

# Whopping spending growth for strong economy



Selwyn's economy has continued its strong growth backed by a "whopping" increase in tourist and local spending, according to latest economic data.

The latest quarterly economic monitor from analysts Infometrics showed the Selwyn economy continued to grow well ahead of national and regional averages.

The report showed Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth in Selwyn increasing at 4.9% in the year to March 2019 compared to 2.5% growth nationally and 1.6% growth across Canterbury.

Selwyn had the largest increase in spending by tourists nationally, up 13.2% for the year, with tourists spending \$117 million in the district. It also highlighted a 13.6% increase in electronic card transactions to \$89.2 million.

Council Community Services and Facilities group manager Denise Kidd says the figures reflect the positive growth the Council has seen.

"They're confirming to us what we know, that Selwyn is a great place to visit, to live and to do business."

The growth in commercial building consents continued strongly with the Council issuing 39 new commercial building consents in the first three months this year. In contrast, building by businesses in the wider Canterbury region slowed over the same period.

Unemployment also stayed at 2.2%, unchanged from the same time last year and almost half the national average of 4.3%.

Mayor Sam Broughton says the strong figures were a positive reflection of the continuing development and maturing of the district's economy.

"The report shows how we're taking advantage of the rapid growth that continues in Selwyn. It's particularly positive to see visitor and tourism spend increase which helps bring diversity to our economy and highlights what a great place we are to visit and stay."

## Steps taken in Lincoln Town Centre Plan

Preparation for the Lincoln Town Centre development has taken a significant step forward with the Council's purchase of a property on Gerald Street.

The Council has secured a key site at 5 Gerald Street, which sits at the entrance to the proposed east retail precinct.

It hopes to demolish the building, currently occupied by Lincoln Chinese Takeaway, before the end of the year as the first step in opening up the retail precinct area and transforming the street appeal, says Property group manager Douglas Marshall.

"This is the first major step in making something new that people in Lincoln have been looking forward to for a while. There's been interest from people in Lincoln over many years in doing some new with that site and this was an opportunity to open up the space with a fresh welcoming area to the new town centre."

The Council is considering options for the space including a park or reserve, Mr Marshall says.

The building's current tenant was already looking for a new location for the business nearby, and the Council is supporting them by offering a flexible lease until it is able to move. No work will begin until the building is vacant.

The town centre plan, adopted by the Council in 2016 after extensive community consultation, will develop public spaces and squares, provide for safe cycling and walking connections along with adequate car parking and promote 'active frontage' with buildings placed to the edge of the footpath and facing the street with car parking behind.

The design of the Gerald Street Plaza at the eastern end of Gerald Street around Robert Street proposes widening the pavement to create a pedestrian plaza along the shop fronts with different paving, street furniture and landscaping.

Redevelopment of the 5 Gerald Street site will allow this to occur more easily and in keeping with the rest of the town centre design.

## New Zealanders welcomed home

From Vladivostok to Christchurch, journeys were shared as 26 New Zealanders were welcomed home last week.

The group from 11 different nationalities shared their stories of how they came to call New Zealand home as they became New Zealand citizens in the Council's monthly citizenship ceremony.

Each new citizen spoke of how they came to call New Zealand home, but there was a homecoming of a different kind for Tyler Hokianga.

Raised in Australia, Mr Hokianga told the room it was a visit to see his parents back here in New Zealand that sparked a desire to embrace his Kiwi heritage and officially become a Kiwi.

Nine of the group spoke about intending to visit New Zealand for a short time on holidays, work or study and finding their partner. Among them was Candice Trumper from South Africa.

"The one thing my father told me before I came was not to take up with any Kiwi boys. Well, we fell in love."

Others spoke of falling in love with the country and the way of life. Originally from Sri Lanka, Lincoln University law lecturer Santiago Ekaratne came to New Zealand for the lifestyle after studying and working as a lawyer in Washington DC. "That was fun but I didn't get much sleep."

Nina Kozhevnikova from Vladivostok in Russia who came for an adventure and to visit family after her husband died, and Douglas Dorrian, who moved from Scotland to South Africa before settling here, also for adventure.

"New Zealand is such a great country for all the opportunities we have – cycling, jumping off things, every day it's great to be here."

One of the loudest cheers of the night came for Celestina Ponseka, who moved from the Philippines to New Zealand for work and soon convinced her family to join her.

"I wanted to bring my husband and daughter here to show them how beautiful New Zealand is."



*Mrudul and Supriya Hatkar with Mayor Sam Broughton and Major Grant Payton at the citizenship ceremony*

## New funding confirmed for tourism facility upgrades

Tourists and Selwyn residents will find comfort stops more comfortable with new public toilets, upgraded systems and new caravan dump stations to be built around the district.

This week the government announced Tourism Infrastructure Fund support to expand the Lakeside Domain toilet facilities and upgrade the waste water system at Coes Ford.

It is the latest in a series of upgrades to facilities around the district. The Council has completed a new public toilet block in Dunsandel, four new caravan dump sites, upgrades to two more and upgrades to the Arthur's Pass public toilet. Upgrades to the facilities in Kowai Pass Domain and Rakaia Gorge are also under way.

The projects all received support from the Tourism Infrastructure Fund.

The new stand-alone four-pan toilet block in Dunsandel cost \$185,700 and has been built in front of the domain. Property group manager Douglas Marshall says the location by the domain was to support travelling public and users of the domain and provides safer parking for cars, trucks and buses.

"The old toilet block will be closed and removed in a couple of weeks' time when it's clear the new toilet is working satisfactorily," Mr Marshall says.

The four dump stations for caravans to empty waste have been installed at Leeston, Tai Tapu, Lake Coleridge and Glentunnel, while the dump stations at Kowai Reserve in Springfield and Rakaia Gorge have been upgraded. The total cost for the dump stations was \$90,000.

The new facilities and upgrades were important as tourism continues to grow in the district, Mr Marshall says.

"With visitor numbers on the rise it's a good time to make sure our infrastructure is ready and to make the district even more attractive to visitors."

# Council Call

Selwyn District Council  
Norman Kirk Drive, Rolleston  
Ph 347 2800 or 318 8338

Rolleston Library  
Rolleston Drive, Rolleston  
Ph 347 2880

Darfield Library & Service Centre  
1 South Terrace, Darfield  
Ph 318 8338 or 347 2780



## Notices

### ALCOHOL NOTICES

Lindsay Family Cellars Limited has applied for a renewal of an off licence. Objections are open until 24 July. For more information go to [selwyn.govt.nz/alcoholnotices](http://selwyn.govt.nz/alcoholnotices)

### ENGLISH TEACHERS OPPORTUNITY IN GANSU

Senior high schools and colleges in the Gansu province of China are seeking English teachers to work in their schools. They are also seeking native English speakers to improve communications skills of students and teachers. Council has a Sister City in Shandan in the Gansu Province. Gansu Province is in Northwest China and is on the Silk Route. Selwyn's Sister City relationships has developed because Rewi Alley, who was born in

Springfield and spent his early years in Canterbury, established schools and cooperatives in Gansu Province. He is revered by the local people.

For more information please contact [bernadette.ryan@selwyn.govt.nz](mailto:bernadette.ryan@selwyn.govt.nz)



### LIBRARIES IT UPGRADE – PUBLIC COMPUTERS AND PRINTING UNAVAILABLE

We are upgrading the IT equipment at our libraries. Public computers and printers will not be available at Selwyn Libraries on the following dates: Tuesday 23 July – Rolleston

Wednesday 24 July – Lincoln  
Thursday 25 July – Leeston  
Friday 26 July – Darfield  
We apologise for the inconvenience. If you still wish to access the wifi, you can do so via your personal device.

### SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE AGM

Council Sister Cities Committee is holding its Annual General Meeting on Thursday 1 August 2019, 4.30pm at the Darfield Library.

Selwyn has Sister Cities cultural and friendship relationships and exchange visits with Sister Cities in Japan; China; Coventry in Rhode Island, USA; and Toraja, Indonesia.

Residents are welcome to attend this meeting and can RSVP to Bernadette Ryan 3472 800 or [bernadette.ryan@selwyn.govt.nz](mailto:bernadette.ryan@selwyn.govt.nz)

## 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 Bernadette Ryan or 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 or 318 8338 by 9am Wednesday the week before publication.*

### COUNCIL & COMMUNITY BOARD

Malvern Community Board  
Mon 22 July 4.30pm  
Darfield Library

District Plan Review Committee

Wed 24 July 9am  
West Melton Community and Recreation Centre

Road Safety Committee  
Thur 25 July 10am  
Weedons Pavilion

### DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Arthur's Pass Association  
Sat 3 Aug 4pm  
Arthur's Pass Community Centre

Coalgate Township Committee  
Tue 23 July 7.30pm  
Coalgate Fire Station

Darfield Township Committee  
Thur 18 July 7.30pm  
Darfield Library

Glenroy Community Hall Committee  
Tue 16 July 7.30pm

Glenroy Community Hall  
Glentunnel Community Centre Committee

Tue 16 July 7.30pm  
Glentunnel Community Centre  
Hororata Citizens' Committee  
Tue 23 July 7.30pm  
Hororata Hall

Rolleston Residents' Association  
Mon 22 July 7pm  
Rolleston Community Centre

Springston Community Committee & Springston Recreation Reserve Committee  
Wed 17 July 7.30pm  
Errol Tweedy Pavilion, Springston Reserve

Springston Hall Committee  
Fri 26 July 7.30pm  
Springston Hall



## On the roads this week

There will be partial closures on McLaughlins Road and Greendale Road, Darfield until Sunday 21 July. Roads may be fully open in the evenings. Traffic management will be in place.

Surfacing work will be carried out on High Peak Road until Friday 19 July. Traffic management will be in place at this time. Footpath construction will be taking place on North Terrace from Currie Street to McIlraith Street, Currie Street from Horndon

Street to North Terrace, Kimberley Road from Horndon Street to North Terrace, Birchwood Close, Prebblewood Drive from Trents Road to Dewars Lane, Crown Close, Woodlaw Crescent and Marshs Road from SH1 to Meadowlands Road, until Friday 19 July.

Shared footpath and cycleway construction for the Leeston Doyleston cycleway will be taking place on Leeston Road from Manse Road to the Leeston Heritage Park from 24 July to 31 July.

# Selwyn Events

THURSDAY

18  
JULY

### Fun with Makeup

Rolleston Library, 6.30–9.30pm

Informative, interactive group makeup session by a professional makeup artist. Learn makeup basics as well as techniques, tips and tricks so you can look and feel your best anytime. \$20 per person. Bookings essential at [Eventbrite.co.nz](http://Eventbrite.co.nz)

THURSDAY

18  
JULY

### Discomania

Tai Tapu Community Centre, 6–7.30pm

Come and get your wiggle on at this fun filled disco designed for youngsters. \$2 per child, free for caregivers. Suitable for ages 3 to 13 years.

TUESDAY

23  
JULY

### Harry Potter Quiz – adults only

Rolleston Community Centre, 7–9.30pm

Sending an owl to all witches, wizard or muggles. Join us in your robes for a Harry Potter quiz and test your knowledge of the wizarding world. Teams of 3-6, \$5 per person, bookings essential at [Eventbrite.co.nz](http://Eventbrite.co.nz)

SATURDAYS

27 JUL, 2  
& 10 AUG

### Patternmaking Workshop

West Melton Community and Recreation Centre, 10am–2pm

These three Saturday workshops will take you through the process of designing a garment, from copying a basic garment to designing your own. Tea and coffee provided. \$30 for library members, \$40 non-library members, per workshop. Bookings essential at [Eventbrite.co.nz](http://Eventbrite.co.nz)

UNTIL

4  
AUGUST

### Organic – art exhibition

Down by the Liffey Gallery, Lincoln, selected hours Wed–Sun

An exhibition by Heather Sarin, Barb Gaeth and Dorothy Shrimpton on movement, colour and vitality combining paint and sculpture pieces

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

Check out these fun activities from last week!  
Plenty more still to come, visit [selwyn.govt.nz/kidsfest](http://selwyn.govt.nz/kidsfest)



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

