

World-leading technology will aid Tory Channel mariners

A groundbreaking visual aid providing real-time guidance for mariners on current and tide conditions in Tory Channel/Kura te Au is live on Council's website and Marlborough Cruise Guide.

The world-leading technology is the result of more than two years of work as part of Council's Tide and Current Project, run in conjunction with marine and oceanographic survey experts Oceanum, Calypso Science and iXblue.

Tory Channel/Kura te Au, the main trunk line for ferries travelling between the North and South islands, has long had a reputation amongst mariners as a complex waterway, Harbourmaster Captain Jake Oliver told the Environment and Planning Committee recently.

"Actual currents and expected currents are not always the same which means mariners cannot be certain of the conditions until they have entered the channel. The tide and current model 'nowcasts' real-time information on the actual flow conditions at the entrance to the channel and is free to use," he said. "There is a high degree of accuracy, and

we have confidence in the model. We can project 24 hours ahead and look back at the previous 24 hours as well."

Council owns the model, but Oceanum who have developed the product, mathematical models, and visual aids will be able to use the technology developed for other applications around the world. "The technology has the potential to be much more than a navigational safety tool," Captain Oliver said.

The work has been made possible due to the detailed bathymetric data collected during the HS51 multibeam survey of Queen Charlotte Sound/ Tōtaranui in 2016/17. "Without this data we would not have been able to understand the shape of the channel. Now we will begin looking at the feasibility of expanding the project to encompass the whole of Queen Charlotte Sound/ Tōtaranui."

For more information go to: www.marlborough.govt.nz/environment/harbours/tory-channel-current-and-tide-model



World-leading technology will provide boaties with real-time guidance on the complex tides and currents of Tory Channel/Kura te Au and has potential for applications far beyond a navigational tool

Seniors' Expo coming up

Are you interested in activities or advice targeting the over 65 age group?

The Marlborough Seniors' Expo, on Tuesday 5 March, is a day designed for the whole community to help create awareness of services, groups, and activities available for older people.

While aimed at the over 65s, the Expo is not solely for them, so if you have an older relative or friend or are simply interested to know what support and activities are available for older people, you are welcome to head along.

It's a perfect opportunity to get vital information for whānau and family members. Whether it's helping them to maintain an active lifestyle or meeting

other people in a bid to reduce loneliness, the Expo can help. Even if it's just wanting to know where to access advice and support, the Expo is a valuable starting point.

There will be information available about health issues in the elderly, mini health checks and representatives from support and legal agencies and health organisations will be on hand.

The expo runs from 9am to 1pm at the Marlborough Events Centre, next to the ASB Theatre, and is free to all. More than 50 stallholders will attend and refreshments will be provided.

For more information contact Council on Ph: 03 520 7400.

A welcome drink for street trees

It's been a hot summer which is great for holidaying, but it can make life hard for our street trees.

While watering of younger trees is carried out regularly by contractors, the trees also appreciate a helping hand from residents over the hot summer months.

Please keep an eye on the tree outside your home - if it's looking dry then feel free to give it a drink with a hand-held hose or a watering can, either early in the morning or in the evening. We – and the tree – appreciate this help!

You can help care for our street trees by:

- Keeping lawn mowers and grass clippings away from the trunk to prevent bark damage
- Not spraying, but weeding around the base of the tree
- Not parking over the tree's roots
- Reporting any vandalism or wind damage to Council

Council plants smaller, drought tolerant street trees, maintained by professional arborists who are responsible for their care. Please contact Council on Ph: 03 520 7400 if you notice a problem with a street tree.



Pollard Park in full bloom

Summer is a busy time in Pollard Park for both visitors and garden staff.

Locals, tourists and busloads of visitors from cruise ships have all enjoyed the wonderful flower displays with many making positive comments to staff.

The centre bed at Pollard Park is filled with flowers specifically for butterflies including blue salvia, white and pink alyssum and a yellow and red swan plant.

With summer planting finished, Council staff are currently working on routine maintenance including weeding, trimming and dead heading.

With the Wither Hills Farm Park closed, Pollard Park makes a great alternative.



One of the impressive flower bed displays in Pollard Park which is a nod to Pink Floyd's Another Brick in the Wall

Opening Hours

Mon to Fri: 8.30 am - 4.30 pm
Closed Wed 12.30 pm - 1.30 pm
03 520 7400 | mhc@marlborough.govt.nz

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