



# Seniors' Expo a success

The annual Seniors' Expo was a great success on 5 March, with a higher than usual turnout.

More than fifty organisations and groups attended with an estimated 900 seniors coming along to be part of the event. Mayor Nadine Taylor and councillors were there to support the event as well as young volunteers from Richmond View School who lent a hand on the day. Community Partnerships Advisor Jodie Griffiths said the expo gave people an opportunity to find information about critical

services and agencies for seniors, as well as groups and activities they can join for recreational purposes. "The morning is also very social with refreshments enjoyed by everyone with performances from Acapella Bells and Council's waiata group, Ngā Manu Tioriori," Jodie said. "Organised by Council, the Seniors Expo is a great way to support our community, a quarter of whom are aged over 65."



Members of the Kiwi Damsels in De-stress Red Hat Society chat with Mayor Nadine Taylor at the recent Seniors' Expo - standing from left Lynda Watson (Lady Lynda) and Jennyth Spence (Baroness Bookworm). Seated from left are Barbara Harragan (Lady Rambling Rose) and Jill Maxwell (Lady Gada Bout)

## Energising Marlborough for 100 years

Marlborough Lines' upcoming Marlborough Energised event will be a fitting celebration for a company that has brought 'power to the people' for the past century.

Chief Executive Tim Cosgrove said from humble beginnings in 1923 to becoming a vital pillar of the community, Marlborough Lines has witnessed tremendous growth, evolution and transformation. "To celebrate our 100 year milestone and the company's ongoing commitment to the Marlborough community, we are excited to bring a spectacular light and visual event, Marlborough Energised, to Blenheim for the first time," Mr Cosgrove said.

The interactive lighting display from Illuminate has 20 installations and will be held at Pollard Park over three nights from 12 to 14 April, 5pm to 9.30pm each day. Entry is free, and the event promises a

festival of colour and light and fun for the whole family and includes a food court, interactive zone and silent disco.

On the same weekend, Marlborough Lines' Generation Museum on the corner of Thomsons Ford and Old Renwick Roads will be open from 9am to 3pm for the public to view the company's new museum area and a vintage Paxman engine in operation. The 68-tonne Paxman diesel engine, capable of producing 430kW, was installed in 1930 to generate back-up power and is the only working engine of its kind in the world.

For more information on both events go to: [www.follow-me.co.nz](http://www.follow-me.co.nz)

## Libraries' app up and running

The Marlborough District Libraries' app is back working after a brief pause due to technical issues.

The app allows library users to manage their account, renew items and search the library catalogue.

Late last year the app became unusable due to a technical issue outside of the library's control.

The app has many features and can be used to access online resources including eBooks, eAudio and digital newspapers and magazines.

It can also be used to see what's new in the way of books at the library.

District Libraries Manager Glenn Webster recommended people delete the original app and reinstall it, while new users just needed to install it.

"It's an amazing tool and one library members love," he said.

Anyone needing help with the app can come to the Digital Drop-in on Wednesdays between 10am and 12pm at Te Kahu o Waipuna or Wednesdays 11am to 1pm at Picton Library and Service Centre.

## DOC call to prevent spread of invasive algae



One of DOC's cleaning stations at Coldwater Hut

Nelson Lakes National Park visitors are being asked to use new cleaning stations to prevent invasive algae spreading to the park's pristine alpine lakes and rivers.

The microscopic algae lindavia and didymo, which can produce snot-like blooms, are in the national park's lakes Rotoiti and Rotoroa, and in Lake Tennyson on the park's eastern edge. The algae are also in some Marlborough rivers.

Lindavia arrived accidentally and was identified in the Buller River in 2019 and then in Lakes Rotoiti and Rotoroa. It's also in Lake Tennyson in Molesworth Recreation Reserve and Nelson's Maitai reservoir.

The Department of Conservation (DOC) asks people to clean gear that is wet or damp from any river or lake water at cleaning stations near the main access points at Coldwater, Lakehead and Sabine huts.

"Gear needs to be soaked for just 10 minutes in the 10% detergent solution at the cleaning stations to kill the microscopic algae," says Melissa Griffin, DOC Nelson Lakes Senior Biodiversity Ranger.

"If gear has been dry for at least 48 hours and is bone dry, it's safe to use. But, if people have swum in lakes Rotoiti or Rotoroa one day and they plan to swim elsewhere the next day, their togs should be treated with the detergent solution even if dry." Lindavia can cause a sticky mucus-like substance known as 'lake snow' that hangs below the water surface. Didymo, also known as 'rock snot', can form large, unsightly mats on the bottom of lakes, rivers, and streams.

For the third summer, there will be hut wardens at Blue Lake Hut to speak with trampers about preventing the spread of the algae and other aquatic pests in Nelson Lakes.

The hut wardens will also talk about respecting the sacredness of Rotomairewhenua/Blue Lake, and Rotopōhueroa/Lake Constance which are tapu/sacred to mana whenua iwi, particularly to Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō. People are asked not to touch the water in these lakes or to swim in them to uphold their mauri/life force and purity.