



# Stock trucks travel Kenepuru Road for first time in three years

Stock trucks have made their way beyond 'water tank slip' on Kenepuru Road for the first time in more than three years, marking a significant milestone for the region's storm repairs.

The first of the trucks made their way beyond the previous closure last Tuesday, 10 December, while a resident-only restriction for the same stretch of road was lifted yesterday following a final safety review.

Marlborough Roads Manager Steve Murrin said the repair, located about 1km east of the Onahau Road turnoff, was one of many required on the region's roads, particularly in the Marlborough Sounds, following a storm in July 2021.

Work at the complex site involved construction of a 98m retaining wall, drainage improvements and road reinstatement. To be able to reopen it for



The first stock trucks to make their way beyond 'water tank slip' on Kenepuru Road in more than three years made the journey to farms in the area last Tuesday

farmers, businesses, contractors and visitors as well as residents ahead of the holidays was a welcome achievement, Mr Murrin said.

"This is a significant milestone, being able to get those stock trucks in and out. It's a real relief for the farmers in the outer Sounds. It's also a major milestone for us as well, it's one of the targets we set, to get the road open by

Christmas, and we've managed to achieve it." Residents-only restrictions to other parts of the Marlborough Sounds have also been lifted, however, weight and length restrictions will remain in place. This milestone marks the first time since 2021 that all areas of the Marlborough Sounds can be accessed by road.



Locals gather to enjoy the newly revamped outdoor area at Rārangī

## Rārangī revamped

The Rārangī community has celebrated the opening of the revamped outdoor area next to the fire station and community hall.

The opening was included as part of the community Christmas party organised by the Rārangī Residents' Association and the Rārangī Fire Brigade. Over 100 people attended the open including Mayor Nadine Taylor and councillors Faulls, Adams, Minehan and Hope. Festivities included games for children and a pig on a spit.

Locals turned out to see the work undertaken recently including a new entrance and ramp to the hall, gardens with a focus on natives, a pergola and pathway leading to the beach, bike parking and a pétanque court. Members of the Rārangī Menz Shed built a bench using timbers rescued from the Echo.

A vibrant mural by Local artist Sean Duffell is underway on a large Chorus shed at the site.

Council's Small Townships Programme allocated \$150,000 to the Rārangī area last year. It has been used for this work and projects including a Welcome to Rārangī sign, redevelopment of Pipitea Drive entrance and a new information board at the Millenium Rock.

Council's Small Townships Project Manager Heather Graham said the work in the area had been strongly supported by volunteer groups including Rārangī Residents' Association, Rārangī Menz Shed, Rārangī Fire Station crew/ FENZ and the Hinepaongo restoration group.

## Seeking pirates for summer reading adventures AHoy ME HEARTIES!

Marlborough District Libraries is excited to share its fun pirate adventure summer reading programme. All children between five and 12 years old are invited to participate. Marlborough Library Marketing Coordinator Kylie Cornelius said the programme was designed to support and encourage children's love of reading over the summer holidays.

"To complete the programme, tamariki

need to read four books and complete two activities in the library between 16 December and 24 January," she said. "Children who complete are awarded a prize and a certificate."

The pirate adventure reading programme is free and to register, parents or caregivers simply need to visit the library in Blenheim or Picton from 16 December to sign up (children do not need to be present).

## Council services – Christmas and New Year

Council's offices are closed from midday on Tuesday 24 December and reopen at 8.30am on Monday 6 January. If you have an urgent issue during this time, please Ph: 03 520 7400.

### WASTE SERVICES

All facilities are closed on Christmas Day. Normal trading hours resume from Boxing Day.

### KERBSIDE COLLECTIONS

There is no kerbside collection on Christmas Day. All collections will be a day out from your normal scheduled collection day. Remember 'if in doubt, leave it out.' To download the Wheelie Bin Collection Schedule, go to: [links.marlborough.govt.nz/collection-day](https://links.marlborough.govt.nz/collection-day)

### MARLBOROUGH LIBRARY, TE KAHU O WAIPUNA HOURS

Tues 24 Dec	9am to 4pm
Wed 25 and Thurs 26 Dec	CLOSED
Fri 27 Dec	9am to 4pm
Sat 28 and Sun 29 Dec	10am to 4pm
Mon 30 and Tues 31 Dec	9am to 4pm
Wed 1 and Thurs 2 Jan	CLOSED
Fri 3 Jan	9am to 4pm
Sat 4 and Sun 5 Jan	10am to 4pm
Mon 6 Jan	Normal hours resume

### PICTON LIBRARY HOURS

Tues 24 Dec	9am to 4pm
Wed 25 and Thurs 26 Dec	CLOSED
Fri 27 Dec	9am to 4pm
Sat 28 Dec	10am to 4pm
Sat 29 Dec	1pm to 4pm
Mon 30 and Tues 31 Dec	9am to 4pm
Wed 1 and Thurs 2 Jan	CLOSED
Fri 3 Jan	9am to 4pm
Sat 4 Jan	10am to 4pm
Sun 5 Jan	1pm to 4pm
Mon 6 Jan	Normal hours resume

**PLEASE NOTE:** Council services are unavailable at Picton Library and Service Centre from noon Tuesday 24 December until 8.30am Monday 6 January.

### BUS SERVICES

The Blenheim and Picton bus services don't operate on Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day, day after New Year's Day. Normal services operate on all other days.

**PIRATE ADVENTURE SUMMER READING PROGRAMME** **COMING SOON**

Keep your eyes peeled for our Summer Reading Programme! Read books and complete activities to claim your prizes! Register at the library from 16 December 2024

IT'S FREE! Open for children aged 5+ years old.

MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT LIBRARIES