



Essential jobs connector launched

We're delighted to have teamed up with online platform Selwyn App to launch a service connecting job seekers with essential service businesses looking for employees during this COVID-19 period.

Many essential businesses are currently finding it difficult to employ the staff they need, because of sickness or workers being in vulnerable categories, or due to a significant increase in workload.

The Essential Jobs link provides essential businesses needing some extra help with a way to list their available jobs – and for workers to find out about opportunities.

It's a bit like a 'dating app' for essential service businesses to find people with the skills they may need urgently during this Alert Level 4 lockdown period. Businesses can list their vacancies at no charge, while job seekers can see a list of all current opportunities and contact the businesses directly to find out more.

Group Manager Community Services and Facilities Denise Kidd says the partnership offered another positive way for the Council to support people through the lockdown and beyond.

"This was a really good opportunity for us to be part of supporting our community at this time and the essential businesses and to ensure that those businesses are able to keep up the great work that they are doing."

The Essential Jobs link is easy to find on The Selwyn App, which can be downloaded free for Android or Apple devices.

Library helps out doctors with 3D printers

Selwyn Libraries have been helping out local medical staff with the use of four 3D printers.

The libraries team has printed almost 100 face masks for distribution to Selwyn medical centres and other essential workers to help them keep working and stay safe during the pandemic.

Libraries Digital Futures Coordinator Mark Lawrence says they responded to a request online for help. Mr Lawrence set to work at home using the libraries' four 3D printers, a laminator, and a design by a Czech company to print the masks.

"We saw the call from a customer whose wife is a General Practitioner to assist in the production of this important piece of safety equipment that is in short supply. The 3D printers are playing a tune in my garage at present as they print a run.

The plan is to distribute to doctors surgeries, pharmacists and dentists and others in the district who are on the front line working for the community."

Mr Lawrence says three Selwyn residents with 3D printers got in touch online and are helping out with the effort. They have over 30 companies including dentists, vets, midwives and supermarkets on a list that they are looking to supply with priority going to doctors and nurses.



Stories from our households to yours

Some of our community team are putting together a series of stories on how Selwyn residents are handling self-isolation and spending their days. We hope it will inspire you with some ideas and we'd love to hear your creative ways of spending your days.

For Rolleston resident and new mother, Ashleigh McKenna, the lockdown has provided some opportunities for completing odd jobs and falling in love with walking the dog again.

Ashleigh and her partner Jason continue their routine of waking up early to feed the baby, walking their black Labrador Izzy at lunch time and putting baby Ava to sleep at 6pm, but there is now time to get odd jobs done around the house they would usually put off doing.

"We moved into this house end of last year, so there's landscaping outside that we've had to do and final touches on the house. It's been good putting shelves up and tidying the garage."

Ashleigh admits it is nice having her partner home to spend more time with their 18 week old baby and lend a hand.

Activities like walking the dog would normally feel like a chore, but for Ashleigh these activities during lockdown have become more enjoyable.

"I guess maybe the things you took for granted, you look forward to. The one thing we look forward to every day is getting out and going for a walk."

When asked what it is like being a new mother during lockdown, Ashleigh said she is more worried and extra cautious when shopping at the supermarket.

"If it was just me and my partner I don't think I'd worry so much. I think having her adds an element to it, I'm just that little bit more scared she could get sick and something could happen."

Waking up early for the baby has helped Ashleigh keep to a good routine and be more productive, rather than sleeping in.

Keeping a routine makes time go a bit faster and makes you appreciate tasks like long walks down country roads with your tail-wagging face-licking companion, she says



Next steps for Springs Ward reserve

The next steps on the plan for a new reserve development on Birchs Road are under way after public consultation on the proposed masterplan.

The Council ran public consultation on a draft design for the reserve late last year, which received positive feedback from community, Council Major Projects Manager John Reid says.

A revised plan is being drawn up to include the feedback we received and an application will be lodged to designate the land for recreational purposes in the next few months. As part of this process there will be an opportunity to make submissions on the revised proposal.

The Council would like to thank the community for their feedback on the concept masterplan, Mr Reid says.

"We appreciate the time and effort that has been put in to providing many thoughtful and overwhelmingly supportive comments. They have helped form the revised proposal and more will be included over time as we work on a more detailed layout of the park. We look forward to keeping working with the community to create this exciting community space."

Notices

ALCOHOL NOTICES

Chateau Delice Limited has applied for the renewal of an off licence. Objections are open until 27 April. For more information go to selwyn.govt.nz/alcoholnotices.

EASTER WEEKEND RUBBISH COLLECTION

Easter Friday collections will take place the next day – Saturday 11 April. Easter Monday collections occur as normal.

Meetings

Council

Wednesday 8 April 1pm
Wednesday 15 April 1pm
Council meetings will be streamed live on facebook.com/SelwynDistrictCouncil

Bin collection to continue but processing to change

Rubbish and recycling collections in Selwyn are continuing as normal during the Level 4 Alert period, however there will be changes to the processing of recycling.

Recycling will be collected as normal, but from this week it will temporarily be taken to Pines Resource Recovery Park for disposal as general waste.

The Council's kerbside recycling processing partner EcoCentral Ltd has had to pause operations because of the high risk of COVID-19 contamination for staff sorting the recycling at the regional sorting facility in Christchurch. Because of the volume of recycling coming in every week the Council and EcoCentral do not have the space to safely store it for sorting later.

In addition, many offshore recycling plants are closing or suspending operations because of the pandemic, meaning there are no outlets for the materials.

Council Solid Waste Manager Andrew Boyd says the decision has not been taken lightly.

"We're really disappointed that this step has had to be taken. We're in the same position that many other areas of the country find themselves in, having to make this temporary change."

Despite the change to the way recycling is handled, the collection process will not change, and people should keep sorting recycling, and putting out their bins as normal.

"It's really important that you continue to sort your recycling and put it out in the yellow bin as normal. We'll still be collecting it from the kerbside and we will restart the processing of recyclables as soon as possible. So it's important to be ready and help us limit the amount of recycling going to landfill when we are able to start recycling again."

Our organics kerbside collection and processing is continuing as normal.

What can you do?

- Please continue to separate your recyclables from your general waste. This is only a temporary situation and we don't want people losing their good recycling skills for when processing recommences!
- Use paper and cardboard in your fireplace if you have one, or consider home composting these.
- If you are considering stockpiling any recycling, please ensure it is clean first (to avoid odour and vermin). For plastics, we would suggest only keeping clean plastics of grades 1, 2 and 5 – these have the best long term options for recycling.



Keeping active during lockdown

Filling our days and staying active at home has become a big part of our daily lives.

Fortunately, our Council facilities team are hard at work with ideas to fill your days.

Over on the Council Facebook page, our recreation centres and Selwyn Aquatic Centre have begun providing videos with fun fitness activities to try and information on what they're doing to stay active. We've got a Mini Gym clip and some ideas for swimming practice for kids and pre-schoolers coming. So keep an eye out for those and more.

If you're sick of being indoors, fortunately living in Selwyn there are plenty of parks, reserves and trails on our doorstep.

Playgrounds, and hard surface areas including skate parks, tennis and basketball courts are closed, but reserves, parks and dog parks remain open to local residents.

Taking some 'time out' in your local park is a great way to connect with nature, manage stress and lift our mood Council Reserves Officer Keely Gwatkin says.

"Remember to look up at the sky, listen for birds, breathe deeply and enjoy the colours and smells of autumn."

A list of parks, reserves and other areas open for walks is available at selwyn.govt.nz

If you are taking your dog for a walk, they need to stay in your bubble including avoiding other dogs. We strongly advise keeping them on a leash at all times.

Avoid shared surfaces such as tables and benches and places where you can get injured or lost.

If you're cycling, stay local and avoid cycling to another township unless for essential travel.

For children, the great bear hunt is proving especially popular. Count how many teddy bears you find in houses or on gates around your neighbourhood. Use the online map to find them in your area: <https://maps.bearhunt.co.nz/findbears/index.html>

Remember to keep two metres from people outside your 'bubble', but don't be afraid to give them a wave or a smile.

Stay safe, stay local, but stay healthy and have fun!



Anyone can carry the virus.
That means you can pass it on and risk the lives of people you care about.



Stay home. Save lives.

Council facilities and services

All Council facilities remain closed under COVID-19 Level 4 restrictions.

For updates see selwyn.govt.nz/covid19.

Help keep our drains flowing

If you're looking for something else active to do during the lockdown, take the opportunity to clean the drains outside your house. With autumn here and wind and rain on the way, drains can quickly become blocked with leaves. You can help avoid flooding around your property and street by removing any leaves that are clogging drains. Council contractors do regularly clear drains, but leaves can quickly build up especially in windy conditions at autumn time. So build a leaf pile for the children, make mulch for the garden or just enjoy some time out in the fresh air helping out your street.



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Gerald Street, Lincoln
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SelwynDistrictCouncil

