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Matariki Ahunga Nui

How are you planning on celebrating Matariki?

THE D*LIST

JUN 21



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Ngā mihi o te tau hou Māori ki a koutou katoa. As we welcome the rising stars of Puanga and Matariki over the next few weeks, we are excited to share [Whiria te tāngata, whiria te kōrero: Matariki Ahunga Nui](#), a noho marae happening this Sunday and Monday in Whangārei, Northland. This special event, led by Te Tai Tokerau whānau hauā including our Kaiārahi Hapori Tania Bissett (Ngā Puhi / Ngāti Tūwharetoa) and Kaiawhina Elinor Niha (Ngā Puhi / Ngāti Hine), intends to plant a seed for future conversations. It is a time where we prepare to become comfortable with being uncomfortable together and make genuine efforts to weave together the diverse stories, experiences and backgrounds of our local hapori.

Guided by the principles of Te Ao Māori, our aim is to listen to our people and create a welcoming space where all whānau can connect over kai, learn about Matariki, share stories and engage in meaningful kōrero. This event acknowledges the historical contexts of disability and the current socio-political challenges we each face. By coming together without an agenda other than to be present, contribute and support one another, we hope to strengthen our bonds and set our collective intentions for the future.

We realise the short notice of this panui, and while we welcome you to register and attend if you can, we'd also love to hear how you're acknowledging Matariki — whether it's through special kai, cultural traditions, or reflections on the past year.

[Reply to this email](#) to share, and we may feature them in the next *D*List Delivered* newsletter.



IN THE NEWS

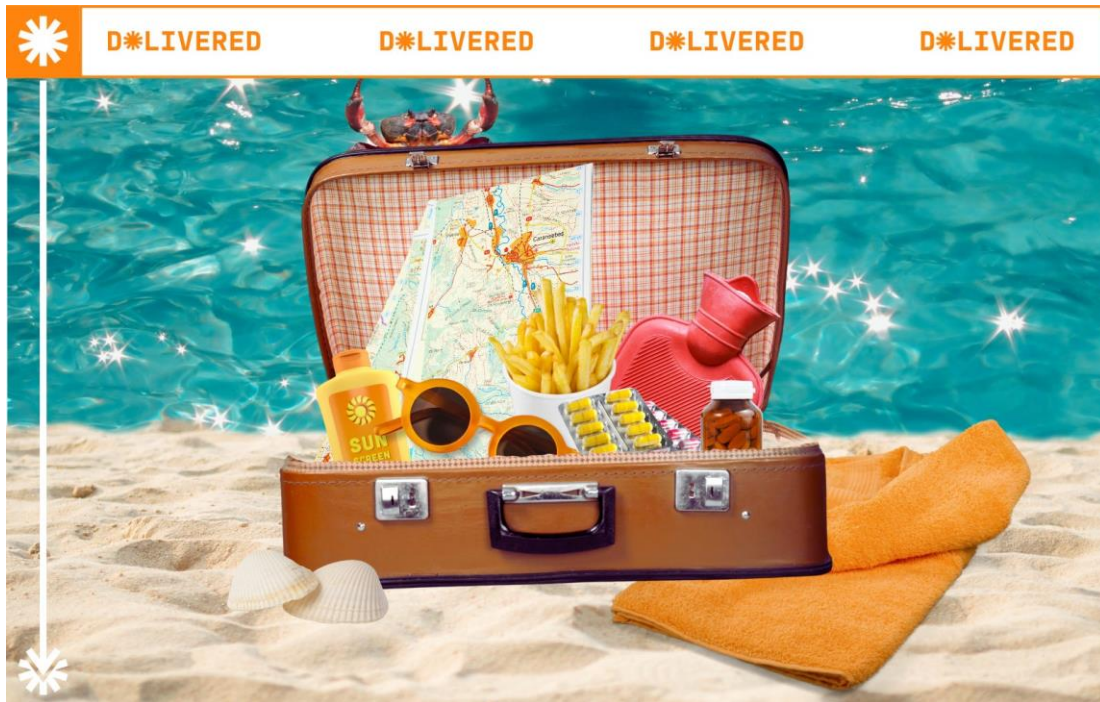
[The Government has scrapped plans](#) to implement a wage top for workers affected by the Minimum Wage Exemption (MWE) which makes it legal to pay some disabled people as low as \$2 an hour. Nicole Wallace, convenor of Kaimahi Whaikaha, the NZCTUs disabled workers sector group, said: “Workers with disabilities deserve to work with dignity.”

“It is deeply disappointing that the new Government is reversing that policy and condemning many disabled workers to low wages,” she said regarding the decision to scrap the pay top.





OVER ON THE D*LIST


For many, travel is about white sandy beaches, wandering through a city's old town and working your way through the lonely planet guidebook... right? But for some of us, that will never be the reality. Beth Awatere has written about their experiences travelling around Europe and how they've made their own unique preparations for trips. You can [read their piece *Eat, Pray, Love and Medicate: A Chronically Ill Backpackers Odyssey*](#) on *The D*List*.



YOUR TO-DO LIST

 **Disability Leadership Canterbury** are holding a rally on Monday 24 June at 10am at Te Pūtahitanga o Te Waipounamu in Christchurch. You can find out more about the event [here on the Facebook event page](#).

 A group of creatives are holding a **virtual open mic night** where you can sing, play an instrument, read poetry or dance from the comfort of your own home! [Sign up to perform or watch here](#).

 Are you interested in **learning NZSL**? *D*List Delivered* reader Monica recently let us know NZSL4U is offering a 10-week online course starting in July for just \$20. [You can register or find out more information here](#).

- Olivia + The D*List team

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