



Community Link

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Festival celebrates cultural diversity



Despite at-times inclement weather, The Whanganui Festival of Cultures finale attracted a massive crowd to Majestic Square on Saturday, 19 October. Spectator numbers were well up on last year's estimated 6000 attendees, Mainstreet Whanganui's Kelly Scarrow said, and with a full programme of entertainers during the day and 27 food stalls to choose from, a great day was had by all. PHOTO: ANTONIA SIMS

Waste Warriors on the ball as they tackle venue recycling

The Whanganui Venues & Events Team has been working hard recently to minimise waste and eliminate single-use plastics at Whanganui District Council venues.

Through their "Waste Warrior" initiative they aim to educate hirers and spectators at Cooks Gardens on the importance of recycling and demonstrate the proper use of recycling stations around the grounds.

Council Venues & Events Co-ordinator, Maria Cording, says, "As one of the Council's biggest and busiest outdoor venues, we aim to help patrons use the recycling bins to reduce the amount of waste going straight to landfill."

This winter they teamed up with the Council's Waste Advisor, Stu Hylton, and Wanganui Rugby to use the Heartland Rugby games as pilot events.

Maria Cording says she had the help of a fantastic group of nine volunteers from Whanganui Girls' College – made up of international and local students – to help out at the games.



Whanganui District Council Venues & Events Co-ordinator, Maria Cording (far left), and Whanganui Girls' College Waste Warrior volunteers

The girls were supplied with Waste Warrior vests, gloves and compostable rubbish bags, and were highly visible as they wandered among the crowd either collecting rubbish or demonstrating the use of recycling bins at the grounds.

The initiative will be rolled out to other Council venues in the near future.

UAE over the sands of time



Dr Robert Pech PhD, a New Zealander with 13 years' experience in the United Arab Emirates, will present his *The United Arab Emirates - Is it Utopia in the Desert?* talk about the desert state at Sarjeant on the Quay **this Sunday, 27 October 2019 at 4.30pm**. The presentation will look at the state's evolution over 50 years, from nomadic subsistence to being the world's most complete and wealthiest welfare state.

Dr Pech's address is part of the Speakers for the Sarjeant series of talks in support of the Sarjeant Gallery's Redevelopment Project. Tickets are \$12.00 – Gallery Friends and Stars \$10.00 – and are available from Sarjeant on the Quay or by calling (06) 349 0506.

Register for Household Hazardous Waste Day

Do you have old unwanted chemicals such as insecticides, batteries and solvents at home?

Whanganui District Council is running its first hazardous waste drop-off service – for households only – on **Saturday, 9 November 2019**.

Your hazardous waste must be registered and approved by the Council before the day to be accepted.

To register, fill in the form on the Household Hazardous Waste Day section of the Council's website: www.whanganui.govt.nz/Household-Hazardous-Waste-Day

After you've registered, you'll be contacted with a drop-off location and a time between 9.00am and 1.00pm on Saturday, 9 November.

Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a "first in, first served" basis. Only registered and approved waste will be accepted.



Labour Weekend hours

Council services and facilities

Whanganui District Council offices in Guyton Street and the Council's Infrastructure Office in St Hill Street will be **closed on Labour Day, Monday 28 October 2019** and will **reopen as usual at 8.00am on Tuesday, 29 October**.

For a full list of opening hours for Council facilities on the public holiday, please visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz

Swearing-in ceremony

Thursday, 31 October 2019

A swearing-in ceremony for the Mayor, Councillors and Whanganui Rural Community Board members will be held at the Royal Wanganui Opera House, 69 St Hill Street, on **Thursday, 31 October 2019 from 4.00pm**.

The ceremony will be open to the public and free to attend, and will also be livestreamed on the Council's Facebook page.

Titoki St planned works

Installation of stormwater pipeline

Work has begun to install a large new stormwater pipeline in Titoki Street as part of the Mosston Road stormwater upgrade. The pipeline will be installed from Titoki Street's Mosston Road intersection to outside 36 Titoki Street.

During the project, the affected area will be closed to through traffic and open to residential traffic only. Residents will have access to their properties at all times. The work is expected to take about eight weeks. Please follow all signposted detours and be aware that temporary speed limits will also be in place.

Rabbit and rat baiting

Rotokawau Virginia Lake

A rabbit and rat baiting operation is under way at Rotokawau Virginia Lake. Rabbit bait (Pindone) has been set at the top end of Virginia Lake, while rat bait (Pestoff) has been laid at the Great North Road end of Virginia Lake.

All baits are in approved stations, and the operation will be completed before the end-of-year school holidays.

Council meetings

You are welcome at our meetings

Meetings for October 2019		
Council Meeting	4.00pm Thursday 31 October	Royal Wanganui Opera House, 69 St Hill Street
Whanganui Rural Community Board	4.30pm Thursday 31 October	Royal Wanganui Opera House, 69 St Hill Street

Agendas are available at: www.whanganui.govt.nz/agendas or view hard copies at 101 Guyton Street or the Davis Library. Full Council meetings are livestreamed at:

- www.facebook.com/whanganuidistrictcouncil
- www.whanganui.govt.nz/live-council-meetings