

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

Welcoming Week set to celebrate Marlborough's diversity

A series of events will celebrate Marlborough's newest residents during Welcoming Week/Te Wiki o Manaaki 2024, which runs from 6 - 15 September.

Welcoming Communities Coordinator Heather Barnes said the week was an opportunity to celebrate the region's diversity.

It's also a chance for newcomers to learn about the groups and support networks existing in Marlborough.

"We want new members of our community to feel welcome and included, and we want to make sure they know about the wonderful people and organisations around our region who are here to help them settle in," Heather said.

"This year, we're introducing the Welcoming Week Community Expo with support from the Marlborough Multicultural Centre. The expo aims to showcase such organisations and connect newcomers with them."

The expo will be held on 10 September from 3 - 6pm at the Marlborough Events Centre, next to ASB Theatre.

Other events planned for the week include a multicultural performance evening, a business seminar, a youth sports day and a conservation activity for kids, as well as Tiriti o Waitangi workshops hosted by Te Rūnanga a Rangitāne o Wairau.



Wendy Iguaran, Cinthya Iguaran, and Catalina Suarez perform at the 2023 Marlborough Multicultural Festival.

"Moving to a new country can be hugely unsettling, and Welcoming Week is just one way we can embrace our newcomers and make them feel at home in our region," Heather said.

"It's about creating inclusive environments where all residents can thrive and belong, and about saying, 'no matter what language you speak, who you worship or where you were born, we're glad you're here.'"

Welcoming Communities is a nationwide initiative aimed at welcoming newcomers in New Zealand.

Visit the website for more information and the Welcoming Week Event Guide: www.marlborough.govt.nz/our-community/welcoming-communities-te-waharoa-ki-nga-hapori

Catchment care and erosion plantings benefit Marlborough

At risk areas in Marlborough are benefitting from plantings through Council's Catchment Care and Hill Country Erosion programmes.



New plantings on the banks of Lake Elterwater

This year more than 17,000 plants were established covering nearly four hectares of wetland or riparian areas.

More than three kilometres of fencing has been completed with support from the Catchment Care programme which began in 2020 and works with Marlborough communities to invest in protecting and enhancing catchments that are degraded or at risk of degradation.

Key objectives are to protect and improve water quality, reduce erosion and sediment and protect sensitive catchments.

Programme advisor Rosanne Homewood said Council had exceeded the target for the project regarding plants established and areas planted and was on target for fencing.

"A big challenge this summer was the drought which delayed fencing and planting and meant some landowners couldn't do work due to increased financial constraints or adverse conditions," she said. "This year saw a 100 per cent increase in landowners involved in fencing or planting projects compared to last year."

Having new landowners engage had been a highlight of the programme she said.

Working alongside the Catchment Care project is advisor Jenny Buck who leads the Hill Country Erosion Programme.

She works alongside landowners providing advice and funding for eroding or erosion prone hill country properties.

Some landowners choose to fence off badly eroded areas, retiring it from grazing and establishing native vegetation on their properties.

"I have spoken to several landowners who have committed to retiring non-productive areas," she said. "They get a real kick out of watching the native plants grow and then love the bird life that returns."

For the 2023/24 season, 2,917 poplar and willow poles were planted and 19 hectares of exotic woodlots established.

Native reversion plantings totalled 20,157 hectares.

For more information on the Catchment Care programme, go to: www.marlborough.govt.nz/environment/catchment-care

Workshops foster connection with culture

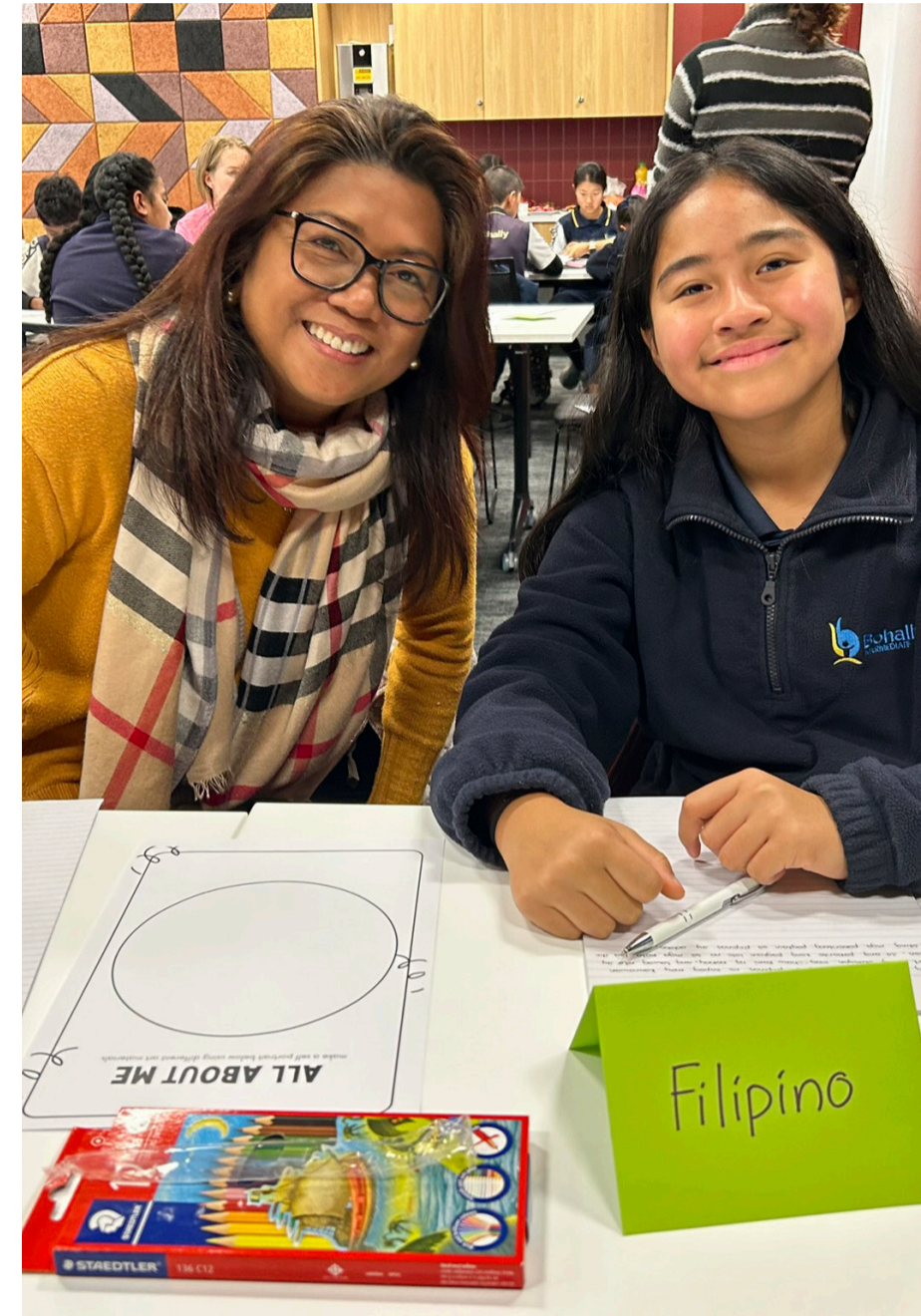
Students from Bohally Intermediate and Richmond View Schools will soon be 'published' writers following a series of workshops with language mentors.

The initiative, organised by REAP Marlborough and Welcoming Communities Marlborough, was designed for students from non-English speaking backgrounds, giving them the opportunity to create their own piece of writing and have it published in a book alongside those of their peers. It was also an opportunity to connect with and share their culture and language.

The students were guided by language mentors during a series of workshops to create a piece of writing in both their first language, as well as in English.

The finished pieces of writing will be collated and turned into the My Voice, My Culture book, which will be launched at the end of September.

A personal copy of each book will be presented to each student and language mentor at a special multicultural school assembly just after Welcoming Week 2024, which runs from 6 - 15 September.



Matilde Tayawa Figuracion and Jarene Cabiling work together to create a piece of writing for a new book, My Voice, My Culture.

Community workshops: operating a successful community group

Four Marlborough organisations are coming together to present a series of workshops about the various roles that go into ensuring the success of community groups.

The free workshop will be presented in Blenheim, Picton and Havelock on Thursday, 5 September.

Topics to be covered include volunteering by Volunteer Marlborough, not-for-profit business support by Business Trust Marlborough, changes to incorporated societies by Marlborough Community Law and community partnerships by Council.

Anyone is welcome to attend a workshop.

Registration is not compulsory but is preferred, and can be done via this link: <https://events.humanitix.com/community-workshops>

All workshops will be held on the same day at the following times and locations:

Havelock:
Havelock School Hall,
47 Main Road, Havelock
11am - 12pm

Picton:
Picton Emergency Centre, Picton Marina
1.30pm - 3pm

Blenheim:
Marlborough Community Centre,
Twelfth Lane, Blenheim
5.30pm - 7pm

Canvastown streetscape upgrade

An extensive revamp has reinvigorated the gateway to Canvastown.

The area outside the iconic Pelorus Tavern on SH6 has been upgraded with improvements including new paving.

The Village Green project has also enhanced access to the historic Miner's Hut with grassed areas, pathways and revised traffic layouts.

This all means ongoing positive effects for locals and visitors Canvastown Community Chairman Alan Rees said.

"It makes us feel good to welcome visitors into our slice of paradise with a revitalised look that is our Canvastown village."

Street lighting, better parking, mobility access and outdoor seating have all been installed.

There is also an improved link to the stormwater system and a speed limit reduction in the area.

These were all carried out in line with objectives identified by Council's Small Township Programme's planning process which began in 2017 Marlborough Sounds Ward Councillor Barbara Faulls said.

"I am delighted to see that after many years of the community asking for improvements to their village hub, we have been able to do these," she said. "It's improved the safety aspect and also enlivened the space while retaining the rural authenticity of the area."

Canvastown has a rich gold-mining history which began in 1864 when the precious metal was discovered in the Whakamarino/Wakamarina Valley. More than 6,000 prospectors helped form a thriving community.



The revamped area outside Canvastown's iconic Pelorus Tavern

Youth Council promotes Marlborough's young people



Members of this year's Marlborough Youth Council discuss their priorities for 2024

Supporting more events, showcasing local artists and celebrating diversity are some of the key aims of this year's Marlborough Youth Council.

Community Partnerships Advisor Jodie Griffiths presented the Youth Council's plan for 2024 to Council's Economic Finance and Community Committee recently, saying it would be an "arty" year. This includes plans for a mural titled 'What does Marlborough mean to you' to celebrate young artistic talent in the community.

The Youth Council's annual plan outlines areas they have decided as a group are important to the youth of Marlborough.

This year that includes getting more involved with Council and supporting community initiatives and events such as Welcoming Communities, Paint the Town Pink and Pride Festival.

"There is more recognition of diversity from this year's youth council," Mrs Griffiths said.

Councillor Jonathan Rosene, who holds the Youth Council portfolio along with Councillor Allanah Burgess, said while it was great to be involved in all Council's committees, supporting the Youth Council was a personal highlight. "I try to fade into the background and let them lead. They are leaders - it's a humbling experience," he said.

The Marlborough Youth Council was established in 2000 to encourage participation by young people in civic and community activities. Twenty-one students are on this year's council representing Marlborough Girls' and Boys' Colleges, Queen Charlotte College and Richmond View School.

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.

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 one of your elected representatives, Ph: 03 520 7400 or go to: marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/councillors

Extraordinary Council Meeting - Marlborough Māori Ward

Council will hold an extraordinary meeting on Tuesday, 3 September 2024 at 1pm to discuss the retention or disestablishment of the Marlborough Māori Ward in line with Government's amendment to the Local Electoral Act.

This meeting is open to the public and anyone is welcome to attend.

Copies of the agenda will be made available online and at Council's Office, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim

The time and date may be subject to change, please contact the Committee Secretary, Ph: 03 520 7400 for confirmation.

Picton Library and Service Centre Waitohi Whare Mātauranga Change of Hours

Starting on 2 September 2024 Picton Library and Service Centre will open at 8.30am each Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

This later opening time will allow staff to set up and prepare for the day and aligns with the opening hours of the Marlborough District Council Service Centre in Blenheim.

The opening time each Wednesday remains at 9am.

Books can still be returned via the Afterhours Return Chute.

Picton Library and Service Centre New Hours:

- Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri - 8.30am - 5pm
- Wed - 9am - 5pm
- Sat - 10am - 4pm
- Sun - 1pm - 4pm

The hours at Marlborough Library in Blenheim have not changed.

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.



Justice of the Peace Service desk - Awatere

Local JPs will resource a service desk every second Tuesday between 11am - 1pm starting on 3 September 2024.

This facility will be available at the Awatere Information Centre. No appointments are required and there is no charge.

The service provided will include:

- Witnessing signatures on documents
- Certifying copies of documents
- Completing declarations (including statutory declarations), affidavits or affirmations

This is a new initiative to assist the local community.

Take care near trees

A large gum tree in Harling Park fell without warning recently and when arborists checked the tree they found some of the roots had been poisoned.

This poisoning did not show in the tree canopy where there were no obvious signs of distress to the tree such as yellowing or falling leaves.

Those using parks are asked to always be aware of their surroundings and anyone seeing anything suspicious please contact Council.

Proposed road closures, navigation warnings and alcohol licensing

For the latest public notices, please go to: www.marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/latest-news-notice-and-media-releases/all-news-notice-and-media-releases

Blenheim Customer Service Centre

15 Seymour Street, Blenheim 7201

Ph: 03 520 7400

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

Mon - Tues 8.30am - 5pm

Wed 9am - 5pm

Thurs - Fri 8.30am - 5pm

Sat 10am - 4pm

Sun 1pm - 4pm

Council & Committee meetings

The following meetings are 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 Committee

Tuesday 3 September 2024 at 9am

Public Forum

A public forum will be held prior to the Economic, Finance & Community Committee meeting, commencing at 8.30am. If you wish to address the Committee during this Public Forum session you will need to confirm your attendance and speaking time with the Committee Secretary the Friday prior to the meeting, Ph: 03 520 7400. Please note topics are restricted to those agenda items for the meeting or within the Committee's delegation.

Council

Thursday 19 September 2024 at 9am

The times and dates may be subject to change, please contact the Committee Secretary, Ph: 03 520 7400 for confirmation.

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