

NEWSREEL WORLD



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Programmanus av Steve Hankey

ALANNA LESLIE: Hi, I'm Alanna Leslie and welcome to Newsreel World...

Today we're off to: India, Nigeria and New Zealand.

But first, South Africa.

Fire seriously damaged South Africa's Parliament building earlier this year.

There's now an ongoing debate in the country about whether the building should be restored to what it was before the fire or completely rebuilt using traditional African architecture.

Many believe there's an opportunity to transform a symbol of South Africa's colonial past into a building which better reflects its present, and its deeper cultural heritage.

Jamaine Krige has this report from Cape Town...

Jamaine Krige: South Africa today is a vibrant democracy with a strong Constitution that guarantees the human rights of every person who calls the country home. The seat of this democracy is the South African parliament in Cape Town.

Many people still feel that the Parliament buildings represent the darkest days in South Africa's history, and associate the Cape-Dutch style structures with both colonialism and apartheid.

After the fire in January, there has been a lot of debate about what should be done with the damaged historic buildings, which are considered a National Heritage site.

Some believe the damage should simply be fixed and that the buildings should be restored to their original state.

I took to the streets to find out what people think:

Caitlin: “My name is Caitlin, and I am 19 years old. I would restore the building and not build a completely new one. The first reason being it’ll be expensive and we could use that money in a more constructive manner. But the main reason for me is that even though the apartheid was an appalling part of our history, it is still our history. It is important that each generation is taught about our history so that we can progress and create a new legacy.”

Jamaine Krige: Others feel this is the perfect opportunity to start fresh, and give the new South Africa a parliament that better represents all its citizens.

Daniel: I believe that there should be a whole new building created through this tragedy that has happened. It’s an opportunity as a whole for them to have a new place that can represent what the new legislature stands for.

Jannai: I’m Jannai and I’m 19 years old and my decision would be to rebuild the Parliament House in honour of our national heroes with the movement to replace and remove colonial monuments with new monuments that honour our national heroes that fought for South Africa’s independence happening all around the country. Rebuilding the Parliament House would be an excellent decision and help honour our national heroes, one being Desmond Tutu, who was a keystone in South Africa’s growth and independence.

Jamaine Krige: A third alternative would be to incorporate the old and the new acknowledging the past, but building on top of that to look towards the future.

Dalaine: I am a big fan of mixing the past with the present, so perhaps there would be a way for them to integrate parts of the old building into a more modern, more African building. I think that it would be important to hold onto parts of what it used to be and what it used to represent so that we remember, but also be rebuilt in a way that it becomes a building that represents what South Africa is and wants to be.

Jamaine Krige: While it’s still unclear what will happen to the buildings, this is an important conversation about how we preserve the past.

This is Jamaine Krige reporting for Newsreel World from Cape Town in South Africa.

ALANNA LESLIE: Thanks Jamaine.

ALANNA LESLIE: Nearly 200 countries have started negotiating a global treaty to tackle plastic pollution.

World leaders have until 2024 to agree to a plastic pollution treaty.

ALANNA LESLIE: The proposed treaty has been described as one of the world's most ambitious environmental actions since the 1989 Montreal Protocol, which phased out chemicals that were harmful to the earth's ozone layer.

The ozone layer protects us from the sun's harmful radiation. Without the ozone layer we would be a lot more vulnerable to skin cancer, cataracts and impaired immune systems.

ALANNA LESLIE: The UK government has been criticised for its slow response to the refugee crisis caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

The UK has only given visas to a few thousand Ukrainians so far. The Labour Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan described the Conservative government's initial plans as "embarrassing" compared to other countries.

It's now introduced a scheme which encourages UK families to take refugees into their own homes, which it hopes will help thousands more people fleeing the war in Ukraine.

ALANNA LESLIE: That's *Tell Somebody* by Nigerian afropop artist Yemi Alade and Yaba Buluku Boyz.

Yemi Alade has been appointed as the Global Ambassador for a pan-African campaign to encourage Africans to get vaccinated against Covid-19.

The campaign warns that Africans are "being left behind" when it comes to Covid vaccinations.

According to the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, just twelve percent of the continent's population is fully vaccinated and less than one percent have received their booster shot.

ALANNA LESLIE: Protesters in New Zealand are campaigning against a multi-million pound plan to redevelop an unspoilt stretch of coastline.

Protect Pūtiki is an ongoing movement by the local Māori tribe to stop Pūtiki Bay near Auckland being turned into a marina, a specially designed harbour for pleasure yachts.

Ayana Piper-Healion has this report.

Ayana Piper-Healion: The protest and occupation of Pūtiki Bay has been ongoing since the ninth of March, twenty twenty one.

Emily Maaia is a young descendant of the local māori tribe, Ngāti Pāoa, and has been part of the Protect Pūtiki movement, protesting the development of Kennedy Point Marina.

Emily: The moana occupation sprung up as a means of protecting everything we were saying, which has been: Hey, this marina should never have been consented to. It still isn't consented to in the eyes of the people who are standing here, and our physical presence is a representation of that, and the community's voice isn't being recognised either.

Ayana Piper-Healion: Maia Week is a young local māori woman, and says the marina development shouldn't go ahead.

Maia Week: Right now, we are still performing what we call observation so we film whenever there is a spillage of toxic materials, such as concrete into the ocean. We film any wildlife we see. So since the construction started, we've noticed a real depletion in bird life in the area. And of course, we're there to keep an eye on the kororā, the little blue penguin that live within the breakwater itself and whose habitats are most at risk.

Ayana Piper-Healion: Kennedy Point Boat Harbour Limited are the private developers behind Kennedy Point Marina. They say they have robust procedures in place to protect little blue penguins throughout development.

Ayana Piper-Healion: The Resource Management Act should legally provide an opportunity for Māori to have a voice in matters of public land development in accordance with the Treaty of Waitangi.

The Treaty is New Zealand's founding document between the first European settlers and indigenous Māori.

The marina was granted resource consent by local Auckland Council, but many resident Māori, especially young Māori, weren't given the opportunity to let it be known that they didn't want this development.

Maia Week: For me, what this whole movement represents is finally an opportunity for mana whenua, tangata whenua and community members to stand up and speak out against a colonial entity, Auckland Council, that has consistently undermined the mana of tangata whenua in order to prioritise wealthy developers.

Ayana Piper-Healio: Protect Pūtiki supporters disputed the marina consent at a national level in the Supreme Court. While Auckland Council now agrees local Māori were given inadequate consultation for this marina, the consent to continue works on the marina wasn't revoked.

So the marina build continues, and the protesters continue too. Doing what they can to protect their ancestral bay and wildlife.

I'm Ayana Piper-Healio, reporting for Newsreel World, from Tāmaki Makaurau, Auckland, New Zealand.

ALANNA LESLIE: Thanks Ayana. That's all from me today. Speak to you soon, bye!