

Issue 111 • 16 December 2020

Keep up to date with the latest news from Nelson City Council



Could you design for nature?

Are you a budding designer aged between 15 and 25? Are you someone who cares for our Taiao/natural environment?

Project Mahitahi is seeking ideas for a logo to represent the vision for this work that will be recognisable, and symbolise the many partners working together to achieve that vision. You'll find out more about the project at our.nelson.govt.nz/collaborative-project-mahitahi-restoration-project-launched.

There are cash prizes of a \$200 Prezzy card for each of the finalists, and a \$500 Prezzy card for the winning design selected to progress to completion, with the creator of the winning entry working with a professional designer to see their logo become reality.

For further information, competition rules, and to find out how to participate, email: susan.moore-lavo@ncc.govt.nz.

The competition runs from now until 5pm 5 February 2021.



Photo: Bryne Gibson brought her son Rogan West, 17 months, and their dog Chico to see Santa at Santa's Grotto.



Nelsonians have been embracing Christmas this year at Santa's Grotto on Trafalgar Street and the Nelson Santa Parade among other events and activities in the lead up to the big day. To see more photos and updates go to the Nelson City Council Facebook page.

Two thousand Warmer Healthier Homes for Nelson

Following more than \$100k of funding from Nelson City Council to Warmer Healthier Homes (WHH), a record number of homes have been insulated in the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

Across the Top of the South 421 homes were insulated, 81 more than the target of 340. More than half of those properties were in Nelson. Almost 2000 homes have been insulated since the start of the project in 2014.

The WHH Nelson Marlborough Project supports residents in the Nelson, Tasman and Marlborough regions to have improved living environments; assisting homeowners and community members most in need to

improve insulation measures, heating and overall energy efficiency by retrofitting insulation into existing homes.

The Energy Efficiency & Conservation Authority and Warmer Healthier Homes provide up to 90% subsidy for people who have a Community Services Card (CSC), live in a decile 8, 9 or 10 area (NZ Index of Deprivation) or who have a Gold Card with a CSC endorsement and live in a home built prior to 2008.



Volunteers needed for Isel House

Lovers of history have an opportunity to help share a piece of it with the world as a volunteer at Isel House.

Originally set on 1000 acres of land, the historic home was built by the Marsdens, one of Nelson's first families, who arrived in the area in the 1840s.

Isel House has been restored by way of layers of history – from the ornate style of the Victorian era, to the modernist style of the 1950s. The upstairs rooms have been conserved and hold displays on the history of the house, the grounds, and the community of Stoke. This year there is another new display for children and families called 'The Tiny Room'.

The house is open to the public every summer from October to April, and visitors are assisted by volunteers, who give information about the house and are responsible for opening and closing it.

Sylvia Wesley is one such volunteer, and it was her love of Nelson's heritage that drew her to it.

"Isel House is so unique, with a rich history regarding

its construction, the farm, the park and stories of the families who lived at Isel from 1849. It is so rewarding to see the enjoyment visitors and locals get when they visit Isel, learn its history and enjoy the exhibitions, especially the two children's rooms.

"As a volunteer it is a real pleasure to contribute to Nelson's heritage, ensuring Isel House remains open to the public."

Heritage and Collections Officer Māhina Marshall says Isel House is in need of more volunteers over the summer, and encourages anyone with a love of history and a few spare hours a week to get in touch.

"Being a volunteer host at Isel House is a chance to give back to the community and keep Nelson heritage alive as well as meet people, learn about the history of Nelson and enjoy the satisfaction of keeping this grand old house open to the public."



Photo: Isel House volunteers Myra Millward, left, and Sylvia Wesley.

Shifts at the house are 2.5 hours long, and take place once in the morning and afternoon during the summer period. People are welcome to join with their friends or partners.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact mahina.marshall@ncc.govt.nz

Poorman Valley Stream Field Guide Cover Competition:

Nelson City Council's Healthy Streams team is looking for a cover design for their latest Field Guide which will focus on Poorman Valley Stream.

The aim of the guide is to encourage exploration and to develop a community of care around our freshwater ecosystems. To find out more and enter, go to

shape.nelson.govt.nz/poorman-valley-stream or email healthy.streams@ncc.govt.nz.

The winner will receive a \$250 Prezzy card.



Holiday Hours

For Nelson City Council holiday hours go to

nelson.govt.nz/holiday-hours



Photo: Mayor Rachel Reese with 2020 Tuia Rangatahi Te Rina Te Kawa.

Tuia Rangatahi Programme

Applications for the Tuia Rangatahi Programme are now open.

This programme involves one-to-one mentorship with Nelson Mayor Rachel Reese, to encourage and enhance leadership skills that will assist the young person's development.

Who can apply?

We're looking for rangatahi Māori (18-25 year-olds) from the Nelson region who are actively contributing to the wellbeing of the community, and have the potential to be a leader in their community. You must be supported by your community (iwi/hapū/marae/whānau or Māori community based organisations).

What does it involve?

You need to be able to commit to the following:

1. Attending four weekend rangatahi wānanga held on marae around the country.
2. Monthly 'one to one' mentoring meetings with the Nelson Mayor and/or Deputy Mayor, and other opportunities.
3. Engaging in, or developing a community service project in your community.

How can you apply?

For more information or to register your interest go to our Shape Nelson website for all the details. Applications close on Friday 12 February 2021.

shape.nelson.govt.nz

Grant applications extended for Heritage Month ideas

People with fresh ways to tell stories of Whakatū Nelson's unique people and places now have a little more time to get their grant applications in ahead of the 2021 Heritage Month event.

There is a wealth of stories from our city's history to explore, and Nelson City Council has been working with the eight iwi of Te Tau Ihu to encourage greater participation in our next festival. Events in previous years have included tours of Nelson's heritage homes, classes for traditional crafts such as dowsing, and talks from the curator of the Nelson Provincial Museum.

We're keen to hear from creative individuals or organisations with ideas for sharing our histories and stories for inclusion in Heritage Month. Council has grants of up to \$2000 to help bring those ideas to life and has now extended the deadline for applications out to the end of January 2021.

The grants work in partnership with Council, and as such, applicants will also need to contribute time or money to the project.

Events must have a focus on heritage through stories of people and place, and be open to the public. For more event criteria, or to apply for a grant visit:

nelson.govt.nz/heritage-festival

Nelson's oldest rugby cup housed at Civic House

A piece of rugby history memorabilia has a temporary new home in Nelson.

The Nelson Rugby Football Club's cup, which is the oldest competitive trophy in Nelson club rugby, is on display in the Council chamber at Civic House.

New Zealand's first rugby club lent the cup to Nelson City Council after their 150th anniversary celebration of New Zealand's first recorded rugby game was held earlier this year.

Founded in 1868, the Nelson Rugby Football Club won the match in 1870 at the Botanical Reserve in Nelson, with a 2-0 win over Nelson College.

Nelson City Council retains AA/A-1+ credit rating, noting sound fiscal management during pandemic



Credit rating agency Standard and Poor's has affirmed Nelson City Council's AA long term and A-1 short term credit rating with a stable outlook, due in part to a sound financial response to COVID-19.

Standard and Poor's report says they expect the next few years to see Council recording small after-capital-account deficits due to a rise in capital expenditure linked to an "uptick" in core infrastructure investment. However, they also say Nelson's debt burden should remain moderate compared with its peers.

The report also notes pressure on Council revenues due to measures taken as a result of COVID-19, including the zero percent rates rise, which were partially offset by a staff pay-freeze and other savings. Despite this, the agency describes the increase to Council's debt burden as

"modest".

Nelson Mayor Rachel Reese says long-term, careful financial management put Council in a strong position as revenues reduced during lockdown and helped to maintain the AA credit rating.

"The debt we will have taken on in our response is relatively modest, thanks in part to the savings we found in the 2020/21 Annual Plan. Our fiscal processes are described by the agency as credible and well-established, and it's that attention to detail, which has left us in a solid position financially."

Sport Tasman payment agreement amended

Nelson City Council has granted Sport Tasman a 90 per cent rent reduction for Sports House, putting right a past misunderstanding, by releasing the organisation from the remainder of an agreed payment schedule.

The Community and Recreation Committee agreed, at its 10 December meeting, to cancel Sport Tasman's future commercial lease obligations to payments for Sports House from 1 July next year.

This means Sport Tasman would be released from paying the remaining balance of \$166,000.

The Committee also recommended Sport Tasman is charged a community rent rate of \$5,600 per annum from 1 July 2021, noting that Council has given Sport Tasman rent relief through to 20 June, 2021.

The recommendation will be confirmed at the next full Council meeting on 17 December.

Community and Recreation Committee Chair Councillor Tim Skinner said the decision was an opportunity to put the situation right.

"Sport Tasman have unfairly borne the additional financial weight of this for the betterment of the community, and this change will now better assist them going forward."

The resolution was welcomed by Mayor Rachel Reese, who said the issue had been around for a long time.

"I've spent years trying to get to the bottom of this and I'm really delighted this is finally here.

"I would like to thank the Sport Tasman team who have been trying really hard to work this situation out for a long time. I'm so pleased that we have finally been able to address this, and ease the financial burden on an important community organisation at this time."

In 2008, Sport Tasman requested the construction of Sports House while plans for Saxton Stadium were being finalised. At that time, Nelson City and Tasman District Councils both gave Sport Tasman grants to pay for the project, with Nelson also giving the organisation an additional \$665,000 as a loan repayable over 20 years.

However, the loan was documented as a lease, with Sport Tasman entering into a lease agreement, with the annual repayment received as rent.

Council officers have since recognised the agreement was misunderstood in its expression, which meant when a change of management occurred, it was not clear the agreement was a loan.

Giants extension to funding agreement recommended to Council

The Community and Recreation Committee of Nelson City Council has recommended that Council grants the Nelson Giants a reduction in the hireage fee for the Trafalgar Centre for 2020/21.

Council provided a two-year discount in 2018, however the Giants were not able to fully make use of the Trafalgar Centre over the 2019/20 season because of COVID-19 restrictions, and therefore missed out on the benefits of the reduced fee for that year.

The recommendation will result in the Giants paying \$35,000 for hire and service charges of the Trafalgar Centre instead of a potential \$61,000 cost.

At the Community and Recreation Committee meeting

on 10 December, it was recommended that unbudgeted expenditure of \$25,101 was used to cover the cost of the fee reduction for the Giants' use of the Trafalgar Centre between April-July 2021.

If the Giants require any further venue hire discounts after 2021, they will need to make a submission to the Annual Plan.

A final decision on the recommendation will be made at the next full Council meeting on 17 December.

Entries open for Changing Threads 2021

Arts Council Nelson is taking entries for Changing Threads – Contemporary fibre textile art awards.

These awards challenge perceptions of work traditionally associated with fibre textile art with previous winners including 'Deep Fried' a necklace made of hot chips, while the Nelson City Council Twist on Traditional Technique Award went to Sarah Pumphrey from Tasman for 'Three Hundred and Sixty Three' pieces of wood. Entries close 29 January 2021, with the Changing Threads Art Award Exhibition on display at Refinery

ArtSpace Nelson from 26 February - 20 March.
Nelson City Council is one of the sponsors of the awards.
For further details go to the Arts Council website:

acn.org.nz/changing-threads.html

Draft Nelson Plan

Feedback to the Draft Nelson Plan closed on 6 December 2020.

Thank you to those who gave feedback. We received feedback from more than 330 people/organisations. We will provide a summary of all feedback received before the next stage of engagement.
There will be another opportunity to give feedback on the parts of the Draft Plan that were not finalised in this round of engagement. The next phase of engagement will take place in 2021.

Comment from Kate Fulton

Climate change and sea level rise are important to understand – take five minutes now to think about the future.

It's nearly Christmas, and 2020 has been a very challenging year. The impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on so many of us has been enormous. Yet our concerted effort, collective responsibility and care for others has allowed our lives to adapt to a new normal. We need to deliver the same effort, responsibility and care to climate change.

As Chair of the Environment and Climate Committee, and as a scientist, I know understanding climate adaption and resiliency isn't straight-forward. It's important Nelson City Council communicates current climate science in a local context and meaningful timeframe.

To keep you up to date with the current science we recently released sea-level rise maps. The Ministry for the Environment's (MFE) guidelines were used to produce the maps - based on emissions profiles and predicted global temperature increases over the next 180 years.

The guidelines show us that a continuation of high global emissions and consequential temperature increases of 2.7- 4.9°C will result in 1m sea-level rise by 2100 and up to 2m into the middle of next century. However, how fast and by how much the sea will rise, will be influenced by local, national and global efforts to reduce and offset emissions.

Therefore, MFE has provided sea-level rise profiles aligned with declining future emissions which meet the COP21 Paris Agreement global temperature warming targets. New Zealand also sits within the High Ambition Coalition - committed to achieving below 1.5°C. If achieved, sea-level rise is predicted to be 0.4m – 0.5m by 2100. The potential benefits will protect 10 million people - including our Pacific Island neighbours.

There's a lot at stake here. There's also a lot of opportunities - for countries, cities, industries and communities to make the emission reductions necessary to give future generations greater choice and stability. The decisions we make now can deliver the best outcomes for us all – people, planet and the place we live.

We are yet to release a range of adaption

options. We recognise the approaches we take to plan for the future may have implications in terms of Council and individual costs, insurance, accessibility, land values and our environment. Other communities around the country are having similar conversations.

We want to shape a future based on the values of our community, including a love of our coastlines, rivers and waterways. We cherish living closely connected to water. We need to figure out how that relationship will be protected or changed based on science as it evolves.

Since releasing the maps, some people have asked that we abandon parts of our city now. Others tell us we can ignore climate change. Neither outcome reflects our ability to plan for a resilient future in a measured and responsible way. We are committed to taking a long term, balanced view.

We encourage feedback on how the things that matter to you may be affected. We expect different opinions, and we recognise everyone will have a unique perspective. It's important to hear from a wide a range of people so we can get a true understanding from our community on how we should plan our response to sea-level rise.

The maps and feedback form can be found at shape.nelson.govt.nz/coastal-hazards. Feedback closes on 18 December.



WHAT'S HAPPENING SUMMER 20/21

ENTRY FREE FOR LOCALS WITH ID

Festive Fun at Founders 12 Dec - 4 Jan
Summer Reads Book Fair 12 Dec - 17 Jan
Jazz on the Village Green 1.30 - 4pm, entry \$2 • Starts Jan 10
See itson.co.nz for details

Founders Café open 7 days
Train rides every day from 26 December

Founders Heritage Park
Open 10am - 4:30pm every day (except Good Friday & Christmas Day)
\$10 Adults, \$5 Children (5-16), \$26 family, locals free with ID
87 Atawhai Drive, Nelson • 03 548 2649 • founderspark.co.nz

ROAD CLOSURES

Applicant: Donaldson Civil
Event: This road closure is for the installation of a power cable.
Location: Chings Road
Date and time of closure: Monday 11 January – Friday 29 January 2021, 7.30am – 5pm
The road will be closed and access will be unavailable during this time.
Access for residents will be available when it is safe to do so.

For all road closure information visit:
nelson.govt.nz/road-closures

MEETINGS

For a full list of Council meetings go to:
nelson.govt.nz/meetings

To sign up for Our Nelson by email go to:
 facebook.com/nelsoncitycouncil