

Hot Wire



Newsletter of the Whanganui Rural Community Board

Invitation to all Māori landowners to attend Whenua Māori Summit 2021



Te Manu Atātū

Whanganui Māori Business Network

A free one-day event for Māori landowners to network and discuss challenges and opportunities with crown agencies is being held in Whanganui on Wednesday, 18 August 2021.

Taking place at the Whanganui Racecourse's Function Centre in Purnell Street, the Whenua Māori Summit is being hosted by Te Manu Atātū, Whanganui's Māori Business Network in partnership with Whanganui & Partners, Whanganui District Council's local economic development agency.

The summit is for iwi, hapū and whānau landowners to connect with Government agencies and support streams available for developing, facilitating and accelerating land use. It also offers whānau insight from iwi and innovators who have navigated the challenges and opportunities of setting up structures, supply chains, diversification and growing assets.

Divided into three parts, the summit will be of particular interest to those with small land blocks and lifestyle blocks.

The first part of the day-long summit will have presentations from Te Puni Kokiri, Te Kooti Whenua Māori (Māori Land Court), Te Tumu Paeroa and the Ministry for Primary Industries. These organisations will provide information about their work and the support available.

The second part of the summit will focus on learning and networking, with local iwi sharing experiences of land acquisition, development, diversification and regulation. The final part of the day is for sharing and connecting.

Registrations are essential – to register, please visit Te Manu Atātū's website at: www.temanuatatu.co.nz/events and look for **Whenua Māori Summit 2021** or call Kat Wade, Te Manu Atātū's business growth co-ordinator, on 021 032 7070.

WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS

Whanganui District Council is asking for feedback from the Whanganui rural community on several topics now open for consultation – details at: www.whanganui.govt.nz/have-your-say You can also email your thoughts to: policy submissions@whanganui.govt.nz



Proposed freedom camping bylaw

The council's proposed bylaw would limit the number of nights freedom campers can stay in several places, limit the number of vehicles that can be freedom camping at any one time in a given area and restrict camping to certified self-contained vehicles where appropriate.

Submissions close at **5.00pm on Sunday, 5 September 2021.**

Draft Heritage Strategy

Community feedback is wanted on the council's draft 10-year heritage strategy, which has been written with community and stakeholder input. Council heritage advisor, Scott Flutey, says the strategy sets a vision for Whanganui as a district that values, protects and promotes its historic heritage.

"This document is relevant to us all because well-managed heritage informs a sense of place and contributes to wellbeing. It's vital we create the strategy together to set a vision for Whanganui as a district that values, protects and promotes its historic heritage, and to map the action we are going to take to achieve Whanganui's heritage goals over the next decade."

Submissions close at **5.00pm on Sunday, 12 September 2021.**

New rubbish bag stickers for rural residents

Whanganui rural residents can expect just one significant change to the district's rural rubbish collection following Whanganui District Council's recent review of existing contracts and levels of service.

Rubbish collection from outer rural area bin sites will continue as usual. The change applies to the type of sticker used for rubbish bag collection within our district's inner rural areas. **Low Cost Bins** is continuing the bag collection service as of **1 August 2021** with their **white stickers** (as shown), which are available from local supermarkets and dairies. Waste Management's green stickers previously used for inner rural area bag collection have now expired.

For inner rural areas on the existing bag collection routes, place your rubbish bags out as before but please remember to use a white sticker. The same applies for pick-ups at rubbish bag collection points. All refuse must be bagged up, have a white sticker attached and comply with the conditions shown on the sticker.



Please keep in mind that rubbish bags displaying white stickers need to be placed on kerbsides or at bag collection points in the inner rural area no later than 7.00am on the day of collection to ensure pick-up.

► **MORE DETAILS:** www.whanganui.govt.nz/rural-rubbish

Online library services – read all about it!

Calling all rural readers! Whanganui District Library's range of online digital services continues to grow with the streaming of movies and documentaries, digital access to newspapers and magazines, Haynes online manuals and other digital resources.

If you're a member of the district library already then you're good to go for online access. All you need is your library card number and the password you created when you activated your card to login to the various online library services. Online district library services available to the entire Whanganui district include:

Kanopy

District library cardholders have free access to thousands of award-winning, independent and classic films and documentaries via the Kanopy on-demand streaming video service. Stream these films anytime, anywhere on the device of your choice.

ePukapuka (Overdrive)

ePukapuka (also known as Overdrive) is a free digital media library that uses the Libby app. It allows you to enjoy eBook and eAudiobook collections containing thousands of fiction and non-fiction titles for adults, young adults and children. It also has hundreds of magazines that are immediately accessible.

PressReader

PressReader provides interactive digital access to more than 6000 of the world's best newspapers and magazines. Just like reading a print edition, viewers can browse articles and other key elements including pictures, advertisements, classifieds and notices.

LinkedIn Learning for libraries

Choose from thousands of online courses to learn in-demand skills from real-world industry experts with LinkedIn Learning. Get started with your library card.



Haynes online manuals

Haynes Publishing is the home of car, motorcycle, scooter and ATV manuals, as well as a range of other specialist topics in print and digital formats. Use your library membership to access hundreds of online manuals and get expert repair guidance from Haynes.

Other library services for rural residents

As well as mobile library services that cover rural schools and the wider Whanganui district – courtesy of two brand-new vans, Tahī and Rua – the district library also offers a FREE home delivery service for requested books if you're homebound because of mobility issues, a recent operation or the like.

If you're interested in this service, call the library to discuss your situation – contact Candy Stevens on 06 349 3203. You may also have a family member or neighbour who could drop requested books off to you as part of this service. (The library home service was started with a generous donation from the Josephine Duncan Bequest.)

► **ACCESS TO ONLINE DISTRICT LIBRARY SERVICES:**
www.whanganuilibrary.com/index.php/what-we-offer/ebooks

Whanganui all set for Kellogg rural leaders



 **Whanganui & Partners' strategic lead for agribusiness Colleen Sheldon says the opportunity to develop champions in the agrifood sector through having the Kellogg Rural Leadership Programme on our back doorstep will build a strong foundation for the future.**

A partnership between Whanganui & Partners and the New Zealand Rural Leaders Trust will see the Kellogg Rural Leadership Programme held in Whanganui in May 2022.

Participants in the Kellogg Rural Leadership Programme come from a mix of farmers, growers, producers and agribusiness professionals.

The programme exposes them to industry, strategic leaders and influencers, which allow a deep dive into how the community of rural practitioners come together.

Kellogg is designed to grow effective leadership through learning how to apply design tools and critical thinking to various situational contexts. The programme will also help develop strategies focused on challenges in the New Zealand agrifood sector.

The six-month course consists of 18 days of programmed content delivered in three residential-based phases, with the first and third workshop being held in Whanganui.

"The six-month course consists of 18 days of programmed content delivered in three residential-based phases."

For those in the Whanganui district considering the course, benefits can include less travelling and time spent away from family and business commitments, along with the chance to connect and network with like-minded participants from the wider region and around the country.

Farmers and growers in business are advised to register early with the Regional Business Partner Network to assess funding eligibility – go to: www.regionalbusinesspartners.co.nz

The programme has run in New Zealand since 1979 and there is a national alumni of more than 1000 Kellogg graduates. For more information, go to: ruralleaders.co.nz/kellogg Applications for the Kellogg Rural Leadership Programme opened on 2 August 2021.

Whanganui entrepreneurs in to win \$10K at Innovate event in September

The **Innovate Whanganui** event is a *Dragons' Den* style competition for local up-and-coming entrepreneurs to prove they have the innovative nous to succeed.

Whanganui & Partners has brought the competition to Whanganui in collaboration with The Factory in Palmerston North.

After an entry assessment and initial round of pitches, where 20 competitors made their cases for support, the Innovate Top 7 has been selected and are now in an accelerator programme preparing their business cases.

These innovators have been allocated seed funding and matched with mentors in advance of the **Innovate Whanganui** awards night on **Thursday, 2 September** when they'll have their final chance to pitch to competition judges. The winner will receive \$10,000 and if impressive enough, will have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to pitch to the MIG Angels, Manawatū's angel group community.



For more information about **Innovate Whanganui** and tickets to the awards night, go to: www.innovatewhanganui.kiwi

Whanganui & Partners public forum on 31 August

Whanganui & Partners will hold its next public forum from **5.30pm on Tuesday, 31 August** at The Treasury, 98 Victoria Avenue. The forum is an opportunity for the community to receive an update on the state of Whanganui's economy and hear what economic development arm of Whanganui District Council has been working on.

Whanganui & Partners prioritises the rural sector as one of the district's three best performing sectors and believes supporting agriculture to be an essential component to local economic growth. The forum will be an opportunity to speak with the agency's dedicated strategic lead – agribusiness, Colleen Sheldon, and meet with others who are working towards ensuring the Whanganui district's economy is robust and resilient.

BOARD ROUND-UP

The Rural Community Board met with Whanganui MP Steph Lewis and local Horizons councillor Nicola Patrick at their meeting on 7 July. The discussion focused on several pressing issues including roading and housing.

Rural roads

On behalf of the board, Whanganui subdivision representative Peter Oskam asked MP Steph Lewis about funding for rural roads in the Whanganui district. Speaking with the board via a video link from Wellington, Steph Lewis said she believed there had been an increase in available funding. Whanganui District Council's senior roading engineer Brent Holmes said the council had been advised of an indicative shortfall from the requested 18 percent increase over the previous 2018-21 allocation period – Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency has proposed to reduce this request to a 6 percent increase for the 2021-24 allocation period.

The 18 percent increase had been requested to maintain current levels of service due to the rising expense of materials, fuel, labour, and compliance costs, increased traffic management regulations and imposed climate change resilience requirements over the 2021-24 term. Deputy Rural Community Board chair David Wells said the proposed reduction would equate to a \$4 million shortfall in local roading maintenance and operations. Whanganui District Council board representative Cr Charlie Anderson emphasised that the Whanganui rural community was not asking for new roads, just maintenance of the existing road network. Steph Lewis confirmed her continuing lobbying and advocacy for the district's rural roads.

Rural housing

When asked about the state of rural housing in the Whanganui district by board member Peter Oskam, Steph Lewis said the Government had extended the Warmer Kiwi Homes initiative so that homeowners could apply for an 80 percent subsidy towards the cost of insulating their home and installing quality heating (find details on energy efficient homes at: www.eeca.govt.nz). Steph Lewis also said there was \$3.8 billion available to councils around the country to support the installation of infrastructure for housing development. A separate pool of money is also available from central government for iwi to develop and build housing on Māori-owned land, Steph Lewis said.

Public transport in rural areas

Board member Peter Oskam asked Whanganui Horizons Regional Councillor Nicola Patrick if any public transport initiatives were planned for the Whanganui River Road as well as other rural areas in the district. Nicola Patrick said talks had begun with Whanganui District Council on this issue. Nicola Patrick also commented that public transport was a targeted rate – Whanganui landowners pay less than landowners in Palmerston North and rural landowners pay less again.

► **FULL MEETING MINUTES:** www.whanganui.govt.nz/agendas



The Whanganui Rural Community Board met with Whanganui MP Steph Lewis (left) and Horizons Regional Councillor Nicola Patrick at the board's 7 July meeting

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