



52 Ingestre Street, Whanganui. Phone 345 3666 or 345 3655, email rivercitypress@xtra.co.nz

Sophi Reinholt has a close connection to Middle East conflict

BY DOUG DAVIDSON

Sophi Reinholt probably has a closer connection to and understanding of the Middle East, including the current Israel/Palestine issue, than most in Whanganui.

Her Kiwi grandfather was Deputy Director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), set up to assist displaced Palestinians caused by the frequent conflicts. Her Norwegian father also worked for UNRWA for 31 years in Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, the West Bank, Gaza, and Jerusalem. Sophi herself spent much of her childhood in Syria, the West Bank,

Jordan, and Jerusalem. Her husband and his family are also Jewish. Her mother, a kindergarten teacher, helped to establish four kindergartens in Palestinian refugee camps in Syria. She remembers when "She took me to a two-week long Summer Camp for orphaned Palestinian children. They worked on art projects and performances which helped them work through some of the trauma

they had experienced." "These children embraced me as one of their own, and the teachers embraced me as one of their students. They showed me resilience, courage, determination, ingenuity, and kindness, unlike anything I have encountered since." "These were my formative years. They set my moral compass. I became obsessed with politics. Kids can see injustice, especially when it is right in front of them."

Sophi and her husband, Mark Russell, came to live in Whanganui about two years ago. They have two children. Together, they make websites, do videography and graphic design work. Sophi says, "We love the community and consider ourselves lucky to be here." Sophi is horrified at the current conflict and points out that while the Israeli Government claims to be focused on hunting down Hamas operatives, less than 1% of those killed

in Gaza, according to Israeli figures, are those operatives. The rest of the 15,000 plus killed are civilians. She finds it hard to believe that Israel, which has one of the most sophisticated militaries in the world, does not have the capability not to bomb hospitals, refugee camps and even ambulances. While the situation in Gaza hits the headlines every day, what is happening in the other part of Palestinian land – the Israeli-occupied West Bank – is also a tragedy in the making, according to Sophi. "Since October 6, over 3,000 Palestinians in the West Bank have been rounded up with a current death toll of over 200. Palestinians here live under Israeli martial law and many of those put in prison are children as young as 13 convicted of throwing stones at the Israeli soldiers." The Israeli government has built a wall, over 700

km, encircling Palestinian territories, cutting through their neighbourhoods and "in parts is twice the height of the old Berlin Wall. All Palestinian areas are under constant surveillance, and their movements are controlled by the Israeli military. Palestinians can even be identified by their car number plates." Currently, over 700,000 Israeli settlers are living in the West Bank, settlements condemned by the International Court of Justice as being a "violation of International Law," and as their numbers grow, "Palestinians are again scared of being pushed out and never being able to return to their homeland," Sophi explains. "Israel has been dropping leaflets over the West Bank warning them to leave. There is no right of return." Sophi points out that "criticism of the Israel Government and its actions is not anti-Semitic. Just like criticism of the Myanmar government



Sophi Reinholt

is not anti-Buddhist and criticism of the Indian Government not being anti-Hindu." When the RCP met Sophi, she was wearing the traditional Palestinian keffiyeh, like a scarf that can cover the head and face, worn by both men and women. She explained: "The design includes olive leaves for the land, thick lines for the ancient trading routes, and fishing nets for the fishermen of the Mediterranean Sea. Palestinians welcome foreigners wearing it in solidarity. It is not seen as an appropriation."

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Check out what's in this week's RCP

Sophi Reinhold wrote to both us and the Whanganui Chronicle about what was happening in Gaza and the West Bank. We decided to meet with her and find out more. (See our front page) We decided to focus more on what is happening in the West Bank as this is being almost ignored. Sophi has the experience and the passion to make the article informed and challenging.

The Cancer Society's House of Travel's Longest Day of Golf is coming up early in the new year. It is for 36 holes, but Rodney Donaldson, Manager of the Castlecliff Golf Course, where the Longest Day will be happening, is planning along with his two brothers to try to achieve 150 holes a few weeks earlier. They sure love golf ... and fundraising (Page 16).

Congratulations to the Rev Shirley Spooner for her ordi-



Doug Davidson
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nation as the minister at St Paul's in the city. The Presbyterian Church doesn't make it easy, but Shirley remains her cheerful, positive self (page 17).

I've been convinced that boxing is a good form of fitness training and is great for confidence and mental health. (pages 19-21) Not that I would ever do it – but am trying to persuade grandson to give it a go.

- Doug Davidson

Heritage Blue Plaques awarded at Bushy Park and Whanganui's first public museum

The CEO of Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, officially unveiled two plaques on 2 December.

The first plaque was to a large gathering of Bushy Park Tarapurui Forest Trust members, Whanganui Regional Heritage Trust members and MP Carl Bates. The homestead, built in 1906 for Frank Moore, a well-known Hereford cattle and racehorse breeder, was designed by the architect Charles Tilleard Natusch. It is a Category 1 Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga listed building.

Upon Moore's death in 1962, the home and 220 acres of surrounding bush were gifted to Forest and Bird. In 1995, management of the site was handed to Bushy Park Homestead and Forest Trust. The homestead is leased out to Dale Pullen and provides accommodation, meals and function rooms. An environmental education centre was established in the stables and a predator-free fence has been added

to protect the bird life. Volunteers continue to provide support for the site, and the forest is flourishing.

The second unveiling was at Whanganui's first public museum, now known as the Whanganui's Musicians Club and previously the Savage Club. Built in 1893, 130 years ago, this is the second oldest "civic" building in Whanganui and was built as the 'Whanganui Public Museum' to house the collection developed by Samuel Drew, a well-known local watchmaker and jeweller who had a keen interest in natural history and who had been making his collection available at his family premises.

By 1891 there was growing interest in establishing a Museum in Whanganui, and in 1892 a Museum Committee was formed, and Drew's collection was purchased by the Borough Council for £600.

The plaques are a local project adopted by the Whanganui Regional Heritage Trust as part of a national initiative by Historic Places Aotearoa (HPA), which is a national heritage advocate for independent heritage groups.

Heritage Trustee Helen Craig has led the local Blue Plaques project, working closely with Trustee Ann McNamara to deliver the plaques.



1906 Bushy Park Tarapurui with its blue Heritage plaque.

Acting Heritage Trust Chair Mary-Ann Ewing is grateful for all the support from donors and grants that support the Trust's activities, and membership information can be found at www.whanganuiheritagetrust.govt.nz.

Ten plaques have now been unveiled in the Whanganui region. A dedicated website provides more historical details and images along with links to more information. The website was built here in Whanganui by Kiwiwebs and

forms a national trail with 31 plaques featured and many more to come. www.blueplaques.nz

Anyone wanting more information or would like to discuss a plaque for their building should contact Ann McNamara on 021 242 4535.



1893 Whanganui's first public museum gets a Heritage blue plaque

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Road safety improvements for Guyton Street



All Saints Church in the shopping area of Whanganui East is the place to go on Saturday, 16 December.

First up is the 'Librarian's Nightmare' exhibition in the Church Hall. There will be examples from a series of workshops on what you can do with a book after you've read it and you don't want to keep it. The ideas and results range from the simple to the complex.

You can have a say in judging the best example, for which there is a gift prize. It is open from 11am to 3pm.

Making alternative use of books is a result of finding something positive to do with the unsold books from the annual Rotary Monster Book Sale. Rotary collaborated with Esther Topfer to organise workshops to create artworks from books. Support and assistance from the Council's Creative Communities funding and Community Education Whanganui resulted in the exhibition at All Saints.

Please drop off your creations for display, made at the workshops or at home, between 10 and 11am.

There is a steady supply of books available for creative activities, and we would love to hear of

other possible uses and finds for these books and magazines.

At the same time, in the hall, there is a Rotary Drop-In Book sale – great for last-minute gifts. Sport will be the non-fiction category, but there are also a few children's, gardening, cooking and biographies available.

But wait, there's more. Next door in All Saints Church, there is an Anglican Garage Sale. Move freely between the two venues – you are sure to

find some amazing bargains and just the right thing for the stocking fillers!

Activities will begin at 10am and continue until around 3pm.

Watch out for the signs for more details. All Saints is the place to be on Saturday, December 16!

Example of a heart design. Unfortunately it was lent to the workshop for display, and has gone missing. Please drop in into the exhibition, so that it can be returned.



An example of creative book art

Road safety improvements are on the way for central Guyton Street as part of Whanganui District Council's Waka Kotahi-funded 'Streets for People' project – with new road features expected to be installed in early December before urban design work is carried out in early 2024. The new look Guyton Street will have seating, greenery, lighting and street art reflecting Whanganui's history and culture.

The council's general manager community property and places, Sarah O'Hagan, says it's great news that the first physical steps towards implementation of the project will be underway very soon.

"In this first phase, the focus is on road layout changes to improve

Guyton/Ingestre Streets improvements planned

safety and reduce confusion for all road users."

The work is scheduled for 11 and 12 December (this may change based on weather forecasts) and will be carried out overnight to minimise the impact on businesses and road users.

The first phase of changes to central Guyton Street will include:

- a new roundabout on the intersection of Wicksteed and Guyton streets to improve safety and reduce vehicle confusion
- raised pedestrian platforms on each of block of central Guyton Street to help reduce vehicle speeds and improve safety and accessibility for pedestrians and wheelchair users
- re-marking parking spaces to ensure they are consistent in size (through this car park loss will be avoided, while still adding new streetscape features)
- redesigning the loading zones as mixed-use parking spaces so that they can operate as

general parking spaces at certain times of the day.

Sarah O'Hagan says businesses along Guyton Street have been advised about the upcoming changes, and for the most part have been very enthusiastic.

"Stakeholders along central Guyton Street have been advocating for safety improvements for a long time now, particularly for the Wicksteed Street intersection. So there's actually a lot excitement about the new roundabout which will make that intersection safer and less confusing. We've also heard a lot of positive feedback about the fact that our new road layout involves virtually no car park loss – despite the introduction of attractive new urban design features."

O'Hagan says there will be more changes in early 2024, with road resurfacing and the installation of new urban design features including seating, improved lighting, community art and new

green spaces.

"One of the key things about this project is it's a trial – and everything we install is designed to be semi-permanent and removable. So, if aspects of the new streetscape aren't quite working, or we receive community feedback saying we could make improvements with certain tweaks, we'll have the ability to make changes over the course of the trial."

The Guyton Street revitalisation project is 90 percent funded by Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency through its 'Streets for People' funding programme. The programme encourages councils to work with their local communities to trial streetscape improvements, enhance safety for pedestrians and cyclists, and make streets more inviting, people-friendly spaces to visit.

For more information, visit streetsforpeople.wanganui.govt.nz



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Harmony preserved: Historic grand piano loaned to Museum

By Karen Hughes
Christmas has come early for the Whanganui Regional Museum with the arrival of a grand piano made by the renowned German-American company, Steinway & Sons. The piano is on loan for one year from the New Zealand Opera School thanks to the generosity of Executive Chairman and Director of the school, Donald Trott, ONZM, JP.

The seven-foot Steinway Grand Piano was recently donated to the New Zealand Opera School by Mr Simon Rutherford of Parnell, in memory of his partner Dr Rosemary Jane Horrocks.

Donald Trott had known Rosemary Horrocks for many years. "Rosie was a doctor, and a great supporter of the arts. Not only visual arts, but particularly opera and ballet. I knew Rosie very well from my directorship of New Zealand Opera Company Ltd in Auckland. She was a wonderful woman and through her practice in Parnell, very highly regarded."

Simon Rutherford, a friend and associate of Donald's, also gifted a harp to the New Zealand Opera School. "Simon has been very supportive of the school in his own

particular way." A Model B 1896 edition, the Steinway grand piano has undergone full renovation before being transported directly from the South Island to the Museum, all facilitated by Donald Trott and Executive Assistant to the NZ Opera School, Debbie Macpherson. It is now situated in the Museum's atrium space.

"My whole motive is to enhance our artistic community. That's what the piano is there for."

"When you think about it now, we've got a Steinway grand piano in the Museum, we've got a Steinway grand piano on the stage of the Royal Whanganui Opera House, and Helen Collier's wonderful piano is being donated to the Sarjeant Gallery. At Whanganui Collegiate School, in the Big School, which is used a lot for events and concerts, they've got a full-size Steinway grand piano. We're quite well off."

At the Museum, the piano will feature in a performance by NZ Opera School students in January, when the school celebrates its 30-year anniversary. As well, it will be utilised for other

events and special occasions at the Museum. Outside of events, and during normal Museum opening hours, proficient players may request to play the piano.

"Whilst in my mind it was nice to have the piano in the museum for our concert, there will be so many others that will have the opportunity to use it. Even if they are not accomplished players – even if they want to play Chopsticks the piano won't mind."

Whanganui Regional Museum Pou Arahi/Director, Bronwyn Labrum said the loan was a generous offer from the NZ Opera School. "We're delighted to have the piano because it enables us to support the Opera School and host recitals. It also enables us to have other events that take advantage of the fantastic acoustics in the Museum atrium. We look forward to further collaborations with the NZ Opera School."

On Wednesday 10th January at 1pm, Aotearoa NZ Opera School students will perform a recital in the Museum, to celebrate 30 years of the NZ Opera School. The recital will include four singers, accompanied by Bruce Greenfield. Visit operaschool.org.nz for ticketing information.



Executive Chairman and Director of Aotearoa NZ Opera School, Donald Trott, ONZM, JP with the Steinway Grand Piano, in the Museum.
Image Credit: Karen Hughes/Whanganui Regional Museum

Golf results

Tawhero Golf
1st December 2023 Friday Twilight 9 Hole Ambrose: Team: The Lukes 30.6, Bay Kay 31.3, Downers 31.5.

2nd December 2023 Saturday 18/9 Haggie [Stableford] Robert Johnston 23, Matthew Te Patu 21, Leon Ashby 20.

5th December 2023 Tuesday Munroe Rose-bowl Round 3 [STABLE-FORD] **Men's Division 1:** Dave Johnston 18, Trevor Sammons 16. **Men's Division 2:** Bob McIntyre 11, John Deighton 9. **Women's Division 1:** Joan Shore 17, Rita Luke 17. **Women's Division 2:** Priscilla Fonseka 14, Jean Walsh 13.

Upcoming Events: November 2023 **Twilight 2 Person Team 9 Hole Ambrose Friday's Tee off** from 3.30pm -5.30pm. **Saturday's 9/18-hole \$5 Haggie Tee off** 7.30am-12.30pm.

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Above: Previous Jury Cup teams preparing to race



Left: Aramoho Whanganui Rowing Club surprised Dave Dudley with a boat named in his honour.

Dave's involvement in rowing goes back to when he started rowing at school before coaching at Aramoho when his daughters, Rylee and Ella, took up the sport. "Dave is an absolute rock star at the club and regattas - you can find him sorting boats and coaching school rowers. Nothing ever seems too hard! The impact he's had on many rowers is immeasurable. We appreciate everything you've done and continue to do at the club Dave, Colleen, Rylee and Ella."

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The Jury Cup Rowing Regatta is a historic rowing event, going back to 1919, when the owner of the Aramoho Hotel, Bill Jury, presented the cup on the condition that the regatta would always be run on the condition that the regatta would always be run on the 'Aramoho Course', which starts off from opposite Kells Ave and finishes just before the Railway bridge - virtually in front of Caroline's Boatshed, the successor to the Aramoho Hotel.

Gus Scott, Director of the event, says, "There will be nine clubs involved from the lower

half of the North Island, including those from Whanganui with a total of 386 competitors."

The programme this Saturday, 9 December, starts at 8am with races starting at 5 to 6 minute intervals and ending around 4 to 5pm. There will be over 50 races in different categories, for different ages and in different size boats. "Every rower will race three to four times," explains Gus.

It is a points regatta with 5, 3 and 1 points awarded to 1st to 3rd placings. All rowers represent their club, and

the points go towards the club total. The winner of the Jury Cup last year was Star Boating Club from Wellington, and they will be back to defend their title.

The races can be watched from the riverbank, and refreshments will be available at the canteen, coffee cart, and, of course - Caroline's Boat Shed.

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Whanganui Port progress

Connecting with Carl

- Carl Bates, MP for Whanganui -



As I write this, the 54th Parliament is about to come together for the first time for the Commission Opening. This is where every MP will be sworn in, and where a Speaker will be elected.

To be sworn in as an MP will be a moment of great personal and professional pride. Having been brought up in a family with a culture of service, becoming an MP is certainly an important way in which one can serve the needs of a large number of constituents.

By the time you read this, Parliament will have begun its business. Governor-General Dame Cindy Kiro will have presided over the State Opening of Parliament and read the Speech from the Throne, setting out the coalition Government's priorities for this term. And a reply to Her Excellency's speech, the Address in Reply Debate will have begun.

This debate will continue for a number of weeks, and during the course of it, more than 40 new MPs will make their maiden speeches. Some will happen in December, but many, including mine, will be delivered when Parliament resumes in the New Year. We have important work to do before Christmas as we start to deliver our 100 Day plan.

Of course, attendance at Parliament is only part of the role of an electorate MP. Since the General Election on 14 October there has been a myriad of activities to attend: two A&P shows, race meetings, school visits and prize givings, community organisations and ethnic communities to connect with, visits to businesses and social agencies and much more. And it's now Christmas Parade season; look out for me in Hawera and Whanganui this Saturday.

I have hosted my first school at Parliament; Ngaere School, from just south of Stratford. Any schools from Whanganui planning to include a visit to Parliament during trips to Wellington are welcome to contact me. It's a great learning experience for school children to see democracy in action, and even to sit in the public gallery if the House is in session.

There've also been practical issues to take care of. Office space has been secured in Whanganui and Hawera, and we're looking for a suitable space in Stratford. We plan to open the offices in February, after the summer recess. Staff have been employed on a short-term basis to assist in the transition, and we are in the process of making

longer-term appointments.

For now, however, Wellington will be the focus, with the House set to sit under urgency during the two weeks before Christmas to pass important legislation to get New Zealand back on track. These will include measures to ease the burden of the cost of living on families. That's what we said we would do, and with 49 actions to achieve in our first 100 days in government, there's no time to waste.

From my family to yours,

a very Merry Christmas, and all the best for 2024.

Carl will be writing a monthly article for the RCP for the first week of the month - apart from January. That will be on January 18, our first issue of the year.

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Te Pūwaha: Whanganui Port starting to take shape

The Te Pūwaha: Whanganui Port revitalisation project is making good progress and plans to move ahead with the rebuild of Wharf Two. However, since the initial funding agreement with the government for the Crown to co-fund \$31.8 million, "we have seen a significant increase in costs, especially in relation to steel and civil construction costs in general," says Whanganui Port Chair Mark Petersen.

He added that, "We've also seen an expansion in our scope of works, as we now recognise that the repair of the newest wharf is no longer feasible and instead rebuilding of the

wharf is required."

The Port's project partners welcome news of the new coalition government's focus on investment in regional infrastructure. All project partners are prepared that further funds will be required to complete the proposed works, and discussions with Kānoa (the Crown) is open to discuss the scope of Stage three once the construction is completed for Stages One and Two.

The Port redevelopment is important to the Whanganui region, and Te Pūwaha Project Director Hayden Turoa says it "will build a platform for unlocking further investment,

stimulate ongoing local economic development in Whanganui, draw in new businesses, and ensure the retention and attraction of high-value jobs."

The project team are starting the process of procurement of Stage Two works - the rebuilding of the wharf - and will also commence the sourcing of dredging equipment for the Port, which is important ahead of the peak summer season to accommodate vessels using the Wharf St boat ramp. Stage one is progressing to programme with the more significant tubular steel piling works expected to be completed on time ahead of the Christmas shutdown.



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Yaris Hatch ZR Hybrid

\$38,390TDP

The New Gen Yaris is full of surprises, and the Yaris Hatch Hybrid is no exception. The new 1.5-litre Hybrid engine delivers a combined fuel consumption of just 3.6L/100km* and CO₂ emissions of 84g/km*, making for a very happy driver at both the pump and behind the wheel. The self-charging electric motors capture energy from driving for an eco-friendly and surprisingly zippy drive. With a rebate of \$2,645.00 if registered before the end of this year.



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Irish charm returns to the Grand Irish Pub

Whanganui's only genuine Irish Pub has moved with the times under new ownership and completed much-needed renovations to coincide with the Whanganui District Council's \$1.25m revitalisation of central Guyton Street.

Former Aucklander Gagandeep (Gary) Singh, who has purchased the lease of the Grand Irish Pub (formerly Grand Irish Bar), has modernised the bar with new carpets, a re-vamped make-over of the servery, new pool tables and gaming machines, an extensive new security system, new distinctive beer taps and beer lines from the chiller rooms and the reinstatement of a full range of meals with the arrival of a new live-in experienced chef.

As the pub name indicates, the availability of

Irish tap ale – world-famous Guinness and Kilkenny – is a major drawcard for many patrons.

The Grand has a long-standing reputation in the city for providing world-famous Guinness and is now the only local supplier of draft tap Kilkenny.

Guinness, first brewed at Dublin's St. James Gate brewery 264 years ago in 1759, is now brewed in 49 countries and sold in more than 150, headed by the United Kingdom, Ireland, Nigeria, the USA and Cameroon.

The beer was brewed in Christchurch at the Canterbury Brewery until the 2011 earthquake struck and now comes from Auckland.

Kilkenny, which originated in the 1980's from Ireland's oldest brewery (St. Francis Abbey – Kilkenny – which closed in 2013), is

also brewed in Auckland.

Like Guinness, it has a nitrogenated head with a mixture of 70% nitrogen and 30% carbon dioxide. They have distinctive tastes – fuller bodied Guinness is like roasted barley and coffee and fewer hops; Kilkenny has hints of coffee and chocolate.

Smooth-tasting draught Guinness, at between 4.1 and 4.3 ABV (alcohol by volume), contains around 125 calories, lower than many other beers.

Both Irish beers now have their own distinctive logo emblem taps at the Grand Pub.

The hotel has a large range of New Zealand tap and canned beers and spirits.

The absence of food had affected trade, but with the arrival of Mamchand, a qualified overseas chef,

the Grand now provides an extensive new menu for luncheon and evening meals in the bar or dining room.

The hotel is now able to cater for private or company functions as well as casual dining and dining.

The introduction of a fortnightly Open Mic Acoustic Music Night, featuring local talent on Wednesday evenings, has attracted good attendance.

A change of gaming machine operators, to Pub Charity, will boost grants to local social and sporting organisations and clubs.

Gary Singh, who has moved to Whanganui with his family, has leased the Grand Irish Pub Bar, kitchen and dining room, and gaming and pool rooms from hotel owner Sunil Kumar, who retains the accommodation side of the

complex.

They run the hotel as entirely different companies with their own staff members.

Gary Singh is excited that the Guyton Street redesign project, which will add extra life to the Wicksteed Street and St. Hill Street blocks, is becoming a reality.

The Grand Irish Pub upgrade has seen a welcome return of patrons to the 97-year-old bar, which has been restored to its former glory in time for the fast-approaching Cemetery Circuit motorcycle races on Boxing Day, the popular Whanganui Vintage Weekend activities and the annual January international athletics meeting at Cooks Gardens.

- Supplied, J B Phillips

Historic horse race meeting memorable for O'Leary family

The family had a major hand in the two main races. Fiona and Humphrey O'Leary won the Steel-form Roofing Wanganui Cup with their mare Kelly Coe, and the O'Leary Family sponsored a race for three-year-old fillies, which is growing in stature.

Humphrey and Fiona certainly know the ups and downs of racing. Last month, they just missed a start in the Melbourne Cup with their stayer Ladies Man. Compensation came with the win by Kelly Coe on a day on which the jockey club celebrated 175 years of racing. Kelly Coe took her earnings past \$200,000 with her win on Saturday.

Humphrey O'Leary expressed pleasure with the day generally, particularly the effort the club had put into the meeting. He noted that Whanganui jockey Lisa Allpress had piloted Kelly Coe. Humphrey said Kelly Coe's next target would be the Manawatu Cup later this month.

Humphrey and Fiona previously won the Wanganui Cup in 2017 with Ladies First. Meanwhile, another bid by Ladies Man to race in the Melbourne Cup next year is "on the cards," Humphrey said.

Successful business staying under Whanganui ownership



From left: Sarah Bartley-Leguizamón, John Bartley, Sandra Eden, Michael Eden, Ann Bartley, Brendon Bartley and Angela Penaluna.

Bartley Group Holdings Ltd have acquired the GDM Group, which supplies store fixtures and retail systems to numerous national and international brands. It is based in Whanganui in a modern 7,000m2 factory and design hub. Staff based out of Brisbane supply fixtures across Australia.

Brendon Bartley, Managing Director of Bartley Group Holdings, says, "This acquisition just makes sense. We are a family-owned business, purchasing another Whanganui based family-owned business, and these synergies are important."

"GDM currently employs around 60 staff, so that is another 60 families in Whanganui that come under the Bartley Group banner, that means in total, we will be looking after 160-odd families." "What's more, acquiring GDM aligns perfectly with our Bartley Group roots, which are in manufacturing."

Over 35 years ago, Brendon's father, Rob, established Ali Arc Industries, manufacturing bull bars for vehicles.

The success of Ali Arc internationally has been the catalyst for what is now a portfolio of 17 businesses, which now sit under Bartley Group Holdings, including real estate, logistics, service providers and retail.

GDM celebrated 45 years in business on November 4, 2023. Michael Eden started as a one-man band and grew it into the company it is today.

For Brendon and the wider Bartley family, their vision is to continue the growth of GDM, creating a multi-generational business.

"GDM, under the direction of Michael, Sandra and their team, is an award-winning business with long-term, high-profile customers across New Zealand and Australia."

Over the coming months, Michael and Sandra Eden will continue in an advisory role for the Bartley Group to ensure a smooth handover of the business.

For GDM's customers and suppliers, Brendon is confident the handover will be seamless.

DISCOVER THE MAGIC OF AN AUTHENTIC IRISH PUB



The Grand Irish Pub, now under new ownership, has completed distinctive renovations including modernising the bar and provision of an extensive menu.

It is the only genuine Irish Bar in Whanganui with Guinness and Kilkenny tap ales featured in the extensive range of beers.

The Grand invites you to visit and experience a little Irish Magic during the festive season.



Cnr Guyton & St Hill St, Wanganui. Phone (06) 345 0955

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OPEN DAYS



Hue by Design - interior designs for the client's requirements and tastes

Bridget Francis has always been a creative person so she decided to study interior design at the Auckland Interior Design Institute. Her first job was on a 1904 villa she and her husband, Tom of Tom Francis

Building, bought in Marybank. "We worked as a team, and now I work on the tools one day a week, which really helps me to have a clear understanding of how things work before the beauty of interior. I

think it is important to understand the work that goes in from a structural and practical perspective," explains Bridget. The other important aspect of Bridget's approach to design is that she does not impose

her ideas on her clients. Instead, she designs for people who will occupy the space. "That usually involves talking, asking questions, research, site visits and more questions. It's about understanding the client's requirements, their timings and budget and sharing ideas."

It is also important to design furniture and décor "that not only looks good but serves a practical purpose in the space." Bridget loves looking at different design styles and experimenting with different layouts and colour schemes "to create a unique look that reflects my client's personal style."

She makes an important observation – "Spaces we inhabit have a significant impact on our wellbeing. I believe that a well-designed space can promote relaxation, productivity, and overall happiness."

Bridget is able to complete the whole project from first ideas to finished result, taking care of product design and sourcing, manufacture, delivery, and installation guidance. This applies whether the project is for a home, an organisation, or a business.

As she says, "The magic moment is when we complete your space, and you see everything together for the first time."

Contact Bridget via her website www.huebydesign.co.nz to read more about HUE by Design, her services, testimonials and to send a message.



Interior designer, Bridget Francis

LINKS - your first aid training specialist



Would you know what to do if someone was injured? Links Training currently offers levels of first aid training for individuals or workplaces. Businesses are welcome to attend their public classes, all of which are NZQA assessed. Public classes are run

at venues throughout the lower North Island, including Whanganui, Palmerston North, Levin, Kapiti, Masterton, and Wellington. The next Whanganui class is scheduled for Thursday, 15 February. This eight-hour class will enable individuals to have the

skills and confidence to assist during a medical emergency.

Knowing how critical it is for Electrical Workers to renew their compliance on time in order to continue to practice, Links also offers electrical compliance training.

The Electrical Workers Registration Board (EWRB) requires all electrical workers to ensure their ECT CPR/BFA is current at the time of their practising licence expiry date. This training consists of four hours of ECT training with two hours of CPR and basic first aid.

As an EWRB training provider, Links in conjunction with *Upstage Electrical Training, aspires to deliver as many training opportunities as possible to meet this requirement. The next EWRB Whanganui date is Wednesday 14 February, and Links recommends booking early to secure a space. Other venues and dates can be found on their website.

Whatever your training needs, Links Training has it covered. www.links-ltd.co.nz

Would you know what to do if someone is injured?

+ First Aid Training

Whanganui: Thursday 15 February

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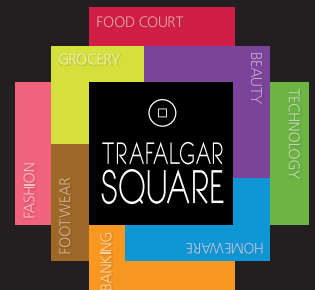
Thursday	14 December	11AM - 1.00PM • 2.00PM - 4PM
Friday	15 December	11AM - 1.00PM • 2.00PM - 4PM
Saturday	16 December	11AM - 1.00PM • 2.00PM - 4PM
Sunday	17 December	11AM - 1.00PM • 2.00PM - 4PM
Monday	18 December	11AM - 1.00PM • 2.00PM - 4PM
Tuesday	19 December	11AM - 1.00PM • 2.00PM - 4PM
Wednesday	20 December	11AM - 1.30PM • 2.30PM - 5PM
Thursday	21 December	11AM - 1.30PM • 2.30PM - 5PM
Friday	22 December	<i>Emailed or posted only</i> 11AM - 1.30PM • 2.30PM - 5PM
Saturday	23 December	<i>Emailed or posted only</i> 10.30AM-1.00PM • 2.00PM-4.30PM
Sunday	24 December	NO PHOTOS

CHOIRS SINGING CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Saturday	16 December	2.00PM Whanganui Community Choir
Sunday	17 December	2.00PM Whanganui Community Choir
Wednesday	20 December	5.00PM Whanganui Community Choir
Thursday	21 December	5.00PM Whanganui Community Choir
Saturday	23 December	2.00PM Whanganui Community Choir

Trafalgar Square
Entertainment Times

100 Taupo Quay, Wanganui | Phone 348 0314 | www.trafalgarsquare.co.nz





Christmas News



Get Glazed Ltd and Rylock Whanganui offering \$2500 Charity giveaway



Get Glazed Ltd & Rylock Whanganui will be giving away \$2,500 to a Whanganui Charity this Christmas, and they want the public to participate by nominating a deserving charity that could do with a \$2,500 boost.

You can participate by going to their Facebook page, liking the post, sharing it on your timeline to spread the holiday cheer and to nominate the name of a deserving

Matt on the far left and some of the team.

Whanganui Charity.

All those who Like, Share and Nominate will go into a draw to win one of three \$100 Prezzy Cards.

Get Glazed, based at 168 Ridgway Street, is only three years old, and Matt Buckley, Director, says, "We've had a good year and want to thank our supporters by spreading the joy of Christmas to those in need." He adds, "I also want to thank the team for their key role in making the company so successful." The team now consists of

15 people, including two part-timers.

The winning charity will be selected and announced on 22 December. The winners of the Prezzy cards will be shared via their Facebook and Instagram accounts.

Matt says, "Thanks for being part of our charity journey this holiday season."

Only 2 more publications before Christmas

Book your advertising now in River City Press

Whanganui's largest circulating newspaper
Phone 345 3666 -
Email: rivercitypress@xtra.co.nz

Koha Shed providing Christmas Day lunch



Central Baptist Church - the venue for the Koha Shed Christmas lunch

The Koha Shed will be putting on a Christmas lunch on Christmas Day. It will be at the Central Baptist Church from 12.30 to 2pm. They are charging a minimal \$2 as there is a maximum number of 100 in the space. Contact the Koha Shed on 027 4040 240 quickly as the tickets will soon all be taken up.

Manager Sherron Sunnex says, "There will be chicken, ham, beef, lamb as well as a seafood and pasta salad among other salads and fresh new potatoes. There will also be nibble platters on the tables.

As for dessert, Sherron says, "A lovely lady is making ten pavlovas, and there also be trifles and fruit. The Regional Health Authority will be giving away gift bags, and there will be gifts for the children."

Overseeing all this will be two chefs assisted by a group of volunteers.



Merry Christmas to all our clients.
Thank you for your patronage throughout 2023



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Christmas with Whanganui Anglicans



10th

St Peter's Joy Festival

3-5pm @ St Peter's
71 Koromiko Road, Gonville

17th

8:30am Christ Church Carol Service

243 Wicksteed Street

7pm St John's Carol Service

648 No 2 Line

16th

Alt. Carols

7:30pm @ Christ Church

Experience the nativity story in a fresh and dynamic way with Drama, Dance and Carols. Buy tickets on our website whanganuianglicans.org.nz/events

24th

Drive - Thru Nativity

2 - 4pm @ Christ Church fun for the whole family

Cliffmas Carols

7:30pm @ Clifflife sing-a-long with us

Midnight Communion

11pm @ Christ Church welcome in the wonder

19th

Blue Christmas

7pm @ Christ Church

A service for those for whom Christmas is hard

25th

Christmas Day

10am Christ Church
243 Wicksteed Street

11am St John's
648 No.2 Line



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410070
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Christmas News



The Christmas Parade is coming... Bereaved parents grief support candle lighting ceremony on Sunday



The team at River City Press have been watching Santa's global tracking system and feel sure he will be in Whanganui in time for the Christmas Parade this Saturday. We have been busy decorating our Christmas Float, thanks to Des Healy's generosity, and creating a colouring-in competition and quiz for kids to collect at the Christmas Parade. Partnering with Mainstreet, we have two Mainstreet Aroha Local vouchers,

valued at \$50.00 each, for two age groups to win: 3-8 years, and 9-13 years.

Just be sure to get your entry forms from the RCP Elves at the Christmas Parade, complete the entry and return to RCP, 52 Ingestre Street, by 15 December.

We look forward to seeing you at the Christmas Parade this Saturday, starting at 2pm. Can't make it to the Parade? Well, that's a shame, but you can

collect an entry form from our offices, too. Check out the businesses supporting Aroha Local Vouchers at mainstreetwhanganui.co.nz/aroha-vouchers.



Annually, on the second Sunday in December, at 7pm local time, the International Organization, The Compassionate Friends: Bereaved Parents Grief Support, have a worldwide Candle lighting in honour of our children who have died – from any cause – baby loss, illness, accident, suicide, murder – at any age, babe to adult – at any time, recently or years ago.

"As NZ is the first country to greet the dawn, we in Whanganui commence this global wave of light at 7pm NZ time and keep watch for one hour 'til the light passes on to the next time zone."

The group will meet at Virginia Lake at 6.45pm, this Sunday, 10 December.

"Gathering around the statue of Peter Pan near the fountain on the Lakeside, we will light candles in honour of our children, grandchildren, brothers and sisters who have died too soon.

It is a beautiful poignant spot, as we see Peter Pan, the boy who would

not grow up, as many of our children have not."

There will be readings, children's activities, poetry, a Candle Lighting Ceremony at 7pm, a Roll call of the Children, and music. Candles will be supplied – or bring your own if you prefer.

Please bring photos, mementos; picnic chair/umbrella, if needed. After the event, there will be light refreshments.

The Whanganui City Christmas Carol Service will be at the Lake at the same time, so take a moment to light a memorial

candle with us and move on to that function to celebrate Christmas. We need not walk alone.

Contact Keren 06 3443345 marshkandb@gmail.com. Check the New Zealand website www.thecompassionatefriends.org.nz

Visit Worldwide Candle Lighting on the web and see groups around the world.

The gathering place for the ceremony - Peter Pan Statue at Virginia Lake



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Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and all the best for the New Year!



Bruce Ardell

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Mainstreet Whanganui

CHRISTMAS PARADE

Saturday 9th December, 2pm

WHANGANUI TOWN CENTRE

Followed by a free family concert at Majestic Square



www.mainstreetwhanganui.co.nz



Christmas News



FESTIVE SEASON Holiday Hours

Closing
Friday 22 December, 3pm
Re-Opening
Wednesday 10 January 2024

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Carols by Candlelight this Sunday

Whanganui's illustrious 'Carols by Candlelight' event is returning to the scenic Rotokawau Virginia Lake! Get ready to be enchanted by the beautiful singing and the warm glow of candlelight on Sunday evening, 10 December. This year, the Rotary Club of Whanganui North is pulling out all the stops for the 74th edition of this beloved tradition, promising a delightful fusion with innovation that will bring the entire community together in celebration this festive season. Make sure to include in



your Sunday plans, the festivities kicking off at 6pm. But wait, there's more! From 5pm, tantalising food trucks will be on-site, ready to satisfy your taste buds and add even more excitement to the evening. There's a \$2 entry donation requested towards costs.

In an exciting twist, this year's 'Carols by Candlelight' is introducing a fresh format embracing a celebration of local talent. Alongside the traditional Brass Whanganui and Whanganui Community Choir, we will be showcasing the immense talent and diversity of performers right here in Whanganui. This event aims to create a vibrant and inclusive space where our community's talents shine on centre stage and share in leading the carols. Opening with Te Reanga Morehu O Ratana, Ella Rose Vakadrano, Olivia Clunie who will be performing the National Sign Language Song of Christmas; Sophie Toyne, Sweeny Todd (Amdram), Phantom of the Opera; all add to the magic of this smokefree and alcohol-free event. Father Christmas will be coming

to town!

This event is not possible without these sponsors, and we are immensely grateful for all of our sponsors' support including: Whanganui City Council, Scafit, Chris Chamberlain, Westmere Primary School, Hiremaster, Pak n Save, Hato Hone St John Ambulance, Rotary Club of Whanganui North, Riverside Motel, and Whanganui Fire & Emergency.

Park your car at St John's Hill School grounds - proceeds from \$2 entry will be shared between the School PTA and The Rotary Satellite Club of Whanganui North Starburst. If you're not able to be there, check out the livestreamed Facebook event page at <https://rb.gy/ptqrzf>. In the event of bad weather: cancellation will be decided and announced on Friday, 8 December.

So, gather your loved ones, and join in at Rotokawau Virginia Lake for the 74th 'Carols by Candlelight' event. Let's create beautiful memories and celebrate the spirit of the season together!
- Supplied



Graze Out



Merry Christmas to all!

Due to Christmas day falling on a Monday, there will only be **1 delivery per week** for the Christmas and New Years period.

Our delivery days will be as follows;

Week commencing 18th December - **Normal Tuesday & Friday deliveries**

Week commencing 25th December - **Friday 29th December**

Week commencing 1st January 2021 - **Friday 5th January**

We will be doing a Christmas meal again this year that will be an additional option for the week of Christmas. It will be an XL meal + dessert valued at \$32

The Christmas meal is available to order now and will be delivered on
Friday 22nd December

All meals have to be paid for before delivery

Like to know more? Give us a call, text or email!

Phone 027 292 7753

Email grazeoutcaterers@xtra.co.nz

We wish you a safe and happy holiday season
From the team at Graze Out Caterers



NUI IMAGE HAIR

Merry Christmas

Wishing all our loyal clients a safe and happy Christmas break and look forward to seeing you and welcoming new clients in the new year

1 Springvale Road, Wanganui
Phone 06 345 0247



Christmas News



Hakeke Street Community Centre Christmas Party at Williams Domain

Hakeke Street Community Centre and Love and Learn are partnering again this year to bring you another Free Community Christmas Party at Williams Domain – on 16 December.

The annual free Christmas Party Saturday, 16 December, from 11am to 2pm, is a real collaboration with the Whanganui Community.

Hakeke Street Community Centre (HSCC) have already received generous offers of support, including:

- Burgers from the Rapid Relief Team
- Vegetarian curry dishes from the Sri Lankan community. Representative Din Bandara assures

people that the dishes will be mild to medium in heat.

• A significant donation from the Whanganui East Club.

Apart from the kai, there will be plenty of entertainment for all. Bouncy castles, face painting and horse rides will be available on the day. The Centre will be running its song and dance competition, where children and whānau can enter to win a huge \$500 prize. Entries can be made online on their Facebook page and even on the day.

Also worth looking out for is HSCC have their 'Elf on the Shelf' competition again. The Elf will appear in different parts

of the community, for example, Elf might be found one day in the vegetable section of Pak 'N Save supermarket. Check Hakeke Street Community Centre Facebook for clues. There will be live streaming each day of the places the elves will be visiting, and again, another huge \$500 prize is up for grabs, which will be given out to the winner on

16 December. There will also be displays of vintage and speedway cars, as well as stands representing organisations such as Enviro schools and the District Library. There is still time for other organisations to offer support, or set up information stands. Contact Marie Butturini from Love and Learn Early

Childhood Centre on 027 632 7240.

As part of the Christmas celebrations, there will also be a decorated window display at Hakeke Street Community Centre from 7 December, through to after Christmas Day. There will be a Christmas display with lights, colour and a little magic and Santa will be visiting

the Christmas party on 16 December.

Tamariki, especially those sensitive to light and sound or just a little shy, can view Santa through the window on 16 December. Scaft has, once again, shown their impressive community spirit by providing a platform so all tamariki get the opportunity to be a part of this

special display.

Recent RCP winner

Congratulations to the winner of the Christmas Countdown Giveaway, Sandra Brumby. The River City Press had tons of entries, and we thank you all for participating.



The tamariki from Love and Learn practising their Christmas Carols for the Community Christmas.

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Relay For Life

11am, March 23 - 3pm, March 24
Cooks Gardens



Sign up today at relayforlife.org.nz

**Register today for the House of Travel
Longest Day of Golf**

*You don't want to miss Relay for Life
- register now*

The Longest Day of Golf was originally a 72-hole tournament in one day with the idea of completing it around the longest day (that is December 21 for the Southern Hemisphere) in the year, so the campaign runs throughout December and January.

The Whanganui Cancer Society has organised a shorter version – the House of Travel Longest Day of Golf – to be hosted at the Castlecliff Golf Club. It will be 36 holes, with a lunch break at the club rooms after 18 holes. The event will take place on 12 January with a tee-off time of 9am. It will be a three-man Ambrose at \$100 per team.

Golf enthusiasts can sign up and complete it individually or with their friends. They can fundraise and go in to win one of the significant national prizes.

As Jess Edmonds from the local Cancer Society says, "We decided to coincide a golf tournament with the House of Travel Longest Day Challenge



to encourage more people to participate. We recognise that not everyone is up for the full challenge – so this is a fun way to inspire people to challenge themselves in a fun environment."

The focus on men playing this challenge is deliberate. Jess explains, "I acknowledge many women play golf too, and we love to see everyone involved, but being a predominantly male supported sport, it is an opportunity to increase the awareness of the support the Cancer Society offers to men in our community."

She points out that "the Cancer Society offers a Men's Support group as well as networking opportunities and a health and wellbeing focus through exercise groups."

"I met with a member of our community recently who expressed his experience of supporting his wife through cancer," Jess adds. "It is important to recognise the impact that cancer has on men, not only when they are on their own journey, but also when they are supporting their loved ones."

"Men are less likely to seek support, so we want them to know there is help available at the Cancer Society on multiple levels."

The nationwide prize for the individual that

achieves the highest amount of fundraising is as follows:

- Two night's accommodation at the world-renowned Millbrook Resort in Queenstown for four people as well as a round of golf for all, complete with carts.

You can sign up by contacting Jess at the Cancer Society on 348 7402.

Sponsors needed

The Cancer Society is looking for more sponsors for both the Relay for Life and the House of Travel Longest Day of Golf. If you can help, please phone Jess on 348 7402



The annual Cancer Society's major fundraiser – the Relay for Life – starts at 3pm Saturday, March 23, and continues to 11am on Sunday, March 24. You will note that they are bringing back the overnight experience.

They are also introducing a wide variety of activities to do when you are not walking. As Jess Edmonds from the local Cancer Society says, "We want the Relay to appeal to everyone, of all ages and to be family-friendly. At the same time, we want to give people who want them different experiences."

For example, there will be an outdoor movie; some will grab their bean bags, pillows or chairs to sit back and enjoy, while others will prefer to sleep in their tents. Another activity is a silent disco.

Jess would also love to have an 'Hour of Power' put on by one or more local gyms.

Other activities being organised include:

- Yoga Under the Stars
- Re-energise Morning Yoga
- Lawn Games
- Whanganui District Council's Play Trailer
- Live bands
- Candlelight Vigil, and
- The Celebration Lap.

Jess says, "We are also going to hand out 'trackers' to those teams who want to tell them how many laps they have done."

The theme for the Relay for Life is 'Legends.' Jess says this is open to all types of legends – sport-

ing, movies, singers, personal – and encourages participants to dress up and bring along a mascot. The team's choice of legend could be incorporated into the teams baton's design.

The cost is \$15 per person and \$150 to secure your team's tent site, which can cover the first 10 team members. "Registrations are going well," says Jess. "It is exciting to see the great response." One incentive to register sooner rather than later, is the selection for tent sites will be on a first-in, first-served basis.

Teams can sign up at relayforlife.org.nz and/or contact Jess on 348 7402

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Shirley Spooner inducted as Minister of St Paul's in the City

You might wonder whether the heading is way out of date. Shirley has been involved with St Paul's in the City (Guyton Street) for seven years, initially as a pastoral care worker and lay preacher for two years and then fulfilling the role of a minister.

However, the Presbyterian Church has strict, academic requirements for their ministers, and Shirley has been studying to meet these requirements for over four years. But it was all worth it as on 26 November Shirley was finally ordained and inducted as Minister at St Paul's in the City.

It was an impressive service, with a number of Presbyterian ministers involved. The Rev Peter McKenzie from Palmerston North was the moderator for the day, with other ministers involved, including:

- the Rev John Peill, who had been the interim moderator at St Paul's,
- the Rev Jo Morgan, until recently the Minister at St James, Whanganui East. Jo had been one of Shirley's mentors.
- Rev Nathan Parry, Student Convener from Wellington
- Rev David Bebarfeld, Minister at Westmere Presbyterian Memorial Church and also a mentor

Other ministers there included Rev Steve Jordain from Palmerston North, Rev Donald Gordon, Rev Graeme Munro and the Rev Stefan van Os, recently retired Minister of St Andrews, Glasgow Street. Shirley received a number of gifts from her congregation, including



Shirley receiving the blessing. From the left are reverends Peter McKenzie, Nathan Perry, Steve Jordain, Donald Gordon, Stefan van Os, John Peill and Graeme Munro.

flowers, a ceremonial stole which she will wear when conducting services, a blouse and collar for formal functions and a beautiful wooden box, handmade with an inlaid cross, containing a communion set to use when visiting parishioners.

"I prefer not to use the title of reverend, and I told the youth group to continue calling me Shirley, but I will use Rev for more formal occasions."

Shirley was brought up in St Andrews Presbyterian Church in Fordell. "Mission is my passion" she says, and over the years has been involved in short term missions to a wide variety of countries, including Fiji, Myanmar, Philippines, Indonesia (Northern Sumatra,

Java and Borneo), India twice and Mozambique twice.

She has also worked with the City Mission in the role of Church and Community Liaison, promoting the work of the Mission and "to talk and pray with clients."

But she says, "I always felt that God had spoken to me. I wanted a flock of my own to care for. Many suggested to me that I should apply for the role of Locally Ordained Minister or LOM."

A Lom is different to a Nationally Ordained Minister (NOM) in the Presbyterian Church, which requires a university degree in theology, then two more years internship plus more study. A LOM still requires a diploma in theology plus

other requirements such as psychological testing and you are restricted to one Church, unable to shift churches.

Shirley's attitude was straightforward - "Love God, love people and journey alongside where they are at to love Jesus more."

"I love my congregation," says Shirley. "It is a pleasure to visit and listen to their stories. We have a pastoral care team of eight, and our goal is to visit all members every three months."

She has started a youth group and believes the social aspect of Church needs to be encouraged. There are separate men's and women's groups meeting weekly in cafes for coffee, friendship and companionship.

Bible friends perform 'The Rambunctious Angel'

The Rambunctious Angel was a play held on Tuesday, 5 December at Christ Church on Wicksteed Street. It was performed by 'Bible Friends', a Christian group of people with an intellectual disability. Beginning in Angel School in heaven, it followed the progress of a truly unruly and rambunctious angel who was sent with the other angels on a very important mission to earth. This was to announce the arrival on earth of baby Jesus.

Of course, the rambunctious angel did not listen to instructions, got separated from the other angels and lost his satnav. The play followed his adventures and he eventually managed to find his way to the stable, and met up with the other angels.

The evening was well attended by family,



Some of the performers in the Rambunctious Angel play

friends and church members. People enjoyed the humour, and as usual, this

was a joyful occasion. The play can be viewed on the Whanganui Angli-

cans youtube channel entitled Bible Friends Nativity Play 2023.

WANGANUI CAR CLUB PRESENTS...



THIS SATURDAY - Western Line Hill Climb
THIS SUNDAY - Brunswick Road

Wanganui Car Club Speed Weekend Hillclimbs this weekend



Photos from previous years' Hillclimb event

The annual Wanganui Car Club Speed Weekend Hill Climbs are this weekend on Saturday, 9 December, and Sunday, 19 December.

On the Saturday, it will be the Western Line hill climb. It starts from just over the railway line on the road that goes inland from St Oswald's Church, off State Highway 3. Parts of it used to be gravel, but it is now tar-sealed.

On the Sunday, the Hill Climb will be up Brunswick Road, starting about 500 metres before the bridge. This is a challenging route with an

'interesting' hair bend, Bryce Hackett says, which forces participants "The Hill Climbs have attracted quite a lot of out-of-towners."

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Our Scissor Lift

Worldwide educators and students hosted by Whanganui Collegiate School for prestigious Round Square Conference

Over 200 educators and students from India, China, Canada, the USA, the UK, Australia, and NZ are attending an international Round Square Conference hosted by Whanganui Collegiate School this week. Attendees will engage in meaningful discussions, cultural exchanges, and hands-on activities aimed at cultivating a global perspective of Service and Leadership.

Whanganui Collegiate School to host this year's Conference allows our students and staff to experience and learn from other schools and cultures; it also provides an opportunity for us to showcase New Zealand & Whanganui," said Whanganui Collegiate School Round Square Co-ordinator, Selwyn Hodges. The conference, entitled *If you are called to lead - you are invited to Serve*, will feature key-

note speakers, interactive workshops, and collaborative projects designed to challenge and inspire attendees and will open with a pōwhiri and guest speaker Hadleigh Reid speaking on duty and leadership. During the conference, attendees will gain an insight into New Zealand culture with a visit to Kai Iwi Marae and leadership development at Makahika Outdoor Pursuits, along with a visit to the Whanganui Regional Museum

and a trip on the Waimarie Paddle Steamer. Conference speakers include Whanganui Collegiate School past students Whanganui Mayor Andrew Tripe and Taihape farmer and conservationist Mark Chrystall representing Rangitikei River Catchment Collective. "Whanganui Collegiate School is honoured to illuminate our community by hosting this prestigious event. We extend our gratitude to the Round Square



Opening of Round Square Conference at Whanganui Collegiate School

organisation for entrusting us with this responsibility," said Selwyn Hodges. "Whanganui Collegiate School became a Round Square member in 2021 as it aligns with holistic education, emphasising the development of character, leadership, and a sense of global responsibility which we develop in our students," said Headmaster Wayne Brown. The conference serves as

a platform for collaboration, innovation, and the exchange of ideas among educators and students alike, he said. At Whanganui Collegiate School, our educational philosophy is rooted in the belief that knowledge and character are essential elements for creating outstanding global citizens. The Round Square Conference aligns perfectly with our mission

to nurture young minds and instil in them a deep sense of responsibility for the world around them. In the spirit of the Round Square philosophy, let us come together to explore, learn, and create lasting connections. Whanganui Collegiate School is thrilled to play a role in shaping the future leaders, thinkers, and contributors to our global society.

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Recently opened is a new self-storage facility in Hatrick St East with 20 brand new units. They come mainly in 6m by 3m size and have a height of 2.7metres.



Hatrick Street East storage units

Access is through an electronic gate with plenty of concrete space for turning. All clients are given their own personal code for the gate and security cameras are keeping an eye all those coming and going. The units themselves are kept secure with padlocks provided by the customer. It has the significant advantage, especially for commercial clients, of being so close to town.

The units will appeal to those who need to store seasonal stock or perhaps a tradie keeping his day-to-day tools secure and freeing up some room in the garage at home. The units will also fit a standard vehicle. They will be useful to residential customers, including those who need temporary storage while shifting house or going overseas for a time.

The site previously had two old houses, and the sections were combined after selling off the buildings. The units were built by Versatile Building Ltd of mainly concrete block, making for solid construction and with a high fire rating. For more information or bookings contact, Self Storage Hatrick East on 0273722319.

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River City Boxing offers boxing and exercise classes for everyone



The adult fitness class at River City Boxing Club is open to both men and women



Brendon Lawrence, aged 52 (red singlet) in action

River City Boxing is a 'family' for those looking to improve fitness through exercise and boxing and a home for the glory-seekers who love the competition of the ring.

Egelani Taito is an ex-professional boxer, personal trainer and boxing coach at the River City Boxing Club, based at the

facilities at the rear of the Kairau Rugby complex at the end of Devon Road.

Egelani started boxing at age 11 in Samoa after having been encouraged to get involved by his grandfather, who was a boxer. Egelani came to Whanganui when he was 17 and was a professional for a time, good enough to

fight on the undercard for the match between Joseph Parker and Junior Fa.

Egelani says, "You need to be very fit for boxing, and if you are keen, it will take 6 to 12 months to get ready. The club has a number of boxers, including one professional. That is Sale Oldehaver, who won his bout in Tokoroa two

weeks ago, making it two from two. Brendon Lawrence is 52 and fought at Tokoroa in the corporate division as an amateur and also won. Under the tutelage of Eglani, Sale Oldehaver has fashioned a good amateur record and is currently unbeaten as a professional with a record of 2-0. Likewise, Brendon Lawrence, who fights in the Corporate and master Boxing ranks, holds a record of 6-0, including two in Australia, where he won

the Pan Pacific title for his age.

On average there would be competitions once or twice a month with about two in Whanganui. Last year Whanganui hosted two National Championship competitions. Otherwise, the competitions are all over the North Island.

He says, "I love it. It is good for your health and makes you very fit." Among the boxers he coaches there is Chili Palmers, just turned 18,

who was in the New Zealand boxing team that recently fought in Samoa. Another protégé is Izi Parkes, aged 15, who recently won a National title.

All boxers must use head-gear and a mouth guard and not fight without a coach present. Eddie Tofa oversees the gym and used to coach Egelani.

The club has boxing sessions at the same time on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, while Egelani runs ladies' boxing classes at 7pm on Tuesdays and

Thursdays. He says, "Although these classes started only one year ago, they are becoming quite popular, with over 50 women having attended. They feel comfortable and safe here.

It is not expensive to join up. The fitness classes are \$20 for eight sessions and for the ladies boxing it is \$10 a session.

To find out more, it is probably best to turn up to one of the sessions to observe and ask any questions – just ask for Egelani, Eddie or Sandra.



Ladies-only classes (Mums and kids)

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- River City Boxing Club is thriving -

River City Boxing, the Kaierau Rugby sports based in their large gym at complex at the end of Dev-



River City Boxing Club members, Rob, Sale, Brendon and Egelani celebrating success at the Iron Fist, Tokoroa tournament

on Road, is thriving with a full programme of fitness and boxing activities.

The programme currently includes:

- Boxer-only classes
- Special Olympic classes,
- Adults Boxing Fitness Classes
- Ladies-only classes (Mums and kids)
- Youth classes for school years 7 to 13
- Taïto Fitness Ladies Classes
- Pro Wrestling Classes
- Gonville Health classes
- Prostate Fit – Men's Cancer classes
- Parkinsons Classes – dancing
- Social Welfare Classes for Youth at Risk, and

• A Kindy Kids Class.

The Club has a wide range of equipment, including fit or boxing bags, skipping ropes, gloves and exercise machines, as well as access to the rugby fields.

River City Boxing is run by Eddie and Sandra Tofa as a community gym. Under the Boxing NZ umbrella, River City Boxing has six coaches – the most the Club has ever had – including recently qualified Sale and Sam (Samantha) Oldehaver and Lisa, who helps run youth classes and the Parkinson's class on a Friday.

Eddie and Sandra are also supported by people like Brendon Lawrence and Danny Jonas, who



The Central Kindergarten kids fitness class at River City Boxing Club.

take the fitness classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5.30 to 6.30pm. "We have both males and females aged from 16 to 60, all with varying degrees of ability and fitness, it's great because newcomers get to train alongside professional and seasoned boxers. The coaches push the classes hard and the results are there for all to see: a strong, fit and very confident group of people", explains Brendon.

The youth classes take place before the fitness classes from 4 to 5pm. "We would have about 20 kids from all the schools."

As Brendon points out, "We cater for all age groups and all walks of life." He gives the example of an 86-year-old in the Prostate class who couldn't do a basic squat when he arrived, but now it is easy for him to do multiple squats."

Fleur Storr's Kindy Kids class comes in sometimes

on a Wednesday morning with an assistant teacher. "They do mini boxing exercises with small gloves through to playing on the fields. They are kept active with frequent changes of activities. The children are aged four years old and thoroughly enjoy it."

Brendon is very positive about the benefits of boxing and the associated fitness programmes, especially for young people. "They give you directions, goals to meet, friendships, fitness and is great for mental health; the gym also creates a safe, welcoming environment for all." *Continued...*

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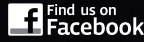
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Egelani Taito is an ex-professional boxer, personal trainer and boxing coach at the River City Boxing Club

Youth classes for school years 7 to 13

Continued...
 The programmes for Prostrate and Parkinsons use ball skills, small weights, simple exercises such as squats but also boxing gloves in pairs as well as dance movements. The Club is also involved in the community. Earlier this year, they held a Corporate Event to raise funds for the Cancer Society. It was very successful

ful and also encouraged a few to consider doing boxing for fitness themselves.

As for Brendon, he uses boxing to keep fit, and he says it's great for his mental health; once you start, it is very addictive.

You can phone 027 368 2306 to find out more. The chances are that either Eddie or Sandra will be at the gym, and you are welcome to come, sit on a couch, watch and see if boxing exercises are for you.

Eddie and Sandra have one last message, "We want to wish everyone a happy and peaceful holiday. Remembering the reason for the season is the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ; without him, we are nothing. God's blessings everyone."

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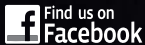
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STRESS LESS THIS CHRISTMAS

Ways to stress less this Christmas

The lead up to the Christmas holiday period can be stressful both at work and at home. It can all get too much making Christmas Day more of a nightmare than a time of relaxation and enjoyment. Here are six tips to help you stress less.

1. Don't catch the

deadline virus: Before you add something to your to-do list at this time of year, ask yourself why it must be done before Christmas. If there is no good answer, leave it until next year when you have fresh energy and renewed focus.

2. Avoid the perfection

pitfall: Stress is the gap between expectations and reality. If you're trying to create the perfect Christmas, you could be setting yourself up for stress rather than success.

3. Watch for weakened willpower: If you are testing your resolve with too many temptations, you could be setting yourself up for a blow-out. This is the time when too often healthy choices and good habits fall by the wayside. Make important decisions early in the day that will help you stay strong when temptation beckons.

4. Rev up your relationships: We often spend less time than we really want with the important people in our lives during the year, and Christmas offers an opportunity to reconnect.

5. Immaterial Matters: It is common knowledge that material goods don't make anyone happy, so rather than succumbing to buying a gift that has no real meaning, ask yourself what inspires each person, then consider how to give them that inspiration in a creative way.

6. Being Present is the

present: Attention is a precious gift. In fact it is the only thing you really have to give of yourself to another person. So regardless of what else you get someone for Christmas, make sure you give a full dose of clear, open and uncluttered attention with it.

7. Adopt a Secret Santa approach

Suggest to family and relatives that you should have a Secret Santa approach with a limit to the value of the present. Perhaps better still, agree to give a lump sum to a charity and at least save any costs related to pack-

aging and postage.

8. Don't be a snob

Taking pride in buying presents is no bad thing, but don't feel like you're going to be judged entirely on the price tag of whatever you're giving - sometimes the best presents are homemade, thoughtful things. Kids frequently show more interest in the wrapping than the present.

9. Use your loyalty cards

There are so many of them these days and sometimes we overlook what they offer whether it is 5% off at a garden centre or a \$25 voucher

when you reach a certain level at a clothing store.

10. Take advantage of pre-Christmas sales

Most large retailers are having pre-Christmas sales or a percentage off everything on a particular day.

11. Don't overbuy food

There is such a thing

as buying too much Christmas food and not all of it can be eaten on Boxing Day.

12. Be organised

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Programmes for Parents



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jigsawwhanganui.org.nz

Ph 06 345 1636 | Suite 10, 236 Victoria Ave, Whanganui
Email: admin@jigsawwhanganui.org.nz

THE GIVING TREE 2023 The Salvation Army, Whanganui

Our Community Ministries Christmas response enables us to supply a Christmas meal and gifts to whānau who have engaged with our services throughout the year. We're supporting 40 families in our community this Christmas.

The Giving Tree invites people to share in the generosity of the season by gifting a toy for children or making a donation toward food costs for meal hampers.



Te Ope Whakaora

Gifts can be dropped off at:

Salvation Army Church Office @ 6 Indus Street
(Monday - Friday; 9.30am - 12pm)

Family Store located @ Victoria Avenue
During Shop Hours, Monday - Saturday, 9am - 5.30pm

River City Press @ 52 Ingestre Street
(Monday - Friday; 9am - 5pm)

Please drop gifts in by December 15

The Giving Tree will be at Trafalgar Square Wed 6th, Fri 8th, Mon 11th - 11am-2pm

We appreciate your support at this time of year.

For more information contact our Church office

06 345 2343



Waiora Christian Community Trust Te Kākano Homes

Short term accomodation - 49 Brunswick Rd, Whanganui

Wai Ora Christian Community Trust open another short-term accommodation two-bedroom home

In recent years, the Wai Ora Christian Community Trust at 49 Brunswick Road has been building healthy, affordable homes, using Structural Insulated Panels (SIPs), which not only take half the time to construct compared with wood framed housing but also use only half the energy required to heat, are stronger and produce much less waste in the building process.

Their agency, Te Kākano Homes, has now built two, two-bedroom homes and three cabins on-site, sold one multipurpose classroom and ten sleepout cabins in total.

The second home was recently opened and will be used for short-term accommodation for individuals with housing needs.

This follows on from Wai Ora trialing emergency housing on-site over 2021 and 2022. The demand was such that they used caravans, house buses, mobile homes and their own wharemoa, sleeping accommodation.

But as their housing report for November 2023 acknowledged, "We realised our capacity to meet the needs for high-risk occupants was modest and Wai Ora would be better to offer accommodation within a programme that already holds a mentoring service."

One of those programmes is their 'Huringa Ora o Wāhine' training programme for female students, which

offers "support for individuals who encounter obstacles in securing long-term employment by fostering their personal development and employment goals."

They are now able to offer accommodation in their three cabins on-site, providing the participants with stable housing and security while they complete their course.

The new two-bedroom home will complement the three cabins and will also be used for supported short-term accommodation for individuals with housing needs.

This home has been predominantly funded by the Whanganui Community Foundation, Four Regions Trust and Catalytic Foundations. Other grants and donations are assisting with the fit-out of the cabins and home.

Project Manager Eddie Churton says, "Our next pressing need is to upgrade a shared facility to have its own kitchen and dining/lounge area expressly for cabin occupants."

The 'soft opening' on Wednesday, 29 November, was attended by the Mayor, the local MP, representatives from the sponsors, members of the Wai Ora Board and others representing the architects and building suppliers.

In the past two years, Wai Ora has provided 1,268 bed nights, and now they can provide short-term supported accommodation for up to six individuals.



Cutting the ribbon – Eddie Churton, Stephen Brandon (Community Foundation) and Philippa Baker Hogan (4 Regions Trust).



The front of the building awaiting completion of the veranda.



The kitchen/dining area.

BSMgroup
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Pleased to have provided technical support to the Wai Ora Social Housing project

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PETS



It is dangerous to leave your dogs locked in the car over summer

As much fun as it can be to take your pup in the car along on errands, its safety comes first, and before you decide to keep the dog inside the car, especially in summer, think about these facts first.

- Regardless of the temperature outside, a car's internal temperature can rise up to 5° to 8° in minutes.
- Just a small additional increase in a dog's body temperature can cause heatstroke.
- 15 minutes is all it takes for a dog to die of heatstroke.
- Cars, even parked in a shaded spot, can still heat up to dangerous levels.

In enclosed vehicles, dangerous microclimate conditions can develop due to the lack of air movement, and this can result in reduced latent heat exchange for animals.

Early signs of heat stroke in dogs include panting, red or dark

gums and tongue, confusion and unsteadiness leading to collapse, diarrhoea, vomiting and even seizing leading to coma. If the dog is not cooled and treated by a veterinary surgeon quickly, the condition can be fatal.

If you notice a dog left in a car under dangerous conditions — keeping in mind that an outside temperature of just 20 degrees is hot enough for the inside of a car to become dangerous — your first step should be to locate the owner of the car. Take down the car's make, model and license plate, and ask someone inside the business to help track down the owner.

If they can't be found, or if they continue to ignore the dog, your next step should be to call the authorities.

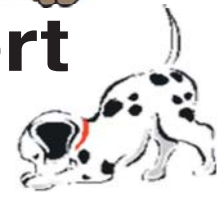
Keep in mind that you should only consider breaking into a locked car to rescue a dog as a last resort. It's gener-

ally best to leave such action to the authorities — as doing so can be dangerous to you or the pet.



The Spot Report

A dangerous time for dogs and puppies?



With Christmas only a couple of weeks away, keep human food for humans only. Don't leave

chocolate goodies under the Christmas tree or food presents anywhere your dog can seek them out.

If you don't know now, then please make yourself aware what other healthy human food is toxic or downright deadly for your precious Fido.

• Avocado flesh, seeds, leaves, and bark contain persin

• Xylitol is a substitute for sugar found in many foods for people on a diet and for people with sugar diabetes

• Caffeine products such as coffee, tea, cocoa, cola, and stimulant drinks

• Corn cobs are indigestible. They lie in the stomach and ferment, eventually causing death

• Fat trimmings and bones. Fat can cause pancreatitis and bones can splinter and cause an obstruction or laceration of the digestive system or can even break dog's teeth

• Grapes and raisins, or cakes and biscuits containing raisins can cause liver failure. That rules out a piece of Christmas cake for Fido

• Macadamia nuts, raw or roasted, or foods containing macadamia nuts. As few as six can make a

dog ill

• Milk and other dairy products can cause diarrhoea and other digestive upsets as well as set up food allergies

• Onions and garlic can cause blood cell problems leading to anaemia

• Persimmons, peaches, and plums contain cyanide and can cause a digestive obstruction

• Rhubarb, green potatoes, and tomato leaves are poisonous

• Salt in large quantities can lead to sodium poisoning and possibly death

• Yeast dough before baked can swell in the stomach and cause intense pain as well as poisoning

• Alcohol causes the same effect on dogs as it does to humans and may even lead to death. Small dogs are particularly at risk

• Chocolate. The toxic agent in chocolate is theobromine and it is in all kinds of chocolate, even baking chocolate. The darker the chocolate, the more toxic it is

• Engine Coolant. This is not a food but is particularly attractive to dogs and small children. It has a sweet taste but is downright deadly. Emergency treatment is required immediately

Remember, dogs explore with their nose and then their mouth. Keep your precious Fido safe.

Extending best wishes to all, and may you have a safe and happy time with loved ones.

I am taking this time to remember with great affection a truly wonderful lady who lived her life for all dogs. May you rest in peace, Jenny.

Marg has been working with puppies, dogs, and people since 1992 and is a Full Foundation Member of The Association of Professional Dog Trainers NZ Inc. Phone: 343 9806 or 027 2905013.

Woofs and barks from Spot

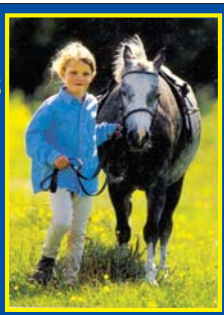
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A regular visitor to the RCP office, Ceasar, is looking forward to his first Christmas with owner Taliah Pollero

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K9 Puppy Kindergarten & Intermediate Training

Puppy classes are taking a break from 14 December until 17 January 2024.
To my amazing groups of puppies and people, 2023 was awesome.
Kind thoughts to all the Festive Season and Best Wishes for 2024!



Margarette Marshall
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Real Estate with Steven & Jared

"Brothers in Real Estate"



We are changing to meet the changing times in Whanganui real estate

Steven and Jared are proud to announce their new business venture as a real estate sales team with Arizto Whanganui.

Motivated by what their clients told them really matters in real estate service, and wanting to remain on the cutting edge of providing it, the pair joined the team which has made significant strides since entering the local market in 2020.

Why us?

Combining experience from over 500 property transactions, Whanganui to South Taranaki, Steven and Jared are a "two for one" deal as salespeople working together and continuing to get local properties sold.

Using in-depth market knowledge with strong work ethics, they always make time to meet at your convenience and discuss marketing campaigns and the plans to sell your property in a timely fashion.

They believe in top level service and bringing owners the best options to sell in current conditions, and cannot wait to show you the high quality resources you get with Arizto - from pre-listing market appraisals, presentation advice, your own finger-tip control of digital platforms, and their unique abilities with professional scripts and superior understanding of industry laws.

Their clients can access a full range of real estate services for less cost in the back pocket, including a commission rate of 2% + GST (minimum \$10,000 + GST applies) and the marketing essentials covered.

Why now?

Simple, how real estate business is conducted in Whanganui is so important, now more than ever, to meet a changing market.

After the phenomenal rise of sale prices in 2020-21, the market has gone through a significant adjustment period, one that you need experienced and hard working salespeople to understand.

Therefore, Steven and Jared are determined to provide you with the most practical advice to

improve the chances of your property selling.

Joining the Arizto brand with its near-instantly available information, focused buyer campaigns and great value on fees will allow them to provide you with a tailor-made plan to find not just any buyer, but the right buyer in a happy medium - you selling and moving on with life, and the new homeowner settling right in.

Why are we your team?

Steven Schwamm has just been named by Arizto as the Regional Support Manager for Manawatū, Rangitikei, Whanganui, and South Taranaki.

He takes on the key role of assisting the ambitious Arizto team perform their tasks and bring better value service to their clients.

"It's a very hands-on role, giving support to the sales team in terms of what they need, not what an agency says they need."

"To some, they need reassurance that someone's on their side."

"To some, impartial back-up cover. If something's going on, life events, they know [the task's] sorted."

"To some, it's the advice of everyday stuff. I'm a phone call away to discuss potential property defects, and I don't mind being on the road - I'll shoot over and sort it."

"And for some, it's everyday accountability."

"Being firm but fair in all actions. Appreciate everyone brings something to the table, and collectively, that makes the sales team succeed. Schwamm said."

After well over a decade in the industry, Steven self-qualified with a Real Estate Diploma and Branch Manager's Certificate, making him one of the youngest licensees within Arizto to hold an Agency license, while also Associate of the Real Estate Institute NZ (AREINZ).

Still an active selling agent alongside Jared, Steven has his finger firmly on the pulse of what is happening in today's market.

However complicated the scenario or delicate the negotiation, he has the ability to bring it together in the most efficient and stress-free way possible.

Helping build this brand for the future is Jared Smith who will also use his unique scribe abilities as Content Writer for the entire Arizto brand.

An experienced professional writer who has worked in media across the country, Jared is proud to promote Arizto's success as a young real estate company and its vast array of team members, nation-wide.

He is proud to have written stories profiling Arizto's rise to currently having 170 salespeople on board, and the successes on implementing Regional Support Managers in not only Steven for this area, but also North Taranaki and Auckland-Northland.

Getting his Bachelor of Arts at Canterbury University, followed by his Graduate Diploma in Journalism at Massey (Wellington campus), Jared became a seasoned worker through journalism/editing roles throughout the country South, before settling in Whanganui and qualifying for his NZ Certificate, Real Estate Salesperson.

He will provide quality marketing scripts to increase interest in your property, as uses his rapport with buyers and sellers to provide service they value.

As a duo using streamlined processes, Steven and Jared embrace the use of technology to help with your next property decision.

This innovative approach has allowed them to bring 15 properties to the market in the past two months in Patea, Waverley, Waitotara and here in Whanganui. They secured their first sale under the new brand this month after a multi-offer negotiation in Castlecliff.

"Both long-term and new clients have told us how straightforward they have found the process and appreciate us being able to be 'hands-on' in all aspects of getting their house sold," said Jared.

"We thank all of our owners for trusting us to undertake this important task on their behalf. After all, we're 'your' team, not a team, and we are committed to getting the best outcome for you using this process."

Steven Schwamm AREINZ & Jared Smith - 0800 176 4321

✉ stevenandjared@arizto.co.nz

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NOW **NOW \$12,995**

2020 SUZUKI SWIFT SPORT

1.4L, turbo petrol, 6 speed auto, bodykit, only 34,000kms, reverse camera, Sat Nav, 17" alloys, parking sensors, keyless entry/start.



NOW **NOW \$24,995**

2019 SUZUKI SWIFT RS

1.0L, turbo, petrol, auto, only 26,000kms, alloys, reverse camera, SatNav, Android Auto/Apple CarPlay, only 5.7L/100kms, turbo, 1 owner.



NOW **NOW \$21,995**

2021 HYUNDAI IONIQ 5

58kwh, fully EV, auto, only 45,000kms, 380km range, reverse camera, alloys, Apple CarPlay / Android Auto, wireless charging.



Was \$56,995 **NOW \$55,995**

2022 SUZUKI IGNIS GLX

1.2L, petrol auto, only 1,800kms, roof rails, only 5.4L/100kms, roof rails, Isofix, SatNav, reverse camera, cruise control, bluetooth, overdrive.



NOW **NOW \$21,995**

2022 HYUNDAI KONA N

2.0L, turbo petrol, 8 speed auto, 280hp, only 15,000kms, precision tuned suspension, 18" alloys, reverse camera, SatNav 3 drive modes.



NOW **NOW \$52,995**

2021 NISSAN NOTE X

1.2L, HYBRID, auto, only 900kms, climate control, body kit, LED headlights, blind spot detectors, parking sensors, E-Power.



Was \$36,995 **NOW \$34,995**

2018 HYUNDAI KONA ELITE

2.0L, petrol, auto, only 48,000kms, keyless start/entry, alloys, wireless charging, reverse camera, bluetooth, heated leather seats, great colour.



Was \$27,995 **NOW \$26,995**

2008 HONDA CR-V

2.4L, petrol, auto, only 155,000kms, alloys, fog lights, body kit, tints, weather shields, keyless entry/start, large boot, priced to sell!



NOW **NOW \$11,995**

2011 FORD FALCON XR6

4.0L, petrol, auto, only 132,000kms, CD stacker, Tiptronic, digital dash, towbar, foglights, alloys, Bluetooth, Very tidy sedan.



NOW **NOW \$15,995**

2014 HYUNDAI IX35 GDI

2.0L petrol, auto, only 141,000kms, reverse camera, alloys, high seating, isofix, cruise control, fog lights, roof rails, leather.



NOW **NOW \$16,995**

2008 HOLDEN COMMODORE GTS L3S

6.2L, petrol, V8, 6 speed manual, only 111,000kms, HSV, 317kw, 20" black alloys, adjustable, sports suspension, body kit, towbar, many more features.



NOW **NOW \$69,995**

2022 MAZDA CX-3 GSX

2.0L, petrol, auto, only 19,000kms, alloys, reverse camera, daytime running lights, leather, Isofix, SatNav, adaptive cruise control, like new!



NOW **NOW \$32,995**

2022 NISSAN X-TRAIL T-I

2.5L, petrol, CVT auto, only 3,200kms, 360 deg. camera, safety package, adaptive cruise control, top spec, demonstrator.



Was \$59,995 **NOW \$54,995**

2018 NISSAN X-TRAIL ST-L

2.5L, petrol, CVT auto, only 46,000kms, 7 seater, reverse camera, SatNav, leather heated seats, 20" alloys, LED daytime running lights.



NOW **NOW \$29,995**

2019 SSANGYONG REXTON G4 SPR

2.2L, turbo diesel, auto, 4WD, only 74,000kms, black 20" alloys, 7 seater, leather, reverse camera, apple carplay / android auto, towbar.



NOW **NOW \$39,995**

2023 FORD RANGER XLT

2.0L, Bi turbo diesel, 10 speed auto, 2WD, only 3,600kms, hardlid, towbar, alloys, 10.1" touch screen, reverse camera, keyless entry/start.



NOW **NOW \$56,995**

2021 FORD RANGER WILDTRAK

2.0L, bi-turbo diesel, auto, only 34,000kms, alloys, 8.5L/100kms, side steps, LED daytime lights, sports bar, roll away lid, reverse camera.



NOW **NOW \$52,995**

2022 NISSAN NAVARA ST

2.3L, twin turbo diesel, 7 speed auto, 20" black alloys, only 19,000kms, nudgebar with light bar, black hardlid, flares, reverse camera, SatNav.



NOW **NOW \$49,995**

2020 MITSUBISHI TRITON GLX-R

2.4L, turbo diesel, 6 speed manual, 20" wheels only 10,000kms, black out package, towbar, tonneau cover, sportsbar, reverse camera.



Was \$41,995 **NOW \$39,995**

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Final Theosophical Society public meeting for 2023

Splitting the Narrative - art exhibition by Polly Cleverley

The Whanganui Theosophical Society have our last public meeting for 2023 this coming Sunday, 10 December, at 2pm in the usual venue: Awa room Community Arts Centre 19 Taupo Quay back river entrance.

We'll share a video lecture given in January 2023 and have a chat and cuppa following - Tim Boyd, International President, speaks on meaning, choice and wholeness, and self responsibility." Each person is their own lawgiver ..."

We will then be on break until February 2024. We have Freddy Silva speaking on 3 March 2024 in Whanganui at Heritage House at 5:30 pm. Freddy Silva is a bestselling author and leading researcher of ancient

civilizations, restricted history, sacred sites and their interaction with consciousness.

Public sales are underway; secure your tickets now. For tickets, contact kirstynz1964@gmail.com. Ticket prices are as follows: \$30 to 20 January, \$35 to 24 February, then \$40 (note, it is likely to be sold out)

Topic: Initiation means 'to become conscious'. But just how does one become conscious?

Thank you for your interest and support through 2023 and we look forward to shared ideas with practical application to unfold as we move beyond in 2024. Wishing you wellness, resilience, patience, understanding and peace.

- Supplied

Polly Cleverley, who has an art studio and gallery at 21 Drewes Avenue, has an exhibition in the Community Arts Centre, 19 Taupo Quay, until Thursday, December 14

She says, "I have chosen all the paintings and sculptures to fit my theme of 'Splitting the Narrative,'" and explains it as follows: "It is about the power of words and re-positioned stories, the unsaid and held dialogues. A provocative and beautiful statement in art."

As you enter the gallery, you will be struck by the torso and the body sculptural piece, both of which create an instant impression and would stand out in a hall or foyer. Across is an oil painting on canvas - a large one as it was a camp stretcher piece but now a distinctive work of art.

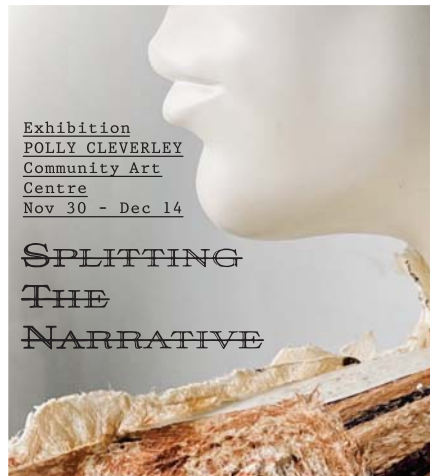
Polly adds, "My ideas come from within, an unrest and a concern for the internal spirit." They are dark and deep in colour and the composition is expressionistic and figurative. They also come in very different sizes. All are oils.

"I have been creating forever," she says. In the 80s, I knitted picture jumpers for the tourist market in Queenstown. They were all the rage then. In the 90s, I turned to fashion and design, winning a Benson and Hedges Fashion Design award in the process. In the 2000s, after the children had left home, I finally started to paint."

When studying the



paintings and sculptures, provide insights into the reflect on the captions she paintings themselves. All has given them as they items are for sale.



Exhibition
POLLY CLEVERLEY
Community Art
Centre
Nov 30 - Dec 14

**SPLITTING
THE
NARRATIVE**

WANGANUI SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS

Celebrating success as term draws to a close at Cullinane College

As the term draws to a close we have much to look back on. We have been blessed as a Kura to celebrate our student's success with their whānau for our Athletes, Academic's, Cultural Ambassadors and those who have succeeded in achieving their goals this year. We held three prize giving ceremonies during a busy couple of weeks, again having an outstanding Māori Prize Giving and Academic prize-giving. A new format for the Sports prize-giving was introduced this year, and feedback has been very positive. It was so wonderful to be part of these celebrations and see the pride of Cullinane shine through, culminating in a spectacular full school Leavers Mass for our Year 13 leavers, held at St. Mary's Church.

On Tuesday, 28th November to Friday, 1st December, we hosted the Awa Run. This event consisted of nine schools



Students on the 50km Awa Run from Raetihi back to Cullinane College

within our Catholic Marist Network. Several of our Year 10 students took part in running 50km from Raetihi down the Whanganui River Road, alongside our beautiful Awa and back to Cullinane College as part of a charity event. Funds raised at this event

went towards scholarships to students who would otherwise not have access to secondary education at one of our schools within the Marist Network.

As we head into our final days for Term Four, we hope that our community has a safe, restful holiday

break with their families. **Start Dates:** A reminder to our community that our first day of school in 2024 for new students at other Levels, Year 9 and our Year 13's is Monday, 29th January. Full school returns on Tuesday, 30th January.

As we head into our final days for Term Four, we hope that our community has a safe, restful holiday

Cullinane College
"For love of God, life and learning"
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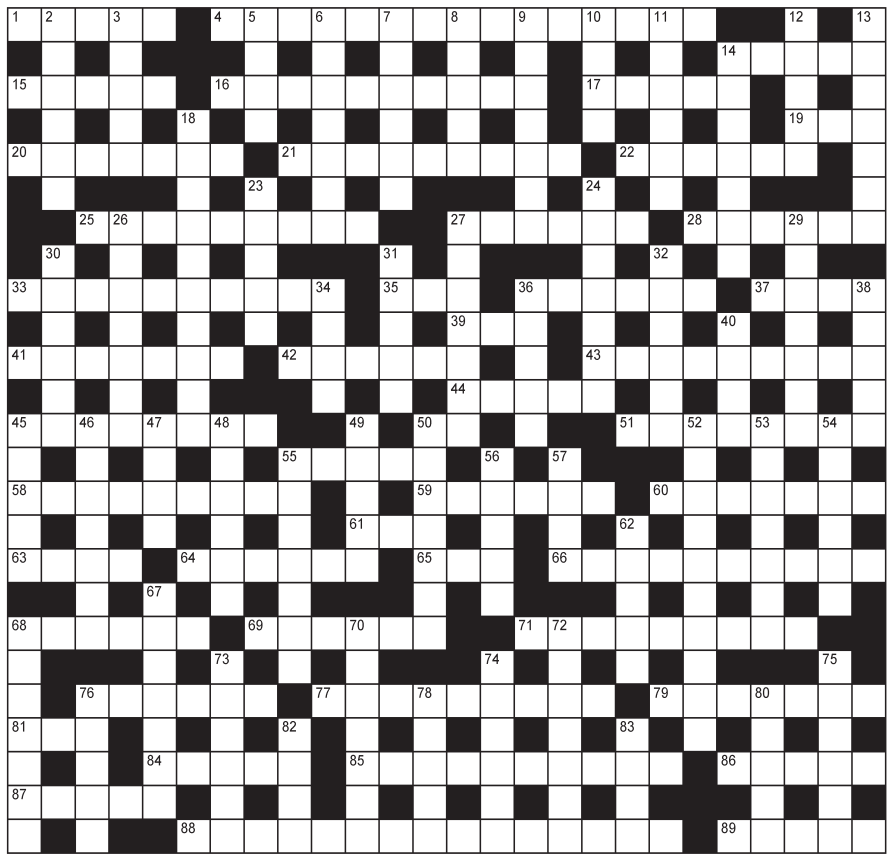
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Fountain Theatre, Ward St, Dannevirke
POP-UP CHRISTMAS
December 2023
Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th
10am to 4pm
Monday 11th to Friday 15th
1pm to 4pm
Saturday 16th to Sunday 24th
10am to 4pm
Admission by donation/koha
Photographs with Santa - \$5.00



Jumbo crossword

- ACROSS**
 1 Group of eight (5)
 4 By small, scattered or sporadic amounts (2,5,3,5)
 14 Pale brownish yellow (5)
 15 Craze (5)
 16 Replicas (10)
 17 Burnt identifying mark (5)
 19 Be in debt (3)
 20 Hereditary (7)
 21 Wild animal collection (9)
 22 Feels (6)
 25 Interpret (9)
 27 Day nursery (6)
 28 Tyrant (6)
 33 Scientific study of projectiles (10)
 35 Unit of electrical resistance (3)
 36 Touched lips with (6)
 37 Thin metal sheet (4)
 39 Play on words (3)
 41 Cut short (7)
 42 Staple (anag) (6)
 43 Rebel (9)
 44 Roof overhang (5)
 45 Impasse (8)
 50 Yak (2)
 51 Gather together (8)
 55 Wall painting (5)
 58 Obsessive desire to burn things (9)
 59 Be indecisive (6)
 60 Place for washing and ironing (7)
 61 Liquid from wound (3)
- 63 Office table (4)
 64 Bawdy (6)
 65 Appropriate (3)
 66 Stores (10)
 68 Seductiveness, appeal (6)
 69 Meal (6)
 71 Sulphur (9)
 76 Neckwear (6)
 77 Silent (9)
 79 Coal holder (7)
 81 Wholly (3)
 84 African scavenger (5)
 85 Debase by adding inferior material (10)
 86 Leftover sediment (5)
 87 Lifting device (5)
 88 Fast to understand something (5,3,3,4)
 89 Adolescent (5)
- DOWN**
 2 Mountain hut (6)
 3 Banished person (5)
 5 Without feeling (4)
 6 Military withdrawal (7)
 7 Be disloyal to (6)
 8 Venerate (5)
 9 Feel contempt for (7)
 10 Gown (4)
 11 Defeated (6)
 12 Bedlam (5)
 13 Sale document (7)
 14 Long adventurous journey (7)
 18 Performed very softly (mus)(10)
 23 Allegation (5)
 24 Vehicle's substructure (7)
 26 Akin (7)
- 27 Intricate (7)
 29 Adage (7)
 30 Military greeting (6)
 31 Swag (5)
 32 Against (6)
 34 Graceful water bird (4)
 36 Rogue (5)
 38 Turning machine (5)
 40 Let go (4)
 45 Tricked (5)
 46 Spray can (7)
 47 Branch (4)
 48 Frank (6)
 49 Complaint (5)
 50 Experienced sailor (3,4)
 52 Facts and figures (10)
 53 Grand house (7)
 54 Voice box (6)
 55 Large tent (7)
 56 Condition (5)
 57 Vault (4)
 62 Spacious (5)
 67 Respire (7)
 68 Prepayment to author (7)
 70 Alligator pear (7)
 72 Conductor's platform (7)
 73 Elaborate rich cake (6)
 74 Brood of chickens (6)
 75 Predicament (6)
 76 See-through (5)
 78 Tobacco for sniffing (5)
 80 Trunk (5)
 82 Bathroom powder (4)
 83 Celebrity (4)



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SIMON SHUKER'S CODE-CRACKER Extra 789

EACH number in our Code-Cracker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. For example, today 11 represents T, so fill in T every time the figure 11 appears. You have one letter in the control grid to start you off. Enter it in the appropriate squares in the main grid and solve the starter word. Fill in other squares in the main and control grids with the found letters and look for the next word. Follow the word trail through the puzzle to its completion. Visit www.codecracker.co.nz

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
5	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
3	1	8	6	3	12	12	3	5	6	7	11	13	16
13	6	13	14	5	13	6	13	10	15	13	16	5	3
13	10	15	13	16	5	3	12	6	5	13	16	5	3
16	8	3	19	19	15	13	14	5	17	4	13	16	5
2	15	1	3	3	1	3	3	1	3	3	1	3	3
7	20	2	5	6	5	17	7	7	6	5	13	16	5
16	13	9	8	8	21	2	13	16	5	3	12	6	5
3	12	12	6	7	21	22	23	24	3	19	1	13	16
25	6	6	6	6	5	13	16	5	3	12	6	5	13
6	8	21	6	5	20	6	26	15	6	7	11	13	16

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Sudoku

		8	9					
3			5	7		6		
		6		2		1		9
4				5		7		
		1				9		
		7		3				2
7		3		1		2		
		4		9	2			1
					3	8		

Hard

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

Previous solution

1	9	4	5	2	3	7	6	8
2	3	8	7	6	1	9	5	4
7	5	6	9	4	8	2	1	3
9	6	2	8	3	5	1	4	7
8	1	7	4	9	2	5	3	6
3	4	5	6	1	7	8	2	9
6	8	9	2	5	4	3	7	1
5	7	1	3	8	6	4	9	2
4	2	3	1	7	9	6	8	5

Previous solution

1	P	C	G	F	S	K	A	H	E	N	U	T	O
14	I	Z	X	D	W	B	Y	R	Q	J	M	L	V

Previous crossword solution

ACROSS: 1 Sibling, 4 Busy as a bee, 9 Precise, 13 Airy, 14 Potato, 15 Strife, 16 Barrier, 18 Tie, 20 Propaganda, 21 Nickname, 22 Girth, 25 Sneaky, 26 Cajole, 28 Mint sauce, 33 Baritone, 34 Coasts, 35 Hatchet, 39 Fragment, 40 Recall, 41 Mead, 42 Moist, 43 Learn, 46 Put on a pedestal, 53 Crust, 56 Study, 57 Left, 58 Tavern, 59 Escapade, 62 Snooped, 63 Nicety, 64 Interval, 67 Restarted, 69 Design, 70 Stance, 74 Bandy, 75 Spyglass, 77 Fraternity, 81 Rim, 83 Interim, 84 Poncho, 85 Advent, 86 Sofa, 87 Crosier, 88 Settlement, 89 Highest.

DOWN: 1 Swamp, 2 Borrowed, 3 Global, 4 Bland, 5 Spot, 6 Absence, 7 Africa, 8 Elfin, 10 Roam, 11 Cardiac, 12 Sleuth, 17 Backgammon, 19 Empty, 23 Foreseen, 24 Radar, 25 Skilful, 27 Agog, 29 Isthmus, 30 Kidnap, 31 Ballad, 32 Census, 34 Cramp, 36 Choir, 37 Lava, 38 Gala, 44 Extend, 45 Radio, 47 Used, 48 Outline, 49 Anthem, 50 Envy, 51 Earliest, 52 Lustre, 53 Characters, 54 Utah, 55 Treacle, 60 Petty, 61 Stag, 65 Crypt, 66 Antidote, 68 Endless, 69 Disrobe, 71 Banner, 72 Mascot, 73 Stench, 76 Gnome, 78 Rivet, 79 Yeast, 80 Pile, 82 Maze.

5x5

S	R	T		
R	D	S		
L	R			
G	O	S		

Insert the missing letters to complete ten words — five across the grid and five down. More than one solution may be possible.

C	L	A	M	P
R	A	D	I	O
I	R	O	N	S
E	G	R	E	T
S	E	E	R	S

Previous solution

Council identifies six-point plan to respond to cost pressures

Whanganui District Council's elected members explored budget options for the Long-term Plan 2024-34 and discussed a six-point plan to lower rates increases in a livestreamed long-term plan workshop on Tuesday, 5 December.

Whanganui Mayor Andrew Tripe says, "Looking over budgets in recent weeks, we've been very aware that cost of living pressures are still affecting many households. As you'll know this situation is not unique to Whanganui – the economic pain is being felt across the country due primarily to what I refer to as the three I's – high inflation, interest costs, and insurance."

He says, "I am writing to the new government ministers responsible for local government, infrastructure, regional development and tertiary education to advocate for pressures on local coun-

cils and ratepayers to be addressed. I support localism, which means councils need to be strengthened, not weakened, by government policies and decisions.

Mayor Andrew says like households, councils are having to look at ways to tighten the belt.

"If a household is having a tough time, what do you do? Maybe you cancel subscriptions, eat out less, and pay your credit card bill to keep it down since interest is expensive. As a council, we're also looking at ways to tighten the belt which we are undertaking through a six-point plan because we know our community wants us to be fiscally responsible and responsive to the situation we're in. This plan will position us for the future and our growth aspirations."

He says compared with councils across the country, Whanganui District Council is in a very good

position.

"Our council has comparatively low debt and over the years we've put the proper level of investment into maintaining assets, including our water infrastructure. We're in good shape economically, particularly in domestic tourism, and our population is growing as people realise this is an incredible place to live. So Whanganui's future is looking bright – we just have to get through this tough economic time together.

Whanganui District Council chief executive, David Langford, says the Long-Term Plan 2024-34 will provide a roadmap for Whanganui for the next decade. It will set out where we aim to be by 2034, what we will need to do to get there and how much it will cost, giving a full picture of how all council activities are managed, delivered and funded.

"Whanganui is a growing city with big aspirations for the future. Our six-point plan identifies what we can do to keep costs increases down in the short term, while also positioning the district for a bright future in the medium to long term. We can think of each of the six points as a lever – projected rates increases will change depending on how hard we pull each lever," David Langford says.

The six points are:
 - population growth
 - improving efficiency
 - exploring alternative funding for projects
 - cutting council services
 - selling assets to repay debt
 - identifying sources of non-rates revenue.

David Langford says the rates rise was initially estimated at close to 24 percent, but "after a lot of hard work and deferrals wherever possible, we are now down to three rates scenarios for consulta-

tion – high (14.8 percent), medium (9.5 percent) and low (5.8 percent).

"For example, to achieve the medium scenario, we'd need to find \$1M of efficiency savings, 16M of alternative funding for projects, \$2M of savings from service cuts, \$16M from selling assets to repay debt, \$1.2M of additional non-rates income and our population needs to grow so that our rating base increases by \$0.6M per year."

Mayor Andrew says there are many more discussions to be had between



now and the consultation to work out specifics.

"No formal decisions will be made until we've heard from the commu-

nity. During consultation we'll present details around each scenario and ask what people prioritise keeping."

Consultation on the long-term plan will run from 2 April to 2 May 2024, with deliberations on 28 and 29 May.

Art exhibition of Judy Flatt's work opens December 16




Judy Flatt with a piece of her artwork

Judy Flatt has always been interested in art but has only taken it seriously since she retired and had enough time to focus. Since then, she has had exhibitions alongside other artists, such as Jill Maas, in the Duncan Pavilion during Artists Open Studios. She has also had her work in the 'A Gallery', and has entered into the Taranaki Arts Festival and Waimarino art competitions.

This will be her first solo exhibition. It will be in the Whanganui Community Arts Centre on Taupo Quay from 16 to 23 December. She describes her work as 'colourful geometric abstract' (see the attached picture).

There will be a combination of new and old pieces, a range of sizes, and all will be for sale.



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Just how long is a game of golf? Up to 150 holes? *Velodrome open for bookings*

Rodney Donaldson is the manager of the Castlecliff Golf Club and self-confessed golf fanatic. As evidence, he and his two younger brothers, Jack and Ryan, are planning to have their own 'Longest Day of Golf' to support the Cancer Society's House of Travel Longest Day Golf Challenge to be held at Castlecliff on 12 January.

However, the Cancer Society's fundraiser is 'only' 36 holes. The brothers are thinking "that we can get to 150 holes, golfing from 7am to 5pm." They have done something similar before.

In September 2019, the brothers achieved 101 holes in "horrendous conditions," thanks to the endless rain on the day. They had postponed it by one day and slept overnight in a campervan at the course to be ready for a 5.30am start.

They were raising funds for a defibrillator for the club, and the club was totally behind their efforts. They declined the use of carts, walking all the way, which for Rodney was 67,000 steps. "We had umbrellas and ran between holes." One brother "had his best round ever and is the proud holder of the

'Tall Trophy,' which I plan to take off him this time." The brothers raised just over \$3000, and the defib is in the club rooms, fortunately unused up to this point.

Rodney has even more history in this type of event. He had previously completed a 100-hole event in Wairakei to raise funds for Leukaemia and Blood Cancer NZ – but that time they used carts. He remembers scoring 26 birdies. (a one under par for non-golfers)

The Donaldson family is a golfing family. Father was a golfer, and sister, Jodie Arnott, is a Castlecliff Club Champ, and her husband can boast a hole-in-one at Tawhero.

Rodney has been club manager and coach at Castlecliff for ten years. He says, "The club is going really well. There would be 30 to 40 members here by 8am start time on a Saturday." Current membership is 470, which is a significant increase from a pre-Covid number of 300.

The brothers hope to do their longest day of golf fundraiser before the official Cancer Society one. That event will be a 3-man Ambrose at \$100 a team. Jess from the local Cancer Society says, "I wanted to

re-introduce a golf tournament to cater for our male audience. As a predominantly male supported sport, it is an opportunity to increase the awareness of the support the Cancer Society offers to men in our community. Prostate cancer is one of the top three forms of cancer among Whanganui patients."

The tournament details are at <https://longestday.org.nz>.

With construction now complete, the Cooks Gardens velodrome is open for bookings.

"The inner circle of the velodrome opens up fantastic opportunities for different activities. It's exciting to see what will be hosted there," says Marianne Cavanagh, Whanganui District Council's general manager of community and customer experience.

"Along with track cycling, the venue can

be booked for different events such as car shows, concerts, fairs and markets. It has been closed for a while so to take this next step to activate the space, along with our key stakeholders and community, is an exciting milestone."

The track closed in February 2021 when the existing hardwood timber track (installed in 1995) became a safety risk to users. Earlier this year, specialist contractors Velotrack replaced the



track using Accoya wood, which goes through an acetylation process to give it a longer lifespan than ordinary wood. The Accoya wood was supplied by New Zealand company Hermapac.

"It's early days so there are still some finer points to work out on how the venue can be utilised, but we're looking forward to collaboratively working with hirers on how their event needs can be met. I encourage anyone interested to contact our team."

"The Whanganui Cycling Club has been instrumental in reopening the venue and working through criteria of how the track can be used, and the council project team have put a lot of hard work into getting the track resurfaced and

reaching this point where we can invite bookings."

The new track is designed for use by local community members, local, regional and national elite cyclists, and future New Zealand Masters Games participants.

Bookings are essential and can be made through Whanganui Venues & Events, which also manages bookings for the Royal Whanganui Opera House, War Memorial Centre, Majestic Square and Cooks Gardens. To enquire about booking, contact the team on 06 349 0513, events@whanganui.govt.nz, or head to the website: Cooks Gardens Event Centre, Track and Field, Velodrome Whanganui District Council

Whanganui kids and teens test their toughness



Crossing the Tough Teen event finish line

Close to 3,000 tamariki and rangatahi from across the region tackled the annual Mitre 10 MEGA Whanganui Tough Teen and Tough Kid challenge at Cooks Gardens on Thursday 30 November and Friday 1 December.

980 Year 9 – 10 students from Whanganui secondary schools registered for the Tough Teen event held on Thursday afternoon, which featured a range of obstacles including the Plumber Dan giant inflatable ducks, the Pak n' Save trolley run and the familiar fire hoses wielded by the Whanganui Fire Service.

Thursday also saw a record number of participants take part in the 'Quiet Hour', a chance to try out the course in a more relaxed environment. Close to 100 children and young people enjoyed exploring the 18 obstacles with support people in tow. This year's event saw the option for people using wheelchairs to move around an adapted course.

"Both days were a total success with an amazing atmosphere brought about by our excited tamariki and rangatahi," said organiser Quinn Hemingway.

"We couldn't have done it without all our fantastic sponsors and volunteers who cheered on our participants as they made their way around the course."

"Seeing so many smiling faces and hearing the laughter as people came down off the Mitre 10 MEGA water slide into the finish line was priceless!"

Whanganui High School were the winners of the Tough Teen School prize, lifting the trophy from 2022 winners Cullinane College.

Invited winners from Rangitikei and Ruapehu Tough Kid events held earlier this year were well-represented in the top placings at the Mitre 10 MEGA Whanganui Tough Kid event.

In the Year 5/6 Girls race, Ella Transom from St Joseph's School in Taihape took out the double, winning on the back of a top placing in her age group at the Rangitikei Tough Kid event in August.

St John's Hill School and St Georges School were the winners of the Toughest Junior and Senior Schools respectively.

Sport Whanganui would like to thank all the local businesses and volunteers that sponsored or helped to build obstacles, or gave up their time to help at the events.

A link allowing participants to search their time will be sent to Tough Kid schools this week. A full list of placegetters can be found on the Sport Whanganui website.

Pigeon racing

The St Johns Club Whanganui Pigeon Racing Adjunct held its final race of the season with an Old Bird Championship race from Cape Reinga. The race attracted 86 pigeons from 6 flyers. The winning pigeon from the loft of Brent Miller, of Waverley, covered the 621km in 8hr 44min 8sec to record an average speed of 1185.06mpm or 71.1kph. The pigeons experienced mixed winds on their flights to Whanganui (646km), Waverley and Marton (670km.)

Results were: Brent Miller (Waverley) 1185.06mpm or 71.10kph; Shane Gudopp (Marton) 1170.10 mpm or 70.20kph; B and A Fairweather (Whanganui) 1143.49mpm or 68.61kph; Dave Lacy (Whanganui) 1140.98mpm or 68.46kph; Benedict Galinda (Whanganui) 1124.87 or 67.49kph; Don Lacy (Whanganui) 654.83 or 39.28kph.

The winner of the Distance Average was Shane Gudopp, Runner Up was B and A Fairweather.

Golf results

Castlecliff 9 Hole Club

Thursday, 30 November Multiplying Stableford Ladies: Elaine Everitt 38, Marilyn Edmonds 35 c/b, Anne Cox 35. **Mens:** Brian Elliott 45, Rodney Mence 38, Mike Meyrick 35 c/b. **Raffle:** Brian Quinn



Rodney at his favourite spot – on the golf course.



WHAT'S ON

IN THE COMMUNITY

Gaza fundraiser - 'Walled Off' film involving Banksy Creation screening Monday

About to look at life changes?

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Alcoholics Anonymous

Phone 0800 229 6757. If you have a drinking problem maybe we can help. AA Wanganui area meeting list: Sunday, St Johns Lutheran Church Hall, 51 Liverpool Street, Wanganui, 9am; Monday, Friendship Hall, Morris Street, Marton, 7.30pm; Tuesday, St Johns Lutheran Church Hall, 51 Liverpool Street, Wanganui, 12.30pm; Wednesday, St Luke's Church Hall, 34 Manuka Street, Castlecliff, 7.30pm; Thursday, St Johns Lutheran Church Hall, 51 Liverpool Street, Wanganui, 7.30pm; Al-Anon (family support) Friday, Gonville Library meeting room, 12.30pm. Ph 0508 425 266.

Artception - Art as you see it

An exhibition of paintings presented by Karyn Schultz and Jan Pickett. 15th - 21st December, Front Gallery, 19 Taupō Quay.

Do You Have Questions

About the Bible?

Come and join us at the Christadelphian Hall on Tuesday night at 7:30pm for Bible-based discussion and a cup of tea. All are most welcome. 138 Great North Road. Email: wanganui.ecclesia@outlook.co.nz / www.thisisyourbible.com

What's On in the Community Notices

What's On in the Community notices are \$10 for up to 50 words. Contact River City Press, by Tuesday 1pm to place your advertisement.

Epilepsy Seminars

11th December 2023 - 1.30pm - 2.30pm Community House, 32 Leach Street, New Plymouth & 12th December 2023 - 1.30pm - 2.30pm Community House, 60 Ridgway Street, Whanganui (Tea, coffee & biscuits provided) RSVP Email: taranaki@epilepsy.org.nz or phone/txt: 027 221-3657. Seminar covering Seizure Types, First Aid, Triggers and Seizure management.

Theosophy Whanganui Public Meeting

Usually held 2nd Sunday Monthly. Where: Community Arts Centre, back river entrance in the Awa Room. When: 2pm What: Presentation with respectful discussion and communication. Purpose: No dogma, 'Do no harm', explore ancient wisdom to develop self with the universe. Email: theosophywhanganui@gmail.com

Whanganui Country Music Club

invites you to our final Club day for 2023 - Sunday 10th December at the Pipe Band Hall, 1E Bell Street, 1pm to 4.30pm. Come along and enjoy the fun and laughter with the Best Country Music Band in town. A special thank you to those who have supported our club days throughout 2023. We wish you all a Blessed Christmas and a safe New Year. We will be restarting our club days on 14th January 2024. Contact Terri 021-420-069 or Dave 021-061-7282.

Wanganui Spiritual & Awareness Centre

Meetings 7pm Sundays, Quaker Meeting Rooms, 256 Wicksteed St. Local or visiting speakers or mediums sharing their spiritual gifts. Join our healing circle, take a raffle, stay for supper and chat. Everyone is welcome. Koha appreciated. See our Facebook page for details. Ph: 027-697-6308.

'Walled Off' is a 2023, 90 minute film by Vin Arfuso which will be shown at the Davis Theatre on Monday, 11 December at 7pm. Entry is \$10 or a koha and is a fundraiser for the work of Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors without Borders in Gaza as well as for urgent relief for Gazan children.

A summary of the film is as follows: "A secret museum in an art hotel, sparks intrigue when it is revealed to be a creation of controversial artist, Banksy. Using art as a form of political resistance, the hotel highlight the reality of life under military occupation in the West Bank. The film journeys through the ho-



The hotel art work created by Banksy.

tel and Palestine." There will also be a raffle on the night.

OBITUARY - David Mander

The passing of a former Whanganui and Waverley fullback, David (Steve) Mander, has had two older rugby folk recalling his deeds.

Mr Mander, who died last month, was a nonagenarian. He played 32 games, mainly for Whanganui but also for Whanganui - King Country, from 1952 - 57.

Whanganui Rugby Union historian John Phillips said Mander, generally known as Steve, had been a good, solid, all-round player and a very good goal-kicker.

A retired Waverley farmer, John Scott, recalled that Mander played for Whanganui - King Country against the 1956 Springboks and had brought off a try-saving tackle of a wing.

John Scott recalled not only the copybook tackle but a player who could kick with both feet.

The 1956 South African tourists beat Whanganui - King Country 36 - 16.

Whanganui players in the combined side were the backs Mander and Jim Wallace and the forwards Jock Fitchett, Bill Eriksen and Jack Karatau.

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Recent Bereavements

Sadly passed away recently...

Steven John (Stevy) BLOOMFIELD, on 1 December 2023, aged 69 years.

Dave HALL, on 2 December 2023, aged 74 years.

Darryl Stephen JOHNSON, on 1 December 2023, aged 57 years.

Laurence (Laurie) KING

Aulay MACAULAY, on 29 November 2023, aged 86 years.

Melody Lynn PAPWORTH, on 2 December 2023, aged 71 years.

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Two local artists having combined exhibition

Two Whanganui artists – Jan Pickett and Karyn Schultz – have joined forces to create a vibrant, exciting and impactful display for their forthcoming exhibition in the front gallery at Whanganui Arts, 19 Taupo Quay, from 15 to 21 December.

Jan Pickett is foremost a self-taught intuitive artist whose works reflect the textures, colours and shapes within the topography of the coastal Taranaki environment she grew up in. Teaching art to many classroom learners has been very rewarding, as she could share her passion with her students, enriching their school experiences.

Jan's style encourages thinking and connection, creating links between the art and the viewer. Working with acrylic paint, her use of colour, texture, line and space helps create aesthetically pleasing and varied images. Some of her larger works would fit beautifully in a private lounge as well as in the business sector as a complement to décor.

Karyn Schultz has formed a unique style of her own, drawing from the skills and experience she has gained from courses attended over the years, while developing her own independent, creative style along the way. The local environment is predominant in her work which can combine a realistic element with a hint



Moody Blues Rumble by Karyn



Sea storm by Jan

of cubism, depending on the subject matter, while other work can be more abstract or completely realistic. She uses line to great advantage to enhance the elements of her work. Artworks are colourful and vibrant.

Both Jan and Karyn have exhibited before, either with the Quay Arts group

or in solo exhibitions.

If you are looking to add to your art collection or wanting to buy something unique as a gift, a visit to this exhibition is recommended. Gift cards of artworks are for sale also.

The exhibition is open 10am to 4pm on weekdays and 10 to 1pm on Saturdays and the same times on Sunday, if the 'Boring Gallery' is open.

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INDEPENDENT BOARD MEMBER

The Wanganui Greyhound Racing Club is seeking expressions of interest for the position of Independent Board Member.

The Board consists of five members made up of two independent members and three elected members.

The Independent Board Member position is for a term of two years and ideally we are seeking someone who has expertise in areas such as management, marketing, sales law or finance.

The applicant ideally would have an interest in greyhound racing but cannot depend on their livelihood from greyhound ownership, training or breeding.

Applicants are also ineligible if they are adjudged bankrupt, have been convicted of any offence that carries a penalty of three months imprisonment or more, is a disqualified Director, is subject to a Property Order.

Please forward your expression of interest along with a current Curriculum Vitae to:

Private and Confidential
Board of the WGRC, PO Box 854, Wanganui
or email to: secretary@wanganuigreyhounds.co.nz

Closing dates for applications is
Wednesday 13 December, 2023 at 5pm

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FOR SALE

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NEW books available at River City Press, 52 Ingestre St. "From the Sea to the Mountain"; "Whimsical Tales of Old Wanganui"; "More Whimsical Tales of Old Wanganui"; "My Life - Annasophia".

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Nominate someone you think is deserving of our **Bouquet of the Week!**



Email or facebook message us with your nomination and reason why they deserve to win!
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Christmas at Piko Piko Restaurant

Work Functions, Family Gatherings or a Group of Friends for a Christmas Buffet!
 Bookings essential - come and celebrate with us!!

for bookings - email: pikopikorestaurant@gmail.com or text 022 315 4969

ALSO OPEN CHRISTMAS DAY with a fabulous Christmas lunch!
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HOLIDAY HOURS
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 Re-open Monday 8 January 10am
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 In Praise of Music Oratorio - Sunday 14 Jan 11.30am
 Collegiate Chapel - Tickets \$20 Student \$10
 Public Masterclass - Monday 15 Jan 7.30pm
 PEA Collegiate School Tickets \$25 Student \$15
 Great Opera Moments - Saturday 20 Jan 7.30pm
 Opera House Tickets \$50 Student \$40

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 1st - 23rd DECEMBER 2023

MON - THURS 7pm - 10pm
FRI - SUN 12pm - 5pm

ENTRY FEE \$5 ADULTS - \$3 CHILDREN (14 AND UNDER)

- Children 14 and under must be accompanied by an adult
 - One adult per 4 children
- No prams, strollers or mobility scooters allowed
- No food or drink allowed
- Children must be supervised at all times

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MICHAEL JACKSON HISTORY SHOW
 Tuesday 20 February 8pm
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 Senior \$67.65 Child to 13yrs \$44.80

SWEENEY TODD - The Demon Barber of Fleet Street
 Friday 15 & Saturday 16 March 7.30pm
 Sunday 17 March 2pm
 Thursday 21, Friday 22 & Saturday 23 March 7.30pm
 Gold & Silver pricing *Earlybird to 31/12/23*
 Adult \$43.75 / \$34.75
 Senior - Student \$37 / \$28

LEAVING JACKSON - The Johnny Cash show
 Thursday 9 May 7.30pm
 Adult \$71.60 Senior / Group 6+ \$66.60
 Student / Child \$27 Family 2A2C \$168

THE BEACH BOYS EXPERIENCE
 Sunday 2 June 7.30pm
 Adult \$71.60 Senior/Student \$66.60
 Group 6+ \$61.60 Child to 17yrs \$51

WHANGANUI KIDS COMEDY
 Saturday 8 June 2pm Tickets \$26 Group discounts

WHANGANUI COMEDY GALA
 Saturday 8 June 7pm
 Gold: Tickets \$78

Premium: limited Earlybird \$66 Full price \$73, Group 6+ \$68
 A reserve: limited Earlybird \$56 Full price: \$63, Group 6+ \$58

THE WORLD OF MUSICALS IN CONCERT
 Thursday 11 July 7.30pm
 Adult \$92.50 Senior / Group 10+ \$82.50
 Child to 14yrs \$72.50 Family 2A2C \$72.50 each

MAGIC MEN AUSTRALIA
 Saturday 13 July 7.30pm
 A Res \$101.60 B Res \$81.60 C Res \$61.60 D Res \$41.00

Booking / service fees apply to all ticket sales

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THURSDAY 16 DECEMBER

\$1000 - 6.30pm
\$200 - 7.00pm
\$400 - 7.30pm

101 Wakefield Street, Wanganui East
 Phone 06 343 7023

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Putiki 15 Ngatarua Road

Open Home




Lifestyle living in Putiki

Calling all offers to be received by 2.00pm, Tuesday 19 December 2023 (unless sold prior) at enquiries over \$719,000. Welcome to 15 Ngatarua Road, where the allure of countryside living meets the convenience of town life! This exquisite 1.0977 ha (approx) property offers a picturesque retreat, just a short drive from the heart of Whanganui with the potential of sub-division. The inviting home boasts two bedrooms plus a rumpus room, providing ample space for family living or hosting guests. A substantial long-length double garage and a covered carport.

🛏 2+ 🚗 1 🚗 1 🏠 1 🏠 2

For Sale Buyers \$719,000+
View Sun 10 Dec 10.00 - 10.45am
Web pb.co.nz/WGL173923

 **Anthony Floyd**
M 021 477 435

 **Leighton Toy**
M 027 415 1515

Whanganui East 11 Moana Street

Open Home




The perfect family retreat

For sale by way of negotiation at enquiries over \$599,000. Discover the epitome of family living with this captivating four bedroom, two bathroom residence with an amazing backyard for the family and entertaining. The house offers plenty of room for a large family and to cater for guests, with the master bedroom equipped with an ensuite. The large family lounge flows out to the kitchen and dining area which has direct access to the backyard. If you have a fleet of vehicles, the large garage and adjoining covered carport is sure to impress.

🛏 4 🚗 2 🚗 1 🏠 1

For Sale Buyers \$599,000+
View Sun 10 Dec 12.15 - 12.45pm
Web pb.co.nz/WGU173554

 **Anthony Floyd**
M 021 477 435

 **Leighton Toy**
M 027 415 1515

Castlecliff 85 Cornfoot Street

Open Home




First home buyers gem

For sale by way of deadline at 1.00pm, Tuesday 19 December 2023 (unless sold prior) at enquiries over \$399,000. Discover the charm of coastal living at 85 Cornfoot Street, your gateway to relaxed, low-maintenance living. Nestled on a fully fenced 506 m2 section (approx), this tidy three bedroom home is an ideal retreat for those seeking proximity to the beach. The property features a detached single garage with excellent workshop space, perfect for DIY enthusiasts or those in need of additional storage. The house is adorned with stucco cladding and aluminium joinery.

🛏 3 🚗 1 🚗 1 🏠 1

For Sale Buyers \$399,000+
View Sun 10 Dec 12.15 - 12.45pm
Web pb.co.nz/WGU173916

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 **Leighton Toy**
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Springvale 34 Devon Road

New Listing




Where location counts!

Nestled in the heart of the highly sought-after suburb of Springvale, 34 Devon Road is a delightful three bedroom home that combines comfort and convenience. The house offers you the chance to make your own mark on the interior. The kitchen and dining area are combined and there is a separate lounge. All three bedrooms have built-in wardrobes. There is a separate laundry and the bathroom has a wet-room shower. The generous land holding 847 m2 (approx) provides you with plenty of options to garden or create your own wonderland. Multiple garden sheds provide practical storage solutions.

🛏 3 🚗 1 🚗 1 🏠 1

For Sale Buyers \$449,000+
View Sun 10 Dec 11.15 - 11.45am
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