

# Community Link

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## Love Whanganui? Vote!

Voting in this year's local elections closes at **12 noon this Saturday, 12 October 2019**.

It is now too late to return your voting papers by mail. If you wish to vote and haven't yet done so, Whanganui District Council has ballot box facilities available to accept votes at Council Customer Services, 101 Guyton Street.

If you are not already on the electoral roll, or if your voting papers have been lost or damaged, you can cast a special vote.

Anyone wanting to cast a special vote needs to come into Council Customer Services, 101 Guyton Street, to cast their vote in person by Friday, 11 October 2019 at the latest (the day before polling day).

The Council's ballot box facilities at 101 Guyton Street, will also be available to accept voting papers on polling day **this Saturday, 12 October 2019 from 9.00am to 12 noon**.

Official results for this year's local elections, including all valid ordinary and special votes, will be declared between Thursday, 17 October and Wednesday, 23 October 2019 or as soon as practicable.

## Get ready to ShakeOut Earthquake-tsunami drill next week

ShakeOut is the annual New Zealand-wide earthquake drill and tsunami hikoi (evacuation). This year's official event takes place next **Thursday, 17 October 2019 at 1.30pm**, and is intended to remind and educate people about the right action to take in the event of an earthquake and tsunami.

Whanganui District Council's Emergency Management team will be out and about at schools around Whanganui during the week of ShakeOut to get the 'Drop, Cover and Hold' and 'Long or Strong, Get Gone' earthquake and tsunami messages out to tamariki and beyond.

To sign-up for ShakeOut 2019 and for more information, visit: [www.shakeout.govt.nz](http://www.shakeout.govt.nz)

## Iwi Accord group leads the way with beach plantings

Iwi Accord members, together with Sustainable Whanganui, planted 800 sand-binding pingao and spinifex coastal plants on the fore dunes of South Beach near Kaitoke River on Sunday, 22 September 2019.

Helping with the initiative was Chris Shenton of Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa – with hapu support from Ngāti Rangiwahakaturia me Ngā Uri o Taitapu and the Department of Conservation – who also planted the same amount of both coastal plant species at Motu Karaka on Pauri Domain Road in Kaitoke.

The Iwi Accord Te Matapihi ki Tangaroa is a partnership between Te Rūnanga o Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa, Te Kāhui o Rauru, Te Rūnanga o Tupoho, Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui and Whanganui District Council that shares the common goal of protecting and conserving Whanganui District's coastal and marine environments. This is the first project conducted by the Iwi Accord Te Matapihi ki Tangaroa – further plantings are planned for the future.



Naani Waitai of Te Kāhui o Rauru and granddaughter Raheera-Ocean Hawira lent a hand to plant pingao and spinifex at South Beach last month as part of an Iwi Accord Te Matapihi ki Tangaroa project

## Council Public Art Fund Applications close 11 November 2019

Whanganui District Council's Public Art Fund is now open for applications. This fund is designed to support the delivery of innovative and exciting public art in Whanganui.

All applications for the Council's Public Art Fund must be submitted by **12 noon on Monday, 11 November 2019**.

For more information on the match fund including the type of projects funded, and to download an application form in Word or PDF format, please visit: [www.whanganui.govt.nz/funding](http://www.whanganui.govt.nz/funding)

## Rabbit and rat baiting

### Rotokawau Virginia Lake

A rabbit and rat baiting operation will begin at Rotokawau Virginia Lake on **Monday, 14 October 2019**.

Rabbit bait (Pindone) will be positioned at the top end of Virginia Lake, while rat bait (Pestoff) will be set at the Great North Road end of Virginia Lake.

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

## Harper St tree removals

### Road repairs needed due to ponding

Two trees will be removed in Harper Street over the next fortnight to allow for roading repairs.

Infrastructure work to resolve significant water ponding on the roadway and along the kerb and channelling in the worst-affected area of Harper Street near the Abbot Street entrance will begin after the trees' removal.

## Alexa Pl walkway

### Temporary closure ends this week

Alexa Place walkway, from Alexa Place to Halswell Street, has been closed for two weeks while overhead power cables are moved underground and walkway lighting is improved.

The temporary closure is from **8.00am-5.00pm, Monday to Friday, until this Friday, 11 October 2019**. Signs are in place and the walkway will reopen earlier if work is completed before Friday, 11 October.

## Musicians for the Sarjeant

Musicians for the Sarjeant is hosting a concert featuring noted performers Deborah Wai Kapohe (pictured), Donald Trott and Ingrid Culliford at Frank Bar + Eatery, 98 Victoria Avenue, on **Sunday, 13 October 2019 at 4.30pm**. The concert's focus will be on easy listening, with waiata from Inia Te Wiata's songbook and numbers from favourite musicals. Bar facilities will be available from 4.00pm-4.30pm and during the interval.



Tickets cost \$20 – Gallery Friends and Stars \$15 – and are available from Sarjeant on the Quay, 38 Taupō Quay, or by calling (06) 349 0506. This performance is part of a series under the banner of Musicians for the Sarjeant, a fundraising group in support of the Sarjeant Gallery's redevelopment.

## New-look Council website

If you've visited Whanganui District Council's website recently, you may have noticed it's had an upgrade. A new and improved site was launched on 3 October, 2019.

Council Online Communications Officer, Joe Salmon, says, "We now have a website developed specifically for local government that will better meet the online needs and expectations of our community."

Visit the website at [www.whanganui.govt.nz](http://www.whanganui.govt.nz)

## WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

Whanganui District Council invites you to have your say on the following topic:

### • Climate Change Discussion

The first stage of consultation closes on Thursday, 10 October 2019.

For more information, please visit: [www.whanganui.govt.nz/haveyoursay](http://www.whanganui.govt.nz/haveyoursay)



GET READY TO ShakeOut™

OCTOBER 17TH 1.30PM

NATIONAL EARTHQUAKE DRILL AND TSUNAMI HIKOI

SIGN UP TODAY [SHAKEOUT.GOV.TZ](http://SHAKEOUT.GOV.TZ)