

News from Marlborough District Council.

Council welcomes new wilding conifer funding for Molesworth

Efforts to tackle the wilding conifer infestation have been supported by \$400,000 from the Government's \$30M International Visitor Levy fund.



Wilding pine seedlings popping up in Tarnedale, Molesworth

Council's Environment and Planning Committee Chair Gerald Hope expressed appreciation for this funding but said increased and ongoing funding was essential to stop and reduce the spread of wilding conifers.

"This investment is a recognition of the importance of our ongoing battle against wilding conifers. We estimate total funding of \$7m annually to restore the Molesworth to its original state. Our programme has funding for \$1.37m this year, which is helping us slow the spread, but we cannot afford to let the problem escalate."

Councillor Hope said the invasive pines had broader implications that will affect Marlborough's environment and economy.

"If left unchecked, wilding conifers seriously threaten local biodiversity. These invasive trees can significantly decrease water flow at the headwaters of the Wairau, Clarence and Awatere catchments, as they consume large amounts of water. This will inevitably impact our vineyards and agricultural productivity."

"Molesworth holds immense value as an iconic part of New Zealand's high country landscape, benefiting tourism. Controlling wilding conifers will pave the way for the return of critically endangered native species, enhancing our natural heritage. I'm impressed by the Government's investment in this vital programme, and I encourage it to work with Council through long-term funding to restore the Molesworth high country."

Wilding conifers - often called wilding pines or pest conifers - are invasive trees that have proliferated from seed spread in past years.

They were originally planted to prevent soil erosion, provide wind protection or for unmanaged forestry purposes. Council remains committed to addressing this environmental challenge with continued community and government support.

For more information go to:

www.marlborough.govt.nz/environment/biosecurity/a-z-of-pests/pests-nassella-tussock-to-yellow-flag-iris/wilding-pines

Completion date for Kenepuru recovery works comes closer

Good news has been delivered to the Kenepuru Sound community with the completion date for repairs to the flood-damaged road now December 2027, two and a half years ahead of the original schedule.



Mayor Nadine Taylor chats with foreman Sam Terris (left) and Marlborough Roads Recovery Operations Manager Adam Hale at the nearly completed Water Tank Slip site.

Representatives from Marlborough Roads Recovery Team gathered with Mayor Nadine Taylor, councillors and Council Chief Executive John Boswell to deliver the update at a drop-in meeting at Portage Hotel attended by more than 50 people.

Mayor Taylor said it was pleasing to let the community know the revised repair timeframe

which reflected the commitment of Council and Marlborough Roads to complete the work as soon as was practically possible.

"Of course, we know there are always variables to significant roading projects like this - particularly when weather is at play - so these are target dates and will be refined further when detailed designs are

completed and the scope of works is confirmed," she said.

Kenepuru Road opened to the public last December, restoring access for stock trucks.

While en route to the community meeting, the mayor and councillors visited the Water Tank Slip, one of several complex sites along Kenepuru Road.

A 98m retaining wall, drainage improvements and road reinstatement is nearing completion at this site with pavement preparation currently being worked on and sealing planned before the end of the month, weather permitting.

"Construction here has enabled the road to reopen for farmers, businesses, contractors and visitors as well as residents ahead of the Christmas holidays. On our way into the residents' meeting, we passed a laden stock truck and trailer heading out and that was very satisfying to see. We know how important this repair has been for our Sounds farming community to allow stock movements by road to resume for the first time in three years," Mayor Taylor said.

The total number of faults for construction for the Kenepuru Zone in Phase 3 is now 802, with 20 per cent completed following the storms in July 2021 and August 2022.

Marlborough Sounds marinas on show

The team from Marlborough Sounds Marinas will promote the best of New Zealand's world-class boating facilities at the Auckland Boat Show next week.

Marlborough Sounds Marinas leads the way in sustainable marina operations as the only marina network in New Zealand accredited under the International Clean Marina programme.

As New Zealand's largest operator with marinas at Picton, Havelock and Waikawa, the team will connect with

customers and boaties to share insights on berthage opportunities and celebrate the reputation of the Marlborough Sounds as one of the most enjoyable boating destinations in the country.

They will also display products and services provided in their marinas including the superyacht-ready recently accredited facilities at Picton Marina.

For more information go to: www.marlboroughmarinas.co.nz



The new Waikawa Marina

Trade waste bylaw open for public feedback

Marlborough District Council is seeking public feedback on trade waste.

The 2011 Trade Waste Bylaw is being replaced and anyone can make a submission in support or to oppose the proposal.

Trade waste discharged into the public wastewater system can negatively impact the environment and public health.

It is produced by businesses including wine producers, manufacturers, food outlets, service stations, abattoirs, fish and mussel processing plants, hairdressers and medical centres. The public wastewater system includes pipes, pumping stations, and treatment plants.

The proposed new bylaw intends to manage discharges by identifying which trade waste activities are considered high risk and which require

a trade waste agreement.

It will protect the health and safety of people and the environment from potential adverse effects of harmful substances discharged into the public wastewater system.

It will also encourage waste minimisation, cleaner production, efficient recycling and reuse of waste streams at business premises.

You can make a submission online at: www.marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/have-your-say-consultations

Submissions open 3 March and close 3 May.

Copies of the proposed draft bylaw are available online at: www.marlborough.govt.nz or at Council offices.

Pirates ahoy at library

More than 670 children took part in the Marlborough District Libraries' summer reading programme.

The fun pirate-themed adventure was for children between five and 12 years old and designed to support and encourage children's love of reading during the holidays.

Children had reading challenges to complete and library activities to attend, and the programme culminated in a Pirate Day celebration at the Edwin Fox Museum.

Picton Library staff embraced the activity by building their very own pirate ship.

"Marlborough District Libraries would like to thank Marlborough Roads and the Edwin Fox Museum for their support in ensuring a very successful event," said Marketing Coordinator Sarah Tansley.

The summer school holidays were vibrant and busy at the Marlborough District Libraries with lots of stories, crafts, Lego and movies for children of all ages as well as the popular reading programme.



The children's library team (from left): Lizzie Nott, Tracey McKean and Nikki Howard ready for the summer reading pirate adventure

Welcoming group wants members

The Marlborough Welcoming Communities Advisory Group is seeking expressions of interest from community organisations, iwi and business groups who can support newcomers in Marlborough.

In July 2022, Marlborough District Council was accepted into Immigration New Zealand's Welcoming Communities Te Waharoa ki ngā Hapori programme, which aims to encourage and support councils to take a greater leadership role in welcoming newcomers.

A strong, vibrant community is one that enables all its members to participate in economic, civic and social life, Welcoming Communities Coordinator Heather Barnes said.

"It's a community where everyone feels included and has a sense of belonging," she said.

"Communities which foster an environment where newcomers feel welcomed are more likely to enjoy better

social outcomes and economic growth. Social cohesion enables stronger, more resilient communities to flourish."

For more information go to: <https://www.marlborough.govt.nz/our-community/welcoming-communities-te-waharoa-ki-nga-hapori>

The advisory group guides the Welcoming Communities programme and ensures a collaborative approach.

Advisory group members help develop and implement the Welcoming Plan by:

- Contributing to and championing the programme
- providing cultural guidance and expertise
- helping in benchmarking best practice
- attending meetings and activities

Expressions of interest should be sent to Heather Barnes, Welcoming Communities Coordinator at: heather.barnes@marlborough.govt.nz by 17 March 2025.



If you're interested in helping newcomers become part of a vibrant community, the Welcoming Communities group needs your help

Sport and Recreation Community Activity Fund opening soon

Council's 2024/2025 Sport and Recreation Community Activity Fund opens on Monday 3 March.

Applications are being accepted for activities held before 28 February 2026. There is \$30,000 available for allocation each year.

This fund is open to event organisers or local clubs and organisations looking to create small sport and community activities that are of low cost to participants and that encourage and promote involvement, accessibility and physical activity.

Key dates:

- Applications close: 5pm Monday 7 April 2025
- Funding decision by: 5pm Thursday 24 April 2025

Applications must be completed via Council's website. Go to: www.marlborough.govt.nz/recreation/events/sport-and-recreation-community-activity-fund

Any enquiries to Events and Community Partnerships Manager, Samantha Young, Ph: 03 520 7400 or email: events@marlborough.govt.nz



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, go to: www.marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/councillors or Ph: 03 520 7400.

Night works on SH1 at Grovetown

Motorists using State Highway 1 from Blenheim to Picton should note upcoming night roadworks in early March. Work starts on Sunday 2 March and goes through until Friday 7 March from 7pm until 6am.

Stop/go traffic management will be in place and road users should expect delays of up to 10 minutes. The intersection of State Highway 1 and Aberharts Road will be closed during work hours and residents will have to detour via Vickerman Street.

During the night works, contractors will rebuild just under a kilometre of the highway between Rowley Crescent and Ross Lane, removing the top layer of the road, laying new gravel, and applying new chipseal.

A 30 km/h temporary speed limit will be in place while the work is underway. Work is subject to weather conditions.

Other work sites on State Highway 1 include Freeths Road, Dashwood and south of Seddon.

Motorists travelling between Picton and Ward should allow an extra 30 minutes.

Drivers should plan ahead and check NZTA Waka Kotahi website for more information at: www.journeys.nzta.govt.nz



Waikawa Bay Reserve Management Plan submissions close soon

Waikawa Bay Foreshore Reserve, on the eastern side of Waikawa Bay near Picton, is of great significance to Te Ātiawa and a popular place for picnicking, swimming and boat launching.

The Council is required to develop a reserve management plan under the Reserves Act.

This will enable a mix of uses and values and will also establish a policy to guide the reserve's day-to-day management. Submissions should be made by 7 March

2025 and can be lodged via an online form at: links.marlborough.govt.nz/haveyoursay

The draft management plan can be viewed online at: www.marlborough.govt.nz/recreation/parks-and-open-spaces/parks-and-open-spaces-plans-and-reports/plans/waikawa-bay-foreshore-reserve-management-plan or you can pick up a copy from Council's Customer Service Centres in Blenheim or Picton.

You can also email: waikawabay.rmp@marlborough.govt.nz to lodge a submission.

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.



 Marlborough

AUTUMN EVENTS

Pick up your copy of the guide from Marlborough District Council

follow-me.co.nz



Blenheim Customer Service Centre

15 Seymour Street, Blenheim 7201

Ph: 03 520 7400

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

Mon - Tues 8.30am - 5pm

Wed 9am - 5pm

Thurs - Fri 8.30am - 5pm

Sat 10am - 4pm

Sun 1pm - 4pm

Council & Committee Meetings

The following meetings are open to the public and anyone is welcome to attend. Copies of the agendas will be available online and at Council's Office, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim

Assets & Services Committee

Tuesday 11 March at 9am

Environment & Planning Committee

Thursday 13 March at 9am

Economic, Finance & Community Committee

Tuesday 18 March at 9am

A public forum will be held prior to the Economic, Finance & Community Committee meeting, starting at 8.30am. If you wish to address the committee please confirm your attendance and speaking time with the Committee Secretary on the Friday prior to the meeting. Topics are restricted to the agenda items or those within the Committee's delegation.

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

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/public-notice

