

Exciting future at Three Parks with more new developments

There's a lot going on at Wānaka's Three Parks, including new retail buildings, a proposed town square, and a huge concert event.

Willowridge Developments manager Allan Dippie compares the huge development to a jigsaw puzzle, making sure all the individual pieces fit together cohesively.

"We are very lucky to have such a big blank canvas to work on, and the future is very exciting with much planned," he says.

This year has seen new retail buildings completed and tenants moving in, the announcement of a proposed town square development, the planning of a new healthcare and hospital precinct, and confirmation Three Parks will be the new venue for the Greenstone Summer Concert Tour.

The first residential aspect of the development - the large Metlifecare retirement village - is under construction, adjacent to the golf course, with 120 villas and 17 apartments.

There will be much more happening over the next year. Soon to be completed is the major retail building at 89 Sir Tim Wallis Drive featuring FitGym, which will be Wānaka's largest gym with over 1000m² of floor space, and state-of-the-art equipment.

Adjacent to this on the same floor will be the new premises for Alpine Physio. On the ground floor the key tenant will be McKenzie & Willis who are relocating from their existing premises.

The building will also herald the introduction of the hospitality sector at Three Parks, with outlets including Coffee Culture, St Pierre's Sushi and Bento Bar, and a national pizza chain to be located in a large laneway featuring outdoor seating.

When that is completed, work will commence on a multi-tenant retail space in front of the Mitre 10 Mega. Ground works have already begun for the building which is due to open in October 2026. Three of the five tenancies have already been confirmed, including Repco, and will feature other new businesses and well-known brands.

An exciting project which will bring heart and soul to the Town Centre will be the new town square and market, and hospitality precinct, which is being designed at present.

The popular Ruby's Cinema will relocate to the square, which will also feature retailers, eateries, and a pub. It will be the venue for a planned produce market at Three Parks, similar to Dunedin's weekly Otago Farmers Market.

"I just want something where local organisations and groups can go and make a regular market on a Saturday," Dippie has said.

Further to the south, land is also being prepared for a third retail precinct that will be home to the stunning new Woolworths supermarket and another multi-tenant building for large-space retail tenants who are looking to open in Wānaka. Negotiations are well underway with well-known international and national brands, which will bring exciting new ranges of consumer goods, opening in October 2027.

Roa Group are planning their healthcare and hospital precinct on a large block they've purchased, adjacent to a few remaining lots of vacant mixed-use and business land for sale by Willowridge. And facilitated by Willowridge, Stage 1 of the Three Parks office precinct is well underway, with private developers building and completing office blocks towards Ballantyne Road.

Key to all the development at Three Parks is connectivity to the existing town and surrounds, and so new external connections are planned.

But yet another exciting project is underway, with Willowridge working alongside the Queenstown Lakes District Council and the Community Board. This will see the transformation of the 20 hectares of a former sewage pond site into a recreation and sports field hub connected to the recreation centre by a cycle path.

The development of what will be another huge asset for the local community is just one impressive spoke of the extensive work that's ongoing at Three Parks.

"A lot of people ask how long Three Parks will take to complete," Dippie says. "It is hard to give an answer except to say we would rather do things right instead of development for development's sake. At the end of the day we all want Wānaka to be a well-planned community that continues to be a great place to live, and Three Parks has a big part to play to make that happen."



Three Parks from the south, showing the business area in the foreground.



Willowridge Developments manager Allan Dippie.



Three Parks

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Extensive work going on at development



Three Parks Business & Mixed Use Land For Sale



Above left: The front of the Town Centre with the new building at 89 Sir Tim Wallis Drive.

Above: A bird's eye of the growing Town Centre at Three Parks.

Willowridge have a few remaining lots of vacant mixed-use and business land for sale.

Superb line-up for first Summer Concert Tour at Three Parks

An exciting development for lovers of live entertainment has been the announcement that the Greenstone Summer Concert Tour has found a home at Three Parks Outdoor Arena.

Formerly hosted at Gibbston Valley, the successful annual show will come to Wānaka for the first time on Saturday, January 31, 2026.

The line-up for this first show has just been announced, featuring the eternal godfather of punk Iggy Pop, fearsome rockers Joan Jett and the Blackhearts, Australian legends the Hoodoo Gurus, and the reinvigorated Kiwi quartet Zed.

The concerts have previously featured the likes of ZZ Top, Cold Chisel, Simple Minds, Billy Idol, Huey Lewis and the News, and Alanis Morissette.

Greenstone Entertainment founder and CEO Amanda Calvert says she's delighted the event has found another Otago home at Three Parks for the next five years.

"Without the support of Three Parks developer Allan Dippie the concert would have likely moved away from the region," she says. "The expansion into Wānaka marks an exciting new chapter for us, and we're confident it will become a highlight of the South Island summer calendar."

The annual concert has become one of the biggest entertainment events in the Southern Lakes. The January 2025 edition attracted 15,000 music fans, and is estimated

to have generated \$12 million of economic benefit for the region.

Three Parks will provide an even more attractive venue for the concert, with its picturesque mountain backdrop and outstanding views.

Three minutes from central Wānaka and just over an hour from Queenstown, the site is an ideal location for the event, with plenty of car and campervan parking.

"Three Parks Outdoor Arena will offer a true outdoor amphitheatre experience like no other, and we look forward to welcoming concert goers next year," Dippie says.



Iggy Pop.

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NICKY MCCONE
Owner Operator

WOW travel moment: Riding camels at the foot of the Pyramids is one of those experiences I'll never forget—just a surreal connection to the past.
Fun Fact: I used to work on a Dairy Farm milking cows.
Next bucket list trip: Sri Lanka.

MEGAN DUNCAN
Travel Consultant

WOW travel moment: Catching sight of the Big 5 in Africa was an absolute dream come true!
Fun Fact: Myself & my dog Tonka are members of the local Dachshund Club.
Next Bucket List Trip: A dreamy river cruise.

YONAH CROIZE
Travel Consultant

WOW travel moment: Hiking through the rice fields in northern Philippines & being welcomed by barefoot village kids - pure magic.
Fun Fact: I spent 15 yrs in ballet slippers & 5 yrs on the rugby field.
Next Bucket List Trip: Mongolia/Stans Countries

HANNAH BROWN
Sales Support

WOW travel moment: Coming eye to eye with a huge orca in the beautiful Kaikoura.
Fun Fact: I once performed on Adele concert to a whole boat of people in the Philippines.
Next Bucket List Trip: SWITZERLAND! The alps & Chocolate yes please!

MELISSA DODD
Travel Consultant

WOW travel moment: A wild bobcat sprinted right past me in Yosemite. The sheer power and grace of that moment left me speechless!
Fun Fact: I have 6 chickens called Henrietta and the girls.
Next Bucket List Trip: New York, New York!

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