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# Te Hononga a Hapori Community Link

## Many happy returns for Durie Hill lift

Whanganui District Council and Whanganui Connection are proud to invite residents and visitors to Whanganui to celebrate the 105th birthday of Durie Hill Elevator on **Friday, 2 August and Saturday, 3 August 2024**.

A unique form of public transport, Durie Hill Elevator (tunnel entrance pictured) opened on 2 August, 1919. Set into the hill, the 213-metre tunnel and 66-metre public transport elevator – staffed then as now by an operator – enabled a short journey by foot or bicycle between the city and Durie Hill.

Today, the elevator remains a valued means of transport, a living inspiration for how we design, build and move around our cities, and a wonder in its own right.

For Whanganui Connection, who run the service, the upcoming 105th birthday also provides a chance to celebrate their recently completed experience enhancements, supported by Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture and Heritage.

These include a new design throughout the physical spaces of the elevator with new signage and wayfinding, an underground plant wall, innovative projection-based displays and new, wirelessly controlled lighting throughout the length of the tunnel. The elevator team is also trialling expanded hours this winter by opening half an hour earlier each morning.



Performer and elevator operator Anthonie Tonnon will be offering tours of the elevator and tunnel over the birthday weekend. During the tours, visitors will see some of the capabilities of the new displays and lights, and get to view the famous mercury-arc rectifier.

The birthday tours are at no extra charge – you'll just pay for your journey on the elevator at the usual prices of \$2 for adults and \$1 for children aged over 5, each way.

A range of times are available and reservations are essential – to book, please visit: [www.duriehillelevator.co.nz/tours](http://www.duriehillelevator.co.nz/tours)

## Heritage Festival and local business get in the mix!

The Bullocks Group family business has had a new concrete mixer branded with a design that promotes the upcoming Whanganui Heritage Festival.

Bullocks Group general manager, Aaron Currie, says Bullocks has a long history of contracting in Whanganui with core values deeply entrenched in the local community since 1928. Because Bullocks is approaching its own 100th year celebration, they reached out to collaborate with the Whanganui Heritage Festival, which will soon be celebrating 100 years since Whanganui gained city status in 1924.

“We are always looking for that next opportunity to help support or promote local events for the good of the region,” Aaron Currie says. “The idea was simple – brand our newly purchased concrete truck mixer with a community-focused design that aligns with our company’s strategies and values.

“The truck will be visible in the community daily and will hopefully generate conversation and interest around town and in other regions because it’s so out of the normal of past advertising for local events,” Aaron Currie says.



Concrete plans – Bullocks Group general manager Aaron Currie and Deputy Mayor Helen Craig

The 10-day festival is being run by the Whanganui Regional Heritage Trust in conjunction with Whanganui District Council and will feature an array of community-led events.

Deputy Mayor Helen Craig says, “The signwriting on the Bullocks concrete truck is a fun and unique community-minded way for them to promote their business and the Whanganui Heritage Festival.”

The Whanganui Heritage Festival will take place from **Saturday, 19 October to Monday, 28 October**.

### WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

Whanganui District Council invites you to have your say on these topics:

- Representation Review 2024
- Streets for People (ongoing consultation)

For more information, please visit: [www.whanganui.govt.nz/have-your-say](http://www.whanganui.govt.nz/have-your-say)



## Give Antenna a go!

The Antenna app is a great way to get short alerts from Whanganui District Council on everything from kerbside recycling to community events. Once you download the app, there's no need to sign in – alerts will be sent straight to your phone. Download the app at: [www.whanganui.govt.nz/antenna](http://www.whanganui.govt.nz/antenna)



## Winter Wonderfest at our district libraries

Whanganui District Library is celebrating this year's Winter Wonderfest with a range of events at the Davis, Alexander and Gonville libraries including poetry, storytimes for pre-schoolers, arts and crafts for grown-ups, Dungeons & Dragons and more.

All library events are free and brought to you by Whanganui District Library in partnership with Winter Wonderfest Whanganui – see the District Library events webpage for more details: [www.whanganuilibrary.com/index.php/whats-on/events](http://www.whanganuilibrary.com/index.php/whats-on/events)

## Davis Library closing times change next week

The Davis Library at Pukenua Queen's Park is reducing its operating hours, effective from **next Monday, 29 July**, as part of Whanganui District Council's Long-Term Plan 2024-34 decisions. Amended closing times will be:

- on weekdays – the Davis Library will close **one hour earlier at 5.00pm**
- on Saturdays – the Davis Library will close **two hours earlier at 3.00pm**.

All other opening hours at the Davis Library remain unchanged.

## Council meetings

### Upcoming meetings

Strategy and Policy Committee	9.30am Tuesday 30 July	Council Chamber, 101 Guyton Street
Risk and Assurance Committee	1.00pm Thursday 1 August	Council Chamber, 101 Guyton Street
Whanganui Rural Community Board	2.00pm Wednesday 7 August	Council Chamber, 101 Guyton Street

Agendas: [www.whanganui.govt.nz/agendas](http://www.whanganui.govt.nz/agendas)  
 Livestreamed council meetings:  
[www.facebook.com/whanganuidistrictcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/whanganuidistrictcouncil)  
[www.whanganui.govt.nz/live-council-meetings](http://www.whanganui.govt.nz/live-council-meetings)

## IT'S DOG REGO TIME!

Pay your dog rego by **31 JULY** to get a discount – and you'll go into the draw to win a doggie gift bag!



[www.whanganui.govt.nz/pay-dog-rego](http://www.whanganui.govt.nz/pay-dog-rego)

