



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

Dr Jeya Wilson happy to live in Whanganui after tension of living as a mixed race couple in Africa

BY DOUG DAVIDSON

Jeya Wilson's life has been an eclectic blend of academic accomplishment, political engagement, and entrepreneurial drive. Yet she is very much under the radar in Whanganui and happy about that.

Jeya was born in Ceylon (Sri Lanka), lived in England, spent a year at a school in the USA, then completed her schooling in Samoa before coming to live and study in New Zealand.

Her first brush with fame was in 1983 when she went to Oxford University, England, on a Commonwealth Scholarship to do a PhD on sanctions and South Africa. Having won the Australasian Debating Championships, she

joined the Oxford Union Debating Society, representing them at the World Debating Championships, where she was the runner-up.

In 1986, Jeya was elected President of the Oxford Union, becoming only the second woman of colour to hold the presidency after the Pakistani Prime Minister, Benazir Bhutto. Three British Prime Ministers have also held the role, and her immediate successor was Boris Johnson the recent British PM.

She invited the New Zealand prime minister at the time, David Lange, to take part in a widely televised live debate on New Zealand's anti-nuclear policy. Many readers will remember that debate, especially Lange's famous line about smelling the uranium on his opponent's breath. Jeya says, "Lange was very keen to debate. It's to his credit that he had the confidence and the willingness to do it." Jeya was the opening speaker defending New Zealand's policy on the world stage.

It was the 200th year of the Oxford Union Debating Society last year and Jeya says, "The Lange debate was featured in the commemorative brochure as one of the four notable debates in the Union's 200 year history." In 1981, Jeya had defied the odds in being granted a visa to go to South Africa along with her partner who was Pākehā. Mixed race couples were illegal under apartheid law, and both of them were active anti-apartheid campaigners.

It was also on the eve of the controversial 1981 Springbok tour of New Zealand.

The couple travelled by camper van as under apartheid there were separate hotels, beaches, restaurants, toilets etc for the four racial classifications: 'whites, coloureds, Indians and blacks'. They recorded their experiences in a book, "Babes in Verwoerds: Two New Zealanders in South Africa."

Jeya recounts: "While staying at Kruger National Park, I went to the ladies. The white women there stopped talking when I came in, and stared. I deliberately took a long time washing my hands because when we lived in England as children, a friend of my sister's was told 'Don't play with her - she's dirty.'"

"With the Springbok tour protests making headline news in South Africa, we were followed by security police, and interviewed by the South African Sunday Times on condition that the article

be embargoed until we'd left the country."

In 1989 Jeya returned to South Africa when apartheid was in its twilight. While her husband got a visa to work as a university professor, Jeya's designation was 'housewife'. She could not be a joint owner of their house in a white area without accepting the status of 'honorary white', which she declined.

Nevertheless, her network of influential contacts in business and politics helped her to get South African citizenship to add to her New Zealand and British citizenships. But shortly before the first 'one person one vote' elections she suffered personal, professional, and political setbacks that prevented her from standing for South Africa's first democratic elections as a candidate for the Democratic Party.

"It was devastating. It was my Christian faith that saved me."

Jeya got a job as speechwriter for the first black



Dr Jeya Wilson

mayor of Durban, and then appointed as CEO of the Durban Chamber of Commerce - the largest in Africa. She was the first person of colour and the first woman in this position. She overcame

resistance and several obstacles to mobilise \$72 million in funding for Aids, and was honoured for this work at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development.

Continued on page 3

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Hello Comedy Show returning to Whanganui

Look out Whanganui – the jokes are coming your way, thick and fast. The Hello Comedy Showcase is returning with a double feature starring Celebrity Treasure Island winner James Mustapic and Wellington laughmeister Jerome Chandrahasen. James is an award-winning comedian and TV personality known for the TVNZ+ series Abandonment Issues and winning Celebrity Treasure Island.

Since being named Best Newcomer in 2018 at the NZ International Comedy Festival, he has gone on to become a regular on the national circuit, been nominated twice for the Billy T Award and appeared in The Comedy Gala. Wellington legend Jerome is back in town for the third time, so he must be doing something right. He first wowed Whanganui audiences in August 2022 when he hosted the showcase featuring Justine

Smith. That performance earned him a spot at the 2023 Whanganui Comedy Gala, where he was a



Jerome Chandrahasen getting laughs at last year's Whanganui Comedy Gala at the Opera House.

stand-out act. The show is at the celebrated Whanganui Musicians Club and is hosted by former Billy T Award nominee Dave Wiggins, with Jo Buckingham and Morgan Hunter Bell also

on the bill. To keep your funny bone lubricated, the event features a fully-curated bar, including local craft beer from LADS Brewery. Hello Comedy Showcase – R18 Double Feature

Whanganui Musicians Club, 65 Drews Avenue, Whanganui Saturday, March 16, 7.30pm–9.30pm Tickets \$37.13 (phone sales - 0800 BUY TIX [289 849])

Sing-a-ling-along pop up choir



Have you ever dreamed of singing along with others, but fear held you back? Worry no more! Lizzie de Vegt invites you to join the enchanting La Fiesta pop-up choir, an inclusive musical experience for everyone. No experience is needed – whether you are a seasoned singer or just starting out, everyone is welcome. The repertoire will be a combo of fun covers and well-known NZ classics. You will get to socialize with fellow singers at the end over a cuppa tea and biscuits. The Sing-a-ling-along will be held at Lizzie's studio 'Love Singing', 89a Guyton St. (Need to be able to climb 1 flight of stairs - near Red Eye Cafe) on 25th Feb, 5pm (The 7pm session is already full). Cost is \$10 per person. Bring cash.

Please book ASAP as space is limited - emailing or texting Lizzie.elizabeth.deVegt@gmail.com or 022 644 9020. Don't miss this chance to experience the magic of community singing in a welcoming atmosphere. Join La Fiesta Pop-Up Choir and let your voice soar!

Check out what's in this week's RCP

Dr Jaya Wilson, (see our front page article), has done so much that it was necessary to focus on just a couple of areas. Her involvement in the nuclear power debate alongside New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange can be viewed on Youtube.

Her decision to live in Whanganui reflects her values. While happy to fly under the radar, she will be an effective member of the community.

The Harriette Vine Kindergarten has recently unveiled an impressive statue created and donated by local artist James Chatterton (page 14). It will give pleasure to many people.

Heritage Food Crop Research Trust is offering free fruit trees to schools and community groups (page 25). This Sunday they have an Open Day – but it was



Doug Davidson journalist@rivercitypress.co.nz

quickly booked out. A tour group of 40 descendants of soldiers who fought in Crete, led by local Greg Osborne, will be placing poppies on the graves of New Zealand soldiers there, thanks to the local RSA (page 20). - Doug Davidson

Ticket giveaway

The River City Press has a double tickets for the Hello Comedy Showcase to give away. Simply email your best short, sharp joke – along with your name and phone number – to rivercitypress@xtra.co.nz or drop your entry into our office at 52 Ingestre Street by March 1.

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Frocks on Bikes event this Saturday

Dr Jeya Wilson happy to live in Whanganui after tension of living as a mixed race couple in Africa



Jeya with David Lange

Frocks On Bikes is back. After taking a break from La Fiesta in 2023 due to a jam-packed festival schedule, the much-anticipated cycling event that combines fashion and fun with functionality is set to take place on Saturday, 24 February. This colourful event celebrates the joy of cycling while highlighting the creativity, style and elegance of cyclists from all walks of life.

Frocks On Bikes is more than just a bike ride; it's a celebration of sustainable transport, active lifestyles, and creative fashion. Participants are encouraged to don their most stylish and creative outfits, whether it's a vintage dress, a sleek suit, funky ensemble, or super-hero outfit, and join the ride around the bridges.

The event will kick off at Velo Ronny's Bicycle Store on Wilson Street, where participants will gather for a pre-ride registration from 10:30am. The ride will set off at 11am, taking cyclists on a scenic route around the bridges and through the city, utilising the best of our shared pathways and showcasing the beauty of urban cycling, as well

as promoting a greener, healthier way of getting around.

"Frocks On Bikes is all about celebrating the joy of cycling and the freedom it brings," says Carla Donson, the event organiser. "We want to show that cycling can be stylish, fun, and accessible to everyone, regardless of age, gender, or background. It's a fantastic way to promote active transport and encourage more people to get on their bikes."

The event is open to cyclists of all ages and abilities, and participants are encouraged to decorate their bikes and wear their most fabulous outfits.

Frocks On Bikes is supported by the team at Velo Ronny's, Sport Whanganui, the Women's Network and the Whanganui District Council, all

of whom share the vision of promoting cycling as an active and enjoyable mode of transport. Their support has been instrumental in making this event possible. As well as being a signature event of La Fiesta, it is also part of the month-long schedule of local Bike Wise activities.

Join us for Frocks On Bikes and experience the joy of cycling in style! For more information and to register for the event, visit the event page on Facebook or follow us on: <https://www.facebook.com/womensnetwork-whanganui>

Featuring Jan Littlejohn from Frocks On Bikes in 2022.
Photo credit: Carla Donson



Continued from page 1

Jeya was appointed as an Honorary Consul by the then Minister for Foreign Affairs, Phil Goff. She accepted her position speaking in Māori.

After 15 years in South Africa, she moved to New York as Director of Business Partnerships at UNDP (United Nations Development Programme). "I then worked for the Christian Blind Mission in Germany, but I was commuting from New York, and it was too much." Instead, she relocated to Geneva, running a University MBA programme, working for the World Health Organisation, and CEO for the World Heart Foundation.

But after 14 years, she returned to New Zealand with her husband: "I'd always said that I'd come back to Aotearoa to die." Why Whanganui? "Because Te Awa Tupua beckoned. I'm happy to have left the grandeur of Lake Geneva and Mont Blanc for a simple life here a decision I haven't questioned since."

New courses launched at UCOL Whanganui

Hairdressing is a popular vocation in Whanganui with classes at UCOL Te Pūkenga already at capacity for the first semester.

UCOL executive director Jasmine Groves says the provider's Youth Guarantee programme has seen a

26 per cent increase with demand so great that some courses, such as hairdressing in Whanganui, have been capped.

UCOL is also adding a number of new, diverse programmes this year. The first Bachelor of Teaching (Early Childhood Education) course will be delivered in Whanganui – "It's going to be an exciting year for us," says Jasmine.

The tertiary institution has seen a rise in both domestic and international students from this time last year. With the internation-

al borders well and truly open, the international intake has more than doubled.

UCOL provides different programmes and pathways into education for people leaving school, changing careers or those who may be the first in their family to study, and these pathways have proven popular.

UCOL launched the Tuakana Teina mentorship programme in Whanganui last year, and its been extremely successful among Māori learners.

"This programme has al-

lowed us to connect more experienced Māori students and graduates with less experienced learners for academic and personal support," says Jasmine.

"It's been wonderful to see those who might be struggling with their coursework or having personal issues being able to feel comfortable talking to someone they trust through this programme."

Enrolments for many courses are open now, with details available on the UCOL website www.ucol.ac.nz



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ASK AN AGENT

Q. What is the best time of year to sell a house in Whanganui?

A. Answer, that's a great question and one I get alot. Whanganui has a good number of buyers year round so any time is a good time to sell.



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Photos wanted of original church

AGC Challenge providing hands-on training for farming, agricultural and construction learning



The current Westmere Memorial Church built 100 years ago.

With the Westmere Church planning its 150th anniversary in August, organisers are keen to find any old photos of the original church. Built in 1873, the original church was on Western Road, close to the railway. It was blown down in 1918 by the huge winds that also fuelled a large fire in Raetihi. The current Westmere Memorial Church was built in 1923, being a memorial to the fallen in World War I. A book is being planned to mark the 150th anniversary. It will tell the history of Westmere and the life around the church. If anyone comes across any photos of the first church, it would be much appreciated if they could get in touch with the River City Press.

There's nothing quite like job satisfaction, and AGC Training chief executive Peter Macdonald gets quite a lot of it. AGC prioritises work-ready learning in a hands-on environment at its base on Number 3 Line, and the results are impressive. "We have around 85 per cent of our graduates going into jobs and we have been consistent at that level for a few years which is very pleasing," says Peter, who has 20 years' experience with the training provider. "The reward I get is when I see people we have influenced in their younger years being successful in the career path we set them on. They have become farm managers and sharemilking contractors, and many now run their own businesses. That is really satisfying." The New Zealand Qualification Authority (NZQA) accredited provider offers real world experience with practical training in the fields of agriculture,

animal care, large animal technology, building, construction and allied trades. "Our vision is to produce well-rounded, employable graduates," says Peter. AGC Training was known as AgChallenge until a couple of years ago. The name change reflects the diversity of the training it offers, with construction becoming a growing part of the provision. There are more than 80 full-time students and more than 150 secondary school students who come to the campus for one day each week for practical experience. Peter reckons the balance is about 60 per cent primary industries and 40 per cent trades. The organisation was formed 30 years ago when farmer Stephen Gudsell was approached by the then Department of Social Welfare to take small groups of clients and teach them basic dairying skills on his farm in Okoia, Wanganui East. That relationship is still



Adrian Lyne and Peter Macdonald, leading the way for AGC Training.

thriving, and in 2014 AgChallenge moved its base from St Hill Street to a site on the Gudsell dairy farm. AGC's work-ready philosophy means providing learning and working settings that are integrated and authentic, optimising the student's experience, and developing personal skills of resilience and employability. Peter has a particular

feeling for 'second-chance learners'. "The school system doesn't inspire all students - some are just not suited to that environment," he says. "So we provide an opportunity - a second chance - for them to learn and it points them in the direction of a job and a career." The general manager at AGC Training is Adrian Lyne, who joined eight months ago, bringing with him 30 years' experience in education and training, most recently as manager of the engineering ITO (Industry Training Organisation). He is especially pleased with the numbers in the agricultural courses, noting that there is a demand

for workers in the farming industry. "We get regular calls from people looking for graduates." He has also become involved in the construction side, which includes a school programme that sees students at eight secondary schools building a complete house. Dannevirke High School, Rangitikei College, Ruapehu College, Whanganui City College, Whanganui High School, Spotswood College, Stratford High School and Waitara High School are all starting this project, which will expose students to building skills, scaffolding, roofing, painting, framing, glazing, joinery and house moving.

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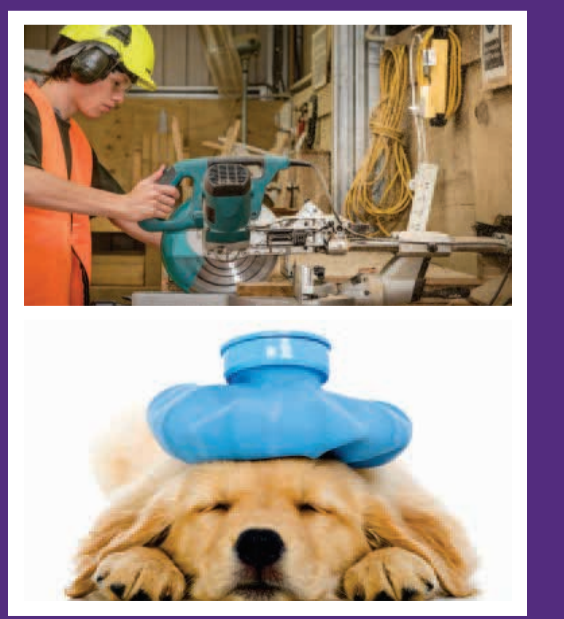
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Artist running exhibition and book launched Floral Art in the Garden



Michaela Stoneman

Michaela or M.B. Stoneman, as she prefers, as an artist, opened an exhibition and launched a book at Katy Brown's 'Brown & Co' in Ridgway Street on Friday, 9 February. The exhibition will continue for about three weeks.

Its origin goes back to her being commissioned along with three other Taranaki-based women artists to respond to Puke Ariki's collection of 250 artworks from Taranaki artist Fanny B Good.

Fanny lived from 1860 to 1950 and stayed in Taranaki. Her paintings are all New Zealand-based and are of botanical species and fungi.

M.B. Stoneman, who lives in

Patea, is a printmaker, poet and publisher. Her response to the commission was to do a four-part lithographic piece based on the only photograph available of Fanny. The exhibition finished in November last year.

Her book is a result, containing a personal essay, poetry, some pictures of Fanny's works and some of her own. It is her first book under her own imprint of Stoneman Press. It is limited to 100 copies, has a letterpress printed cover, and has been hand bound. She describes it as "An Artist's Book."

Copies of the books and most of her works are for sale.

The weekend of March 9-10 will see creativity truly blossom in Whanganui as the local Floral Art Group unveils its "Floral Art In The Garden" event.

This will take place at 'Chinook' garden (352 SH3 Whanganui), which is situated just 300m past Windermere Berry Farm in Westmere. The garden owners have kindly agreed to open their beautiful country garden to the public to give the group the opportunity to display their floral creativity. There will be over 20 designs on show.

The Garden will be open from 10am till 4pm on both days. Entry is by gold coin donation, and plants, raffles and delicious Devonshire teas will be on sale.



Whanganui Floral Art Group president Michael Unverricht and secretary Val Bartrum working on a floral "bird".

Please bring cash for all purchases.

Michael said, "We're very much looking forward to the weekend and

are excited to be able to stretch our floral imagination on some large scale designs. This is an event not to be missed". Pro-

ceeds from the weekend will be equally shared between the Order of St John and Whanganui Floral Art Group.

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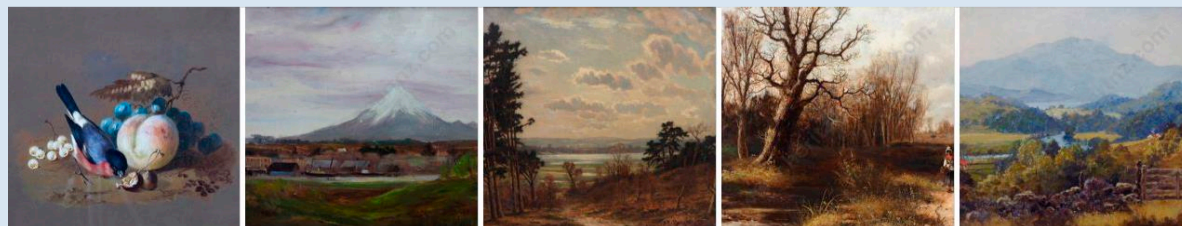
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WANGANUI SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS

Whanganui City College encourage whānau/family atmosphere at school

Ngā mihi o te tau hou Pākēha. Tēnā koutou katoa/Happy New Year and greetings to you all.

2024 has started on a very positive note and the whānau atmosphere in the school is very evident. There was a buzz of excitement in the air as we welcomed our new tēina (Year 9) into our kura, as well as a large group of new students who are new to Whanganui. Our Year 9 induction programme sees them working very closely with their tuakana (senior leaders) over two days, on a programme that is all about connections and connecting.

It is so good to see the tuakana taking on the responsibilities of the big brother big sister role. Add into this the whānau teacher and you have the perfect foundation of a positive transition into the secondary school space. My thanks to the whānau teacher and our senior tuakana leaders.

CELLPHONE BAN
We are one of a few schools in Aotearoa that have implemented a cellphone ban and at present it is going very well. Our school and another local Whanganui



City College pōwhiri 2024

secondary school have implemented the ban through an Australian firm called YONDR, who have a magnetised cell phone pouch that the students put their phone into at the beginning of the day in front of their whānau teacher. At the end of the day, at certain exits around the school, there is a device that opens the pouch when they leave. Every student is issued with a free pouch and damaging it results in a charge. There is a notable difference at lunchtimes

with lots of noise, students talking to each other, and heaps of activity out on the fields and on the turf.

SPIRIT DAY
To celebrate Whanaungatanga (sense of family connection - a relationship through shared experiences and working together), one of our school values, we have a number of Spirit Days throughout the year where we have Hapu (House) competitions where it's hapu vs hapu. Last Friday we had our first Spirit Day of the year and it was a huge success. It was centred around summer sport games and there was an awesome wairua/spirit evident. The end of the day culminated in a Staff vs Tuakana tug-o-war, followed by a whole school haka. This year, for the first time in a number of years, the staff won.

UPCOMING EVENTS
Finally, we have a number of notable events coming up here at school.

We have our Recognitions Assembly on Friday 23rd of February, where we honour our student successes through NCEA results, our Year 9 scholarship winners, and announce our tuakana prefects and Heads of School for 2024. We are hosting a suicide prevention production Shot Bro over three days next week, you can check out our Facebook page for more information. Our Year 9 students will all be going up to Parikino Marae for two nights next Wednesday to Friday, information has been emailed to caregivers, if you haven't received yours please contact the school.

Our aroha (love/affection) to all of our schools and learning centres in Whanganui and hoping you have had a great start to your year.

Ngā mihi nui kia koutou, Peter Kaua Tumuaki/Principal Whanganui City College

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Gaza hearts in Whanganui

By Mark Dawson

The appearance of 12,000 hearts on Valentine's Day last week on the Somme Parade footpath opposite the Cornmarket has attracted a lot of interest on social media – mainly positive, some negative.

The stencilled hearts, done under cover of darkness, represent the 12,000 children (as at February 14) killed in Gaza during the Israeli assault on the territory. They are accompanied by a message calling for a ceasefire in Gaza.

Jessie Hine, a 21-year-old hospitality worker, is one of the group involved in the work, which took around five hours.

She is a supporter of the Palestinian cause and got involved with the group through attending the Saturday morning rallies which occur every week near the riverside market and i-site.

"I have met people from Palestine, Gaza and Lebanon, and it is emotionally



The stencilled hearts on Somme Parade.

chilling to talk to people directly related to the situation, and to see how upset they are," said Jessie.

"There has been a lot of feedback on social media,

with many people seeing the hearts as beautiful but saddening. And, of course, there have been angry people who see it as propaganda."



WORLD DAY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

FEBRUARY 20

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[sō-shəl 'jə-stəs]

The fair division of resources, opportunities, and privileges in society.

The World Day of Social Justice on 20 February is dedicated to promoting social justice and ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to reach their full potential. It is also an opportunity to reflect on the progress made in the fight for social justice and to identify the challenges that remain.

The theme for this year's World Day of Social Justice is "Bridging Gaps, Building Alliances." This theme emphasizes the importance of collaboration and partnership to address the challenges facing our world today. It also highlights the need to promote social inclusion and cohesion and to combat discrimination and inequality.

The history of the World Day of Social Justice dates back to 1995, when the Copenhagen Summit for Social Development called

for an end to poverty, unemployment, and discrimination. The World Day of Social Justice was first declared by the United Nations General Assembly in 2007.

Within Whanganui we have the Restorative Practice/Restorative City Whanganui Trust and the work of CLAW – Community Legal Advice

Whanganui providing free legal advice on a range of community law issues.

The approach of restorative justice is to bring together the person who has done harm with the person harmed. In the process there is frequently a good outcome with understanding and acceptance from both parties.

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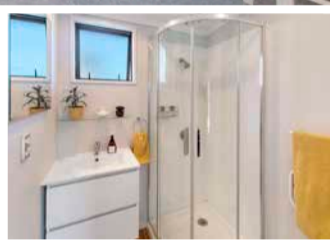
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28C Talbot Street, Whanganui East

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Asking Price
\$365,000

For Sale by Bren Guild - 021 022 06668

Open to view: 11.30am - 12.00pm -
Sunday 25th February or by appointment.

Scan the QR code for associated documents, the HD video & 2D Floor Plan. These can also be viewed and downloaded at this link: www.arizto.co.nz/property-search/28c-talbot-street-whanganui-east



25 Kaikokopu Road, Aramoho

4 Bedrooms 1 Bathroom 1+ Garage

Buyers
\$549,000+

For Sale by Mark Morton - 022 353 9419

Open to view:
By appointment.

Scan the QR code for associated documents, the HD video & 2D Floor Plan. These can also be viewed and downloaded at this link: www.arizto.co.nz/property-search/25-kaikokopu-road-aramoho



10 Karaka Street, Castlecliff

3 Bedrooms 2 Bathrooms 2 Carports

Buyers
\$529,000+

For Sale by Penny Little - 021 216 6784

Open to view: Saturday 24th February - 2.00pm - 2.30pm &
Sunday 25th February - 3.00pm - 4.00pm or by appointment.

Scan the QR code for associated documents, the HD video & 2D Floor Plan. These can also be viewed and downloaded at this link: www.arizto.co.nz/property-search/10-karaka-street-castlecliff



2 Beech Place, Hawera

3 Bedrooms 2 Bathrooms 2 Garages

Asking Price:
\$749,000

For Sale by Mark Voss - 027 877 3399

Open to view:
By appointment.

Scan the QR code for associated documents, the HD video & 2D Floor Plan. These can also be viewed and downloaded at this link: www.arizto.co.nz/property-search/2-beech-place-hawera



Positive Ageing

Is staying in your home important to you?

Chrissy George has worked in the health care sector for the past 30 years and ran her Caregiving Business successfully in Auckland for the last 10 years. Having come to live in Whanganui she is bringing the business here.

She has talked to many people here who are just not getting the quality of care they require while still living in their own homes. She asks, "Are some tasks getting a little difficult for you? Have you had an illness or surgery and need help to recover? Do you need

help in the night or just don't like being in your house alone? Keep your independence and let us help to keep you living comfortably in your own home." "Staying in your own home is important to people. Home is full of wonderful memories and

people feel comfortable with friends and neighbours around them," Chrissy adds.

Her business, Chrissy's Caregiving Ltd, employs local caregivers who have lots of caregiving experience. They have all been police checked and come with excellent references, so you can believe Chrissy when she says they employ only the very best people to ensure you get the best care possible.

Your wellbeing is the top priority for Chrissy's Caregiving Ltd and Chrissy will contact you

regularly to make sure you are 100 per cent satisfied with the company's services.

The range of services offered is extensive and includes morning and/or evening care, medication supervision, respite and/or full-time support care as well as cleaning, laundry, meals, shopping, sleepovers and driving.

All of this is provided at very competitive prices, with Chrissy endeavouring to do everything asked.

"We'll give you the help you need, and the

care you deserve." You can contact Chrissy's Caregiving Ltd on

343 1711 or 021 045 2299 or at chrissycleanncare@xtra.co.nz.



Owner of Chrissy's Caregiving Ltd, Chrissy George with her dog



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<http://www.u3awhanganui.co.nz/>

Digital skills for seniors sessions start soon at library

In our enthusiasm to get the info out to our readers, RCP printed a start date for the Digital Skills for Seniors sessions as 19 March. Whanganui Alexander Library is still working on the dates, but we understand the sessions will start soon. Digital Skills for Seniors encompasses a number of sessions, each covering a different topic, from the very basic to the more advanced. Please get in touch with Rachel at 027 211 4261 or email Rachel@whanganuilibrary.com to register and receive a copy of the schedule once complete.

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Positive Ageing

The benefits of joining Grey Power

Grey Power is an advocacy organisation with a vision for New Zealand to be a country where seniors, those 50 and over, live in dignity, enjoying a rewarding, safe and sustainable quality of life.

They have branches throughout New Zealand including one in Whanganui. The President is Nerrily Frith and she is keen to bring together the wide range of local organisations dedicated to supporting older people to provide for improved networking and support. Nerrily and board member Helen Tilley sit in on the Council's Positive Ageing Group.

Other members on their board are Lynne Morris, Ngairé Flynn, Jack Ager, Shirley McDonough and Helma Vermeulen. As a board, they will be putting together a calendar of events shortly based on what members want.

There are many benefits that come with membership, both locally and nationally.

At a national level, they include:

- AIL of New Zealand Ltd - All members of Grey Power are covered by a \$2000 Accidental Death & Dismemberment Policy at no cost.
- Atopis® Skincare – members receive a 20% discount on their exclusive skincare range.
- Bluebridge Cook Strait Ferries - All Year Discounts

- Cherished Memories – Experienced film-maker Dave Munn of Cherished Memories works with families to create a unique story on the life of an older person as a legacy to their families.
- Coffee Capsules 2U - 15% off first order
- Grey Power Electricity Scheme - Grey Power Electricity is a partnership between the Grey Power Federation and Pulse Energy to provide Grey Power Members with low-cost electricity, gas, broadband and home phone plans.

- HRV discount offer – Members are offered a range of discounts.
- Interislander Ferry

Fares - All members of Grey Power are eligible for discounts on the Interislander Ferry Service, except during the Christmas/New Year Peak from mid-December to the end of January.

- Molemap - Grey Power members receive a 20% discount off any Molemap melanoma skin checks.

- Vesta Cover Funeral / Health insurance - Grey Power members save up to 20% on all major Life & Health Insurers.

Grey Power membership open to anyone 50 years and over



What about reading for staying mentally active and healthy?

Studies show that reading for a few hours a week can boost cognitive health.

Reading a good book can boost happiness, lower stress levels and help sleep.

Reading engages multiple areas of the brain, which is good for short and long-term memory.

If you cannot reach one of our branches, our Digital Collection has a wide range of books and audiobooks. Our Mobile Library may be just round the corner and we have a Home Service that comes to your doorstep.



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Positive Ageing

How about giving golf croquet a go? *Fancy listening to jazz music?*



HAYDEN CHISHOLM

PAUL DYNE

NORMAN MEEHAN

Welcome to Wanganui Croquet Club Inc. Our club prides itself on being friendly and welcoming to players of all ages, from beginners to seniors. We are one of the largest golf croquet clubs in New Zealand, with eight croquet lawns set in a beautiful location that overlooks the city of Wanganui. Located on the northern side of Victoria Park on Parsons Street, we invite new members to come and join us for a game of croquet!

The only equipment required is a mallet (the Club

has spare mallets for new members to use) and the only dress requirement is a pair of flat-soled shoes. To encourage participation and competition, a handicap system is used so that players of differing abilities can play each other. Our club focus is ENJOYMENT and COMMUNICATION – we are a very social club of 90 players. Members find that the club is a chance to meet people of all ages.

Golf croquet is offered on three club days per week: Wednesday morning, and Thursday and Saturday afternoons. The greens remain open at any time for members who wish to play. Our club contact is secretary Margaret White – Phone: (06) 344-7253 or mobile 027-4421-542. For more information, we have an up-to-date website – Wanganui Croquet Club.

The Wanganui Jazz Club meets on the first Sunday of the month. That is not nearly often enough to accommodate the wealth of talented jazz musicians who want to perform in our town. Jazz enthusiasts and music lovers of all genres tip our hats to Tony Sundeman of Porridge Watson, who has

created a venue that showcases music every week. That is where you will have the opportunity of hearing one of Aotearoa's greatest living musicians this Sunday.

Hayden Chisholm, originally from Taranaki, has made his home in Europe for 30 years since moving to Germany in 1993 to study at the Cologne College of Music. He performs in Europe, Asia, the Americas and Africa and regularly returns home to share his musical gift by touring New Zealand. That opportunity has arisen again this summer, and we are fortunate that he will bring his project Unwind to Wanganui. Joined by sympathetic New Zealand musicians Paul Dyne on bass and pianist/composer Norman Meehan, Hayden will be performing original music that knows about jazz, but also dances with Indian

raga, chamber music, and folk traditions from all over the world.

While Hayden may have lived away from Aotearoa for a long while, he still feels his music is connected to the country. He said, "A good half of my life, I have been based in Europe, but I still feel very much like a New Zealander. You carry that with you wherever you go. I think the strongest underlying current I take with me, as a New Zealander, is the feeling of the land you get growing up here: being bare-foot on the grass, the colours and the smells. That connection to the land is a very powerful thing..."

This will be a musical event you do not want to miss.

Sunday 25 February from 5:00pm @ Porridge Watson, 30 Drews Ave. No cover charge.

Positive attitude

The concept of positive ageing is about making the most of the benefits of being old and keeping a good attitude about life. It is about keeping a positive growth mindset throughout older age just like any other phase of life, regardless of challenges or opportunities. Having a positive attitude during times of loss or change can help to make those life experiences easier and make life generally more satisfying. Positive ageing covers the full spectrum of experiences including health, independence, financial security, self-fulfilment, personal safety, and living environments.

Some examples of good key attitudes to keep a positive mindset while ageing include:

- Being adaptable and embracing change
- Having a sense of humour
- Being determined
- Staying optimistic
- Wanting to maintain social relationships.
- Learning to live with limitations.
- Being aware of the need to make the most of what you have.
- A desire to live a quality life.

As you get older, you will experience lots of changes that may be challenging to accept. You may have difficulties with transitioning out of work, requiring new living arrangements, changes in your social networks, bereavement, and health and ability changes. Being adaptable and embracing these changes will help you take advantage of what you can do rather than focusing on the negative aspects.

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He Manaakitanga Kaumātua Aotearoa

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If you are free for 1½ hours once a month, you could become a volunteer driver. You would have a regular day and route so you get to know the clients.

Maybe you and friend could do the run together.

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volunteers@acwhanganui.org.nz

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Meals on Wheels

WHANGANUI PRIDE WEEK

FEB 24 - MARCH 2
2024

pridewhanganui.co.nz

PRIDE HUB & PRIDE ART EXHIBITION

Sat 24th Feb - Sat 2nd March | 10am-4pm
Pride Hub | 64 St Hill Street

Local & national artists exhibit their creative talents. **EXHIBITION OPENING** - Fri 23rd Feb - 5:30pm. Grab event info, merch and resources or just hang out in a safe, inclusive space.

---- SATURDAY 24TH FEB 2024 ----

Youth Fest + Pride Markets

11am-3pm | Majestic Square | FREE
A safe space for our Rangatahi to hang + an incredible array of Pride products, art and collectibles - for all!

Movie Screening - Youth Event

3-6pm | Pride Hub - 64 St Hill Street | FREE
Two incredible queer films to inspire and inform.

Silent Disco - Youth Event

7-10pm | Pride Hub - 64 St Hill Street | FREE
Grab some headphones & dance till you drop!

---- SUNDAY 25TH FEB 2024 ----

Queerly Beloved - Zine Workshop

11am-2pm | Pride Hub - 64 St Hill Street | FREE
Contribute to a collaborative Pride Zine with an uplifting letter to a Rainbow person.

Long Lunch

11:45am-2pm | Dublin St Bridge | \$55pp
Be waited on hand and foot for two glorious hours as you take in the beauty around you.

Authentic You

4-7pm | Women's Network - 75 St Hill St | FREE
Not sure how to express yourself, want some advice, tips and tricks, join us to explore an 'Authentic You'.

---- MONDAY 26TH FEB 2024 ----

This Is Me

7-9pm | Women's Network - 75 St Hill St | \$5pp
Our guest speakers explore what role gender and sexuality has played in their lives.

---- TUESDAY 27TH FEB 2024 ----

Games Night

6-9pm | Pride Hub - 64 St Hill Street | FREE
Be introduced to the world of Dungeons & Dragons or pull the family together for a round of Exploding Kittens.

---- WEDNESDAY 28TH FEB 2024 ----

Roller Disco

4:30-7:30pm | The Rink - 37 Hatrick St West | \$5pp
A fun family friendly event, pop some skates on and burn off some 80's energy.

---- THURSDAY 29TH FEB 2024 ----

Wairua Cruises

11:45am & 5:45pm | Wairua - 1H Taupo Quay | \$60pp
Join us for a cruise on the MV Wairua and enjoy the stunning scenery of the Whanganui Awa.

11:45am-3pm | Stop in at Upokongaro to tour and taste at Papaiti Gin. Grab the special edition Pride Gin.

5:45-8pm | Theme: 1950's. Think T-Birds, Pink Ladies, Rockabilly. Enjoy live entertainment and cocktails while experiencing an evening on the Whanganui Awa.

---- FRIDAY 1ST MARCH 2024 ----

Wear The Rainbow Day

All Day | Everywhere
Wear your rainbow ribbons and badges or go full rainbow from head to toe!

Quiz Night

5:30-7:30pm | Lads Brewery - 1 Taylor St | \$5pp
The Quiz to end all Quizzes! Who will be the 2024 Champion?!

Speed Matching

8-10pm | Porridge - 30 Drews Ave | \$10pp
Mates - Dates - Lovers; find any and all at this entertaining event.

---- SATURDAY 2ND MARCH 2024 ----

Drag Breakfast

9:30-10:45am | Mischief - 96 Guyton St | \$50pp
Start your day the right way with drag performers and transgender cartoonist Sophie Labelle.

Pride Walk

11am-12:15pm | Whanganui River Markets | Koha
Dress loud, dress proud! Bring the family and join us on this annual hiko around the bridges.

Pride Party

7pm-1am | War Memorial - Watt St | \$20pp
From a wedding to burlesque to pole to interpretive dance, and of course show stopping drag artists.

FULL DETAILS & INFORMATION: visit www.pridewhanganui.co.nz/prideweek

Tickets can be purchased at eventfinda.co.nz or at the i-Site Visitors Centre on Taupo Quay, Whanganui.

Comic poem and artworks, combined into book, to be launched in Whanganui next month

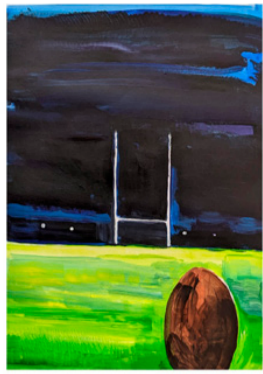
The Carpet Rake, an "epic" comic poem, is to be launched in Whanganui on Friday, 1 March at the Space Studio & Gallery. Set in the New Zealand of the 1960s and 1970s, it evokes a vanished world and a colourful cast of characters. Its story summits in a new home with all mod cons, in a marital crisis over

a wall-to-wall shag pile. The writing was already on the wall for the suburb. The future came to the cul de sac. The book is a collaboration between writer and former Whanganui resident and teacher Charles Bisley, local artist Michael Haggie, and designer Dan Bisley. Charles and Michael met as part of a group

of friends that included Joanna Paul. In those days, Joanna had a small press – the Settlement Press – which published a poetry collection written by Charles. Some may remember Charles and his family from the year they lived at the Ahuahu Ohu where he was the teacher. Charles is also the literary executor for Joanna Paul's estate.

Almost 40 years after they met, Michael and Charles decided it was high time to kick up their heels and collaborate on an illustrated book that celebrated the 'back in the day'. 2023 saw the dynamic to and fro of collaboration. The poem, completed the year before, was now enhanced by images, by the configurations and patterns of these and the text, to become a stylish book. The poem will entertain and speak of a familiar if strange world.

The launch of The Carpet Rake will be held on Friday, 1 March, at Space Studio & Gallery, which will include an animated reading by the author and complimentary refreshments. Entry is free, but for catering purposes, we request you RSVP your attendance to sarah@spacestudiogallery.co.nz



Some of the illustrations from The Carpet Rake book, by Local Artist Michael Haggie

Wisdom teeth playing up?

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British folk-fusion duo to perform in Whanganui

British folk-fusion duo Good Habits are returning to NZ for a three-month summer tour that includes a date in Whanganui.

They will be performing at Whanganui's Space Studio Gallery on Thursday, March 21.

After a few years back home playing some of the UK's largest festivals, including Glastonbury and the Cambridge Folk Festival, they are returning to their second home.



Pete Shaw (accordion) and Bonnie Schwarz (cello and vocals).

Comprising Bonnie Schwarz (cello and vocals) and Pete Shaw (accordion), the pair have been performing for four years, winning awards and being hailed for their virtuosic musicianship, vocal harmonies and vivid storytelling.

Bonnie and Pete visited NZ in 2021 and, as the COVID pandemic kicked off, they ended up "stranded" and staying here for two years. That gave them the chance to create music and tour Aotearoa extensively, and included them writing some

songs for NZ Police. The summer tour includes WOMAD 2024 and will promote their upcoming album "Quarter-Life", which is released in May and is the follow-up to their debut album "Going For Broke".

Their optimistic outlook on life and sense of humour has impressed, among others, Fat Freddy's Drop - "Good Habits serve up strong musicality with an appealing vocal. Fat Freddy's Drop enjoying a bit of Alt-folk!" While BBC Radio 6's Tom Robinson called it: "Musicianship at its 21st century best."

Ticket giveaway

The British folk-fusion duo Good Habits, will be playing at the Whanganui Space Gallery on Thursday March 21. RCP has a double pass to give away in a draw. All you have to do is to send an email to rivercitypress@xtra.co.nz with Good Habits in the subject line and giving us your names and daytime contact details. The draw will be made on Friday 1 March at noon.

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www.wanganuiroadrodders.org.nz

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37th STREET DRAGS

Adults - \$20
Children - \$5
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Under 5 - FREE

Street drags returning this Sunday

Come watch the action this Sunday!



A number of junior dragsters will be doing several demonstration runs including Kayden Patel's new machine.

Aaron Woods' Monaro in action.



In Whanganui, the Road Rodders Club has over 70 members, with 25% drag racers, another 25% owners of Muscle cars, a further 25% are into rodding, and the rest are happy just to enjoy being part of this car culture.

This year's Street drag major sponsor is Repco Autoparts.

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Sculpture unveiled at Harriette Vine Kindergarten

On Tuesday the 30 of January, kaiako, senior teaching team, whānau, tamariki and the wider Harriette Vine Kindergarten community gathered to unveil their new Kindergarten Sculpture.

The idea of a sculpture came from the completion of the kindergarten philosophy in conjunction with renovating their front garden space. A sketch was drawn up by Louana Fruean, Kaitaki māori – He whānau Manaaki Kindergartens and shared with James Chatterton, a local Artist and parent at the kindergarten. James took on the task and this beautiful taonga as a gift to Harriette Vine Kindergarten.

The white stone cross is the original sandpit that was built when the kindergarten was first opened in March 1969, after the land in Watkin Street, Tawhero, was bequeathed by Miss Harriette Vine who used to reside there.

“This taonga celebrates all tamariki, whānau, kaiako and community. It is a visual representation of Harriette Vine Kindergarten’s philosophy – values of ako, kaiakiatanga, manaakitanga and whanauangatanga. It symbol-

ises the past, present and the future of our Harriette Vine Community.

The sculpture was dressed in the very korowai that has been cloaked around many shoulders of tamariki, kaiako, kaimahi and whānau who have been connected to this community during the past, present and in the years to come.”

The sculpture was unveiled by Penelope and Annabelle Chatterton, daughters of sculptor James Chatterton. Guests were invited to engage with the sculpture, and if they chose to, to place water, sourced from the Whanganui Awa, onto the sculpture to symbolise connection.

The Harriette Vine teaching team would like to acknowledge the following people;

James Chatterton, Esther Dowman - photographer from Grey Space and current whānau of Harriette Vine Kindergarten, Charlotte Middleton from Cake Confectionery for the delicious cake, Murray and Ray Loveridge for the live music and Kaitoke Prison whānau for the donation of \$500 that contributed towards the sculpture materials.



Harriette Vine Kindergarten new sculpture

Solid waste bylaw open for feedback

Whanganui District Council is seeking feedback on its proposal to introduce a Solid Waste Bylaw after elected representatives gave the consultation the green light at a Strategy and Policy Committee meeting on Thursday, 15 February. The council’s waste advisor, Stuart Hylton, says many councils use a solid waste bylaw to regulate waste in their districts.

“People working in the waste sector will be interested in giving feedback on this proposed bylaw and it’s relevant to those running large-scale events as well.

“Currently the council offers guidance on implementing a waste management plan for events but it’s voluntary. With the proposed bylaw, organisers of large-scale events would be required to put a waste management plan in place and report back to the council on it.

“It’s important to note that this would only apply to large-scale events such as the Extravaganza Fair, Masters’ Games and Fest of Cultural Unity.”

The council would still be available to support any smaller events that would like to implement a waste management plan. Stuart Hylton says the proposed Solid Waste Bylaw would be a useful tool for waste planning in our district because it would allow us to collect data on rubbish collected.

“Under the Solid Waste Bylaw, waste collectors would need to be licensed and report to the council with information on rubbish collected. Of course data wouldn’t be specific to individual users and would be used just to get an understanding of waste across the district.”

The bylaw would require any waste disposal facilities that opened in Whanganui in the future to be licensed.

Stuart Hylton says work is well underway to bring in a rates-funded kerbside recycling collection from July this year and the bylaw would support this as well as general waste planning.

“Ultimately the solid waste bylaw would formalise waste management in our district to make sure we’re looking after the environment as best we can.”

Consultation on the proposed Solid Waste Bylaw is open until midnight on Wednesday, 20 March 2024. For more information, including how to make a submission, visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/have-your-say

MEET THE PRINCIPALS



Principal
Shondel Mackie



Aberfeldy School

Ph 06 342 5757
Parapara Road, RD3, Whanganui
aberfeldy.class@extra.co.nz

Kia ora my name is Shondel Mackie and I am the new principal at Aberfeldy School. I'm super excited and privileged to lead our kura.

Aberfeldy school is a small, rural school situated in a picturesque valley on the Parapara Highway 25 minutes from Whanganui. Our school is a full primary, catering for students from year 1 to year 8.

We have a school bus servicing Whanganui and areas around the school

making it easier for students to get to and from school.

We are proud to be a Bronze Enviro School and have five fluffy chickens we care for. Our school is lucky enough to have a well established orchid with plum and apple trees as well as a beautiful grape vine.

Aberfeldy school is a special place because we are like an extended family - whānau. We all care about each other and

encourage older students to work with and look after our little ones.

Learning is at the forefront of our journey and students are encouraged to try new things, push harder, ask questions and strive for success. We strive to be a school of excellence so every learner, whether student or staff member, is encouraged to develop to the best of their ability.



Churton School

(06) 343 9406 email office@churton.school.nz
Burmah Street, Aramoho, Wanganui

Kia ora,

This is my second year as Principal at Churton, and I am excited to have been appointed to the position permanently this year. It is a privilege to be working alongside a dedicated team of professionals and within a supportive, caring and involved community. Churton is fortunate to have a Board of Trustees committed to the future

growth of our school, and a PTA who are passionate about enhancing the learning environment for all our tamariki. Our community has a strong focus on the Churton values, and the children can be seen to be living these every day. Churton is a place where they can feel safe and supported, and where rich learning

experiences happen. We encourage them to be brave, and to make the most of the opportunities that come their way. At Churton, we take the diverse needs, backgrounds, and aspirations of each child and have this guide our decisions and actions as educators and leaders, for the betterment of all tamariki.



Principal - Cara Barron with students

**Ko te ahurei o te tamaiti
Arahia ō tātou mahi
Let the uniqueness of the child
guide our work.**

MEET THE PRINCIPALS



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Principal:
Ms Belinda Backwell

St. Marcellin School is a flourishing integrated Catholic school catering for students in an inclusive, co-educational, multi-cultural environment from Year 0 to Year 8.

Belinda Backwell is the proud Principal of the school as it holds a very special place in her heart. She has strong ties to the community and is an ex-pupil at St Marcellin School and Sacred Heart College.

Belinda returned from teaching overseas at the beginning of 2023 to take up the principal role and continues to grow the school and provide the students of St Marcellin with a balanced curriculum, enriched with catholic character and faith-based learning. Core to the learning at St Marcellin are the school values. These are interwoven

into all that we do and are dispositions that we feel are fundamental in growing 21st century learners.

Belinda is passionate about fostering inclusivity within the school community; she brings a wealth of experience and knowledge in supporting learners emotionally, cognitively, and academically.

Should you wish to discuss enrolment at St Marcellin School you are welcome to make an appointment to meet with the principal and discuss this opportunity further.

Email: principal@stmarcellin.school.nz



Tony McBride - Principal



Cullinane College

15 Peat Street, Whanganui. Ph 06 349 0105
www.cullinanecollege.school.nz

Cullinane College has begun the new academic year on a high. True credit goes to the staff and senior students of 2023 for their amazing results in the NCEA qualifications. These results are a strong indicator of the quality teaching and learning here at Cullinane College.

The year started with an increase in our global school roll, but markedly at Year 9 and 10.

Over the summer break we have pushed forward with several upgrades to the college. Two new classrooms have been outfitted with new furniture and a further two are being upgraded. The campus is looking great and the students are enjoying the terrific facilities and learning environments. We are very excited to announce four new classrooms will be built throughout 2025 to accommodate our growing roll. This will mean the demolition of the last St Augustine's buildings to bring all our buildings up to earthquake codes.

As part of Cullinane College's vision this year, we are aiming to foster a stronger bond with our beloved Old Boys and Girls. We are wanting to build a supportive community around the school and continue encouraging the spirit of camaraderie. If

you are one of our college's alumni and are keen to play a crucial role in this journey by getting involved in various ways: whether it's coaching a team, organizing events like reunions, or simply cheering on the first XV this season, your participation matters. Please join our Facebook page (Cullinane College Alumni) for more information.

We would like to congratulate the following students who were announced as our 2024 Tuakana SOUL Group; Head Boy: Angus Hadfield, Head Girl: Awatea Kaua, Deputy Head Boy: Olly Jones, Deputy Head Girl: Elena Solomona.

SERVICE TEAM: Te Reo Mareikura (Leader), Ezekiel Moran, Angus Hadfield

OPTIMISE TEAM: Riwaka Maniapoto (Leader), Amelia Couper, Chantilli-Rose Metekingi-Waitokia, Awatea Kaua.

UNITY TEAM: Nia Edwards (Leader), Heemi Ihaka-Candy, Kendra Taylor, Olly Jones.

LOVE TEAM: Joanna Petras (Leader), Elena Solomona, Patrick Daignault.

We are excited to see their leadership skills grow as they

explore their roles and be the best versions of themselves God created them to be. Our co-curricular is in full swing with the Softball Team gearing up to participate in North Island Championships in North Harbour. Our Kapahaka group, Te Ngakou o te Awa are preparing to storm the Kapahaka Nationals in Nelson on 24th June.

We are also in the first stages of putting together a full school production, 'Harmony's Tapestry - Life and Other Things'. This will be showcased in Term Three.

Cullinane College is proudly cellphone-free. This initiative has been met with terrific support from our families and especially the students. Every student was issued with a lockable Yondr Pouch during the first week of term and almost all our students are using their Yondr, leaving their phones at home or handing their phones into the office if they have left their pouch at home. This initiative is a huge step forward for our kura. We are already seeing more positive, engaged students in class and strong social engagement on campus during breaks.

Enrolments are now open for 2024 to Catholic families. Places are already filling fast. We would actively encourage families to approach us and begin the enrolment process today!

If prospective students and their families would like more information about the college or the enrolment process, please visit the College website or Facebook page or, alternatively contact our office staff directly.



Whanganui Girls' College

Where Girls Shine

Jones Street
Whanganui

06 349 0944

www.wgc.ac.nz



Principal
Nita Pond

Nau mai, Haere mai

Ko Nita Pond toku ingua. I am Nita Pond and am proud to be the Tumuaki/Principal of Whanganui Girls' College.

Being a single-sex school for girls enables us to have a culture "Where Girls Shine" academically, culturally, in leadership, the arts and in sports. We saw this in the success we had academically last year with our results on average 20% higher than the national NCEA average as well as the involvement of our students in a wide range of extra-curricular activities. We were proud of our involvement in the regional Show Quest and Cancer Society Fashion competitions, along with Pasifika Fusion.

We are fortunate to have small class sizes, ensuring that each student benefits from personalised and targeted support. We know all our ākonga/students' dreams, aspirations, their learning needs and their strengths. Our ākonga/students thrive in this supportive environment with committed teachers who are experts in their fields.

In 2024 we will focus on equity of achievement, an inclusive learning environment for all, attendance and embracing NCEA and the curriculum change. This will help us reach our goal for each ākonga/student to have a clear pathway to further education, training and/or employment.



WHANGANUI COLLEGIATE SCHOOL

(06) 349 0210

admin@collegiate.school.nz

132 Liverpool Street, Whanganui



Headmaster
Wayne Brown

We begin 2024 in our 170th year at Whanganui Collegiate School. My message to each and every one of our students is that they are part of something special. Our students are custodians of our traditions and values. I encourage them all to set ambitious goals and to challenge themselves in every area of their lives.

Whanganui Collegiate School is in a very good place. We have the highest student roll since 2013. We have set a platform and an agenda for continuous improvement and sustained success. At Whanganui Collegiate School our goal is that our young students come as children

of promise and that they leave as young adults of character. Underlying all we do are our five pillars of:

Academic Excellence Cultural Enrichment Lifelong Friendships
Sporting Achievement Christian Fellowship

I encourage all students to make their journey at Whanganui Collegiate School, count. To contribute to their House, School, and community. To find their connection and belong and to never underestimate the difference they can make.

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On Saturday, the 17th of February, Just Looking re-opened its doors after a complete store refit. Along with the store looking brand new, it is also a lot bigger and a true shopping experience.

Just looking was founded 52 years ago, and it has been over 20 years since the store was last upgraded. Just Looking Directors Deb Guthrie and Mel Forrest wanted to create a special shopping experience in Whanganui that was unique and timeless.



Chris Aplin from Aplin Creative, an award-winning designer based here in Whanganui, was tasked with designing the new store. With Chris's experience in this field, his knowledge and his special touch, he created our Just Looking dream.

The idea arose 12 months prior when a space for our administration team became available. This meant that the old administration/stock area could be demolished and become a new area of the store, but once we started to throw design ideas around it became apparent the entire store needed a re-fresh.

In October, the administration team moved into their new space, and some behind-the-scenes demolition work began. In early December we opened a Temporary Pop-Up store, firstly as a clearance store and a stepping stone before, a month later, we closed the main store, shifted the entire store out and began the renovations.

Our Just Looking stores house over 50 designer labels from all over the world. Deb and Mel also create their own label, Duo, which has now expanded all over New Zealand and is currently being launched into the Australian market. Duo is a collection of everyday basics with an edge. With over 30 years combined experience, Deb and Mel saw a gap in the market they both knew they could fill. Just Looking is also now home to Country Road womenswear, accessories and homewares.

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www.justlooking.nz



Owners, Mel and Deb welcome you to come and have a look at the expanded store



Just Looking is located at 136 Victoria Avenue, Whanganui
Call in and view the vast selection of casual and formal wear including jeans, shoes and accessories.



Left: Shoes and accessories to go with your perfect outfit

Special thanks to contractors

A huge thank you goes out to everyone who helped make our Just Looking dream come true. The result is a true testament to Sam McCullum Building and all the sub-contractors who helped along the way. The Just Looking team would like to thank the following local businesses for their incredible work:

- Chris Aplin – Aplin Creative
- McCullum Building
- Skelsey Plasterers
- Horrell Electrical
- Display Associates
- GDM Shopfitters
- TCL Communications
- Quality Decorating
- Aplin Suspended Ceilings
- Cohens Business Centre
- DB Tiling
- Richard Waugh

Deb and Mel would also like to thank their incredible team for their endless hard work and for putting up with all the changes they have encountered over the last four months. They pride themselves on the store's customer service, and every one of their team have gone over and above to maintain this high standard.

Deb and Mel look forward to welcoming you in store soon.

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<p>2006 TOYOTA BLADE</p> <p>2.4L, auto, only 136,000kms, chain driven, alloys, spoiler, tints, CD player, climate air conditioning.</p>  <p>NOW \$7,995</p>	<p>2022 HYUNDAI KONA N</p> <p>2.0L, turbo petrol, 8 speed auto, 280hp, only 15,000kms, precision tuned suspension, 18" alloys, reverse camera, 3 drive modes.</p>  <p>NOW \$52,995</p>	<p>2019 MAZDA 3 FASTBACK</p> <p>2.0L, auto, L package, very high spec, only 35,000kms, alloys, bluetooth, radar cruise control, great looker!</p>  <p>NOW \$28,995</p>	<p>2018 HYNUDAI KONA ELITE</p> <p>2.0L, auto, NZ new, only 48,000kms, leather, top spec, reverse camera, bluetooth, wireless phone charging.</p>  <p>NOW \$26,995</p>	<p>2018 KIA SPORTAGE LX</p> <p>2.0L, turbo diesel, NZ new, reverse camera, bluetooth, towbar, AWD, parking sensors, nice vehicle.</p>  <p>NOW \$23,995</p>
<p>2016 SUZUKI BALENO XG</p> <p>1.2L auto, only 50,000kms, keyless start/entry, adaptive cruise, tinted, safe and economical.</p>  <p>NOW \$14,995</p>	<p>2011 FORD FALCON XR6</p> <p>4.0L, auto, only 132,000kms, towbar, alloys, cruise control, perfect family vehicle, nice in red!</p>  <p>NOW \$15,995</p>	<p>2015 HYUNDAI ELANTRA ELITE</p> <p>1.8L, auto, NZ new, only 39,000kms, leather, heated seats, keyless start, parking sensors, climate air conditioning.</p>  <p>NOW \$15,995</p>	<p>2012 SSANGYONG KORANDO LTD</p> <p>2.0L, auto, NZ new, only 73,000kms, alloys, bluetooth, cruise control, towbar, tidy condition.</p>  <p>NOW \$13,995</p>	<p>2017 MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER PHEV</p> <p>2.4L, plug in hybrid, top model VRX, NZ new, only 70,500kms, 360 degree camera, very tidy.</p>  <p>NOW \$34,995</p>
<p>2014 NISSAN NAVARA ST</p> <p>2.5L, manual, 2WD, only 104,000kms, very tidy, towbar, tonneau cover, running boards, black alloys.</p>  <p>NOW \$22,995</p>	<p>2015 FORD TRANSIT SWB</p> <p>2.2L, manual, diesel, only 156,000kms, low roof, black wheels, roof racks, tints, great tradie vehicle.</p>  <p>NOW \$26,995</p>	<p>2020 SUZUKI CARRY TRUCK</p> <p>658cc, manual, 4WD, only 13,000kms, folding deck sides, alloys, ESP, Air conditioning, reverse camera.</p>  <p>NOW \$19,995</p>	<p>2018 NISSAN CARAVAN NV350</p> <p>2.5L, petrol, auto, 10 SEATER!, only 42,000kms, electric slide door, high roof, high spec, keyless start.</p>  <p>NOW \$42,995</p>	<p>2023 FORD RANGER XLT</p> <p>2.0L, Bi turbo diesel, 10 speed auto, 2WD, only 3,600kms, hardlid, towbar, alloys, 10.1" touch screen, reverse camera, keyless entry/start.</p>  <p>NOW \$56,995</p>

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Caring for older pets

Pay special attention to your older pets as they can find cold weather a bit of a challenge, especially those with arthritis. They may find it difficult to walk on wet surfaces and will be more prone to slipping or falling. Go slowly when

walking them outside and avoid any slippery areas. Do not be fooled - all species of animals can be affected by arthritis; however, dogs tend to show the more obvious clinical signs. Cats on the other hand can hide their signs

of arthritis and pain, so be aware of any changes in behaviour during the colder months. If your pet suffers from arthritis, discuss with your vet changes that you can make to help your pet be more comfortable. General adjustments that



- Love your pet -

It is Love Your Pet Day in February and while most pet owners practise it every day, nevertheless it is a good reminder to show your love for your little furry friends. Whether you're a cat lover, a dog lover or you've got a family of chimpanzees sharing your home with you, it is an opportunity to

spoil them even more than you normally do and show them how much they mean to your family.

If you love pets but don't have any you could still get involved by calling by the local SPCA and making a donation of food or treats. You could also ask them about volunteering.

will help your older pets include:

- A raised bed with padding - out of the way of draughts, in a warm area.

- Maintaining an ideal body weight (excess weight will make things harder and more painful for your pet)

- Maintain a sensible exercise level - arthritic joints benefit from being kept mobile; however, hard exercise can cause inflammation and increase pain. Walks may need to be shorter and more frequent to allow dogs to meet their exercise.

- For older dogs, especially large ones, there are plenty of innovative bedding options to help ease their pains. Along with a warm, soft and supportive bed, a good diet and supplements to improve symptoms of arthritis are invaluable.

- For older rabbits or guinea pigs, ensure their bedding is swapped out regularly as wet bedding can easily freeze on cold nights.

Ensure your animals have adequate water, appropriate feed amounts and some

shelter from wind and cold rains. Keep in mind that very young, sick or very old animals may require even more attention to their special needs.
- SPCA

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How do we benefit from having pets?

Pets can help us in many ways. They can support our mental health by reducing a sense of loneliness and boosting our moods and also by providing unconditional love. Our physical health can benefit by having to exercise them - dogs, not cats.



As part of these benefits, pets can help improve heart health by lowering blood pressure and regulating the heart rate during stressful situations.

Pets can also help out children, especially those with neurodiverse behaviours. One study found that these children were calmer while playing with guinea pigs in the class-

room. These children also had better social interactions and were more engaged with their peers.

Another study found that dogs can help children with ADHD focus their attention. Children with ADHD who read to animals showed better social skills and more sharing, cooperation and volunteering.

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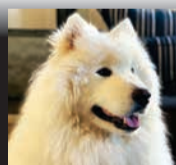
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Tour group to Crete to take Poppies with them

Local Whanganui resident Greg Osborne has conducted tours to WW2 battle places such as Gallipoli, North Africa, Italy and Crete for a number of years. In 2021 he was about to take a group to Crete for the 80th anniversary of the battle but it had to be cancelled because of Covid.

Although Greg had decided to retire, he kept in touch with the members of the group and he says, "There was enough interest to do a tour this year."

It was on May 20, 1941, when German parachutists invaded the island, which was defended by ANZAC, Greek and British forces led by the New Zealand Major-General Bernard Freyberg, alongside the heroic local population. After ten days, the Allied forces were compelled to evacuate across the Mediterranean Sea to Egypt.

671 New Zealand soldiers were killed, and 2180 were taken as prisoners of war.

Greg's father was a veteran of Crete and later became a long-serving member as well as a President of the Wanganui RSA. Greg's tour group includes 40 descendants of New Zealand soldiers who fought in Crete, as well as a historian.

He approached the Wanganui RSA for some pop-

pies to take over with the group to be placed on New Zealand graves in Crete. RSA Welfare Trust President Robert Allen had no hesitation in agreeing to the request.

He said, "Engaging with events like Greg's is an excellent way the Wanganui RSA Welfare Trust reaches out to not only its members but also the Whanganui community as a whole."

Robert adds, "If any local residents who have descendants still lying there (447 Kiwis are buried there) and would like a photo of their grave or memorial, you are welcome to contact Greg, who has offered to take photographs." Contact Robert on 027-537-1238

The group will meet up in Athens and visit the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior and then visit the Commonwealth War Cemetery, where all the names of soldiers are mentioned. They will then take the overnight ferry to Crete, arriving at sunrise, and will be able to see the main cemetery in Suda Bay. The group will be away for a week.

Robert Allen and Mac McCallion from the RSA with Greg (seated) and the poppies.



Nine piece band, including string quartet, to perform in Whanganui



French for Rabbits band

The Sarjeant Gallery presents French for Rabbits with the Elliot Vaughan Strings, live at St Peter's Church. Venue: St Peter's Church, 71 Koromiko Road, Gonville, Whanganui

Date: Friday 1 March 2024

Times: Doors and bar open 7pm for 8pm start

Tickets: from the Whanganui iSite and iTicket.co.nz

\$35 general, \$25 low-waged/students. Door sales \$40

French for Rabbits has been nominated for the Taite Music Prize, NZ Music Awards and APRA Silver Scrolls. They have performed internationally through the USA and Europe, and opened for the likes of Lorde, Marlon

Williams, Agnes Obel and The Tallest Man on Earth.

In 2023, French for Rabbits recorded a new collection of songs with the Black Quartet called *In the End I Won't Be Coming Home* and following a pre-release tour with Chamber Music New Zealand, they have decided to do a run of shows to locations beginning with W – Whanganui, Wellington and Waiheke Island – to celebrate the EP's vinyl release for 2024.

"We haven't performed in Whanganui for a number of years and likely won't have the chance again for some time, so this will be a mighty fine treat to return with our full band, and a string quartet (!) to perform in the beautifully warm and

haunting St Peter's in Gonville. First show of a three date tour, so I can guarantee it will be fun, precarious, and blissful" – Brooke Singer vocalist and songwriter of French for Rabbits

For the tour, French for Rabbits is travelling as an extended 9-piece including a string quartet led by award-winning composer, arranger and performer Elliot Vaughan (Canada/New Zealand). The group will join the band to reinterpret material from previous releases alongside those from the EP – adding detail and colour to the already cinematic soundscapes and intimate folk songs of songwriter/vocalist Brooke Singer.

Elliot has contributed arrangements for over

30 records with Canadian and New Zealand artists, and countless performances around the world. He holds a Master's of Musical Arts from the New Zealand School of Music and a Bachelor's of Fine Art from Simon Fraser University in Vancouver.

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Property Brokers

Whanganui 52 Ingestre Street



Right size offices

This upstairs office space is well-presented and offers a very comfortable working environment. They form part of a larger building, located on a busy corner section, part of a key thoroughfare for traffic commuting around the city. The elevated height of the building gives great signage options to 2 Streets. If you are looking to treat yourself to an upgrade on your current offices, or maybe downsize your rent, then this may well be your best move.

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Mark from Life Education - 021 554 031 Email entries to: whanganui@lifeed.org.nz

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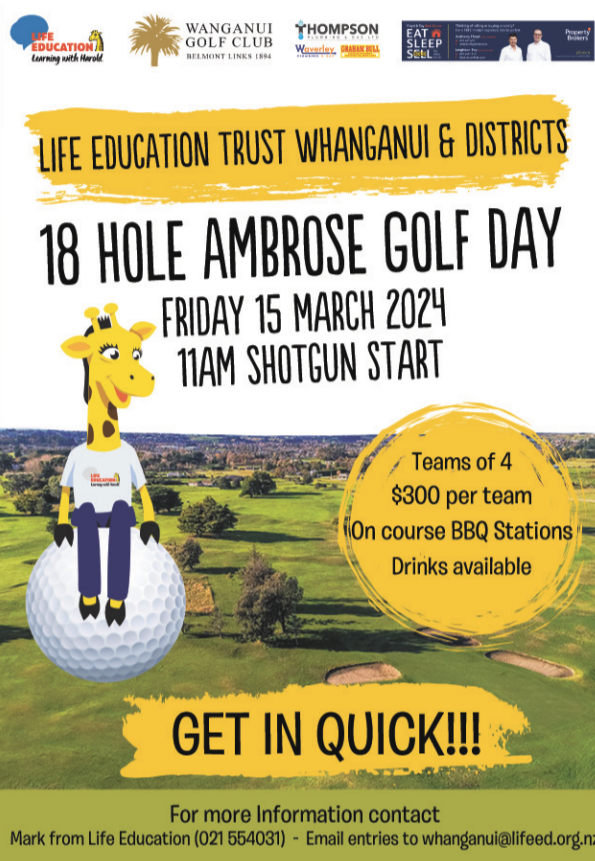
Life Education Trust has been providing life education lessons to children in primary and intermediate schools around the Whanganui region since 1994. To do this, they have needed to raise millions of dollars in funding – something that is never easy.

This year, the Trust is having an Ambrose Golf Day, hosted by the Wanganui Golf Club at Belmont on Friday, March 15. It will be an 18-hole, 4-person Ambrose event and they need plenty of support both from golfers (or wannabee golfers) and businesses to sponsor holes.

Mark Keely, Educator for Life Education Trust, says "Sponsorship of a hole will allow the business the opportunity to place signage on the course to promote your business. The name of your business will be added to the scorecard, on your hole and business images and names will be used on advertising posters and on our Facebook page."

A wide range of businesses have already come on board – such as Tasman Tanning, White Aluminium, Thompson Plumbing, Guthries Auto Care, Doyles, Balance Accounting and Nakioki Toons. But Mark would love to see all 18 or even 19 holes covered. Property Brokers are one of the main sponsors.

Sponsors are encouraged to allocate a theme for their hole, such as a prize for the closest to the pin, the longest drive, longest putt, or even the worst drive! The prizes will be presented at the prize



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For more information contact
Mark from Life Education (021 554031) - Email entries to whanganui@lifeed.org.nz

-giving.

The cost for sponsorship is only \$200 for a hole. The cost for a team of 4 to play is \$300.

Teams can improve their chances by 'buying' a golf expert. These include well-known local golfers, especially a current and an ex-Belmont greenkeeper. Mark will email all teams saying when the auction window is open. All of these golfers will have a reserve of \$100 with all the money, of course, going towards the work of Life Education Trust.

Harold the Giraffe, the front 'person' of Life Education and loved by all children, will be there offering words of wisdom. He will be chauffeured around in an especially decorated golf cart by Carter Hoskins, "our biggest fan."

There will be other competitions within the overall golf challenge.

One will be the 'closest to the hole' on one of the Par 3 holes. Mark explains: "We will have a circle painted on the green, and any shots inside that circle will win a prize, with the one closest to the hole or even in it for a hole-in-one will get a special prize."

Two BBQ stations will be available on the course during the day and a drinks cart will be doing the rounds to help keep people watered.

There will be an auction of prestigious sporting items. One will be a framed signed Black Ferns Women's 7s jersey with a rugby 7s ball, thanks to local Jessica Jones, who is the current manager of the Black Ferns.

If you are able to help on the day, either with a team entry, hole sponsorship or both, please let Mark Keely know on 021 554 031.

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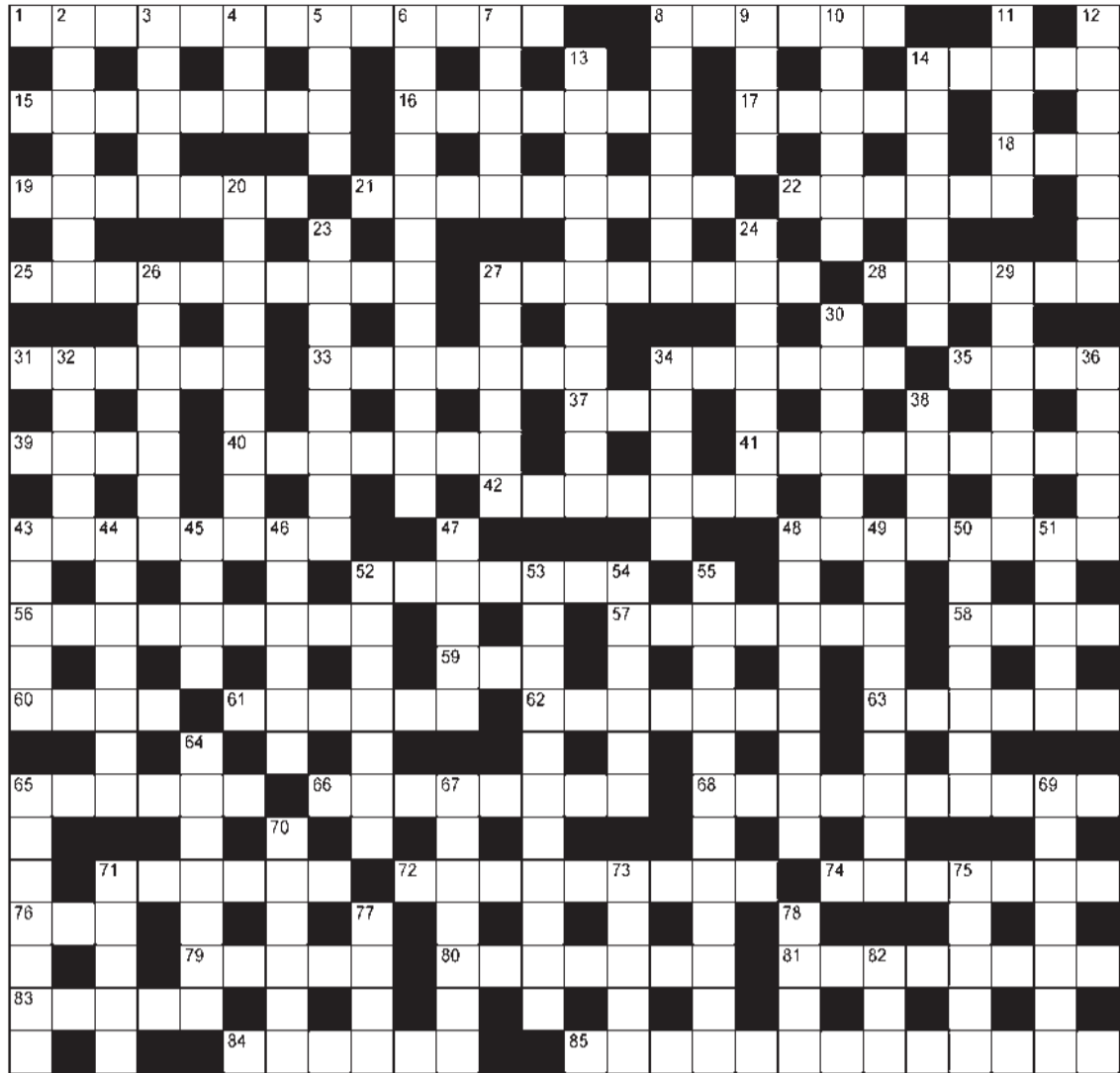
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Jumbo crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Cope more or less satisfactorily (6,7)
 - 8 Take exception (6)
 - 14 Banish (5)
 - 15 Spherical (8)
 - 16 Green gemstone (7)
 - 17 Fathers (5)
 - 18 Spinning toy (3)
 - 19 Bureaucracy (3,4)
 - 21 Large yacht sail (9)
 - 22 Second-in-command (6)
 - 25 Unmoving (10)
 - 27 Made jump (8)
 - 28 Fletcher's product (6)
 - 31 Fairy (6)
 - 33 List in detail (7)
 - 34 Desert plant (6)
 - 35 Floppy (4)
 - 37 Cereal crop (3)
 - 39 Company (4)
 - 40 Back-stabber (7)
 - 41 11th-century Italian traveller (5,4)
 - 42 Ghost (7)
 - 43 Torpor (8)
 - 48 Final performance before retirement (8)
 - 52 Fruit flower (7)
 - 56 Sentimental reminiscence (9)
 - 57 Loving, romantic (7)
 - 58 Skater's jump (4)
 - 59 Whichever (3)
 - 60 Expressed in words (4)
 - 61 Cure-all (6)
 - 62 I glance (anag)(7)
 - 63 Wooden hammer (6)
 - 65 Gramophone needle (6)
 - 66 Enclosure for defence or confinement (8)
 - 68 Embroidery (10)
 - 71 Enlarge (6)
 - 72 Lack of confidence (4-5)
 - 74 Made sense (5,2)
 - 76 Friend (3)
 - 79 Merge (5)
 - 80 Condition in contract (7)
 - 81 Killer (8)
 - 83 Peripheries (5)
 - 84 Dark brown bitter beer (6)
 - 85 Currently being completed, delivered, or produced (2,3,8)
- DOWN**
- 2 Least attractive (7)
 - 3 First appearance (5)
 - 4 Long fish (3)
 - 5 Damage (4)
 - 6 Means poverty (anag)(12)
 - 7 "Go" light (5)
 - 8 Scrap, leftover (7)
 - 9 Barely (4)
 - 10 Trumpet-like instrument (6)
 - 11 Simple song (5)
 - 12 Capsicums (7)
 - 13 Fellowship (11)
 - 14 River mouth (7)
 - 20 Film machine (9)
 - 23 Hygienic (8)
 - 24 Greet (7)
 - 26 Win (7)
 - 27 Piste users (6)
 - 29 South American river (7)
 - 30 Rut (6)
 - 32 Aplomb (5)
 - 34 Dollar subunits (5)
 - 36 Tine (5)
 - 38 Warning device (4)
 - 43 Road divisions (5)
 - 44 Give evidence (7)
 - 45 Absent (4)
 - 46 Silly laugh (6)
 - 47 Grinding tooth (5)
 - 48 Blackened (8)
 - 49 Gathered (9)
 - 50 Migrating bird (7)
 - 51 Female relation (5)
 - 52 Aluminium source (7)
 - 53 Recoil, draw back (3,4,4)
 - 54 Laundry squeezer (6)
 - 55 Voter's compartment (7,5)
 - 64 Excess (7)
 - 65 Captain (7)
 - 67 Less expensive (7)
 - 69 Get-together of former associates (7)
 - 70 Blue dye (6)
 - 71 Mournful poem (5)
 - 73 Vegetable (5)
 - 75 Artist's support (5)
 - 77 Dexterous (4)
 - 78 Stinging insect (4)
 - 82 Drink cautiously (3)



Whanganui



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EACH number in our Code-Cracker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. For example, today 26 represents H, so fill in H every time the figure 26 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	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	14
8		12				10		5		12		2	15
13	2	5	11		14	15	2	11	9	2	16	3	16
12		17		2		9		12		13		4	17
3	10	15	1	18	12	9	5	16	19			5	18
	9		12		20			9		9		6	19
12	21	12	22	4	3		12	1	18	12	9	7	20
23		3				9		12		4		8	21
22			24	5	10	8	1	12	4	9	12	9	22
10		20		16		4		4		12		10	23
2	25	12	9	3	5	8	16		24	16	12	11	24
5		4		12		9			22			12	25
1	8	5	3	4		3	12	12	4	26	12	13	26

© Simon Shuker www.codecracker.co.nz

H

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

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

HARD

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

Previous solution

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

Previous solution

1	M	O	3	N	4	W	5	A	6	L	7	K	8	S	9	V	10	R	11	I	12	B	13	J	
14	U	D	15	C	16	X	17	E	18	P	19	T	20	Z	21	H	22	F	23	Q	24	Y	25	G	26

Previous crossword solution

ACROSS: 1 Swear, 4 Under lock and key, 14 Surge, 15 Cabin, 16 Troubadour, 17 Vodka, 19 Pus, 20 Measles, 21 Ballerina, 22 Gauche, 25 Barometer, 27 Skewer, 28 Debate, 33 Falsehoods, 35 Owl, 36 Gained, 37 Pass, 39 Tin, 41 Microbe, 42 Pagoda, 43 Entourage, 44 Nomad, 45 Dressage, 50 Ma, 51 Pedestal, 55 Salvo, 58 Chairlift, 59 Upkeep, 60 Hallway, 61 Mar, 63 Site, 64 Haggle, 65 Nap, 66 Forerunner, 68 Heyday, 69 Repair, 71 Absconded, 76 Cotton, 77 Flavoured, 79 Mention, 81 Spa, 84 Ceded, 85 Negligible, 86 Basic, 87 Chaos, 88 Come rain or shine, 89 Beret.
 DOWN: 2 Weaken, 3 Alias, 5 Norm, 6 Emulate, 7 Liable, 8 Choir, 9 Arrange, 10 Dove, 11 Endear, 12 Gripe, 13 Pensive, 14 Satchel, 18 Xenophobia, 23 Venom, 24 Retired, 26 Absorbs, 27 Sultana, 29 Adamant, 30 Rapier, 31 Colon, 32 Mettle, 34 Seam, 36 Gnome, 38 Steal, 40 Dupe, 45 Docks, 46 Exactly, 47 Sure, 48 Guitar, 49 Blame, 50 Mourner, 52 Dead ringer, 53 Silence, 54 Azalea, 55 Stagger, 56 Skips, 57 Beef, 62 Wreck, 67 Tactics, 68 Hassock, 70 Atlanta, 72 Blemish, 73 Voodoo, 74 Junior, 75 Docile, 76 Canal, 78 Vegan, 80 Trade, 82 Adze, 83 Flan.

5x5

G		A		E
	O		E	
A		O		G
	A		S	
E		D		D

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

A	T	L	A	S
B	R	A	C	E
L	I	T	H	E
E	T	H	E	R
R	E	E	D	S

Previous solution

Fruit trees and seeds for the community

Schools/kura, marae, community gardens and other community groups are invited to contact the Heritage Food Crops Research Trust to book fruit trees (Apples, plums and peaches) for winter collection and planting.

The Trust was formed in 2007 to research plants for the prevention of disease and to support human health. Of the Apples available this year, the wonderful Monty's Surprise Apple is the mainstay of the collection because of its significant levels of anti-cancer compounds. The Trust would like to see a Monty's Surprise Apple Tree in every backyard in an initiative to reduce the incidence of cancer.

This winter, there will also be several other good heritage eating apples available, as well as some beautiful plums and peaches.

The Trust is a local charity funded through donations and philanthropic support. They also received funding from the Whanganui District Council Climate Fund in their 2022 and 2023 rounds and Horizons Community Resilience Fund towards



Rachel Stephenson and Mark Christianson at Heritage Food Crops

increasing community education and local food security through providing seeds, plants and trees.

Heritage tomato and bean seeds are also available to order for spring planting.

The Trust is a leading world researcher on medicinal tomatoes. Our research has led us away from red tomatoes and instead is now completely focused on the orange varieties that contain a bioavailable form of lycopene. Lycopene is a powerful antioxidant that, when absorbed, can help to prevent certain cancers (like prostate cancer) as

well as heart disease. The Trust grows and develops these rare orange varieties, and each year has new selections tested by Plant and Food Research to identify improvements in their medicinal qualities.

The Trust also has a significant collection of bean varieties, and grows over 80 varieties of both green and dry beans (specialising in climbing beans which are more productive and suited to the Whanganui climate).

Our website shows some of the varieties available. <https://www.heritagefoodcrops.org.nz/heirloom-beans/>

Beans are one of the easiest vegetables to grow and are very good for overall health, being high in protein. Although most people here are used to picking, cooking and eating fresh beans, the shelled dry seeds of 'dry beans' are a wonderful staple winter food all around the world in bean soups, stews etc. Many of the dry beans in our collection may better suit our growing conditions, as our climate changes.

To go on the list for trees and/or seeds please contact Mark and the team at info@heritagefoodcrops.co.nz

Competition and education videos on flood protection

One year on from Cyclone Gabrielle and nine years on from Whanganui's worst-ever flood event, Horizons Regional Council has launched an educational campaign to share more about river management works and infrastructure in the region.

Horizons operations manager John Foxall says the campaign will help teach people of all ages how vital flood protection is for our region.

"Many of us, myself included, witnessed the devastation of the 2004 floods first-hand, and were served a sobering reminder of the power of water last year with Cyclone Gabrielle.

"We wanted to mark these significant dates with something positive, and so have created a series of educational videos detailing different types of flood protection infrastructure we manage in the region.

"You'll learn about how many dams we have in the region, how the Makino and Moutoa floodgates work, why stopbanks are so vital and much more.

"These different assets



Looking through one of the open Moutoa floodgates during a dry spell in December.

all work together to form Horizons' river management network, which protect countless homes, businesses, public assets, farms, roads, railway networks and much more from flooding throughout the region.

"We even have a competition running where you'll need to answer questions about each type of flood protection. Be first to answer all of the questions correctly and win a behind-the-scenes tour of the Moutoa floodgates for four people. The visit will include a walk down to the gates if they're dry, and even the chance to operate the gates yourself, with in-

struction from our staff." "As part of the campaign, we'll also be sharing images from our archives of the history of our flood protection infrastructure. Some of our assets, such as the Moutoa floodgates, have been around for more than 50 years and have got a rich history.

The campaign is on Horizons' Facebook and Instagram pages for two weeks and started on Monday, February 19. For more information, including how to enter the competition, go to <https://www.facebook.com/HorizonsRegionalCouncil>, or go on Instagram @HorizonsRegionalCouncil.



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Marist Football Club welcomes new members

Marist Football Club, established in 1929, has been a cornerstone of Whanganui's football scene, with a brief interruption during the Second World War. Currently, the club boasts three men's teams, a women's team, and last season saw the addition of more junior teams.

The club's premier team, The Celtics, has clinched several Roly Taylor Championships in the past decade, firmly establishing its dominance in local football. The seasoned Casuals side competes fiercely, holding its ground in the championship's first division last season. Meanwhile, the Wanderers, an over 35s team, revel in their matches in the Manawatu Masters league, relishing the bi-weekly away games as well as its home fixtures.

Under the guidance of Tash Sanson, the Marist Ladies team has made significant strides in re-



cent seasons, becoming a prominent feature of the club.

Tash wears multiple hats at the club, serving as the convener for the women's team while also playing a significant role in the junior division. Despite her busy schedule, she is an active member of the



club's fundraising committee and has recently obtained qualifications as a senior-level referee. Similarly, David Newman and Mark Dawson not only contribute as players but also dedicate their time to officiating matches, adding depth to their involvement in the club. Marist Football Club enjoys invaluable support from sponsors like The Pool Clinic, My Plumbing Depot, Lads Brewing and Reset Me, with the Whanganui East Club serving as the marquee sponsor and hosting post-match functions.

Annually, in September, the club eagerly participates in the national Marist tournament, a highlight featuring teams from across the country. This year, three teams from our club will be competing in Wellington. The tournament spans a weekend, offering around half a dozen games of spirited football.

Marist Football Club has seen success in both open grade and social grade competitions over the years at the national tournament. In 2022, our women's team secured a notable second-place finish in a highly competitive women's group. While the elusive gold medal has remained out of reach thus far, there's anticipation that the upcoming year, 2024, could bring about a change in fortune. Excitingly, Whanganui has been selected to host the 2025 tournament.

If you're seeking a welcoming, inclusive, and enjoyable football environment, consider joining Marist Football Club. Training sessions are held on Wednesday nights, with casual kickabouts at Wembley Park on Saturday afternoons during the summer.

Please contact Russell Eades russellandmel@xtra.co.nz for further information

Whanganui Swimming Club results



Whanganui Swimming Club members with coach Richard Gheel (back left)

A team of 18, aged 9-15, represented Whanganui Swimming Club at the annual Dolphin Amateur Swimming Club Pentathlon Event in Feilding on Sunday, which culminated in three Whanganui swimmers qualifying for the highlight of the programme. Held at the Makino Aquatic Centre's 50m outdoor pool with a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, the carnival was a great introduction into competitive swimming for some of the younger members of the Whanganui team who were competing in both a 50m pool and outdoors (with no ceiling lines to follow in the backstroke!) for the first time.

It also offered more experienced swimmers the opportunity to strive for qualifying times for national events, such as the National Age Groups in April and Division II competition in May, which can only be achieved when the necessary number of qualified officials are supervising and monitoring races and strokes. Zoe Baskett, 12, completed the Mini-Pentathlon event, which comprised the 100m Backstroke, 200m Individual Medley, 100m Breaststroke, 100, Freestyle and 50m Butterfly.

All other Whanganui swimmers competed in the non-pentathlon races, which gave them more scope to select their own events and for which results were either Open (for 200m events) or

scored in banded age groups (9 & under, 10-11 years, 12-13 years and 14 years and over). Among the swimmers to pick up medals in the non-pentathlon events were: Jaxon Houlahan (6); Ryleigh Dorricott, Tegan Lowe and Eli Webber-Kelly (five each); Lachlan Baskett, Amelia Boden-Cave, Paige Conley and Salvador Mazzieri (four each); Blake Candish, Rachel Pui and Zion Tiraha (three each); Molly Baskett and Sophia Kopu (two each); Evelyn Packard and Lusie Smith. Paige, Rachel and Tegan all placed among the seven fastest swimmers in the women's 50m freestyle event, thereby qualifying for the final event and highlight of the programme the Skins event, a series of back-to-back races, which operate on a knockout basis with very little recovery time between races.

Spectators lined the sides of the pool to get as close as possible to the action for the six races, all 50m freestyle races on this occasion and each only two minutes apart, as the swimmer with the slowest time in each round was eliminated. Paige (14), made it all the way to the final round, where ultimately Alina Wong (17) of Ice Breaker Aquatics took out the title. The next focus for club members is the Manawatu Summer Open Champs at the 50m outdoor pool of the Lido Aquatic Centre in Palmerston North at the beginning of March.



Paige Conley (black cap) and Rachel Pui (orange cap) in the Round 4 50m skins event

Golf results

Wanganui Golf Club - Thursday 15 February

H Carvell 41 pts, P Schmidt 49, B Patrick 39, L Respinger 38, G Horrex 38, R Hussey 37, N Hooker 37, P Gorringer 36, G Meyers 36, Two's: L Respinger, R Nicholson, H Carvell, S Schrider, R Bullock. 1st nearest marker Feather ball: G Horrex, 3rd longest putt Riverland Family Park voucher: P Schmidt, 14th closest to flag First Vets ball: R Nicholson, 18th longest putt Canaan Honey voucher: G Taylor, Lucky cards: J McMenamin, D Wilson.

Castlecliff 9 Hole Club Thursday 15 February Medal

Ladies: Rawinia Connors 28, Jackie Downes 35, Kaz Pearce 37

Men: Pat Ryan 31, Tony Hore 33 c/b, Gerald Connors 33

Wanganui Golf Club 9 Hole Summer Cup

Lucy Dunlop - Best Nett
Heather Jarrett - Best Gross
13.2.24 **Open day Ambrose** - Stableford
1st. K Howe & S Kosmala - 27 on c/b
2nd. C Prichard & P McDowell - 27
3rd. L Dunlop & H McKee - 29
20.2.24 - **3 Clubs & Putter** - Best Nett
Prue McDowell - 34
Pat Follows - 35 on c/b
Rose Bourne - 35



\$16,000 handed over to local Surf Lifeguard Services

JJ Roofing is on a roll with their second Running Of The Balls at Whanganui's Vintage Weekend proving a great success. The company sponsors the downhill dash and was able to hand over a

\$16,000 cheque to Wanganui Surf Lifeguard Services, as well as producing a lot of fun for all those present. The Running Of The Balls was the halftime attraction on January 22 as the Plumber Dan Soapbox

Derby rounded off another very successful Vintage Weekend. A total of 1500 numbered balls were let loose down Drews Avenue, and all 1500 tickets sold out at \$10 a pop prior to the event. A bucket was

passed around for donations and other contributions added to the \$16,000 for the lifeguards.

There were cash prizes of \$1000 from JJ Roofing (first prize); \$500 from My Plumbing Depot

(second); and \$250 from Barred up Scaffolding (third). The winners came from Thames, Australia and Whanganui.

put toward that project. Juan and Janelle Coffey, from JJ Roofing, were delighted with the success of their enterprise.

"We are so grateful for the support that has been received for this incredibly important charity. Our thanks to all our sponsors."

Wanganui Surf Lifeguard Services was chosen as the recipient of the fundraiser via a public vote.

Call for support of International Jazz Day

Jazz music is not only an entertainment and an art form; it is also a force for change that works within the framework of improvisation and collaboration. International Jazz Day (IJD) is a movement within jazz that is dedicated to connecting communities around the world. Founded in 2011 by the sensational Herbie Hancock and his Institute of Jazz on the one hand and by UNESCO and the United Nations on the other, this project answers the question of how jazz music can contribute to the multi-disciplined conversation about bringing peace and justice to the world.

Whanganui Jazz for UNESCO has been promoting the IJD kaupapa since 2018. Our annual event, Whanganui Celebrates International Jazz Day, has the support of our District Council. Our Musical Director every year since the first event is the legendary Dr. Rodger Fox of the New Zealand School of Music and the Rodger Fox Big Band. The organiser of the initiative is Ken Chernoff, president of the Whanganui Jazz Club. We focus on highlighting jazz music's contribution to education, as well as the need for intercultural dialogue and international cooperation. We have a proven track record of success, and we plan to further elaborate our vision. To accomplish our great ambitions, we ask for your help.

Through the years, financial support has come from both the local Creative Communities Scheme and the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO. This year, the Commission is unable to offer funding, and we have a hole in the budget.

This is an appeal to the Whanganui community to step up and support this noble cause that has already put our town in the national and international spotlight. We are looking for corporate sponsorship and individual patronage. Anyone interested in helping in any way is asked to contact Ken at 022-431-5434.



Janelle and Juan Coffey receive a manaakitanga award from Shaun Libeau, chairman of Whanganui Lifeguard Services, and communications manager Bex Sharratt after their donation to the lifeguard service.

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WHAT'S ON

IN THE COMMUNITY

Adoption Support Group
Meets this month at Christ Church, Wicksteed Street, downstairs in church foyer. We are a friendly group of people who are supportive and understanding. The next meeting date is Monday, 26 February 2024 at 7.30pm. Enquiries to Joanne, 021-055-6292.

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) Thursday, Quaker Meeting House, 256 Wicksteed St, 7.30pm. Friday, Gonville Library meeting room, 12.30pm. Ph 0508 425 266.

Diabetes Support Group
Speaker: Diane Macdonald talking about what is a stroke and recognising stroke symptoms. When: 24-02-24 Time: 2pm-3.30pm Where: 48 Alma Road, Gonville, Whanganui 4501.

Jigsaw Exchange
Next gathering on Saturday 24th February from 10am to 11.30am. Held at Central Baptist Church in Wicksteed Street. No limits, no cost, all welcome. Contact Jack 343 1404 or 021-027-75391 or email rega21@xtra.co.nz

Sustainable Whanganui Trust's "Acknowledging Great Moments"
Date: Monday 11 March 6.30pm Venue: TBC. Guest Speaker: David Langford, CEO, WDC. David will speak about his experiences setting up New Plymouth's modern recycling system. SWT's AGM follows, this has no elections, focusing instead on the Trust's achievements during 2023.

Twinkle Toes at St Paul's
Fridays from 10.00am to 11.00am at St Paul's in The City Hall, Cooks Street. Car park building and lift access. A fun music time for pre schoolers. Gold coin donation.

Wanganui Country Music Club Inc.
meet this coming Sunday at Highland Pipe Band Hall 1E Bell Street. Concert 1pm to 4.30pm. All welcome for a relaxed afternoon of great country music, raffles and afternoon tea. We look forward to seeing you. For further information, 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.

Recent Bereavements

Sadly passed away recently...

- Samuel Antony Clark (Sam) BEARD**, on 13 February 2024, aged 35 years.
- Valerie Thelma (Val) HUNT**, on 16 February 2024, aged 91 years.
- Jean Elizabeth RICHDALE**, on 12 February 2024, aged 93 years.
- Beverley May (Bev) SANDLANT**, on 20 February 2024, aged 99 years.
- Frederik Arie (Fred) VERSCHOOR**, on 12 February 2024, aged 78 years.

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Apology to survivors of Lake Alice

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists has made a public apology to the survivors, their whānau, and all those impacted by the abuses perpetrated at Lake Alice Child and Adolescent Unit by Dr Selwyn Leeks and staff, describing it as a shameful chapter in our nation's history.

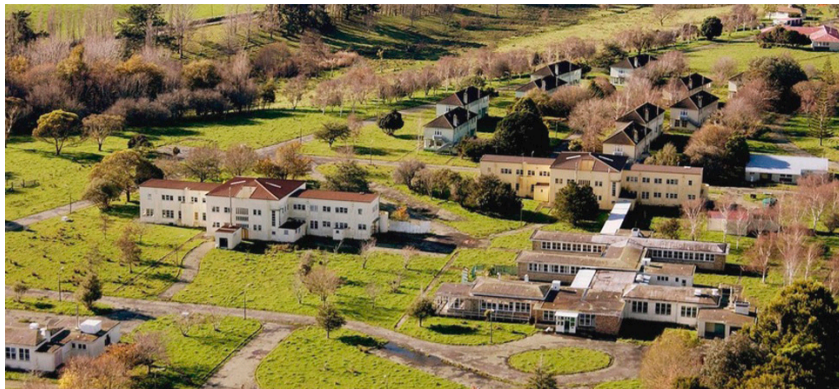
The RANZCP supports the development of the independent trauma-informed redress system, Pūretumu Torowhānui. "This is a critical step towards healing, and we urge the New Zealand Government to implement this as a priority."

This apology was delivered in person at Whare-rata at Massey University, Palmerston North. Guided by survivor groups the RANZCP would like to share the words of our apology publicly.

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists Apology in full:

To all those impacted by the horrific abuses conducted at the Lake Alice Child and Adolescent Unit, specifically the torturous actions carried out and directed by psychiatrist Selwyn Leeks: we are sorry.

To survivors, to their whānau, and to those who are descendants of those who suffered and who did



Lake Alice complex

not survive, the RANZCP offers a full and sincere apology.

You were failed. We know the courageous attempts to raise concerns by young, vulnerable people detained at Lake Alice were ignored. We know that the Ngā Wairiki and Ngāti Apa peoples suffered and that their uri continue to feel the impact.

We know many agencies repeatedly failed you. We know our part in this and acknowledge the actions and inactions of previous members that allowed Leeks to escape proper investigation and punishment.

Your trust was broken. We are committed to people receiving the best mental health care, guided by evidence and expertise.

The barbaric abuse conducted by Leeks at Lake Alice was not psychiatry of any form. It is not and never will be condoned. That this

harm occurred at all, under the guise of treatment, is a travesty.

We know there was denial. That included denying that the abuse was taking place and that contributed to the subsequent chain of decisions.

Since the 1990s, RANZCP has been vocal in calling for the investigation of the many allegations of Leeks' abuse. In the absence of any finding or action against Leeks, the RANZCP was unable to act. The delivery of the Beautiful Children report in December 2022 formally condemned Leeks' egregious actions for the first time.

The RANZCP rescinded Leeks' fellowship immediately.

We acknowledge that for many, these steps came too late. For our organisation's part in this failure to bring Leeks to justice at the earliest opportunity, we again

offer our unconditional apology.

There must never be a repeat of Lake Alice.

The shroud of secrecy around Leeks and his abuses was aided by working in isolation. Now, psychiatrists work transparently and collaboratively, in teams, with supervision, and ongoing training and development.

Our peers, teams and communities hold us to account in our practice. There are robust, safe channels for external reporting.

Complaints are not lost or ignored. We embrace our partnership with community members with lived experience and have a strategy to embed lived-experience knowledge and expertise across our College.

Together we will continue to evolve to deliver care in the best possible way.

This apology, as with the apologies given over many years, does not change what has gone before. It is given to convey our acknowledgement of mistakes made, and the impact of these for so many, over such a prolonged period.

We are committed to listening to the recommendations of the Royal Commission with you when they are released, so that our next steps are meaningful and appropriate, and importantly, designed together.

Once again, we are sorry."

Mates in Bowls continues to be popular



The team from Bayleys – Jean Clark, Amie Rowan and Esteban Berretta.

Mates in Bowls at the Wanganui Bowling Club has been running for 15 years, and with 28 teams involved this year, continues to be popular.

It takes place on a Tuesday evening. Players start arriving around 5.30pm to get some practice in before the 6pm start.

Play continues for about 75 minutes when it is time to put the bowls away and have a BBQ and a chat. It is a great opportunity to relax after work.

The 'competition' lasts for about 6 weeks starting in late January, although the purpose of Mates in Bowls is more social, to have good fun and perhaps secretly celebrate when you do defeat the opposition.

The cost is \$10 each per night for a team of three. The Club is grateful to sponsors Floyd and Toy Real Estate agents from Property Brokers and also to Z petrol stations for providing petrol vouchers.

You don't need to be an expert player. President Russell Spence gives the example of Jean Clark

(she is in the photo) who asked for a bit of help from Russell. "I have never seen anyone adapt to delivering a bowl as quickly as Jean and with confidence." There is hope for us all.

Teams can be made up of workmates, family members, friends, or neighbours. And you don't have to be

old. Russell gives the example of two brothers who are playing. Luka Kuehne is only 12, and his brother is 17. Another and – "There are probably more females than males."

At the end of the six weeks, participants are given a flyer inviting them to join the Club, if they would like to.

Excess plums? Try Plum Dessert

By Gina Guigou

The plum season just seems to keep going on and on this year.

I have been bottling plums for winter to have for breakfast. I came across a recipe from my god-mother for Pink Pudding. It's such a simple tasty recipe; having updated the recipe, I have come up with two versions.

Gina's two version of Pink Pudding – six portions

What's the difference in using either evaporated milk or coconut cream? The evaporated milk base is lighter in texture and lacks the coconut flavour.

One 340 ml can of creamy evaporated milk or one 400ml can of Kara coconut cream

One cup of sweetened plum puree. (plums that have been stewed and the stones removed, then pureed with a stick blender or mashed with a fork)

3 tsp gelatine or 1 12g packet of gelatine
2 Tbsps water
1 Tbsp sugar

The cans of evaporated milk or coconut cream both need to be chilled in the fridge for at least four hours.

In a small bowl, place the water and sprinkle over the gelatine and allow to soak up the water and swell up.

Heat the plum puree, then stir in the gelatine, and allow to cool before



whipping up the evaporated milk or coconut cream. As if too hot will cause them to turn back into liquid.

Pour the can of either evaporated milk or coconut cream in a bowl with the sugar and whisk until thick and creamy.

Lightly fold or stir in the cooled plum mixture until all mixed in, then place into serving glasses for individual servings or a bowl. Allow to chill for an hour to ensure that it sets.

Garnishing options – top with some whipped cream and a little grated dark chocolate, or try some caramel popcorn on the top, to give some texture as well.

If you have access to plums, and space in your deep freeze you can always freeze plum whole and take a few out as you need them for recipes like this or invest in some jars and bottle them either using the water bath method or overflow.

Whanganui Bridge Club

Bridge Results Week ending 18 February:

Monday Mawson Pairs: N/S: 1. G Pickett D Berry 57.68 2. C Brown J Zhang 55.57 3. L Patrick V Bartrum 54.45 4. V Kay R Bowie 52.26 **E/W:** 1. H Elgar K Coombe 61.90 2. I Newbold J Glenn 56.74 3. T & O Jones 54.37 4. M Hoek M Dawson 53.75. Winners of Mawson Pairs: Catherine Brown and Jason Zhang

Tuesday Club Pairs: N/S: 1. L Gollan P Verhoek 53.47 2= S Pedley A Thirtle 53.24 2= J Newman V Bailie 53.24 4. P MacLachlan W Arathoon 51.16 **E/W:** 1. J Baker D Nightingale 62.73 2. T Watson W Pedley 60.42 3. L McLay D Newman 58.33 4. A Foley S Walkinton 55.32. Winners of Club Pairs: Sherry Pedley and Anita Thirtle

Wednesday Totara Pairs: N/S: 1. J Coxon J Lupton 53.80 2. T Gunasekara B Eriksen 50.80 **E/W:** 1. K & S Rainey 58.00 2. M Dawson J Gillespie 54.03. Winners of Totara Pairs: Karen and Steve Rainey

Wednesday Social: N/S: 1. N Gale C Pepperell 60.42 2. N Kennedy J Dodds 54.86 **E/W:** 1. J Compton-Schon S Poff 52.08 2. I Back R Kaiwhare 51.39

Friday Social: N/S: 1. A Hancock J Scott 65.13 2. J Rapson N Bartrum 63.66 3. R Bowie N Gale 58.03 4. D Price Wally Duncan 51.71 5. I Back S Cvitanovich 51.68 6. J Groves A Hodges 50.62 **E/W:** 1. D Haynes C Raisin 64.05 2. R Sigley M Wyley 55.28 3. W Hart J Dodds 55.10 4. J Richardson J Glenn 54.14 5. N Kennedy J Holt 52.70 6. S Pedley B Franklin-Browne 50.24

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SECTION 101 SALE AND SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL ACT 2012

Wanganui Function Centre Limited, 19A Purnell Street, Whanganui has made application to the District Licensing Committee at Whanganui for the renewal of an On licence in respect of the premises situated at 19A Purnell Street, Whanganui, known as the Wanganui Function Centre.

The general nature of the business conducted under the licence is a Function Centre.

The days on which and the hours during which alcohol is intended to be sold under the licence are: **Monday - Sunday 8am - 2am the following day.**

The application may be inspected during ordinary office hours at the office of the Whanganui District Licensing Committee at 101 Guyton Street, Whanganui.

Any person who is entitled to object and who wishes to object to the issue of the licence may, not later than 25 working days after the date of the publication of this notice, file a notice in writing of the objection with the Secretary of the District Licensing Committee at DLCadministration@whanganui.govt.nz.

No objection to the renewal of a licence may be made in relation to a matter other than a matter specified in section 131 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

This is the first publication of this notice.



River City Press

Phone 345 3666. Email: rivercitypress@xtra.co.nz

PUBLIC NOTICES / ENTERTAINMENT



GLENDARROCH SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

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Durie Hill School

DURIE HILL SCHOOL BOARD CASUAL VACANCY FOR A PARENT REPRESENTATIVE

A casual vacancy has occurred on the school board for an elected parent representative. The board has decided to fill the vacancy by selection.

If 10% or more of eligible voters on the school roll ask the board, within 28 days of this notice being published, to hold a by-election to fill the vacancy, then a by-election will be held.

Request for a by-election should be sent to: office@duriehill.school.nz

Amber Eyre
Durie Hill School Board
109 Portal Street, Whanganui

by: 22 March 2024

SPECIALISED SERVICES

Keene Builds' passion for restoring older homes

Young builder Reuben Keene took a gamble when he returned to his home town of Whanganui to start his own business, but it is paying off.

His one-man operation Keene Builds is going well, focussing on building residential houses and renovating old homes, which is his

passion.

The 32-year-old former Whanganui High School student was not sure where his future lay when he left school, but a year at AgChallenge (now AGC Training) set him on his way.

"I thought I had better get a trade under my belt and did a certificate in carpentry. Going

there was one of the best things I've ever done," says Reuben.

He decided to head to Christchurch where there was a lot of work in the wake of the earth-

quake, but only got as far as Wellington where he spent 10 years as an apprentice, gaining his Building & Construction Industry Training Organisation (BCITO)

qualification.

In 2022 he made the decision to return to Whanganui and go out on his own.

"My mother was a great inspiration. She

has been in business for years, starting her own business and thriving, so she gave me a lot of advice."

Happy to be close to family and, indeed, starting his own family, Reuben initially mixed his own jobs with contract work for other builders, but now he is looking to just work with his own clients.

"I am passionate about restoring old homes and bringing them back to their former glory – and, of course, making sure they are compliant with the building code."

With his Facebook page attracting interest and word-of-mouth spreading, Reuben and Keene Builds look set for a bright future.

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SPECIALISED SERVICES

MDT Driver Training under new management

MDT Driver Training is a long-established business, based originally in the Wairarapa, and more recently in Whanganui.

Matthew Blackburn took over the business as of 31 January. He is Whanganui born and bred, with a background in the

New Zealand Army, which included serving overseas.

Returning home, he worked driving trucks for his iwi Ngāti Apa and for Bullocks. He says, "I see myself as a people person, and I enjoy imparting knowledge, especially to young people."

Buying the business

gives him the opportunity to manage his time, especially to be there

for his grandchildren. MDT has two vehicles with dual automatic and

manual options. Matthew also has driving instruction certificates

to cover Class 1 to Class 5, which includes trucks.

classes. These will be advertised on their website and Facebook once they are set up.

His motivation is to encourage clients to not only learn to drive but also to build up their confidence and to ensure they learn safe driving habits. As the business develops, Matthew hopes to set up defensive driving

Matthew is assisted by one of his daughters, who is training to also become a driving instructor.

For more information or to book a lesson phone MDT on 027 368 5010



Matthew Blackburn

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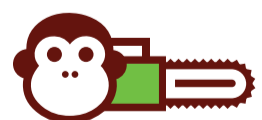
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