland with supporters and trustees who have also dedicated significantly to Chennai Hospital. Ireland and Scotland felt like home to Baden.

The journey pushed him outside his comfort zone but also showed him that people are inherently good, offering help, meals, and places to stay along the way. Language may not always be shared, but acts of kindness and generosity are universal.

Baden wants to thank his wife, Glenda Brown, from the bottom of his heart.

"She needs to be mentioned as a person who needs a medal. I have huge admiration for her. Without her supporting me to do this, it wouldn't have been possible."

People have made sacrifices for a great cause: Chennai Hospital. If you'd like to make a small sacrifice, maybe forgo a couple of coffees, that would be very much appreciated.

For more information on the adventure, the hospital, and to donate, visit: www.upfromdownunder.co.nz

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Education Wed 28 Oct
With Hon Erica Stanford and Carl Bates
11:30am Repertory Theatre, Whanganui

National



Authorised by C Bates, carl.bates@national.org.nz



Rare Giant Spear Lily flowering



An RCP reader, Tina, shared some glorious photos of a beautiful Giant Spear Lily, *Doryanthes palmeri*, currently blooming at Rotokawau Virginia Lake. Tina says that, according to Google, the plant only flowers every 5–10 years. An Australian government website describes it as a "hardy, low-maintenance monocot endemic to northeast New South Wales and southeast Queensland; roasted *Doryanthes* flower spikes were used as a food source for Indigenous Australians, and the roots were mashed into a pulp and made into cakes." The Giant Spear Lily is located along the path from the "boat ramp" along the lake edge.

The Australian National Botanic gardens website states the flowers typically bloom for three to five weeks.

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Driveology is a locally owned Mobile automotive service with Theo Van de Steeg at the helm, offering servicing, general mechanical repairs and diagnostics. He's a man on a mission, bringing the highest professional standards to every job he does at your place.

His wife, Phillippa, handles the administration side of the business and is 100 percent behind his commitment to excellence, because it is ingrained in him.

Theo is a second-generation mechanic, and he qualified about 24 years ago.

"I was already helping my dad out in his shop when I was like 10. I've been doing this for as long as I can remember."

Having been in the industry so long, he's seen many changes and says the pace is accelerating. One reason he loves running his own business is that he can take every opportunity to do the latest training and keep pace with those changes.

"If I was working for someone else, I might be waiting around for a training course every few years. I've done a stackload of training courses. "I'm fascinated by the technology in modern vehicles," says Theo.

That's great news for his clients, plus the benefit of knowing who is working on your car, and that it's happening at your home or business, so you can talk with Theo and understand exactly what he's doing and why. Transparency is his byword.

Theo has also worked for an industry trainer in New Zealand, which he found humbling – he learnt a vast amount from the best. That standard of workmanship remains his benchmark.

Always wanting to be the best in his field, Theo says, "For a guy like me, I try and measure myself to those people."

That's another tick for Driveology.

Safety for his clients is also paramount, and Theo says not all car parts are created equal. It rests on his shoulders to research parts and know which ones will last the distance for his clients' vehicles.

Philippa adds, "I do wonder whether fatherhood really drove that point home for Theo. All of a sudden, he'd look at a car differently and think, "That's carrying my newborn baby home."

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Wicker 6:15pm	Derek vs Derek 11:15am	Once Upon a Time 11:15am	Hill 11:15am	The Three Urns 10:30am	Borges and Me 11:15am	Queen at Sea 10:45am	The Three Urns 11:15am
Opening Night	Mother's Pride 1:15pm	The Incomer 1:15pm	Night & Day 1:15pm	500 Miles 12:30pm	Hill 1:30pm	The Lost Children 1:15pm	Whitetail 1:15pm
	Everybody to 3:15pm	The Three Urns 3:30pm	Mother's Pride 3:30pm	Wicker 2:45pm	Night & Day 3:30pm	Kenny Dalglish 3:15pm	Once Upon a Time 3:30pm
	Queen at Sea 5:15pm	Wicker 5:30pm	A Talent for Murder 5:30pm	The Uprising 5:00pm	Derek vs Derek 5:30pm	Mother's Pride 5:30pm	California Schemin' 5:30pm
	Whitetail 7:45pm	The Uprising 7:45pm	Bad Apples 7:45pm	The Lost Children 7:30pm	The Incomer 7:30pm	A Talent for Murder 7:30pm	Night & Day 7:45pm

THU 05 NOV	FRI 06 NOV	SAT 07 NOV	SUN 08 NOV
Mother's Pride 11:30am	Whitetail 10:45am	Night & Day 11:00am	Hill 10:45am
The Lost Children 1:30pm	Queen at Sea 1:00pm	The Lost Children 1:00pm	A Talent for Murder 12:45pm
The Three Urns 3:30pm	The Incomer 3:30pm	My Duchess 3:00pm	Tender Loving Care 3:00pm
Everybody to 5:45pm	A Talent for Murder 5:45pm	500 Miles 5:30pm	Elsinore 5:15pm
Derek vs Derek 7:45pm	Bad Apples 8:00pm	Ink 7:45pm	The Incomer 7:30pm

MON 09 NOV	TUE 10 NOV	WED 11 NOV
Borges and Me 11:00am	A Talent for Murder 11:00am	Mother's Pride 11:30am
Parky 1:15pm	Night & Day 1:15pm	Once Upon a Time 1:30pm
Queen at Sea 3:15pm	Kenny Dalglish 3:15pm	The Lost Children 3:30pm
The Three Urns 5:45pm	California Schemin' 5:30pm	Parky 5:30pm
Whitetail 7:45pm	The Uprising 7:45pm	Ink 7:30pm

BOOK NOW!



Mate, do you play backgammon, like seriously? Call John

John Verner is a man who loves a good passion. From collecting vintage knitting patterns for their quirky imagery to nurturing an abundant garden where he grows enough of the spicy green herb to supply all of Whanganui … cilantro, that is. Now he's discovered a love for backgammon, and he wants to shout out to the Whanganui community to unearth other players.

His backgammon fever began online, from playing on Facebook or backgammongalaxy.com to watching the greats like Masayuki "Mochy" Mochizuki, Sander Lylloff and the like on YouTube.

John's partner Jane doesn't feel quite the same way about the game. So, John is seeking players for face-to-face combat across the backgammon board. He's talking about tournament backgammon, where a "2 cube" (doubling cube) is turned to 2 to double the stakes, and a "time clock" (dual game clock) is used to limit how long each player takes.

If you enjoy the frisson of tournament backgammon, and you might say, "The more risk the merrier, huzzah!", John would like to hear from you.

Speaking of frisson, despite being a relative novice, John entered the Bayleys North Island Backgammon Competition, recently held in Raglan. Before leaving for the event, John's self-talk went something like this: "You're going to go in for this tournament, and you're going to scare yourself."

As the new kid on the block, without pedigree, John challenged some of the best in the game and won four of the first five games.

"I'd never played face-to-face with a 2 cube or a clock. I was totally nervous. I beat Jason Forsyth in my first game. He was the 2023 champion."

The wins kept coming, and people were leaning in and asking, "Who's this John guy?"

In the Round of 16, he met his match and was knocked out of the tournament. Still, not bad for a newcomer.

John says, "Nobody wound me up too much or took the mickey out of my novice status, which they could have done. I thought it was very nicely organised, very friendly and welcoming."



John's fateful game with Richard Bean, who took him out of the tournament.

He loved it so much that he's currently competing in the Australian Open Championship, held in Tweed Heads, Queensland, 15–19 October.

Touch base with him next week, when he returns. John thinks a local café might be a good place to host tournament-style backgammon sessions. Email John at: verner.john@gmail.com

Don't be shy; John still has his feet on the ground. As he says, "It is a lot of luck-based, though. The dice have to go your way."

Music jam session this Sunday

Warmer weather, more daylight and budding hope – Porridge Watson brings you jazz this coming Sunday.

This month's band will be a collective led by Dave Griffiths on bass, Riwai Hina on trombone, Sanji Gunasekara on keys, Fred Loveridge on guitar, Joe Kennedy on saxophone, Richard Singleton on trumpet and Michael Franklin-Browne on drums. There will be guest performances by Molly Burke, Kate Valentine and a host of others.



In keeping with the spirit of a jam session, the band does not rehearse, instead improvising during performances.

Perform with the band, join in from the audience or simply soak up the atmosphere – everyone is welcome to share in this lively celebration of spontaneous music and community.

Monthly International Jazz Day jam sessions continue thanks to participating musicians, an enthusiastic audience, and Porridge Watson's owner, Tony Sundman, who waives the cover charge and prepares mulled wine for the occasion.

Join us for an afternoon of music, friendship, and warm hospitality.

Sunday 18 October, 4–6pm at Porridge Watson, 30 Drews Ave.





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Castlecliff Community Working Bee
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River City Press Bouquet



Nicola with some of her knitted items.

The RCP Bouquet goes to Gloria Wilding in recognition of her tireless and generous work for several charities in our community.

Sandra Brown from the Rivercity Machine Knitters nominated Gloria and says, "Gloria is a valued member of the Rivercity Machine Knitters group. Her main charitable work is knitting baby garments alongside our group for the Special Care Unit at Whanganui Hospital."

Her generosity extends even further. Gloria makes trauma dolls for the Rural Bunnythorpe Fire Brigade, and she also knits hot water bottle covers, beanies, slippers, scarves and knee rugs for the Palmerston North ambulance service that supports cancer patients.

At 81 years of age, Gloria knits from the moment she wakes until she goes to bed, whether she is working on a knitting machine or knitting by hand. Her dedication, kindness and remarkable commitment to helping others are truly inspiring.

"I believe Gloria is thoroughly deserving of the RCP Bouquet, and it would be wonderful to see her recognised for the warmth and care she brings to so many people throughout our community."

The RCP surprised Gloria at the regular meeting of the Rivercity Machine Knitters with a beautiful bouquet of flowers put together by Nicola and her team at the Flower Room.

PIZZA & POLITICS

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Auth by M. Ross, greens.org.nz

The best business advice in Whanganui this month might come from a LEGO expert

Some of the sharpest thinkers in the world are heading to Whanganui this weekend, and local business owners have a seat at the table.

The Designing Tomorrow Summit opens Festival of Design Aotearoa on 16 and 17 October. Hear how Denmark's city of Kolding put design at the heart of everything it does, from Chief Design Officer Mikael Sorknæs.

Global creative director Tom Eslinger shares what decades at the edge of advertising and technology have taught him. A panel with Kara Technologies CEO Dr Arash Tayebi gets real about what AI means for the way we work.

Then on Sunday 18 October, Dr Bo Stjerne Thomsen, former head of impact at LEGO Education, shows how people learn best by building, testing and trying again. It's a powerful idea for any business that needs its team to keep adapting.

Helen Garner, CEO of Business Whanganui, says the festival is a rare opportunity for local businesses to tap into fresh ideas and global expertise, right on their doorstep – usually you'd have to fly overseas.

"When you're busy running a business, it's easy to get caught up in the day-to-day. Events like this give you a chance to step back, hear some fresh ideas and look at things a little differently – also to meet and network with new people. To have speakers of this calibre coming to Whanganui is pretty special, and I think local businesses will get a lot out of it."



Dr Bo Stjerne Thomsen

From Friday 16 to Sunday 18 October, the Whanganui War Memorial Centre is the place to be for anyone who wants to think bigger about their business. Pick the sessions that speak to you, or come for all three days.

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Enrol by October 25 to be able to vote for your local candidate in the New Zealand General Elections

New Zealand's General Election is less than a month away: 7 November 2026. Five candidates are vying to represent the Whanganui electorate in the NZ Parliament. Three are contesting the Te Tai Hauāuru seat.

Voters must enrol by midnight on Sunday 25 October. You won't be able to enrol once voting starts.

Whanganui electorate candidates on the general roll:

Animal Justice Party (AJP) candidate Sandra Kyle

Sandra Kyle is a music teacher, long-time animal activist, writer and speaker who has lived in the Whanganui region for over seven years. Sandra Kyle focuses on animal rights, social justice, climate change, addressing inequality, local economy growth and establishing an independent Commissioner for Animals. Sandra Kyle is one of nine AJP candidates in New Zealand.

Balance New Zealand Political Party candidate Juan Coffey

Formed this year in Whanganui by local businessman Juan Coffey and Harrison Stirling, who has a professional background in mental health and youth development, this homegrown party focuses on evidence-based centrist politics, stability and unity over political division. It emphasises everyday concerns, such as the cost of living, over ideological battles. Juan is the only Balance New Zealand candidate.

Labour Party candidate Angela Roberts

Former Labour list MP (2020–2023), Angela Roberts has a teaching background and is a former PPTA president. Angela is focused on the cost-of-living crisis, retaining high-skilled jobs in the region and worker protections. Angela has deep local ties, particularly to the Taranaki part of the electorate. Angela Roberts is number 50 on the Labour Party list.

National Party candidate and incumbent Carl Bates

Carl Bates returned the Whanganui electorate seat to National at the 2022 general election. He stands for active local representation and sound economic management, linking a strong economy to better health, education and social services. Carl cites school upgrades and property funding, a new police hub underway, health facility upgrades, justice precinct progress, the Balgownie Landfill investigation and the upcoming replacement of the Wakefield Bridge as some of Whanganui's wins. Carl Bates is number 29 on the National Party list, up from 47 on the 2023 list.

NZ First candidate Harete Hipango-Brownlie

A former National Party MP for Whanganui (2017–2020) and list MP (2021–2023), Harete Hipango-Brownlie returned to politics this year. Harete Hipango-Brownlie's key priorities are practical, non-divisive governance and delivering opportunities over grievance politics. With a background as a criminal defence lawyer, Harete Hipango-Brownlie sees drug abuse, homelessness, mental health, youth resilience and family responsibility as important issues for the electorate. Harete Hipango-Brownlie is number seven on NZ First's list.

Green Party candidate Awhi Haenga withdrew from the election on 27 May 2026 for family reasons.

Te Tai Hauāuru electorate

Te Tai Hauāuru was created ahead of the first MMP election in 1996. Te Tai Hauāuru covers the western North Island, including the Manawatū-Whanganui region.

The incumbent Te Tai Hauāuru MP and Te Pāti Māori co-leader Debbie Ngarewa-Packer, who won the seat in 2023, is running against Labour's Te Pūoho Katene and National's Coral Raukawa.

Te Tai Hauāuru electorate candidates – the Māori roll:

Te Pāti Māori incumbent Debbie Ngarewa-Packer

Debbie Ngarewa-Packer's main priorities and positions are cost of living and poverty reduction, the environment and opposition to seabed mining, Te Tiriti o Waitangi and co-governance, health and Māori-led solutions, and housing, local accessibility and advocacy. Debbie Ngarewa Packer became co-leader of Te Pāti Māori in April 2020 and has held the Te Tai Hauāuru seat since 2023.

National Party candidate Coral Raukawa

Coral Raukawa is a Rangitikei District Councillor serving her third term and her second term representing the Tikīetia ki Tai/Coastal Māori Ward. Born and raised in Marton with more than 20 years in education and training, she joined National in 2023. Coral Raukawa is campaigning on National's core messages: economic management, improved law and order, education gains and health investments.

Labour Party candidate Te Pūoho Kātene

Fulbright Scholar Te Pūoho Kātene, a former marine biologist, is the Labour Party's candidate for the Te Tai Hauāuru electorate in 2026. Born and raised in Porirua, Te Pūoho Kātene is the current chief executive of Tapuwae Roa, a Māori charitable trust focused on education, leadership development and impact investment. His stated priorities include supporting small businesses to create good jobs and strong local economies, and promoting home ownership and safe, secure housing for whānau. Te Pūoho Kātene supports Te Tai Hauāuru's transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy infrastructure.



For more information on candidates, visit myelectorate.co.nz

For more information on enrolling on the general or Maori roll visit vote.nz





STEELFORM

WHANGANUI vs SOUTH CANTERBURY

HILUX HEARTLAND 2006 2024 CHAMPIONSHIP

LOCHORE CUP FINAL TIMARU

THIS SUNDAY - 1.05pm LIVE ON SKY SPORT!

Hoping to win their first national title in five seasons

By Jared Smith

It is one more river to cross for the Steelform Whanganui rugby team as they look to win their first national title in five seasons against old rivals South Canterbury on Sunday.

Having earned their spot in the 2026 Lochore Cup final the hard way after an epic extra-time win over Horowhenua-Kāpiti at Levin Domain last weekend, Whanganui will fly to Timaru's Fraser Park to see if they can repeat their 2014 heroics by winning two away playoffs in a row to claim this trophy.

There are two survivors from the 2014 squad that beat North Otago 14–12 in Oamaru – halfback Lindsay Horrocks and loose forward Samu Kubunavanua, while long-time teammate Dane Whale was also part of that season but missed the playoffs with a broken jaw.

It would mean so much to debut season coach Ross Williams and his coaching group to lift some Heartland silverware at the first time of asking, as Whanganui looks to continue their rebuild of the past couple of seasons since last appearing in the 2022–23 Meads Cup finals, also against the then-unbeatable South Canterbury.

After giving such an iron man effort against Horowhenua-Kāpiti, as he and lock Shay Smith were the two Whanganui forwards who went hammer and tongs for the full 100 minutes, co-captain Doug Horrocks has the chance to lift some silverware in what will be his 48th game – having debuted in the 2013 season before departing overseas and returning home to resume appearances in 2023.



Lindsay Horrocks. Photo courtesy of Kate Belsham, Ivy Digital

Both teams are after their third Lochore Cup in the competition's history – Whanganui winning in 2014 and 2021, South Canterbury lifting the prize in 2013 and 2019.

They had identical 5–3 season records to just miss making the Top 4 for the Meads Cup – an extra bonus point seeing South Canterbury finish fifth place and pull away from Wairarapa-Bush in the final minutes of their semifinal to win 36–26.

Goal-kicking halfback Willie Wright scored 14 points to become the Hilux Heartland Championship's all-time leading scorer with 594.

The rivalry between veterans Wright (109 games) and Lindsay Horrocks (111) will have one more chapter – their battles having played out over two Meads Cup finals and the 2019–22 NZ Heartland XV starting No9 jumper.

Wright has a slight edge over Horrocks head-to-head, with a 5–3 record, as Whanganui hunts for their first win over the Cantabrians since 2018.

Kickoff is 1.05pm Sunday, live on Sky Sport.

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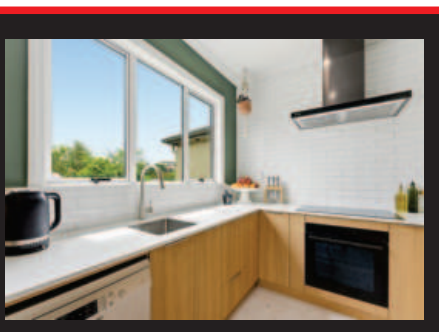
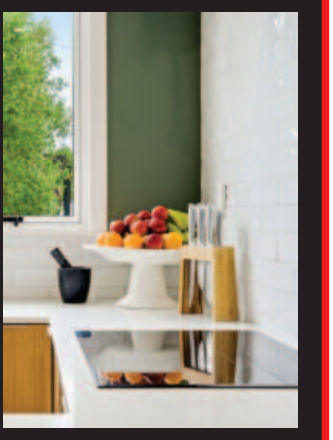
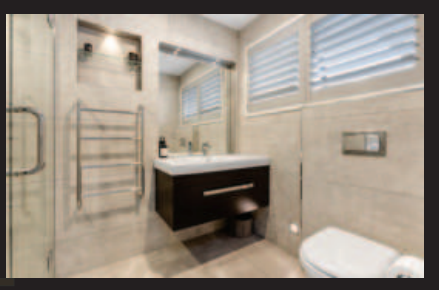
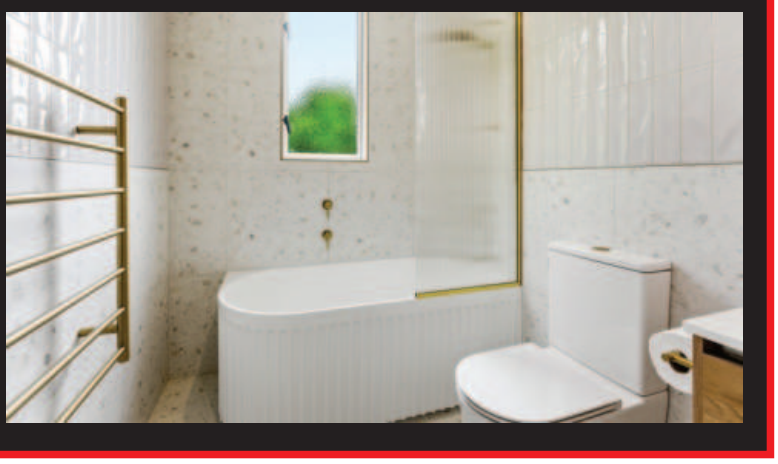
Wishing our Butcher Boys all the best for the Lochore Cup Final!



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STEELFORM **WHANGANUI vs SOUTH CANTERBURY**

HILUX HEARTLAND 2004 2026 CHAMPIONSHIP

LOCHORE CUP FINAL TIMARU

THIS SUNDAY - 1.05pm LIVE ON SKY SPORT!

Lochore Cup history with Whanganui teams over the years

By Jared Smith

It may be the second-tier trophy of the Hilux Heartland Championship, but the Lochore Cup has provided a rich history of excitement and prestige for Steelform Whanganui teams over the years.

Named after the legendary former All Black captain and 1987 Rugby World Cup-winning coach Sir Brian Lochore, a proud Wairarapa-Bush man, the Lochore Cup in its current form recognises the best team from the group of four that finished the regular season in the fifth to eighth positions.

Originally, from 2006 to 2010 there was a pool system that would divide the 12 Heartland sides into groups of six for the second half of the regular season, although Whanganui never engaged with the Lochore through this era due to their outstanding streak of reaching the top-tier Meads Cup final.



Beniamino Vota. Photo courtesy of Kate Belsham, Ivy Digital

But in 2013 the Meads run came to an end, as a disjointed 4–4 season record saw fifth-place Whanganui miss the Top 4 by just two points, hosting their first Lochore Cup semifinal at Cooks Gardens against Buller.

As perhaps reflected Whanganui's inconsistent season, Buller pulled away for a comfortable 40–30 victory.

Twelve months later, Whanganui were trying to win the Lochore Cup from even further back in eighth place, as returning coach Jason Caskey's side barely qualified with a 3–5 record thanks to two bonus points in a narrow away loss to King Country in the final game.

But in what would set the tone for coming seasons, Whanganui returned to Te Kuiti to face the same side seven days later in the semifinal and blew King Country off the park 37–6, then headed to another fortress in Oamaru to defeat rival North Otago 14–12 and win the Lochore for the first time – which would be the springboard to the Meads Cup three-peat of 2015–17.

Caskey & Co would lift the Lochore again in 2021, this time under very different circumstances as the Level 4 lockdown caused by Covid-19 delayed the start of the season by a month.

Now playing into November, the decision was made to scrap all semi-finals, and Whanganui's 6–2 record to finish third meant they hosted a Lochore final of the highest-placed teams in the competition's history, beating fourth-placed North Otago 22–16.

For recent events, Whanganui have engaged in extra-time derby epics these past two years with neighbours Horowhenua-Kapiti, avenging 2025's 40–18 Lochore Cup semifinal loss at Cooks Gardens last Saturday at Levin Domain.

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One marathon not enough of a challenge? Choose a distance that suits you and encourage your friends and whānau to Marathon in a Month with you as a team.

Move your body and get active
Start accumulating your kms from November 1st and track your progress! For a marathon, that's 1.4km each day. Consistency is key to avoid those kilometres from stacking up!

Make a real difference
The funds you raise for Marathon in a Month go directly to your chosen Cancer Society Centre. The more you raise, the bigger your impact, so share like you've never shared before! Sign Up Now!

Receive Rewards
Raise over $100 to be in the draw to win 1 of 5 $50 Rebel Sport gift cards and there are $2,250 worth of gift cards to be won across the campaign.
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Te Kāhui Matepukupuku o Aotearoa

Breast Cancer Foundation NZ

PINK RIBBON STREET APPEAL

This Friday & Saturday, October 16 & 17
OR text 'pink' to 2447 to donate $3

Look out for the pink buckets this week



A few dollars dropped into a pink bucket in Whanganui this Friday or Saturday will help Breast Cancer Foundation NZ support people affected by breast cancer and work towards a future with zero deaths from the disease.

More than 430 local volunteers will be collecting donations across the Manawatū-Whanganui region for the Pink Ribbon Street Appeal on Friday 16 and Saturday 17 October.

Every year, around 60 people in Whanganui are diagnosed with breast cancer. The money raised locally will contribute to breast health education, research and clinical trials, specialist nursing support and advocacy for faster and fairer access to early diagnosis and treatment.

Breast Cancer Foundation NZ chief executive Vanessa Sorenson says every donation helps turn community support into practical action.

"Behind every pink bucket is a volunteer giving their time, and behind every donation is someone choosing to stand with New Zealanders affected by breast cancer.

"We know household budgets are under pressure, so we're asking people to give what they can. When thousands of small donations come together, they help our nurses provide trusted information and support, take breast health education into communities, fund important research and push for changes to make earlier diagnosis and better treatments available.

"More than 3700 New Zealanders will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year and 650 will lose their lives to it. Behind these numbers are people who matter deeply to their whānau, friends and community – and we know more of those lives can be saved."

As an independent charity, the Foundation's work is only made possible by donations and fundraising from generous New Zealanders.

Vanessa says the Pink Ribbon Street Appeal is a simple way for people to contribute to a future where more people with breast cancer can live, and live well.

"If you see one of our wonderful volunteers on the streets of Whanganui, please stop and make a donation. Even a small gift can make a difference – together, they all add up and help us continue our vital work."

Donations can be made to volunteer collectors across the region on 16 and 17 October, online at www.pinkribbonappeal.co.nz or by texting "PINK" to 2447 to donate $3.

About Breast Cancer Foundation NZ

• Breast Cancer Foundation NZ's vision is to see zero deaths from breast cancer.

• We work towards this through our programmes in breast health promotion and education, research, patient support and advocacy.

• We receive no government funding and rely entirely on donations from the public and our partners to fund our life-saving work.

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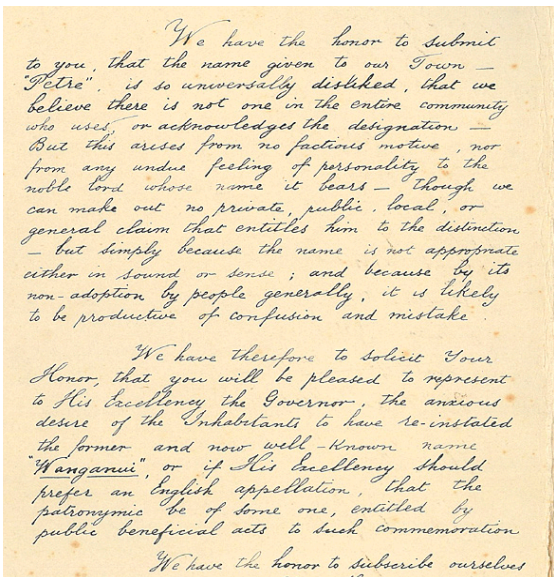
Free Talk - The 1844 petition that sought to change Petre to Wanganui



We have the honor to submit to you, that the name given to our Town — "Petre", is so universally disliked, that we believe there is not one in the entire community who uses, or acknowledges the designation — But this arises from no factious motive, nor from any undue feeling of personality to the noble lord whose name it bears — Though we can make out no private, public, local, or general claim that entitles him to the distinction — but simply because the name is not appropriate either in sound or sense; and because by its non-adoption by people generally, it is likely to be productive of confusion and mistake.

We have therefore to solicit Your Honor, that you will be pleased to represent to His Excellency the Governor, the anxious desire of the Inhabitants to have re-instated the former and now well-known name "Wanganui", or if His Excellency should prefer an English appellation, that the patronymic be of some one, entitled by public beneficial acts to such commemoration.

We have the honor to subscribe ourselves

By Karen Hughes

Whanganui Regional Museum is shining a spotlight on a fascinating piece of local history this month, when Kaihāpai Taonga/Curator, Images and Manuscripts Sandi Black explores an 1844 petition calling for the town's name to be changed from Petre to Wanganui.

Sandi's talk is part of the Museum's popular Taonga o te Marama/Object of the Month series and will be held at 12.15pm on Friday 16 October.

The petition was signed by 36 European men living in the settlement who asked the government to replace the name Petre with Wanganui. At the time, the settlement had been named Petre by the New Zealand Company after Lord William Petre, one of its directors.

"The residents had their own ideas about what their town should be called," says Sandi. "They were already using the name Wanganui, after the river, and they wanted the Government to make that name official."

But the petition did not produce an immediate change. The Government formally changed the name from Petre to Wanganui in 1854 – a decade after the petition was written.

"Ten years is a long time to wait for a name change," says Sandi. "The petition gives us a chance to look beyond the name itself and ask who was behind it, why they felt strongly enough to petition the Government, and what happened after they put their names to it."

The original 1844 petition is held at Archives New Zealand. The Museum holds a copy made in 1901 by local lithographer A. D. Willis, which was donated to the Museum that same year. The lithograph, made using card and ink, is the Museum's Object of the Month for October.

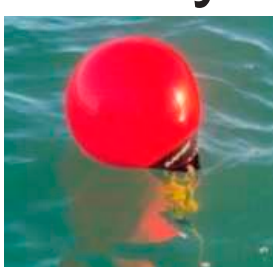
The petition is featured in the Museum's newest exhibition *Ngā Porotēhi!/Protest!*, which explores the different issues that have inspired protest in Whanganui, the ways people have shared their messages, and what happened as a result.

Visitors to Sandi's Object of the Month talk will have the opportunity to take a closer look at this intriguing document and discover more about the people who signed it, their reasons for seeking a change, and why it took so long for their request to become reality.

Taonga o te Marama/Object of the Month is held on the third Friday of every month and offers visitors a fresh way to connect with the Museum's collections through a free 15-minute lunchtime talk.

Attendance is free and open to everyone, with no booking required. Koha to support the Museum's ongoing heritage preservation work is warmly welcomed.

Scientific Bouys



Heading offshore soon? You may notice a line of bright red marker buoys off the Whanganui coast.

The buoys are part of scientific monitoring associated with the wastewater treatment plant's ocean outfall.

They extend from about 1.5km to 8km offshore on a south-easterly line from the Whanganui River entrance and will remain in place for the next few weeks. Special equipment attached to the buoys will support longer-term sampling.

If you're boating in the area, please take extra care and give the buoys and equipment plenty of space.

This will help ensure the monitoring can be carried out safely and provide as much useful information as possible.

Whanganui District Council thanks you for helping support this important environmental work.

You can learn more about how the wastewater treatment plant works here: https://buff.ly/BitKOgu



WAVERLEY RACING CLUB STEELFORMERS CUP DAY

WAVERLEY RACECOURSE SH3

This Sunday, October 18
Starts at 11am

Waverley Races biggest event on this Sunday

Celebrated Waverley jockey Lisa Allpress is "coming along well" with her health.

Lisa returned to race riding after an injury at Trentham that sidelined her for a long period.

Now, after resuming riding, and being one of New Zealand's top female riders for many years, she requires another 38 winners to achieve her goal of riding 2000 winners in New Zealand.

That would put her in illustrious company and make her the first woman to reach the mark.

Now she is looking forward to piloting Spring horses and riding on firmer tracks.

She is likely to be among jockeys riding at the Waverley Cup meeting on Sunday.

Her last win in the cup – which she has won two or three times – was on Glory Days, prepared by Bill Thurlow, in 2018.

The Waverley Racing Club has made its cup meeting on Sunday attractive to owners and trainers.

President Mark Corcoran said the club had boosted stakes across the board for the meeting.

Stakes with an $18,500 minimum had been lifted to $22,000.

The main event, the Steelform Waverley Cup, has a stake of $50,000.

Steelform has been a strong supporter of the club for many years. Steelform spokesman Chris Back said the Waverley community had been great supporters of the business.

"We give back by sponsoring on the club's biggest raceday. Our cup sponsorship helps to make the race attractive and successful. We get good horses and trainers to the meeting."

Chris noted that the Back family was originally from Patea and Whenuakura. "That's another reason we support the club."

Buses are coming from Taranaki for Sunday's meeting, which usually attracts a good-sized crowd.

The meeting is popular with younger folk, which is good for racing in the long term.

A big marquee at the track will be a drawcard for punters.

Waverley trainer Bill Thurlow is looking forward to the club's major day. "It's pretty much a big party," he said.

Bill has returned from watching the All Blacks playing in South Africa.

Like another Waverley man, Brent Dallison, Bill was impressed by the Springbok forwards.

The South Africans had a very good and imposing pack, he said.



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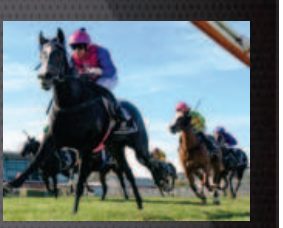



WAVERLEY RACING CLUB STEELFORMERS CUP DAY

WAVERLEY RACECOURSE SH3

This Sunday, October 18 Starts at 11am

Life member Ian Smith, proud of the Waverley Racing Club

Waverley Racing Club life member Ian Smith rated Kiwi's Melbourne Cup win in 1983 as one of the highlights of his long involvement in the racing game.

Ian and his wife, Nancye, along with John Scott and his wife, Caroline, joined their neighbours Snow and Anne Lupton for Kiwi's successful cup raid in the two-mile event that stops two nations.

The Luptons owned and trained the great stayer Kiwi, who won the cup with a memorable last-to-first performance, devouring the ground in the Flemington straight with his powerful finish.

Ian is proud of the Waverley club for the way in which it has remained strong and, with astute direction over the years, has retained its status.

He said the club had done what was necessary at the time, and now the next generation was taking the reins.



Waverley Racing Club's grandstand

Ian became a life member of the club after being a willing participant in working bees, which included tractor driving.

Also well known in rugby circles, he said he had to have something to do after giving up the 15-a-side game.

Another horse he had trained and raced, Medley, had also won for him.

He had been lucky, he said, having had immense help from jockey Jimmy Cassidy, who had been prepared to map out campaigns for his gallopers. Cassidy, of course, rode Kiwi in the Melbourne Cup.

Emphasising his good fortune in racing, Ian said not many people got the opportunity to race horses.

Ian also worked on the judicial side of racing.

Ian trained and raced horses himself. His first one, Vault, was beaten a nose at its first start at Waverley before going on to win.

He said John Scott had encouraged him to go in to that sector.

"He was a great supporter."

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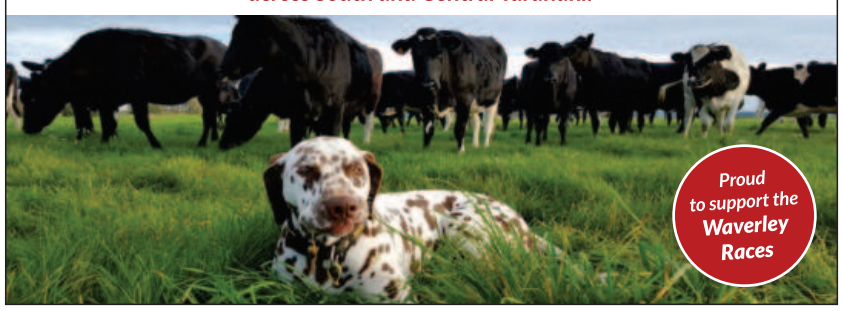

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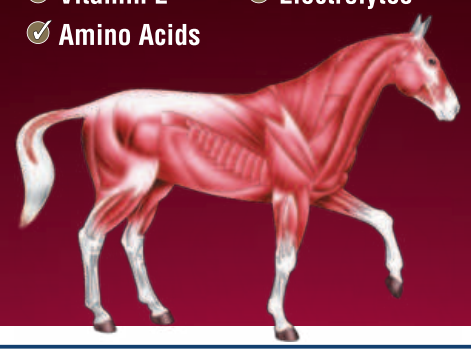

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Particular items to purchase in your groceries this week to give to the Foodbank

What to Donate

We're seeking long shelf-life groceries including bathroom items.

The most requested staples are:

1. Cereals
2. Tuna cans
3. Biscuits
4. Coffee
5. Crackers
6. Spreads – Peanut butter, jam etc



Shared meal and collection for Foodbank at Te Ao Hou Marae

The Te Ao Hou Marae in Aramoho has been hosting a shared meal at the marae each month for about five-and-a-half years. The average number who come and contribute is around 30, with some from Whanganui East, Springvale and Castlecliff.

It's held on the first Thursday of the month, starting at 6pm and finishing soon after 7pm. As regular attender, Fiona Donne says, "It is very much a shared meal and opportunity to chat."

Recently, Fiona suggested to Geoff Hipango from the marae that they should ask people to also bring some food to be donated to the City Mission Food Bank, and the suggestion was well received. For the first few times, some people would forget, but now they need a bigger collection box.

As for the meal – there was a good selection, including dessert. Someone had also made a large container of lemon juice. As Fiona said, "it is always delicious." Afterwards, volunteers helped wash the dishes.

Fiona gives credit to Geoff – "he is the fountain head."



Boxes of donated food next to the dessert table.

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FOODBANK DRIVE 2026

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YOUR SUPPORT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED!



The need for food is greater than ever

City Mission Foodbank Drive, Thursday 22 October 6–8.30pm

On Thursday 22 October, from 6pm to 8.30pm, the Rotary Club of Whanganui North and City Mission Whanganui are joining forces for their annual Foodbank Drive – filling the community pantry so no one goes without when a food parcel is needed.

Antony Nobbs, manager of The City Mission Whanganui, wants you to know the team is "so grateful for the many years of generous support that our community has provided for those in need. This ongoing kindness and generosity is both amazing and moving.

"Food insecurity continues to be a major issue for our community. The numbers of our people needing food support was up 100% in 2025 and is up again approximately 30% in 2026. According to latest research one third of all New Zealanders experience food insecurity.

"Our annual food drive is an opportunity for all of us as a community to come together to support our people who are doing it tough. Thank you all so much. We look forward to seeing you on Thursday the 22nd of October."

Here's how you can help:

They ask simply: Please, if you can, pop a bag of grocery donations by your letterbox after 6pm. Volunteer drivers – joined by two senior Collegiate students – will be travelling through the streets collecting your generosity.

You'll hear sirens on the vehicles. When you hear the sirens, that's your cue – they're in your street, gathering the kindness you've left out.

If you miss the collection, just phone City Mission Foodbank on 06 345 2139.

Demand on the Foodbank is higher than ever. Record numbers of food parcels are being prepared for families and individuals who need a hand.

Whanganui, this is where we shine. Please give generously if you're able – your kindness fills more than cupboards – it fills hearts and tummies!

Let's fill our City Mission community pantry! The Rotary Club of Whanganui North proudly presents the annual Foodbank Drive on Thursday 22 October, rallying support for the City Mission Foodbank in response to unprecedented demand.



These empty shelves need filling at the City Mission Foodbank.

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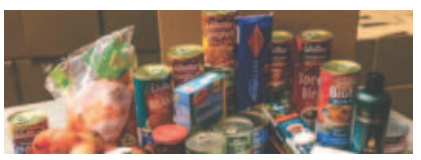

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What if care changed as life does?
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Care that adapts, without losing what matters

It often starts small. A fall in the hallway, a hospital stay that runs longer than expected, or a loved one who begins to lose their way home from the dairy. Then one day, the arrangements that worked, such as a family member popping in or carers visiting each morning, no longer do.

For families, that moment can feel like being handed a map to a place they never planned to visit. For the loved one at the centre, much stays the same: their history, their relationships and their wish to live a meaningful, independent, life. **What changes is the support they need around them.**

New Zealand is ageing quickly. The August 2026 report from the Aged Care Ministerial Advisory Group, A place to grow old, estimates around 418,000 people are now aged 75 or over, with that number projected to nearly double by 2047.

Most older people are still living at home. Around 72,000 received in-home support during 2024/25, while an average of 34,500 lived in aged residential care. We know that elders are also entering residential care later, often when their needs are more complex. The reality is that more than 60% of people aged over 65 live with two or more long-term conditions, while around 83,000 New Zealanders live with dementia.

For families, reaching that point can happen quickly. The Advisory Group estimates there are 655,000 informal carers across Aotearoa and warns that growing reliance on family care can shift a significant burden onto whānau, particularly women.

Linda's story shows how that looks. She moved into Enliven Central's Kandahar Village in Masterton four years ago with her husband and has lived on her own since he died. Then came a medical event, a stay in Wairarapa Hospital and a period of respite care at Kandahar Home. Her memory is slipping, and some days she finds things confusing.

Her two daughters do what they can. Both work full time in Wellington, a two-hour drive over the Remutakas, and they visit whenever they're able to. In between, support from Meals on Wheels and medication support help keep things steady. Meanwhile the family is working through the assessment process, juggling doctors and appointments from a distance or taking time off work to be there.

Together they've decided a move closer to her daughters is best, but waiting for care can be long. Because village residents have priority access to any Enliven Central home, Linda can move into Kandahar Home now, and on to Woburn Home when a room opens. Throughout, she and her daughters have been able to turn to the team for support. "She's so grateful to be in a village with a community around her," says David, the Kandahar Village and Home Manager.

At Enliven Central, we think care should be able to change as a person's needs change.

Across the lower North Island, our nine retirement villages and 13 care homes offer a range of options, from independent living through to rest home, hospital-level and specialist dementia care.

With us, support can also begin before a move into residential care. Day programmes at Whanganui's Kōwhai Cottage, Woburn's Riddiford Club in Lower Hutt and Paraparaumu's Kāpiti Cottage provide company, activity and a change of scenery, while giving family carers valuable time to rest and recharge.

Short-term respite care can also provide a bridge during periods of change, including when someone is recovering after a time in hospital or when a family carer needs additional support.

For people who are still independent, village living can provide another option: a chance to downsize, stay connected and have support nearby if it is needed later.

At Kandahar Village in Masterton, that sense of community grew from small beginnings, says resident Trevor.

"When I first came here this village, it was only made up of 12 villas, so it was very small. But we got together as a group and arranged simple events, like watching the All Blacks games, just to bring everybody together. We've built a kind and caring community within the village."

Today, with a recreation hall at its heart and a Residents' Committee organising events, the village has grown and so has what residents can do together.

Christa, from our Enliven Central Retirement Villa and Property Support Office, says the feedback she gets from residents is that 90% say they wish they had moved sooner, to enjoy the lifestyle village life offers.

When more care is needed, Enliven Central's village residents are given priority across all our homes, where possible, helping family or a familiar community stay close.

As needs become more complex, the person should not become less visible.

Guided by the Eden Alternative, Enliven Central aims to protect dignity, connection and choice as individual circumstances change. People deserve to be known for who they are, not only for what they now need.

"Enliven Central, alongside other Enliven regions, provides a quality of service that is becoming all too rare. Better integration with the wider health and community sector will improve how we better serve our residents. Flexibility in the assessment process could reduce the time, and anxiety, to bring elders into residential care when they need it", says Joe, CEO Presbyterian Support Central.

Care should evolve as life does. Because getting older doesn't mean living less.

enliven CENTRAL

Because getting older doesn't mean living less

enlivencentral.org.nz/rethink-ageing

RECYCLING WEEK October 19-25

INTERNATIONAL REPAIR DAY October 17

Repair or repurpose items

International Repair Day is an annual celebration for all those who repair things in their communities around the world, and Whanganui has loads to celebrate in that respect. There are plenty of businesses and organisations in the region with the skill to take your broken items and either repair them or repurpose them, so they don't end up in landfill and you end up saving some money in the process.

When things are fixed rather than thrown away, there's less pollution of soil, air and water.

This is about dealing with waste at the source rather than after it's been disposed of. It's about keeping products in use for as long as possible and thus repair is a major way of slowing down the relentless flow of waste that is produced by a throwaway culture.

Manufacturing new products requires raw materials (metals, wood, water, fossil fuels etc). The more often you replace things, the more raw materials you'll need to extract from the environment.

Repairing existing products reduces the amount of new materials that are required. This is a form of resource conservation which in turn helps to protect the environment, reduces energy use and is good for long-term environmental sustainability.

Producing, transporting and getting rid of new products all generate significant greenhouse gas emissions. Every replacement adds to the product's carbon footprint.

Repairing products avoids the majority of these emissions by removing the need for new manufacturing and long distance transport. Over time, a culture of repair can have a significant impact on climate change mitigation.

Take the time on 17 October to thank someone in the community who has the skills to repair and repurpose. They are doing all of us a massive favour.

What you can recycle via kerbside and the Resource Recovery Centre

For Recycling Week 2026, here's a reminder of what can be recycled through kerbside recycling and at the Whanganui Resource Recovery Centre. Happy recycling!

Whanganui kerbside recycling accepts plastics 1, 2 and 5, clean paper and cardboard, glass bottles and jars (no lids), and rinsed drink/food cans and tins.

Kerbside recycling – what goes in each crate

1. Plastics 1, 2 and 5 and cans/tins

Accepted items include:

- Plastic bottles, trays, punnets, containers (numbers 1, 2, 5; no lids)
- Milk, detergent, shampoo bottles
- Clear takeaway containers (#5)
- Aluminium drink cans
- Food tins and pet food cans (cleaned)

2. Glass bottles and jars

- Clean, unbroken glass bottles and jars
- No lids
- No drinking glasses, window glass, or cosmetics containers

3. Paper and cardboard

- Clean, flattened cardboard
- Paper, envelopes, magazines, newspapers
- Pizza boxes (food removed)

Items not accepted kerbside

- All lids (take to Resource Recovery Centre)
- Plastics numbered 3, 4, 6, 7 or unnumbered
- Soft plastics (bags, wrappers, cling film)
- Containers from garages/gardens (chemicals, paint, plant pots)
- Tupperware or large storage containers
- Broken glass

What you can recycle at the Whanganui Resource Recovery Centre

Located at 81 Maria Place, open 24/7 for general recycling. The interior drop-off area (9am–4.30pm) accepts additional items.

Accepted for free

- Plastics 1, 2, 5
- Paper and cardboard
- Glass bottles and jars
- Plasticised cartons (for example, soy milk cartons)
- Soft plastics
- Household and car batteries
- Clothing (Savemart bin)
- Plastic plant pots
- Up to five tyres per person
- Books

Accepted for a fee

- Green waste
- Polystyrene
- Whiteware
- E-waste (TVs, appliances, printers)

Not accepted at the centre

- Agricultural chemicals
- Cooking oil
- Furniture
- Paint
- Treated timber
- Window glass

How to prepare your recycling

- Remove all lids
- Rinse containers
- Flatten cardboard
- Do not overfill crates
- Place crates at kerb by 7am

Information sourced from whanganui.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/projects/



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RECYCLING WEEK
October 19-25

INTERNATIONAL REPAIR DAY
October 17

Level up your recycling skills



Recycling Week is Aotearoa New Zealand's largest annual campaign for education on recycling and waste minimisation. The week is designed to inspire and empower Kiwis to reduce waste and recycle more effectively. This year, it is led by Reclaim Ltd and themed "Identifying Opportunities", focusing on reducing waste before recycling.

Reclaim Ltd are offering Recycling Week 2026 programmes for schools, organisations and businesses to level up their recycling skills, from understanding the basics of recycling to taking part in daily webinars and quizzes and accessing resources.

Visit www.reclaim.co.nz/recycling-week-2026 for more recycling information and to sign up!

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Celebrating a century: Tawhero School prepares for 100th anniverary

The countdown is officially on for one of Whanganui's most cherished local institutions. On 27 November, Tawhero School will mark a monumental milestone as it celebrates 100 years of learning, community spirit and rich local history.

Past and present students, staff, whānau and members of the wider community are warmly invited to come together on the school grounds to honour a century of connections. The upcoming centennial offers a special opportunity to reconnect, share old photos and stories, and catch up with former classmates and teachers.

Founded on Totara Street in 1926, Tawhero School has long been a cornerstone of the surrounding suburb. Nestled between the Whanganui River and Te Kaihau-ā-Kupe, the school holds a deep connection to its local environment and heritage.

Over the past ten decades, generations of local tamariki have walked through its doors – progressing from classic primer classrooms in the 1950s and 60s to today's modern, future-focused and climate-conscious learning spaces. Guided by core values of Aroha, Whakapono, and Tūmanako, Tawhero continues to celebrate its diverse community and embrace te reo and tikanga Māori.



Tawhero School class, 1953.

Whether you attended Tawhero School decades ago or are part of the school community today, the kura would love to see you there.

Event schedule (27 November)

10am – 12pm: Pōwhiri & Centennial Service

Celebrations will begin with a pōwhiri and a special tree-planting ceremony to mark the occasion. Afterward, the school will be open for visitors to walk through and view the amazing learning spaces our kura has to offer.

4pm onwards: Centennial Evening Celebration

Held at the Army Hall, 86 Maria Place, Whanganui.

How to Register

To attend, please sign up using one of the following options:

Online: Fill out the centennial sign-up form on the Tawhero School Facebook page.

In person: Pop into the Tawhero School Office at 27 Totara Street.

Email: Send your details to office@tawhero.school.nz

Swing 42 jazz quartet at St Laurence's Chapel



Swing 42 band performing Tuesday.

On Tuesday 20 October at 7.30pm, Chamber Music Whanganui (in partnership with Chamber Music New Zealand) welcomes jazz manouche quartet Swing 42 to St Laurence's Chapel in Aramoho, presenting music from 1930s and 40s Paris.

For more than 20 years, Swing 42 has specialised in jazz manouche. The style grew out of the partnership between Romani guitarist Jean "Django" Reinhardt and French jazz violinist Stéphane Grappelli. It was at its most popular just before and after the Second World War until bebop took over.

The four players of Swing 42 come from very different musical backgrounds, and they are united by a shared passion for this period. They approach their repertoire as a set of musical riddles to be solved on the spot through group improvisation. As a result, no two concerts are the same.

The programme is built around Reinhardt's own compositions, including "Mabel", "Lentement, Mademoiselle", "Fleur D'Ennui", "Place de Brouckère", "Cavalerie" and the tune that gave the band its name, "Swing 42". Alongside these are standards the manouche players made their own: Duke Ellington's "Caravan", Billy Strayhorn's "Isfahan", Ary Barroso's "Brazil", Johnny Green's "Out of Nowhere", Dino Olivieri's "J'attendrai" and Phillip Braham's "Limehouse Blues".

Their performance will be the penultimate concert of Chamber Music Whanganui's 2026 Subscription series. We look forward to welcoming the members of Swing 42 – Reuben Derrick (clarinet and saxophone), Keith Petch (manouche jazz guitar), Michael Kime (double bass) and Doug Brush (percussion). Come along for a relaxed evening of nostalgic musical entertainment.

Tickets for this concert are available in advance from the Box Office of the Royal Whanganui Opera House, or at the door (cash only, no eftpos): adults $40, seniors $25, CMW subscribers $25 (or pre-pay), students $5.

Chamber Music Whanganui would like to thank Dalgleish Architects for their sponsorship of this concert.

Swing 42 jazz quartet
Tuesday 20 October, 7.30pm
St Laurence's Chapel, 12 Gibson St, Aramoho.

Recent RCP winners

Congratulations to the winners of the Beatlemania double passes: Shanishka Jayasundara and Bill Carson.

Beatlemania On Tour! perform at the Royal Whanganui Opera House on Saturday 24 October, 8pm. Tickets are available through Ticketek.



ASK A PROFESSIONAL

Flea Treating Your Pets

As the weather warms up it is important to get on top of flea control in your pets as summer is the highest risk period for flea infestations. It is best to treat all pets in the household with a spot on or tablet treatment; these vary in terms of how long they protect your pet for so always check the label to make sure you are treating frequently enough to keep your pet safe this summer.

WVS Wanganui Veterinary Services
35 Somme Pde, Wanganui,
Ph. 349 0155



Wear a loud shirt to support children with hearing loss



Loud Shirt Day is an annual October fundraiser held on Friday 16 October 2026. Sign up to get LOUD and support children in New Zealand living with hearing loss. The statistics show your help is needed.

• 8% of children start school with hearing loss, with the highest rate among Pacific Island children at 15% and Māori children at 13.5%.

• 0.24% of children wear hearing aids, and Māori children are more likely to have permanent hearing loss that requires hearing aids due to genetic factors.

These statistics highlight the importance of early detection and intervention for children with hearing loss, as well as the need for better access to hearing care and technology. The New Zealand Audiological Society and other organisations are working to improve these statistics and provide better support for children and their families.

Funds support early intervention services that help children learn to hear, speak and thrive – providing life -changing access to hearing aids, therapy and communication programmes.

Choose a day that works for you. While Loud Shirt Day officially takes place on 16 October, you can celebrate whenever it suits you. Whether it's a backyard barbecue, family dinner, morning tea with friends or simply wearing your loudest shirt, there are plenty of fun, easy ways to get involved.

For schools, nothing brings a school community together like a sea of bright, bold shirts! Loud Shirt Day is a fun, colourful way to celebrate inclusion while raising vital funds for children with hearing loss.

Loud Shirt Day remains one of New Zealand's most vibrant annual campaigns supporting childhood hearing loss. Visit www.loudshirtday.org for more information and resources.

Do your ears need cleaning? Blocked ears can cause hearing loss!

Hearing Whanganui provides a professional service with a registered nurse to remove wax and debris using micro-suction to gently and safely clear the ear canals for only $55. This is also the best method of wax removal for people suffering from tinnitus. Having your ears cleaned could help improve hearing and discomfort immediately. If you wear hearing aids, we can clean them for you too – a free service we offer while your ears are being cleaned.

Phone 06 347 9743 to have your ears cleaned by our registered nurse using the most up-to-date microsuction technology. Your ears will love you for it!

We also provide free ear checks, so if you think you have wax or debris in your ears but are not sure, call into the office and we will have a look for you, free of charge. This service is available Monday to Friday between 8.30am and 4pm. We will have a look and advise you straight away whether your ears need to be cleaned. Hearing Whanganui is a charitable organisation helping our Whanganui community by offering this free checking service.

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Sharing visions of the future

ADVERTORIAL



River city Whanganui and the Sydney suburb of Turramurra share a remote but rich heritage, thanks to a couple of visionary 20th-century architects who worked together to map out the future of town planning.

Samuel Seager and Sir John Sulman were early adopters of the so-called "Garden City" movement of the early 20th century. It was an urban planning concept based on self-contained suburbs built in greenfield environments.

In Whanganui, it was the Durie Hill suburb and gardens, laid out 100 years ago by Seager. In Turramurra, it was Sulman's influence on the development of the leafy northern Sydney enclave.

Seager and Sulman collaborated over many years on architecture and urban planning. Both urged New Zealand and Australian planners to move away from European historical templates and create those that best suited their respective environments.

They lived their working lives challenging the future. Arizto founders Pernell Callaghan and James Bailey moved away from the mainstream to challenge the future of the real estate industry.

They set Arizto up in 2018. They wanted to streamline the head-banging institutional processes associated with buying and selling property, especially messy paper trails and complicated agents' fees.

Their flat fee commission concept of 2% plus GST was just one innovation. Another was a pledge: no sale, no fees.

The average price for a house in Whanganui is around $510,000. Arizto's commission on the sale of such a property would be $10,200. That plus GST of $1530 leaves a final bill for the seller of $11,730.

Most real estate agencies base their commission on a "floating" basis. It's a percentage-based fee often adjusted according to the final sale price. It will likely start at upwards of 3%.

In this scenario, a floating deal on $510,000 might be 3.95% on $350,000 and 2% on the remaining $160,000. Do the sums: add GST, and the digital bill to the seller is $19,578.75.

Carry this, subtract that, and the difference between the fees is a saving of $7848.75 courtesy of Arizto.

Seager of course designed Whanganui's Durie Hill tower, a memorial to those from the region who lost their lives in the First World War.

But it was something he did for the world of art that earned him an international reputation.

It's called "top-sided lighting" (TSL), a technique using natural light from strategically placed skylights to bring out the best of displays in museums and galleries.

Seager is credited with inventing TSL – it's in use around the world today. Seager designed Whanganui's Sarjeant gallery around it.

Local makers, artists and small businesses encouraged to participate in new Christmas event

Space Studio & Gallery calls for makers, artists and small businesses for new event



Sarah Narine and Catherine Perry.
Photo courtesy of Cristian Kiriona/Homeboy.nz

Space Studio & Gallery is bringing something a little different to Whanganui this Christmas, with the launch of Make & Marvel – The Marketplace, a curated three-night Christmas shopping experience celebrating local makers, artists and small businesses.

Taking place at Space Studio & Gallery from Wednesday 16 to Friday 18 December, Make & Marvel – The Marketplace has been created as a destination for beautiful, thoughtful and creative shopping. With so many market events around Christmas, Space Studio & Gallery wanted to create something unique.

As the Make & Marvel marketplace will span the three gallery rooms of Space Studio & Gallery, there will be no clumsy rows of pop-up stalls competing for attention, and no need to pack down and set up each night. Instead, Space is transforming its arts venue into a vibrant Christmas marketplace where visitors can browse, discover and shop, while makers can relax into meeting new and returning customers.

Many creative small business owners simply cannot justify or sustain a "bricks and mortar" operation, with so many now selling their products online. Make & Marvel – The Marketplace gives makers the opportunity to experience that physical retail environment for a fraction of the cost, while enabling customers to put a friendly face to a business or artist they already love or discover someone new.

"I wanted to create something that felt a little more special than your average Christmas market," says Space Studio & Gallery curator Sarah Narine. "A place where people can come after work, take their time, discover something – either as a gift or a little treat for yourself – while also doing good and supporting independent makers and small businesses. It really is so important to continue supporting local."

Make & Marvel – The Marketplace will run from 4pm to 8pm each evening, making it easy for people to pop in after work, meet friends, have a bite to eat, enjoy the atmosphere and shop local.

Space is now inviting expressions of interest from artists, makers, designers, creatives and small businesses who have beautiful, original and giftable products to share.

"We're looking for people who create with personality and creativity, and we're keen to showcase the great stories behind their work," says Sarah. "We're particularly interested in makers who offer something a little different and who will add to the overall experience of Make & Marvel – The Marketplace."

Existing businesses Aotearoa Art Supplies and Joa's Wines will also be open during the event, creating a destination for art, design and boutique gifts.

To apply to be a stallholder at this exciting new event, please email images of your core products, along with a short description of your business or art practice, including links to any relevant social media or website pages.

Send to: sarah@spacestudiogallery.co.nz

Applications close Saturday 31 October 2026.

Make & Marvel – The Marketplace

Wednesday 16 December–Friday 18 December, 2026, 4–8pm nightly at Space Studio & Gallery, 18 Saint Hill Street, Whanganui (opposite Trafalgar Square)

ARIZTO

Best way to tell the future...



is to create it.

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Is it too late to sell before Christmas?

Rochelle's Property Q&A

I'm thinking about selling, but have I left it too late to be sold before Christmas?

This is a question I start hearing more often as we move through October.

The short answer is no – but now is the time to get organised, arrange an appraisal and get your property on the market.

There is still time, ***but if your goal is to sell and move before Christmas, the sooner you get started, the more options you're likely to have.***

But don't leave it too long

If you're only just starting to think about selling, don't assume you've left it too late.

Your home may already be close to market-ready, or there may be a few things worth addressing before photos and marketing begin. ***Finding that out now gives you time to decide what's worth doing, without feeling rushed.***

Sold before Christmas doesn't mean moving before Christmas

Settlement dates are negotiated as part of the Sale & Purchase Agreement.

For some homeowners, ***securing a buyer before Christmas but settling and moving in the New Year*** can provide certainty without the added pressure of moving too close to the holidays.

Going unconditional and settlement day are two different things

Once an offer is accepted, there are usually conditions that need to be worked through. When those conditions are satisfied and the agreement becomes unconditional, ***the SOLD sign goes up and the buyer and seller are committed to completing the sale.***

Settlement happens later, on the agreed date, when the balance of the purchase price is paid – ***the moving trucks are packed to the rafters and ownership changes hands.***

As the holiday season approaches, timeframes become increasingly tight for buyers, sellers, lawyers, banks and others involved in the process. There's also the Christmas/New Year non-working day period to consider. ***From 24 December to 5 January inclusive, these are treated as non-working days within a Sale & Purchase Agreement,*** with working days resuming on 6 January – so this time of year can affect the timeframe for satisfying conditions.

What if my home hasn't sold by Christmas?

That doesn't mean everything has to stop.

Your property can remain available to interested buyers – whether they're local or visiting Whanganui over the holidays – and viewings can be managed around your Christmas and family plans.

What if I'm not quite ready?

Don't rush your home onto the market simply because Christmas is approaching.

The right preparation, presentation, pricing and marketing strategy still matter. If your home or your circumstances aren't ready, it may make more sense to prepare properly and consider your options for the New Year.

The important thing is choosing the timing that feels right for you and your circumstances, rather than feeling pressured by the calendar.

The Bottom Line

No, it isn't too late to sell before Christmas – but if that's your goal, the sooner you get started, the better.

If you're considering selling, now is a good time to find out what your home may be worth, what preparation I'd recommend and what a realistic timeframe could look like.

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Very thorough and professional

Rochelle did an excellent job as our real estate agent helping us sell a property in Whanganui recently. I found Rochelle very responsive, had a strong knowledge of the local market, and was very thorough in the preparation for the listing. I also found Rochelle hard working and diligent and this helped in building trust in her approach. As a result of Rochelle's work, we had a very successful sale. I was recommended Rochelle by a friend and I am very happy to recommend her to prospective sellers in the Whanganui market.

– Anderson Family (seller)

ratemyagent

Not sure where to start?

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OCTOBER 21ST 1.30PM

National earthquake drill next Wednesday

Tim Crowe, an Emergency Management Officer at Whanganui District Council for over 16 years, knows a thing or two about emergency planning. He and his team were on the ground to help Whanganui through the 2015 flooding, and they will be there for us again when another emergency strikes. We all need to prepare for disasters, and ShakeOut, a national earthquake drill and tsunami hīkoi (evacuation) campaign, is on Wednesday, 21 October, at 1.30pm. Get ready to Drop, Cover and Hold.

To help Tim and his team help others, Tim says, "The more people who are prepared to Get Ready and Get Through at home with water and supplies for three days or longer, the greater our ability to be able to help those more directly impacted.

"A family or household plan of where to go and what to do in a disaster helps reduce stress and confusion and is something every family should have.

"A 'bug out bag' or ability to quickly gather essentials should you need to evacuate as well. And don't forget to look after and consider your pets as part of your family."

To understand Whanganui's "shaky" history and its potential future, Tim says,

"Large regional earthquakes have historically impacted Whanganui on a number of occasions since the early settlement days, but it has not suffered a major event locally since the 1850s.

"The major faultlines to our east, which follow the ranges up from Wellington, pose an ongoing risk, as do the Hikurangi Trench and Alpine Fault, more distant but large hazards that have previously generated major earthquakes, and will do so again."

What's not to love about Whanganui's character-rich west coastline? It's a playground for swimming, surfing, fishing and generally mucking about in the water. Tim has the inside information on "beach life" risks: the tsunami:

"They're generally not a major risk to our coastline compared with the risks faced by the East Coast and Northland from distant sources such as South America, or from closer regional hazards such as the Kermadec Islands. However, we have seen smaller tsunami waves from areas such as the Kermadecs and Tonga Trench travel along or past our coast."



Tim Crowe.

Meanwhile, when the rivers aren't flooding, the earth isn't dramatically shaking, and the waves are gentle, Tim and the crew get out and about in the community, educating about 20 schools and community groups on emergency preparedness every year.

Tim explains what they hear from the community at these events: "A lot of what we do is make people more aware of not just the hazards such as earthquakes and storms specifically for where they live and work but also the consequences of emergencies such as long power cuts or isolation, and subsequently what measures they can take to reduce the impacts of these on themselves and the community.

"Some basic steps taken in advance can make a real and positive difference to how we get through adversity as individuals, families and a community. Often people are on a tight budget, so we look at what ways we can prepare that are cost-effective and fit their personal circumstances."

Thanks to Tim and his team, and groups like Volunteer Whanganui, Red Cross, Community Patrol, The Putiki ERG and others who are there when we need them. We need to do our bit and GET PREPARED!

Tim has the final word: "ShakeOut is a great reminder that we live in a dynamic country that will (at some stage) occasionally shake us a lot more than we'd prefer. It's a good time to think about or update our own family, school, workplace and community plans."

Check out getready.govt.nz/involved/shakeout to register for the event and to find more information about being prepared.

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NICE IN RED! NOW $21,995

2017 MAZDA CX-5 GSX

2.0L, petrol, NZ new, sharp in white, nice black alloys, towbar, reverse camera, spacious, SUV, great buy!



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2019 HYUNDAI SANTA FE ELITE

2.2L, turbo diesel, auto, AWD, NZ new, leather, 7 seater, towbar, tints, high spec, great family SUV!



POPULAR MODEL! NOW $31,995

2023 SUZUKI JIMNY SIERRA

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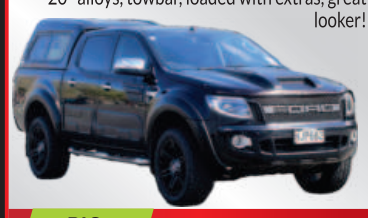
3.2L T/D, manual, 2WD, canopy, body kit, 20" alloys, towbar, loaded with extras, great looker!



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REAL ESTATE & RENOVATION NEWS

Wanting to sell your home? Structural first, cosmetic second

If you are serious about taking your property to the market, the hard truth is that there is little value in investing heavily in attractive finishes if underlying defects remain unresolved and could undermine the property's value. Pre-sale renovations are the foundation (no pun intended) of preparing your property for sale.

It makes sense that improving your home's presentation will attract a wider buyer pool and maximise your market value. However, before focusing on cosmetic improvements such as painting, new flooring or modernising the kitchen and bathroom (which are attractive and do add value), it is essential to identify and address any structural issues first. Like it or lump it, pre-purchase building inspections are a very common component of the sale and often go hand-in-hand with finance approval. They are there to reveal hidden defects which could lead to lower offers, renegotiations or even "bomb" the sale.

By resolving known structural issues before listing the property (foundation instability, roof damage, leaking pipes and rotten timber) you can demonstrate that your home has been properly maintained and reduce the likelihood of unpleasant surprises during due diligence.

Ensure that you keep any records of completed repairs, invoices and certificates as buyers want to feel confident that they are purchasing a sound property without inheriting significant repair bills.

> Like it or lump it, pre-purchase building inspections are a very common component of the sale and often go hand-in-hand with finance approval

Once the structural work has been completed, cosmetic renovations can be considered. Fresh paint, updated fixtures, improved lighting, tidy landscaping and modern finishes can make a property more appealing and help buyers imagine themselves living there.



Bernadette Nugent

Keep in mind that not every improvement will deliver the same return on investment, so prioritise essential repairs and compare renovation costs with the likely increase in sale value.

If you would like a no-obligation discussion before you begin, contact me and let's talk about a practical approach to strengthen buyer confidence, reduce potential obstacles during negotiations and position your property for the best possible sale outcome.

Bernadette Nugent licenced under REAA 2008 Let's Talk!

Staying cool at home

There are many simple, effective and low-cost ways to reduce the temperature of your home – without using electricity.

Here are some simple tips to take the heat out of your home when designing, building or renovating.

Insulate well - Insulation regulates the transfer of heat into and out of a home. It helps to keep your home warm in winter by reducing the amount of heat that escapes, and it also helps to keep your home cooler in summer. Ceiling insulation is especially effective – it reduces the amount of radiant heat absorbed into your home by roofing iron and tiles and buffers the ceiling cavity, which is often extremely hot, from the rooms below. Wall insulation is important too (you can also use heat-absorbing materials like concrete or bricks for north- and west-facing walls).

Allow for good airflow - The simplest way to cool a home is to open doors and windows, allowing air to circulate. This is particularly effective if cool air from shaded areas around the home can be drawn inside. Installing windowstays means you can leave windows partially open at night, or when you are out, without compromising security. Even better, if you are replacing or installing windows, consider frames with built-in air vents.



Wide eaves and pergolas can help keep your home cool in summer.

It is especially useful to open high-level windows on hot days – this enables the rising warm air to escape. If renovating or building a new home, be sure to include openable, high-level windows in the design.

Provide adequate shading - Wide eaves keep the sun out of your home in summer but let in the low winter sun. Alternatively, removable awnings or shade sails can be erected in summer and taken down in winter. Pergolas around north- and west-facing doors and windows, planted with deciduous vines, are a great idea, too. The abundant leaves in summer provide welcome shade, but when the leaves fall, winter sunlight will enter.

Skylights are a wonderful way to introduce natural light and warmth into darker areas of a home, but during summer months they can act as heaters, raising indoor temperatures to unbearable levels. Install blinds or screens on skylights and draw these in the hottest parts of the day.



Let's talk about maximising your renos!

Bernadette Nugent
Residential/Lifestyle Sales Consultant

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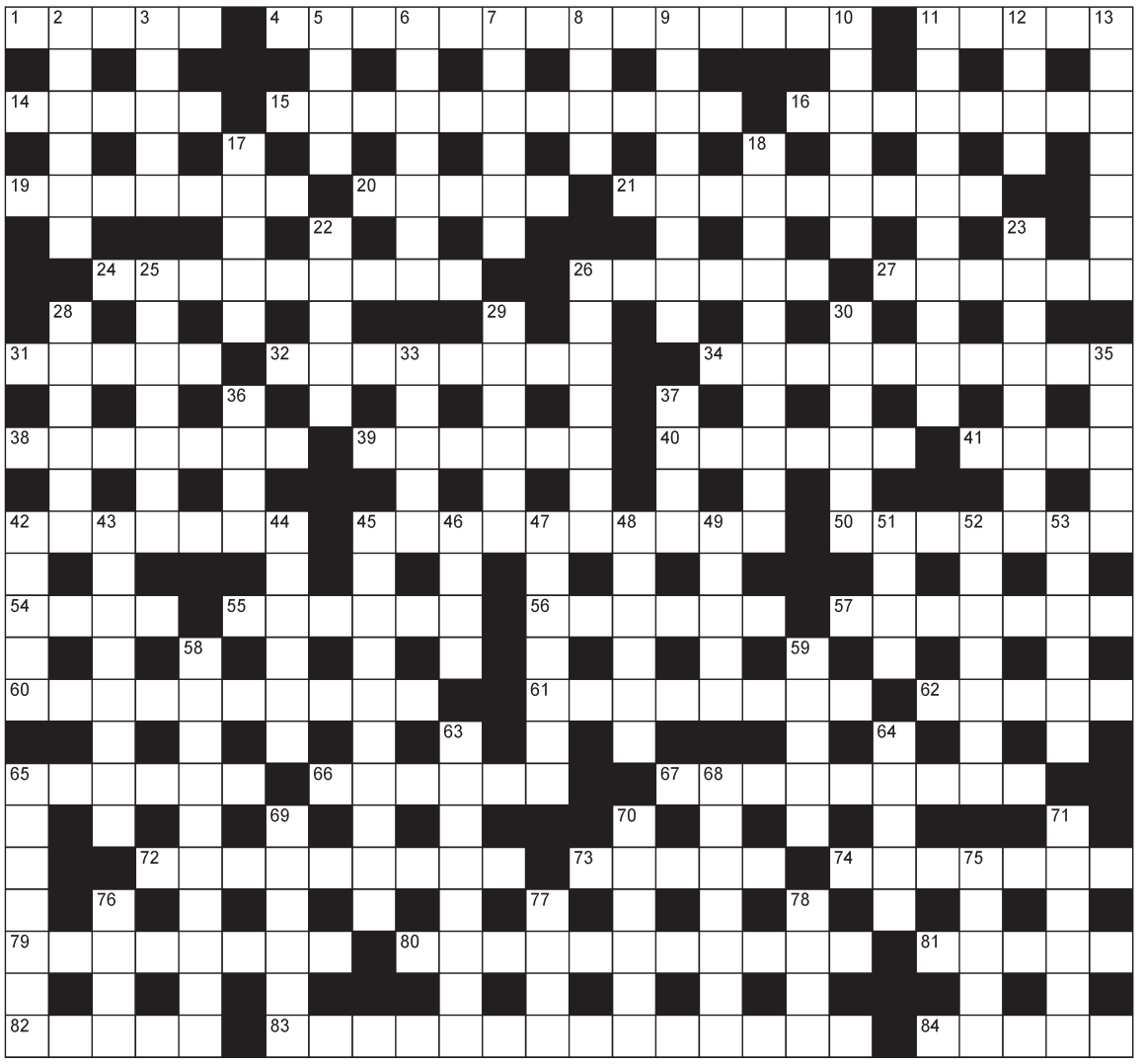
Jumbo crossword

ACROSS

1 Spear (5)
4 Deserved respite (4-6,4)
11 Foot problem (5)
14 Investigation (5)
15 March in protest (11)
16 Renegade (8)
19 Clothing (7)
20 Conditions (5)
21 Not sure (9)
24 Pen name (9)
26 Streetside channel (6)
27 Ship's, aircraft's kitchen (6)
31 Surgical sponges (5)
32 Pariahs (8)
34 Sealed against leakage (10)
38 Egg white (7)
39 Eat up greedily (6)
40 Source (6)
41 Touch lips (4)
42 Awaiting decision or settlement (7)
45 Safekeeping (10)
50 Tiredness (7)
54 Yours and mine (4)
55 Hire (6)
56 Easy-going, warm in manner (6)
57 Radiates (4,3)
60 Intended to deceive (10)
61 French law-keeper (8)
62 Foreign (5)
65 Sounded horn (6)
66 Task (6)
67 Arrest (9)
72 Deadlock (9)
73 Book of maps (5)
74 Female feline (7)
79 Salad sauce (8)
80 Fellowship (11)
81 Line up (5)
82 Bare (5)
83 Depressed (4,2,3,5)
84 Power cables (5)

DOWN

2 Sudden (6)
3 Snake (5)
5 Potato dents (4)
6 Imprecisely (7)
7 Take for granted (6)
8 Standard (4)
9 Cause to explode (8)
10 Gibes (6)
11 Secret-sharing female friend (10)
12 Space (4)
13 Fulfil the expectations of (7)
17 First appearance (5)
18 Meat abstainer (10)
22 Not genuine (5)
23 Growing weary (8)
25 Put down by force or intimidation (7)
26 Of the stomach (7)
28 One dozen (6)
29 Accompany (6)
30 Conviction (6)
33 Applaud with shouts (5)
35 Slight experience of (5)
36 Stitched (4)
37 Asian desert (4)
42 Evidence (5)
43 Storyteller (8)
44 Play games of chance (6)
45 Reversible word (10)
46 Type of marble (4)
47 Betrothed (7)
48 Paying occupier (6)
49 Japanese port (5)
51 Absent (4)
52 Pancreas product (7)
53 Brand new (6)
58 Promoted for sale (10)
59 Sting (5)
63 Seasoned smoked beef (8)
64 Singing group (5)
65 Squash underfoot (5,2)
68 Level highland (7)
69 Copied genetically (6)
70 Free from worry or anxiety (2,4)
71 Sent out (6)
75 Cheek-colouring makeup (5)
76 Writing table (4)
77 Abstain from food (4)
78 Slack (4)





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PREQUAL ASSESSED

SIMON SHUKER'S CODE-CRACKER Extra 929

EACH number in our Code-Cracker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. For example, today 25 represents P, so fill in P every time the figure 25 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*

1	■	2	■	3	■	■	■	4	■	2	■	5	1	14
6	7	8	9	10	11	■	12	13	14	14	15	10	2	15
7	■	2	■	15	■	1	■	7	■	15	■	16	3	16
8	13	15	15	7	17	18	■	8	19	19	1	10	4	17
11	■	18	■	20	■	8	■	7	■	6	■	15	5	18
15	19	1	1	■	1	21	19	8	10	■	■	■	6	19
10	■	10	■	1	■	3	■	10	■	5	■	7	7	20
■	■	■	13	21	21	10	22	■	1	10	2	23	8	21
15	■	1	■	19	■	1	■	1	■	15	■	2	9	22
19	11	19	13	22	■	7	8	24	15	7	8	14	10	23
19	■	2	■	10	■	1	■	13	■	10	■	7	11	24
25	2	25	2	18	2	■	10	15	10	26	10	8	12	25 P
1	■	18	■	1	■	■	■	24	■	10	■	10	13	26

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

©Simon Shuker www.codecracker.co.nz

Sudoku

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

MEDIUM

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

Previous solution

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

Previous solution

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

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

Previous crossword solution

ACROSS: 1 Rival, 4 Endorses, 9 Return, 14 Smash, 15 The luck of the draw, 17 Cocoa, 18 Ear, 19 Brewery, 20 Companion, 21 Pitons, 24 Guinevere, 25 Astray, 26 Trusty, 29 Artificial, 31 Hut, 32 Raised, 33 Jamb, 35 Axe, 37 Help, 39 Analgesic, 40 Launching, 41 Khaki, 42 Careless, 47 Decorate, 51 Pores, 55 Ambiguity, 56 Minnesota, 58 Sway, 59 Awe, 60 Slip, 61 Steamy, 62 Lie, 63 Literature, 66 Bottom, 67 Dismay, 69 Casserole, 72 Export, 73 Lethargic, 75 Hazards, 77 Tax, 80 Trail, 81 The next best thing, 82 Nerve, 83 Bamboo, 84 Antidote, 85 Added.

DOWN: 2 Inheritor, 3 Allow, 5 Neon, 6 Outcome, 7 Steeplechase, 8 Siren, 9 Rowboat, 10 Tack, 11 Recoil, 12 Wages, 13 Shortly, 14 Savoury, 16 Certificate, 22 Retina, 23 Ravioli, 24 Glimpse, 25 Attack, 27 Stamina, 28 Refute, 30 Logo, 32 Repay, 34 Bugle, 36 Echo, 38 Era, 42 Chaos, 43 Rebuilt, 44 Logs, 45 Shifts, 46 Array, 48 Clairvoyant, 49 Rosette, 50 Tea, 51 Pyramid, 52 Smelly, 53 Undercurrent, 54 Sell, 57 Outset, 64 Residence, 65 Compete, 66 Blatant, 68 Maestro, 70 Skirted, 71 Armada, 72 Extra, 74 Hyena, 76 Aphid, 78 Club, 79 Left.

5x5

S		O		F
	A		E	
A		E		A
	A		D	
S		A		H

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

Previous solution

O	C	T	E	T
P	R	O	N	E
A	O	R	T	A
L	O	S	E	S
S	N	O	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.

AUDITIONS @ The Rep:
Our Summer Shorts production is auditioning for two one-act plays and an episode of *Blackadder*. Check our webpage www.wanganuirepertorytheatre.co.nz. Audition for *Blackadder, The Deal and AKA Unpublished*, on Saturday 17 October 12 noon to 6pm. Please text 021 146 7822 for further information.

Bereaved by Suicide Support Group
To support others by understanding their pain as we still walk in ours. Next meeting, Sunday 18 October, 1pm-3pm, Dempsey and Forrest, Hatrick Street entrance. Contact Neil at suicidebereavedby@gmail.com 022-475-82

Castlecliff Coast Care Community Working Day
Sunday 18th October, 12.30 pm. Meet at Castlecliff beach domain between Manuka St and Bamber St. Look out for our flag and the red ute and trailer. Come and help Coast Care with weeding and mulching plants. A great family-friendly event to help out and learn about Castlecliff Coast care. All tools are provided. Wear strong footwear and bring a pair of gardening gloves. A cuppa and home baking provided once finished. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates .

Healing Rooms
All welcome. Prayer Ministry Wednesday 1.30-4pm – Upper lounge @ Christ Church Community Centre, 243 Wicksteed Street, Whanganui. Free of charge. For more information or to book an appointment, phone Steve (06) 344-5955.

Matarawa Community Church
You are wamly welcomed to attend our next service on Sunday 18th October. You will find a very warm welcome, and inspired address and a delicions afternoon tea.

Meet & Greet+ Group (M&G+)
invites you to our 'Ups & Downs' outing on Wed 21 Oct. Our outing includes a mystery bus trip, themed activities, light refreshments in a peaceful local setting. Leaving St Luke's carpark at 1.30–3.30pm. Contact Gayle 027-507-273 – please txt RSVP for catering. Outing weather dependent – Koha is optional.

MIST Mental illness Survivors Team
203 Victoria Ave, open 9.30am to 3.30pm Monday to Friday. Closed statutory holidays. A place to share activities and socialise. We offer activities, acceptance and support.

Rivercity Pickleball
Still wondering what this pickleball is all about? You are welcome to come have a look. Our usual club sessions at Jubilee Stadium are Sunday 3.30pm–5.30pm, Wednesday 9am–11am, Thursday 6pm–8pm. To have a go – beginners must register with Julie 021 232 9029 or email rivercitypickleballnz@gmail.com

Santa Giant Christmas Sale
Sat 7th Nov, 8.30am–2pm (be here to set up at 7.30am). Whanganui Art Society Inc present Santa's Sack Giant Boot Sale at Cook's Gallery, Trafalgar Place (off Ridgway St, between Holdaways & Wanganui Motors). Contact Denise now to reserve your space. $20 per space. 027-258-1222.

Whanganui Community Arts Centre Trust AGM
Will take place at 7pm on Monday 19 October 2026 in the Awa Room, 19 Taupō Quay, Whanganui. All welcome.

Whanganui Film Society
Monday 19 October 7pm: FALLEN ANGELS (1995, M violence, offensive language & sex scenes) Neon-lit Hong Kong nights frame intersecting lives in Wong Kar-Wai's moody, sensual crime romance. Davis Theatre, Watts St. Members only. Join at nzfilmsociety.org.nz/whanganui.html

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 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.

What's On in the Community 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.

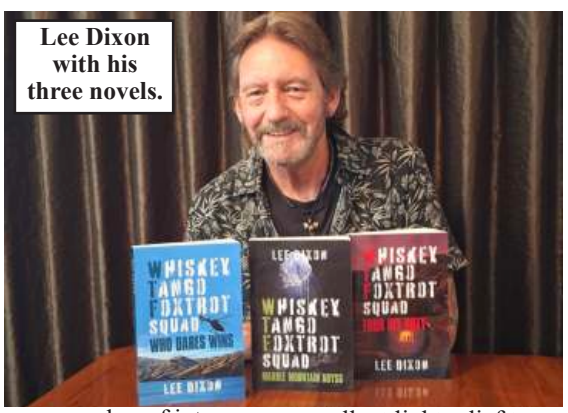
BOOK REVIEW: Whiskey Tango Foxtrot Squad - Tour Off Duty. By Lee Dixon

Reviewed by Doug Davidson

I confess that I had not heard of Lee Dixon until I received some promotional material about his latest book. I was taken first by learning that Lee had lived in Whanganui and once worked for Wanganui Newspapers as a freelance writer and then as editor for the Midweek until 2001. He now lives in Nelson.

The other aspect that appealed to me was the summary of his latest book –which also applies to books one and two of the series – that it is about a tight-knit crew of retired servicemen living in a Nelson retirement village who are called upon or in reality volunteer to get involved to tackle everything and everyone from hit men, mobsters, mercenaries and terrorists.

The book did not disappoint. It is a fast-paced, witty and very much Kiwi book set in the South Island. There



Lee Dixon with his three novels.

are a number of interweaving plots which all end most satisfactorily. The characters are likeable if a bit too prone to whisky and cheese scones.

You will not want to put it down before finishing. In my case it was an excellent light relief to the oh-so-serious novel I have to read for my men's book club.

As Lee Dixon says, it is "perfect for readers who love high stakes action, strong camaraderie and heroes with a bit of mileage and a lot of heart."

WIN A BOOK

Win a copy of *Whiskey Tango Foxtrot Squad*

The RCP has my review copy available to be won by an RCP reader. All you need to do is email rivercitypress@xtra.co.nz putting Lee Dixon in the subject area and giving us your daytime contact details. The draw will be made at 12 noon on Friday 23 October.

Whanganui groups call for concrete action on Palestine ahead of election



Hikoi for sanctions. Photo by Kereama Allen

On 10 October, around 50 Whanganui community members joined representatives from the Whanganui Palestinian Solidarity Group (WPSG), School Strike 4 Climate Aotearoa (SS4C) and Whanganui Teens For Change (WTFC) to deliver letters to local political representatives, calling for concrete action in support of Palestinian rights as part of a Global Day of Action for Palestine.

Carrying Palestinian flags and large signs spelling out "SANCTIONS" – signs first used in campaigns against South African apartheid in the 1980s – the group delivered letters to the offices of Whanganui Labour candidate Angela Roberts and National MP Carl Bates.

The action comes ahead of the general election on 7 November 2026 and follows the Labour Party's foreign policy announcement of its position on Palestine.

The three groups have welcomed Labour's stated commitments, but are calling on the party to translate its pledges into concrete action within its first 100 days in office, should it be elected.

Sophi Reinholt, spokesperson for the Whanganui Palestinian Solidarity Group, said New Zealand had failed to meet its international legal responsibilities.

The three groups say they will continue to press for accountability, sanctions and a New Zealand foreign policy that upholds international law, emphasising that the next Government must be judged by its actions, not simply its promises.

Recent Bereavements

Sadly passed away recently...

Jeanette Clare BAMFORD
on 8 October 2026, aged 86 years.

Keith Gilbert BING,
aged 90 years.

Peter Brian Scott DICKENSON
on 10 October 2026, aged 84 years. James

Bruce William KENNEDY
on 7 October 2026, aged 93 years.

Diana May MORGAN
on 8 October 2026, aged 85 years.

Patrick O'LEARY
on 10 October 2026, aged 54 years.

Ronald (Ron) POCOCK
on 11 October 2026.

Heino POPS
on 28 September 2026, aged 89 years.

Charles Pehira SIMON
on 9 October 2026, aged 55 years.

Colleen Ann TASKER
on 6 October 2026, aged 70 years.

Roger John WHITING
on 12 October 2026, aged 78 years.

Jennifer Margaret WOODTHORPE
on 6 October 2026, aged 72 years.

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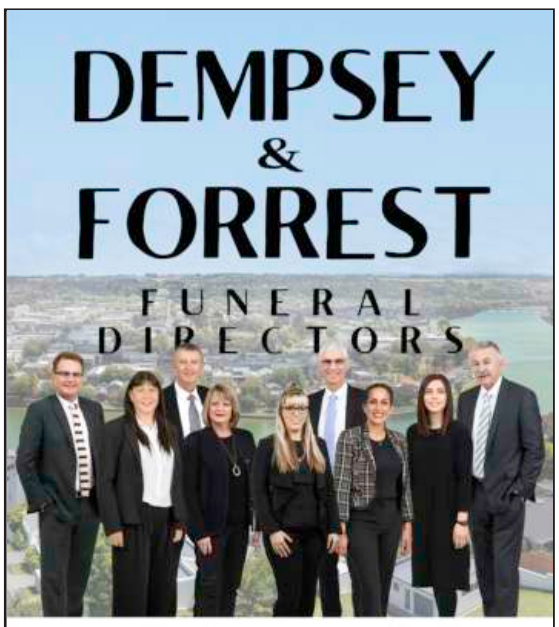
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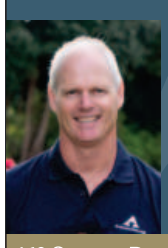
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Son teams up with mum, Sharen, at Arizto Real Estate

After 30 years in the auto electrical industry, having built a strong reputation in the field, Matt Tunnell has pivoted into real estate alongside his mum, Sharen Tunnell, a successful operator under the Arizto brand.

Matt sees it as another opportunity to help people, and having only officially started in early October, he already has a sale and listings under his belt. He's eager to help more people move on to their next property adventure.

Matt is already finding he's working late into the evening. He says he's not afraid of hard work, but now that he has a young family, he's seeking the flexibility real estate offers. Working alongside Sharen, who has over 10 years in the industry, it was the perfect option for them both.

Like his mum, Matt has the helping gene. "I really like seeing what I can actually do to help people, you know," Matt says.

The key for Matt is, he says, "Being honest and upfront about everything. I think people I have met to date really appreciate that."

Both Matt and Sharen pride themselves on learning as much as they can about a property they've listed. They appreciate that a home is often the biggest investment people make in their lives, so knowing the property is imperative.



Matt and Sharon Tunnell.

"We do the research," Sharen says.

Matt is enjoying the buzz of activity that comes with real estate, too. At a recent open home, 17 groups attended despite the rain.

"People were just lining up in the rain and waiting. It was just amazing."

Sharen explains that having two real estate agents on hand to assist viewers at the open home was really helpful, adding, "Basically our vendors get two agents for the price of one."

In all seriousness though, Sharen, who has worked in the more traditional models of real estate, loves the Kiwi-built Arizto brand, saying, "If there's no sale, there's no fee. There are no upfront costs with us either, like the typical cost for marketing elsewhere."

The distinctive mother-and-son duo, that may be a first for Whanganui, value the unique Arizto system that they believe provides transparency for the vendor and the purchaser.

The whole process is digitised – every listing has its own dashboard with all the information that a vendor needs at their fingertips, including people's feedback from Open Homes.

Matt and Sharen believe that the Arizto model builds open and honest conversations between agents and vendors and the best outcomes for their clients.

Band to perform with improvised instruments outside Fun Palaces this weekend

The Sound Mechanics, Neil Feather and Rosie Langabeer, are here performing Friday 16 October to Sunday 18 October at 3.30pm in the Fun Palace Whanganui on the War Memorial Forecourt, with workshops at Whanganui Musician's Club Saturday at 10.30am and 1pm and Sunday at 10.30am.

The duo make improvised experimental music with mechanical instruments. The instruments are made from everything – repurposed bicycles to an old movie projector. Quirkily named, they include the Melocycle, the Wiggler, and the Bachelor/cocolina. Langabeer is a Kiwi, and Feather is an import from the US.

Feather attributes the inventiveness and the repurposed nature of his instruments to living in several places that are in decline… environmentally and population wise. He is quick to point out that New Zealand is the first place he's lived that feels like it's in a growth phase. The industrial nature of the instruments (and even the nature of that we associate with experimental music), could be attributed his upbringing in the industrial Pennsylvania within the "Rust Belt" (Northeast/Midwest), where he originally hails from. Feather went straight into experimental music – he says John Cage, Captain Beefheart and Harry Partch in a week changed his life.



Neil Feather with some unique musical instruments.

Langabeer's move into experimental music was one that came from a desire to find some freedom from the rules and boxes associated with conventional music. This and a way to find the "inbetween sounds" that you can't make on a piano. She also comments that it's so much about play and curiosity – spontaneously composing music together.

The workshop is hands on for a small number of people (6–8) but people are encouraged to come and observe.

For more information on all of the Fun Palace events, visit: https://fun-palaces.co.uk/fun-palace/fun-palaces-whanganui-fun-palace

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GARDENING and or housework - honest, reliable, eager. Available mornings only on a regular basis. Phone Tanya 021-032-7438.

MATURE woman seeks private house cleaning position in Wanganui. Honest, reliable, ethical worker. Please phone 027-231-7214.

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PSYCHIC CONSULTANT

I am available to help with your past, present and future as well as important decisions. Sandra Singleton. Numerologist Wanganui. 06-345-3803.

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City Mission/Foodbank 345 2139
Women's Refuge Wanganui..... 344 2204

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PUBLIC NOTICES

TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O Whanganui DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Notice of Summary of Submissions and Call for Further Submissions to Plan Change 66 - Miscellaneous 3 to the Operative Whanganui District Plan

Pursuant to Clause 7 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991, the Whanganui District Council has prepared a summary of submissions received for proposed Plan Change 66 to the Whanganui District Plan.

Plan Change 66 - Miscellaneous 3 seeks to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the district plan by updating provisions that are outdated, unworkable, or create unnecessary barriers to good-quality development. The plan change will help ensure the district plan remains fully functional, clear and fit for purpose while we transition into the new planning system.

A copy of submissions and a summary of submissions can be inspected during normal office hours at:

- Customer Services Desk at Whanganui District Council, 101 Guyton Street; or
- Public Libraries at Queens Park and Gonville; or
- Available on Council's website under Plan Change 66 - Miscellaneous 3

Further submissions may **ONLY** be made in support of or in opposition to a submission already received by council.

The Council now invites further written submissions from the public in the prescribed form (Form 6).

You may make a further submission by using the online submission tool or alternatively by sending a written submission to Whanganui District Council, P O Box 637, Whanganui 4541 or email PlanningPolicy@whanganui.govt.nz. The submission must be in form 6 and state whether or not you wish to be heard. Copies of the form are available from the Council offices and website (see above). Electronic submissions do not require a signature.

Further submissions close at 5pm on Friday 30th October 2026.

Doug Tate
Chief Executive

15/10/2026

whanganui.govt.nz

SECTION 101

SALE AND SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL ACT 2012

Richard and David Limited, 149 London Street, Whanganui has made application to the District Licensing Committee at Whanganui for the issue of an On licence in respect of the premises situated at 149 London Street, Whanganui known as **Cactus Boutique**.

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

The days on which and the hours during which alcohol is intended to be sold under the licence are **Monday to Sunday 10.00am to 10.00pm.**

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 October 8, 2026.

The Rep Whanganui Repertory Theatre

AUDITIONS

On Saturday 17 October
from 12 noon to 6 pm

Summer Shorts
3 plays on stage 17-20 December

Blackadder
3 men and 3 women

The Deal	AKA Unpublished
1 woman	3 women
2 more people	2 men

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NEW season's Red Kaka beak, Kanuka, Manuka, various Corokia including Frosted Chocolate, Sunsplash, Cotoneaster, Virgata, Geenty's Green. Buxus hedging all priced at only 6 dollars each. A good range of large grade Native trees, Planter bag, 12, great price, 18 dollars. Parnells Quality Tree and Shrub Nursery, 102 Fox Road, Wanganui. Phone (06) 344-6645. Established 1895 and still going strong!

NEW books available at River City Press, 52 Ingestre St. "Whimsical Tales of Old Wanganui"; "More Whimsical Tales of Old Wanganui". All proceeds go to Alzheimers Whanganui.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

TUNE into City Magic 106.9FM from this Sunday. Saturday's 9am gardening, segments on negotiation, Sports, Radio Countdowns. Sunday's 8am children's requests, 9am Woman to Woman, 12pm Dick Clark. Sunday's 5pm feature artist. American Top 40s, community events, weeknights, 9.15am Wednesdays and Fridays - drama, music documentaries. Feedback 021-216-0886. Broadcasting from Durie Hill.

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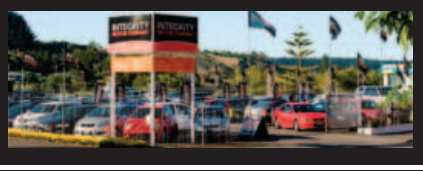
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SPORTS NEWS

Whanganui ready to welcome New Zealand's Masters squash players

Whanganui is ready to welcome some of the country's best Masters squash players, with the NZ Masters Nationals getting underway tomorrow, 16 October, and running until 20 October.

The five-day tournament is being hosted jointly by Whanganui Squash Club and Rivercity Squash Club, bringing players from across New Zealand to compete for national honours. It is a fantastic opportunity to showcase Whanganui's squash community. Both local clubs are proud to work together to deliver the tournament.

Whanganui is fortunate to have an outstanding level of squash talent, with local players regularly competing successfully at regional, national and international levels. Most recently, our own Matt Nation represented New Zealand at the World Masters Championships in Perth, following his 35+ Masters title win in Hong Kong earlier this year. His achievements are a great example of the depth of talent in our local squash community.

Hosting the Masters Nationals gives our players the chance to compete on home courts while welcoming visiting competitors to Whanganui.

The tournament features three days of individual competition across various age groups, followed by two days of team competition, with regions from across the country battling it out for national honours. It is a great opportunity to watch high-level squash and experience the atmosphere of a national tournament right here in Whanganui.

The clubs are encouraging the wider community to come along and support the action. Whether you are a regular supporter of local sport, have a friend or family member competing, or have never watched squash before, everyone is welcome.



Nation in action playing Ho Fai Chiu from Hong Kong in the final, where he went on to claim the title 11–5, 11–6, 11–3.

And if watching the Masters inspires you to pick up a racket yourself, there is plenty more squash on the horizon.

Business House Squash starts on Wednesday, 28 October, offering a fun and social way for people to get involved. It asks for teams of four, and the competition is particularly suited to beginners and anyone new to squash.

Business House is about getting active, having a bit of fun and enjoying some friendly competition with workmates, friends or family. It's also a great opportunity for local businesses to get a team together and try something different.

For more information about Business House or getting involved with Whanganui Squash Club, come and talk to Jodie at the club or email whanganuisquash@inspire.net.nz

Come along, support our local players, welcome our visiting competitors and see the outstanding squash Whanganui has to offer.

Bridge Club results

Whanganui Bridge Club results, week ending 9 October

Monday Nixon Swiss Pairs: Leaders after round 3: 1. P McDonald K Moore 44.20 2. T Jones V Kay 42.73 3. V Bartrum L Rowland 40.82

Tuesday Spring Pairs: N/S 1. K Verhoek D Nightingale 62.04 2. J Newman S Dempsey 61.57 3. A Barr W Pedley 53.01 **E/W** 1. C Harding G Handley 60.47 2. S Watson M Wyley 58.97 3. V Baillie T Watson 57.05

Wednesday Spring Pairs: N/S 1. T Gunasekara A Williams 53.75 2. J Lambert B Rhodes 51.88 3. P Irvin R Terrey 50.63 **E/W** 1. K Rainey C Rothman 69.38 2. J Bourne S Rainey 60.63 3. J Rose F Simpson 51.88 **Wednesday Social: N/S** 1. J Richardson D Price 62.50 2. P Paterson A Thirtle 58.93 3. A Hodges C Pepperell 55.06 **E/W** 1. C Fisher J Jennings 66.37 2. L Rowland J Dodds 55.65 3. C Harding M Dawson 55.06

Friday Social: N/S 1. D Haynes J Rapson 64.76 2. J Newman S Dempsey 64.58 3. G MacLachlan C Pepperell 59.38 4. C Birdling-Duncan B Jones 53.30 5. S Brotherston J Smith 52.95 6. B Collins J Hore 51.39 **E/W** 1. C Chesswas C Raisin 66.03 2. L Rowland J Dodds 60.90 3. C Harding J Zhang 55.61 4. B Evans J Glenn 50.48 5=. L Vodanovich S Watson 49.20 5=. N Bartrum C Veltman 49.20

Target shooting results

Westmere: Ian Mottram 95.03, 92.00/ 187.03, Shaun Peat 92.02, 97.03/ 189.05, Ian Hodges 92.02, Owen Bunn 88.00, 92.01/ 180.01, Lisa Laurence 92.01.

Barracks: Aria Hill 95.02, Dave Westcott 96.03, Raewyne Simpson 97.04, Tom Turner 99.06, Trevor Rush 91.00, William Hird 89.01, Patrick McCartie 96.03, Lucian Prime 98.07, James Prime 92.02, Marshall Munro 90.02, Glen McCartie 91.02, Finlay Rhodes 88.00, Spencer Sutherland 91.01, Blake Greenlees 85.00, Jackson Hay 81.00.

Marton: Tony Bayler 97.03, 99.07/ 196.10, James Jewell 97.04, 97.04/ 194.08, Gary Cuff 97.03, 97.05/ 194.08, Fred de Burgh 95.03, 96.02/ 191.05, Brogan Baldwin 93.02, 93.02/ 186.04, Allan Wright 86.01, 89.01/ 175.02.

The prize that keeps its eyes on the competition


Photos courtesy of Debs Tongotea.

Last fortnight saw Wanganui Archery Club host the Wellington Archery Association Loudon Tournament, a regional team event held at one of the lower North Island clubs each year.

Attendance was high, with a good showing from the Randwick Archery Club and their trip proved worthwhile, with Wembley Park's weather putting on a fantastic display of spring sunshine, especially welcome after the less than ideal drizzle that dampened most of Saturday's club activities.

Wanganui's archers put up some good scores but were ultimately outshone by Randwick's top team, who took the win and claimed another 12 months custodianship of what might be one of New Zealand's more unusual trophies, the Loudon Shield.

"Keep your eyes on the prize" is a well-worn mantra in sports and other endeavors, but the Loudon Shield is capable of completely turning this around! It's unlikely that this old carving will be hung in anyone's lounge for the next year, but while it may not be the popular choice for home décor, it's certainly not easily forgotten and always makes for a striking addition to the range at the tournament. More than one archer has mentioned in the past how those eyes seem to follow you every time you walk to the target and back – perhaps that's why it seems to bring out the best in many of the competitors!

After the Loudon tournament, the Wanganui Archery Club range saw another of their regular have-a-go sessions, and although their latest beginners' course was scheduled to start the day before, the aforementioned rain led to the first lesson being postponed until later this week. For those interested in trying archery, more opportunities are planned throughout the summer, and you can either get in touch with the club directly on archerywanganui@gmail.com or follow them on Facebook to keep up to date with new events and courses.

Archery is also a great opportunity for a team-building or social event for your work or club group and WAC would be happy to help you make sure you end the year on target!

Pigeon racing results

Last weekend our pigeons raced from two opposing directions, which shows how clever they are at navigating!

Our first team flew from Owhiro Bay again in preparation for the upcoming South Island races. Shane Guddop took the honours with his bird flying 1181.84m/m or 70.91km/hr. Second was Heather Verstraeten 1087.28m/m or 65.23km/hr. Brad Fairweather was third 1077.11m/m or 64.62km/hr. Next was Alois Verstraeten 1073.99m/m or 64.43km/hr, Don Lacy 1056.52m/m or 63.39km/hr and Benedick Galanida 1000.0m/m or 60.00km/hr.

Team 2 flew from Waitara with Heather Verstraeten in first place 1306.55m/m or 78.39km/hr. Brad Fairweather was second 1297.01m/m or 77.82km/hr. Alois Verstraeten came third 1280.97m/m or 76.85km/hr. Next was Jim Pullins 1278.58m/m or 76.71km/hr, Shane Guddop 1242.67m/m or 74.56km/hr and Benedick Galanida 1240.02m/m or 74.40km/hr.

The weather for both of these races was fine, with little wind. Next weekend's race could be much tougher, with the birds flying from Whangarei in a strong southerly.

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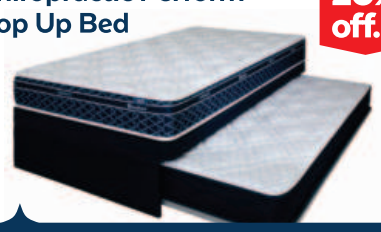

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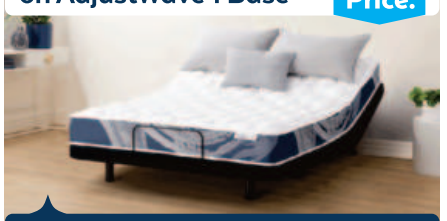

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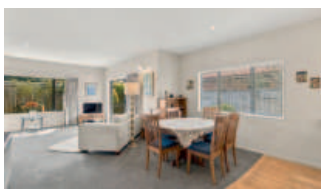

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