

Community Link

Whanganui District Council

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Durie Hill lift finds a new connection

A new contract to run the Durie Hill elevator has been awarded. The successful tender is Whanganui Connection, a new company headed by performer and public transport advocate Anthonie Tonnon.

Whanganui Connection will take over the contract for the 102-year-old elevator next **Tuesday, 1 June 2021**. The previous contract – held by four generations of one family over 40 years – ends on 31 May. The new contract has been awarded for one year with the option to renew.

The new contract coincides with the reopening of the Durie Hill elevator. It has been closed since the middle of February to allow the completion of maintenance work on the elevator and the building of a new entranceway.

Anthonie Tonnon says that Whanganui Connection is honoured to be part of operating such a unique local asset. “Whanganui Connection’s goal will be to enhance the Durie Hill elevator’s value to Whanganui as a precious but practical means of public transport, as a unique visitor attraction and as a symbol of our history and innovation in urban planning and public transport.”



Local public transport advocate Anthonie Tonnon is the director of Whanganui Connection, the new contractor for the Durie Hill elevator

He says he would like to hear from the community about their ideas for the Durie Hill elevator. “We’d love people to take a journey with us, tell us what’s important to them about the elevator and what more they feel it could offer.”

Historic rates records free to view on council website

Whanganui District Council has added an historic rates records database to its website as an online service.

The new database contains transcribed details from property rolls (or rates records) of the Wanganui Town Board 1862-72, Wanganui Borough Council 1872-1923 and, initially, two years of rate records for Whanganui City Council (1924-26). These records cover the town, borough and city areas but not the county (or country) areas.

The council’s archivist, Simon Bloor, says, “The Wanganui Town Board (1862-72) rate rolls were large parchment sheets that received conservation treatment before being photographed and transcribed. Details here were very brief – the section number (or legal description), name of the owner and a rates expense, some as low as sixpence.

“I worked with several wonderful volunteers to complete this project. The team has transcribed more than 120,000 individual rate records since the project started. Enquiries from the community about the database are welcome – we’re also keen to hear suggestions about how we might improve the search functionality and presentation of the results,” Simon Bloor says.

For enquiries and comments, please call Simon Bloor on 06 349 3056 or email: simon.bloor@whanganui.govt.nz

For more information about the historic rates records database and to make an online search, please visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/historic-rates-records

Lights on Bikes back in June

Mark your calendars – Lights on Bikes returns on **Friday, 25 June 2021** with light installations, performances and the popular bicycle parade. This free, all-ages event will run from **6.00pm to 9.30pm**.



Bicycles, scooters, rollerskates, wheelchairs, skateboards, prams, unicycles and other wheeled contraptions are welcome.

Lights on Bikes will partner this year with Whanganui District Council’s Town Centre Regeneration team and combine the event with a street party for the new Drews Avenue streetscape, which is being trialled through Waka Kotahi NZ Transports Agency’s Innovating Streets fund.

For more information about Lights on Bikes 2021, please visit: www.facebook.com/LightsOnBikes

WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

Whanganui District Council invites you to have your say on these topics:

- Review of Pensioner Housing Policy

For more information, please visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/have-your-say



Autumn leaf collection

Surface flood risk from blocked grates

Whanganui District Council is asking city residents to avoid pushing leaves from private properties onto public roads.

The leaf sucker truck operated by the council’s road maintenance contractor is currently at capacity on a constant leaf collection cycle around the city.

Large piles of leaves pushed onto residential streets can leave road sumps blocked after the sucker truck has been through, making neighbourhoods vulnerable to surface flooding in the event of heavy rain.

Demolition work starts

Removal of Taupo Quay buildings

Demolition work started this week on three buildings on Taupo Quay.

The buildings, at 1-5 Taupo Quay, are located on the corner of Taupo Quay and Moutoa Quay and back on to the Whanganui River.

There have been buildings on the site since 1908. The current buildings were erected in the early 1950s, with extensions added in the 1980s. Most recently they have been used as workshops.

The area will be grassed over after demolition. Consultation will then be carried out to determine the future for the site.

Rating information

Database open for public viewing

Whanganui District Council’s rating information database (RID) is available for public inspection under section 28 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

The RID contains a record of all information required for setting and assessing rates and allows for the calculation of rates liability for each rating unit. The RID is available for viewing Monday to Friday, 8.30am-5.00pm, at 101 Guyton Street.

The database is free to inspect but a fee may be charged to supply a copy of particulars. To view the RID online, please visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/rating-information-database

Pooch moved kennel?

Update your contact details now

Dog registration time is approaching so now’s the perfect opportunity to update your contact details with Whanganui District Council.

Tell us online if your pooch has recently moved kennel at: www.whanganui.govt.nz or call customer services on 06 349 0001.

Council meetings

Meeting next week

Audit and Risk Committee	1.00pm Thursday 3 June	Nagaizumi-cho Room, 101 Guyton Street
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Agendas: www.whanganui.govt.nz/agendas
Livestreamed council meetings: www.facebook.com/whanganuidistrictcouncil
www.whanganui.govt.nz/live-council-meetings

Stay in the know with Antenno!

Whanganui District Council has a new mobile app available to the community. Antenno allows you to receive alerts and notifications about places and topics important to you such as water shut-offs near your home or closures at your local sports ground. Install Antenno now – it’s free to download.

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www.whanganui.govt.nz/antenno