



MARLBOROUGH
DISTRICT COUNCIL



School Holidays - Discovery Session - Te Kahu o Waipuna

Information Package
Economic, Finance & Community
28 November 2023



Marlborough District Libraries Activity Report – November 2023

(Clr S Arbuckle) (Report prepared by Glenn Webster)

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Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the operations of the Library services.

Elections 2023

Te Kahu o Waipuna was one of the local venues where members of the public could cast their votes from on 2 – 14 October. This venue was the busiest in Marlborough. On the last two days of voting, recorded visitor numbers were 1,727 on Friday, 13 October and 1,477 on Saturday, 14 October.

Te Kahu o Waipuna

Two groups gave short recitals / performances on the Atrium stairs during October. 'Opera in the Atrium', a local opera group, and a brass quartet. Both groups were well received and enjoyed by visitors to the facility.

School Holidays



We scheduled two discovery sessions to showcase our new online resource, Story Box in both libraries. It was great to use our big screen in the Children's Area to show customers how to access the resource via our website.

A flier and activity booklet for customers was created to complete and return to us before the end of the holidays to go into a prize draw. We had about 30 children turn out for the discovery sessions.

Activities included Drop-in Craft Sessions and Storytime.

As a way of supporting the **Feast Marlborough** event, held in the vicinity of Te Kahu o Waipuna and the Quays, a Family Movie with a food theme, 'Ratatouille' was held that afternoon at 2pm.

Marlborough Libraries Usage Statistics

Membership

New Members

• 12 May – 30 June	=	1,451
• 1 July – 31 July	=	520
• 1 August – 31 August	=	417
• 1 September – 30 September	=	313
• 1 October – 31 October	=	275
TOTAL		2,976



Renewed Memberships

• 12 May – 30 June	=	1,689
• 1 July – 31 July	=	620
• 1 August – 31 August	=	488
• 1 September – 30 September	=	356
• 1 October – 31 October	=	329
TOTAL		3,482

New Memberships
12 May – 31 October
2,976

Renewed Memberships
12 May – 31 October
3,482

Visitor Numbers (Door Count)

The number of people who visited **Te Kahu o Waipuna**, recorded via the RFID entrance gates, was:

• 12 May – 30 June 2023	=	64,578
• 1 July – 31 July 2023	=	35,743
• 1 August – 31 August	=	31,917
• 1 Sept – 30 September	=	30,178
• 1 Oct – 31 October	=	33,851
TOTAL		196,267

Visitor Numbers
1 – 31 October 2023
33,851

Visitor Numbers
12 May – 31 October 2023
196,267

(12 May – 31 October 2022 comparison = 73,412 visitors)

The number of people who visited **Picton Library and Service Centre Waitohi Whare Mātauranga**, recorded via the RFID entrance gates, was:

• 1 May – 30 June 2023	=	13,669
• 1 July – 31 July 2023	=	7,157
• 1 August – 31 August	=	7,108
• 1 Sept – 30 September	=	7,166
• 1 Oct – 31 October	=	6,587
TOTAL		41,687

Visitor Numbers
1 – 31 October 2023
6,587

Visitor Numbers
1 May – 31 October 2023
41,687

(1 May – 31 October 2022 comparison = 37,053 visitors)

Items Checked Out (Issued) and Checked In (Returned)

Checkouts and Renewals		October -23		October -22		Variance
Marlborough Library		33,533		31,073		+ 2,460
Picton Library		5,011		5,127		- 116
E-Resources		5,042		3,789		+ 1,253
TOTAL		43,586		39,989		+ 3,597
Check-ins		October -23		October -22		Variance
Marlborough Library		30,971		26,964		+ 4,007
Picton Library		4,849		4,825		+ 24
TOTAL		35,820		31,291		+ 4,031

Room Bookings

The number of rooms booked by groups and individuals in October was:

October Room Bookings		Community Use		Commercial Use		TOTAL Use
Te Kahu o Waipuna		113		28		141
Picton Library		96		0		96
TOTAL		209		28		237

Holdings (Items Reserved)

The number of holds placed on items in October 2023 was: **4,085**



Internet Usage Sessions – Aotearoa People’s Network Kaharoa (APNK)

The following usage statistics were recorded in October 2023:

	In-Library Computer Sessions	Wi-Fi Sessions
Marlborough Library	1,330	5,689
Picton Library	599	1,856
TOTAL	1,929	7,545

Marlborough Art Gallery Report from Director, Cressida Bishop

I am very pleased to provide an update on programmes at the Marlborough Art Gallery. Co-location with Marlborough Library is offering many opportunities. We are hosting public programmes in the gallery spaces, in the Te Kahu o Waipuna meeting rooms and in the building’s atrium. The seating component of the grand entrance staircase is proving an excellent place for people to read art books and for students to draw and complete worksheets. Our new galleries spaces are flexible and currently we have three exhibitions on show.

Currently, the larger gallery space features two exhibitions. *Kupe Sites: Ngā Tapuwae o Kupe (Landmarks of a great voyager)* – presents photographs of sites associated with the legendary Polynesian explorer Kupe’s voyage to Aotearoa. Originally shown at Te Papa, significant Marlborough sites feature and local iwi speak on the exhibition’s audiovisual about the sites’ meanings and histories. Of broad interest, *Kupe Sites* also contains schools’ curriculum material and has been visited by local schools and local iwi. Adjacent to *Kupe Sites* is a survey exhibition, *Selwyn Muru: A Life’s Work*. Senior Māori artist Selwyn Muru is described as one of the most original Māori thinkers of his time. The exhibition is curated by Selwyn’s stepson, Moana Nepia, and includes paintings and drawings alongside documentary photography, audio and video. A variety of public programmes have been offered with the exhibition including Moana and his local whanau.

Complementing *Selwyn Muru* and *Kupe Sites* is an exhibition specially curated for Te Kahu o Waipuna. *Don Binney: Flight Path* is a tribute exhibition that celebrates the artist’s life. It honours his connection with the Marlborough region and the publication of the major book, *Don Binney – Flight Path* by artist and writer Gregory O’Brien. Don Binney (1940-2012) needs little introduction – so distinctive are his iconic paintings and drawings of birds and landforms. Don’s final solo exhibition, *Ocean’s Edge*, was held at the Millennium Public Art Gallery in Blenheim in 2012 and our collection holds works from that series. *Don Binney – Flight Path* has been designed for our smaller, collection gallery at the gallery’s entrance as it’s a perfect location for a project that straddles both art and literature – both art gallery and library. A public Marlborough launch of the book is taking place at Te Kahu o Waipuna at 2pm on Saturday, 18 November with the book’s author Gregory O’Brien and two artist colleagues of Don Binney – Sir Graham Sydney and Dame Robin White. Coming next is the very extraordinary exhibition, *Kura Pounamu – Our Treasured Stone*. A public opening with special guests is taking place on Saturday, 2 December.

We are really enjoying engaging with a variety of groups in our community through our exhibitions and programmes. For example, during Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori we developed a Te Reo art hunt for a local Te Reo immersion course, we supported the Marlborough Alzheimer’s art trail fundraiser by selling tickets to their event, we have hosted tourist families and we developed a children’s activity to coincide with the Feast Marlborough event. While our staffing levels still require us to open relatively limited hours, we open extended hours during regional events such as Garden Marlborough. Our visitors are ranging from daily individual visitors, weekly family visits and visitors from outside the region and overseas. Special thanks to our colleagues, our volunteers, and valuable supporters such as the MDC and local businesses. Last week

Robinson's Construction Limited undertook a mammoth task by removing, framing and delivering our JS Parker stained-glass windows from the walls of the Millennium Public Art Gallery to the storeroom of the Marlborough Art Gallery. These special collection items, donated in 1999, will be re-housed as art works here next year. They were the last item to be removed from the old gallery.

We have an exciting programme lined up for 2024 ranging from touring exhibitions to local youth art.

Thank you and we look forward to your next visit.

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