

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

### NZTA funding confirmed for Sounds road repairs

Marlborough can “accelerate” its road to recovery with the announcement earlier this week that NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) will fund the repair stage of phase three of the Sounds recovery roading programme.



Recovery work in the Sounds can pick up speed now that NZTA have confirmed funding for the repair stage of phase three of the Sounds recovery roading programme

Mayor Nadine Taylor said this was the most welcome and excellent news. “This is the confirmation we needed to accelerate work on the road repairs required,” she said.

The NZTA Board has approved funding for phase three repair works for the five Sounds zones at a Funding Assistance Rate (FAR) of 71 per cent.

The work is estimated to cost \$141.4M meaning NZTA will contribute \$100.4M. This is in addition to the approximately \$130M already allocated in phases one and two. The funding will be used to address more than 1,500 outstanding faults that remain on the local road network needing repairs.

“Our priority is to get the Kenepuru Road open to a state where we have full public access and we can also allow trucks through,” Mayor Taylor said.

“We know the Kenepuru community has been waiting for a long time for this certainty.

“Because of the cost of the repairs, we needed the NZTA funding confirmed to proceed with confidence to get the work done and let residents and businesses in the area to get back to normal.”

NZTA have also confirmed regarding future transport improvement funding that the business case phase for this will be considered in the current 2024-27 National Land Transport Programme (NLTP). NZTA Regional Manager - Lower North Island/Top of the South Mark Owen said in December 2023 the NZTA Board indicated its willingness to also fund 51 per cent of road improvements subject to further detailed design work, further Board decisions and business case processes.

Mayor Taylor said Council would continue to work with NZTA to progress this.

“The Marlborough Sounds Future Access Study (MSFAS) has been a long and complex piece of work for Council. Many in the Marlborough Sounds have been living with broken roads, uncertainty and challenging connections for three years. We now have a big part of the answer our Sounds communities have been waiting and hoping for - to them I say, you have been patient and your patience has been rewarded,” she said.

“This is not only about roads - it is about real people who are at the heart of Marlborough’s largest recovery project. I hope today’s decision brings some comfort to those affected that we can now proceed with confidence to repair these roads.”

### Ake! Ake! Kia Kaha e!

Tomorrow heralds the start of Te Wiki o te Reo Māori - an annual celebration to show support for the Māori language.

Te Wiki o te Reo Māori runs from 14 to 21 September to coincide with the 52nd anniversary of the Māori Language Petition.

On 14 September 1972, members of Ngā Tamatoa, Te Herenga Waka Victoria University’s reo Māori society and the New Zealand Māori Students Association delivered a petition with more than 30,000 signatures to parliament.

That day became known as Māori Language Day.

This year’s theme for Te Wiki is ‘Ake ake ake - A Forever Language’. It represents the resilience, adaptability and endurance of te reo Māori which is an official language of New Zealand.

Under enduring pressure te reo Māori has shown it will adapt and survive.

In World War II, the 28th Māori Battalion marched into Europe singing ‘Ake! Ake! Kia Kaha e!’ which translates as “for ever and ever, be strong.”

‘Ake ake ake’ symbolises hope and resilience. The ake ake tree is known for its resilience, producing some of the strongest of all native woods and growing in some harsh climates. The name ake ake reminds us the tree is durable, just like te reo Māori.

Kia māhorahora te reo means let’s make it heard and seen.

During Te Wiki o te Reo Māori, why not use your te reo to make yourself seen and heard.

- Make 'kia ora' your first choice of greeting to everyone you speak to
- Start lunch off with a karakia
- Order your coffee in te reo Māori
- Become familiar with whakatauki - a few examples are below

E ngaki ana a mua, e tōtō mai ana e muri - first clear the weeds, then plant (make time to look after yourself/clear your mind)

Me te wai korari - like the nectar of the flax flower (find joy in the little things)

Go to [www.reomaori.co.nz](http://www.reomaori.co.nz) for more ideas and resources



### Council votes to retain Māori wards

Council has voted unanimously in favour of retaining Māori wards which means the issue will now go to a binding public referendum at the 2025 local body elections.

The result from this would take effect from the 2028 local government term.

Mayor Nadine Taylor told a full Council chambers that the issue being voted on was not about the Māori Ward representative Councillor Allana Burgess personally, but about the position.

“I want to be clear we are wrapping our support around you - you are part of our team and you hold your head high,” she said.

All councillors took the opportunity to speak before voting.

Mayor Taylor said having a Māori ward seat contributed to a valuable partnership between Council and iwi and offered a direct voice in decision-making.

Marlborough is one of 45 Councils around the country that introduced Māori wards in late 2020 - current Māori ward Councillor Allana Burgess was voted in at the 2022 October election.



On 4 April 2024, local government minister Simeon Brown announced plans to bring back public polls to decide Māori wards.

That change forced Councils that had introduced Māori wards without a poll to either drop them or go to a binding referendum to let the public decide.

Marlborough residents will now make that decision in October next year - in line with Council elections.

Māori wards would be removed from 2028 elections if rejected in the poll.

Marlborough is one of just three councils in the South Island to have a Māori ward - Nelson has one and Tasman’s ward starts at the next election.

Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ), said that Māori wards allowed Māori to be part of decision-making and have representation on local councils.

Having such wards was one way for councils to honour the partnership principle committed to in Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

### New kiosk fostering community connection

A new kiosk installed at Stadium 2000 by Council and Citizens Advice Bureau Marlborough (CAB) is connecting thousands of people with local community groups.

The information database collates details of a wide range of organisations operating in the community including sports groups, older person’s support groups, youth groups and whānau support organisations, among many others.

Council Community Partnerships Advisor Jodie Griffiths said that while the information directory was not new, the touch-screen kiosk is, and it brings together information once held separately by Council and CAB.

“CAB have created this incredible resource for our community and are constantly keeping it up to date, it is great to see it even more visible to the members of our community,” she said.

“The team from BP Computers was instrumental in sourcing a touch screen which has been encased in a kiosk at Stadium 2000 for people to use.”

Since the kiosk was placed in the Stadium 2000 foyer earlier this year, clicks on listings in the directory have jumped from around 400 per month up to about 10,000 per month, before peaking at 23,000 clicks for July.

“It’s great to be able to connect people with different groups in the community, and for those groups to be able to reach people that may not have already known of their existence,” Jodie says.

“Stadium 2000 staff have been wonderful at helping people with using the kiosk, and the added bonus of having it at such a well-used facility is the wide demographic of people it is reaching.”

Information in the database is reviewed at least once a year, and users have the ability of providing feedback as to whether or not information is still relevant.

Anyone who would like to have their group or organisation added to the database should contact CAB on 03 578 4272.



CAB Coordinator Nathan Hanson with the new community directory kiosk at Stadium 2000

### Share it about - park further out

Parking zones and tariffs in central Blenheim change on 1 October, encouraging commuters to park on the fringes to distribute parking more evenly across the CBD.

Tariffs in the outer carparks will decrease, to incentivise people to use those for all day parking. Meanwhile, car parks in the inner circle will be limited to four hours to encourage faster turnover and support local retail and business activity.

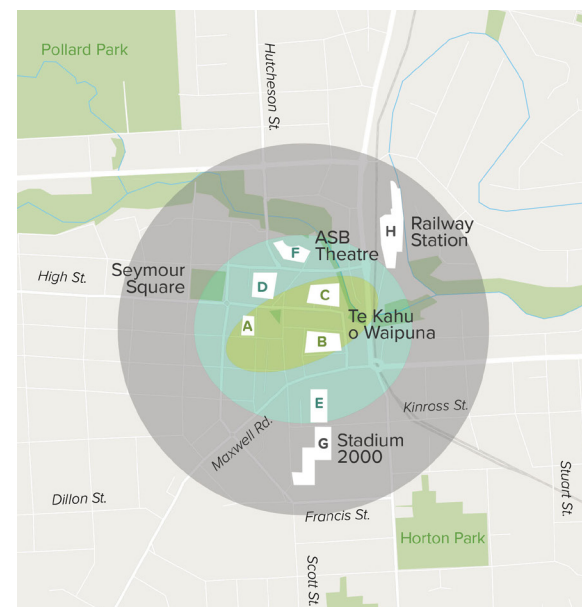
The changes are part of Council’s 2024-2034 Long Term Plan, designed to reduce congestion and help revitalise the inner CBD.

The outer zone carparks, including the Railway Station and Stadium 2000, will see tariffs drop to \$1 per hour with a daily cap of \$4. The inner zone car parks, including Queen Street, High Street and Wynen Street will increase from \$1.80 to \$2 an hour with a maximum parking time of four hours.

“These changes will give everyone a fair chance and allow people to choose a parking zone that best suits them,” Councillor Brian Dawson said.

“The aim is to encourage long-term parkers to use carparks just outside the central area, which have consistently low occupancy levels. This means someone wanting to just return a book to the library for example, should be able to find a park.”

Clr Dawson emphasised the need for the elderly or those with reduced mobility to be



### BLENHAM Parking Changes from 1 October 2024

Key	Car park	Zone	\$/hr	Max.
	On-street (Kerbside)	1	\$2	2hrs
A	Queen Street (Liz Davidson)	2	\$2	4hrs
B	Wynen Street			
C	High Street (Farmers)	3A	\$1.50	\$6/day
D	Alfred Street Building			
E	Kinross Street			
F	ASB Theatre	3B	\$1.00	\$4/day
G	Stadium 2000 (Scott Street)			
H	Railway Station			

able to access facilities such as the library or healthcare providers.

It was essential they could easily walk to these places so faster turnover of the inner CBD carparks was encouraged.

The first hour free will continue in all parking zones but must be activated by using a parking meter or the PayMyPark app. It is also

important for people to ensure they use the correct meter for the zone they are parked in, including starting a new session if they move to a different zone.

Frequent parkers are encouraged to download the PayMyPark app which can be used to activate the first hour free, pay for parking or buy long stay coupons in Picton.



Ruihana Smith beside the pou he designed for Rail Valley’s village green with local Faye Leov and Mayor Nadine Taylor



# 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](http://marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/councillors)

## A Cuppa with your Councillors

Sounds-based councillors are available for a drop-in chat each month.

The Cuppa with your Councillors sessions are held at Waitohi Whare Mātauranga/Picton Library and Service Centre - the next session is on Wednesday 18 September from 10am until midday.

Councillors can provide advice, information and help with Council-related issues.

Barbara Faulds, Raylene Innes and Ben Minehan are Sounds Ward councillors. Allanah Burgess is the Māori Ward councillor for Marlborough, based in Picton.

**Where:** Waitohi Whare Mātauranga/Picton Library and Service Centre

**When:** 10am to midday Wednesday 18 September



## Creative Communities fund opens soon

Are you involved in a creative community project and need funding?

If so, now's the time to get your application in for funding through Council's Creative Communities NZ Scheme.

The purpose of the scheme is to support and encourage local communities to create and present diverse opportunities for accessing and participating in arts activities within their specific geographical area, as well as for defined communities of interest.

The scheme awards local arts funding to support art and cultural activities that increase participation.

The fund opens on 16 September and closes at 8am on 14 October.

For all you need to know about the fund and to apply online go to: [www.marlborough.govt.nz/our-community/grants-and-awards/marlborough-creative-communities-scheme](http://www.marlborough.govt.nz/our-community/grants-and-awards/marlborough-creative-communities-scheme)

For further information please contact Project Lead - Arts, Culture and Heritage Nicola Neilson on Ph: 03 520 7400 or email: [nicola.neilson@marlborough.govt.nz](mailto:nicola.neilson@marlborough.govt.nz)



## Commercial Events Fund - Open Now

Round 1 of Council's 2024/2025 Commercial Events Fund is now open for applications.

This contestable fund was established to help create economic benefit to Marlborough by attracting new events and helping to build on existing ones. Council's Commercial Events Fund sub-committee considers the applications and there is a budget of \$130,000 available for allocation for 2024/2025.

To be eligible, commercial events must be held within the Marlborough District Council boundaries. Community events, conferences, conventions, trade shows and exhibitions are not eligible. Funding is granted on an annual basis but it does not mean that all funds must be

distributed each year. Past applicants who have been unsuccessful may re-apply.

Key dates:

- Applications close: 5pm Monday 7 October 2024
- Funding decision by: 5pm Friday 1 November 2024

Further information and the online application form can be found on Council's website - <https://www.marlborough.govt.nz/recreation/events/commercial-events-fund>

Any enquiries can be directed to Council's Regional Events Advisor, Samantha Young, Ph: 03 520 7400 or email: [events@marlborough.govt.nz](mailto:events@marlborough.govt.nz)

## 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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 meeting is open to the public and anyone is welcome to attend. Copies of the agenda will be available online and at Council's Office, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim.

### Council

Thursday 19 September 2024 at 9am

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

## 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.

