

MT COOK! MOBILISED

Mt Cook Mobilised
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Inhabit
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Welcome to Mt Cook Mobilised, your resident community group, as we celebrate our first 10 years! Thank you to Inhabit of Adelaide Road for their ongoing sponsorship. We invite your input (via the email above) on any Mt Cook issue - and to let us know of new ones. We urge all occupants to look out for your neighbours and care for your plot on the planet as if it were your own. *Peter Cooke*



PREDATORS OUT!



Left Gary Scott, far left, Co-ordinator of Predator Free, with trappers and the trapped at the Spring Fling. Above Carol's cake.

Wellington could become the very first predator-free capital in the world, James Willcocks, coordinator of Predator Free Wellington (*right*) told the MCM Spring Fling. Launching Predator Free Mt Cook-Berhampore-Newton, our own Gary Scott was chuffed that 88 Mt Cook residents have traps in their yards, with another 100 across Newtown and Ber-



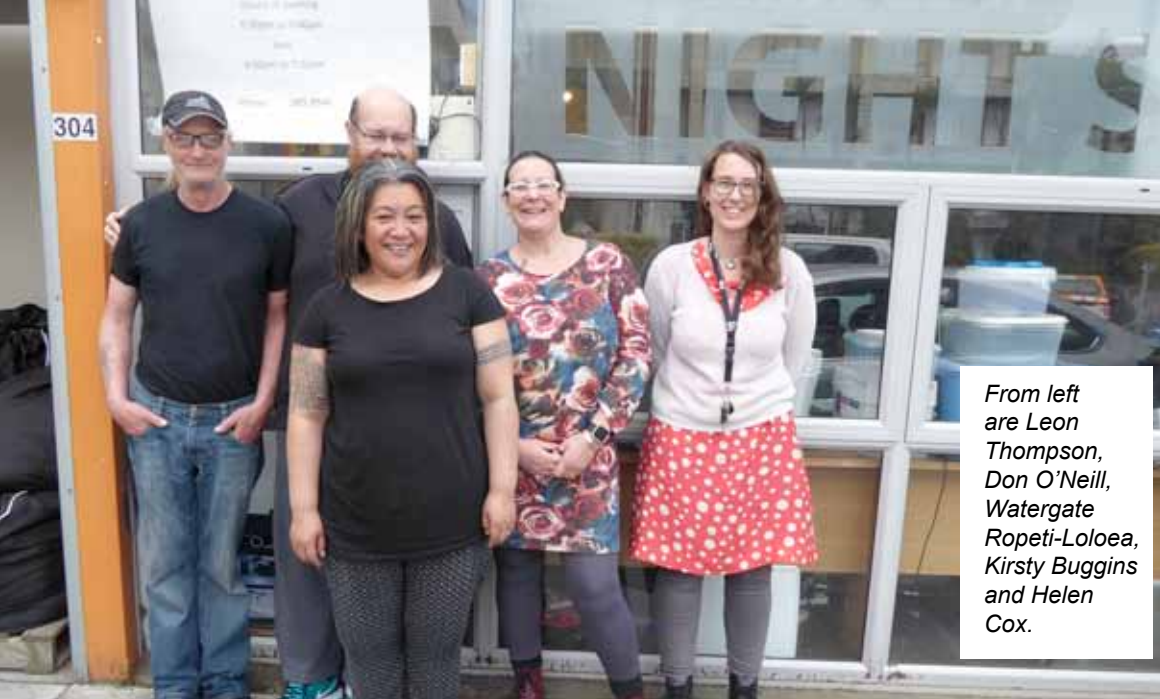
hampore. They are still looking for more people to be involved, targeting 700 across the three suburbs. Thanks to sponsors Kiwibank, Placemakers Lyall Bay, the Thankyou Trust and Forest & Bird. If you want to help or get more information, contact: predatorfreemcn@gmail.com or check up on www.facebook.com/pestfreemtcooknewtown (you don't need a Facebook account to look it up). It costs nothing and takes little effort to be part of this fantastic initiative allowing the tuneful birds of Mt Cook to flourish and grow.

SETTLED BY TIGERS

Reports on the archaeological findings at the Pukeahu National War Memorial Park show NZ to have been settled by tigers. Few traces of widespread Maori habitation had survived but many relics talk of the soldiers camped there since 1843, including this button of the 65th Regiment (Yorkshire North Riding), dubbed the 'Royal Tigers'. The archaeologists Clough & Associates describe the items well but can't say what is to happen to them. For this the government is responsible, including for the future housing of the circular brick structure (*far right*) which was built to allow training on coast defence artillery.

See www.clough.co.nz/reports.html





From left are Leon Thompson, Don O'Neill, Watergate Ropeti-Loloea, Kirsty Buggins and Helen Cox.

Mt Cook's Night Shelter

"If there was enough social/affordable housing and a comprehensive wrap-around service when people are housed, 'homelessness' could be solved", says the Wellington's Night Shelter General Manager, Kirsty Buggins. The shelter is on Taranaki St, next to Sheyne Tuffery's mural.

With improved funding and increased staffing hours, the shelter is making a few changes. They are looking at specialist help with cultural practice needs – especially Maori and Pacifica. More staff allow them to use more volunteers in the future.

The shelter provides 45 emergency beds for men (aged 18 years and up, deemed 'homeless'). Last year it supported over 300 individuals. Two levels of accommodation are provided; 'crisis' (overnight only, in cubicle-style spaces) and 'transitional' (medium-term accommodation in hostel-style rooms, with 24-hour access). Intensive work is done to find alternative housing and 'wrap-around' support and services - crucial for some people when they move on – which can be a weekly phone call up to specialist support. Liaison with other agencies, volunteer, private and public, is a vital part of the manager's role. More recreational opportunities like sport would be great.

A sense of community within the shelter is evident, like when the men in the hostel cook and share meals. They depend on the provisions that come in. Donated food is laid out for people to help themselves. "People are generous all year round – with baking, blankets, toiletries and DVDs". Wellington Library donates books. On Tory St, the Compassion Soup Kitchen (founded by Mother Aubert) provides meals, but not Sunday breakfast so the shelter puts on toast and cereal on Sundays. Extra effort is made over Christmas and New Year, so donations of food and gifts are appreciated. We are sure our generous Mt Cook community can respond to this call.

Contact Kirsty on (04)385 9546 or info@wellingtonnightshelter.org.nz if you can donate to Wellington's Night Shelter.

14 Hours Homeless

During the school holidays, Mt Cook School was the venue for Wellington's 14 Hours Homeless event. Organised by the Salvation Army, it was a collaborative affair for five agencies, including the neighbouring Compassion Soup Kitchen. Some men from the night shelter were also involved, along with Mayor Justin Lester. We hear the clean-up was immaculate.

Waiting for the Bells

Mt Cook and other residents have been waiting patiently for the sound of the Carillon bells to return and fill the air with joyful clamour. The Ministry for Culture & Heritage hoped the restoration would be completed by now, but the state of the structure and the bells was not known until post-quake repairs were under way. Apart from damage to the mechanism due to concrete dust, major corrosion was discovered in the bell frame. In some cases repairs involved replacing whole sections of the frame which were too corroded to be retained. It's highly specialised work and a carillonist (the musician), also experienced in the construction of campaniles (bell towers), has been fully occupied on restoration of the instrument. Timothy Hurd happily reports that the end is within earshot. Work is planned to be finished by Christmas. In the meantime, some bells have tolled as part of ceremonies held at Pukeahu National War Memorial Park. The full instrument should be functioning again and the programme of recitals resume from December.

To hear the bells, go to www.mch.govt.nz/files/tvlake1..mp3



PHOTOS FROM EMMA AND MARY

Spring Fling '17

Once again the threatening clouds failed to deter a big crowd turning out to celebrate Spring in Mt Cook on Sunday 12 November 2017.

Papawai Reserve, with her best spring outfit in several shades of green, the music of the birds mixed with laughter from kids (and grown ups) was the perfect background. Tamanui-Te-Ra... the soft spring sun... paid a short visit and the threatened rain came to nothing.

People and dogs came from near (Mount Cook) and far (Island Bay, Karori, Queenstown even!) and places in between to eat, chat, learn, play, relax, breathe, stretch, whatever felt good. Huge thanks to the team that made it happen. It's a highlight of our event calendar and the pics here say it all. If you didn't make it this year... come next time. "He waka eke noa" (Everyone can come on board).



GETTING WELLY SUBMITTING

The Get Welly Moving project is seeking public submissions on four scenarios for future transport development in Wellington City, between Ngauranga and the airport. The four options (with their cost and duration) are:

A - Prioritise key central city streets for walking, cycling and public transport, allow fewer cars in the CBD, and improve the layout at Basin Reserve but with no bridges or tunnels. (\$150-250m, 1.5 to 2.5 years)

B - Includes proposals in A, plus better connections to south and east – a second Mt Victoria tunnel and further improvements to traffic flows at the Basin Reserve involving tunnels or bridges. (\$700-900m, 5 to 7 years)

C - Includes A and B, plus reduced conflict between traffic, pedestrian and cycling flows in Te Aro – switch eastbound

SH1 traffic from Vivian St to a tunnel on the Inner City Bypass route, beneath Karo Drive. Vivian St would revert to a two-way city street. (\$1.5-1.8b, 7-10 years)

D - Includes A, B and C, plus a second Terrace tunnel and a fourth southbound lane on SH1 from Ngauranga through to Aotea Quay. (\$1.9-2.5b, 10+ years)

Future mass transit systems (more intensive forms of public transport) are discussed separately from the above four scenarios, but decisions on mass transit can be integrated into any of the scenarios.

Get Welly Moving asks for feedback on their proposals by 15 December. More detailed information and feedback forms can be found at

<http://getwellymoving.co.nz/have-your-say/>

AIR QUALITY FOR THE FUTURE

Adelaide Road, from the Basin Reserve to John Street, is Mt Cook's contribution to Wellington's 'Growth Spine'. This is planning-speak for more cars and buses, and more housing over the next 30 years. Otago University Wellington's Housing & Health Research Programme has been aware of an increase in congestion-related pollutants in this area. Together with NIWA and Massey University in Auckland, lead researcher Dr Caroline Shaw and the team have designed a study to examine whether outdoor air has an effect on indoor air. The team surmises that the closer a home is to an arterial route like Adelaide Road, the greater the likely influence on indoor air quality. Many factors are important in this association - air samples, the types of traffic and the volume, plantings that can help to absorb some pollutants, and impacts that could be attributable to

neighbouring businesses, particularly automotive. Fifty Mt Cook households are taking part in the study. They include people living in apartments, houses and warehouses in Hanson Street, Adelaide Road and side streets. Air samples are collected from inside and outside their homes over two weeks. The samples will be analysed to find out which pollutants are present, and their density. There are many variables for the researchers to consider, and it will take about a year before the findings are published. The results will hopefully help city planners to devise a healthy way of housing people. The research team says "thanks to all the people who are helping with the study, and the Health Research Council which is funding it. This time next year we will update you on our findings!"

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**WALLACE STREET
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Phantom Bill stickers are putting poetry on our streets, in bus shelters. Before your bus reaches stop #7914, read about Cape Reinga in *Going North* by Richard Langston; *Casino* by Peter Olds; *Figures in the distance* by Michele Leggott, and *Baltimore, November* by Janet Frame. More interesting than staring at nothing and we like street art in Mt Cook.

DOUGHNUT FOR DOUGHBOYS

Above *The Belgian WWI memorial unveiled at Pukeahu National War Memorial Park on 12 October.*



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