

# Marlborough



## Rural Police

November 2014

### Visit us at the A&P show

The Marlborough A & P show is coming up on the 6th and 7th of November 2014 at the A & P Show grounds on Maxwell Road, Blenheim.

If you're going along, take the time to call in and see Senior Constable Beau Webster and Constable Paul McKenzie, they will be there with a display and the Mobile Police Station. They will be more than happy to answer your questions and will have a variety of pamphlets and handouts about rural safety for you.

### Cannabis season

Over the last Cannabis growing season we recovered a large number of cannabis plants from the Marlborough Area.

We rely on information gathered over the summer season to assist us with the recovery operations. Areas of concern are farmland bordering forest, scrub and bush areas including river beds.

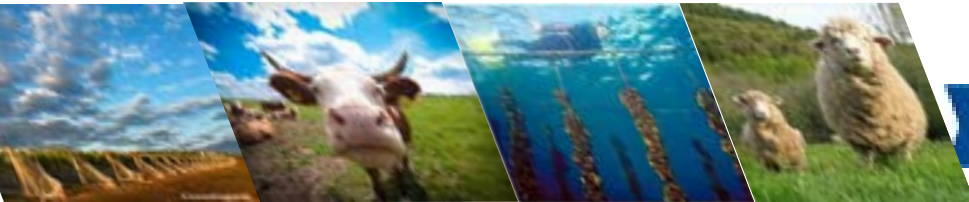
The growing season starts late September - early October through to March., we will be out and about gathering information. We know from past experience that where



there is cannabis being grown in an area there is likely to be other associated crime such as property theft.

Keep an eye out for any behaviour that just doesn't seem right and let us know.

Don't wait to tell us when you see us - ring or email straight away. If possible get vehicle registrations - or as much detail as you can, but we don't advise confronting anyone you suspect is involved in cannabis growing - we'll deal with that bit!



## What to do if you find explosives

This story is to give people an idea how to deal with explosives that are found by the public. In July this year a local man found a large military shell in the Flaxbourne River near Ward Beach.

He picked it and took it home to his home address. He then did some great research on Google and found that it had a live primer in it. At that point he placed it in his workshop and decided to notify Police.



*The explosive found near Ward Beach.*

Police were surprised by the find and even more surprised this person had uplifted the item and taken it home.

Our first piece of advice is always err on the side of caution and treat every item as if live and dangerous, until proven otherwise.

We don't care if the item looks fake, inert, old or new, we treat them the same.

You would be surprised to see what is an explosive and what isn't, they don't always look as expected.

On this occasion we reacted by giving clear instructions to the finder about any further movement of the Ordinance. We had him photograph it, send us the photo and then keep away from the item.

Our action is then dictated by well rehearsed and tested procedures. We got hold of the duty officer at the Defence HQ in Wellington with a view to calling out the explosive experts in the Army, who for us are based in Christchurch.

We sent them as much information about the item as a possible explosive, such as where it was found, a description and photographs, map of the area, condition. We let them know what has been done to ensure the safety of the item safe.



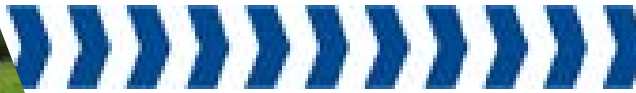
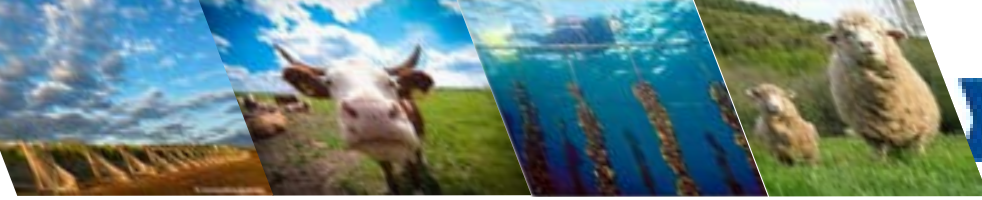
*EOD technician in action.*

The explosives experts made their way up from Christchurch and collected the item. Their aim was to X-ray it to see if it was possible to disarm it and return it to the finder, as he wanted for the local museum.

The shell was identified by the Explosives Ordinance Demolition (EOD) Technicians as a 37mm Fixed VSM round. It was still live and had the potential to explode. It had been fired from the 1Pounder Vickers, Sons and Maxim Gun system. It was originally used during the Boer War and WW1 in Anti-Personnel and then Anti-Aircraft roles. The British Military employed the weapon largely in defence of key infrastructure in London during WW1, but discontinued its use after it proved largely ineffective against German Zeppelins.

The history of where it came from and how it ended up in the Flaxbourne River remains a mystery, however we are sure there are some good stories to be told by some of the older locals in the community who probably have a good idea how it ended up where it did. During WW2 an area south of Ward was sometimes used for bombing practice, so occasionally old ordinance is discovered. Who knows where this one came from?





## Explosives continued

The EOD say: With all live ordnance found in a degraded state, any rough handling may cause the item to explode and cause severe injuries.

**DO NOT TOUCH**, Put a marker near the item so you can find it again warn others to stay right away. If possible take a photograph, report your find to Police, and last of all **DO NOT TOUCH**.

Do not under estimate what you have found or maybe handling. Your safety is paramount!

**DO NOT TOUCH.**

# BEWARE!



UNLAWFUL HUNTING WILL  
NOT BE TOLERATED  
**OFFENDERS WILL BE PROSECUTED**

FIREARMS AND VEHICLES MAYBE SIEZED

FIREARMS LICENCE REVOKED

MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR OFFENDING:

2 YEARS IMPRISONMENT, \$100,000.00 FINE

**DON'T SAY YOU  
WEREN'T WARNED!**

## Drink driving laws to change - effective 1 December



Rural people die on rural roads. The Marlborough Police don't want that to happen in our community, we care about you and your families on rural roads.

### WARNING:

On the 1 December 2014 the law changes around driving after consuming alcohol. Don't get caught out by the change - get a sober driver to transport you.

Information from the Ministry of Transport web site:

*The Land Transport Amendment Act (no 2) 2014 to lower the drink-driving limits for adult drivers aged 20 years and over passed into law on 8 August 2014.*

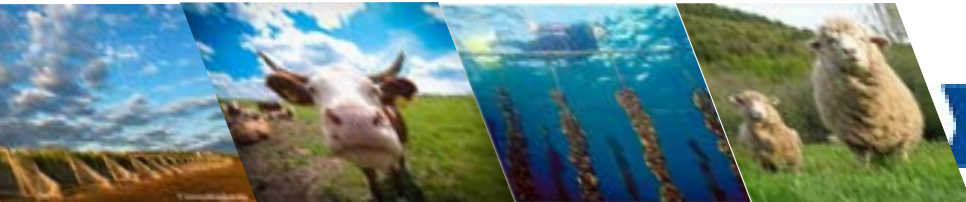
*The lower limits will come into force on 1 December 2014.*



*The Act lowers the breath alcohol limit for adult drivers from 400 micrograms (mcg) of alcohol per litre of breath, to 250mcg. The blood alcohol limit will reduce from 80mg of alcohol per 100ml of blood, to 50mg.*

*Drivers who commit an offence between 251-400mcg of breath will face infringement fee of \$200 and will receive 50 demerit points. Drivers who accumulate 100 or more demerit points from driving offences within two years receive a three month driver licence suspension.*

*The zero alcohol limit for drivers under the age of 20 years remains the same.*



## Drink driving questions

### How much will I be able to drink while still remaining under the new drink-driving limits for adults?

A number of factors affect the amount of alcohol that can be consumed while still being able to legally drive, including body type, gender, weight and food intake. The Institute of Environmental Science and Research (ESR) advises that most people will be able to drink two standard drinks over two hours and remain under the new drink-driving limits for adults.

A standard drink is equivalent to 330ml of beer, 100ml of wine or 32ml of spirits, containing 4, 13 and 40% alcohol respectively. In New Zealand, all alcohol packaging and containers must state the approximate number of standard drinks they contain.

### What are the penalties for drivers who refuse or fail to undergo an evidential breath test?

If a driver refuses or fails to undergo an evidential breath test, they will be required to undergo an evidential blood test. If the blood test result is in the 51 to 80mg range, the driver will face a higher infringement fee of \$700 and receive 50 demerit points. The higher infringement fee will discourage drivers from attempting to circumvent the evidential breath test.

If a driver's evidential blood test result is found to be over 80mg, they will face the criminal prosecution in court and the sanctions that currently apply for offences in this range if they are convicted.

### What happens to drivers who are unable to undergo an evidential breath test for medical reasons?

If there are genuine reasons, such as a medical condition, for failing to undergo (ie, to complete) the evidential breath test, and the result of their blood test is in the 51 to 80mg per 100ml range, a driver will have the opportunity to challenge the higher \$700 infringement fee in court. If the medical defence is successful, the penalty would revert to the \$200 infringement fee and 50 demerit points.

### What is the size of the drink-driving problem in New Zealand?

Alcohol contributes to around 30 percent of New Zealand's fatal road crashes.

Between 2010 and 2012, there was an average of 61 alcohol-related deaths and 244 serious injuries per year. This excludes drivers under the age of 20, instances where both drugs and alcohol were contributing factors and where alcohol was suspected as a factor but not tested. The average annual social cost of alcohol related crashes is \$446 million.

## Emergency contacts

24 hr Police  
Emergency Ph 111

Blenheim Station Ph  
578 5279

24 hr Women's  
Refuge (03) 577 9939

24 hr Victim Support  
0800 842 846

24 hr Youth Line 0800  
376 6333

24 hr Crisis Team  
(Mental Health) 0800  
800 717

Family Violence (9am-  
11pm) 0800 456 450

Or visit: [www.  
areyouok.org.nz](http://www.areyouok.org.nz)

