MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL
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NEWS FROM THE MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minister pays a visit to Marlborough's new district library

Regional Development Minister Hon Stuart Nash paid a visit to the new Marlborough District Library and Art Gallery build last week.
The build is progressing well – the main components of the steel framing are complete. The precast concrete tiles on the east and west walls are being installed. Plywood for the roof has arrived and the final concrete pour on level one is underway.
"It was a pleasure to host Minister Nash who dropped in to see progress. I thanked him for the Government funding of $11m announced in July last year," said Mayor John Leggett.
"Everyone is excited about progress and looking forward to the completion of the build, scheduled for late next year."
"Fortunately Covid has not had a major impact on construction."

From left to right: Project Manager Luke van Velthooven and Site Manager Nick Robinson with Mayor Leggett and Minister Nash on the first floor, overlooking the Taylor River

Alfred St car park building changing to Pay by Plate

Waiting for a paper ticket and the barrier arm to lift in the Alfred St car park building will soon be a thing of the past when the parking system moves to Pay by Plate in November.
The Assets and Services Committee agreed last week, subject to full Council approval, to extend Pay by Plate, which is already operating in Blenheim and Picton's outdoor car parks, to the car park building.
Councillor Brian Dawson says this is the final part of the Pay by Plate project which will now see a consistent parking system across Blenheim and Picton.
"Over the years the old 'pay on exit' barrier system has experienced issues of one kind or another resulting in people not being able to exit the building, either due to faulty tickets, technical issues with the barrier or human error. The system was due for replacement so the move to Pay by Plate now makes sense," Clr Dawson says.
"The main change for people to be aware of is that you will need to pay for your parking session when you park your car, rather than when you exit the building," he said.
To minimise queuing and speed up the payment process, three Pay by Plate terminals will be installed. A QR (Quick Response) code will also be added as an additional payment option and the Paymypark App will be extended to include the car park building.
Two terminals will be located at the entry stairwell, with one accepting coins and debit/credit cards, and the other accepting only debit/credit cards. The third terminal will be located in the ground floor east lobby to enable people at that end of the building to pay. This terminal will accept coins as well as debit/credit cards.
Payment by the Payeasy QR code will also be available on all floors at a cost of 25 cents per transaction. This method allows drivers to use their mobile phone camera to scan the QR code and access a website allowing them to pay by Apple or Google Pay, MasterCard or Visa.
The parking charges for the building will remain the same at $1.20 per hour or $4.80 per day with the first hour free. There will be a 5% debit or credit card fee.
Those who lease car parks in the building will be moved to the Pay by Plate e-permit system.

Free bus travel to vaccine appointments

Marlborough District Council, with the support of Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, is offering free public transport for Marlborough residents and their caregivers or dependents to attend Covid-19 vaccine appointments.
Free travel is a single return trip to a vaccination appointment using the Marlborough Bus on a scheduled service, which includes the Blenheim, Renwick and Picton services.
If you require a caregiver to accompany you to attend a vaccine appointment, they can also travel for free. Or if you have dependents that you need to look after (e.g. young children) they can also travel for free.
Free travel can only be used on the day of your appointment - show the bus driver your appointment confirmation either as a phone text or letter. Staff will check that your appointment is dated for the day of travel.

Face masks and QR code scanning are mandatory when on board and at bus stops. If you don't have an appointment but you get vaccinated at a walk-in clinic, your return journey home will be free if you can show proof of vaccination on that day.
Visit: https://bookmyvaccine.covid19.health.nz/
or call 0800 28 29 26.

Clock counts down on Sports Hub completion

Councillors went on a tour of the new Lansdowne Park Sports Hub last week, as the project nears completion.
Councillor Michael Fitzpatrick, who holds the Community and Sports Centres portfolio, says Councillors were blown away by the building's interior design, colour pallet and views over the No. 1 rugby field and netball courts.
"The view is simply stunning," he said. Looking out to the netball courts you can see all the way to the Wither Hills and the view of the newly sown No.1 field is pretty impressive too," Clr Fitzpatrick said.
The new facility, which is planned to be completed by the end of October, includes toilets and change rooms for netball, rugby union, touch rugby and softball players, as well as office space for administration staff. A bar, kitchen, function area, equipment storerooms, umpire rooms and a tuck shop are also included.
Over the next month Robinson Construction Ltd, who are carrying out the build, will focus on completing the drainage, exterior cladding and installing the kitchen equipment, as well as completing the flooring and the first floor ceiling. Council's Parks and Open Spaces team will work alongside Robinson's to complete the landscaping.

Councillors catch a glimpse of the newly sown No.1 field during their tour of the new Lansdowne Park Sports Hub

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