

## News from Marlborough District Council. He kōrero nā te Kaunihera o Wairau.

### Airport going green



Marlborough Airport Operations and Safety Manager Steve Holtum on the bund where natives are growing

Marlborough Airport is on a sustainability journey, exploring greener options for the future.

"We're looking at the airport through a lens of future sustainability, including its financial and environmental future - we already have some multi-year initiatives underway," Marlborough Airport Operations and Safety Manager Steve Holtum said.

One of the most visible projects was the planting of more than 4,290 natives on a bund surrounding the new car park.

"The revenue from the car park will help us with financial sustainability and we'll also have more potential funding for green projects in the future," he said.

The bund was designed so contaminated soil, an environmental issue throughout the Woodbourne site, didn't have to be taken off-site for disposal, but additional benefits are reduction in road noise and beautification.

The largest source of greenhouse gas emissions at any airport is from fuel.

Airport staff are currently working with

Air New Zealand to trial battery powered planes on the Blenheim-Wellington route.

Blenheim/Wellington is on a shortlist with Auckland/Hamilton to trial next-generation planes and if the proposal is accepted, an electric plane could be flying freight to Wellington as early as 2026.

The airport is also exploring green options for the next runway reseal, which is due out for tender this year.

Mr Holtum said one of the challenges for Marlborough, as a small community, was the limited green infrastructure solutions.

"Options are available in other regions, such as using recycled asphalt or asphalt mixes requiring lower temperatures, therefore reducing emissions. But these solutions are taking time to reach Marlborough," he said.

Other green initiatives include the monitoring of airport waste and greenhouse gas emissions at the airport.

Ongoing smaller initiatives include switching out apron light bulbs with LED lights (the big light towers) and formalising a more comprehensive sustainability strategy this year to embed into operations.

"This year we're spending time understanding our biggest opportunities to make meaningful change," Mr Holtum said. "We've been talking with other airports to understand what types of initiatives we can undertake for environmental sustainability."

"Solar farming is also a possibility but the challenge for our airport is we only employ four full time operations staff, so we can't do everything at once."

The public can help by providing their views on the airport's sustainability journey by completing a short survey, at: [links.marlborough.govt.nz/airport-sustainability](https://links.marlborough.govt.nz/airport-sustainability)

The survey closes on 13 February.

### Join the biking treasure hunt

If you're looking for a fun activity for the whole family then jump on your bike and head to the Taylor River Reserve for the biking treasure hunt.

The event, which runs until the end of February is free to enter and is for people of all ages.

Council's RideOn Coordinator Sandy Large said cyclists need to find hidden clues along the Taylor River to go into the draw to win one of six treasure baskets. Ten kiwi cutouts are also hidden along the way as bonus spot prizes.

"This event encourages the whole family to head out on their bikes and share in an adventure. Introducing exercising for pleasure early on can be hugely beneficial for children's quality of life as they grow up," she said.

There is no pressure to keep up or manage your distance as you can complete it on any

day that suits and do as little or as much as you like.

"Cycling is a fantastic low-impact workout. A bike ride uses all the major muscle groups and gets your heart rate up without straining your joints," Sandy said.

To register go to: [www.marlborough.govt.nz/recreation/cycling-and-walking/cycling](https://www.marlborough.govt.nz/recreation/cycling-and-walking/cycling) and then pop into the Council office to collect your registration pack. Pack your clues, some snacks, water and start hunting for treasure.

This event is run alongside the Aotearoa Bike Challenge month - go to: [www.lovetoride.net](https://www.lovetoride.net) for more information.



### Marlborough officially a Welcoming Community

Marlborough is now a Committed Welcoming Community under the Welcoming Communities/Te Waharoa ki ngā Hapori banner.

Council submitted an application before Christmas for stage one accreditation and just heard it had been achieved, Marlborough Welcoming Communities Coordinator Heather Barnes said.

A Committed Welcoming Community values newcomers and is committed to building a welcoming and inclusive community. It has also taken active steps to create an environment where all residents can thrive and belong.

There are 34 councils taking part in the programme - Marlborough joins 16 other

councils in the programme that have achieved accreditation under the four-stages of accreditation.

Building strong connections with newcomers is the aim of Marlborough's Welcoming Communities programme.

Accreditation involves an assessment of efforts to include and welcome newcomers - recent migrants, former refugees and international students.

Accredited communities can then showcase their achievements to the world with pride.

Welcoming Communities is a programme led by Immigration New Zealand in partnership with the Ministry of Ethnic Communities and Human Rights Commission.



Mayor Nadine Taylor at last year's signing the Statement of Commitment (from left) Rawiri Faulker, Turi Hippolite, Corey Hebbard, Council CEO Mark Wheeler and Matilde Tayawa Figuracion

### Council services on Waitangi Day

Council's Blenheim office, Marlborough Library (Blenheim) and Picton Library and Service Centre are closed on Waitangi Day, Tuesday 6 February.

#### Refuse, recycling, and kerbside collections

Kerbside refuse and recycling collection due for pick up on Tuesday 6 February will be collected on Wednesday 7 February.

The Resource Recovery Centre, Re-use Centre and Waste Sorting Centre will be

open from 8am until 4.30pm. The landfill will be open between 8am and midday only. The E Waste facility will be closed.

The Picton and Havelock transfer stations will be open as usual from 8am until 4pm. Rai Valley Transfer Station will be open from 9am until midday. Transfer stations in Seddon and Wairau Valley will be closed.

#### Bus Service

Bus services will not run on Tuesday 6 February.

### Creative Communities fund opens soon

Are you involved in a creative community project that benefits the people of Marlborough? Do you need funding help?

If so, now's the time to get your application in for funding through the Marlborough District Creative Communities NZ Scheme.

The purpose of the scheme is to support and encourage local communities to create and present diverse opportunities for accessing and participating in arts activities.

A drop-in clinic for help with applications is being held on Thursday 7 March from 10am to 11.30am at Te Kahu o Waipuna.

The fund opens on 1 February and closes at 8am on 13 March.

For more information go to: [www.creativenz.govt.nz/funding-and-support/all-opportunities/creative-communities-scheme](https://www.creativenz.govt.nz/funding-and-support/all-opportunities/creative-communities-scheme)

For further information please contact Nicola Neilson, Project Lead - Arts, Culture and Heritage, on Ph: 03 520 7400 or email: [nicola.neilson@marlborough.govt.nz](mailto:nicola.neilson@marlborough.govt.nz)

**Are you involved in a creative community project and need funding?**

Marlborough District **creative nz** COMMUNITIES

MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

### Rural sports funding open

If you're involved with a rural sports club or school sports team, you may be eligible for funding.

Council makes funding available through the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund, which was established in 2003 to remove the barrier of cost to participation for those in rural communities.

Its purpose is to encourage rural youth aged 5 to 18 years to get involved in local sports despite their location, Council's Community Partnerships Support Natalie Lawler said. Funding is available for rural sports clubs or rural school teams needing financial help for transport to sporting competitions in the Marlborough area.

Applications can be made online at: [www.marlborough.govt.nz/our-community/grants-and-awards/sport-nz-rural-travel-fund](https://www.marlborough.govt.nz/our-community/grants-and-awards/sport-nz-rural-travel-fund)

Applications are open now and close 8am on Wednesday 13 March.

For further information email [natalie.lawler@marlborough.govt.nz](mailto:natalie.lawler@marlborough.govt.nz) or Ph: 03 520 7400.



### Weld Pass night closures

Summer state highway maintenance work by NZTA Waka Kotahi means the closure of Weld Pass from 18 to 20 February between 8pm and 6am.

Rob Service, System Manager, Top of the South, said Weld Pass will be closed to all traffic while the work is completed.

"Our contractors will be carrying out road repairs, fixing road signs and guardrails, installing raised line markings, as well as investigating future options for improving and maintaining the highway's road surface," he said.

"Because Weld Pass is narrow, night closures are the best way to get the work done as quickly and safely as possible."

Work has been planned as carefully as possible to have the least impact on traffic, and there will be two openings every night to let queued traffic through the work areas - one at midnight and another at 3am.

The closures will create delays for those travelling overnight between Christchurch and Picton.

Drivers are urged to factor this into their travel plans and allow extra time for their journeys. This is especially important for drivers with ferry connections.

Mr Service says further maintenance and inspection work is planned for Weld Pass later this year.

"Drivers can expect night closures in late April/early May to ensure the highway is in good shape before winter and another closure in October ahead of summer. Weld Pass is a vital part of State Highway 1 - it's essential it's regularly maintained."

If works are delayed due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances, Wednesday 21 February will be a contingency night.



Weld Pass is to close during February

### Water restrictions continue in Picton and Waikawa

**every drop counts**

Every drop counts - that's still the message to Picton area residents and visitors who are being asked to continue to save water.

For more information go to: [www.marlborough.govt.nz/services/utilities/water-supplies/picton-water-supply/2024-pictonwaikawa-water-restrictions](https://www.marlborough.govt.nz/services/utilities/water-supplies/picton-water-supply/2024-pictonwaikawa-water-restrictions)



# Public Notices

## Meet your Council



Mayor Nadine Taylor leads a team of 14 elected councillors. They are responsible for making decisions and developing policies that will help shape our province into the future.

The Council's vision is that Marlborough is a globally-connected district of smart, progressive, high-value enterprises, known for its economic efficiency, quality lifestyle and wellbeing, caring community, desirable location and healthy natural environment.

For more information or to contact your elected representatives, Ph: 03 520 7400 or go to: [www.marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/councillors](http://www.marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/councillors)

## Proposed temporary road closure - Tuamarina

On Sunday 17 March the following road is to be closed to ordinary vehicle traffic for the purposes of the Marlborough Car Club Rally Sprint, between 7.30am and 5pm.

- Kaituna -Tuamarina Road - 1km east of Kaituna- Tuamarina Road/Gibson Road to the Kaituna-Tuamarina Road/Waikakaho Valley intersection (gravel section).

During the proposed period of closure, ordinary vehicular traffic may use the road being closed between events under the supervision and authority of an Officer of the New Zealand Police (Traffic Safety Branch).

It will be an offence under the above regulations for any

## Wither Hills Farm Park remains closed



person other than under the authority of an authorised permit to use the road for ordinary vehicular traffic during the period of closure.

This notice is given under the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulations 1965.

Persons wishing to object to the proposal are to lodge their objection in writing before 29 February to Marlborough Roads, The Forum, Market Street, Blenheim, PO Box 1031, Blenheim, 7240.

Any enquiries to Dean Hawkey, Marlborough Roads; Ph: 021 923 536.

The Wither Hills Farm Park remains closed due to the hot and dry conditions.

Council made the decision following discussion with Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) in the interest of public safety. Due to the mixture of dry grass, steep slopes and warm and windy conditions, a fire would spread very quickly, placing people at extreme risk.

Council is also warning people to be very careful when walking or biking in the Taylor River Reserve, especially between the Burleigh Bridge and Taylor Dam.

The vegetation is super dry and a spark could cause a quick-spreading fire. Reserve users should think carefully about their route and ensure they have a plan to exit the reserve quickly in case of fire. Early morning and late evening walks are recommended when the danger level is a lower.

## Awatere and Dashwood rural boil water notice



Water from Council's reticulation network to the Awatere and Dashwood rural areas should be boiled.

It does not currently meet the NZ Drinking Water Standards and may contain bacteria or protozoa that are harmful to human health.

All water used for drinking, food preparation or cleaning teeth should be boiled before use.

Treated water is available at the public taps on Marama Road, outside Seddon School. For further information contact Council on Ph: 03 520 7400.

## Blenheim Customer Service Centre

15 Seymour Street, Blenheim 7201

Ph: 03 520 7400

[mdc@marlborough.govt.nz](mailto:mdc@marlborough.govt.nz)

Mon - Tues 8.30am - 4.30pm

Wed 8.30am - 12.30pm / 1.30pm - 4.30pm

Thurs - Fri 8.30am - 4.30pm

## Picton Library & Service Centre

2 Dublin Street, Picton 7220

Ph: 03 520 7493

[pictonlibrary@marlborough.govt.nz](mailto:pictonlibrary@marlborough.govt.nz)

Mon - Fri 8am - 5pm

Sat - Sun 10am - 4pm

## Council & Committee Meetings

The following committee meeting is open to the public and anyone is welcome to attend. Copies of the agendas will be available online and at Council's Office, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim.

Economic, Finance & Community  
Wednesday 7 February at 9am

### Public Forum

A public forum will be held prior to the Economic, Finance & Community Committee meeting at 8.30am. If you wish to address the Committee you need to confirm your attendance and speaking time with the Committee Secretary at least 24 hours prior; Ph: 03 520 7400. Topics are restricted to those agenda items for the meeting or within the Committee's delegation.

## Subscribe to Council's eNewsletter

Direct to your inbox every Friday, Council's eNewsletter Marlborough Matters covers the latest news and information on Council services and projects. Stay in the know and sign up today.

[links.marlborough.govt.nz/MarlMatters](http://links.marlborough.govt.nz/MarlMatters)



Council's Harbours team - working to ensure our waterways are safe for everyone to enjoy.

Contact the Harbourmaster's Office if you need advice or information about Marlborough's harbours.

03 520 7400 | [HARBOURS@MARLBOROUGH.GOVT.NZ](mailto:HARBOURS@MARLBOROUGH.GOVT.NZ)

