

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



Marlborough's Harbourmaster has issued a direction setting a maximum vessel length for Tory Channel

Maximum vessel length for Tory Channel established

For the safety of vessels, their crew and cargo, the Marlborough Harbourmaster has issued a direction that sets a maximum length of 187 metres for any new vessels using the Tory Channel/Kura Te Au to access Picton and Shakespeare Bay.

All vessels currently using the channel are at or under this length.

Harbourmaster Jake Oliver said the entrance to Tory Channel was narrow, tidal and challenging to navigate, with the risk of an incident increasing with longer vessels.

"Safety is central to the work a harbourmaster does," he said. "The maximum length of 187 metres for the channel is based on an in-depth navigation safety risk assessment looking at past vessel crossings, vessel risk management documents and Transport Accident Investigation Commission reports."

"We know from our review that vessels at 187 metres and under can travel through the channel safely. The only time these vessels wouldn't use the channel is if they have an issue while crossing Cook Strait, such as a malfunction of navigation equipment, steering system or propulsion engines - anything that could mean their journey through the channel is dangerous - making the northern entrance route the safer option," he said.

"This direction is about preparing for the future, for when companies look to invest in new vessels. It means that those with vessels

over this length will use the northern entrance to dock at Picton or Shakespeare Bay, like some heavy vessels are required to now, or work with us on safety management plans for using Tory Channel."

In addition, the harbourmaster is initiating a risk assessment programme for six older vessels that currently use Tory Channel.

"As vessels age, they are at higher risk of having mechanical problems," he said. "By working together with the companies on risk assessments, we can proactively manage any potential risks when they use the channel."

Long Term Plan - Spring Creek stop bank upgrade

Critical flood protection works to ensure Spring Creek is protected from future flooding is scheduled in Council's Long Term Plan.

The \$8.7M upgrade of two primary stop banks along Peninsula Road is needed to prevent the banks failing, compromising the safety of Spring Creek township and State Highway 1.

Rivers and Drainage Engineers Manager Andy White said the stop banks were critical pieces of flood protection infrastructure that became compromised in the 2016 Kaikōura earthquake and 2021 and 2022 floods.

While repairs have been carried out the stop banks are vulnerable along the entire length, he said.

"Action is required with some urgency to upgrade the stop banks," he said. "Until the work is undertaken they remain at an elevated risk of failing before reaching their design limits, compromising the safety of Spring Creek township during a flood event."

Initial estimates suggest 35,000 tonnes of rock will be required, most of which will come from the nearby Pukaka Quarry.

Given the risk to transport infrastructure of national importance, the works were submitted to Government as part of the Before

the Deluge business case for co-investment. If successful the project could potentially receive a 60 per cent contribution.

Council's Long Term Plan consultation document will be available for public submissions from 4 April.



Cracks in the stop bank following the 2016 earthquake and 2021 and 2022 floods



The township of Spring Creek after heavy rain in 2022

Public consultation begins 4 April on Council's Long Term Plan (LTP) 2024-2034. This plan, reviewed every three years, highlights the key projects, services, facilities and funding Council has planned to invest in Marlborough's future, our people, quality lifestyle and outstanding natural environment. Consultation is the key to a good plan and we need your help in shaping Marlborough's next 10 years and beyond

Nautical and Coastal team an international crew

The arrival of Deputy Harbourmaster James Oliver means a Council's Nautical and Coastal team is at full strength.

With team members from Britain, Germany and New Zealand on staff already, James' arrival adds Australia to the list of countries represented and marks the filling of the final position for the Picton-based team.

James' nautical career began at the Australian Maritime College before joining P&O Maritime Services as a deck cadet in 2005. A stint with Teekay Australia followed; he then joined Mermaid Marine Australia on an offshore supply vessel between Darwin and Singapore and later Australian Offshore Solutions, doing seismic assessment work. James obtained his Masters Unlimited licence in 2015.

From there it was off to the UK, the beginning of an eight year 'visit' spent working for Carnival UK who manage P&O and Cunard cruise ships and then BMT, a global marine consultancy as a marine surveyor.

As Deputy Harbourmaster, James supports Harbourmaster Jake Oliver (no relation) with a particular emphasis on recreational boating. He is keen to focus on education in the sector saying that "nine times out of 10 this is the key" rather than infringements. James joins the following crew members:

Jake Oliver - Harbourmaster - Jake's role is focussed on navigation safety as well as the implementation of the Port and Harbour Marine Safety Code.

He is regional on-scene commander for marine oil spills and coastal pollution incidents.

Janina Duessler - Nautical and Coastal Team Co-ordinator - Janina oversees day-to-day operations and is also a Senior Oil Spill Responder.

Jason Moore - Harbour Protection Officer - Jason trains new skippers, investigates and reports on incidents to ensure compliance with the Maritime Transport Act and local bylaws, promotes safe use of the Sounds and is a skipper/responder for the National Marine Pollution Response Service (MPRS).

Oli Wade and Katie Littlewood - Principal Coastal Scientists - Oli has worked on marine projects across four continents including for Council for the past four years. He and Katie focus on managing and reporting on the state of Marlborough's marine environment and providing technical advice for resource consents, compliance and policy and promoting collaboration with iwi, community and industry.

Jorgia McMillan - Coastal Scientist - Jorgia works on Council's State of Environment monitoring programmes such as seabed habitat mapping, ship-wake monitoring, coastal water quality and significant marine habitats.

Brittany Hamilton and Hamish Baxter - Broad - Maritime Officers - Brittany and Hamish support the Harbourmaster on navigational safety. They are responsible for maintaining the navigation light network, navigational aids and support navigational safety.



Council's Nautical and Coastal team front from left James Oliver, Hamish Baxter-Broad, Brittany Hamilton, Jake Oliver and Jason Moore. Back from left Oli Wade, Jorgia McMillan, Katie Littlewood and Janina Duessler

All in for Arts coming to Marlborough

Are you all in for the arts? If so, a free breakfast presentation in Blenheim on 3 April is for you!

Hosted by the Arts Foundation Te Tumu Toi, the 'All in for Arts: He Waka Toi E Eke Noa Nei Tatou 2024' series of events is travelling the country shining a spotlight on creativity, one town at a time.

Nicola Neilson, Council's Project Lead - Arts, Culture and Heritage says it's Blenheim's turn to host the event, which will be held at the Marlborough Art Gallery, Te Kahu o Waipuna. "Mayor Nadine Taylor is one of five inspiring local speakers - each will offer a different perspective over quickfire talks, all enjoyed with coffee and kai," she said.

"Afterwards, we'll host the Arts Foundation and Creative New Zealand representatives on a tour of the building and discuss Council's new Arts, Culture and Creativity Strategy."

The Arts Foundation Te Tumu Toi and Creative New Zealand Toi Aotearoa are bringing decision makers, artists and creative champions together for the event series to uncover how creativity can propel the sector forward. Their mission is to energise and engage New Zealanders around the powerful potential of creativity.

"I encourage anyone interested in the arts to be in the room to find out how creativity can energise lives and communities," Nicola said.

The breakfast event runs from 7.30am to 9am. Everyone is welcome but registrations are essential. Go to: <https://events.humanitix.com/all-in-for-arts-blenheim>

The event is supported by Chartwell Trust, The Lion Foundation and Stuff.

Nurturing a community's garden goals

Financial support for Picton's community garden was boosted recently with Council granting a further \$22,400 for establishment works, funded from its Land Subdivision Account.

In March 2022, Council approved \$15,500 for the community garden project to help with access, fencing, water supply and signage. The garden was to be established by Envirohub Marlborough through a formal lease. This was signed in December last year.

The seeds of the community garden concept were first sown as part of the 2018-2028 Long Term Plan when Council granted funding for the project at Beach Road Reserve. This did not proceed due to unforeseen circumstances but in late 2021, under the umbrella of Envirohub Marlborough, a small project group met to reignite the community garden proposal. As the Huia Street Reserve site had recently become available, the project group considered this site was preferable.

Wheelie bins are rolling out

Let's get it sorted - Marlborough's wheelie bin rollout is underway.

Wheelie bins are being delivered now as part of Council's new and expanded kerbside collection service starting 1 July. Rubbish bags are on borrowed time and won't be collected kerbside after 1 July.

Two wheelie bins are on their way if you live in Blenheim, Picton, Grovetown, Havelock, Rai Valley, Rarangi, Renwick, Seddon, Spring Creek or Tua Marina. To find out if your property is included in the service go to: <https://links.marlborough.govt.nz/kerbside>

Parks and Open Spaces Planner Linda Craighead said Envirohub Marlborough's focus for the initial funding was for the establishment of the community garden itself.

"However, there are other establishment works required including a new water connection, which Envirohub will contribute to from the original funding, a fence, a small car park and the redirection of a small section of the Marina to Marina pathway," she said. "The car park will be used by those working in the community garden as well as for visitors and users of the pathway."

"With the increased use of this part of Victoria Domain Reserves, there is a need to develop enhanced facilities, much in the same way that playgrounds enhance the use of neighbourhood reserves, once created. These improvements will benefit other users of the area as well as the community garden," Linda said.

Each household gets two wheelie bins - one for waste and one for recycling - and a maroon crate for recycling glass. Keep your existing maroon crate if you have one. The new bins will be delivered in the safest place close to your property so as not to cause congestion, nuisance or a danger to the public.

Remember, don't use the new bins until the service starts on 1 July. If you have any questions, contact Council on Ph: 03 520 7400.

Let's get it sorted - for future generations and our environment.

Let's get it sorted



- Rollout
- Get Ready
- Go 1 July

Every drop counts

Picton and Waikawa residents can now use sprinklers on alternate days.

Hand held hoses, flushing of boat motors and light boat washing are allowed too.

A property with an even numbered street address may use a sprinkler on even numbered calendar days

A property with an odd numbered street address can use a sprinkler on odd numbered calendar days

The water play area on Picton Foreshore will be open on weekends and public holidays.



every drop counts