

National hydrological conference hosted here

Two hundred professionals, including overseas delegates and a group from the Korean Water Resources Association, converged on Marlborough recently for the New Zealand Hydrological Conference.

The annual gathering, run by the New Zealand Hydrological Society, explored the theme 'Securing Our Water Future' and was held at the Marlborough Events Centre in Blenheim.

In her welcoming address Mayor Nadine Taylor said this was an important overarching theme because "the work on how to secure our water future has never been more important."

"In New Zealand, ongoing extreme weather events, the impacts of climate change and the need to manage our water resources sustainably, including both quantity and quality, highlight the significant complexities in securing our water future. It most certainly will require both adaptation and collaboration," she said.

"Integrated management of our rivers has never been more important for councils such as ours. We recognise and acknowledge our role and the need for long-term planning for sea level rise, climate change and extreme weather.



Hydrological Conference attendees on a field trip to the Wairau River

And we are committed to investing into that planning and research for the good of Marlborough and New Zealand," Mayor Taylor said.

Attendees at the conference had the opportunity to digest technical papers

and listen to keynote speakers, including some focused on the Wairau River and aquifer system and local water resource management. Participants also enjoyed field trips highlighting some of the collaborative projects underway.

Marlborough Summer Activity Guide

If you're new to Marlborough and wondering what's on offer during the summer months, call in to Council (15 Seymour Street, Blenheim) and pick up a Marlborough Summer Activity Guide for Newcomers from Customer Services.

Created by our Welcoming Communities team, they feature a guide to summer activities, maps and Library information, as well as details about summer newcomer meet ups and the Marlborough Multicultural Centre.

The Council office is open from Monday to Friday between 8.30am and 4.30pm.



Shake out winners

Picton Preschool and Gill McFarlane are the Marlborough winners in the national ShakeOut competition, run in conjunction with ShakeOut last month.

ShakeOut is an earthquake and tsunami drill that takes place across the world to remind people of the right action to take during an earthquake.

Picton Preschool won a gift pack including first aid training vouchers, a Bunnings gift card, furniture straps and training booklets while Gill won a grab bag, safety booklets and a solar powerbank or first aid kit.



Senior Advisor Community Resilience Dave Parsons presents Gill McFarlane with her prize



Picton Preschool teachers and pupils with their prizes

Temporary exclusion zone inner Picton harbour

In accordance with the navigation bylaws, clause 3.2. and 3.11, Picton inner harbour (highlighted zone in photo) is temporarily reserved and has a temporary speed bylaw uplifting for the Rarangi Surf Lifesaving Club's Maritime Festival demonstration on 20 January 2025 from 10.30am until 3.30pm

For safety reasons, during this time, unauthorised vessels and persons are requested to keep clear of the reserved area as directed by event officials.

The navigation bylaw can be viewed on the Council website www.marlborough.govt.nz - search for navigation bylaws. If you would like to know more about the temporary exclusion zone, please contact



the Harbourmaster by email: harbours@marlborough.govt.nz or Ph. 03 520 7400.

Don't feed the seagulls

Seagulls are increasingly common in town centres around New Zealand these days, including Blenheim.

Everyone has a responsibility to try to deter gulls and pigeons - café patrons should not leave food unattended.

Building owners are responsible for maintaining their properties and many have installed spikes and other protective measures. Council uses an electromagnetic deterrent at Te Kahu o Waipuna library/art gallery and carries out regular footpath cleaning throughout the Blenheim and Picton CBDs.

Don't feed the seagulls



Council also provides wheelie bins to all CBD businesses which means rubbish bags are no longer left on the street for gulls to get into.

DOC is responsible for native bird protection - red billed and black billed gulls are both nationally 'at risk, declining' species. Please go to www.doc.govt.nz for further information.

Opening Hours

Mon to Fri: 8.30 am - 4.30 pm
Closed Wed 12.30 pm - 1.30 pm
03 520 7400 | mcd@marlborough.govt.nz

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