



Whanganui District Council

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## New signage for Durie Hill elevator

A top Whanganui tourist attraction, the Durie Hill elevator, has had a face-lift with new signage and large historical panels which explain its intriguing workings and past.

What began as a project to improve the signage grew into a much larger refurbishment when Whanganui & Partners Digital and Online lead, Paul Kjoss, dug into the elevator's history and commissioned three interpretive panels to explain how the underground elevator operates, including photographs of historical equipment the public never sees.



Viewing the photographic display is (from left) elevator operator Raewyn Tangaroa, Karen Wrigglesworth, Paul Kjoss, Nick Gibbons and Steve Caudwell

After much research, with the help of Whanganui District Council archivist Simon Bloor and others who are passionate about its history, Mr Kjoss found that as well as being New Zealand's only underground elevator, the elevator is also unique for its kind worldwide.

What adds to that rareness is its Mercury Arc Rectifier, which converts alternating current (AC) electricity to direct current (DC) electricity. The elevator was originally supplied by the same powerhouse that generated electricity for Whanganui's tramway network, with the elevator running on 500 volt direct current electricity.

The project has been a collaboration between several organisations, including elevator enthusiast and Council Facilities Management Officer Peter Tantrum, writer and engineer Karen Wrigglesworth, photographer Steve Caudwell of Whanganui Photography Ltd, Nick Gibbons of Morrie Gibbons Signs and long-serving elevator operator, Raewyn Tangaroa.

"Not only will the signage improve the visitor experience, but also will provide information that will appeal to visitors who enjoy a heritage experience," Mr Kjoss says.

## Have your say

Check out the Whanganui District Council website to have your say on the following:

### Proposed Development Contributions Policy

Public consultation closes on Monday 5 February 2018.

### Proposed Trade Waste Bylaw 2018

Public consultation closes on Friday 23 February 2018.

### Whanganui District Council's Investment Plan

We are inviting feedback from the public on our proposed Property Portfolio Investment Plan.

The Council's Property Group has drafted a property portfolio investment plan for managing the Council's property investment and divestment opportunities. Feedback is sought on investment outside the district, ways the Council could invest in or divest property and views on specific properties that may be surplus to the Council's requirements.

Our survey closes on Friday 16 February 2018.

### How to have your say

To give feedback, please visit [www.whanganui.govt.nz/haveyoursay](http://www.whanganui.govt.nz/haveyoursay)

Hard copy submission forms and supporting documents are available from the Customer Services desk, Municipal Office Building, 101 Guyton Street and Whanganui libraries.

## Santa's Grotto at the Museum

We've had a wee chat with the man from the North Pole and he has agreed to come and be resident at the Whanganui Regional Museum on Ridgway Street in the week leading up to Christmas.

He will be sitting in his vintage-themed grotto to meet and greet children of all ages and hand over a small surprise. He will have a handy helper on hand to take a photograph on your own camera or phone.

There will also be an 'elf yourself' photo booth in place during the same week so come along to the Whanganui Regional Museum and get right into the festive spirit!

1.00pm – 3.00pm daily to Friday 22 December 2017  
Free entry, koha appreciated  
62 Ridgway Street



## Planned works

For a full list of planned works for December 2017, please visit [www.whanganui.govt.nz/plannedworks](http://www.whanganui.govt.nz/plannedworks)

## Jerusalem Bluff works

Road works will be undertaken at Jerusalem Bluff, just before the Jerusalem settlement, on the Whanganui River Road beginning Monday 8 January 2018. The work involves cutting into the existing road to widen it, which is similar to the work which has recently been completed on Shellrock (Oyster) Bluff.

The road is likely to remain open while the work is done, but stop/go controls will be in place for five-to-ten minute periods as required.

## Lake Wairitoa spraying

As part of managing the water weed Homwort (*Ceratophyllum demersum*) in Lake Wairitoa, the Whanganui District Council will spray on Tuesday 23 January 2018 at the public swimming and water skiing areas.

Depending on the weather, the alternative date for spraying is Wednesday 24 January 2018.

A boat-mounted spray unit will be used to spray Reglone herbicide, which is specifically formulated for use on submerged aquatic weeds.

Please do not draw water from the lake for bathing or drinking, or use for fish fanning or for watering livestock.

The use of the lake for swimming is prohibited for 24 hours after application. Please do not use water for overhead irrigation for 10 days after treatment.

Please contact Parks Officer Dave Kerwin on 349 3078 for more information.

## Pedestrian bridge closure

The pedestrian bridge at Matipo Park is closed because of safety concerns after a recent structural inspection.

Further investigation will be carried out in the New Year. The access track leading from Brunswick Road is locked and the car park is temporarily unavailable. Please contact the Parks Department on 349 0001 for further information.

There will be signage at Matipo Park informing users about the closure of the bridge.

## Responsible water use

Despite the dry weather, we don't have any water restrictions in the Whanganui District at present but we encourage people to use water responsibly.

Please don't leave taps running, or unnecessarily use sprinklers or irrigation systems and fix up any water leaks around your property. If you are aware of any leaks in the public system, please phone the Council on 349 0001. If we all use water sensibly, we can avoid restrictions during the summer season.

## Council meetings

No Council or committee meetings are scheduled for the remainder of 2017.

The Council meeting schedule can be found at [www.whanganui.govt.nz/meetings-agendas-minutes/](http://www.whanganui.govt.nz/meetings-agendas-minutes/)

## Holiday opening hours

The Whanganui District Council Municipal Office Building (Guyton Street) and Infrastructure Office (St Hill Street) will be closed from 12.00 noon on **Friday, 22 December 2017** until **8.00am on Wednesday, 3 January 2018** for the Christmas and New Year holidays. There will be limited Council services until Monday, 8 January 2018. See a full list of holiday hours for all Council services on our website. **For urgent enquiries you can contact us at any time on 349 0001.**

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**Our very best wishes for the festive season**