

Community Link

Whanganui District Council

101 Guyton Street

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Party time for Lights on Bikes 2021!

A street party to celebrate the new Drews Avenue streetscape will be part of this year's Lights on Bikes parade on **Friday, 25 June 2021**.

The combined Lights on Bikes and Drews Street Party event is free and open to all ages. Lights on Bikes participants are asked to gather at the corner of Drews Avenue and Rutland Street at 6.00pm on the day, with the parade leaving at about 6.30pm. Live music will start in Drews Avenue from about 7.00pm and there will also be food trucks, face painting and entertainment.

Town Centre Regeneration project manager, Ellen Young – who has worked with community stakeholders, designers and artists to develop a plan for the area – says the Drews Avenue changes will make the location even more of an arts and hospitality destination. “Working together with the community, we have come up with some clever and quirky ideas for Drews Avenue and these will be installed over the next few weeks ahead of the celebration event.”

One of the people hard at work on the new streetscape is Wellington sculptor Kim Beaton, who is working to produce a giant marble run that will be positioned near the corner of Drews Avenue and Ridgway Street.



Sculptor Kim Beaton is making a giant marble run that will be located near the corner of Drews Avenue and Ridgway Street as part of the new streetscaping project in Drews Avenue

Kim Beaton, who has been a sculptor for 30 years and worked at Weta Workshop, says that when she got together with the council's Town Centre Regeneration team “there was a real electricity in the air because we're working on something unprecedented – this hits that rare sweet spot between public art, entertainment and city beautification”.

Ninety percent of the Drews Avenue project is funded by central government's Innovating Streets fund. Community feedback on the changes to Drews Avenue will be gathered over a year to assess whether they should be removed, changed or made permanent.

It's the dawning of a new era for the Durie Hill elevator

The Durie Hill elevator resumed normal service on Monday, 31 May 2021 after being closed since mid-February for maintenance work and to allow a new entranceway to be built. The elevator was blessed by iwi early on Monday morning before a group of supporters.

The elevator will operate its usual hours – 8.00am-6.00pm on Monday to Friday, and 10.00am-5.00pm on Saturday, Sunday and public holidays. The cost is also still the same for a single journey – \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children under 16. At the moment payment is cash-only, but eftpos facilities will be available soon.

The reopening also marked the first time in 50 years that the elevator would operate with a new contractor. The new contractor is Whanganui Connection, headed by local public transport advocate Anthonie Tonnon.



Former Durie Hill elevator operators, from left, Zena Mabbott and Raewyn Tangaroa with new operator Anthonie Tonnon of Whanganui Connection

Whanganui District Council's group manager customer services, Marianne Cavanagh, acknowledged former lift operator Zena Mabbott and her family for their commitment and work over the past five decades.

Stay in the know with the Antenno mobile phone app

Antenno is Whanganui District Council's new mobile app that lets you receive alerts about places and topics important to you. Antenno also provides a useful way for people elsewhere in New Zealand to keep up-to-date with information about places and topics in Whanganui.

The Antenno app is available for both Apple and Android smartphones and can be downloaded for free from the App Store or Google Play. For more information, please visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/antenno



Queen's Birthday hours

Council services for Monday, 7 June

Whanganui District Council offices will be closed for the Queen's Birthday public holiday next **Monday, 7 June 2021**.

Customer services at 101 Guyton Street will reopen at 8.30am on Tuesday, 8 June. You can still contact the council at any time on 06 349 0001 – this number is monitored 24/7, including for urgent enquiries. For a full list of opening hours for council facilities and services on Queen's Birthday, 7 June, visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/queens-birthday-2021

Dog registration fees

10% discount applies before 31 July

Whanganui District Council is about to issue dog registration notices to all dog owners. Pay your fees on or by **Saturday, 31 July 2021** to qualify for a prompt payment discount of 10 percent.

The council is also introducing new responsible dog owner criteria from 31 July 2021.

If you're a current responsible dog owner and pay your dog registration fees by 31 July, your responsible dog owner status will continue and you'll qualify for the annual dog registration discount.

Any dog owner without responsible dog owner status after 31 July will need to meet updated guidelines under the council's new Dog Control Policy 2021.

Pay your dog registration fees by visiting: www.whanganui.govt.nz/pay-dog-registration

Rabbit baiting

Rotokawau Virginia Lake

Rabbit bait (Pindone) will be placed in approved bait stations at the Virginia Road end of Rotokawau Virginia Lake from **Tuesday, 8 June until Friday, 9 July 2021**.

The bait stations will be removed before the start of school holidays. Signs will be in place at nearby lake entrances during this work.

Historic rates records

Database resource available online

Calling all local researchers and historians! Whanganui District Council has added an historic rates records database to its website as an online resource. For enquiries and comments, please call the council's archivist, Simon Bloor, on 06 349 3056 or email: simon.bloor@whanganui.govt.nz

For more information, and to make a search of this database, please visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/historic-rates-records

Council meetings

Meeting this week

Audit and Risk Committee	1.00pm Thursday 3 June	Nagaizumi-cho Room, 101 Guyton Street
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Agendas: www.whanganui.govt.nz/agendas
Livestreamed council meetings:
www.facebook.com/whanganuidistrictcouncil
www.whanganui.govt.nz/live-council-meetings

IT'S DOG REGO TIME...

SNOOZE AND YOU LOSE!

Pay your dog registration by **SATURDAY, 31 JULY** and get a **10% DISCOUNT!**
Pay online at: www.whanganui.govt.nz/pay-dog-registration

