

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

Native fish eggs found in upper Brook

The clear waters of the upper Brook Stream are proving to be a good spawning site for the threatened koaro, one of our declining species of native fish.

Council's freshwater science team recently discovered fresh eggs in the upper Brook, the second year in a row that eggs have been found in this area.

Koaro live in fast flowing streams, with a preference for streams with native bush cover. They feed on insects drifting in the stream and are famous for their amazing climbing abilities. They are one of the five species often caught in whitebait nets, contributing to their decline.

We'll be carrying out more surveys of the Brook stream over the winter to understand more about the spawning patterns of koaro and other native fish.



Nelson City Events Strategy adopted

Council has adopted the Nelson City Events Strategy.

The Strategy will provide greater clarity for the community and will guide Council's future support of events. The strategy has been developed in conjunction with the Nelson Regional Development Agency (NRDA) and with input from a range of stakeholders.

Under the strategy, Council will continue to provide significant funding for events through the Nelson Events Fund. This will have two components, one to support events that foster community well-being and social outcomes, the other to support events that grow Nelson's economy.

Mayor Rachel Reese says, "Nelson can be proud of its long history of developing unique events like the Adam Chamber Music Festival or the Masked Parade, which bring our community together and also attract visitors to our city."

"The new Strategy provides clear direction for how we

intend to build on that reputation and continue to grow a rich events calendar. As a Council, we need to know we're supporting the rights events at the right time to bring value to the community for our investment.

"The Strategy is underpinned by a partnership approach. Council is just one of many partners working together to deliver an exciting range of events to the city across the year. These events don't just contribute to our economy, they also bring people together and build a sense of pride and identity for our city. This is a smart approach, and one that fits with our vision to be The Smart Little City."

The finalised Nelson City Events Strategy is now available on the Council website:

nelson.govt.nz

The Back Beach Beetle rides again...

Nelson is well known for many things, but among entomologists its fame lies in the presence of a tiny beetle thought to only be found at the Tahunanui Back Beach – hence known as the Back Beach Beetle.

The beetle is considered to be critically endangered because of its limited distribution amongst the tidal flats at the Back Beach. However, recent surveys commissioned by Council's Nelson Nature programme found a second, previously unrecorded population of this special creature at Delaware Inlet.

Nelson Nature will be undertaking further surveys in the Nelson area next summer to see if the secretive beetle is elsewhere in the region. Councillor Brian McGurk, Co-Chair of the Planning and Regulatory Committee, said that the species has been identified as a high priority species for management within the Waimea Inlet. "It is really great news, and we hope we may find more populations of this unique beetle in the

Nelson/Tasman region." Nelson Nature will be working with the Department of Conservation to determine how to protect this tiny Nelson treasure in the long term. Check out our Nelson Nature video about the Back Beach Beetle at nelson.govt.nz/back-beach-beetle.



nelson.govt.nz/back-beach-beetle

Council commits to actions targeting climate change

Council committed to actions and work plans that target climate change issues at the full Council meeting on 3 May. This included a commitment to adopting and implementing a comprehensive plan to reduce carbon emissions.

Council will investigate actions to reduce emissions, look at adaptation and response activities, and consider ways to limit or remove pressure on natural ecosystems affected by climate change. Council will be receiving updates over the next 12–24 months, particularly as the Government's direction on climate change is solidified.

Mayor Rachel Reese says, "Climate change presents an array of challenges that governments and councils, both nationally and internationally, will need to address with their communities. Local Government will be at the forefront of those discussions.

"Of course there are opportunities

that we are taking advantage of now to reduce our environmental impact – what I call 'doing the right thing' – the sort of things you'd expect from The Smart Little City.

"We're supporting walking, cycling and public transport initiatives, waste reduction, energy efficient lighting, and increasing planting programmes across the city, to name a few.

"The Nelson community has a reputation for being environmental leaders, and this commitment on climate change is an important next step for us.

"In my Mayor's report to Council, I signalled a strong desire to reach carbon neutrality. This work will help us develop a meaningful plan

towards that outcome. We will better understand our current situation and the impact of different activities, as we identify what we as a Council, and a community, can do to achieve a zero carbon future.

"It is vital to assess where we are now, in terms of our carbon emissions, so we can map out a programme for reducing them, which is measurable, responsible and achievable. This work will occur over the next 12 months," Mayor Reese says.

Council is a signatory to the Local Government Climate Change Declaration and the commitments to the comprehensive plan will lead the development of a holistic approach to climate change for Nelson.

Nelson Provincial Museum extends National Geographic exhibition season

The Nelson Provincial Museum's latest exhibition, *50 Greatest Photographs of National Geographic*, has extended its run by another month.

The Exhibition, which started on 17 March, will run until 30 June, due to popular demand. There were 12,500 visitors in the first four weeks, with the Museum also now providing short guided tours of the images.



Changes to Regional Land Transport Plan before adoption

The Nelson Regional Transport Committee (RTC) met last Friday to conclude deliberations on the Regional Land Transport and Regional Public Transport Plans Mid-term review.

After considering the public feedback, and in light of recent information from Central Government, the RTC is recommending to Council in principle the following changes to the draft plans to Council for adoption and consideration as part of their LTP deliberations this week.

Thank you to those who took the time to share their feedback.

- The main changes include:
- Renaming the Hill Street Extension project to the Saxton Growth Area Project and the budget re-phased and increased to \$16.05m;
 - Adding a total budget of \$900,000 for footpath maintenance and construction in to the Plan to enable NZTA subsidy to be applied;
 - Increasing the budget for the bus terminus to \$2.4m over 5 years;
 - Increasing the Tahunanui Cycle Network budget from \$2m to \$2.8m spread over three years;
 - Changing the priority of the projects under Top of the South Significant Activities, as requested

by the Tasman Regional Transport Committee, specifically moving "SH60 Richmond to Upper Takaka Safety and Resilience Improvements" from priority 7 to priority 4 and moving "Nelson and Richmond Urban Optimisation Framework (NOF)" from priority 4 to priority 7;

- Including capital funding of \$310,000 (Y1) for Electronic Bus Ticketing and additional operational funding of \$42,000 (Y1) and \$72,000 (Y2 onwards);
- Conduct a survey (at a cost of \$10,000) in Y1 of ratepayers to understand why they do not use public transport;
- Include a separate item "Nelson TDM/Active travel" with a capital budget of \$250,000 in each of Y2 and Y3;
- Change the phasing of the Marsden/Ridgeway intersection project commencing in 2018/19 with budget and phasing of \$50,000 (Y1), \$100,000 (Y2), \$500,000 (Y3) and \$50,000 (Y4);

- Investigating a fare reduction during peak hour to encourage patronage on public transport, with a report to come back to the RTC;
- Tasking officers to seek further information and report back to a future RTC (prior to June 2018) on projects highlighted by NZTA. These include the Noise Wall and Improvement Programme, the SH6 Nelson to Richmond Safe Systems Enhancements, the State Highway Low Cost/Low risk improvements, and the Active Road User Corridor Programme – Nelson Safer Corridor. These were identified by the NZTA in the recently released Draft Transport Agency Investment Proposal.

The RTC also approved a submission to be lodged with NZTA's on the Draft Investment Assessment Framework (IAF) and a letter to be sent to NZTA about concerns relating to the application of the Transport Agency Investment Proposal (TAIP).



What's on at the Library...

Aotearoa at the Library

The nights are getting darker and the weather colder, but you wouldn't know it at the library.

Join us for a week of national events as we read, write and talk all things books. All events are free, no bookings required.

Flash Fiction Writing Competition

Monday 7 – 21 May. Write a murder mystery in five sentences and you could WIN a \$50 book voucher. Entry forms available at any of our branches.

Book Night

Tuesday 22 May from 5pm onwards. Take part in this nationwide event by reading for 15 minutes or more at the Elma Turner Library. All you need is your book – slippers and dressing gowns optional! Hot drinks and snacks provided.

International Simultaneous Storytime

Wednesday 23 May at 1pm. Be part of a first as libraries and schools across New Zealand and Australia hold Storytime together.

Murder in the Library

Thursday 24 May at 6pm. Paul Cleave and Alan Carter will be in conversation with Stella Chrysostomou at the Elma Turner Library as they discuss their entries in the Ngaio Marsh Award.

Spanish Storytime

Thursday 24 May at 11.30am. Join us at the Elma Turner Library for stories and songs presented in Latino-Spanish.

MEETINGS

For a full list of Council meetings go to:

nelson.govt.nz/meetings

WHAT'S ON...

at a Council venue near you?

For a full list of Nelson events go to:

itson.co.nz

To sign up for Our Nelson by email go to:

 [facebook.com/nelsoncitycouncil](https://www.facebook.com/nelsoncitycouncil)