

News from Marlborough District Council.

Picton's London Quay development proceeds

An upgrade to Picton's much loved waterfront strip, London Quay, will go ahead this winter. Work is planned to start at the end of May and is expected to take around six months.



Picton's waterfront strip is much loved by locals and visitors

Mayor Nadine Taylor, a proponent of the project since 2019, said the upgrade of London Quay was an "investment of confidence" in Picton as Marlborough's premier tourist town.

"This waterfront space is such an important part of Picton's identity with its linkages to the foreshore and CBD. It is a high use area with a view loved by everyone who lives in or visits Picton. This development will ensure it is accessible and an attractive hospitality and visitor space for all users," she said.

"Council's commitment to revitalise Picton is being rolled out in stages with upper High Street and the Picton library precinct already completed. London Quay is an important next step and once that's done, Council will continue planning for improvements to other parts of the CBD."

Council has worked closely with the businesses along London Quay to time the work for the winter months to minimise disruption.

The concept, designed by Rough Milne Mitchell Landscape Architects, includes an invigorated streetscape with new landscaping and plantings, expanded and levelled pedestrian and dining areas and a new public seating area to the east.

Council's Project and Contracts Manager Maighan Watson said the upgrade would provide a more seamless and safer connection with better pedestrian crossings.

"We have talked with affected businesses and residents with positive feedback received. The initial trial to expand the pedestrian area took place in 2014/15 and was positive with the Picton community and

businesses, which led to it being retained as a public, licenced area since then," Ms Watson said.

Street lighting will be upgraded and there will be improved water main and stormwater systems. While current road layout and pedestrian areas will remain the same, the development will have a traffic calming effect.

The upgrade is expected to cost about \$2M. Funding for it comes from Council's forestry, land and port income and has no impact on rates.



An artist's impression of the London Quay development

Marlborough Vineyard Trail officially opened

A bike trail taking in some of Marlborough's most popular wineries, cellar doors and spectacular scenery, is up and running.



Mayor Nadine Taylor and Steve Hill, chair of the Renwick Walk Bike group, at the opening of the new Marlborough Vineyard Trail

Mayor Nadine Taylor officially opened the 20km Marlborough Vineyard Trail last week.

"This is a wonderful addition to the recreational biking network in Marlborough and gives fantastic access to wineries around Renwick," she said.

Mayor Taylor said the trail boosted the existing cycle infrastructure and improved safety by taking cyclists off busy roads.

She acknowledged those who had worked hard to see the project to fruition, particularly Steve Hill, chairman of the Renwick Walk Bike group, who had championed the cause to ensure the trail became a reality.

Mayor Taylor also thanked vineyard owners who granted easements through their properties along with contractors and volunteers.

Steve Hill said there were 20 cellar doors within an eight-kilometre radius of Renwick and 10,000 bike visitors each year.

"Visiting the cellar doors by bike - either self-guided or on an organised trip - is incredibly popular in the area and having this trail fully operational will hopefully boost those numbers," he said.

While some of the trail is near roads, much is on the edge of vineyards and on river stopbanks and its development has only been possible with the help of landowners and wineries.

One of the final sections was a 6.5km trail linking Allan Scott Winery in Jacksons Road to Renwick using off-road routes.

Council has invested significantly in the trail which was only possible due to the backing of landowners.

Take the time to prepare

The start of the year is a good time to check whether your house is prepared for an emergency. To help you with this, Council has recently updated the emergency management pages on its website.

Here you'll find useful information including how to make a household and work emergency plan, preparing your home to reduce the effects of a quake or other disaster, and tips on making community connections.

Council's Welfare and Planning Advisor Kaja Mazzotti-Vetter says the page contains other useful links.

"You can find information on particular hazards that can occur in Marlborough and what the likely effects will be. It's also good to familiarise yourself with our Emergency Management Public Information Map. This is regularly updated with road closure information and other alerts. Another useful map on the website is the Tsunami Inundation Map. Here you'll see areas that may be

affected if a tsunami were to hit the region."

Kaja says the website also has information on becoming an emergency management volunteer.

"At Marlborough Emergency Management, we have limited resources and rely on trained volunteers to help in an emergency. We currently have opportunities for everyone, including in our Incident Management Team (IMT) and our Light Rescue Response Team (NZ-RT20). We provide full training for everyone. I encourage anyone interested to visit our website."

To find out how to be better prepared and volunteer go to: www.marlborough.govt.nz/civil-defence-emergency-management

During an emergency, Council will share alerts and notifications through its free mobile app Antenno. To find out more and download the app, go to: www.marlborough.govt.nz/services/apps/antenno



Civil Defence training exercise Pandora took place in November last year

Mayor welcomes Havelock loan funding

Oceans and Fisheries Minister Shane Jones attended the Havelock Mussel and Seafood Festival last weekend to announce a \$9.9M loan to support the dredging of Havelock marina and the construction of three jetties.

Mayor Nadine Taylor warmly thanked Mr Jones for his support and said marine farming is an important industry for the region.

"With nearly 600 marine farms in Marlborough, the industry supports 1,000 local jobs and delivers \$300 million in revenue," she said.

Minister Jones also released an Aquaculture Development Plan which aims to quadruple production to \$3 billion in annual revenue by 2035.



Minister Jones with Mayor Taylor (right) and Anouk Euzéby, General Manager Marinas and Property, Port Marlborough

Invasive woolly nightshade found in Springlands

The invasive pest plant woolly nightshade has been found on a property in the Blenheim suburb of Springlands.

Biosecurity Manager Liam Falconer said Council staff noticed the plant while driving past the property.

"The presence of this plant wasn't entirely surprising, given that woolly nightshade has been spotted in the area previously."

"We encourage anyone who thinks they've seen it to contact Council as soon as possible. Our biosecurity staff will visit the site and work with the landowner to arrange for its control at no cost to them."

The distribution of woolly nightshade in Marlborough is fairly limited and its potential environmental impacts are still manageable. However, this isn't the case in other regions, where it has become a significant environmental weed.

Last winter, Council staff removed more than 10,000 woolly nightshade plants from an infested site near Croisilles Harbour in the Marlborough Sounds, one of the largest known infestations in the region. Management there is ongoing to reduce its density and lower the risk of spreading to new areas.

Woolly nightshade is an aggressive, fast-growing plant that can form a dense population, crowding out other plants and obstructing the regeneration of native flora. Dust from the leaves and stems can irritate the skin, eyes, nose and throat.

Each plant can produce thousands of seeds dispersed by birds that consume the berries.

If you think you've seen woolly nightshade, please get in touch with the Council Biosecurity Team. Ph: 03 520 7400 or email: biosecurity@marlborough.govt.nz



Heritage workshops coming up

If you have an interest in protecting Marlborough's history, Council welcomes your input to a new 10-year Marlborough Heritage Strategy at a series of upcoming community workshops.

Five workshops, run by an independent facilitator, will take place this month, designed to garner ideas and seek direction from the community.

Arts, Culture and Heritage Manager Nicola Neilson, who is leading the review,

said the community workshops were open to everyone.

Doors will open half an hour before the start for refreshments. Registration is essential - please go to: www.eventbrite.co.nz/o/marlborough-district-council-58556313883

For further information, email: nicola.neilson@marlborough.govt.nz or phone 03 520 7400.



Marlborough's heritage community workshops

- Seddon**
18 March / Awatere Community Hall / 6pm - 7.30pm
- Blenheim**
19 March / Te Kahu o Waipuna / 10.30am - 12.00pm
- Blenheim**
19 March / Nativity Hall / 6pm - 7.30pm
- Havelock**
20 March / Havelock Town Hall / 10am - 11.30am
- Picton**
20 March / Picton Library / 6pm - 7.30pm

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.

Sport & Recreation Community Activity Fund open now

Council's 2024/2025 Sport & Recreation Community Activity Fund is open now and accepting applications for activities held before 28 February 2026.

There is \$30,000 available for allocation each year.

The fund is open to event organisers and 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 at: <https://www.marlborough.govt.nz/recreation/events/sport-and-recreation-community-activity-fund>

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

Safer boating workshop

Council's Nautical and Coastal Team, with funding from Maritime New Zealand, is providing a final Safer Boating Workshop in Picton on 13 April.

The free workshop is aimed at safer boating education for all watercraft users including vessels, jetskis, paddle boards and kayakers. Some of the topics covered will be 'what to know before you go', local knowledge, skipper responsibilities and tips and tricks.

Lunch is provided. Phone 03 520 7400 to register.



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.



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 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 7201.

Economic, Finance & Community Committee

Tuesday 18 March at 9am

A public forum will be held before 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



AUTUMN EVENTS

Pick up your copy of the guide from Marlborough District Council

follow-me.co.nz

