

Have you got your wheelie bin?

Nearly 33,000 wheelie bins have been delivered to Marlborough households as part of the new expanded kerbside service.

From 1 July wheelie bins will replace the black plastic bags.

Each eligible household should have received two wheelie bins – a red top one for waste and a yellow top one for recycling.

More than 2,000 maroon crates have also been delivered to households new to the service. These are currently used for general recycling but after 1 July will be used for glass recycling only, Solid Waste Manager Mark Lucas said.

“Rubbish bags won’t be collected kerbside after 1 July,” Mr Lucas said. “The new wheelie bin service provides improved capacity and efficiency, saving 750,000 bags going to landfill every year.”

If you haven’t received your bin yet call Council on 03 520 7400 or email mdc@marlborough.govt.nz

Remember the new bins will not be collected until 1 July - if you notice your neighbour has put one out, remind them the service doesn’t start until then.

After 1 July, bins should be placed on the kerb edge by 7am, facing the road and away from obstacles and overhanging trees. They need to be half a metre apart to allow trucks to lift them.



Any households still holding rubbish bag vouchers can redeem them at Council offices or get a rebate up until 30 June. From 1 July, rubbish bags will not be collected from the kerbside; however they will be accepted at transfer stations, the Waste Sorting Centre or the Resource Recovery Centre.

To make sure you are up to date with kerbside collection days and other specific information be sure to download the Antenno app.

If you are unsure how to do this, get a family member to help or contact Council on Ph: 03 520 7400.

To find out more, including a calendar showing collection days, go to: links.marlborough.govt.nz/kerbside-collections

Demolition of Picton ferry terminal set for June

The landscape of Picton’s port waterfront is about to change, with the demolition of the Picton ferry terminal, scheduled to start in mid-June.

The building’s demolition follows the cancellation of the iReX project, which had originally made provision for the terminal’s replacement.

Constructed in the 1960s to support the passenger and freight service for New Zealand’s first rail-enabled ferry, Aramoana, the terminal building has seen the passage of millions of travellers between the North and South islands during its lifetime, Port Marlborough CEO Rhys Welbourn said.

“Despite changes in the area, inter-island ferries will continue to operate from their usual berths, ensuring minimal disruption to passengers,” he said.

A new temporary terminal building and passenger walkway has been established for the Interislander to handle passenger and luggage services in the medium term and KiwiRail has reported that it is working well since it opened in June 2023. StraitNZ Bluebridge services remain unaffected.

In recent years the building has not been maintained to usual high standards, due to its anticipated demolition under the iReX project.

“The demolition of the terminal building will now clear the site for future port operations and Port Marlborough continues to work closely with government agencies on the next steps for development. The works are being managed carefully to ensure continued service efficiency and safety for our busy port,” Mr Welbourn said.



The Picton ferry terminal soon after it was built in the 1960s

Credit: Picton Historical Society

New guide shines light on Matariki events in Marlborough

A new event programme showcasing the celebration of Matariki in Marlborough is now available.

Council’s Project Lead for Arts, Culture and Heritage Nicola Neilson said Council decided to produce the new guide due to the growing number of Matariki events.

“It is wonderful to see Marlborough embracing Matariki with more events every year. They provide a special chance to come together as a community to learn, reflect on and celebrate the Māori New Year, and immerse oneself in te ao Māori,” Mrs Neilson said.

Events this year range from traditional dawn ceremonies to night light shows.

“The events all celebrate the three major principles of Matariki: remembrance - honouring those who have died since the last rising of Matariki; the present - gathering together with family and friends; and the future - looking forward to the promise of a new year,” she said.

Nine applicants were successful in receiving support from Council’s Mānawatia te Kahui o Matariki/ Marlborough Matariki Event Fund.

The fund was established in 2023 and celebrates and supports the regeneration of mātauranga associated with Te Kāhui o Matariki. The contestable fund aims to support the community in hosting events that recognise not only Te Rā Aro ki a Matariki, the public holiday, but also the wider kaupapa and principles of Matariki.



Matariki is the star cluster also known as Pleiades. It’s part of a larger constellation called Taurus and is one of the earliest recorded groups of stars in human history, with a record that dates back some 17,000 years. For Māori, the rising of Matariki signals te Mātahi o te Tau, the Māori New Year. In 2022 Matariki became an official public holiday in Aotearoa New Zealand.

The guide is available from Marlborough District Libraries, the Marlborough Art Gallery and Council’s Customer Service Centres, and online at www.marlborough.govt.nz and www.follow-me.co.nz

Successful cruise season concludes

Port Marlborough has wrapped up an exceptional cruise season, setting new records and receiving high praise from visitors.

This season, 55 cruise ships berthed at Waimahara and Waitohi wharves, including 10 maiden calls. The 2023/24 season brought 100,859 passengers and 43,876 crew members here, a slight increase on previous years.

Port Marlborough’s GM Port and Marine Ryan Lock said to commemorate the first-time visits, representatives from Port Marlborough and Council presented plaques to the ships’ captains.

“The team at Port Marlborough facilitates the cruise industry for Marlborough through the provision of pilotage and towage services, port planning and administration, and wharf logistics including gangways, security, marshalling and fencing. Our team is proud to play a part in this key tourism trade for our region,” Mr Lock said.

“Our team reported that cruise passengers were particularly impressed by the unique experiences offered in Marlborough, which stood out in contrast to other ports. The proximity to both the natural environment of the Sounds and

being centred in New Zealand’s biggest wine-producing region allows for a variety of engaging activities that cater to the diverse interests of passengers, which was reflected in the positive stories we heard from passengers after their days ashore,” he said.

Winery tours proved to be a major draw, with many passengers taking the opportunity to sample some of Marlborough’s finest at cellar doors. Water taxi tours in the Sounds were another highlight, offering passengers the chance to explore the Sounds up close.

“The local artisan markets which are organised by the Picton Lions Club were also well regarded, and our local hospitality and retail outlets proved popular for passengers to enjoy refreshments, top-notch meals and local souvenirs,” Mr Lock said.

Picton Flower Ladies once again provided a warm welcome for cruise visitors throughout the season.

Nationally the number of cruise visits for next season is slightly down, however Mr Lock said there was no major reduction in numbers for Picton, with around 52 visits scheduled.

Opening Hours

Mon to Fri: 8.30 am - 4.30 pm
Closed Wed 12.30 pm - 1.30 pm
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