



**MARLBOROUGH
DISTRICT COUNCIL**



Te Kahu o Waipuna blessing gathering

**Information Package
Economic, Finance & Community
5 September 2023**

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Marlborough District Libraries Activity Report – July 2023

(Clr 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 service.

July School Holidays (3 – 14 July)

The July school holiday programmes were well attended in both libraries. Activities ranged from Drop-in crafts, Lego sessions, and family movies. Two hundred participants were catered for on craft days (10am – 2pm).

Families worked together to complete craft activities. Children were encouraged to wear their slippers to the library on Friday, 7 July for Family Movie Day (with some staff joining in!).

Two LEGO sessions were held with the LEGO in a cup concept which had proved popular in the past.

Tamariki were challenged to build a story using the LEGO and figurine in each cup.

Pictures of each build and story were taken and a montage created. The montage was screened in the meeting room and the Childrens area with many children delighted to see their builds on the BIG screen.

The holidays culminated with a visit from Deano Yipadee on the last day of the holidays.

Dean O'Brien, (commonly known as Deano Yipadee) is a children's writer and musician who lives in Hervey Bay, Australia. He has published eight books with Scholastic in collaboration with illustrator Paul Beavis and most have been bestsellers.

The event was held in the Children's Area with an exceptional turnout of 180 – 200 children and adults. Shelving units were cleared away to make ample room for everyone. There was much laughter and delight from both children and adults in the audience - a huge success!



Solar Panels

During July solar panels were installed and have now been commissioned.

On a recent full day of operation, the panels produced 295kWh of energy over the day, this on a winter's day, with the system exporting \$20 excess production to the grid.

During testing the panels peaked at 50kW, it is anticipated that during summer this will rise to 60-70kW. During design it was estimated that over a 12-month period the panels would produce approximately 55% of the total energy required to operate the facility. It will be interesting to monitor the output of the system over time to see how it performs relative to this estimate.



Additional Signage

Supplementary naming and wayfinding signage has been installed on windows in the facility.



Front Doors (High Street) and West Facing Doors



Wynen Street Wayfinder directing visitors around the corner to the main entrances

Display Units

After a lengthy delay the new book display units have arrived.

These units are used to promote newly acquired titles and are very popular with customers keen to view new titles.

The feedback from customers, after selecting books from these units, is that they have taken books home that they would have normally not read. However, they were attracted by the cover and thoroughly enjoy them – adding a new perspective to their reading and knowledge.



Picton Library and Service Centre

Staff were busy processing dog registrations and new rubbish bag vouchers in July, along with School Holiday programme activities including children's movie sessions and DIY craft.

Picton's midwinter 'movies for grownups' commenced in July and will run through to the end of August.

“New Zealand Night Sky”

Nelson journalist, artist and keen astronomer Alistair Hughes, who grew up in Marlborough, talked to an receptive audience of 50+ children and adults on 25 July regarding his recently published book “New Zealand Night Sky”. His presentation discussed the constellations, planets and star clusters explaining Māori mythology and astronomy.

This year’s Marlborough Book Festival was held on 20 July – 23 July, commencing with a talk by author, Nick Bollinger, held on the Atrium stairs in Te Kahu o Waipuna.



This year’s 23 sessions featured 16 authors.

The events were held at the ASB Theatre Marlborough and Te Kahu o Waipuna. The inspiring, informative and entertaining weekend was well attended, with a number of sessions fully subscribed.

Marlborough Art Gallery Update (Cressida Bishop – Director)

I am delighted to provide a brief update on programmes at the recently opened Marlborough Art Gallery. The new building is offering many opportunities to grow our services. Co-location with Marlborough Library has enabled us to host shared events and activate the whole building. As well as organized group visits, the building’s public spaces have hosted workshops from residents at the local Godfrey Cheatham Artist and Writer Trust. Te Kahu o Waipuna has quickly become a destination, with people using a variety of the building’s services during their visits.

Our opening exhibition, *Threads of Whātonga*, a collection-based survey exhibition, was extremely well-supported with 2,773 activities undertaken by children during the July school holidays. At the completion of the first exhibition, we used moveable walls to divide the larger gallery space (soon to be named) into two spaces. The space is intended to be flexible to present more than one exhibition at a time. The *Adam Portraiture Award 2022*, a touring exhibition of finalists from the NZ Portrait Gallery’s biennial award is now on show. It is very popular and alongside children’s treasure hunts, we are providing adults with a chance to be a local judge and vote for the Marlborough People’s Choice. This exhibition is accompanied by *Reflections* - a range of portraits from Marlborough public art collections including the Duke of Marlborough oil painting that formerly resided in the Council Chambers.

Next month we will be installing three new exhibitions. The larger gallery space will feature two exhibitions. *Kupe Sites: Ngā Tapuwāe o Kupe (Landmarks of a great voyager)* - 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. Also opening on 23 September is a survey exhibition, *Selwyn Muru: A Life’s Work*. Senior Māori artist Selwyn Muru was born in Te Hapua, Northland in 1937 and 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 will be on offer with the exhibition in the art gallery and the building’s community meeting rooms.

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 will be taking place at Te Kahu o Waipuna in November. The exhibition will present key works from the book—alongside some seldom seen works produced in the Marlborough region. Thank you and we look forward to your next visit.

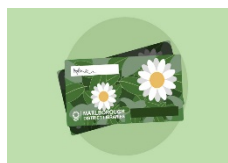
Marlborough Libraries Usage Statistics

Membership

New Members

- 12 May – 30 June = 1,420
- 1 July – 31 July = 494

TOTAL 1,914



Renewed Memberships

- 12 May – 30 June = 1,625
- 1 July – 31 July = 572

TOTAL 2,197

New Memberships 12 May – 31 July	Membership Renewals 12 May – 31 July
1,914	2,197

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

TOTAL 100,321

(12 May 2022 – 31 July 2022 = 33,517)

Visitor Numbers
12 May - 31 July
100,321

2023 = 35,743

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

TOTAL 20,826

(1 May 2022 – 31 July 2022 = 17,142)

Visitor Numbers
1 May - 31 July
20,826

2023 = 7,157

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

Checkouts and Renewals	Jul-23	Jul-22	Variance
Marlborough Library	39,904	32,320	+ 7,584
Picton Library	4,948	6,121	-1,173
E-Resources	4,354	4,050	+ 304
TOTAL	49,206	42,491	+ 6,715

Check-ins		Jul-23		Jul-22		Variance
Marlborough Library		34,641		26,875		+ 7,766
Picton Library		4,978		5,697		-719
TOTAL		39,619		32,572		+ 7,047

Room Bookings

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

July Room Bookings		Community Use		Commercial Use		TOTAL Use
Te Kahu o Waipuna		118		14		132
Picton Library		54		5		59
TOTAL		172		19		191

Holdings (Items Reserved)

The number of holds placed on items in July 2023 was: **4,750**

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

The following usage statistics were recorded in July 2023



	In-Library Computer Sessions	Wi-Fi Sessions
Marlborough Library	1,813	3,647
Picton Library	666	1,758
TOTAL	2,479	5,405

Record No: 23181406