



First hour of parking free - remember to enter your plate number

Drivers in Blenheim and Picton are reminded to activate a Pay by Plate parking meter or the PayMyPark app to access their first hour of free parking. The first hour free initiative was introduced on 1 October and provides drivers with more flexibility on how they spend their fee-free 60 minutes. The first hour free parking can now be spread out during separate visits to town. For example, if you park for 30 minutes in town in the morning you can return to town at a later time and use the remaining 30 minutes. Councillor Brian Dawson, who holds the parking portfolio, says councillors recently decided to extend free parking in Blenheim and Picton to help boost retail sales and hospitality activity to assist Marlborough's COVID-19 recovery. "Offering the first hour free aligns with



the average length of time people are parking in the CBD on-street car parks," Clr Dawson said. The Alfred Street car park is included in the first hour free initiative. However, all day tariffs for the car park building and all day car parks remain at \$4 per day. Please phone the Council on Ph: 03 520 7400 or email: mdc@marlborough.govt.nz if you require further advice or assistance.

Contract signed for new library and art gallery

The contract for the construction of the new Marlborough District Library and Art Gallery in High Street, Blenheim has been signed, marking another important milestone for the project. Mayor John Leggett and Robinson Construction Limited Managing Director, Phil Robinson, signed on the dotted line formalising the construction agreement. "Robinsons is a long-established company with an excellent reputation, having completed many high profile commercial buildings in Marlborough over the years and I look forward to

watching them complete this important community facility," Mayor Leggett said. Capital funding has been secured to cover all of the construction costs. The Government allocation of \$11million from the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund has helped us fund over half of the project construction costs. For further information go to: www.marlborough.govt.nz/our-community/marlborough-district-libraries/blenheim-library-and-art-gallery-project A display showing the new designs can also be viewed at the Marlborough District Library in Blenheim.

Left to right: Millennium Public Art Gallery Trust Chairman, Rick Wilson; Robinson Construction Limited Managing Director, Phil Robinson; Mayor John Leggett; and Council Projects and Contracts Manager, Maighan Watson at the contract signing for the new Marlborough District Library and Art Gallery



Community Grants

Marlborough District Council is seeking applications for funding from not-for-profit organisations providing services to the Marlborough community from the following sectors:

- Arts and Culture
- Community Welfare/Social Services
- Environment
- Heritage
- Sport and Recreation

In 2020 the Community Grants Fund was increased to \$500,000 to assist organisations impacted by COVID-19 restrictions. This funding is allocated over two funding rounds with the first round now completed.

For Round 2 there are two funding options available - COVID-19 Support Grants for organisations that have

suffered a loss of income and the usual Council Community Grants. Please refer to the criteria and information sheets relevant to each grant option on our website.

Applications must be for projects and services that meet the criteria for the funding and be of direct benefit to the people of Marlborough.

Applications can be completed online at Council's website: www.marlborough.govt.nz/our-community/grants-and-awards Applications close at 5.00 pm Friday 30 October 2020.

For further information please contact: Lyne Reeves, Community Development Advisor, or, Jodie Griffiths, Community Development Support on Ph: 03 520 7400.

Community awards recognise our volunteers

Marlborough's Volunteer Community Awards were held last week.

A partnership between Volunteer Marlborough and the Council, the awards recognise voluntary groups who make a valuable contribution to our community. Mayor John Leggett congratulated all of those who took part.

"Volunteer organisations do fantastic work in our community, across an amazing number of clubs, organisations and causes; these awards recognise that work," Mayor Leggett said.

"The judging panel had a tough task in selecting the award recipients for each of the five award categories. The panel took into consideration the effectiveness of the activity, the impact on the community, volunteer input and the number of people who benefit."

"This year a special award was presented to Te Pātaka Inc - an organisation set up to meet the need of whānau experiencing hardship from the impact of COVID-19. This shows the strength of our community with people making sure whānau do not go without. The

generosity of people helping people is what volunteers are all about," Mayor Leggett said.

The 2020 awards recipients are as follows:

Arts, Culture and Heritage: Tuia 250 Tōtaranui (winner); Picton Flower Ladies (runner up)

Environment and Conservation: Rangiri Dawn Chorus (winner)

Community/Social Services: Marlborough Community Foodbank (winner); The Blue Door (runner up); St John Marlborough Health Shuttle (commendation)

Sport and Recreation: Marlborough Netball Centre (winner); Picton Rail and Sail (runner up)

Child/Youth Development: Graeme Dingle Foundation Marlborough (winner); Marlborough Youth Trust (runner up); Marlborough Boys' College Toe by Toe Reading Programme (commendation)

Special Award: Te Pātaka/Manaaki a Iwi For further information about the Community Volunteer Awards visit: www.marlborough.govt.nz/our-community/grants-and-awards/marlborough-volunteer-community-awards



This year's Marlborough Community Volunteer Awards recipients (photo supplied)

Battys Road roundabout given the go ahead

A new roundabout at the intersection of Battys Road and New Renwick Road has been given the go ahead by Council's Assets and Services Committee with work set to begin this month.

The new roundabout is needed to address traffic volumes and road safety concerns in the Burleigh area and is also required prior to the development of a new residential area known as 'Burleigh Estate' - located in the north-west corner of Battys Road and New Renwick Road.

Councillors also approved the funding model for the construction of the new roundabout, which will require the removal of the existing power poles and new power lines being laid underground.

The Committee has agreed that following the Waka Kotahi subsidy, the remaining cost of approximately \$1 million for the roundabout will be funded through a

combination of zone and development levies, and existing roading budgets, subject to 2021-31 Long Term Plan consultation.

Regional Transport Committee Chair, Councillor Francis Maher, says today's decision is a step in the right direction in addressing safety concerns relating to the busy intersection.

"The new roundabout will also greatly improve the flow of traffic in the area both now, and in the future when the Burleigh development area is opened up," Clr Maher said.

Modelling carried out by Cardno Design on behalf of Council, concludes that a single lane roundabout will be sufficient for the area for the next 15 years, depending on actual traffic growth.

This decision is subject to final adoption at the full Council meeting on Thursday 29 October.

Abandoned yacht - owner sought

The Harbourmaster is seeking the owner of this yacht, known as 'Wy Wurrrie'. It appears to have been abandoned in Waterfall Bay, Port Ligar.

The vessel is now in the possession of the Harbourmaster. If it remains unclaimed for 30 days it may be sold or destroyed.

If you have any information about this yacht, please contact the Harbourmaster's office on Ph: 03 520 7400.

