



Whanganui District Council

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## On ya bike! Get involved in Bikewise

With our new shared pathways and the beautiful weather lately, Whanganui is a great place to celebrate Bikewise Month.

Bikewise is a series of events and fun activities run throughout February every year. It includes the Aotearoa Bike Challenge, a nationwide event which encourages people to log 10-minute cycle journeys online, compete with others and win prizes.

Norman Gruebsch, the Council's Active Transport Facilitator, says people can cycle anywhere they want at any time during February to participate in the Aotearoa Bike Challenge.

"You only need to ride for 10 minutes minimum to participate. If you haven't been on a bike for a while, it is a good amount of time to get started or rediscover cycling. If you are a seasoned rider you can log every ride, which gives you more opportunity to win prizes, including an e-bike.

"The challenge is mostly about using a bike to commute to work as an environmentally friendly way to get around which has health and fitness benefits."



The Council is one of the 1000+ organisations involved in the Challenge.

One of the participants is Philippa Ivory, General Manager of Whanganui and Partners, who has returned to Whanganui after living in Auckland, and has been using an e-bike to get around.

"I signed up to Bikewise to be a part of the Council's team and to have some fun.

"Whanganui is a lovely flat city and with the relaxed pace, great weather and an abundance of cycle tracks I planned to get a bike as soon as I moved here. The idea was to build exercise into my day, using the time I no longer spend sitting in traffic commuting on a bike. However, I quickly discovered that I am not yet very fit and we've bought a house at the top of a very steep hill, so I opted for an e-bike.

"My mother and I bought e-bikes and we have been cycling around town. At the weekend we went for a ride out to Castlecliff following the Mountains to Sea track, had lunch, then rode back. It was huge fun and thanks to the e-bike you don't have to worry about the wind direction or getting too tired.

"Currently I carpool to work with my husband and I ride home. Once I have got a bit fitter I will start cycling both ways," Ms Ivory says.

Visit [www.aotearoa.bike](http://www.aotearoa.bike) to register.

Bikewise Month includes events for people at all ages and stages and includes guided bike rides, a film night, champion cyclists, maintenance workshops and more.

Check out the events throughout February for Bikewise. All events are free unless specified. Some of the listed events above are weather dependent and may be subject to change. Visit [www.letsgowhanganui.org.nz/events/2018-02/](http://www.letsgowhanganui.org.nz/events/2018-02/) for more information.

### New Places to Ride

A guided ride of Whanganui's new urban shared pathways Friday, February 9 (5.30pm – 7.00pm). Meet at the Kererū sculpture near the i-SITE, Taupo Quay

### Rivercity Wheelrace Carnival

Come along to Cooks Gardens to see champion cyclists Saturday, February 10 (4.00pm). Adults \$5.00, kids free

### National go by Bike Day

Turn up on your bike in the morning for some free kai and a bike check, courtesy of Green Bikes. Wednesday, February 14 (7.00am – 9.00am). Cornmarket Reserve

### River Ride

Cycle the Four Bridges for 40-50 minutes. Newcomers welcome. Friday, February 16 (5.30pm – 7.00pm). Meet at the Union Boat Club, 1a Taupo Quay

### Twilight Ride

Celebrate our shared pathways with a bike cruise along the Awa, including stops and highlights along the way. Friday, February 23 (5.30pm – 7.30pm). Meet at i-SITE, Taupo Quay

### Frocks on Bikes

Dress up in your finest frock, suit or superhero costume and join in a fun-filled family friendly adventure around town. All wheels without engines are welcome. Sunday, February 25 (2.00pm – 4.00pm). Meet at the Ladies' Rest Building, 75 St Hill Street

### Bike Maintenance Workshop

Cost \$10.00 with a \$20.00 store credit voucher on the night. Book in store by Thursday, February 22. Monday, February 26 (5.00pm – 6.30pm) Velo Ronny's Bicycle Store, 49 Wilson Street

## New Youth Councillors wanted!

The Youth Committee is on the hunt for six new Youth Councillors. The Youth Committee represents Whanganui's young people, promotes opportunities for youth and advises the Council on youth interests.

One of the most recent achievements of the Youth Committee was Vibe, a music festival held in December 2017, attended by 500 people.

The Committee is looking for a variety of members who represent the youth of Whanganui and are passionate about making Whanganui a better place to live and grow up in.

Positions are open to all young people between the ages of 12 and 24. If you want to make a positive difference in Whanganui, we want you to apply.

Applications close at noon on Friday, February 19.

To apply, go to [www.whanganui.govt.nz/youthcommittee](http://www.whanganui.govt.nz/youthcommittee)

## Dublin Street Bridge temporary closure

### Saturday, February 10

The Dublin Street Bridge will be closed to all traffic from 6.00am to 5.00pm on Saturday, 10 February 2018 for programmed resurfacing works.

If bad weather prevents the work going ahead, it will be done on Sunday, 11 February 2018.

Minor repair work will continue this week, between approximately 7.00pm (depending on traffic) and 5.00am. A stop/go system will operate during this work.

Cyclist and pedestrian access will be available at all times. Thanks for your patience.

## Mosston Road closure

Mosston Road will be closed to all south-bound traffic (travelling towards Heads Road) between Heads Road and Hinau Street from 7.30am, Wednesday 7 February 2018 to 5.00pm, Friday 2 March 2018. The road will be closed to install a new stormwater pipe.

Mosston Road will remain open to all north-bound traffic (travelling towards Springvale).

Pedestrian and cycle access will be available at all times during the closure, although south-bound cyclists should dismount and use the footpath.

Detours will be in place. Please follow all traffic signs during the closure.

## Mobility and wheelchair fun day

If you use a mobility scooter or wheelchair, come along to the i-SITE, 31 Taupo Quay to meet others and share a free sausage sizzle. Supported by Safer Whanganui, the Mad Butcher and More FM 92.8.

For more information, please call Noelene on 027 758 0471. 1.30pm, Saturday, February 10.

## Council meetings

We welcome members of the public to attend our meetings.

<b>Statutory Management Committee</b>	9.00am, Monday, February 12	Council Chamber
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Submission hearings on the Development Contributions Policy

<b>Council meeting</b>	1.00pm, Tuesday, February 13	Council Chamber
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<b>Whanganui Rural Community Board</b>	3.30pm, Wednesday, February 14	Committee Room 2
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<b>Infrastructure and Special Projects Committee</b>	1.00pm, Tuesday, February 20	Council Chamber
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Agendas are available at the Customer Services Counter, Municipal Office Building, 101 Guyton Street and the District Library two working days prior to the meeting.

Our monthly Council meetings are live-streamed on [www.facebook.com/whanganuidistrictcouncil](http://www.facebook.com/whanganuidistrictcouncil)