

Parks consultation going well



ABOVE: Parks and Recreation staff Cassie Scobie and Lesley McCoy visit St Theresa's School in Bluff.

INITIAL consultation to help the Parks and Recreation team draft a strategy for our city's parks and reserves is going strong.

Parks and Recreation staff have visited schools, held workshops, and hosted drop-in sessions, as well as issuing a survey to ICC staff and the public.

More than 120 Council staff responded to the survey, and so far 75 people have filled out the public survey online.

Parks and Recreation Planner Cassie Scobie said there had been nine stakeholder group workshops, four school workshops, two alternate education providers' workshops, and staff had met with iwi and major city stakeholders.

"We are really pleased with the feedback to date and we still encourage more people to use the tools provided on the website and

Facebook to provide us with your feedback. This includes surveys, art competitions, and postcards. We are happy to chat over the phone or meet with community groups or organisations as well so please do contact us."

Cassie said the Parks and Recreation team had reached out to all schools in the area, but they would like to have the opportunity to visit more secondary schools to ensure they can understand a youth perspective.

The feedback collected to date has enabled the Parks and Recreation team to start forming themes and trends which will help develop its issues and opportunities paper.

Some themes include more sculptures, interactive play, play hubs, collaborating with user groups, and accessibility for all demographics.

When the paper is completed, it will be provided to those who were involved in consultation for further feedback to ensure Parks and Recreation team has interpreted the public voice correctly. From there, the draft Parks and Recreation Strategy will be developed for Council consideration.

"Feedback has been honest, and we appreciate this as we need to understand issues that both Council and members of the public face when participating in parks and recreation activities," Cassie said.

There are two public drop-in sessions still to be held: one at the Bluff Service Centre tomorrow, Saturday August 17, 10.30am – 12.30pm, and one at the Invercargill Public Library on August 22, 12 midday – 2pm.

The survey is available online here: www.surveymonkey.com/r/W89BSYV



Heritage EQUIP sessions successful

BY JUDY CHRISTIE

Environmental Information Officer

ON Thursday August 8, Council sponsored and organised two sessions for owners of earthquake-prone heritage buildings to inform interested people about earthquake strengthening requirements and what financial help may be available through Heritage EQUIP.

The two sessions were attended by more than fifty people - building owners, architects, real estate agents, and members of the public.

One of the first questions building owners in the crowd were asked was whether they had a property management plan in place to address requirements for earthquake strengthening. The majority of building owners answered that they did not.

Council's Development Liaison Manager Simon Tonkin, who has been undertaking work to assess whether buildings may be earthquake-prone, explained the obligations of both owners of affected buildings and Council.

Denise Anderson from Heritage New Zealand spoke about how her organisation could assist building owners, and Council Policy Planner Shannon Baxter explained the Council's recently released 2019 City Centre

Heritage Strategy and upcoming Council funding opportunities.

Mike Frew from Heritage EQUIP provided information on recent changes to their funding scheme.

He pointed out that Heritage EQUIP has a limited amount of funding, and encouraged owners to apply as soon as possible to increase their chances of receiving assistance.

He strongly urged building owners, when engaging a professional engineer, to request examples of the engineer's previous work on buildings of a similar construction and style, as choosing the right engineer for the job can save money and headaches.

Mike explained that, owing to recent changes to Heritage EQUIP's funding structure, it is now possible for multiple buildings to apply together for both Professional Advice grants and Upgrade Works grants.

Council may be able to help owners of multiple buildings to apply together.

Council appreciated everyone taking the time to attend. We will be releasing information on new heritage funding sources, and revisions to existing funding, by October this year.

Unregistered dog numbers dropping daily

BY ELLE DICKSON

Team Leader – Compliance

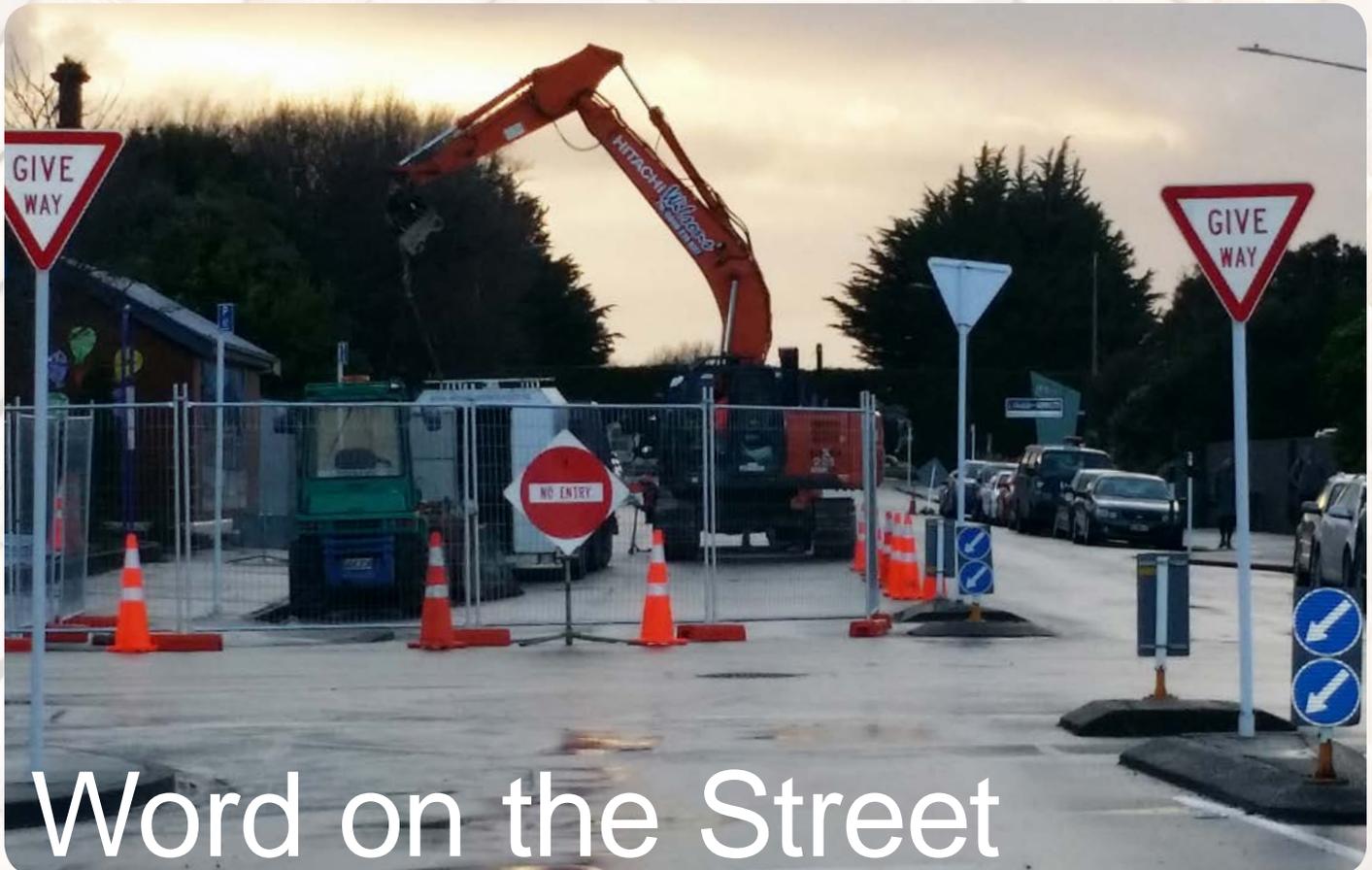
WE ARE now down to 1437 unregistered dogs.

On Monday, registration forms with the 25 per cent late penalty applied were sent out and will be arriving in mailboxes late this week.

We are hoping to see another lot of dog owners come in and register their dogs before we begin phoning and visiting people.

We are looking good for this time of the year and registration has gone well so far.





Word on the Street

ABOVE: Work on the stormwater renewal project begins at the intersection of Jed and Esk Streets.

THERE'S plenty of works happening around the city that can be disruptive for motorists.

Here's the latest updates on just a few of them from Project Technician Joel Stott:

STORMWATER RENEWAL FOR ESK STREET

Earlier this week, the Engineering Services Group began the stormwater renewal in Esk Street, near the intersection of Jed Street.

This project is to replace an old historic brick main – initially installed in 1874 which is now in pretty poor condition.

The work will proceed East on Esk Street, through to the intersection of Doon Street. It will continue along Doon street to the intersection with Don Street.

The work is expected to be completed in November.

FOUL SEWER RENEWAL FOR POMONA STREET

On Monday, work will begin to renew

the foul sewer main connections on Pomona Street, between Collingwood and Centre Streets.

Work will start at the Centre Street intersection, and is expected to be completed in November.

WORKS ON WINDSOR CONTINUE

This project is just past the half way mark, at about 55% complete.

We have struck a few obstacles along the way – being winter, while not completely unexpected, snow and freezing rain don't help with progress!

As with any project, there have been minor changes and issues which are not precisely foreseeable but are expected to some extent.

This particular piece of earth has not been disturbed for 100 years (the foul sewer was initially installed in 1929), so there is the odd thing that crops up.

Despite some setbacks, the target completion date of October 15 remains

achievable, albeit with some pressure on our timelines.

There have been some occurrences of people driving the wrong way through the road works, with some close calls reported by business owners.

People should follow the directions on the signs posted – they are there to manage access while keeping the public and our contractors safe.

The last formal updates to business owners were given just prior to the "Streets Alive" event, which was a great success.

We have continued to keep in touch with a few business owners who have reached out, and all businesses have been provided with my contact details – I'm happy to provide further updates when asked.

Our next flyer is likely to be sent out with a formal update at the beginning of September.



Chorus Cabinets return

BY MARY NAPPER

Community Development Manager

CHORUS is offering artists the opportunity to design an art work to be painted onto one of its cabinets in the city.

Four cabinets have been selected to receive designs during the summer.

The artists who have their designs selected are contracted to prepare and paint each cabinet.

A fee is paid and all paint costs are reimbursed.

There are already 39 Chorus cabinets which have been painted within the city.

Entries should be sent to Community Development by 23 September.



Huge citizenship ceremony delights



DOZENS of new kiwis received their citizenship certificates at the Civic Theatre earlier this week.

While Citizenship Ceremonies are usually held in Council Chambers, the high number of candidates meant this event was shifted to the grand Victoria Rooms.

His Worship the Mayor Sir Tim Shadbolt welcomed 31 new citizens, who are from Egypt, Zimbabwe, the Philippines, Ireland, Germany, South Africa, India, Syria, Samoa, Britain, Russia, Thailand, Papua New Guinea, and Canada.

Photos from the ceremony can be found on Council's website: <https://icc.govt.nz/news/citizenship-ceremony-photo-galleries/>

Music Scholarships

Applications for the O'Byrne-Jones Memorial and the Alex Lindsay Memorial Scholarships are now open.

The O'Byrne-Jones Memorial Scholarship is for Southland students of piano to pursue advanced studies and the Alex Lindsay Memorial Scholarship is for Southland students of music wishing to pursue advanced studies (preference for a string player).

Information and application forms are available from Council's offices, by phoning **211 1669** or from www.icc.govt.nz.



APPLICATIONS CLOSE NOON ON
Friday, September 27, 2019

Indian Independence Day celebrated

BY SHRU SHRIVASTAVA

City Centre Co-ordinator

COUNCIL and Indian Community Southland joined together on Thursday morning to celebrate Indian Independence Day, August 15.

Despite true Southland winter weather, there was a good turn out for the ceremony outside the Civic Administration Building.

His Worship the Mayor Sir Tim Shadbolt attended the event as chief guest and was welcomed in the traditional Indian way.

The event began with a speech by Vinay Sood on Indian freedom struggles, followed by a poem written by an Indian Nobel Laureate and read by Adity Raj.

As chief guest, His Worship raised the Indian flag which, and together all attendees sang the Indian National Anthem.



Art Contests

Open to Invercargill children aged 5 to 12 years

JIANGSU, CHINA
INTERNATIONAL CONTEST

'River of Friendship'

Size: A3 (no mats or frames)

No 3D raised surface or stretched canvas can be accepted.

The purpose of the contest is to highlight the friendship between the younger generation of China and those in Sister Cities around the world.

Entries close: 30 August 2019

20 entries will be sent to China for the International competition.

To all the young people in Invercargill and Bluff – we need your help!

'Your Big Dream'

FOR INVERCARGILL PARKS & RECREATION IS...

Size: A4 (no mats or frames)

Entries close: 30 August 2019

The winner will have their artwork featured in the Parks and Recreation Strategy document which will be distributed on the Council website and in hard copies for people to look at.



Deliver all entries to: ICC Administration, 101 Esk Street, Invercargill.

By entering these competitions you agree for Council to use your artwork for promotional purposes.





Cross with care

THIS week is Rail Safety Week.

Here in Southland, we're no strangers to near misses at rail crossings, let alone actual crashes.

Our Roding Manager Russell Pearson says we're lucky nobody has been seriously injured, or worse, killed.

But it's important to know - even near misses have a lasting impact, not only on motorists, but on train operators too.

Please remember: **CROSS WITH CARE.**

Check out www.nearmisses.co.nz or visit KiwiRail's Facebook page to learn more: <https://www.facebook.com/KiwiRailNewZealand/>

Your Big Dream'

FOR INVERCARGILL PARKS AND RECREATION IS...

Competition Entry Form

Council is inviting youth between the ages of 12 and 18 to create a work of art to show us their dream for Invercargill Parks and Recreation.

This could be a painting, drawing, photograph, digital artwork, or even a video! We'd love to see you get creative and share your ideas with us!

The winning entry will be featured in the Parks and Recreation Strategy, on the Council website and shared on Social Media.

Title of Entry: _____

Name: _____

Age: _____

Contact details: _____

Contact for Guiding adult (if applicable): _____

Artwork - You can drop off your artwork to the Parks and Recreation Office at Queens Park, or the Invercargill City Council Civic Administration Building in Esk Street.

Photograph and Digital Artwork - If you are entering a photograph or digital artwork, these can be emailed to parks@icc.govt.nz - make sure you include all the important information in your email!

Video - If you are entering a video, please make sure these are in Mp4 format and on a USB drive, clearly labelled with your name.

Drop these off with your entry form to either the Parks and Recreation Office at Queens Park, or the Invercargill City Council Civic Administration Building in Esk Street.

Entries due 30 August 2019.



August is Random Acts of Kindness Month

BY THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TEAM

AUGUST is Random Acts of Kindness Month. The Invercargill Neighbourhood Support Programme has supported this in the past encouraging members to undertake random acts of kindness. This year, we would like to encourage our colleagues and Councillors here at ICC to jump on board and undertake random acts of kindness for your fellow colleagues, neighbours, friends, and of course strangers.

We have started the ball rolling with some home grown produce available in the cafeteria.

Look out for additions to this during August.

Here are some RAOk ideas:

- Hold the door open for someone
- Donate some no-longer-needed clothes to charity
- Bring in some flowers from your garden to brighten your office space
- Pick up any litter you see
- Offer to help out a neighbour – take out their wheelie- bin or bring it in for them
- Bring in some produce to share with others.

