



## Ngā mihi, Te Mana Kuratahi!

The national primary school kapa haka competition, Te Mana Kuratahi, wrapped up last week in Whakatū Nelson.

Held at Trafalgar Centre, forty-five primary school kapa haka groups from across Aotearoa New Zealand took to the stage over four days.

Tamariki / children dazzled the crowd of 3,000 attendees with electrifying, captivating performances featuring intricate choreography and mesmerising storytelling.

Te Kapa Puāwai from Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Hoani Waititi Marae were crowned champions of the competition.

It was Nelson's first time hosting the primary school kapa haka event, and it was fantastic to see so many people enjoying our city.

In 2024, Nelson will host the secondary schools competition, and in 2027, the national adult kapa haka festival, Te Matatini, comes to the region.

Ngā mihi / thank you to all the performers, attendees, and volunteers who helped make this event such a success.

## Summer Beach Bus farewelled into retirement

Nelson City Council is confident the eBus service will handle the load as the red, double-decker Tāhuna Summer Beach Bus is farewelled into retirement.

In the six years the Summer Beach Bus loop was operating, passengers used the service to travel between Nelson city centre and Tāhunanui Beach or the Tāhuna Beach Holiday Park.

The Tāhuna Summer Beach Bus was limited to six daily return trips between Nelson CBD and Tāhunanui Beach Holiday Park. The introduction of the eBus service in August 2023 provides 94 trips per day between Nelson and Tāhunanui from 7am to 7pm – an increase of 58 trips compared with the former NBus Route 2 service. The adult Summer Beach Bus fare was \$4 cash while the eBus cash fare is \$3 and \$2 with a Bee Card.

Acting Nelson Mayor Rohan O'Neill-Stevens says the decision to no longer support the Beach Bus service financially was made due to the increased frequency of trips available via the eBus service, as well as Council seeking ways to cut costs and the emissions produced by the diesel-powered double-decker bus. The eBus service also connects passengers with the full network.

"Passengers on the Summer Beach Bus would have needed to travel to the CBD to connect to other parts of the region via bus," says Acting Mayor Rohan. "With the eBus service, from the interchange on Muritai Street passengers can travel to The Brook Waimārama Sanctuary, Nelson Airport, Founders Park, Richmond or onto Motueka or Wakefield."

Route 2 and Route 4 both stop less than 150m from Tāhunanui Beach and Route 4, which travels to and from Nelson Airport, stops 500m from the entrance to the Tāhuna Beach Holiday Park.

"With more bus stops, routes and frequency servicing Tāhunanui than ever before, it was felt that the \$16,000 required to operate the Summer Beach Bus was a saving that could be made without overly impacting local businesses and the community," Acting Mayor Rohan says.



# Nelson turns out for Annual Mask Carnivale!



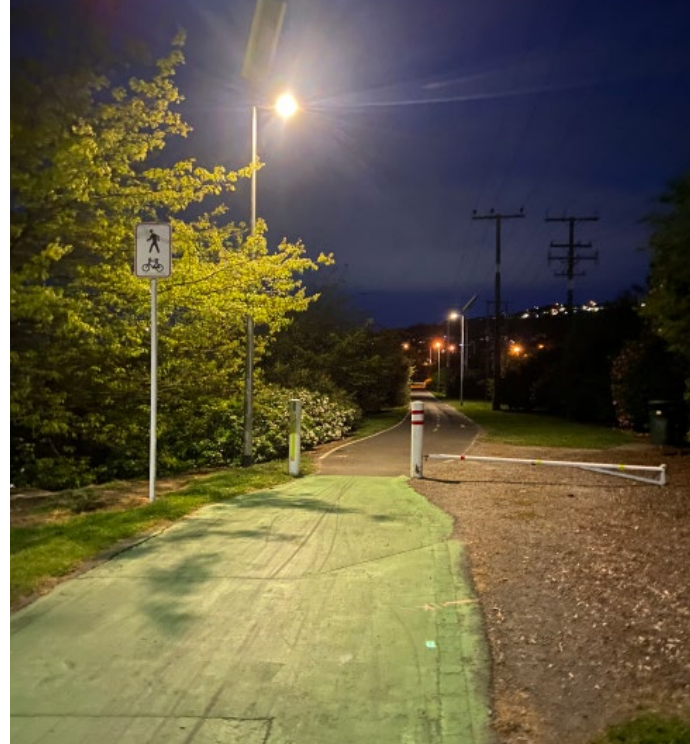
## Railway reserve

Stage two of lighting the Railway Reserve project will see lighting installed along the Railway Reserve from Quarantine Road to the upper end of Beatson Road.

There will be three styles of lighting used including the six-metre-high LEDs used in Stage 1, light bollards along Jenkins Road to help minimise light spill, and solar lights by the Quarantine Road playground.

There may be stop/go management in place at different sections to allow contractors to safely move cyclists and pedestrians through the worksite.

The section alongside Quarantine Playground, and from Gracefield Street to SH6 Whakatū Drive have both been completed, with work beginning this week from Ulster Street to Jenkins Creek.



WHAKATŪ

NELSON

## BLACKCAPS v BANGLADESH



2ND ODI

WED 20 DEC, 11AM, SAXTON OVAL

BUY TICKETS NOW! [NZC.NZ](http://NZC.NZ)



## Right Tree Right Place Taskforce recommends a smart transition for forestry

A holistic set of recommendations for the future of Council commercial forestry in Nelson that calls for the end of clear felling and a transition to a continuous canopy of mixed species will be presented to elected members at a Council meeting on Thursday, 9 November.

The Right Tree Right Place Taskforce, chaired by former Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment Dr Morgan Williams, was set up in February 2023. Its remit was to evaluate future options for Council's 600 ha of commercial forestry in the Maitai, Brook, Roding and Marsden valleys, which is mostly planted in *Pinus radiata*.

The taskforce has made a series of recommendations with an overarching goal of removing the distinction between Council's commercial forestry operations and the 10,000 ha of Council forested land as a whole, which includes water and conservation reserves. These recommendations are contained in the taskforce's report: Whakatū Forest Futures – Nurturing the 10,000+ Hectares for their Many Values.

Dr Williams says the 10,000 ha of Council-owned forested land so close to the city is a valuable community asset.

"It's gold, this relationship between the urban area and the natural environment. No other city in New Zealand has such a large forest area so close.

"Any plans to transition from *Pinus radiata* must consider the importance of maintaining and enhancing the biodiversity and resilience of the whole forest estate. Otherwise, there could be significant biodiversity loss in the 10,000 ha while transitioning a few hundred hectares."

Any transitioning from commercial *Pinus radiata* forestry would not happen overnight; the taskforce recommends a framework for action over the next 20 years. It also recommends several ways in which Council could fund the shift to a continuous canopy forest of mixed species.

"We recommend a cost-benefit analysis to identify opportunities for revenue raising," Dr Williams says. "This could include the sale of cutting rights to select stands for a rotation, making the most of any eligible Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) benefits and using local government powers to raise loans or levies.

"All returns and carbon credits earned since the forests were reregistered into the ETS should be 'ring-fenced' in Council accounts, to help fund forest transitions and restoration."

The suggested transition would not necessarily mean the end of all commercial forestry on Council land, as continuous canopy forestry allows for the harvesting of smaller numbers of high-value mixed species trees.

Acting Mayor Rohan O'Neill-Stevens says the taskforce report, background papers and recommendations represent a huge amount of work by the members of the taskforce.

"This is the important next step in what has been an ongoing conversation, both within council and in the wider community, and I want to thank the taskforce for their hard work in this space. We will be carefully considering their report and recommendations, before making a decision on the future of our forests."

Elected members are scheduled to discuss the recommendations and decide whether to adopt them at the Council meeting on Thursday, 9 November.

The Right Tree Right Place Taskforce was made up of independent specialists Morgan Williams (Chair), Joanne Clapcott, Andrew Fenemor and Stuart Orme, and councillors Rachel Sanson and Matthew Benge.

## Yusuf Corten: let's bring more colour to our streets

When Yusuf Corten was looking to start a new business, he travelled all over New Zealand to find the ideal spot. He chose Nelson.

"I thought it would be a good place to raise a family and a good place to open a business," he says.

Opening Kebab Kitchen in Bridge Street in 2017, Yusuf has become well-known for the fresh, flavourful food he serves, and his generosity in providing food to those in need.

Yusuf is hopeful that the Bridge to Better project will help bring energy and life back to the city.

"I feel like other places like Richmond and Picton have gone ahead, and Nelson has been left behind."

"A number of significant businesses have closed down or moved away, and buildings are empty. I've counted recently and there are over 20 empty shops in the inner city – and around half of them in Bridge Street alone. When a high-profile tenant leaves it has a negative flow-on impact on the businesses that are left," Yusuf says.

New Zealand is the tenth country that Yusuf has lived and worked in, and he's brimming with ideas to help breathe life back into the city, like closing part of Bridge Street for a weekly night market.

"When I lived in Rotorua people would come from the surrounding towns for the night market – it was a real drawcard."

Another idea would be to have outdoor dance or fitness classes run on summer evenings, or to have interactive sculptures, like the bucket fountain in Cuba Mall in Wellington.

"Sculptures that move are fun and are always popular with kids and adults too."

He'd love to see more colour and vibrancy in the city – from lighting up the bridges and streets all year round, to painting the buildings in primary colours.

"I've seen it work really well in other cities overseas, where there is a street-wide colour scheme and buildings are painted in bright colours – it's fun and makes for great photos too."

He'd extend the colour scheme to the street architecture as well.

"All the light poles and bollards are painted black. If they were white or bright colours, it would give the street a lift."

Nelson is surrounded by natural beauty – the mountains, the beach, the Abel Tasman National Park, and Yusuf would like to see more green and open spaces in the inner city.

"Closing the top of Trafalgar Street was great but we need more areas where people can sit, catch up with friends, and eat their lunch or dinner."

And instead of temporary hanging baskets, he'd love to see more year-around planting – colourful flowers and herbs like mint and rosemary in planter boxes.

Most mornings you'll see Yusuf outside with a leaf blower, clearing the leaves that have dropped all over the footpath.

"I don't think the trees on Bridge Street are the right ones for the inner city. They shed their leaves, making the streets look messy. Their roots are coming through the footpath, making the area uneven for pedestrians."

Yusuf's suggestion is to plant citrus trees like lemons, oranges and mandarins.

"They stay green most of the year and don't drop as many leaves. When they flower they have a beautiful scent, the fruit is colourful, and can be picked by the community as well."

Yusuf is supportive of the Bridge to Better infrastructure to enable more people to live in the inner city.

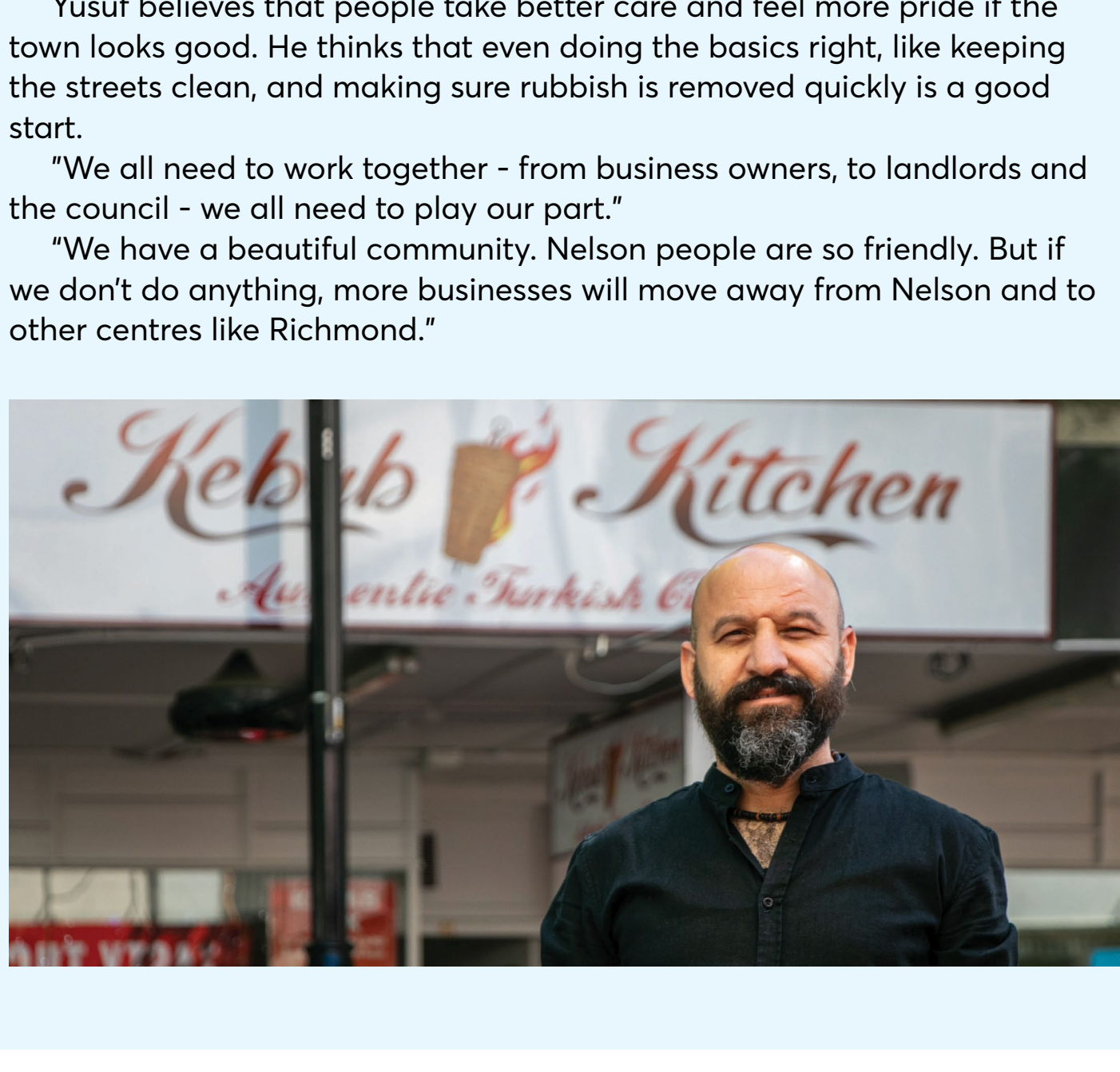
"More people living in the city makes it livelier, and safer too. Most of the upper levels of our inner city buildings are empty now. It would be great to see these converted into apartment-style living."

He anticipates that when construction for the project starts, it will be disruptive to businesses like Kebab Kitchen, but if the end result is a more attractive city, it will benefit everyone.

Yusuf believes that people take better care and feel more pride if the town looks good. He thinks that even doing the basics right, like keeping the streets clean, and making sure rubbish is removed quickly is a good start.

"We all need to work together – from business owners, to landlords and the council – we all need to play our part."

"We have a beautiful community. Nelson people are so friendly. But if we don't do anything, more businesses will move away from Nelson and to other centres like Richmond."



## A better city for all ages?

Revitalising the inner city through the Bridge to Better project has the potential to make Nelson a more socially connected and vibrant place across all generations.

Age Concern Nelson Tasman's manager Caroline Budge is passionate about making Nelson a great place to age, and with the Age Concern Nelson office on Bridge Street, Caroline has a keen interest in the Bridge to Better project.

"I was on the steering group for the City for All Ages strategy, and I really hope that all the great ideas that came out of that work will be incorporated into the plans for Bridge Street."

"I'm interested in how any changes on Bridge Street will help make the inner city a safer and more lively place for everyone, including older people. Making the inner city more age-friendly, for example, by providing more seating, and wider and smoother footpaths, actually makes it better for everyone – whether it is a parent with a pram, a young person on crutches due to a sports injury, or a member of our disabled community."

She also points out that you can't put all people over 65 in the same basket.

"Over 65 can include more than one generation, and the needs of an active 68-year-old are quite different from a 95-year-old who may require more support."

Caroline is inspired by the American researcher Dan Buettner who has travelled around the world to gain insights into communities where older people thrive, areas he calls 'Blue Zones'.

Dan Buettner believes that staying healthy is a group effort and we all need to support each other.

One way Caroline believes people can support the wider community is by changing perceptions around convenient parking.

"We often hear that people are worried about on-street parking being reduced, but with our large parking spaces like Montgomery and Buxton Squares, there is actually loads of parking close to Bridge Street. It would be great if those who are capable of parking and walking short distances do so, leaving on-street parking available and accessible for those who really need it."

It's actually a win-win situation, as many experts say that finding ways to include incidental exercise in your day, like parking further away from your destination, is a great way to stay fit and healthy, she says.

Being active, vibrant and connected is something we all aspire to, no matter what stage we are in life, Caroline says. She'll be working to make sure that a range of older adults have their say about the future of Bridge Street to make a more positive city centre for everyone.

Shirley, in her early 80s and Pete, in his late 60s, are both regular visitors to the inner city, agree with Caroline that a vibrant inner city is good for everyone, no matter what age you are.

"It's about having communal spaces for different people with different needs," says Pete.

Shirley agrees. "You've got to cater for everyone – from babes in prams to someone who is 102!"

Pete says building flexibility into how public space is used is a good idea.

"The needs of the community change throughout the year. In the lead-up to Christmas and over summer, the streets are busy and full of people, but other times it's a lot quieter. So having the streets set up so they could be used in different ways depending on what was happening would be great. It could be as simple as having smaller trees in movable pots instead of large trees planted in the ground."

For Shirley, coming into the city gives her much-needed social connection – whether it's chatting to the bus driver, catching up with friends for coffee, or simply people-watching. She wonders if there are ways to encourage even more connection.

"When I'm waiting for the bus, everyone sits next to each other in a row. But if the seats were curved instead of straight, it might encourage people to start a conversation with each other."

Moving from the UK around seven years ago, Shirley was impressed by what Nelson has to offer. "Nelson's got almost everything – a library, a museum, the cathedral, theatres, cafes, lovely gardens and beaches. It's easy to walk around and has a lot going for it. But I think it needs to be used more."

"It's not just thinking of the needs of older people, but taking into account how different generations, like grandparents and grandchildren, use the city together," Shirley says. "It might seem like a basic thing, but access to public toilets is really important for both young and old."

The revitalisation of Leeds in the UK is an example of a well-thought out city design, Shirley says.

"They had dedicated carparking buildings at different spots around the city. It was convenient as you could park your car, and then be within walking distance of where you needed to go. There were small play areas dotted around the city, so it was great for the grandchildren."

Smart road design, including having a clear separation between pedestrians and other traffic – whether its delivery vehicles, cars, scooters or e-bikes is important to Pete.

"The older generation have embraced e-bikes, but sometimes they charge down the lanes and footpaths, and they're going pretty fast. It can be disconcerting to other people on the street," Pete says.

Road design extends to the footpath too. "I have balance issues, so I'd prefer to have a smooth asphalt footpath rather than bricks, which can become uneven, or tiles that can be slippery," Pete says.

Pete is supportive of bringing more life into the city.

"I'm concerned about the impact Nelson Junction is going to have on the central city. There are a lot of empty buildings already, which can be quite depressing when you walk around the city. I know they want to encourage more inner city living, but why would you live in the city when there is nothing much happening. From what I can see, the lifeblood of Nelson is being pulled towards Richmond and Tasman," Pete says.

An art pathway, places where families can picnic and a dedicated area for live music are some of the ideas Pete and Shirley have for any inner city development.

But for both, feeling safe when they are in the city is their biggest priority.

"It would be great to have more green spaces and more communal areas in the city. But they have to be safe for everyone – the young people and the older generation alike," says Pete.

# Community Youth Volunteer Award 2023

Nelson College for Girls students Petra Graney and Freya High are joint winners of the school's Nelson City Council Community Youth Volunteer Award for 2023.

This dedicated pair have shown incredible commitment to serving the community. Petra and Freya both volunteer for Forest & Bird. They are also members of the Aotearoa Climate Strikes Coalition and organised the Climate Strike in May. Petra and Freya co-hosted The Green Scene radio show on Fresh FM, providing a youth perspective on environmental and political issues.

In February, Petra and Freya attended a marine mammal medic training course with Project Jonah and are now on the callout list for strandings.

Petra is also an assistant instructor with the Nelson Canoe Club and the manager of youth advocacy education platform Whakaaro NZ.

Freya was also the school-based mentor for Big Brothers Big Sisters, the first sustainability rep on the Nelson Yacht Club administration committee and has had long involvement with sailing including volunteering to train younger teams.

Acting Nelson Mayor Rohan O'Neill-Stevens, who presented the award to Petra and Freya, says it is clear the pair are passionate about the environment and are prepared to put that passion into action by volunteering in multiple roles.

"It's inspiring to see the commitment shown by Petra and Freya. Their dedication to the environment and our community reinforces that the future is in good hands," Acting Mayor Rohan says.

Petra and Freya were also joint winners of the school's service to the environment award.



Acting Nelson Mayor Rohan O'Neill-Stevens with Freya High (centre) and Petra Graney who were joint winners of the Nelson City Council Community Youth Volunteer Award at Nelson College for Girls and the school's Service to the Environment award.

## Trial on Railway Reserve to slow down cyclists

The Railway Reserve crossing at Songer Street was highlighted by the community as an area that needed some safety improvements.

Approximately 500 cyclists and 270 pedestrians use this section of the Railway Reserve daily. In July, we implemented some changes including widening the crossing, designating it as a right of way for cyclists and pedestrians (through a zebra crossing), introducing a raised table, signage and encouraging vehicles to limit their speed.

However, we are still seeing somewhat higher speeds by vehicles as they approach the crossing. In the months since the initial construction, there have been four incidents of vehicles colliding with cyclists and vice versa. The police summary indicates that speed of cyclist and scooter riders across the Railway Reserve is a contributing factor and also made recommendations regarding visibility at the crossing.

Projects such as this require time to change behaviour of all users, both on the Railway Reserve and those using the road. In the meantime please approach this crossing with care.

In October, Council put in place large coloured blocks in varying configurations as a trial to slow down cyclists as they approached the crossing. The data from this trial will determine the final solution, of which could include the installation of a chicane for path users and additional road markings.

To complement these changes, vegetation will be trimmed where possible to help improve visibility to the north.

## The Complete History of Nelson (Abridged)

A tongue-in-cheek race through Whakatū Nelson's history is about to set your ideas of the region's past on end and will explain the mysterious signs promoting CHONA that have appeared on fences around the city.

Writer Gregory Cooper explains the acronym stands for Complete History of Nelson (Abridged), an 80-minute theatrical celebration of Nelson's history.

He describes CHONA as a funny and frenetic variety show with songs, satire and silliness.

"We're pitching it to families - there truly is something for everyone with slapstick comedy that kids will love through to historical information presented with a twist that will keep adults entertained," Cooper said.

"It's a challenge to get it all in since we start 800 years ago with Māori arriving, have the settlers arriving to the America's Cup theme tune 'Sailing Away', roll Rutherford into the first rugby game, meet the pottery set at Chez Eelco and race to the finish line through the last 50 years with Rod Dixon doing laps around the audience."

CHONA is the latest offering from The Professional Theatre Company - a group that won a standing ovation at the Theatre Royal earlier this year with the pacy and hilarious crowd-pleaser 'Mr and Mrs Macbeth of Dodson Valley Road'.

Once again Mark Hadlow - best known for his role as Dori the dwarf in 'The Hobbit' - and his team are bringing professional actors to the stage in Nelson, with a show tailored for the home-town audience.

Gregory Cooper has been involved with theatre in Aotearoa-NZ since he joined Christchurch's Court Theatre in 1993. He co-wrote the rock musical 'That Bloody Woman' about Kate Shepherd and the self-explanatory 'Middle Aged Man in Lycra'. As well as writing CHONA he's appearing in it alongside local actors Doug Brooks and Donna Botha.

The Complete History of Nelson (Abridged) is supported by Nelson City Council's 150-year Sesquicentennial Commemorations.

The Complete History of Nelson (Abridged) is presented at the Energy Centre, Founders Park, December 1-10, 2023. Tickets at TheatreRoyal.co.nz

# Apply now for an arts/heritage grant!

Do you have an arts or heritage project you want to bring to life but need a little financial help to get it across the line? Our Arts/Heritage Partnership grants may be able to help.

Arts/Heritage Partnership Grants enable Nelson City Council to partner with individuals and community groups to deliver experimental, innovative, and fresh arts and heritage projects in Whakatū /Nelson.

We're looking to support and maximise representation from diverse voices, ideas, and cultures for all to experience.

Past grant recipients have:

- Created a women's suffrage protest flashmob experience in the central city to commemorate the 125th anniversary of women's suffrage.
- Delivered a new sculpture symposium in Nelson to share the joy of sculpture and our connection with the environment.
- Painted a new mural on a private property in a highly visible location.
- Presented a theatrical performance and a light art experience to acknowledge the anniversary of Parihaka and Nelson's part in that story.
- Run a rangatahi mural training course to enable artists and students to share knowledge and skills on mural painting.

The amount of funding awarded to each project will generally be between \$500 and \$4000.

Larger sums may be considered where projects can demonstrate significant participant involvement or otherwise be particularly influential/noteworthy in their impact.

Arts/Heritage Partnership Grants are available at any time for delivery in the Council's current financial year (July 2023 to June 2024).

To proactively encourage delivery of Toi Māori or Taonga Tuku Iho Māori projects, 50% of the funding resources have been ringfenced for applications in that space.

Visit Shape Nelson for more information and to apply.

To talk through your ideas, contact Tom Ransom Arts and Heritage Adviser at [tom.ransom@ncc.govt.nz](mailto:tom.ransom@ncc.govt.nz)

## Acting Mayor's Message

### Activating our city takes everyone

We've heard a lot recently about the need to get our city activated and thriving, to bring people back into its centre and give a boost to our local economy, especially after a challenging few years. It's something I spend plenty of time on – talking to residents, business and building owners, workers and external experts. It's clear the shared intent of achieving more is there, it's just about getting together and actually taking action.

And we don't need to start from scratch. We've already kicked off our summer events programme strongly this year with an incredible 11 days of the Nelson Arts Festival, filled with challenging, entertaining and thought-provoking pieces. Followed up immediately by the privilege of hosting Te Mana Kuratahi, celebrating the incredible talent of primary school kapa haka, we're seeing the benefits of partnering across business, iwi, community and Council to bring added vibrancy and people to our region.

I'm incredibly proud of the effect both those events have had on our community – enhancing our creative and cultural wellbeing, and bringing incredible locals into the spotlight, alongside national and international talent. Their success is a testament to the hard work of the organisers and the support of residents in getting along to enjoy what's on offer.

Looking ahead, we've got a summer filled with events, from the Santa Parade, the Multicultural Festival and Tāhuna Summer Sounds, to New Year's Eve, L.A.B

and Sublime with Rome, and international cricket. Of course, activation is about more than just events and, in the background, Council is deep into its Long Term Plan work, laying out a pathway for the next 10 years and looking at permanent improvements to make our city an even better place for us to enjoy. Even in challenging circumstances, we'll be looking to keep investing in our people and our place.

While there's more work for us to do, getting our city activated is about supporting and empowering the residents who make up our city to shape, influence and lead the changes you want to see. We need to continue to build a local economy and environment that encourages the innovation and inspiration already present within our community, and to create the buy-in and sense of ownership of having a clear stake in our city's future.



Acting Mayor Rohan O'Neill-Stevens



NRSBU Sewerline Duplication project

### SH6 underpass to Railway Reserve is closed

The wastewater pipe across Orphanage Stream and along the Railway Reserve between Bunnings Warehouse and Placemakers is being upgraded to improve the resilience of the sewer network. This will require the closure of this section of the Railway Reserve and the underpass connection to the Coastal track alongside SH6.

### Section 7 – Stage 1

Mid November to Mid December 2023

### Open Alternative Routes

1. Monaco via Songer Street
2. Via underpass at the Richmond Aquatic Centre then travel alongside Saxton Field

— Closed route  
— Open route

## We want to hear from you in the 2023/24 residents' survey!

It's that time again, where Nelson City Council is asking the community for feedback about our organisation's current services, activities, and overall direction.

The results of these surveys give us a valuable overview of public opinion and help Council improve how it delivers the services that impact you – everything from Nelson's transportation network to sporting and cultural events and even how we look after the natural environment.

An independent research company will survey at least 400 Nelson residents at random, across four periods between July 2023 and June 2024 to maximise opportunities for people to participate. We'll make the survey results public once the survey is completed, but individual responses will be completely anonymous.

If you've been chosen to participate, you'll get a letter in the mail with a QR code you can scan to complete the survey online. You'll also be able to request a paper copy if that is easier for you. Either way, the survey should only take about 10–15 minutes to complete. As thanks for taking the time to respond, you'll go in a draw to win one of four Prezzy cards valued at \$100 each, so make sure you check your mailbox!

Even if you aren't selected to complete the survey, there are always plenty of ways to share your feedback with Council. Projects open for consultation are regularly updated online at [shape.nelson.govt.nz](http://shape.nelson.govt.nz) and you can report any problems or issues through the Antenna App or by contacting our Customer Service Centre on 03 546 0200.

## eBus OnDemand Survey

The QR code links to a survey for those living in Stoke about the new eBus OnDemand service.

Scan the code with the camera on your phone and let us know your thoughts on the Stoke-only service.



## Parking Bylaw Changes

The updated Traffic and Parking Bylaw came into effect on Friday 3 November. There's three main changes to be aware of.

- No parking on cultivated areas (berms, gardens etc)
- Re-parking in the same zone within 30 minutes of vacating a parking spot will be deemed to have remained parked continuously
- No repairs of vehicles on-road (unless minor in nature)

When deciding on these changes to the Parking Bylaw, Council took into account polite consideration for other drivers and pedestrians, the effect on the environment, wear and tear on infrastructure and safety.

Parking on berms can damage the grass and water infrastructure under the berm, it also makes it difficult for those in wheelchairs, mobility scooters and those with prams.

Nelson CBD parking is made up of free parking, all day paid parking and general parking (with an hour free). Time limits are on carparks to ensure there's parking available when people need it, and so we can all take advantage of the 1 hour free parking.

Topping up windscreen wiper water or replacing a bulb would be considered a minor repair, assuming you can do it safely. Undertaking major work that requires cars being up on blocks (like an engine removal) is unsafe for the person doing the mechanics and vehicles passing by.

## Water meter reading continues

Our contractors are continuing to visit residences to read water meters until the end of the month.

If you have not had your meter read yet, please check and ensure your water meter box and the area surrounding it are clear and easily accessible for the meter readers to locate and read. Please move any pot plants that are sitting on the boxes.

The meter readers are allowed to read the meters between 7am and 7pm, seven days a week, including Sundays and public holidays.

They will be identifiable by their hi-visibility vests with 'WATER METER READER' and "HireStage" on the back. They also carry ID with them which you may request to view.

The meter readers will be starting in Tāhunanui then working their way through Stoke, the city centre, the Wood, Atawhai and, finally, the Glen near the end of November.

As part of the ongoing maintenance of the meters, some meters will be checked to see if they are still recording accurately. If you are home when this happens, the meter reader will let you know. If you are away, they will leave a letter in your letterbox letting you know that Council contractors have come by.

The test requires the meter reader to fill a 10-litre bucket with water. If the meter needs to be replaced, the water will be turned off to do this. The whole check usually takes about 10 minutes. These checks will still be on going in December.

If your meter is not easily accessible for the readers (e.g. behind a locked fence) or if you have dogs, please call our Contractor's help desk on 021 0266 6708 so that suitable arrangements can be made to have the meter read.

Please be aware that if you don't make a suitable arrangement or repeated visits are needed to obtain a meter reading, you could be charged a Special Water Meter reading fee of \$34.41.

### Invoicing

All water used through the meter is charged at \$2.345 per cubic metre. This is inclusive of GST.

The Invoices/Statements are posted out usually within two weeks of the meter being read.

Invoices will be due for payment on 20 December 2023. If your account has a balance of less than \$10 or a credit of less than \$10, no invoice will be sent.

Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

## Repairs on the way for Stoke Library

Work to repair Stoke Library's roof is expected to begin in late March 2024 following approval from Nelson City Council's elected members to bring forward a budget of \$581,000 to carry out required compliance improvements.

The repair work will address roof leaks, skylight alterations, and new roof cladding and flashings. Work on these repairs is expected to be complete by the end of June 2024.

Weather-tightness and structural remedial work on the library was undertaken in 2019 under a temporary building consent to make the building structurally safe and address leaks. However, the short-term repairs were only expected to maintain the building for up to five years as major renovations were expected through the Long Term Plan 2018-28.

As the redevelopment did not go ahead, the temporary building consent is due to expire. Additional repairs must be made to remove the temporary nature of the building consent and allow the library to continue to operate.

Disruption to library users is likely to be minimal, but notification will be given before work begins.

## Councillor's Comment

### Take time to smell the roses

I am constantly asked what I enjoy about being your Elected Councillor. It's simple: I enjoy getting to know people and representing our community's views at Council.

The introduction of taskforces this term enabled me to engage with members of the public at my weekly drop-in sessions at Squires Café in Stoke on Monday afternoons. This venue provides a relaxed atmosphere to raise any concerns or issues you feel I can assist you with.

It is through this engagement that I feel able to represent our community's values and beliefs, staying true to the purpose of being elected. The level of experience, knowledge and connection people share with our region amazes me.

Meeting in person, with the people who make Nelson thrive, valuing their stories, understanding what is important to them and why highlights what a privilege it is to be an Elected Councillor.

Nelson has been described to me as a city where, regardless of age, health, or budget, one can become involved in active or passive activities easily. The vast number of diverse activities available include coffee catchups, walking or running, hiking groups, book reading, artistic endeavours, swimming groups, board games, and various other activities depending on your interest. These informal community groups are approachable and friendly, making all feel welcome. It's great that Nelson City Council has invested to

create these spaces and facilities, enabling strong social networks within our diverse community.

Consistent topics raised at my drop-in sessions are the enjoyment gained utilising our shared walking/cycle paths, gardens, port and river walks, which provide added benefits such as beautiful views, seating, seasonal edible fruits and community artwork to name a few. Many shared spaces link to wider regional pathways such as the Great Taste Trail.

Dog-friendly areas/parks provide safe play areas for people to take their additional family members on or off the lead.

Effective management of weed control and pest management on Council land ensures these areas are maintained safely at their best with community safety in mind.

Gardens, parks, reserves and beaches are easily accessible by car, public transport, bike or on foot, our mild, sunny climate, the friendliness of locals and our renowned café culture are the reasons many residents have shared with me for returning/relocating to Nelson.

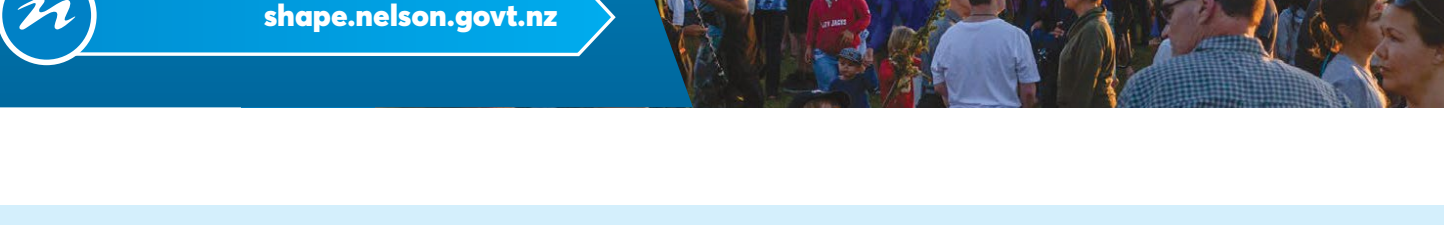
As summer arrives, please take the opportunity to enjoy what Nelson has on offer. So ... stop and take the time to smell the roses.



Councillor Trudie Brand

## Get involved and help us shape Nelson

[shape.nelson.govt.nz](https://shape.nelson.govt.nz)



## MEETINGS

The following meetings of the Nelson City Council have been scheduled.

Council meeting	9am	9 Nov
Joint Committee of Tasman District and Nelson City Councils	10.30am	14 Nov
Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit	9.30am	17 Nov
Audit, Risk and Finance Committee	9am	24 Nov
Chief Executive Employment Committee - Mayor's Office, Floor 2B, Civic House, 110 Trafalgar Street, Nelson	11am	22 Nov
Joint Shareholders Committee - Tasman District Council Chamber, 189 Queen Street, Richmond	9.30am	28 Nov
Civil Defence Emergency Management Group - Emergency Operations Centre, 28 Oxford Street, Richmond	1.30pm	28 Nov

For a full list of meetings go to:

[nelson.govt.nz/meetings](https://nelson.govt.nz/meetings)



To read the latest updates or sign up for Our Nelson by email go to:

[our.nelson.govt.nz](https://our.nelson.govt.nz)



<b>Project name</b>	<b>Likely end date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Benefit</b>
<b>Maitai Hub Bridge Replacement</b>	October 2023 – February 2024	336 Maitai Valley Road	Recovery Project providing access across the Maitai River
<b>St Vincent Street Stormwater</b>	November 2023	Intersection of St Vincent Street & Hastings Street	Improve stormwater network and reduce flooding risk
<b>Saxton Creek Upgrade Stage 4</b>	December 2023	Main Road, Stoke	Flood mitigation
<b>Domett Street Upgrade</b>	December 2023	Reconstruction of Domett Street	Improved footpath and cycling facilities
<b>NRSBU Rising Main Duplication – Martin Point Connection</b>	December 2023	Connection of duplicate rising main to existing system at Martins Point	Improve network capacity and resilience
<b>NRSBU Rising Main Duplication Section 5–7</b>	February 2024	Railway Reserve Cycle way-Elms Street-Kotua Place	Improve network capacity and resilience

### Saxton Field

**FTSNT Kirikiti Tournament** – Saturday 11 November  
**Nelson Hockey Association Summer Social Hockey** – Wednesdays until 29 November

### Saxton Stadium

**After School Table Tennis Juniors** – Mondays and Fridays during term time, 3:30pm – 5pm  
**Engaging Rangatahi – Igniting the Life Force Within** – Wednesday 15 November, 9am – 3pm

### Trafalgar Centre

**Bill Bailey - Thoughtifier** – Sunday 12 November, 8pm  
**Feast Whakatū: Gindulgence** – Saturday 18 November, 12pm – 6pm

### 1903 Square

**Umbrella Market** – Sunday 3 December, 1:30pm – 3:30pm

### Trafalgar Park

**MS Nelson Information Evening** – Wednesday 15 November, 4pm – 6pm

### Founders Heritage Park

**Hours:** 10am – 4:30pm Daily  
**Feast Whakatū: The Grand Nelson Sausage Competition** – Saturday 18 November, 2pm  
**Feast Whakatū: Bottomless BBQ Brunch** – Saturday 25 November, 10am – 1pm  
**The Great Christmas Market** – Sunday 26 November, 9am – 4pm

**The Complete History of Nelson Abridged** – Friday 1 – Sunday 10 December

### Melrose House

**Hours:** Monday: 9am – 3pm  
Tuesday to Sunday: 9am – 4pm

### Isel House and Park

**Isel House hours:** Tuesday – Friday 10am to 3pm and Saturday 12pm – 4pm  
**Isel Twilight Market** – every Thursday, 4.30pm until dark  
**Feast Whakatū: Isel Market** – Thursday 23 November, 4.30pm

### Waahi Taakaro Golf Course

**Abbott Charity Golf Tournament** – Thursday 23 November, 9am – 3pm

### Nelson Public Libraries:

#### Elma Turner Library

**Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 9:30am – 6pm  
Wednesday: 10am – 6pm  
Saturday: 10am – 4pm  
Sunday: 1pm – 4pm

**Library Knitters** – every Thursday, 10am – 12pm

**Sunday Craft Club: Pop-Up Cards** – Sunday 12 November, 1pm

**Meet Luna at the Library** – Saturday 18 November and Saturday 2 December, 3pm – 4pm

**Kōrero te reo Māori** – Saturday 18 November and Saturday 2 December, 10am – 11am

**Community Corner: Telehealth** – Friday 24 November, 10am – 12pm

**Live Music Series: Teatree** – Sunday 26 November, 2pm

**Community Corner with Employable** – Thursday 30 November, 10am – 12pm

**Summer Selfies** – Friday 1 December – Wednesday 31 January

### Nightingale Library Memorial

**Hours:** Monday – Friday: 12pm – 4pm

Saturday: Closed

Sunday: 1pm – 4pm

### Stoke Library

**Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 9:30am – 5:30pm

Wednesday: 10:00am – 5:30pm

Saturday: 10am – 1pm

Sunday: Closed

### Museums and Galleries:

#### Broadgreen House and Samuels Rose Gardens

**Winter hours:** 12pm – 3pm Daily

**Weave Your Own Washcloths and Dishcloths Workshop** – Sunday 26 November, 10am – 4pm

#### The Suter Art Gallery & Theatre

**Hours:** 9:30am – 4:30pm Daily

**Exhibition: Gathered Voices – Highlights from the Fletcher Trust Collection** – Thursday 31 August – Sunday 12 November, during opening hours

**Italian Film Festival** – Monday 6 – Monday 27 November

**Exhibition: Kanohi kitea (The Seen Face)** – Saturday 16 September – Sunday 19 November, during opening hours

**Nelson Suter Art Society Spring Exhibition** – Saturday 16 September – Sunday 19 November, during opening hours

**Exhibition: Life's Simple Pleasures** – Monday 30 October – Sunday 19 November, during opening hours

**Exhibition: Disruptive Order: Abstraction from The Suter's Collection IV** – Saturday 4 November – Sunday 24 March 2024, during opening hours

**Nelson Decorative and Fine Arts Society** – Wednesday 15 November, 6:30pm

**Exhibition: Fire & Earth: Contemporary Ceramics from the Top of the South** – Saturday 18 November – Sunday 10 March 2024, during opening hours

**Exhibition: Home: Give Me Shelter** – Saturday 25 November – Sunday 3 March 2024, during opening hours

#### Refinery ArtSpace

**Hours:** Monday – Friday from 10am – 5pm  
Saturday from 10am – 2pm

**Exhibition: NMIT – Te Pukenga BAM** – Monday 13 November – Saturday 2 December, during opening hours

#### Nelson Provincial Museum

**Hours:** Weekdays from 10am – 5pm  
Weekends & Public Holidays from 10am – 4:30pm

**Code Breakers: Women in Games** – Monday 25 September – Sunday 12 November, during opening hours

**Te Ara o Hine Rēhia – A Journey into the World of Kapa Haka by Melissa Banks** – Thursday 12 October – Sunday 12 November, during opening hours