

Community Link

Whanganui District Council

101 Guyton Street

PO Box 637, Whanganui 4500

06 349 0001

wdc@whanganui.govt.nz

www.whanganui.govt.nz

@whanganuidistrictcouncil

@WhanganuiDC

Council backs Sarjeant redevelopment



Whanganui District Council has thrown its weight behind a proposed \$34.9 million redevelopment of the historic Sarjeant Gallery to help secure \$16 million of Government funding that will get the project across the line.

Mayor Hamish McDouall says the conditional Government funding depends on specific fundraising targets being met by 20 December 2017, resulting in the Council's decision to act as a guarantor for \$3.9 million dollars that has yet to be raised.

"The Sarjeant Gallery Trust has raised ninety percent of the required funding to date which is an outstanding achievement.

"Our confident expectation is that the remainder will be achieved through fundraising and that in the final analysis, this amount will not be required at all from the Council."

He says the decision is not expected to have any immediate financial impact for the Council and no funding will be sought for the redevelopment project as part of the 2018-2028 Long Term Plan process.

"The redevelopment of the Sarjeant Gallery has the potential to bring millions of dollars into our local economy."

Mayor McDouall says the national significance of the gallery and its remarkable and extensive collection has already attracted cash and pledges from outside the region of around \$20 million – including the conditional Government funding.

"I am delighted our Council has reached this decision. It sends a strong message that we are invested in growth and development for Whanganui."

Trust chairman Nicola Williams says the endorsement from the Council is vital in helping ensure the preservation of a heritage building and a nationally significant collection that includes works spanning 400 years of international and New Zealand art history.

"I believe this is a forward thinking move from a progressive and positive council and we are now entering a new and exciting phase of our capital raising plan.

"The Sarjeant Gallery is an extraordinary and valuable asset for Whanganui and it also occupies an important place in New Zealand's national and regional arts infrastructure.

"Whanganui ratepayers can be absolutely assured that fundraising efforts will be continuing as we seek support from corporates and small business, individuals, philanthropists and charitable trusts around the country who share our passion for the gallery and the Sarjeant collection."

The Council has also adopted a procurement plan to engage a main contractor for the Sarjeant redevelopment. The plan includes a guaranteed maximum price contract which will ensure there are no cost escalations during the construction period.

What's on at the Museum The Samuel Drew Lecture

5.30pm, Friday 10 November 2017
Davis Theatre, Watt Street

Dr Kate McMillan (pictured), Senior Lecturer in the Political Science and International Relations Programme at Wellington's Victoria University, will speak on the topic: 'Where people settle, legends unfold: Immigration and electoral politics in Aotearoa/New Zealand'.



Dr McMillan will explore how recent migrations have affected voter turnout and partisanship, party policies and campaigning and how election rhetoric about immigration has shaped the

stories New Zealanders tell themselves about who we are when we go to the polls.

While historically migration to New Zealand came from the United Kingdom, this is now changing with the majority of migrants arriving from China and India, with Filipinos the fastest growing immigrant community.

The 2017 Samuel Drew Lecture commemorates the Museum's founder, who arrived in New Zealand in 1860.

Free entry, koha welcome.

Pest control

Aramoho Cemetery

Bait stations have been placed at Aramoho Cemetery this week to manage pests. A pest management company will lay the bait stations, which will contain Pindone pellets for rabbit control.

The bait stations will be removed on Friday 15 December 2017. Signs will be placed at entrances to the cemetery while the stations are in place.

For enquiries, please email Parks Officer Dave Kerwin at dave.kerwin@whanganui.govt.nz or phone 349 3078.

St John's Hill walkways

Have your say

We are considering permanently closing Smart Terrace and Burnett Terrace walkways and doing repair work on Alexa Place walkway, which is currently closed. We want you to tell us what you think.

An assessment conducted in 2016 found that Smart Terrace, Burnett Terrace and Alexa Place walkways had low usage amongst residents. The unstable hillside location of the walkways could also mean significant maintained costs to repair slips.

Closing Smart Terrace and Burnett Terrace leaves a number of alternative walkway options to get to and from St John's Hill.

Households near the walkways will be directly contacted via letter. Signs will be placed at the entrances to all three walkways to let users know how they can have their say.

You can also find out more and view a map at www.whanganui.govt.nz/haveyoursay or collect a feedback form from the Municipal Building, 101 Guyton Street and the Whanganui District Libraries.

Council meetings

We welcome members of the public to attend our meetings.

Youth Committee	4.00pm, Monday, November 13	Council Chamber
Statutory Management Committee	9.00am, Tuesday, November 14	Council Chamber
	Hearing of submissions on the Proposed Easter Sunday Trading Policy and the Proposed Gambling Venues Policy	
	This meeting will reconvene on Tuesday, November 21	
Audit and Risk Committee	1.00pm, Monday, November 20	Committee Room 2
Property and Community Services Committee	1.00pm, Wednesday, November 22	Council Chamber
Statutory Management Committee	9.00am, Thursday, November 23	Council Chamber
	Review of the Proposed Parking Bylaw and Management Plan	
Strategy and Finance Committee	1.00pm, Tuesday, November 28	Council Chamber

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.

Pensioner housing units available

\$105.00/week
for one person

\$132.00/week
for couples

For information or to download an application form visit our website

www.whanganui.govt.nz

Our District > Facilities > Pensioner Housing

Or contact Carly Barton, Whanganui District Council Property Group, phone (06) 349 3183 or email carly.barton@whanganui.govt.nz

