



Blenheim's historic port celebrated



The sculpture of the historic scow A.S. Echo at Riverside Park, where the refurbished Echo masts and the newly installed storyboards sit

A storyboard telling the colourful past of Blenheim's original trading port has been installed at Riverside Park as part of the Marlborough Mile project.

It completes the installations at Riverside Park and sits alongside the refurbished masts from the historic scow A.S. Echo and a sculpture of the scow.

The Riverside Park area has great historical significance as a bustling port and vital transport corridor for boats plying the waters to Wellington. The A. S. Echo was one of those boats.

The Marlborough Mile project began in 2017 when the Blenheim Business Association (BBA) noted the CBD had few connections with the wider characteristics of the Marlborough region. The concept provides spaces to meet as well as providing history about the province, according to BBA chair Lynette Rayner.

"When completed, the Marlborough Mile will form roughly a 'mile long' pedestrian walking circuit that uses interactive designs, sculpture, art and landscaping to physically connect a series of public spaces and key sites in Blenheim's town centre."

The agriculture site in Market Place, featuring bronze statues of a farmer and his sheep, has proved popular and other sites include the climate site in Adams Place, and the aviation site in Liz Davidson Place.

Other sites in progress are viticulture in Bythell Place and aquaculture at Stadium 2000. Storyboards will be installed at all sites.

Spring Creek residents' meeting

Spring Creek residents are invited to an update from Council's Rivers and Drainage Engineering Team about the proposed Peninsula Road stop bank repair and upgrade project.

The meeting is at the Spring Creek Community Hall on Thursday 2 May at 7.30pm.

Andy White, Council Rivers and Drainage Engineering Manager, will explain the background, current situation, proposed project programme and progress to date.

He will also cover the current flood risk and how Council and the community can mitigate it over the duration of the project, and beyond.

Gary Spence, Council's Emergency Services Officer, will also be on hand to explain what to expect if a flood evacuation order be given should

another rainfall event occur in the future.

There will be an opportunity to ask questions.

For further information email rivers@marlborough.govt.nz

Memorial plaque installed at Havelock Cemetery after nearly 100 years

The memory of a baby girl who died in the 1930s was recently honoured at Havelock Cemetery.

Parks and Open Spaces Officer Grahame Smail said a request to install a memorial plaque came via the baby's brother, who wanted to pay tribute to his sister.

"The gentleman's baby sister died in the 1930s and a headstone was not erected. This was during the Great Depression when times were very hard, and this may have been the reason," Grahame said.

"Fortunately, their mother had shown him the burial spot, and we were able to arrange for a small burial beam to be placed at the cemetery, enabling a plaque in loving memory of his little sister to remember her."

Council has also undertaken some cemetery restoration work at Havelock Cemetery during recent months.

"Looking after headstones and grave

structure is really the domain of family descendants. Over time there is often no longer any family around, and to ensure heritage graves remain safe and in reasonable order we undertake some of this work," Grahame said.

Each of the eight Council administered cemeteries has a dedicated cemetery plan which outlines improvement work and key information.

Improvement work undertaken recently includes:

- Awatere/Seddon: new ashes and burial beams, upgrade of the services area and replacement flagpole
- Fairhall: reseal of car parks and new accessibility paths, signage and plantings
- Flaxbourne/Ward: new plantings and flagpole
- Havelock: reseal of road accessway



and car park, restoration of heritage grave structures

- Picton: installation of new seating and services area handrail
- Omaka: new plantings and trees, car park, shelter and seating
- Rai Valley: upgrade of the services area and replacement flagpole
- Tua Marina: new plantings and burial beams

Council cemeteries consistently attain a high satisfaction level with the public, which is largely attributed to a strong commitment to manage and care for the cemeteries.

"This includes good planning and having committed Council and contracted cemetery staff, as well as funeral director services all working together for the benefit of cemetery users," Grahame said.

Have your say on Long Term Plan

Marlburians can have their say on Council's planned expenditure.

The Long Term Plan (LTP) 2024-2034 submissions are now open and close at 5pm on 13 May.

The Marlborough Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP) 2024-2027 is also going out for public consultation and feedback over the same period.

For more information go to: <https://links.marlborough.govt.nz/haveyoursay> or visit Council's Customer Service Centres.

