



Council Biodiversity Coordinator Andy Spanton says the mānuka stand at Tārerekautuku Yarrs Lagoon (pictured) is an original native remnant, making it one of the most significant stands in lowland Canterbury. Credit: Robin Smith.

“It’s been great to see so many restoration sites developed over the last decade”

Council Biodiversity Coordinator Andrew Spanton says the Canterbury Plains now contains less than .05% of original native plant species as a result of human colonisation.

“We need to value, protect and manage our ecological legacy, otherwise it will be lost.”

**Collaborating to improve biodiversity**

The Council’s biodiversity programmes are guided and empowered by legislation and policies as well as the Selwyn District Plan which is currently being reviewed.

As part of this review, a Biodiversity Working Group has been established, made up of key stakeholders and landowners with an active interest in the protection of ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity.

“Our priority is the protection of existing biodiversity – particularly native plants. Indigenous biodiversity is generally considered more important than planted biodiversity as it contains the original assemblage of plants, insects and soil biota.”

Mr Spanton works with landowners, community groups, local and central government agencies and other stakeholders to protect and restore indigenous biodiversity. A major part of his role is to run the Council’s Significant Natural Area (SNA) programme.

“This is where I work with landowners and managers to carry out ecological assessments to determine the significance of native plant areas and protect and manage them.”

The SNA programme assists landowners with funding and advice and supports the continued identification and protection of on-farm biodiversity.

“I also help landowners with native plant restoration sites across the district. It’s been great to see so many restoration sites developed over the last decade and it’s good to support our community in this important work.”

The Council’s Selwyn Natural Environment Fund supports this work. Applications for the contestable fund close on the last Friday in May each year.

**Case study: Tārerekautuku Yarrs Lagoon Reserve**

**Tārerekautuku Yarrs Lagoon:** is one of the largest freshwater wetland habitats (76.89ha reserve) remaining in the low plains of Selwyn.

**Location:** near Lincoln in the Ararira/Lili River sub-catchment of Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere, between Goodericks Road and Yarrs Road.

**Ecology:** the lagoon supports important hydrological and ecological functions within the catchment. Numerous waterways and springs are present. The reserve contains native swamp, forest and scrub vegetation that are now rare on the plains.

**Programme:** the Council has formed a landcare group and is working with Taumutu Rūnanga, adjoining landowners, the Department of Conservation, Living Water programme, Environment Canterbury, Lincoln University and the community to create a Reserve Management Plan. This will help to inform and guide the future management of the lagoon.

**Public consultation:** the draft Reserve Management Plan will be consulted on in late autumn. For more information about Tārerekautuku Yarrs Lagoon visit [selwyn.govt.nz/yarrslagoon](http://selwyn.govt.nz/yarrslagoon).

For more information about the Selwyn Natural Environment Fund visit [selwyn.govt.nz/snef-application](http://selwyn.govt.nz/snef-application).

**Selwyn Community Fund**

Applications for the second round of funding from the Selwyn Community Fund close next month.

The fund was established last year to support events and other activities that help make Selwyn a great place, contribute to community wellbeing, bring communities together and attract visitors to the district.

Cr Murray Lemon, Chair of the Selwyn Community Fund Committee says it’s encouraging to see a diverse range of organisations applying.

“Round one awarded funding to over 20 organisations, with a total of \$39,250 allocated. A number of these organisations are from the sports, children, events and arts sectors,” he says.

The fund is open to any recognised organisations whose principle functions or activities are of a charitable (not-for-profit) nature.

Applications for the Selwyn Community Fund are open year round, with funding allocated in two rounds each year.

Round two closes on Tuesday 30 April. For full details and to apply go to [selwyn.govt.nz/selwyncommunityfund](http://selwyn.govt.nz/selwyncommunityfund).

**Free course for mature drivers**

We’ve teamed up with Age Concern to offer free refresher driving courses throughout Selwyn.

The next course is on Tuesday 26 March, 9am–3pm, at the Darfield Recreation Centre and there still are spaces available.

The course is designed for drivers over the age of 60. The course offers a refresher of the current road rules and covers any recent changes, allows attendees to discuss and ask questions around everyday driving situations, and encourages them to think about how, where and when they drive.

We also have courses coming up on Tuesday 9 April at Lincoln Event Centre, Wednesday 1 May at Leeston Bowling Club, Thursday 16 May at Dunsandel Community Centre and Thursday 23 May at Springston Hall.

For more information and to book contact Age Concern on (03) 366 0903. Morning tea and a light lunch is provided.



**Robinsons Road seal upgrade**

Motorists on a stretch of Robinsons Road near Rolleston will soon be in for a smoother ride.

Work is now under way on a seal extension project to upgrade Robinsons Road, between Waterholes Road and Bellam Road.

The works includes removing vegetation, reconstructing the road surface and laying chip seal on the 1-kilometre stretch of road, which was previously metal.

The \$300,000 project is expected to be completed by early April.

Traffic management will be in place during the project, with a one-way system operating, and southbound traffic being detoured down Bellam Road and Larcombs Road. Motorists are asked to slow down, drive carefully and follow any signage and instructions from staff working on the site.





Notices

ALCOHOL NOTICES

Weedons Country Club Incorporated has applied for a renewal of a club licence. Objections are open until 22 March. G&T Catering and Events Limited has applied for a renewal of an on licence. Objections are open until 26 March. The Picnic Company Limited has applied for an off licence. Objections are open until 27 March. For information go to [selwyn.govt.nz/alcoholnotices](http://selwyn.govt.nz/alcoholnotices).

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991 SELWYN DISTRICT PLAN

Operative Status of Private Plan Change 54 – Ballymena Holdings Ltd requests to rezone 31.32ha of Rural Outer Plans land near Springfield to a Residential Living 2 zone (rural residential type development). The Council decision to approve Plan Change 54 was publicly notified on 17 December 2018. No appeals were received by the Environment Court. Therefore the provisions of the District Plan that relate to Private Plan Change 54 will become operative on 19 March 2019. This notice is made

in accordance with Clause 20 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991. The Selwyn District Plan may be inspected at any of the Council's service centres and is available at [selwyn.govt.nz](http://selwyn.govt.nz)

MOBILE LIBRARY TIMETABLE

**Wednesday 13 March**  
Kidsfirst West Rolleston 9.30–10am  
Cat's Pyjamas Rolleston 10.10–10.40am  
Active Explorers, Rolleston 10.45–11.15am  
Selwyn Kids 11.20–11.50am  
AKO Rolleston 12.30–1pm  
EduKids Faringdon 1.15–1.45pm  
Lollipops Rolleston 2–2.30pm  
**No service on Thursday 14–Sunday 17 March.**  
**Monday 18 March**  
Dunsandel Playcentre 9.30–10am  
Hororata Playcentre 10.30–11am  
Darfield Preschool & Nursery 11.25–11.55am  
Darfield Playcentre 12–12.30pm  
Darfield Primary School 1–1.30pm  
Rolleston Christian School 2–3.30pm

**Tuesday 19 March**  
Tai Tapu Playcentre 9.30–10am  
Active Explorers, Tai Tapu 10.15–10.45am  
Prebbleton Playcentre 11–11.30am  
Prebbleton Childcare 1.15–1.45pm  
Ladbrooks School 2–2.30pm  
Prebbleton Township 3.30–5.30pm

IHC VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME

The programme recently launched in Rolleston with support from the Council. They're seeking volunteers as well as people with intellectual disabilities interested in getting involved. The programme is about one-to-one friendships, allowing you to do what you want to do with someone with shared interests. IHC also has a skill-based volunteer programme that features shorter, focused projects based on goals a person with an intellectual disability wants to achieve. Volunteers work one-to-one with them to develop a specific skill or achieve a specific goal. For information and to sign up contact [tracey.berry@ihc.org.nz](mailto:tracey.berry@ihc.org.nz) or phone 021 758 342.

Meetings

Public Forums: *Council, Community Board and local committee meetings are open to the public. Time is available at the start of meetings for people to speak on matters of concern. Please notify your local committee at least three days before the meeting.*  
Township, Hall and Reserve Committees: *To list or make changes to meeting details, email [meeting.changes@selwyn.govt.nz](mailto:meeting.changes@selwyn.govt.nz) or phone 347 2800 by 9am Wednesday the week before publication.*

COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY BOARD

*Unless stated meetings are held at the Rolleston Council Building.*  
**Council Meeting**  
Wed 13 March 1pm

**Malvern Community Board**  
Mon 25 Mar 4.30pm Darfield Library and Service Centre  
**District Plan Review Committee**  
Wed 27 Mar 9am  
**LOCAL COMMITTEES AND ASSOCIATIONS**  
**Coalgate Township Committee**  
Tue 26 Mar 7.30pm  
Coalgate Fire Station  
**Dunsandel Community Committee**  
Mon 18 Mar 7.30pm  
Dunsandel Community Centre  
**Glenroy Community Hall Committee**  
Tue 19 Mar 7.30pm  
Glenroy Community Hall  
**Glentunnel Community Centre Committee**  
Tue 19 Mar 7.30pm

**Glentunnel Community Centre**  
**Glentunnel Township Committee**  
Mon 25 Mar 7.30pm  
Glentunnel Community Centre  
**Hororata Citizens Committee**  
Tue 26 Mar 7.30pm, Hororata Hall  
**Kirwee Township Committee**  
Mon 18 Mar 7.30pm  
Kirwee Community Hall  
**Leeston Park Committee**  
Mon 25 Mar 7.30pm  
Leeston Park Pavilion  
**Rolleston Residents Association**  
Mon 25 Mar 7pm  
Rolleston Community Centre  
*Update from CSM2 staff on progress of motorway project*  
**Springston Recreation Reserve Committee**  
Wed 20 Mar 7.30pm, Errol Tweedy Pavilion, Springston Reserve



On the roads this week

Seal repairs will be carried out on Wards Road and Old West Coast Road. Reseals will take place on Bealey Road and Wards Road. Road reconstruction (granular overlay) on Leaches Road, Bealey Road and Cordys Road. Kerb and channel and footpath construction will begin on Weedons Ross Road and Market Street. Drainage work will occur on Downs Road, Bluff Road, Frasers Road, Malvern Hills Road and Waianiwaniwa Road. Footpath reconstruction will be carried out in Leeston. Kerb and channel, seal widening and footpath work is under construction on Birchs Road. Seal extension construction is in progress on Robinsons Road.

From Monday 18 March–Friday 17 May roadworks will be carried out on Goulds Road between Maltby Drive and East Maddisons Road. This will include road widening, new kerb and channel, footpath works and drainage works. Detours and traffic management will be in place during this time so please follow any on-site signage.

Sections of High Street and Messines Street will be closed from 7am–5pm on Saturday 30 March for the Leeston Fete. Traffic will be requested to detour along the nearest alternative route. For queries contact Joanne Harkerss 347 2887.

Airbus space data agritech challenge

ChristchurchNZ in partnership with Airbus have launched a challenge for the brightest minds in New Zealand to solve one of the world's biggest issues using emerging unmanned aircraft (UA) and space data technology.

This challenge will see contestants using the very latest satellite and unmanned aircraft technology to come up with cutting edge approaches to sustainable water and soil management.

For more information on The New Zealand Aerospace Challenge 2019 and to download an application form for incubation support visit [nzaerospacechallenge.com](http://nzaerospacechallenge.com).

Selwyn Events

WEDNESDAY  
13  
MARCH

Prebbleton Summer Skate/ Scooter Jam and Picnic in the Park

Prebbleton Community Park, 5.30–7.30pm  
Spend your summer evening at the park with live music, Pedalmania, bouncy castles, face painting, entertainment, free sausage sizzle and let your children have a go at skating with free gear hire, prizes, music and coaching from experienced skaters.

THURSDAY  
14  
MARCH

Waste Free Parenting Workshop and Food Lovers Masterclass

Rolleston Community Centre, 12.30–2.30pm and 7–9pm  
Kate Meads, 'waste-free warrior' and motivational speaker, is running two separate sessions. Waste Free Parenting will teach you ways to minimise waste, while introducing you to modern sustainable products to use at home. Food Lovers focuses on ways to reduce food waste when cooking and preparing meals. Tickets are \$25 each or for a couple and include a \$100 goodie bag. Bookings are required, go to [wastefreeparenting.co.nz](http://wastefreeparenting.co.nz).

SAT/SUN  
16/17  
MARCH

Tai Tapu Sculpture Garden Annual Autumn Exhibition

199 Cossars Road, 11am–3pm  
An outdoor sculpture event with over 70 artworks for sale or enjoy the growing permanent collection. \$10 cash entry for adults. Picnickers welcome.

SUNDAY  
17  
MARCH

Summer 3X3 Basketball Jam

Faringdon Playground Court, Rolleston, 2–4pm  
Jump into a game! No registration required, just come along with a team, join a team or sit back and enjoy watching. Pack a picnic and enjoy basketball, music, and prizes.

WEDNESDAY  
20  
MARCH

Lincoln Summer Skate/ Scooter Jam

Lincoln Skate Park, 3.30–5.30pm  
A great way to introduce children and young people to skating with free gear hire, prizes, music and coaching from experienced skaters.

FRIDAY  
22  
MARCH

Darfield Drive-in Movie

Darfield Domain, 7–9pm  
Park up and enjoy Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit on the big outdoor screen. Tune in to the special frequency on your car radio.

SATURDAY  
23  
MARCH

Establishing a Native Garden

Lincoln Envirotown Community Gardens, James Street, 10–11.15am  
The workshop will cover the four steps to establishing a native garden, plan, prepare, plant and protect. For information go to [nativegardenworkshop2019.eventbrite.co.nz](http://nativegardenworkshop2019.eventbrite.co.nz)

For information on listing a community event visit [www.selwyn.govt.nz/councilcall](http://www.selwyn.govt.nz/councilcall)

Leeston Library & Service Centre  
19 Messines Street, Leeston  
Ph 347 2871

Lincoln Library & Service Centre  
Gerald Street, Lincoln  
Ph 347 2876

(03) 347 2800  
Darfield call free 318 8338  
[www.selwyn.govt.nz](http://www.selwyn.govt.nz)  
f SelwynDistrictCouncil

