

Celebrating Marlborough's homefront heroes

An exhibition looking at the lives of Marlborough women during World War 2 opens at the Marlborough Museum on Friday 26 April to coincide with Anzac Day.

Homefront Heroes – Marlborough Women during the Second World War explores topics like rationing, spinning and knitting for soldiers, and voluntary work in the Women's War Service Auxiliary and will run until 4 August.

Marlborough Museum manager Liz Ward said the exhibition would

also celebrate the Land Girls (women who went to work on farms during the war) and highlight the "manpowering" of women sent by the Government to help fill wartime gaps in essential industries such as clothing manufacturing.

The exhibition features a recent addition to the museum's collection, a wall hanging made by the Clarence Branch of the Women's Division of the Farmers' Union. It was made as a fundraiser and is embroidered with the names of local soldiers and families.

"We would love to know more about the people whose names are on the wall hanging. We encourage anyone who has connections to the Clarence area to come and see if any of their families' names are on the hanging to share that history with us," Liz said.

She said the war had an enormous impact on women at home while their brothers, husbands and fathers served their country on the other side of the world. "This exhibition celebrates those who were left behind to be our homefront heroes," Liz said.



Marlborough's homefront heroes - members of the Women's War Service Auxiliary gather at A&P Park in 1941
Photographer unknown - Vercoe Collection, Marlborough Museum.

Have your say on Long Term Plan

Marlburians can now have their say on Council's planned expenditure.

Long Term Plan (LTP) 2024-2034 submissions are now open and close at 5pm on 13 May.

The Marlborough Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP) 2024-2027 is also available for public feedback over the same period.

For more information go to: <https://links.marlborough.govt.nz/haveyoursay> or visit one of Council's Customer Service Centres.



Seymour Square flower giveaway

Blenheim locals are invited to take some colour home when Council gardeners pull out the annuals in Seymour Square next Monday.

Head along from 8am until 10am on Monday 29 April when gardeners will be on site to help. Amongst the colourful plants seeking new homes are geraniums, salvias, dwarf shasta daisies, rudbeckia and begonias.

Please bring your own fork and containers.

Twice each year, gardeners plant thousands of annuals in the flower beds of Seymour Square. With autumn here, the time has come for them to be removed and the garden beds prepared for winter planting.

If it rains the event will be postponed to Tuesday 30 April.



These annuals are looking for new homes

Free soil health workshops in May

In partnership with NZ Landcare Trust, Te Hoiere farmers are invited to two interactive sessions in Kaituna and Rai Valley exploring soil health by visual assessments.

Morning tea and lunch are provided for this free workshop, so registration is essential at www.tehoiere.org.nz or by emailing wendy.sullivan@landcare.org.nz.

Kaituna beef and sheep farm
Monday 6 May 2024 10am - 2pm,
Hosts: Fred and Nikita Gane,
76 Readers Road

Rai Valley dairy run-off farm
Tuesday 7 May 2024 10am - 2pm,
Host: Geoff Shearer, Bryants Road

Topics include:

- What is functional soil?
- Plant/pasture diversity
- Introduction to soil carbon
- Soil and herbage testing

Speakers on the day include Council's Soil Scientist Matt Oliver and dairy and dry stock farmer Nick Collins. Nick, also a consultant for Agrisea, will share what he's learnt over the years to build productive and resilient ecosystems.

If you're curious about functional soil and enhancing pasture diversity, join us for one of these free workshops. Thank you to our host farms, without them these events would not be possible.

Sponsored by Te Hoiere Project, Agrisea and NZ Landcare Trust.



Learn more about soil health at May workshops



Initiated in 2019, Te Hoiere Project is a community-led partnership with iwi, Council, Government and other groups to promote landscape-scale restoration across Te Hoiere / Pelorus catchment.

Opening Hours

Mon to Fri: 8.30 am - 4.30 pm
Closed Wed 12.30 pm - 1.30 pm
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