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Local masons breathe new life into 19th century headstones

BY LOUISE FOLLETT

There's something quietly reassuring about constancy and connections to the past in an ever-changing world. One such place that holds our city's history is Heads Road Cemetery.

Recently, Tony Anderson and his team at Anderson Memorials embarked on a mission to rebuild the broken remnants of two early headstones, ensuring the two individuals' dignity in death and leaving a record that speaks to us from the past.

The project was also inspired by National Cemeteries Week 2026 (this week), a New Zealand Master Monumental Masons initiative, a time to celebrate cemeteries and crematoria as places of heritage, remembrance and community.

Tony explained, "I saw these two old gravestones, both face down in the dirt, with one broken into a few pieces and scattered around the gravesite. They're both near Ballance's grave – a former New Zealand Prime Minister – and I decided it would be a community-minded thing to do, to restore their dignity."

Tony and his team hoisted the broken pieces of granite onto the truck, about 120kg, and took them back to their workshop on Somme Pde to be restored.

The restoration has been carried out sensitively, with a light hand.

"I mean, there's nicks and that everywhere, but that's part of their history now, isn't it?" says Tony.

So just who are the people buried beneath the broken headstones?

One is George Marshall Gray; the plinth holding a large Celtic cross tells us George was born in Dundee in 1806 and passed away in 1880.

Research finds George Marshall Gray in Mangaone, Hawke's Bay, ca 1858–63. Then, in the 1869–70 Electoral Roll, George Marshall Gray is listed as living on acreage on the Left Bank, No. 2 Line, Whanganui. Beyond these sparse official traces, little else has yet come to light.

The other is W.F. (William Fowles) Downes, whose inscription on his granite headstone shows he was born in Nantwich in 1844, and died in 1896. His wife Ada joined him in 1936, having been a widow for 40 years.

William worked for the New South Wales Bank on Victoria Ave for 30 years and was the manager for six years. He was also a New Zealand cricketer. He played nine first-class matches for Otago between 1865 and 1876. New Zealand cricket historian Tom Reese, according to Wikipedia, described Downes as "the best bowler in New Zealand before 1876".

William married twice and had three sons and three daughters.

As is often the case with exploring the past, gathering fragments of information leaves you with more questions than answers. One burning question is: do any of these individuals have living relatives in Whanganui?

Making the link to the past and recording the testimony of a person's existence has been the Anderson family's business in Whanganui for over 110 years. Five generations of Andersons have been inscribing memori-



Before photo of the two adjacent headstones at Heads Road Cemetery that were chosen to be repaired.

als, from hand chiselling to laser, for just as many generations of families in Whanganui and the wider region.

Not only has the service remained the only one of its kind in the region, but it's on the same site it began, opposite the cemetery in Somme Parade. It was built by current owner Tony Anderson's great-grandfather, Andrew Peter Anderson, known as AP, and is the only company that manufactures memorials in the region – others have their work done out of town.

Much like the work the family and their team have done to ensure permanence and history for local families, they have stayed grounded in the community.

Tony has an even bigger perspective of time: "Well, you're cutting into granite; it is millions of years old."

Continued on page 2

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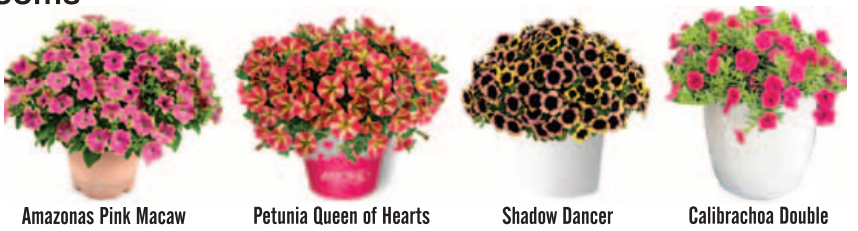
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Whanganui team set world record for longest continual row

A team of 17 prison officers and friends from the Spartan Rowing Club have set a new Concept2 world record for the longest continual row in the large-team category, completing 15 days (360 hours) of continuous rowing on a single erg – a stationery rowing machine.

The previous record they were targeting was a large-team mark of around 10 days. The Spartans also still hold their earlier small-team record of 12 days, 12 hours, set in 2014.

The attempt took place at the Marist Clubrooms, and the club is grateful for the support provided. Unlike the ancient Spartan warriors, this crew was mixed gender and ranged in age from 30 to 63. Throughout the challenge the Concept2 flywheel never stopped spinning.

On Monday morning at 9am, Darren Whetton, surrounded by fellow Spartans, completed the final stretch to the 15-day mark as a TVNZ camera recorded the moment.

"So now we have the two longest ever in our categories. We have the 15-day, 360-hour large team record, plus the record that we broke, our old record of 12 and a half days," said Ralph Visser with obvious pride.



Darren Whetton rowing – the last row to the record.

The event was a year in the making, led by captain Darren Whetton, Darren Huntley and Ralph Visser. The Spartan Club was formed in 1996 by Whanganui Prison Officers and has a long history of setting individual, tandem, small-team, large-team and mixed records.

"For ten years we set all sorts of records… and then it sort of died away. And now it's come back. We're all fitter and stronger for it, and it's a real positive thing," Ralph said.

Darren Whetton, who spent 24–30 hours on the machine over the two weeks, spoke about the camaraderie: "We've had a group of us that work in different areas, and probably before this some of us didn't know each other too well, but everyone's just gelled and got it done. What I like with these sort of records is that you don't have to be an athlete to do them."

The rowers: Ralph Visser, Grant Satherley, Darren Huntley, Rene Cook, Caen Clark, Judith Clair, Kathy Lambert, Solomoni Raravula, Te Pukenui Maruera, Hendrik Bezuidenhout, Bridgit Carver, Tash Carver, Dayle Brooks, Ursula Warren, Chris Van Gerven, Sarah Roper and Darren Whetton.

Well done, Spartan Rowing Club.

Free talk on natural burials

Did you know that Whanganui has its very own natural burial area? It's part of the Aramoho cemetery but isn't well known, says Rachel Rose. She organised a natural burial for her father recently and will lead a discussion at next Tuesday's Green Drinks event about why people might choose a natural burial and what it involves. She'll also touch on how to make it more affordable.



A natural burial focuses on returning the body to the earth in nature's own way. That means allowing conditions for natural decomposition and the regeneration of a natural forest above the graves.

"A natural burial isn't difficult to organise but it's helpful to understand the requirements ahead of time," Rachel says. "The body can't be embalmed and the coffin or bearer must be a material that will naturally break down.

"Even if people don't opt for a full natural burial, you can reduce the environmental impact of a regular burial or cremation by choosing natural fibres to line the coffin and dress the body and wooden coffins without harmful chemical treatment, nasty glues or vinyl wraps."

Rachel presents at Green Drinks on Tuesday 10 November, 6pm–7.30pm at the front room in Barracks Sports Bar, 179 Saint Hill Street. Free and everyone is welcome.

Local masons breath new life into 19th century headstones

Continued from page 1

That timescale may dwarf our own short span, but it also sharpens the point. In carefully restoring two broken headstones, Tony Anderson and his team have done what the Anderson family has done for more than a century: kept a quiet, permanent record of lives lived in our city.

If you are connected to any of these individuals, contact the RCP at reporter@rivercitypress.co.nz.



Anderson Memorials staff installing one of the restored headstones at Heads Road cemetery.

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Classic sidecar motorbike competitors return from racing in the UK

Local Classic sidecar competitors Jason Rees and Shayne Perry made the trek to the other side of the world to race their UK "cousins" at the start of their summer and, after three events, finished near the top of the UK leaderboard in the British Road Racing Classic championship. It's a story of "bloody good mates" and building connections worldwide.

For some background, Jason has been racing since his late teens, starting with a successful road racing career on two wheels, before discovering classic sidecar racing in NZ that features iconic brands like Triumph, Norton, BSA and Ducati – bikes that lean into raw mechanical character, distinct engine "roar", and rich heritage. Success followed, and Jason loves the camaraderie of the "Classic family".



Jason Rees and Shayne Perry in action.

By his side throughout his sidecar career have been a couple of experienced swingers, the latest being Shayne, who is a seasoned veteran on the side of the classic sidecar, and Jason's cousin and great mate, Ron Rees. Ron and his wife Trish own the sidecar Jason races. It's a significant investment, but Ron has racing in his blood too, having been a Classic competitor and former owner of Rees Engineering.



At the front, Jason Rees and Shayne Perry, with Ron Rees and his wife Trish, enjoying a moment with the 'treasure' they secured.

The idea of the three UK race meetings came from a casual conversation with Ron and Trish, who said, "We're not getting any younger. Come on, we'll go to the UK."

In the heat of the UK summer, Jason and Shayne competed in three rounds of classic sidecar events at Cadwell Park, the Southern 100 at Castletown, Isle of Man and Snetterton.

It was a real taste of UK racing and hospitality, on a much larger scale than racing in the southern hemisphere. He and Shane had to secure Danish licences to compete, as neither is a UK resident.

First stop, Cadwell Park, in Lincolnshire, a tight 3.5 km motorcycle track, quite unlike anything the pair would have raced in New Zealand and Australia.

"It took me a bit to learn the track. Our first race, and the bloody kill switch had popped off.

"We went out in the next race and won."

Next stop, the Southern One Hundred, the Billown circuit, an iconic road race in Castletown, Isle of Man, where gladiatorial motorcycle racers have been destroying knee pads since 1955.

The event is known as the "friendly races", as Jason can attest.

It's a very fast 4.25-mile circuit, not easy to learn for a crew fresh to the track. They walked away with the Fastest Newcomers Trophy, "so, it was pretty cool," says Jason.

As so often happens to Kiwis abroad, you bump into people from your hometown – local lad Steve Hessell just happened to be on the island and was a great help to the crew.

The final of the trifecta was Snetterton Circuit, an old US Air Force base in Norwich, 3km long, with Superbikes reaching speeds of 290km/h, and probably the fastest track that the pair conquered.

The pair almost completed a winning trifecta, winning two races. But a backmarker slowed them down for the final race, where they took second place. Again, NZer Mark Halls turned up to support the boys. Jason says, "It's always good to see a friendly face."

It was a once-in-a-lifetime trip for Jason and his crew. Or was it? He would love to make two-yearly pilgrimages to the UK to race. Watch this space!

The boys would really like to thank a few people who helped them with the trip; without these guys, it never would have happened.

Thanks to Ron and Trish Rees, Thompson Plumbing and Gemini Pepper – also Bruce Roberts, who donated a couple of tyres.

New members wanted for Heritage Rose NZ

Local woman Sarah Howell is the current president of Heritage Roses New Zealand, an organisation with branches from Northland to Southland that celebrate these living antiques. Sarah is keen to attract members in Whanganui. Whanganui has the right conditions for robust heritage varieties to thrive and continue our ancestors' legacy.

Sarah says, "Jennie Chillingworth was running the local group. It went into recess some years ago, and I'm wanting to revive it."

To be recognised as a heritage rose, one key requirement is that the rose was discovered, bred, or formally introduced to commerce at least a century ago.



Sarah with a bunch of heritage roses from her garden. The Kazanlik is the large rose at the base of the bouquet.

Many heritage roses in New Zealand travelled here on sailing ships with early settlers and spread across districts through shared cuttings.

This habit continues among current Heritage Roses New Zealand members. Sarah describes one way members ensure the survival of heritage roses: "In the past, a lot of heritage rose people did what was called rose rustling, which is going around, finding old properties and not stealing roses, but going in and asking, 'Do you mind if I take a bit of this?'"

Sarah brought the RCP a bunch of heritage roses from her Edwardian property. One of them is currently grown in Bulgaria and is called Kazanlik, otherwise known as Trigintipetala. It is a hybrid of *Rosa damascena*, introduced by Ottoman merchants in the 16th century.

Sarah says, "It traces back to ancient natural hybrids in the Middle East; they pick the petals at dawn, and it takes 4,000 to 5,000 pounds to make a pound of pure rose essential oil."

Heritage Roses New Zealand also maintain a register of heritage roses in the country. Sarah says, "There's a group within our organisation called the Rose Register, and they record as many old roses that are known to be grown in New Zealand as are known to them."

Members send in details of the roses they grow in their gardens, and there are lists from public gardens too, because many of them are no longer available in commerce.

Beyond their cultural value and individual unique histories, why else would you grow heritage roses in New Zealand? They are described as hardy, low maintenance, ornamental, and ecologically beneficial while still delivering the beauty and fragrance that make roses so beloved.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Heritage Roses New Zealand, Whanganui chapter, contact Sarah Howell at sarahheritagerosesnz@gmail.com

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Billy Webb rowing challenge on the river this Sunday

The iconic Rigtech Billy Webb Challenge – a single-scull race on the Whanganui River commemorating William "Billy" Webb, New Zealand's first professional world single-sculling champion – is run by the Whanganui Rowing Association and has a refreshed format for 2026.

Bruce Osborne has led a sub-committee of the Association with changes being made to the traditional 6 km upstream–downstream single sculls challenge race and has been replaced by a straight line 5km races. Racing starts at the top of the Aramoho traditional 2km start down to the Union Boat Club.

Boats will start in a line across the river, with separate group starting by gender and age category.

The event now also includes Bridge to Bridge races – a half (5 km) and full (10 km) – sponsored by Whanganui Roofing and an anonymous donor. Results in these races are based on prognostic times (predicted gold-standard finish times for each boat class, age group and distance).

"This concept was embraced by all four clubs in the Whanganui Rowing Association – Whanganui Collegiate School (a club in its own right), Aramoho Whanganui Rowing Club, Union Rowing Club, and Clifton Rowing Club from Waitara," Osborne said. "Because of its history, we have added some additional races to try and give the event an Armada-type feel whilst still retaining the historical Billy Webb singles scull challenge."

The Billy Webb Challenge single-scull categories are Men's Open, Women's Open, Girls' and Boys Under-18, Men's Masters and Women's Masters. The races are first-past-the-post, with prizes provided by Rigtech Engineering Ltd. Cash prizes for the Bill Webb and the Bridge to Bridge events bring the total prize pool to $2,600.

Mark Webb, great-great-nephew of Billy Webb, continues to support the event through his business, Rigtech Engineering Ltd. He is also keen to connect with other Whanganui businesses, and Osborne has recently been promoting Rigtech engineering capabilities to local engineering firms. The company also manufactures aluminium and steel products for the food and wine industries, and its specialty is the manufacture of riggers for NZ made rowing/racing boats.

The new race format has called for updated technologies in timekeeping, and the team of Greg Tichbon, Gus Scott, and Tiffany Davies are confident they will manage all contingencies.

Looking back, Osborne paid tribute to the previous organiser: "All credit to Philippa Baker Hogan in the past. Philippa did sterling work to promote this event, and we've had some pretty impressive New Zealand and overseas athletes competing in it."



Rowers from around the North Island will participate in the event. It should be a great spectacle.

Sunday 7 November: Racing starts at 9am, finishing about 10am, with 11am prizegiving taking place at the Union Boat Club on Taupō Quay.

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COURAGE AND COMMITMENT

Museum talk revisits a bridal tradition

By Karen Hughes

A once-popular wedding tradition will be explored at Whanganui Regional Museum's next *Outfit of the Month* talk, featuring a bridal going-away outfit worn in 1923.

Stephanie Wood, Kaihāpai Taonga / Curator, Fashion and Textiles, will present the talk featuring the going-away outfit worn by Doris Rose Cracroft Wilson following her marriage in October 1923.

The tradition of brides changing into a special outfit before departing for their honeymoon dates back to the 18th century and became increasingly fashionable during the Victorian era.

By the early 20th century, tailored suits and coordinating hats were popular choices for brides who wanted to leave their wedding celebrations in style.

"A wedding dress is often carefully preserved and treasured, but the going-away outfit tells another part of the wedding story," says Stephanie.

"These outfits were chosen for a very particular moment in a bride's life. They reflect the fashions of the time, but also the social customs and expectations surrounding marriage. Doris's travelling outfit is a lovely example of that tradition."



Doris Wilson outfit – the outfit will remain on display throughout November.

The outfit is part of a collection of 49 garments and accessories donated to the Museum in 1999 by Doris's daughter, Hilary Haylock. The collection relates to the Wilson and Haylock family who have lived at Leventy, the Wilson family homestead in Bulls, for over 100 years.

Regular followers of the Museum's *Outfit of the Month* series will recognise the family connection; a 1965 debutante gown worn by Hilary's daughter, Rosemary Haylock, has also featured in a previous talk.

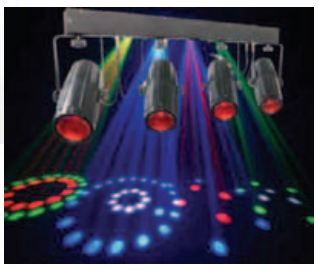
The *Outfit of the Month* talk takes place at Whanganui Regional Museum at 12.15pm on Friday 6 November. Stephanie will take a closer look at this century-old piece of fashion history and explore how wedding traditions and bridal fashions have changed over time.

The talk is free and no booking is required. Koha (donations) to support the Museum's ongoing heritage preservation work are always welcomed.

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Mangapurua Track reopens with new, safer bridges

The Mangapurua Track, an iconic part of the Mountains to Sea – Ngā Ara Tūhono Great Ride, reopens to cyclists on Saturday 24 October with new bridges improving safety and experience for all users.

Following its seasonal winter closure to cyclists, the track is ready to welcome summer visitors into the spectacular landscapes of Whanganui National Park. The journey takes people through native forest and historic valley settlements, past dramatic bluffs and across the historic Bridge to Nowhere, before reaching the Whanganui Awa.

Previous narrow bridges were challenging to negotiate, particularly for people handling bikes, and had reached the end of their useful lives. Wider replacement structures provide safer, easier crossings for walkers and cyclists while strengthening the long-term resilience of this special backcountry route.

Department of Conservation Project Manager Louise Brown says seven new bridges were flown in fully constructed.

"It's something we're doing more often, flying in strong, lightweight truss bridges which have been built offsite.

"Despite being weather dependent, the process has been really efficient, and we're pleased to have the track open ready for all the keen cyclists riding through this summer."

The bridge replacements have been accompanied by seasonal track maintenance to prepare the Mangapurua Track for summer visitors.

Ngā Ara Tūhono Charitable Trust Kaihautū Ara/General Manager Lynley Twyman says the work has made a noticeable difference.

"I first rode the Mangapurua in 2015, and this is the best opening condition I've seen it in since then. This reflects a huge amount of hard work by DOC and the crews caring for this remote track.

"The new bridges are an important safety improvement for walkers and cyclists. They make crossings easier to negotiate and improve the flow of the journey, while retaining the backcountry character that makes the Mangapurua so special.

"Whanganui National Park offers much more than a track to travel along. The ngahere, the stories of the valleys, the Bridge to Nowhere and the connection with the Whanganui Awa make this a remarkable place to explore on foot or by bike.

"There's still more to do, but we're hugely grateful for these improvements and excited to welcome people back for summer."

The wider programme includes 15 new bridges and boardwalks across the Mangapurua and Kaiwhakauka tracks. Kaiwhakauka upgrades are scheduled for November and December, with bypasses planned during construction. Visitors should check for updates, allow for possible delays and follow all onsite instructions.

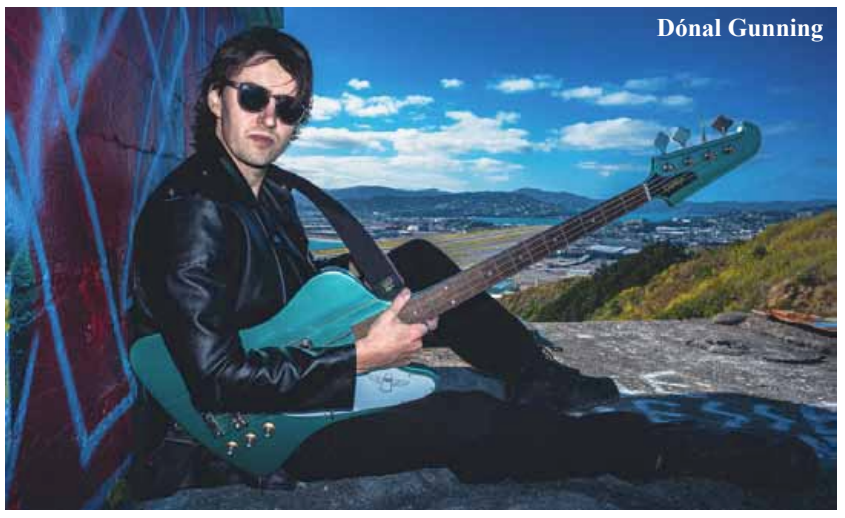
The Mangapurua is a remote backcountry track, rated Grade 3 intermediate for mountain biking. Walkers and cyclists out naturing will encounter exposed sections and steep drop-offs, and wet weather can make the papa surfaces slippery and difficult to negotiate. All visitors need suitable equipment and preparation, and cyclists need sound mountain biking skills.

Before every trip, walkers and cyclists should check the latest trail status at www.mountainstosea.nz/trail-status



DoC take a break from inspecting a new bridge.

Dónal Gunning and the Bucks to perform Friday



Dónal Gunning

November 6 is *Fridaynui* at the Musicians Club with its always epic open mic that kicks off at 7pm. Local musicians playing in a variety of styles sign onto the whiteboard to showcase their talents, and it always produces a fun-filled entertaining evening. This month, the club is thrilled to welcome to the stage as its special guest Wellington-based artist Dónal Gunning, as he launches his nationwide album release tour here in Whanganui. The Dublin-born, Aotearoa-based musician is hitting the road with his band The Bucks to celebrate the release of his debut album entitled *No Other Option*.

Since moving to New Zealand in 2022 to pursue his music career, Dónal (Dough-null) has built a reputation for high-energy live shows, blending Irish charm with the attitude of classic rock, indie and grunge. Two national tours, an international tour of Ireland, two EPs and a string of singles have laid the groundwork for his debut album.

The band includes Dónal (bass guitar and lead vocals,) Jake Bergstrom (guitar and backing vocals), Toby Goodwin (guitar and backing vocals) and Mason John Williams (drums). "Crowds always show up in Whanganui where people are so friendly and make us feel so welcome. It really makes a big difference when you're touring" says the Irishman.

Club night is held on the first Friday of the month, and it is always supported by the club's membership, who are dedicated to promoting live music in the town. The club is family friendly, operating a "bring-your-own" food and drink policy. "It's all about the music" is the club's kaupapa, and if you are new in town or have yet to attend one of these *Fridaynui* sessions, this week offers a great opportunity.

Friday 6 November 7pm @ Whanganui Musicians Club, 65 Drews Ave

$20 General Admission; Members $10. Memberships available at the door

Recent RCP winner

Congratulations to Mike Smith and Adrienne Manion, both winners of RCP's tickets to the Sir El Tom concert at St James Theatre, Wellington, on Monday 9 November.

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Worried about your "neighbours"?

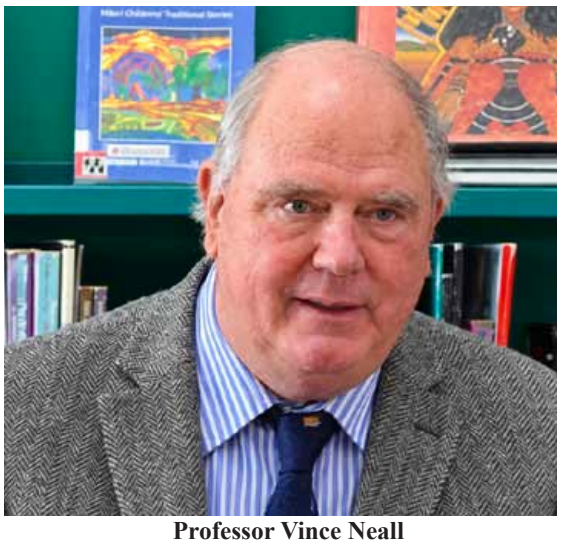
Both Taranaki Maunga and Ruapehu Maunga are about 85kms in direct line from Whanganui. While that puts us out of range of lava flows and pyroclastic avalanches, the prevailing westerly wind has us directly in line to receive volcanic ash from Taranaki. Previous eruptions deposited ash in Lake Pupuke, Takapuna some 270 kms away. It only takes a few millimetres of fine abrasive ash to contaminate open water supplies, pastures and food crops, short-circuit electricity networks and trigger respiratory issues for vulnerable residents. Ash from Ruapehu is more likely to head towards Hawkes Bay and Manawatu; a worst-case scenario would have ash affecting Transpower's Bunnythorpe switchyard, triggering widespread North Island blackouts.

On Friday 13 November at 10am at UCOL Rutland Street (Room 2.15 is signposted), we will hear Emeritus Professor Vince Neall from Massey University speak about what his research into the volcanic geology of western Taranaki has found out about our "neighbours". Following the 1980 eruption of Mt St Helens, he was asked to prepare a report on future volcanic risk in Taranaki for the Ministry of Civil Defence. Later funding enabled research into the collapses of Tongariro and Ruapehu volcanoes, and when Ruapehu erupted in September 1995, he was on-site and began Massey's monitoring of that eruption and subsequent ones. His team studied lahars in the Whangaehu and other catchments, and ash distribution and its impacts on communities and farming.

Where: UCOL Room 2.15

When: 10am Friday 13 November

Entry by Koha.



Professor Vince Neall

u3a Learn, Laugh, Live | Whanganui

Worried about the neighbours?



Whilst our neighbours have great backyards that we get to play in all year round, they can do nasty really nastily, and as for fireworks, well in the past they have all put on performances with explosions, thunder, and lightning that Guy Fawkes could not even imagine.

Come along to the u3a Member/Public lecture and hear **Emeritus Professor Vince Neall** (MNZM) from Massey University, specialist in volcanology and tephrochronology, speak about what he has learned about our maunga from his lifetime of research into their past "bad" behaviour.

Entry by Koha.

Where? **Room 2.15, UCOL, Rutland Street** (Signposted)

When? **Friday 13 November at 10.00am**

Volunteer of the Month

Sandra Rickey received the following Volunteer of the Month nomination from Waiora Marama, manager at Hakeke St Community Centre & Library.

"I would like to nominate our wonderful volunteer Abby Ernih from Hakeke St Community Centre & Library for Volunteer of the Month.

"Abby began volunteering with us in late July, shortly after moving to New Zealand from Indonesia. She came to Hakeke St looking to join a community, practise English and share her creative skills. She quickly became part of our Hakeke village, volunteering across three of our regular groups: Monday Quilt & Stitch, Tuesday Art Group and Wednesday Craft Group.

"Abby soon found her own special way to contribute. Using her talent for paper scrolling, she spent over a month diligently creating each individual letter for a spectacular handmade Hakeke St kitchen sign. In doing so, she introduced our groups to a new crafting technique, shared her creativity, practised her English and formed connections with people in our community.

"She is now passing that skill on. After delivering paper-scroll bookmark workshops with our community, Abby is preparing to lead a Paper Scroll Bookmark holiday programme on Wednesday 7 October, 1–2pm, as part of our school holiday programme.

"We are incredibly proud of what Abby has achieved in such a short time and would love to see her recognised as Volunteer of the Month."

Paper scrolling, also known as quilling or paper filigree, is a hobby that Abby enjoys. In response to the acknowledgement from Volunteer Whanganui and Hakeke St Community Centre & Library, Abby says,

"I'm so happy. Hakeke is like my family." Hakeke St Community Centre & Library builds community.

Abby received a Volunteer of the Month certificate, a volunteer badge, and a $40.00 gift voucher from Mud Ducks Café, which Tim Watson, the café owner, provides every month for the Volunteer of the Month initiative.

To check out Abby's paper scrolling art, visit her TikTok page, Abigail Garden.



Abigail with the large paper-scrolling sign she created for Hakeke St Community Centre & Library.

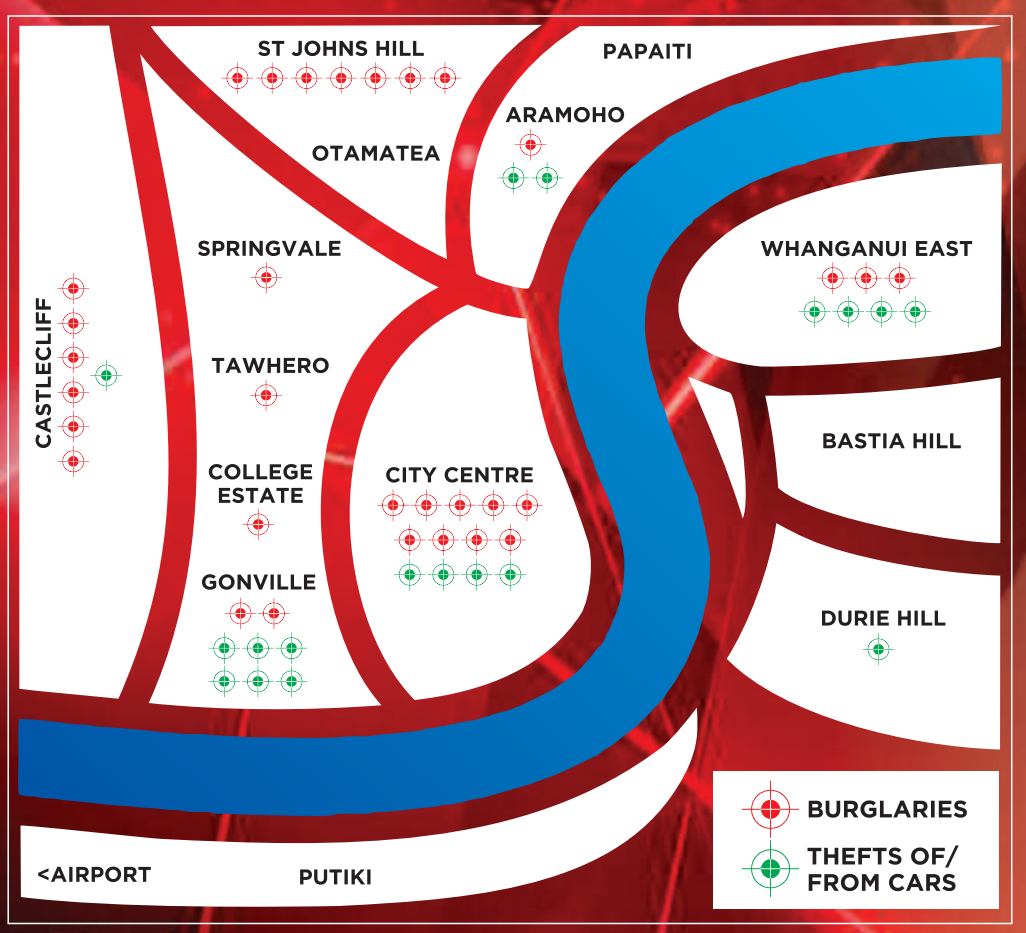
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CASTLECLIFF	Karyn Street
CASTLECLIFF	Rogers Street
CASTLECLIFF	Heads Road
CASTLECLIFF	Tongariro Street
CITY	Victoria Avenue
CITY	Ridgway Street
CITY	St Hill Street
CITY	Victoria Avenue
CITY	Victoria Avenue
CITY	Liverpool Street
CITY	Maria Place
CITY	Nixon Street
CITY	Campbell Street
COLLEGE ESTATE	Purnell Street
GONVILLE	Carlton Avenue
GONVILLE	Carlton Avenue
SAINT JOHNS HILL	Kent Road
SAINT JOHNS HILL	St Leonard Street
SAINT JOHNS HILL	Kent Road
SAINT JOHNS HILL	Kent Road
SAINT JOHNS HILL	Oakland Avenue
SAINT JOHNS HILL	Oakland Avenue
SAINT JOHNS HILL	Virginia Road
SPRINGVALE	London Street
TAWHERO	Brooking Street
WHANGANUI EAST	Tinirau Street
WHANGANUI EAST	Eastown Road
WHANGANUI EAST	Nixon Street

Vehicle Crimes:

ARAMOHO	Stewart Street
ARAMOHO	Somme Parade
CASTLECLIFF	Seafront Road
CITY	Alexander Street
CITY	Bell Street
CITY	Wicksteed Street
CITY	Wicksteed Street
DURIE HILL	Durie Street
GONVILLE	Rimu Street
GONVILLE	Tawa Street
GONVILLE	Harper Street
GONVILLE	Tawa Street
GONVILLE	Gilmour Street
GONVILLE	Tawhero Street
WHANGANUI EAST	Patapu Street
WHANGANUI EAST	Ikitara Road
WHANGANUI EAST	Raine Street
WHANGANUI EAST	Talbot Street

DATA FROM OCT 19 - NOV 1 ALL CONTENT SUPPLIED BY NEW ZEALAND POLICE

Council warns buyers to avoid third-party LIM report websites

Whanganui District Council is urging property buyers to order Land Information Memorandum (LIM) reports directly from the council after becoming aware of a third-party website charging more than five times the standard LIM fee for its "express service".

The website came to the council's attention after a local real estate agent alerted a community member that they had paid a significantly inflated price for a "fast-tracked" LIM report.

The website, which presents itself as a New Zealand land information service but is understood to be operating from overseas, is advertising residential LIM reports for Whanganui properties at $1299 with an additional $299 for express delivery.

By comparison, a residential LIM report ordered directly from the council costs just $305.

Jason Shailer, the council's Regulatory and Compliance Operations Manager, says there's no need for property buyers to use a third-party service to obtain a LIM.

"These websites are essentially acting as expensive middlemen, ordering reports from councils on behalf of customers and charging substantially more for the service.

"People are being charged hundreds of dollars extra for a so-called express service, when paying a third party won't make us process the report any faster."

Shailer says website advertises a 10-working day turnaround for its express service. However, councils are already required by law to process LIM reports within 10 working days of receiving the application and payment.

"Buying a property is expensive enough without paying an extra $1300 for information you can easily obtain directly from us.

"Our advice is simple: if you need a LIM report in Whanganui, order it directly from us. You'll get the same official report in the same timeframe without the substantial additional cost."

The warning follows similar concerns raised by Waitaki District Council this week, where third-party websites have also been found charging significant markups for LIM reports.

LIM reports contain important information held by councils about properties, including rates, building consents, drainage, natural hazards and other details that may affect a property purchase.

Shailer says the issue highlights the importance of being careful when purchasing services online.

"Unfortunately, there are people and businesses out there aiming to take advantage of others, and increasingly sophisticated websites can make it difficult to tell who you're really dealing with.

"This is a reminder that we all need to be vigilant. Before paying for anything online, take a moment to check who you're dealing with, what you're paying for, and whether you're getting a fair deal."

LIM reports for properties in the Whanganui district can be ordered directly from whanganui.govt.nz

Four photographers, four ways of seeing

Four local photographers will be bringing their quite different perspectives together in an exhibition at the Whanganui Arts Centre opening this Saturday 7 November.

Melanie McRae and John Smart both joined the Whanganui Camera Club around 10 years ago and have been growing and exploring their diverse photographic interests ever since. Melanie particularly likes to work in light sculpting and macro photography, while John has trended towards what he describes as urban photography – with some botanicals on the side! Their partners and guest exhibitors, Lex McRae and Claire Smart, picked up their cameras more recently and took different paths. Lex was first hooked on infrared landscape photography, while Claire loves combining her images in sets linked by theme, colour, shapes and textures.



Camera Club *Paratasis Elegans* by Melanie McRae.

John Smart says, "A feature of the exhibition will be Melanie's amazing macro images of bugs, which need to be seen to be believed. If you're a little phobic about insects you might want to stay in the back gallery to enjoy a mix of images across a range of genres!"

Multiple Perspectives is an exhibition featuring both photographic prints and digital displays. It will run from 7 to 14 November at the Whanganui Arts Centre, open 10am to 4pm daily. All welcome, and entry is free.





New owners for Four Square St Johns

Gareth and Trin Coburn took their staff out for dinner last week to celebrate eight years and mark the end of their ownership of Four Square St Johns. The new owners, Hayden and Tori Lind, will take over on Monday 9 November.

Gareth says "The last eight years have been both rewarding and challenging, and it's been incredibly humbling to see how our community has supported us as the store has grown.

"A shop is only as strong as its team, and the staff are the heart of the shop, working hard behind the scenes to keep the shelves stocked and everything running smoothly. We couldn't have done it without them! We lose six of our students at the end of the year as they go off into the world, and we are very grateful for everything they had added to the store.



Owners and staff of Four Square St Johns.

"We'll certainly miss the familiar faces and being part of such a great community, but we leave the store in the very capable hands of the new owners Hayden and Tori.

"We're excited to see what the future holds for Four Square St Johns, and the building complex changes that will see the store finally get some much-needed extra space!"

The Four Square will move into the space where St Johns Pharmacy currently is and out into the carpark beside it on Great North Road. The current footprint of the Four Square will become carparking space which will free up visibility on the corner.

They are hopeful to start building early next year.

"To our team, our customers and the wider community – thank you for your support over the past eight years. It's been quite a journey, and we're grateful to have been part of it," says Gareth and Trin.

Polished stones from Kai Iwi beach



Rockhound extraordinaire John Paterson, whom we featured on page 5 of last week's RCP, has kindly shared some of the Kai Iwi beach finds he's tumbled. Mostly quartz, they are rather beautiful and found on our very own beach. Thanks for sharing, John!

Hikoi of Hope invites community to walk together this Saturday against violence



The community is invited to gather this Saturday for Hīkoi of Hope, a morning of connection, reflection and celebration on Whānau Ora Day.

The event begins at 10am at Springvale Sports Field, with people asked to assemble first for a short health and safety briefing. A ruruku and karakia will then open proceedings, followed by a mihi whakatau from Whanganui Iwi.

Mayor Andrew Tripe will deliver the opening speech, with Sophie Toyne performing *Something in the Water*. Speakers will include Jo Voice from Whanganui VIN, representatives from I Am Hope and Te Whaenga Hamahona. A mauri presentation will also form a central part of the programme.

The formal Hīkoi of Hope segment is expected to conclude around 11am. Celebrations will continue until 2pm with further entertainment and family-friendly activities.

A voting booth will be available on site. Organisers are encouraging anyone who has not yet voted to *hīkoi* straight to the booth and make their voice count.

Tēnā koutou i ngā āhuatanga o te wā. All are welcome.

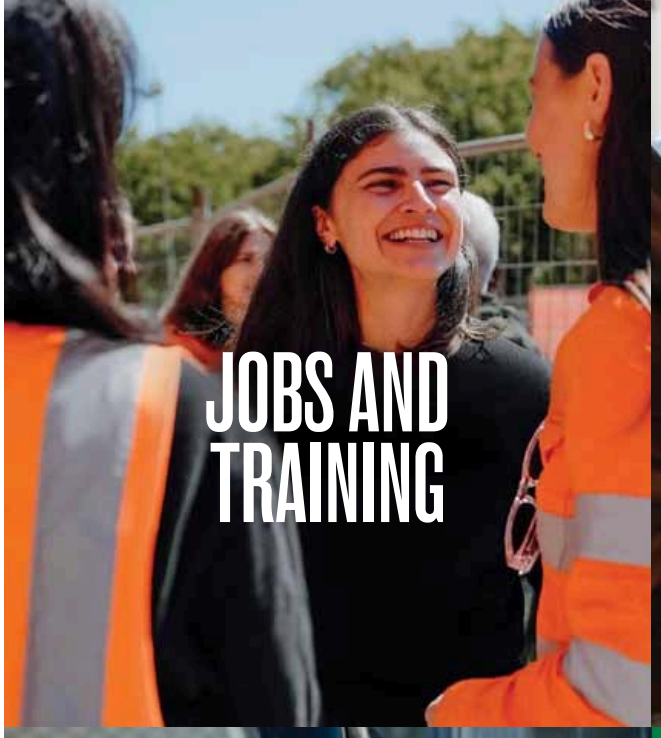


Proud to support the **Hīkoi for Hope**

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Your Health and Wellbeing

BATCHED 0% - the same cocktail experience, just without the alcohol

With Spring party season nearly upon us BATCHED is giving us options. BATCHED Premium Cocktails introduces BATCHED 0%, a new range of non-alcoholic cocktails crafted for conscious drinkers who still want a vibe. Launching with three flavour-first favourites

Strawberry & Rhubarb Sour 0%, Pineapple & Chilli Margarita 0%, and Lychee & Yuzu Martini 0% the collection delivers the same great taste, balance, and finish as a full-strength cocktail, minus the alcohol. As the world drinks differently, more people are choosing weeknight moderation, health-first choices, and social clarity without missing out on the ritual of



a cocktail. BATCHED 0% exists to give them exactly that: a premium, grown-up experience that feels intentional, indulgent, and delicious.

Each cocktail features Goldenglow™, BATCHED's proprietary alcohol-free blend of botanicals and natural extracts that recreates the warmth, body, and layered complexity of a full-strength drink. Simply shake with ice and pour for a bar-quality cocktail in seconds.

"With BATCHED 0%, we wanted to remove compromise from the non-alcoholic occasion. It's crafted to taste just like our award-winning cocktails, delivering the same depth, balance and finish people expect from BATCHED. What makes it truly different is Goldenglow™ – designed to replicate the feeling of alcohol, without the alcohol. This isn't a mocktail or an adult juice; it's a genuine premium cocktail experience, just without the alcohol." Jenna Lee, Head of Marketing, BATCHED Premium Cocktails

Price: $35.99 Availability: Online at batched.co.nz and selected traditional liquor stores and selected New World North Island Stores.

GIVEAWAY

RCP have three bottles to give away. Just email rivercitypress@xtra.co.nz with BATCHED in the subject line; add your daytime phone number in the body of the email, and you are in the draw to win. It's a lucky dip which flavour you win.

Ready for a healthier weight?



I'm Sandra Brunner, a naturopath in Whanganui and owner of Health 2000 Whanganui. Recently I started studying weight management coaching through the Integrated Health & Wellness Institute. I'm finding it fascinating and would love to share some of what I'm learning.

For around 99.5% of human history, our ancestors lived as hunter-gatherers, relying on the often scarce and seasonal foods nature provided. Our bodies evolved to survive periods of food scarcity.

Today, our environment is very different. Over recent decades, we've become more sedentary and have access to an almost constant supply of food, much of it ultra-processed and designed to be particularly appealing and difficult to resist.

This mismatch between our biology and modern food environment is one factor contributing to the growing challenge of maintaining a healthy weight.

But weight management is about much more than simply eating less and moving more. Food provides comfort, pleasure and connection. We may reach for something sweet when we're stressed, tired or feeling low, or associate certain foods with social occasions, family traditions and happy memories. Hormonal changes, daily habits and our surroundings can also influence our choices.

Many of our decisions about what, when and why we eat happen almost automatically. Food marketing can further encourage these habits by linking highly appealing foods with pleasure and reward.

The good news is that understanding these influences is an important first step towards lasting change. Rather than relying on willpower alone, we can learn to recognise our habits, understand our triggers and develop healthier patterns that work in everyday life.

I'm looking for two people to take part as case studies for my weight management coaching studies, beginning in mid-January 2027. Each participant will take part in six to eight sessions.

If you're interested in learning more, text me on 021 037 3217, call Health 2000 on 06 345 6288 and leave your details, or email sandrabrunnernaturopath@gmail.com.



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AGE CONCERN WHANGANUI
Whanganui Regional Health Network

Your Health and Wellbeing

Act without hesitation with CPR on women

Hato Hone St John is calling on all New Zealanders to build confidence in performing CPR on women, as new figures reveal a critical gap in lifesaving action.

Each year, more than 2000 people in New Zealand experience a cardiac arrest outside of hospital. While 72% occur in the home and 81% of witnessed cardiac arrests receive bystander CPR, only 6% of public cardiac arrests receive defibrillation before ambulance arrival – and for women, that number is even lower.

"Every second counts in a cardiac arrest. Immediate CPR and early defibrillation can double or triple a person's chance of survival. Yet, research shows women are less likely to receive bystander CPR than men – a gap that can cost lives," says Karla Jurczakowski, Hato Hone St John Community Engagement Area Manager.

Why some hesitate

Reluctance to perform CPR on women can stem from:

- Fear of causing injury (eg, broken ribs)
- Concerns about inappropriate contact
- Uncertainty about correct hand placement
- Social or cultural norms around physical contact
- Worry about legal consequences

"While these fears are understandable, they can delay lifesaving action," says Jurczakowski. "CPR is a medical emergency procedure – not a social interaction – and in New Zealand, ACC provides protection for those acting in good faith."

The facts

- CPR is a medical act – not a personal or intimate gesture.
- Every minute without CPR reduces survival chances.
- Technique is the same for everyone – hands go in the centre of the chest.
- It's not personal – it's medical
- Every second counts
- You can make the difference
- Learn CPR today – be someone's lifesaver.



Hato Hone St John is introducing female-form CPR manikins into its 3 Steps for Life programme, with the Medical Assurance Society (MAS) donating the manikins to help address inequities in the treatment of women experiencing cardiac arrest.

The pilot sees 16 female-form manikins being trialled across New Zealand to help increase confidence and familiarity when performing CPR and using a defibrillator (AED) on women.

Research has shown women face additional barriers to receiving bystander CPR and defibrillation. Concerns about exposing breasts, uncertainty around AED pad placement, and fear of causing offence can create hesitation in an emergency. As a result, women are half as likely as men to receive lifesaving defibrillation from bystanders and have significantly lower survival rates than men following cardiac arrest.

Take action today

Hato Hone St John is urging people to learn CPR and gain the confidence to act without hesitation – regardless of the patient's gender. Free and low-cost training options are available nationwide, including online modules and community workshops.

For more information or to register for a CPR course, visit www.stjohn.org.nz. or call 0800 785 646.

A different approach to feeling good in your body

Lauren Hokulani

Looking after your body shouldn't be something you only think about when something starts hurting!

I believe that feeling good in your body is about more than simply treating aches and pains.

It's about understanding how your body works, recognising what it needs and finding the right support to help you feel your best.

With over 10 years of experience, I'm passionate about helping people move more comfortably, manage physical tension and make time for their wellbeing. My approach combines professional knowledge, hands-on experience and a genuine love for helping people.

My services include Myotherapy, Remedial Massage, SoulNar and Reiki, offering a blend of therapeutic bodywork and complementary wellbeing treatments. Whether you're dealing with persistent muscle tension, everyday stress, physical discomfort or simply need some time to reconnect with yourself, we'll work together to find



an approach that suits your needs.

And don't worry – you don't need to know exactly what's wrong before you walk through the door! My goal is to give your body space to heal, make complicated things easier to understand and help people feel comfortable asking questions. Expect a welcoming space, a little laughter, plenty of care and leave feeling like a human again.

My philosophy is simple: your body deserves attention, your wellbeing matters, and you don't have to wait until you're running on empty to do something about it.

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Local groups hope to develop a sensory room for the community

Local organisations, families and whānau, people with disabilities, and community representatives are working together to establish a dedicated sensory room for the Whanganui community.

The project currently involves IDEA Services, IHC Association, Your Way | Kia Roha, Parent to Parent, Autism New Zealand, Arahunga School, Alzheimer's Whanganui, MASH Trust, Te Oranganui Trust, Founders Care Trust, Laura Fergusson Trust, CCS Disability Action Whanganui and other community representatives.

The sensory room will be an accessible, safe, calming and inclusive space designed to support disabled people of all ages, including neurodiverse people and those who experience sensory challenges. It will also provide a valuable resource for families, whānau, carers and support services.

A sensory room provides a safe, supportive environment where people can explore different sensory experiences, such as light, sound, texture and movement. These experiences can help people who find everyday environments overwhelming to relax, manage anxiety, regulate their emotions and feel more comfortable and engaged with the world around them.



Example of a sensory room.

Activities and equipment can be adapted to suit individual needs, whether the aim is to calm, stimulate or simply enjoy the experience.

Currently, many Whanganui families must travel to neighbouring centres to access specialist sensory facilities. Establishing a sensory room locally will reduce this barrier and provide people with easier access to support within their own community. It will also encourage greater participation, inclusion and wellbeing.

The project group meets every two months to guide the development of the sensory room and ensure the project progresses within agreed timelines and budget.

To make this important community resource a reality, the group is seeking sponsorship, grants and community support to help fund the design, equipment and fit-out of the facility.

Together, we can create a lasting resource that improves accessibility, inclusion, wellbeing and quality of life for people throughout Whanganui.

For more information, please contact Nerrily Frith on 027 458 6480.

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NATIONAL ORAL HEALTH DAY
November 5

National Oral Health Day expands to a full month - good news for Whanganui



For more than a decade, National Oral Health Day has been the New Zealand Dental Association's flagship campaign, encouraging Kiwis to look after their teeth through prevention, education and advocacy.

Since its launch in 2014, the campaign has promoted practical messages such as Dental Fitness and the highly successful Switch to Water initiative, proving that simple prevention can create lasting change.

But one day is no longer enough.

Oral health remains one of New Zealand's most overlooked health challenges. Too many people still live with preventable dental disease, put off treatment because of cost, or struggle to get the care they need – issues that are familiar to many Whanganui and rural families.

That is why, in 2026, National Oral Health Day is evolving into National Oral Health Month.

Throughout August, the month-long campaign will give the NZDA a stronger platform to work with communities, schools, workplaces, dental practices and policymakers. Each week will focus on a different aspect of oral health, combining everyday practical actions with the broader vision set out in the NZDA Roadmap Towards Better Oral Health for New Zealand.

The four weekly themes are:

- Week 1 – Check: State of the Nation's Smile
- Week 2 – Brush: Two Minutes. No Matter What.
- Week 3 – Connect: Workforce and Advocacy
- Week 4 – Protect: Spot it, swap it – find the hidden sugar

Local schools, early childhood centres, workplaces and dental practices in Whanganui are encouraged to get involved. The campaign aims to move beyond awareness and support lasting change so more people across our community can enjoy healthier smiles.

For more information and resources, visit the National Oral Health Month website at nohm.nzda.org.nz.

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Most countries used actual silver metal in their coins in the past and thesecan be purchases to recycle.

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11th Annual PlumberDan DUCK RACE
ALL PROCEEDS TO jigsaw whanganui kaupapa whānau thriving children, flourishing families
SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER
Starts at 11am, Dublin St. Bridge, Whanganui River
BUY YOUR TICKET TODAY!

Time to buy a lucky duck for charity





The build-up has begun for Whanganui's iconic fundraising event: the 11th Annual Plumber Dan Duck Race. Around 2000 rubber ducks will be thrown into the Whanganui River from the Dublin Street Bridge and race to the finish line – all to raise much-needed funds for Jigsaw Whanganui, helping families thrive and flourish.

Mark the date: Saturday 5 December. Racing begins at 11am.

Everyone is invited to buy a duck and have a flutter. The first five ducks across the line each win their owners a $1000 prize, thanks to sponsors Plumber Dan, Get Glazed Joinery Maintenance Limited, My Plumbing Depot, and Rachel Gray Real Estate – Property Brokers. Jackson's Flooring Design and Spooner Toy & Hood Limited are sponsoring $500 cash prizes for ducks 6 and 7.

Plumber Dan (AKA Dan Goldsworthy) says, "It's amazing that sponsors in these difficult times can help us out. People just keep giving even though times are tough."

Word on the street is this year's ducks are in good form, but the pressure of competition might still see the odd well-trained duck end up in the reeds. Cover your odds and back a couple to avoid disappointment.

Scrutineers will be on hand to ensure a clean race. Before the event, the ducks will be kept in a secure, comfortable facility so they receive the correct diet and no "special" supplements can be slipped in.

Since it began, the Plumber Dan Duck Race has raised more than $160,000 for Jigsaw and has become a much-anticipated fixture on the Whanganui events calendar.

Rhia Taonui, CEO of Jigsaw Whanganui, says: "Each duck that's purchased helps support our work and our whānau. It represents an investment in safer homes, stronger whānau, and a brighter future for our tamariki."

Last year, the Jigsaw team provided assistance to 1200 tamariki, and the numbers keep growing. Your support is truly appreciated.

Dan says, "I hope everyone enjoys a little bit of fun. Please, let's try and make it to $20,000 again!"

Tickets are $10 each and will be on sale at the Jigsaw Whanganui stall at Whanganui River Market; at Plumber Dan Ltd, 179 Victoria Avenue; and atJigsaw Whanganui, 236 Victoria Avenue.

Duck Race tickets are also available at:
- Fitzies Bakery
- The Mad Butcher
- Savages Bakery Duncan St
- Whanganui Vets
- Property Brokers
- Caltex Victoria Ave
And online at jigsaw-whanganui.org.nz

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Starts at 11am, Dublin St. Bridge, Whanganui River
ALL PROCEEDS TO Jigsaw whanganui kaupapa whānau thriving children, flourishing families
BUY YOUR TICKET TODAY!

Plumber Dan's Duck Race has supported Jigsaw Whanganui since 2016

Jigsaw Whanganui, an organisation more than 38 years old, works with families facing family harm, parenting challenges, difficulties keeping children engaged in education, and issues of child safety. Its reach covers Whanganui through to Rangitikei, Waverley, the Ruapehu catchment, Bulls and Sanson.

A team of 28 navigators, facilitators and social workers makes a lasting difference for children and whānau, standing alongside them through some of life's most challenging and vulnerable moments. Community support through the Duck Race helps fund that work.

Rhia Taonui, CEO of Jigsaw Whanganui, describes the team's approach: "So our team work alongside our families experiencing hardships – so family harm, parenting challenges, difficulty keeping children engaged in education, helping children feel safe, supporting our parents mainly to build a stronger relationship, and also helping our whānau regain confidence and stability – just for them to be able to lead their own families."

Since July this year, the team has walked alongside about 400 families. In 2025, they worked with 1200 children.

Staff continually upskill to meet community needs. Rhia speaks highly of them: "I mean, the skill set that they carry is unbelievable. They sit with our whānau, listen to their trauma, intergenerational trauma. They hear that heavy narrative, and then they go home and make dinner."

Rhia has been in the CEO role for eighteen months. Her background includes work with the United Nations, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and the Ministry for Pacific Peoples, she is a Justice of the Peace. That experience has given Jigsaw Whanganui greater stability through a four-year contract with the Social Investment Agency, allowing longer-term planning.

Funds raised by the Duck Race enable the organisation to do more for vulnerable people, especially children.

Rhia says, "We're just really deeply grateful for the generosity and heart of our community."

Easy access for whānau is important to the Jigsaw Whanganui team. People are welcome to call into the office on Victoria Avenue or phone to speak with a member of the team.

Jigsaw Whanganui
06 345 1636 | Suite 10, 236 Victoria Avenue, Whanganui | 8.30am–5.00pm, Monday–Friday



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Making Tracks

- Patea tracks expand



Whanganui Tramping Club members enjoying a lunch stop at Bourke's Lookout.

By Scroggin

Pātea is blessed with walking opportunities – and they are growing. The Pātea Loop Track opened in 2024, a community-driven initiative which extended the Pātea River Walkway, established in 2012. Volunteers maintain the 5km loop pathway.

In May, the South Taranaki District Council opened a new track through one of its coastal reforestation sites in Pātea. The 2.1km grass pathway winds through 10ha of planting. By the end of winter 2026, around 40,000 natives suited to local conditions will have been established across the site. The River Walkway is the jewel in the crown, with information boards showcasing the town's rich history dating back to the 1860s.

The Whanganui Tramping Club's weekend programme for November is:

7 Sat, Tararua plane crash site, leader John

8-15 Sun–Sun, Waikato walks, leader Jacky

14 Sat, Deadman's Track, leaders Viv and Denise

15-17 Sun–Tues, Eastern Ruahine circuit, leader Lyneke

21 Sat, Pouakai plane crash site, leader Sally

28 or 29 Sat or Sun, TA Trail near Levin, leader Dave

For more information, email inquiries@whanganuitramping.org.nz

The midweekers have a full programme of interesting trips every Wednesday. Those who get out on Thursday are in two groups, with a longer walks on 5 and 19 November for the TT1 group and shorter ones for the TT2 group on 12 and 26 November.

To join weekend trips, call the leader by the previous Tuesday at the latest. Call by the night before for day trips. As some trips have limited numbers, leaders have the final say about who to take as they are responsible for the safety and wellbeing of everyone on their trips. For further information, visit our website www.whanganuitramping.org.nz

Pigeon racing results

Last weekend our North racing birds flew from Whangarei in favourable conditions after a very windy few days.

Given that the average distance is 460km the first birds home quite close together.

First home was Shane Guddop with his bird clocking in with 1088.15m/m or 65.28 km/hr. In second place was Heather Verstraeten 1087.14m/m or 65.22km/hr. Third was Alois Verstraeten 1087.10m/m or 65.22km/hr then Jim Pullins 1085.27m/m or 65.11km/hr, Benedick Galanida 1082.56m/m or 64.95km/hr and Brad Fairweather 1071.53m/m or 64.29km/hr.

Next weekend, our North birds have a shorter race from Waitara while the South birds fly from Christchurch.

Annual gathering of ex-Korean War Veterans and their families



Members of the ex-Korean War Veteran Association met on Friday, 22 October. Although the Association dissolved in 2018, they still meet annually. Ambassador H.E. Byung Ha Chung, Mayor Andrew Tripe and Doeg Kim were present, alongside those whose family members served. Neil and Christina Boyd were there, representing John Hodges, now 96, who lives with his daughter and was unable to attend. Neil said, "The Koreans continue to visit because they are so grateful for what the servicemen had done."



Standing up against school bullying and cyberbullying

This Thursday, 5 November, marks the International Day against Violence and Bullying at School, including Cyberbullying. Observed on the first Thursday of November each year, the day highlights a problem that continues to affect children and young people worldwide, including here in Whanganui.

UNESCO research shows that roughly one in three students experiences bullying by their peers. Cyberbullying is also widespread, with online harm following young people beyond the school gate into their homes and social lives. In New Zealand, recent findings from the Youth Health and Wellbeing Survey reveal that about one in four young people aged 13 to 19 experienced bullying in the past year. More than half of those who were bullied also faced it online. Verbal abuse, social exclusion and digital harassment are among the most common forms.

The effects are serious. Bullying can damage mental health, disrupt sleep, increase loneliness and lead some students to skip school. Cyberbullying is particularly persistent because harmful messages, images or rumours can be shared widely and remain online indefinitely. Netsafe estimates the wider cost of cyberbullying to New Zealand society at around $1 billion a year through impacts on education, wellbeing and productivity.

In Whanganui, local schools are actively working to create safer environments. Many have clear policies and processes for responding to both in-person and online bullying. Some local secondary schools prioritise digital safety education, confidential reporting channels, restorative conversations and pastoral support for those affected. A no-cellphone policy aims to reduce opportunities for on-campus digital harm, while education around digital citizenship helps students understand respectful online behaviour.

Parents, caregivers, teachers and the wider community all have a role. Talking openly with young people about their online experiences, knowing the warning signs, and supporting schools' efforts make a difference. Students themselves can help by speaking up when they see harmful behaviour and by choosing kindness online and offline.

Help is available. Netsafe provides free, confidential advice on cyberbullying and online harm – call 0508 NETSAFE (0508 638 723), text "Netsafe" to 4282, or report online. Youthline (0800 376 633 or text 234) offers support for young people. In an emergency, always call 111.

Every learner deserves to feel safe at school and online. On this International Day, Whanganui can reaffirm its commitment to making that a reality.



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- The lightbulb moment



The lightbulb moment. We never know when a puppy is going to decide, "*this* is the way we do things."

Remembering that puppies are learning every second they're awake can help us teach lifelong lessons, often without actually "training" anything. Here are some common first-time mistakes.

Toileting indoors. Allowing your puppy to toilet in a particular room because the floor is easy to clean might seem harmless. But at some point, your puppy may decide that *this* is the room where it's acceptable to toilet when the need arises. Don't let a puppy wander around the house unsupervised. Take them outside and stay with them at every toilet time. Don't shut them in a room where toileting on the floor becomes an option.

Once is an accident. By the third time, a habit is forming.

Travelling in the car. That tiny puppy looks adorable sitting on your knee. But if you want a dog that confidently and quietly travels in the car, then from the day you collect your puppy, travel them where they'll travel as an adult. Use a suitable crate to keep them safe and prevent them moving around.

Jumping on furniture. Dogs, like people, don't need to use the furniture as a jungle gym. First teach your puppy to settle in a bed at your feet – or sit on the floor with them. Later, if you want them on the furniture, put a blanket where they're allowed to rest, and invite them up. Furniture becomes something they use with your permission rather than something they automatically own. It's a love-through-respect thing.

Sharing your dinner. Finally, don't feed your puppy from your plate ... Unless you want to spend the next 15 years explaining why tonight's dinner isn't for them.

Puppies are always learning. The clever bit is remembering that *we* are always teaching.

Fireworks can stress animals



Animal activist and Whanganui candidate for the Animal Justice Party Sandra Kyle hopes that the anti-firework message is getting out to Whanganui citizens.

"Fireworks are very frightening for our pets and wildlife. Every year the SPCA receives fireworks-related calls about pets who have been injured, or bolted in terror and gone missing. Guy Fawkes is a trial for horses, who startle easily and can get injured trying to escape the loud bangs. It's also a hard on backyard chickens and farmed animals.

"Guy Fawkes falls in the nesting season for many birds, and disturbed birds can desert their nests. Intense shock can actually cause fatalities in birds, and panic-flight can cause injuries. Gulls and other scavengers investigate anything that looks like food, and they can eat fragments of plastic, foil, wadding and cardboard that can end up killing them.

"But there's also an environmental cost to fireworks. Metals and chemicals can wash into waterways via rain and storm drains, leading to contamination of soil, water and air. They also cause fires to break out: in 2025, FENZ reported as many as 30 fireworks-caused fires within a few days of sales opening."

In June 2025. The Pawprint Petition, run by Animates, alongside petitions from Suzanne Cook and Whanganui's Raewyn Harrison, was presented to Parliament with over 90,000 human signatures plus tens of thousands of animal paw prints. However, while the Parliament's Petitions Committee recommended banning the public sale and use of fireworks, the Government decided not to act on their recommendation.

"Meanwhile, animals are being harmed," says Kyle. "Lasers, drones, and projection mapping are spectacular, and avoid pyrotechnics entirely. We can use these for public displays.

"Just because we've always done something doesn't mean we have to continue doing it. We can find better ways to come together as a community that don't harm animals."

This Guy Fawkes night, Radio New Zealand Concert is running a special programme for companion animals. It's designed to counter the stress fireworks can cause for cats, dogs and other pets, using classical and other soothing music known to have a calming effect on animals.

"I and my fur and feather babies will definitely be listening" said Sandra.

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Sunday 8 Nov, 10am-3pm at SPCA, 134 London Street

SPCA 125 YEARS WHANGANUI 1901-2026

You're invited to 125th birthday celebrations at SPCA this Sunday

Whanganui SPCA has been a shelter and advocate for animals for 125 years, and with steadfast community support it's going strong. You're invited to their birthday celebration this Sunday, 8 November, 10am–3pm, when they throw open the doors for a centre open day at 134 London Street.



Cathy holding puppies Mighty Mouse and Pippi, Francie (manager) and Wags the mascot.

Visitors can tour the facility and see the work that goes on behind the scenes rescuing, healing and rehoming all types of domestic animals – all for a gold coin donation.

As part of the fun, the SPCA is holding its first-ever Pet Expo with more than 25 stalls. Whether you're a pet owner or thinking about becoming one, it's a must-visit.

On the day there will also be:

- Bouncy castle
- Face painting
- Raffles
- Goodie bags and giveaways
- Hair braiding
- Pop-up SPCA op shop
- Sausage sizzle and cold drinks
- Kids' activities
- Meet the animals available for adoption

The Whanganui SPCA Centre cares for around 1200 animals a year, with up to 200 in the facility at peak times. It operates with just six staff and about 60 volunteers.

"We have, on average, about six volunteers come in a day to help us out with the animals, so we wouldn't be able to keep up when we're at full capacity – there's absolutely no way we'd be able to do it without volunteers," says manager Francie Flis-Pryce.

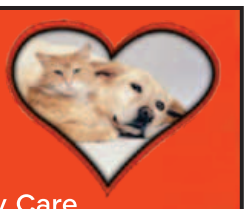
The centre deals with many sick, injured and vulnerable stray animals. For the team, the hard work is worth it when they see the happy ending of a pet being rehomed with their forever family.

While staff work at the coalface caring for abused and injured animals, the SPCA also focuses on education and advocacy. Its education programme is delivered to primary and intermediate schools and early childhood centres across the country, teaching children about animal care and needs. A science and advocacy team works on policy and animal welfare issues.

Gold coin entry, 10am–3pm, Sunday 8 November at the SPCA Centre, 134 London Street.

All proceeds support animal welfare work in Whanganui.

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Annual Motorbike Dice Run on this Saturday



Last week, RCP published the wrong organisations that will benefit from the Whanganui Triumph Riders Motorcycle Club's 16th Annual Dice Run. The event is raising funds for Operation Blue Santa, Grassroots Trust Rescue Helicopter and St John Hato Hone. The Annual Dice Run is on 7 November.

The Grassroots Trust Rescue Helicopter is a vital service that responds to various emergency situations across the Manawatu and Whanganui regions.

Operation Blue Santa is a community project run by the Roderique Hope Emergency Housing Trust in conjunction with the New Zealand Police Family Harm Team. The aim is to raise funds to provide full Christmas food and gift boxes to whānau, children and families who are experiencing domestic violence, or are in a very dire financial situation.

Hato Hone St John is a leading provider of ambulance services and community health programmes in New Zealand. They offer first aid education, medical alarms, and health shuttles to support individuals and families in need.

Registration for the Whanganui Triumph Riders Motorcycle Club's 16th Annual Dice Run is at 8.30am on 7 November at the Caltex petrol station on Victoria Avenue, with the run itself departing at 10am. If you've got a European or American bike, then you're more than welcome to get involved in this great cause and have a good old go along the way.

Registration costs $30, and there will be cash prizes and spot prizes.

Connecting with Carl - Carl Bates, MP for Whanganui -

"Let's not leave the job half-done"



ADVERTORIAL
By Carl Bates, Member of Parliament for Whanganui

Elections are a heightened time of political activity. Over the last three years our activity levels locally have been constant, bringing many positive benefits for Whanganui.

A couple of significant wins relate to keeping our community safe. Our new courthouse will open in 2027, thanks to additional funding of $50 million approved in December 2024, required because the previous government had not provided sufficient funds to complete the project.

Work has commenced on Whanganui's new Police Station, funded entirely in Budget 2026 by the National-led Government. Together with the new courthouse, it will help keep our community safer.

Following a public meeting at the Wanganui East Club in July 2025, I advocated strongly for NZTA to fund its share of the Wakefield Street bridge replacement. In April this year I announced that the Government had agreed to fund its share of the project.

Whanganui will be one of the locations where students from the NZ Graduate School of Medicine complete their practical training, a direct result of engagement with our local health sector stakeholders. It began early in 2024, when I asked Prof. Jo Lane at Waikato University about the proposed medical school, and how Whanganui could play a support role in the students' training. This will support the growth in our provincial health workforce and is a win for our community I am proud of.

Other wins for Whanganui include the parallel taxiway at Whanganui Airport, jointly funded by the Government and Whanganui District Council. Work has also started on Lower Whanganui River Flood Resilience Strengthening, a $7.88 million Government investment, co-funded by Horizons Regional Council.

The Government has invested a further $464,000 to investigate the environmental health of the former Balgownie landfill, closed since 2001. Four Whanganui schools (among 19 throughout the Whanganui electorate) will see their energy costs reduced by up to $8,000 annually when solar panels are installed on their roofs; money they can reallocate to other activities.

The National-led Government has been able to make these investments because of careful fiscal management. Crown accounts will return to surplus in 2028-29, and borrowing this year is significantly less than Treasury forecasts. Meanwhile, 220,000 new jobs are expected to be created by 2030, with wages growing faster than prices.

Across the country, the results are showing. More children are excelling at school, and school attendance has increased significantly. Wait times for surgery have reduced, and National is training more rural health professionals through New Zealand's first rural training hub in South Taranaki. There is less violent crime, fewer ram raids, gang patches have been banned, and there are more police on the beat.

The Government has passed new planning laws that will help get things built. Free trade agreements with the United Arab Emirates and with India have come into force and we are on track to double the value of our exports by 2034.

That is good news for our farmers and growers, who are among the best and most carbon-efficient in the world. And we know how important the agricultural sector is to Whanganui's economy, and the jobs we create here.

Taken together, this shows that National's plan is working. We are seeing clear signs of an economic recovery: our economic growth is higher than many of the countries we trade with, and farmer, business and retail confidence have all increased in the last year.

We are making good progress, but there is more to do. New Zealanders have worked too hard to go backwards now, so let's not leave the job half-done: Party Vote National.



MP Carl Bates with Dale Whitaker at the Wanganui East Club's recent jubilee. Dale worked tirelessly to raise awareness of the need to replace the Wakefield Street bridge.

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Saturday 21 November

Saturday 28 November - Cup Day

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Two weekends of Christmas at the Races - prebooked ticket entry only

The popularity of the Wanganui Jockey Club's Christmas at the Races events can't be overstated – all hospitality packages have been sold out.

The club's operation manager, Bret Field, told the RCP the only options available now were grandstand packages.

He added that the club is very pleased with sales this year.

The club's Christmas at the Races this year race back to back, on 21 November and 28 November.



Cup Day is 28 November, when both the Steelform Roofing Group Wanganui Cup and the O'Leary's Fillies Stakes will be contested. Each race carries a stake of $80,000.

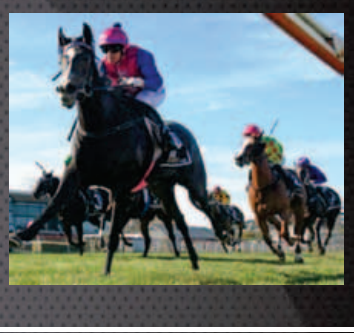
There is pre-ticketing for both days of racing, with no gate sales.

The emphasis is firmly on racing, with both days for adult racegoers. There will be no BYO and no preloading. Ticketholders will be refused entry if they are intoxicated.

Tickets can be booked until 5pm the day before each race day. Tickets are available online at https://wjc.flicket.co.nz. Booking fees may apply.

Bret Field said the club wished everyone a safe and exciting holiday period. Special thanks were extended to supporters and sponsors of the events. Steelform Roofing continues to maintain a strong relationship with racing clubs in the Whanganui Region. It also sponsors the Waverley Cup.

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It's that time of year again and tickets are now available online for our 2 Christmas at the races events at the following link:
https://wjc.flicket.co.nz/ OR Scan the QR CODE >

Saturday 21 November

Saturday 28 November - Cup Day

PLEASE NOTE the following for this year:
- These are R18 event
- NO PUBLIC or walk up crowd will be admitted entry
- Pre-ticketing sales ONLY
- Ticket sales are only available online
- Limited tickets available in each package
- NO PRE-LOADING - ticket holders will be refused entry if intoxicated.

Ph 345 3968
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WANGANUI FUNCTION CENTRE

HOSPITALITY PACKAGES

These are in hot demand again this year so get in quick to join us this Christmas!

* Please note that booking fees may apply



Saturday 21 November

Saturday 28 November - Cup Day

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Who Shot TheBarman comes home



Who Shot TheBarman back in Whangaehu, after a recent spell with brother, Dan O'Leary, in Marton

The O'Leary family, whose name is carried with the Fillies' event, has had a long association with racing.

It is best known for its association with the ageless stayer who got a cult following on both sides of the Tasman, Who Shot Thebarman.

Humphrey O'Leary reported that Who Shot Thebarman, who earned $4.5 million, looked magnificent, and his current state had impressed Australia's leading trainer, Chris Waller, who prepared the galloper in Australia.

The O'Learys sent a photo of the retired galloper to Waller, who had replied that Who Shot Thebarman looked marvellous in a lovely paddock of grass.

After finishing racing, Who Shot Thebarman was retired to a Living Legends equine property in Victoria, but the O'Learys wanted the horse home and he returned.

"Now the horse was a legend in Whangaehu," Humphrey said.

Humphrey said Dan O'Leary had been the first sponsor of the O'Leary Fillies' race, and then Humphrey and his wife, Fiona, had taken over the sponsorship.

Now the aim was to get a starter in the race carrying the family name.

Christmas at the Races online ticket sales only - no door sales.

Tickets are available online at https://wjc.flicket.co.nz.

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PM Christopher Luxon visits Whanganui

The National Party held a rally for its supporters last Wednesday, as a high volume of political polls reminds us that the two major parties are fighting a tight race. Prime Minister Chris Luxon was in attendance alongside Suze Redmayne, standing for a second term in the Rangitikei, likewise Carl Bates in the Whanganui electorate, or should I say, "James Brown".

Word from the horse's mouth is that James Brown is Carl's latest moniker in Parliament. Why? Because in the words of Christopher Luxon "James Brown was called the hardest working man in show business. You've got a very hardworking guy in Carl – a guy with really awesome values.

"He represents this community well in Wellington and to our ministers. Like, every Tuesday morning we have a caucus meeting, and Carl will talk about the people in Whanganui and what's going on for them… We want him back as part of our team."

No one can be sure how James Brown might feel about his name being borrowed, but Carl, when asked his take on his new handle, said, "I feel good.

"I always feel good. It's important to, you know, bring a positive attitude to the job."

There was a high energy at the packed gathering, and according to the Prime Minister, a self-proclaimed extrovert, that's just the way he likes it, "Campaigns are fantastic because you get to meet so many people. Even before the campaign kicked off, I met with probably 8,000 people in 20 town halls across New Zealand. So that's important, getting connected to mission and purpose."

The business of politics demands a tough skin, and with a tight race ahead, there's plenty of heat in some social media comments and, no doubt, at public events, that might wilt a more delicate constitution.

Prime Minster Luxon summed up his attitude to negative comments, saying "I don't take offence from people I don't take advice from," adding, "and I'm informed but not consumed by social media."

In general though, Luxon says, "I think people are understanding there's a real choice now, you know, that actually the plan from National is working."

In terms of the next three years and National's ability to work alongside others, he adds, "We've proven we can work with New Zealand First and Act. It's not easy doing coalition government."



Prime Minister Christopher Luxon speaking with an attendee at the Whanganui event.

Only the ballot box will tell, but for now Prime Minister Luxon remain confident about steering the country for the next three years.

Regarding Carl's new moniker, Prime Minister Luxon issued a very useful directive after MP Carl Bates said, "I should do his walk onto (the stage) to his music on election night."

The Prime Minister offered, "He (Carl) will do a little dance on the stage, and he'll do the splits because it's James Brown."

Despite the hard work and lofty aims for a better New Zealand, a band of people still knows how to have fun.

It's clear the confidence and camaraderie the Prime Minister and local MP Carl Bates have in each other.

Target Shooting Whanganui results

Outdoor results:

14/10/26: Gary Cuff 292, Patrick McCartie 283, Raewyne Simpson 281, Dave Westcott 273, William Hird 273, Marshall Munro 266, Finlay Rhodes 259, Glen McCartie 255.

21/10/26: Raewyne Simpson 287, Dave Westcott 286, Aria Hill 283, Marshall Munro 282, Patrick McCartie 281, Finlay Rhodes 280, William Hird 266, Glen McCartie 262.

28/10/26: Gary Cuff 286, Dave Westcott 282, Raewyne Simpson 281, Jim Dann 274, William Hird 268, Finlay Rhodes 263, Glen McCartie 258, Marshall Munro 254.

Mini Gourmet takes the stress out of work events and wedding catering

Pip Walker



The Christmas and wedding seasons are fast approaching, and offering delicious food is a big part of how Kiwis love to celebrate. It's reassuring to know someone can serve up a sumptuous spread at a great price and take the fuss out of fine food. That person is Pip Walker of Mini Gourmet Catering, who has run her own business for over 10 years.

Pip likes to be well prepared for the busy season, and one of her offerings is a menu for Christmas work or club functions and large family gatherings. The concept works just as well for wedding feasts. At just $39.99 per head, with a minimum of 10 people, Pip delivers all the food to your door in large dishes, ready to serve.

The Christmas menu is: Roast chicken with lemon and thyme, honey-glazed ham, baby potatoes or potato salad, coleslaw with spinach and red onion, fresh buns, and for dessert, mini pavlovas with cream and strawberries.

Mini Gourmet also offers other options for the wedding season at the same great price. Check out the website www.minigourmet.co.nz for details.

All you need to do is provide the drinks, and the celebration is underway. It's that easy.

Buffets can be a hassle and often more expensive, and Pip does her best to deliver great quality at an affordable price.

Pip is already getting Christmas bookings for November. And with the wedding season fast approaching, bookings for that will be coming in, too.

Mini Gourmet also offers Platter Boxes: Savoury, Sweet and Combo. For less formal celebrations, they're a great no-fuss way to say thanks, too. There's virtually no clean-up: just open the boxes, enjoy the treats, and pop the empty platter boxes in the recycling. For option details, check out www.minigourmet.co.nz.

Whatever option you choose to take the stress out of celebrating, all Pip's dishes are prepared with fresh, local produce.

Take precautions with fireworks this Guy Fawkes

If you're lighting fireworks, please take some simple precautions to keep everyone safe. Here are some safety tips from Fire and Emergency New Zealand:

- Before setting fireworks, go to checkitsalright.nz to check the weather conditions and the fire restrictions for your area.
- Many public areas have year-round fireworks bans in place. Check with your local council before setting off fireworks at beaches or parks.
- Don't set fireworks off when it's windy.
- Have a large bucket of water or hose at hand.
- Ensure your fireworks are pointed at the sky and won't end up in anything that can catch fire, including buildings or vegetation.
- Be a good neighbour – let people know around you if you're planning to set fireworks off, especially those with pets and livestock.
- Dispose of your used fireworks safely – soak them in water before you throw them out.

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Real Estate with Steven & Jared

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The purpose of real estate photography is to showcase a property in the best possible way.

While the photos will document 'what is there', the main purpose is to gain the interest of a prospective buyer so they'll want to view the property to see for themselves.

Bearing this in mind, every photograph can either represent or misrepresent the property, or both.

Every photo shows 'what is there,' and any Photoshop or AI (Artificial Intelligence) enhancements should make no change to this.

*A photo using AI enhancements should be clearly labelled.

But photos can create a false picture, especially with the use of wide angle lense and recent innovations with AI - such as furniture and decor being added or removed from the photos.

A wide angle lens is very good for showing everything in a room, but in doing so the room can look bigger than in reality.

It is imperative real estate photographs are perfectly exposed in the camera, using 'flash' appropriately, and are enhanced for the brightness and correct colours found in the rooms.

It's also important for the photographer and/or editor to correct colour, brightness and lens distortion - so vertical lines don't look incorrect.

While it can be helpful for the sale of vacant properties with empty rooms to add in AI's 'virtual staging' - such as beds or living room furniture to provide context and provide buyers with an idea of the potential layout - it is vital that these items do not misrepresent the actual size of those rooms.

Another method of real estate photography, used in recent times is: The HDR (High Dynamic Range) method, where the camera takes at least three different photos of a static scene.

These are:
1. Underexposed
2. Naturally exposed
3. Overexposed.

These photos are then 'stitched together' by the photo editor, which is why you see what's outside the window in numerous property photos.

Ensuring we have the best combination of marketing photography is why Steven & Jared, as part of an expanded offering to Arizto's top quality marketing package, use both methods and will often utilise the extra services of an experienced photographer in Whanganui's Mark Brimblecombe.

Sometimes a drone works well for that main photo, which is so crucial for first impressions.

The digital photos of your property are delivered to the sales consultant for marketing your property, usually within 24-48 hours after the photo shoot.

Below are some photos using most of the above methods and techniques.

Photography Credit:
Mark Brimblecombe.









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HALLOWEEN
FUN IN WHANGANUI



Owner of Four Square Whanganui East dressed up, as The Joker and handing out lollies much to the excitement of the two evil clowns Rory and Emma.



Tommy Chant as Freddy Fazbear and Jaylee Ferguson as a vampiress.



Charlie 9, Eden 4, Kaylib 12 and KJ 1.



Clayton, aged 3, with his dad Danny Watty at the Halloween event, Trunk or Treat at Bason Botanic Gardens.



Lily & Cyprus dressed up for Halloween. Photo by Gracebstoic Photography.



Steve & Robert Irwin - Jordan and Tyler Arnott.



Lucy dressed up as Slappy the Ventriloquist dummy from Goosebumps.



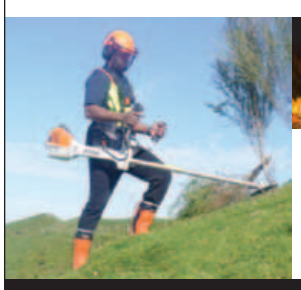
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HALLOWEEN

FUN IN WHANGANUI



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Carol Tilby made her own costume - a dead bride.



Leo Cawley, 7 years old.



Tommy and Max.



Ghost face couple.



A scary house on Aiken Road.



Photo by Tania Matthews – outside a spooky Halloween house in Carlton Ave.

Tayla Hurley dressed as Day of the Dead, her partner Zoe Marchant dressed as The Joker, and their daughter Daisy as a ghost.





Vera-Lily Hubbard.



Lily, aged 7.

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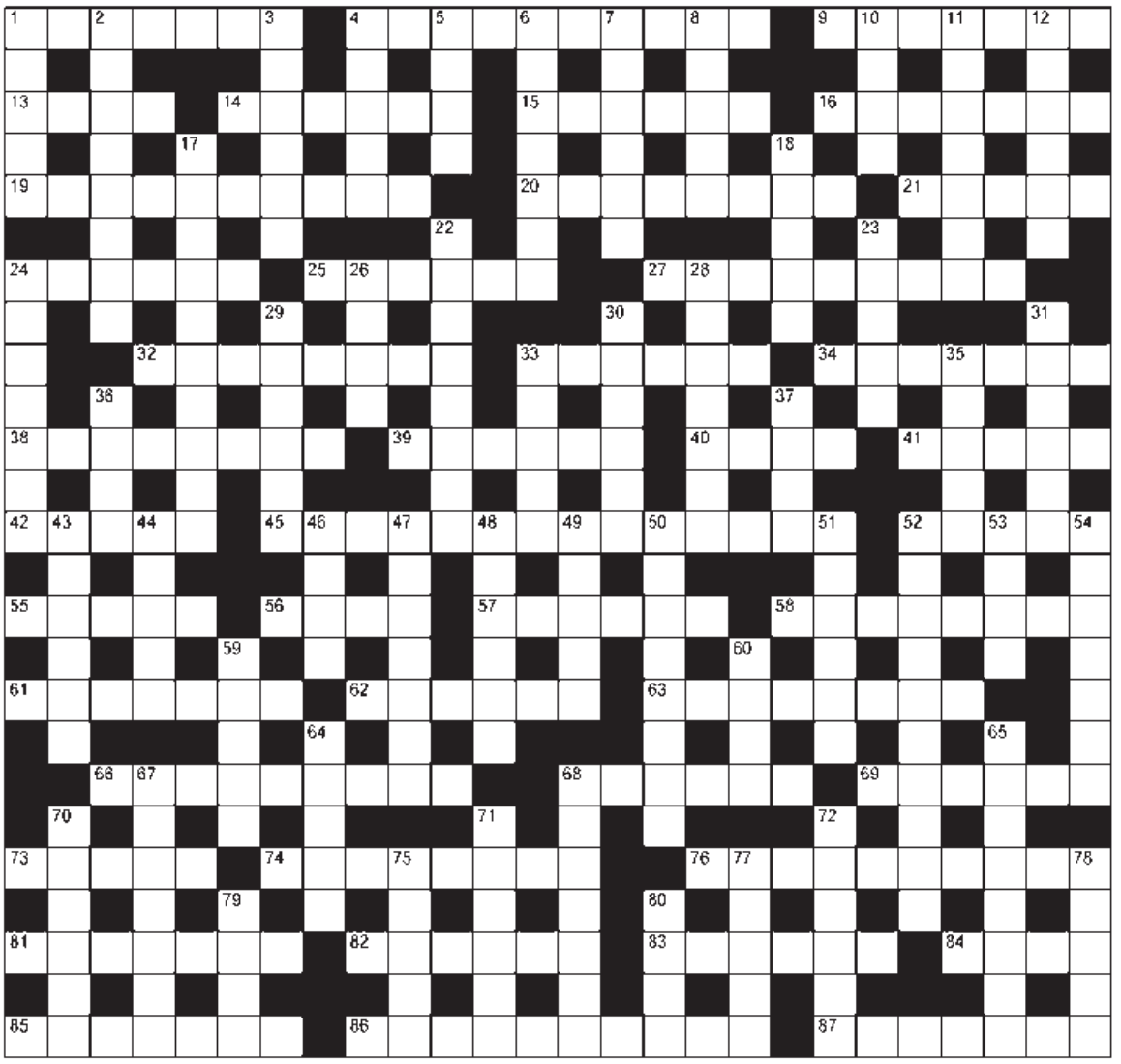
Jumbo crossword

ACROSS

1 Humorous drawing (7)
4 Money-lending dealer (10)
9 Disintegrate (7)
13 Dark blue colour (4)
14 Stick to (6)
15 Argument (6)
16 Bright red colour (7)
19 Professional adviser (10)
20 Half-time (8)
21 Move furtively (5)
24 Jibes (6)
25 French Mrs (6)
27 Plant-eater (9)
32 Reminded (8)
33 Laundry stiffener (6)
34 Frozen drips (7)
38 Body store (8)
39 Split up (6)
40 Prophet (4)
41 Mournful song (5)
42 Spear (5)
45 Stranded (4,4,3,3)
52 Snake (5)
55 Smithy's block (5)
56 Floppy (4)
57 Sculpted figure (6)
58 Incredible (8)
61 Grey ale (anag)(7)
62 Embarks (6)
63 Mental derangement (8)
66 Education (9)
68 Defrosted (6)
69 Grass-cutting tool (6)
73 Daily record (5)
74 Idle wandering beggar (8)
76 Deceptive (10)
81 Intensely passionate (7)
82 Sexual desire (6)
83 Rented out (6)
84 Money reserve (4)
85 Tumbling athlete (7)
86 Gather into a crowd (10)
87 Club (7)

DOWN

1 Scoffer (5)
2 Starving (8)
3 Untidy (anag)(6)
4 Groom oneself (5)
5 Shed tears (4)
6 Time to retire (7)
7 Circles round (6)
8 Go in (5)
10 Sway (4)
11 Sailor (7)
12 Allowable margin of freedom, movement (6)
17 Concealing ruse (10)
18 Perhaps (5)
22 Bread snack (8)
23 Oust (5)
24 Of heat (7)
26 Gambler's stake (4)
28 Pardoned (7)
29 Devoid of principles (6)
30 Film holder (6)
31 Account book (6)
33 Oscillate (5)
35 Capital of Egypt (5)
36 Wide smile (4)
37 Get wind of (4)
43 Yearly book (6)
44 Peal (5)
46 Heinous (4)
47 Tropical storm (7)
48 Put into (6)
49 Cures (5)
50 Of sailors, navigation (8)
51 Longs for (6)
52 eg. crab, lobster, shrimp (10)
53 Reserve (4)
54 Lack (7)
59 Deck (5)
60 Small island (4)
64 Mantle (5)
65 Mindset (8)
67 Mobile home (7)
68 Frog larva (7)
70 On the cards (6)
71 Speaking humorously (6)
72 Gripping tool (6)
75 Spanish friend (5)
77 Reflection (5)
78 Light-headed (5)
79 Responsibility (4)
80 Arm bone (4)





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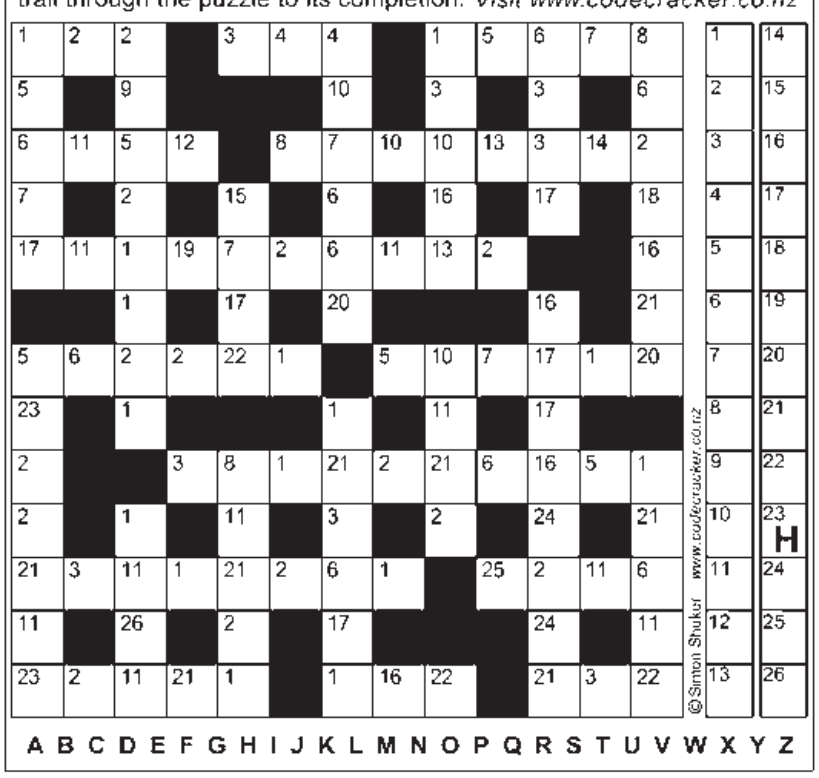
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SIMON SHUKER'S CODE-CRACKER Extra 932

EACH number in our Code-Cracker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. For example, today 23 represents H, so fill in H every time the figure 23 appears. You have one letter in the control grid to start you off. Enter it in the appropriate squares in the main grid and solve the starter word. Fill in other squares in the main and control grids with the found letters and look for the next word. Follow the word trail through the puzzle to its completion. *Visit www.codecracker.co.nz*



Sudoku

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

MEDIUM

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

Previous solution

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

Previous solution

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

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

Previous crossword solution

ACROSS: 1 Halve, 4 Attached, 9 Insect, 14 Steel, 15 Quick on the uptake, 17 Cramp, 18 Tea, 19 Idyllic, 20 Continual, 21 Always, 24 Privilege, 25 Sudden, 26 Señora, 29 Benefactor, 31 Ice, 32 Accord, 33 Fête, 35 Aim, 37 Flea, 39 Indignant, 40 Measuring, 41 Scene, 42 Dialogue, 47 Enlarged, 51 Ditto, 55 Interfere, 56 Promoting, 58 Seem, 59 Eat, 60 Tick, 61 Guitar, 62 Ivy, 63 Impatience, 66 Sleuth, 67 Unison, 69 Recollect, 72 Affair, 73 Competent, 75 Ignited, 77 Dot, 80 Ennui, 81 Like a bull at a gate, 82 Named, 83 Arched, 84 Rheostat, 85 Stays.
DOWN: 2 Abundance, 3 Vocal, 5 Tutu, 6 Awesome, 7 Hypothetical, 8 Drain, 9 Iceland, 10 Sack, 11 Cradle, 12 Dents, 13 Alfalfa, 14 Speared, 16 Originating, 22 Wilted, 23 Welcome, 24 Prevail, 25 Sweats, 27 Obeying, 28 Ordain, 30 Rage, 32 Amber, 34 Edged, 36 Puma, 38 Lei, 42 Drift, 43 Article, 44 Ogre, 45 Useful, 46 Steer, 48 Lightweight, 49 Respect, 50 Eye, 51 Destiny, 52 Option, 53 Polyurethane, 54 Gobi, 57 Impala, 64 Carpentry, 65 Stuffed, 66 Student, 68 Spoiled, 70 Concurs, 71 Dinner, 72 Atoms, 74 Poker, 76 Ingot, 78 High, 79 Plea.

5x5

	R		M	
R		T		R
	B		D	
M		N		Y
	T		M	

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

Previous solution

P	A	C	E	S
A	L	E	R	T
R	O	D	E	O
C	H	E	C	K
H	A	S	T	E

Back-to-back 100s for Rees as Marist roll on in the Coastal Challenge

Connor Rees has scored back-to-back centuries for Whanganui Vet Services Marist, headlining the second and third rounds of the Coastal Challenge.

Rees made 138 not out against Marton Saracens at Whanganui Collegiate on 24 October, sharing a big day with Tom Dempster, who hit 104 off 89 balls with eight fours and four sixes. Connor O'Leary added 52 not out off 44 as Marist piled up 312/3 from their 50 overs. Hamish Marshall (72 off 49) and Reef McIntyre (55 not out) gave Saracens a strong reply, but Nick Harding's 4/33 kept them to 245/8, 67 runs short.

Rees backed it up with 107 not out off 133 balls at Springvale Park on Saturday, carrying Marist to 219/5 from 40 overs against White Swans Greytown. Jack Fitzgerald (53) and Dane Russell (31 not out) took Greytown to the brink, but Marist held on to win by two runs, with Thomas Redpath (3/42) and Shaun O'Leary (3/36) sharing six wickets.

Rees and Whanganui United's Aidan Muir are both fresh from a successful northern summer of club cricket in England, where Rees scored three hundreds for his club and finished fourth on the Thames Valley Cricket League Division 1B run-scoring list.

Marton bounced back to beat Red Star/Lansdowne by three wickets at Queen Elizabeth Park in Masterton. Thomas McMurray took 3/28 to help bowl the Wairarapa side out for 176, and Hunter Lithgow's 57, including three sixes, anchored the chase.

Whanganui United have found the going tough against the Manawatū sides. Zeb Small made 54 in a 141-run loss to Freyberg, who posted 330/9 on the back of 108 from Arjuna Jayasinghe, with Tim Czerwonka and Aidan Muir taking three wickets each. On Saturday, Palmerston North's United captain Tom O'Connor took 4/25 and then hit 59 off 34 balls to chase down 152 inside 15 overs.

Palmerston North's United lead the way after three rounds, unbeaten on 12 points, ahead of Freyberg (10) and Marist (8).

Cricket Whanganui General Manager Peter Bowman said it had been a standout fortnight for Whanganui players.

"Two hundreds in two weeks is a fantastic effort from Connor, and Tom's hundred shows the depth Marist have this season.

"It's not just the hundreds. Zeb Small, Hunter Lithgow, and Thomas McMurray have all stood up for their sides, and you can see our depth improving from the challenge.

"Marton are well worth watching too. Most of their side is the Whanganui Collegiate School 1st XI, and those young players are already beating senior club sides.

"The Coastal is giving our players a genuine test every Saturday, and they are rising to it."

In Premier 2, Hunterville Hackers lead the way on countback from United 2nd XI. In Round 2, James Wilson took 3/12 as Hunterville beat United 2nd XI by five wickets, and Marton Saracens chased down Marist 2nd XI's 173/2 in 17 overs, with Paul Hutchison hitting 68 not out off 30 and Dominic Rayner 56, after Kane Watkin's 77 not out for Marist. In Round 3, Pete Fitz-Herbert (73 off 50) and Sam Lambert (50) set up a six-run win for Hunterville over Renegades, despite Josh Trillo's 69 off 39 balls with six sixes, and Sam Stratton took 3/20. Hamish Robertson took 3/23 as United 2nd XI beat Marton by five wickets.

In Premier 3, Wicket Warriors lead the way with three wins from three. In Round 2, Warriors beat Kaitoke Knightriders by four wickets despite Zane Payne-Potaka's 65, and Ari Cromar took 3/9 for Titans in a 38-run loss to Marton Saracens. In Round 3, Warriors beat Marton by 24 runs despite Mark Jones taking 4/21, and Yasmeen Kareem carried the bat for 55 not out for Titans against United 3rd XI.



Aidan Muir (left, Whanganui United) and Connor Rees (Marist), back from a successful season of club cricket in England.

REVIEW: Swing 42 Concert

20 October, St Laurence's Chapel, Aramoho
Reviewer: Albert Sword

Another pearler of a concert from Chamber Music Whanganui (CMW) and CMNZ. Four superb jazz musicians who have cottoned onto a gypsy swing jazz genre, dating from the early thirties, and now called Jazz Manouche. For those of us who don't speak very much the French, don't try to translate Manouche. It has another name: Sinti, a Gypsy Romani name. Think instead of the inventor of the style/genre, one Django Reinhard, a guitarist, who, with his partner Stéphane Grappelli, introduced the slicked-up Sinti jazz to France and the world. It is glorious jazz, easy to assimilate – but not elevator music, oh no! Improvisation is key here, and Swing 42 swung and improvised with ease.

From the first gorgeous notes from the clarinet of Reuben Derrick, I settled back onto my "you WILL stay awake!" church pew, and let myself slide into the first set, some pieces not heard before, but oh so recognisable, and now, memorable. When guitarist Keith Petch slid effortlessly into countermelody with Derrick, their interplay was sublime. I heard an audible sigh of pleasure and almost turned around to see who was enjoying this music as much as me, but of course, the sigh came from me!

The man sitting on the wooden box on stage turned out to be Doug Brush, and the musical beats he managed out of the box (Cajón), all perfectly tuned, was astonishing. So, the rhythm section had a hub. And I have saved the other half of the rhythm section, Michael Kine and his double bass, for last. I *love* the double bass in jazz. It can make or break a band, and in this concert, Kine's playing was inspirational. The playing of all members was inspirational, so much so that I defy anyone to say when they were playing notes learned, and notes improvised. Everything sounded perfect, on point, luscious, and paid homage to the two Frenchmen who gave birth to the Manouche genre.

Kudos to Ingrid for programming SWING 42 into the CMW programme, and kudos to Dalgleish Architects, the evening's sponsor. St Laurence's Chapel was the perfect venue – outstanding acoustics! I could have stayed all night, at least for a repeat programme from these guys, but a word of warning people of Whanganui: if you want lots of encores, make sure to bring a cushion – these pews were made for penitents, not for musical sybarites!



Come hear about Repair Cafe at Tea and Topics

Tea and Topics 12 November 2026 – Whanganui Repair Café: repair, reuse, reconnect – two years of fixing broken items

Presenters: Coordinator Lee-Anne Weenink and long-time repairer Kayleigh Garner



Threading a sewing machine.

What happens when a broken toaster, a torn jacket or a well-loved toy gets a second chance instead of ending up in the rubbish bin? The local Repair Café has been helping answer that question over the past two years, and the community is invited to hear all about its journey at our November Tea and Topics.

The presentation will provide an update on the local Repair Café initiative, sharing the results and achievements of its first two years of operation. It will highlight how the initiative is helping people repair and mend everyday items, reduce waste and rethink the way we approach damaged or broken belongings.

Repair Cafés are community-based initiatives that bring people together to repair items that might otherwise be thrown away. From household appliances and electronics to clothing, toys and other treasured possessions, the aim is to give things a new lease on life while keeping valuable resources out of landfill.

Beyond the practical benefits of repairing items, Repair Cafés also encourage people to learn new skills, share knowledge and connect with others in their community. They promote a more sustainable approach to consumption by demonstrating that a broken item does not always need to be replaced with something new.

After two years of local operation, this talk offers an opportunity to reflect on what has been achieved, celebrate the people who have contributed their time and skills, and discover the difference that community-led repair initiatives can make.

The session will also provide an opportunity for attendees to learn more about the Repair Café's work, hear about its progress and consider how small, practical actions can contribute to a more sustainable future.

Whether you are interested in sustainability, enjoy fixing things yourself or simply want to find out more about this worthwhile local initiative, everyone is welcome to attend.

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

Small Talks to benefit Citizens Advice Bureau

Small Talks have chosen Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) Whanganui as the beneficiary for their last event of the year being held on 10 November at Heritage House. For those who don't know, Small Talks is a lively community event where ten local speakers each share something they're passionate about in a five-minute talk, accompanied by image slides. It's an entertaining evening of ideas, stories and inspiration, with ticket proceeds each time going to a different local charity.

Chosen charity CAB Whanganui is a not-for-profit, locally funded, independent community organisation offering confidential assistance and advice.

Chair Roger Bannister says "our advice is designed to empower people to make informed decisions for themselves. No two days are the same. We deal with employment issues, visa issues, Real Me and passport issues.

"Lots of people don't fully understand their rights under the Consumer Guarantees Act, and their rights as tenants and landlords; an aging population is bringing increasing enquiries about wills and enduring powers of attorney.

He says that despite the name, NZ citizens, residents, and even visitors to the city can pop in for free assistance or advice.

"Using the Community Directory, we can also point people in the direction of organisations like U3A and contacts for a range of local groups."

Roger says "CAB is a national organisation, however each branch is self-funded. With a paid part-time administrator and a team of volunteers (paid in tea and biscuits), fundraising is ongoing to keep the lights on, computers working and the printer going. Lots of people come in to have documents printed, and an upgrade of the printer is high on the volunteers list of priorities.

"We are hugely grateful to the Small Talks team and Bayleys for their support of the CAB. Being recipients of the November event is very exciting for us."

CAB is open Monday to Friday 9.30am–1pm, at 120 Guyton Street. They can be contacted by phone on 06 345 0844 or via email whanganuicab@gmail.com. Additionally, CAB offers a free legal clinic, thanks to Dewhirst Law, and JP services; both must be booked in advance.

The website cab.org.nz has an extensive database of articles to help with everything from understanding your rights to finding local community organisations.

Small Talks

10 November, 7pm (doors open 6.30pm), Heritage House, 136 St Hill Street. Tickets: $15 Presales, $20 Door Sales are available from Bayleys Real Estate.



Tim Metcalfe and Philippa Ivory – CAB volunteers on duty.

NZCT grants given

New Zealand Community Trust (NZCT) awarded the following in the Whanganui Region in the latest funding round:

Aramoho Whanganui Rowing Club Inc, $25,000, Contractor; Hospice Whanganui, $10,000, IT equipment; Royal NZ Plunket Trust, $5,000, Salaries; Southern Hearing Charitable Trust, $3,832.60, Salary for role reaching clients in Gisborne, Hawkes Bay, Taranaki, Manawatu/Wanganui and Wellington; The Whanganui Softball Association Incorporated, $15,000, Clubroom repairs and painting; Wai Ora Christian Community Trust, $5,000, Installing shower; Whanganui Community Sports Centre Incorporated, $15,000, Painting and remedial work; Whanganui Cricket Association Incorporated, $7,444.36, Uniforms and equipment, container; Whanganui United Cricket Club Incorporated, $7,500, Venue hire, equipment, playing uniforms

Bowls results

Bowls results, Wanganui East

Gordon Pairs. Women. **1st** D Martin, M Conwell. **2nd** S Smith, J Mardon. Men. **1st** R Nielson, P Benefield. **2nd** P Head, N Farrington. Men's Drawn Bell Triples. **1st** J McCall, M Meyrick. E Head. **2nd** L Smith, M Fitzgerald, R Smith. 2x4x2 Ch Mixed Pairs. **1st** R Nielson, A Morgan. **2nd** N Grant, M Foster.

Champ Open Singles. Women. **1st** J Johnston. **2nd** D Wildermoth. Men. **1st** G Peterson. **2nd** L Smith.



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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.

Arthritis Whanganui Support Group
The next Coffee Morning – Support Group Meeting – is on Wednesday morning 11 November at 10am. We now meet in the lounge of 'Church on Ingestre', corner of Campbell and Ingestre Streets. Entrance to the carpark is from Campbell Street. Our sign will be out. This month's speaker is Consultant Geriatrician, Dr Jan Gregson. The topic of her talk will be 'Being Positive during the advanced aging process'. As has been happening of late, the committee will be providing Morning Tea. Arrive at 10am for morning tea, and the speaker starts at 10.20–10.30. There is a charge of $5 to cover the morning tea and venue hire. Cash only please – no EFTPOS available. For catering purposes, please contact Liz 06-348-7842, 021-261-8442 or lizrobertson@infogen.net.nz before Tuesday morning if you're coming.

Bob McNeill in concert
"One of New Zealand's best-loved folk musicians." Multi award-winning songwriter Bob McNeill brings his TWELVE DREAMS OF THE RIVER project to Whanganui Repertory Theatre on 7 November, on the opening night of a 16-stop tour of NZ. "Timeless songs" (Folkworld) www.bobmcneill.net & Eventfinda.

'Christmas at the Opera'
Join Whanganui's choirs and musicians for an unforgettable evening of festive music at the Royal Whanganui Opera House on Saturday 12 December, 7pm. Tickets available from the RWOH Box Office Monday to Friday 10am–1.30pm (06-349-0511) or online from www.whanganuivenues.co.nz (6o mins run time).

Community Education Whanganui
Community Education Whanganui deliver in-person learning with local, experienced tutors. Explore woodwork, songwriting, landscape painting, yoga, music, permaculture, pottery and plenty more. From one-day workshops to six-week courses, there's something to suit everyone's schedule. If you're keen to make, move, grow, or create, there's a course waiting for you. Enrol online: www.communityeducation.nz or phone 06-345-4717, 10–3pm weekdays.

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

Do You Have Questions About the Bible?
Come and join us at the Christadelphian Hall on Tuesday night at 7:30pm for Bible-based discussion and a cup of tea. All are most welcome. 138 Great North Road. Email: wanganui.ecclesia@outlook.co.nz / www.thisisyourbible.com

Free Confidential Advice - Whanganui Citizens Advice Bureau
120 Guyton Street. Trained volunteers offer advice on issues including Consumer Rights, Employment, Immigration, Neighbourhood problems, Personal and Family, Health, Tenancy and Housing. Contact us on (06) 345-0844 or email at whanganuicab@gmail.com. We are here to help you.

Grieving Families can remember their children:
Born sleeping, died from illness, accident, suicide, murder; recently or in years past. Meet us at Aromoho Cemetery Saturday 7 November at 10am, or join us at The Yellow House Cafe at 11am to share. You need not walk alone. Details phone Keren 06-344-3345.

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.

Kiero Workshop
No more food waste to landfill with Kiero, a Japanese organic waste bin! No smell. No heavy lifting. Free workshop: Thursday 12 November, 6pm–7.30pm. Doors open 5.45pm. Light refreshments. Sustainable Whanganui Hub, 23 Drews Ave. 10 spots. Register 021 292 5471 (Mariko) or Web: jeem-nz.site. Supported by WDC Waste Minimisation Fund.

Natural burials
Learn about this very sustainable way to go and why it is such a good choice. Did you know it's an option here in Whanganui? Also hear how to make it more affordable. Green Drinks: 10 November, 6pm start at Barracks Sports Bar, 170 Saint Hill St.

NZ Society of Genealogists Whanganui Branch meeting
Alexander Heritage and Research Library, Monday 9 November, 6.45pm – Speaker: Taine Matoe – "Conscientious Objectors". Door opens 6.15pm. Non-members welcome entry $3

River City Artists
meet every Thursday 9.30-4pm, 243 Wicksteed Street, Christ Church Lower Hall. Artists of all levels, beginners to experienced. All mediums covered. Air-conditioned rooms. Painting fee $10.00 per week. Facebook River City Artists, www.rivercityartists.co.nz. Contact Val 027-459-9448 or Sue 0210-484-035. You're welcome to come and have a look around.

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 4pm–6pm, Wednesday 9am–11am, Thursday 6pm–8pm. To have a go – beginners must register via email rivercitypickleballnz@gmail.com or email to find out more about beginners sessions.

Schola Sacra Choir Christmas concert
featuring Christmas carols plus Bach *Magnificat*. Organist Douglas Mews with guest soloists. 2.30pm, Saturday 5th December in St Peter's Church, 71 Koromiko Rd, Gonville. Tickets at the door or from choir members. $25, $20, U-18 free.

Wanganui Country Music Club
will not be meeting on Sunday 8th November. Next club day will be Sunday 22nd November 2026. For further information contact Terri 021-420-069.

River City Press - proud to be locally owned and operated

Whanganui Opera Week – 3rd to 17th January
Be part of the celebrations and book front row seats to see the next generation of New Zealand's aspiring, young opera stars. Call the Royal Whanganui Opera House on 06-349-0511 (10am–1.30pm) or visit www.whanganuivenues.co.nz to purchase your tickets!

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.

U3A Whanganui
Coming up is the last U3A Whanganui lecture for the year, by Emeritus Professor Vince Neall from Massey University, on the topic of Volcanic eruptions. It is at UCOL room 2.15, at 10am on Friday 13 November and entry is by Koha.



Sadly passed away recently...

Keri Denise BURGESS
on 26 October 2026.

Veronica Mary HANNAN
on 31 October 2026, aged 101 years.

Edith Margaret HOWSE
on 28 October 2026, aged 93 years.

Vida Mary KENNY (nee Kite)
on 29 October 2026, aged 77 years.

Gloria Dawn KITE
on 31 October 2026, aged 89 years.

Jillian Mary LUONI
on 29 October 2026, aged 72 years.

Rex Noel PAYNE
on 25 October 2026, aged 73 years.

William Frank PODJURSKY
on 28 October 2026, aged 72 years.

Glenis STANSFIELD
on 19 October 2026, aged 85 years.

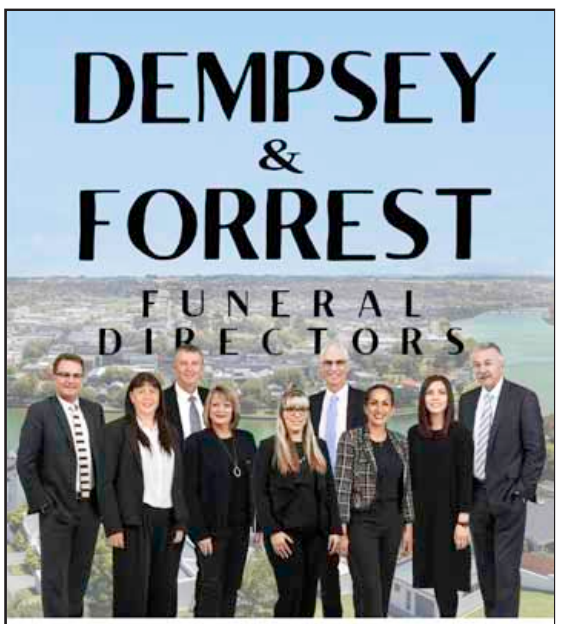
COMMUNITY
Bridge Club results

Whanganui Bridge Club results, week ending 30 October

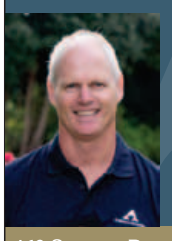
Monday Holiday Pairs: N/S 1=. H Jarrett M Ruby 59.72 1=. T & O Jones 59.72 3. B Cantillon K Moore 50.00 **E/W** 1. J Smith M Dawson 57.14 2. J Holt J Kay 56.75 3=. A Hodges L Rowland 54.76 3=. L & B Patrick 54.76 **Overall Winners Monday Holiday Pairs:** Jean Smith & Mark Dawson. **Tuesday Ellery Pairs: N/S** 1. S Watson P Verhoek 57.07 2. B Franklin-Browne K Verhoek 54.17 3. V Baillie S Dempsey 53.94 **E/W** 1. C Chesswas W Pedley 65.66 2. S Pedley G MacLachlan 60.06 3. R Nightingale G Handley 58.80

Wednesday Miro Pairs: N/S 1. T Gunasekara K Smith 67.65 2. B Anderson P Edmonds 53.05 3. K Rainey C Winton 44.74 **E/W** 1. B Eriksen S Rainey 64.50 2. J Bourne D Edmonds 51.90 3. J Lambert F Simpson 47.55 **Wednesday Social:** 1. A Hodges L Rowland 63.54 2. A Thirtle J Dodds 61.46 3. B Franklin-Browne S Watson 59.38 4. W Duncan S Poff 57.64 5=. C Fisher G MacLachlan 56.60 5=. B Collins I Newbold 56.60

Friday Social: N/S 1. B Collins J Wagstaff 63.60 2. G Handley C Pepperell 55.22 3. J Rapson L Vodanovich 53.98 4. O Mackintosh A Sutherland 52.61 5. M Dawson S Fonseka 52.47 6=. P & M Oyston 49.18 6=. M Ewing J Botting 49.18 **E/W** 1. J Newman R Lakeland 57.42 2. H Jarrett L Rowland 57.14 3. C Veltman C Killington 55.36 4=. D Haynes B Perkins 53.85 4=. S Poff N Gale 53.85 6. Diana & David Harrison 53.71



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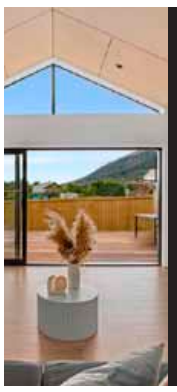
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SITUATION VACANT

St. Marcellin School

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR POSITION 2027

St. Marcellin School, Whanganui, is seeking an Office Administrator to provide exceptional administrative support to the school community and maintain a welcoming office environment. The role balances multiple tasks to ensure smooth operations during term time, with a 16-hour week.

Hours are 9:00am to 11:00am (2 Hours) Monday and Tuesday, 9:00am – 1:00pm (4 Hours) Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, with a 10 minute break, plus occasional evenings for events and potential for extra hours during school holidays if the need arises.

Qualifications

- Excellent typing and IT skills.
- Be a problem solver, proactive, helpful and a flexible approach.
- Front-line administrative support to staff, students and visitors.
- Accurate accounts processing.
- Maintain a professional reception area.
- Backup sick day and daily attendance functions.
- Support supplies management and staffroom events.

Responsibilities

- Adhere to school policies and professional behaviour expectations.
- Complete tasks accurately and courteously, reflecting on the Catholic Character of our school.
- Uphold confidentiality and ethical practices.
- Support a positive, respectful team environment.
- Present a clean and professional image at all times.
- Have a warm and welcoming personality.

Please apply in writing with a covering letter, a current Curriculum Vitae and three contactable referees to: principal@stmarcellin.school.nz

Applications close on Wednesday 18 November 2026 at 3:00pm. Interviews for selected applicants to be held the following week.

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168 PAINTING and plastering with 25 years experience. Interior, exterior roofs, airless spraying. Fully insured. Free quote. Text 022-035-0175.

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GARAGE SALE

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PUBLIC NOTICE

SECTION 101
SALE AND SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL ACT 2012

LunarTech Limited, 30 Drews Avenue, Whanganui has made application to the District Licensing Committee at Whanganui for a variation of conditions on renewal of an On Licence in respect of the premises situated at 30 Drews Avenue, Whanganui known as **Porridge Watson**.

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

The days on which and the hours during which alcohol is sold under the licence are **Monday to Sunday 10.00am until 1.00am the following day.**

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

Any person who is entitled to object and who wishes to object to the issue of the licence may, not later than 25 working days after the date of the first 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 renewal of the licence may be made in relation to a matter other than a matter specified in section 131(1) of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

This is the first publication of this notice.

FOR SALE

BLINDS - Roller & Venetians to order.20% off retail price. Free measure and quote. Strath Davis Furniture & Flooring, Ph (06) 345-0883.

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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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Email or facebook message us with your nomination and reason why they deserve to win!

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PUBLIC NOTICES

TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O Whanganui DISTRICT COUNCIL

Intended Road Closures

Whanganui Vintage Weekend Events 2027

Under Section 11A of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 1974, Whanganui District Council intends to close the following roads for the Whanganui Vintage Weekend Events 2027.

Period of intended closures:

Drews Ave Street Party
Saturday, 23 January 2027
7.00am to midnight 12.00am

- Drews Avenue from Taupo Quay to Ridgway Street
- Rutland Street from Drews Avenue to Market Place
- Service Lane from Drews Avenue to the Phoenix Carpark

Mainstreet Caboodle
Saturday, 23 January 2027
7.00am to midnight 12.00am

- Victoria Avenue from Guyton Street to Taupo Quay
- Ridgway Street from St Hill Street to Drews Avenue
- Maria Place from St Hill Street to Victoria Avenue
- Guyton Street from St Hill Street to Victoria Avenue

Riverside Shindig
Sunday, 24 January 2027
8.00am to 10.00pm

- Moutoa Quay from Drews Avenue to Taupo Quay

Soap Box Derby
Monday, 25 January 2027
7.00am to 7.00pm

- Drews Avenue from Taupo Quay to Watt Street
- Rutland Street from Drews Avenue to Market Place
- Watt Street from Drews Avenue to War Memorial Hall
- Pukenamu Drive from Drews Avenue to the Alexander Library
- Ridgway Street from Victoria Avenue to Market Place

During the proposed closures, directional signs will be in place to show the alternative route.

Any person affected by the proposed closures who wishes to object must lodge in writing their objection including reasons **by 5.00pm on Friday, 20 November 2026** to Melanie Francis, Customer Support Team Leader, at Council Customer Services, 101 Guyton Street, Whanganui or by email to: melanie.francis@whanganui.govt.nz

Doug Tate
Chief Executive

whanganui.govt.nz

Neighbourhood Support NEW ZEALAND

NOTICE OF AGM NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT GROUP

NSG Whanganui gives notice of its Annual General Meeting for 2026

10.30am Wednesday, 11 November 2026
St Andrews Hall, 42 Glasgow Street, Whanganui

Agenda and minutes will be circulated prior

Please RSVP to
enquiries@nsgwhanganui.org.nz

Churton School

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PIRATES RUGBY FOOTBALL & SPORTS CLUB EST. 1897

Whanganui Pirates Rugby Football & Sports Club Inc

AGM
Friday 13 Nov, 6pm

To be held at the
Clubrooms, Sarjeant Street
Asking for
Executive & Committee Nominations
contact
wanganuipiratesrugby@outlook.com

TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O Whanganui DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Notice of Council Decision on Submissions to Private Plan Change 001 (Manuka Street) to the Operative Whanganui District Plan

Clause 10, First Schedule, Resource Management Act 1991

Private Plan Change 001 - Manuka Street proposes to rezone a small parcel of land currently zoned Open Space Zone to General Residential Zone. The land subject to the plan change is located at **21A Manuka Street, Castlecliff, Whanganui.**

The private plan change is to enable residential use of the site by aligning the zoning with the surrounding residential area.

The Whanganui District Council has made its decision on the matters raised in submissions on **Tuesday 27 October 2026.**

Any person that made a submission on PPC001 (Manuka Street) may lodge an appeal against the Council's decision with the Environment Court.

The period for lodging appeals closes at **4.00pm on Wednesday, 16 December 2026**.

A copy of the decision and reasons for each submission can be viewed on the Council website www.whanganui.govt.nz (Private Plan Change 001).

If you would like to view a hard copy of the Council decision or have any other queries, please contact PlanningPolicy@whanganui.govt.nz or phone (06)349 0001

Doug Tate
Chief Executive
Whanganui District Council
5 November 2026

whanganui.govt.nz



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Maritime NZ and the Wanganui Water Ski Club advise that the boating area will be closed from dawn Friday 13th November to 5pm Sunday 15th November for CRTWSA Senior Coaching

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End-of-year archery social events available



Participants enjoy the Halloween themed training event

Last week saw another packed schedule of archery action for the Wanganui Archery Club, including the final lesson in their latest beginners' course, a Halloween-themed event on Saturday and one of their regular have-a-go sessions on the Sunday.

The latest students completed their course on Wednesday evening, with everyone making excellent progress through the month under the guidance of WAC's group of coaches, and the club is looking forward to seeing them shooting regularly through the coming summer.

While the weather was questionable through the latter half of the week, Saturday's sunshine and light breeze helped the club lay on a very enjoyable day of fun for members and visiting archers. A series of entertaining informal competitions was followed by an equally impressive barbeque in the sunshine outside the WAC clubhouse. As is always the case with archers, the shooting was quite competitive with lots of sneaky glances at other archer's scores, but for this Halloween event the smiles were probably more important than the totals.

Sunday's have-a-go session, a regular monthly opportunity for those interested in archery to come and give it a try in a safe, supervised space, also benefitted from the weekend's good weather. These sessions are open to anyone over 12, and those interested should either email the club directly at archerywanganui@gmail.com or send a message via the club's Facebook group page, The Wanganui Archery Club.

More beginners' courses are planned over the summer. The lessons, based on an Archery New Zealand sanctioned curriculum, are intended to take students from complete novice level through to club-ready archers and typically take place over four weekly sessions. All gear is provided, and there are plenty of qualified coaches on hand to ensure everyone gets the attention and assistance needed to make progress.

WAC also host many end-of-year social events for local businesses and organisations. They still have room for more, so if your group would like to base your celebration or team-building session around archery or if you are interested in taking part in one of their beginners' courses, get in touch with them soon using the contact details above.

Blind bowlers bag one trophy

The six Whanganui players who took part at the NZ Blind and Vision Impaired Indoor Bowls national championships in Invercargill over Labour Weekend found the competition tough, but they came home with one trophy.

Joe Fallen and Ken Fredericksen qualified in the men's partially sighted singles. Joe went out in the first post-section game while Ken got to the semi-finals where he was beaten by the competitor who went on to win the final. Russell Lowry made the final of the totally blind men's singles and was runner-up.

Whanganui players won games in the pairs but did not qualify to go further. In the fours, the team of Ken, Russell, and Joe and Sarah Fallen did not qualify after section play but went on to win the plate final and bring home a silver plate. The other players from Whanganui who took part in the tournament were Dave Couling and Bob Harris.



Russell Lowry was runner-up in the totally blind men's singles.

Ken said it was an enjoyable weekend and they are looking forward to the 2027 nationals next Labour Weekend in Auckland.

Secondary school sporting excellence recognised at annual awards



Nominees for the Mitre 10 MEGA Whanganui WSS Senior National Sportswoman of the Year. Left is winner Amber Auret from Whanganui Girl's College, who won for her achievements in equestrian.

The 2026 Mitre 10 MEGA Whanganui Secondary Schools Sports Awards were held on Wednesday 28 October, celebrating the success of the region's top youth sporting talent.

The qualifying period for the 2026 awards was 1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026, with nominations submitted by secondary schools across the Whanganui, Rangitīkei and Ruapehu regions.

Ninety-three young athletes were recognised for their sporting achievements and leadership at the awards function, hosted this year by Whanganui Collegiate School.

Schools from across the Whanganui region were represented in the nominations, with Whanganui High School students dominating on the night, taking out seven of the thirteen categories.

The international categories showcased some of the region's standout young athletes, with Isabel Ross (Rink Hockey) and Reiley Thomas (Athletics), both from Whanganui High School, claiming the Junior International Sportswoman and Sportsman of the Year awards respectively. The Senior International Sportswoman of the Year title was shared by Alexis Toy (Kayaking) of Whanganui Girls' College and Paige Conley (Swimming) of Whanganui High School, while Will Collins-Lowe (Muay Thai) of Rangitīkei College was named Senior International Sportsman of the Year.

At the national level, Ziva Bunker (Swimming) of Whanganui Girls' College was recognised as Junior National Sportswoman of the Year, while Ross Llaneta (Rowing) of Whanganui High School received the Junior National Sportsman of the Year award. Amber Auret (Equestrian) from Whanganui Girls' College and Te Huatahi Bradley (Softball) of Cullinane College were awarded the Senior National Sportswoman and Sportsman of the Year.

The awards also celebrated those contributing to sport beyond competition. Whanganui High School's Aidan Muir (Cricket) was named Coach of the Year, Mauri Crompton (Netball) of Whanganui Girls' College received Official of the Year, and Cullinane College student Aiden Billing (Cross Country) was recognised as Disabled Sportsperson of the Year.

Team success was also acknowledged, with the Whanganui High School Girls Under 16 Coxed Four (Rowing) earning Junior Team of the Year and the Whanganui High School Boys Under 17 Coxed Four (Rowing) awarded Senior Team of the Year.

Full Award Winners List

Junior National Sportswoman of the Year
Ziva Bunker (Whanganui Girls' College)
Junior National Sportsman of the Year
Ross Llaneta (Whanganui High School)
Senior National Sportswoman of the Year
Amber Auret (Whanganui Girls' College)
Senior National Sportsman of the Year
Te Huatahi Bradley (Cullinane College)
Junior International Sportswoman of the Year
Isabel Ross (Whanganui High School)
Junior International Sportsman of the Year
Reiley Thomas (Whanganui High School)
Senior International Sportswoman of the Year
Alexis Toy (Whanganui Girls' College) and Paige Conley (Whanganui High School)
Senior International Sportsman of the Year
Will Collins-Lowe (Rangitīkei College)
Disabled Sportsperson of the Year
Aiden Billing (Cullinane College)
Coach of the Year
Aidan Patrick Muir (Whanganui High School)
Official of the Year
Mauri Crompton (Whanganui Girls' College)
Junior Team of the Year
Whanganui High School Girls U16 4x+
Senior Team of the Year
Whanganui High School Boys U17 4x+

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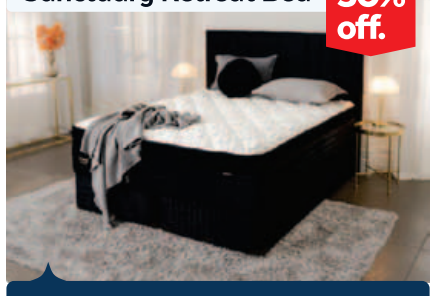
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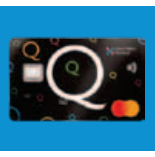
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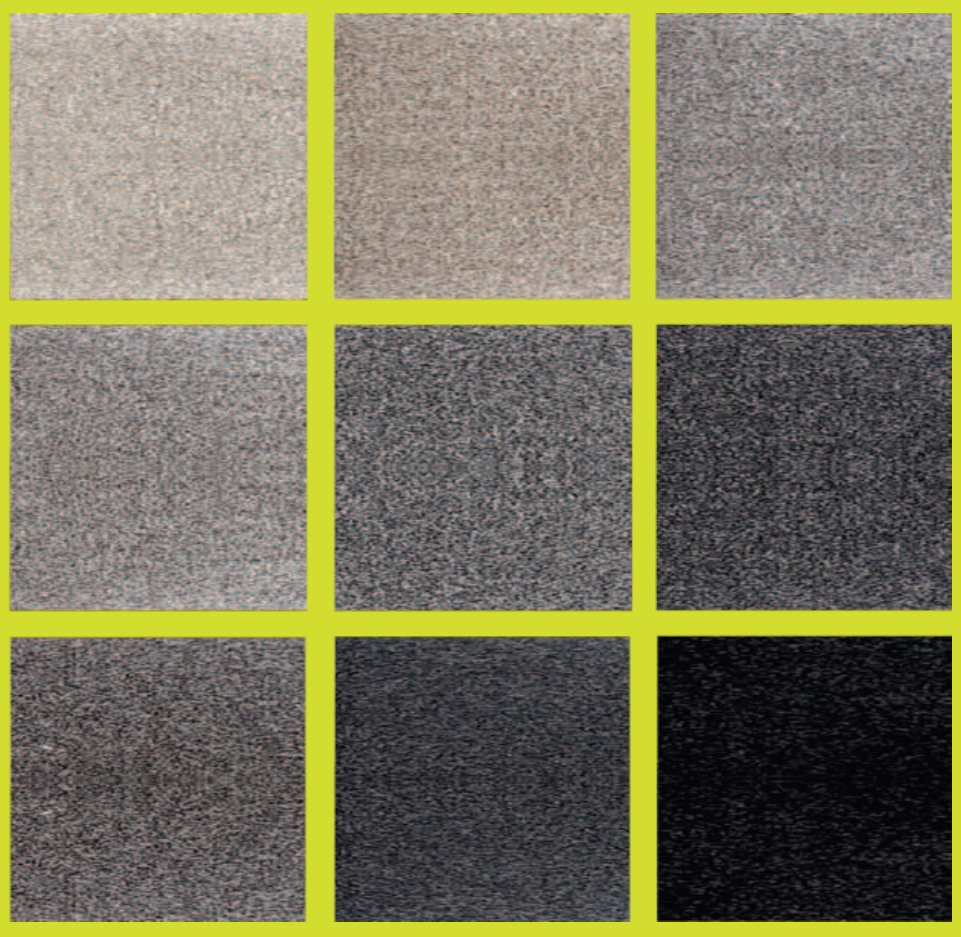
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