

Community Link

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Puanga Rising event for community

With a new Matariki public holiday observed across the country this year, Whanganui will celebrate its own form of the Māori New Year, Puanga, with a free community event in Majestic Square on the evening of Friday, 24 June 2022. Puanga Rising will run from 5.30pm-8.30pm with a mix of live music, art displays, cultural performances and kai from a range of food stalls.

The event is being organised by Mainstreet Whanganui and Whanganui District Council, with support from the Whanganui Regional Māori Tourism Organisation and the Town Centre Regeneration project. Mainstreet Whanganui general manager, Des Warahi, says it will be fantastic to have a whanau-focused event in the heart of our city to celebrate our region's rich Māori heritage and shine a spotlight on our talented local artists.

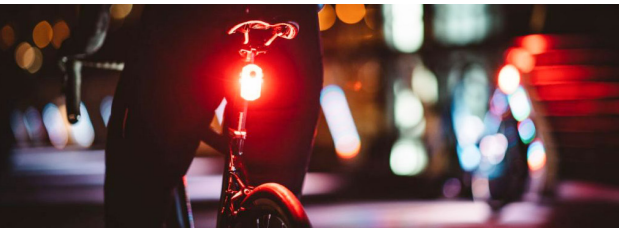
Whanganui District Mayor, Hamish McDouall, says he's excited about the prospect of a new event in our town centre, especially one that offers a chance to learn about our region's unique traditions.



The Puanga star is visible in Whanganui and signals the Māori New Year, known around Aotearoa New Zealand as Matariki

"For most of Aotearoa, the Māori new year focuses on the Matariki star cluster. Here in Whanganui, tāngata whenua have traditionally looked to the rising of Puanga (the star Rigel). Coinciding with the end of harvest, this period has traditionally been celebrated as a time of abundance – so it will be great to capture that spirit with Puanga Rising."

Be safe – Be Bright Be Seen Join the coastal conversation



The annual Be Bright Be Seen campaign is underway again this year. Between May and August, key community partners are collaborating to remind people to "be bright, be seen" when cycling, running and walking at night.

Whanganui District Council, Horizons Regional Council, Whanganui Police and Mā Ake Let's Go have teamed up to support this winter campaign. They want to keep people safe by reminding those out and about during the season's darker mornings and evenings to ensure they're visible to other road and pathway users. Whanganui cycle shops are also supporting the campaign.

For tips and advice on keeping visible at night, visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/cycling-shared-pathways



You're welcome to come along to the first community drop-in session for the coastal action plan tomorrow, **Thursday 9 June 2022, from 10.30am-2.30pm** at the Duncan Pavilion, Castliff Beach. Coastal scientist Jim Dahm will speak briefly at 11.00am and again at 1.00pm on how natural processes are shaping Castlecliff and Kai Iwi beaches and management possibilities for the future. Most importantly, we'd like to hear how you interact with our coast and what you would like to see protected and enhanced.

If you can't make it to Thursday's session, several other dates are available:

- **Friday, 10 June – 11.00am-2.00pm** at the Alexander Library Te Rerenga Mai o Te Kāuru, Pukenui Queen's Park
- **Saturday, 11 June – 10.30am-2.30pm** at the Duncan Pavilion, Castlecliff Beach
- **Sunday, 12 June – 10.30am-2.30pm** at the Rapanui Mowhanau Community Hall.

Can't make it to the drop-in sessions? You can give feedback via a survey from tomorrow, Thursday 9 June, at: www.whanganui.govt.nz/coastal-action-plan This survey closes at midnight on Friday, 15 July 2022.

Whanganui is at Orange

A reminder that all of New Zealand remains in the Orange setting of the COVID-19 traffic light system. At Orange, there are no capacity limits at venues. **However, face masks must continue to be worn at premises operated by local government agencies.** This means face masks are required if you're entering Whanganui District Council facilities and accessing services – these include our libraries, galleries and customer services at 101 Guyton Street. Thank you for helping to keep our visitors and staff safe by continuing to wear a mask when you call in to see us. We also encourage you to keep a safe distance from others. More details at: www.whanganui.govt.nz/covid-19

Rates rebate reminder

Apply for rebate by Thursday, 30 June

Ratepayers who may qualify for a rates rebate must apply by **Thursday, 30 June 2022** for the 2021-22 rating year (the rating year runs from 1 July to 30 June). If your income is low to moderate (maximum \$26,510) you may be eligible for a rates rebate of up to \$665. To determine whether you are eligible, the council requires your gross income earnings (before tax) for the tax period ending 31 March 2021. The rates rebate will be calculated on your income earnings and your 2021-22 Whanganui District Council rates and Horizons Regional Council rates. For more information, please contact the council on 06 349 0001 and ask for the rates team.

Open Space extension

Feedback extended to 19 June

The opportunity to give feedback on Whanganui District Council's draft Open Space and Physical Activity Strategy has been extended. The new strategy is about creating vibrant open spaces that support health and wellbeing. Submissions now close on **Sunday, 19 June 2022 at midnight**. More information at: www.whanganui.govt.nz/open-spaces

Guyton St road works

Partial road closure this Sunday

A section of Guyton Street between Victoria Avenue and St Hill Street will be temporarily closed to all traffic this **Sunday, 12 June 2022 from 6.00am until 6.00pm** for road repairs near the Victoria Avenue / St Hill Street intersection. Pedestrian access to businesses in this part of Guyton Street will remain available during the closure. Ingestre Street and Ridgway Street are advised as alternative through roads for vehicles. While the road closure is limited to Sunday, 12 June, work to complete repairs in this area may continue until Tuesday, 14 June 2022.

Council meetings

Upcoming meeting

Policy and Bylaw Committee	9.30am Wednesday 22 June	Council Chamber, 101 Guyton Street
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(Dangerous and Insanitary Buildings Policy)

Agendas: www.whanganui.govt.nz/agendas
Livestreamed council meetings:
www.facebook.com/whanganuidistrictcouncil
www.whanganui.govt.nz/live-council-meetings

WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

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

- Open Space and Physical Activity Strategy Review
- Community Views Survey 2022
- Coastal action plan: community conversation

More details at: www.whanganui.govt.nz/have-your-say

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