

**Crafts at Elma Turner Library**

The Library's new craft space will be launched after Easter with a series of craft activities for adults. Craft activities will run from 1-2pm, led by Karen Woodhall, and bookings are required. Activities scheduled so far are:

- Origami boats – 5 and 6 April
- Polymer clay rainbow veneer – 13 April
- Polymer clay polka dots and stripes – 20 April.

More craft sessions are planned. Let us know if there is an activity you want us to run, or if you would like to lead a craft session. Contact us for more information and bookings on [library@ncc.govt.nz](mailto:library@ncc.govt.nz).

**Feedback sought for Betts Carpark**

Nelson City Council is looking for public feedback on its proposal to sell Betts Carpark.

A recent review of Council assets identified that Betts Carpark, at the corner of Trafalgar Square and Nile Street is under used, and that continued ownership of the site may not be in the best interest of ratepayers.

To find out more about the proposal to sell Betts Carpark, and to give your feedback online, visit [nelson.govt.nz](http://nelson.govt.nz) (search phrase = Betts Carpark).

Feedback must be submitted before 5pm on Monday 11 April. A decision will be made by Council in early June. For more information contact Lisa Gibellini, Senior Planning Adviser, on 03 546 0375 or [lisa.gibellini@ncc.govt.nz](mailto:lisa.gibellini@ncc.govt.nz).



[nelson.govt.nz](http://nelson.govt.nz) Search = Betts Carpark

**Trafalgar Centre getting ready to welcome the Giants**

The date for the first stage of reopening the Trafalgar Centre is drawing ever nearer and the work site is a hive of activity six days a week.

The strengthening work in the main stadium will be finished ready for the first game of the Nelson Giants season on 2 April. The main stadium will be safe and functional but work is still going on. It is important to remember this won't be a complete reopening of the venue as there is still much work to be done.

**What you need to know if you are going to the game**

The full seating capacity, including the corporate area, will be available for the first game.

The newly formed car park is on track to be available for the game and will have a new access road from Paru Paru Road.

This car park is nearer to the tennis court end of the centre and this is where the temporary main entrance will be until the rest of the building is complete. Look out for the signs on the night.

The car park lighting is also due to be ready for the April game but there may still be temporary lighting in other areas including the new access road so please take care.

If you are heading to the game on foot, access will be available over the three footbridges:

- Maitai to Trafalgar Park
- Saltwater Creek to Haven Road
- Saltwater Creek to the Port (via the Maitai Walkway)

The walkway that leads off Halifax



Street (between Saltwater Creek and the croquet/tennis courts) will be available too.

Changing rooms, toilets, etc will be progressively reinstated from early April through to the end of May once it is safe to do so. In the meantime, portaloos will be available for spectators (just outside the stadium) for the next couple of months.

Lots of great progress has been made that you can learn about on our website. You can also get a bird's eye view of the project as it progresses with three time-lapse cameras now operating on site. Check out the website, [nelson.govt.nz/projects](http://nelson.govt.nz/projects).

[nelson.govt.nz/projects](http://nelson.govt.nz/projects)

**Share your feedback on this year's draft Annual Plan**

Nelson City Council is holding drop in sessions on the Consultation Document for its draft Annual Plan 2016/17.

The Consultation Document summarises changes to what was proposed in the Long Term Plan 2015-2025 which was adopted in 2015 and sets out Council's plans for the city's future.

Three drop in sessions for the Annual Plan 2016/17 will be held as follows:

- Wednesday 23 March, 5-6pm at Elma Turner Library
- Sunday 3 April, 11-12pm at Nightingale Library Memorial
- Wednesday 6 April, 11.30-12.30pm at Stoke Library

The sessions are a chance for you to ask questions and discuss

issues you may have about the Consultation Document and draft Annual Plan.

Submissions on the Consultation Document are now open and can be submitted online, in person at the Customer Service Centre or by post. They must be received by 5pm 11 April 2016.

More information can be found at [nelson.govt.nz](http://nelson.govt.nz) (search = annual plan 2016).

Hearings of submitters will be carried out on 3 and 4 May and Council deliberations will occur on 11 and 12 May.

[nelson.govt.nz](http://nelson.govt.nz) Search = annual plan 2016



**Get your Good Wood now**

With the recent warm, sunny weather, now is the perfect time to get dry wood in time for winter.

It is important that you order or collect your wood well before you need to burn it and store it properly so it will be completely dry and ready to burn.

Firewood should be stored in a dry, well ventilated place, off the ground. Ideally this should be under cover, in a garage or shed or under the eaves alongside your home. If this isn't possible at your place, use a tarpaulin or sheet of heavy duty plastic to keep the rain and dew off your wood.

If you have unseasoned or green wood (perhaps from a tree you have cut down at your place) be aware that it will take 6-12 months to dry. Remember the greener the wood, the more smoke it generates, affecting Nelson's air quality.

You can get your wood from a registered GOOD WOOD supplier listed on the Council's website, [nelson.govt.nz](http://nelson.govt.nz) (search phrase = good wood).

It's also a good time to get your flue cleaned and replace any broken parts on your burner – it will burn more cleanly, creating more heat and saving you money.



**Work on Waimea Road continues**

Council's investment in upgrading our stormwater systems continues with two significant projects underway on and around Waimea Road.

The project sites are:

- Around the Caltex Service Station corner, affecting Market, Waimea and Boundary Roads
- Hampden Street East, around Nelson College, Franklyn Street and Waimea Road

A short section of Waimea Road, near the Ridgeway turnoff, is also being resealed now. This is a shorter term project, due to be finished this week.

While these projects are much needed, Council is aware they are creating traffic delays.

For the duration of the projects please remember to:

- Allow extra time for journeys
- Be patient and considerate around the work sites
- Travel by Rocks Road if you can
- Consider walking or cycling on the Railway Reserve
- Use the frequent commuter NBus service to help reduce congestion, get timetable details at [nbus.co.nz](http://nbus.co.nz)

Please, don't be distracted by the work taking place and stay focussed on the traffic around you.

Thanks for your continued patience and understanding while we work to get these projects done quickly and safely.

**Water meter reading**

The residential water meter reading round is due to start on 1 April 2016, and will continue for about two months.

Please check and ensure that the area surrounding, and meter box itself are clear and easily accessible for the readers to locate and read. Please do not have pot plants, or other items, sitting on the boxes.

The meter readers are allowed to read the meters between 8am and 6pm seven days a week, including Sundays and public holidays. They will be identifiable by their hi-visibility vests inscribed with 'WATER METER READER' and 'DataCol' inscribed on the back of their vests.

The city is divided up into areas, with the meter readers starting in Tahunanui, moving to Stoke, through the town, The Wood, Atawhai and ending at the Glen at the end of May.

As part of the ongoing maintenance of the meters, some meters will be checked to see if they are still recording accurately. Should your meter be checked, the meter reader will let you know, if you are home at the time. If no one is home, a letter will be left in your letter box letting you know that Council contractors have been.

The test requires the meter reader to fill a 10 litre bucket with water, and should the meter need to be replaced, the water will be turned off to do this. The whole check usually takes about 10 minutes. The meter readers will still be carrying out these checks in June.

If your meter is not easily accessible for the readers, for example, behind a locked fence or if you have dogs, please contact our Contractor on 0800 870 008 so that suitable arrangements can be made to have the meter read.

All water used through the meter is charged at \$2.052 per cubic metre, GST inclusive.

The invoice/statements are posted out usually within two weeks of the meter being read. They will be due for payment on 15 June 2016.

**Māori Road closure**

Māori Road is now closed to traffic and pedestrians for around ten weeks for work on the retaining wall. Vehicles can detour via Stanley Crescent and Russell Street while pedestrians and cyclists have the option of using the walkway between Māori Road and Fountain Place. Thanks for your patience while we carry out this vital work.



Te Rito Maioha Early Childhood New Zealand Graduate Julie Fenn receiving her degree certificate from staff member Tracy Dayman at the recent graduation ceremony. Photo: Paul Donovan.

**Teaching the next generation**

Our early childhood teachers, who provide learning and development for the next generation, might just be our most important social engineers.

Early childhood educators play a pivotal role in a child's formative years, teaching our children how to learn, how to communicate, and fostering a positive attitude towards education.

Quality teaching is frequently highlighted as having the ability to boost a child's learning success. Helen Warren, Education Delivery Leader of Te Rito Maioha Early Childhood New Zealand, says it is early childhood education settings and teachers who provide great environments for children to learn, and give them a good chance of reaching their potentials to be wonderful human beings.

I recently attended the graduation of 25 newly qualified early childhood teachers. I could feel the passion in the room. As Helen puts it, "Becoming an early childhood teacher is almost a calling for many. People are drawn to it for many reasons, but a common one is that they want to make a positive difference to the lives of our most vulnerable citizens, our children."

It was a privilege to be able to be a part of the recent graduation, and I am pleased to see so many taking up the mantle to teach the next generation.

**Mayor's Message**

**Meetings**

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

Hearings Panel – Other – Proposed Temporary Road Closure Applications  
10am 7 April

Hearing for exemptions to Fencing of Swimming Pools Act  
9am 11 April

Community Services Committee  
9am 14 April

Joint Shareholders Committee  
1.30pm 15 April

Civil Defence Emergency Management Group  
To follow Joint Shareholders Committee  
15 April

Governance Committee  
9am 21 April

**Other Meetings**

Nelson Youth Council  
1pm 13 April

**Changes to Meetings**

Regional Transport Committee – previously advertised to take place on 1 April  
Cancelled due to insufficient business

Planning and Regulatory Committee – previously scheduled for 9am on Thursday 7 April  
At conclusion of Governance Committee 21 April

For a full list of Council meetings go to:

[nelson.govt.nz/meetings](http://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](http://itson.co.nz)

To sign up for Live Nelson by email go to:

