



Skate jams get rolling

The first Summer Skate Jam of the year kicked off at Glentunnel School last week with more than 60 people enjoying skateboarding, scootering and other wheeled fun.

Cheapskates Skate Skool instructors Scott, George and Josh were on hand to teach the children the basics and bring some fun, as well as providing gear for those who didn't have any.

Along with helping riders learn some new skills, the Skate Skool crew ran a competition for people to show off the tricks they know, with Isaac Pokiahau-Rogers, 11, from Coalgate taking out the competition for skaters aged 8 and up.

The Glentunnel event was the first of eight skate jams this year, with the next one being held at Tai Tapu Primary School Wednesday 19 February, 3.30–5.30pm, followed by the Darfield Summer Skate Jam on Wednesday 26 February 3.30–5.30pm at the Darfield Skate Park.

A place to finally call home

Continuing our series celebrating the Faces of Selwyn. Visit selwyn.govt.nz/facesofselwyn for the full story.

In 2000, two strangers from Iceland and China got chatting at Melbourne airport and then found themselves sitting next to each other on a flight to Auckland.

It was the start of Sam and Lillian Ragnarsson's 19 year journey to calling New Zealand home.

Sam left Iceland aged 23, and until he moved to Prebbleton six years ago, he had never stayed in one place for more than a year. Lillian had lived in Japan and the United States of America.

Following that first airport meeting, they reconnected online and married in 2008. After a year each in Japan, the USA and China, the two project managers sat down with a spreadsheet to decide where to settle down. They listed everything they wanted from a country and New Zealand came out on top.

"We always laugh that we met on the way to New Zealand and then we ended up in New Zealand, so many years later," Sam says.

They chose Christchurch to help out with the post-earthquake rebuild and settled in Prebbleton.

They have kept links to their birth lands and Sam says there's now even an Icelandic flag flying at their daughter's school. But both were very happy to gain New Zealand citizenship last year.

"For someone living in seven countries, five continents and who's moved this often, to find a place and be accepted was really important," Sam says.

For Lillian, it was a milestone giving up her Chinese passport and visa, but made her feel part of her new home.

"I am ready to fight for New Zealand, that's how I feel."

The pair considered leaving Prebbleton and buying a lifestyle block, but their girls Nicole and Caitlin said, "We love this house, we love this place, why should we leave?"

"And it made us think, they're right, why would we leave?"



Bin tagging project nearly complete

The project to stocktake and tag the district's 51,000 bins is well on its way to being completed.

More than 70% of rubbish, recycling and organics bins have now been fitted with a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tag through the project which began in September.

The RFID tags will allow the Council to easily and remotely maintain accurate records of the numbers and types of bins at each property, ensuring fair charging for all and allowing for a more efficient service.

The scanning equipment is in the process of being fitted to collection trucks. The tag, about the size of a thumb tip, will be automatically scanned each time the bin is collected. A final sweep of any bins that have not been tagged will take place before the contractor will cease collection of any untagged bins.

For more information please visit selwyn.govt.nz/binstocktake.

Community Fund helps star dancers

A brand new dance workshop for children and young adults living with disabilities has started in Lincoln, running during school terms.

The workshop is run by The StarJam Charitable Trust to give young New Zealanders with disabilities a chance to feel like a star and develop life skills and friendships through music and dance.

It is supported by the Selwyn Community Fund. Established in 2018, the Council fund supports groups and organisations that contribute to community wellbeing. The fund is available for Selwyn – based not-for-profit community groups that are looking to run a project, event, or initiative in the Selwyn district.

The Council supported StarJam by providing the Lincoln Event Centre for the workshop "Southern Groovers," run by one tutor and three volunteers.

The free workshop is already booked out with 12 young people or 'Jammers' already signed up. It is the second StarJam workshop alongside one run at the Rolleston Community Centre on Tuesday evenings.

StarJam are extremely grateful for the funding which will open opportunities for more workshops in the area, trust grants writer Fiona Rouse says.

"This funding will ensure the safe and successful delivery of StarJam's workshops, performances and community social events benefiting young people with disabilities who attend the Lincoln weekly workshops."

StarJam host lots of other free workshops weekly up and down the country, teaching youth aged 6 to 25 with disabilities how to dance, play drums, guitar and sing.

One of the previous workshop's participants, Katrina, said StarJam makes her feel cool and like she's a superstar.

These workshops enable 540 youth to participate every year, regardless of their disability.

Applications for round two of funding from the Community Fund this year close on Thursday 30 April. Apply now at selwyn.govt.nz/selwyncommunityfund.



Reconnect project under way at Pines Resource Recovery Park

Work has begun on the first round of improvements at the Pines Resource Recovery Park.

The developments include an enhanced recycling and reusables drop-off area with a canopy, parking and operational area, as well as all underground services for the planned future stages. The \$1.85 million works are being carried out by CB Civil and Drainage and the new area is expected to be open by June this year.

Council Solid Waste Manager Andrew Boyd says the developments are catering for future growth as well as enabling improved recovery of materials currently entering the waste stream. "These upgrades will improve the experience of customers at the Recovery Park as well as increasing diversion of materials from landfill. Having the ability to drop off items that can be reused by others is something that the district has needed for some time, so we are pleased to see this project starting to take shape."

The current works are the first stage in a wider project named Reconnect that will take place from 2021 to 2024. Reconnect is an innovative and ambitious project aimed at getting people thinking differently about waste, recovering materials from the waste stream and showcasing alternative options to landfill. This includes a reuse shop and salvage yard, as well as an environmental education centre (with a focus on waste) intended to be an interesting, interactive and fun space for people of all ages to visit. Other developments include a multipurpose waste hub, a community garden, and microenterprise units focusing on making products from waste materials such as wood, metal and fabrics.

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

RIVER WORKS ARARIRA/ L2 RIVER

The L2 drainage committee will commence weed cutting of the L2 River from 24 March until 30 April. River users are asked to be careful during this time as machinery will be operating in the river. A weir/barrier will be in place 200m downstream of the Wolfes Road boat ramp for this period. This work is in accordance with Environment Canterbury consents CRC000818.1 and CRC000819. For more information please contact the Council on 0800

SELWYN (735 996).

U3A MALVERN INAUGURAL MONTHLY MEETING

U3A is holding its first meeting in Malvern this month. U3A, or University of the Third Age, is an international movement for people who are retired, semi-retired or nearing retirement and want to be part of a learning community. The inaugural meeting will be held, Friday 21 February at 10am at the Darfield Baptist Church, 15 Greendale Road, Darfield. Dr Philip Bagshaw the founder of

the Canterbury Charity Hospital will be speaking. Enquiries, email U3Amalvern@gmail.com.

CREATIVE COMMUNITIES FUNDING

Need funding for your project? Creative Communities Selwyn can help. Funding is available to groups or individuals with community-based creative projects that promote arts or culture in Selwyn. Applications for this funding round close at 5pm, Friday 29 February. Visit selwyn.govt.nz/artsfunding for more information and to apply.

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 Therese Davel or Bernadette Ryan if you wish to speak at the Council meeting at least five days before the meeting. Township, Hall and Reserve Committees: To list or make changes to meeting details, email meeting.changes@selwyn.govt.nz or phone 347 2800 or 318 8338 by 9am Wednesday the week before publication.

COUNCIL & COMMUNITY BOARD

District Plan Committee Wed 19 Feb 1pm Rolleston Council building
Malvern Community Board Mon 24 Feb 4pm, Arthur's Pass
Council Wed 26 Feb 1pm Rolleston Council building

Audit & Risk Subcommittee Wed 4 Mar 9.30am Rolleston Council building
District Plan Committee Wed 4 Mar 1pm Rolleston Council building
Council Wed 11 Mar 1pm Rolleston Council building
DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Coalgate Township Committee Tue 25 Feb 7.30pm Coalgate Fire Station
Glentunnel Township Committee Mon 24 Feb 7.30pm Glentunnel Community Centre
Kimberley Reserve and Hall Committee Tue 3 Mar 7.30pm, Kimberley Hall
Kirwee Recreation Reserve Management Committee Mon 9 Mar 7.30pm Sports Pavilion, Kirwee Recreation Reserve

Leeston Park Committee Mon 24 Feb 8pm Leeston Park Pavilion
Lincoln Community Committee Mon 9 Mar 7pm, Fitzgerald Room, Lincoln Event Centre
Sheffield/Waddington Community Committee Thu 20 Feb 7.30pm Sheffield Community Hall
Springston Community Committee & Springston Recreation Reserve Committee – Triennial meeting Wed 19 Feb 7.30pm, Errol Tweedy Pavilion, Springston Reserve
Tawera Memorial Hall Committee Wed 4 Mar 7.30pm Tawera Memorial Hall
Weedons Residents' Association Tue 10 Mar 7.30pm Weedons Reserve Pavilion
Whitecliffs Township and Domain Committee Mon 2 Mar 7.30pm Glentunnel Hall

New Council customer service centre opens

A blessing and a ribbon cutting have marked the official opening of the new customer services centre at the Council headquarters in Rolleston.

Te Taumutu Rūnanga led a blessing of the new area on Wednesday morning, before Mayor Sam Broughton and project manager Sandrine Carrara officially cut the ribbon ahead of the first Council meeting of the year.

The new space, where visitors to the Council building are welcomed, is part of a series of changes to the Council's customer service to provide a one-stop location for people to contact the Council. As well as providing face to face help for customers on all types of enquiries, the new centre also handles enquiries through the 0800 SELWYN (735 996) Council contact number, and email and web contacts.

The changes will allow the Council to build on the high standards it sets for supporting residents, Group Manager Communication and Customers Stephen Hill says.

"It's great to have reached this milestone in our ongoing goal of making it easy for people to do business with us," he says. "We now have a great space for customers to come to, and a dedicated team supported by excellent systems to help our residents access the services and information they want."



On the roads this week

Speed restrictions are in place on Springs Road between Birchs Road and Trents Road due to maintenance work on the water system. Tennyson Street between Markham Way and Moore Street is one-way, open to southbound traffic only. Lowes Road is one way both sides of the Tennyson Street intersection, open to traffic travelling away from the intersection, due to the intersection upgrade. Traffic management will also be in place on Tennyson Street from Bronte Way to just south of the intersection. Footpath construction is taking place on Lowes Road from Masefield Drive to Tennyson Street and on Durrel Way and these footpaths will be closed during construction.

Pavement seal repairs are taking place on Wards Road. Resurfacing is taking place on Leaches Road, Blakes Road and Telegraph Road and a culvert is being constructed on Coleridge Road. Traffic management will be in place for each of these works.

NZTA has advised that Hoskyns Road is left in and left out only at Main South Road. The Weedons Interchange is now fully open and Berketts Road is open for left turn in (southbound) traffic only from Main South Road.

Selwyn Events

THURSDAY
20
FEBRUARY

Springfield Picnic in the Park
Springfield Reserve, 5–7pm
Enjoy a summer's evening at the park with the family, with live music a free sausage sizzle, Pedalmania, face painting and more.

SUNDAY
23
FEBRUARY

A Month of Sundays
Lincoln Green, behind the library, 1–3pm
Relax, unwind and recharge on your Sunday afternoon with live local music, face painting and garden games every Sunday in February. Bring a picnic and enjoy. This week's line-up is Al Park, Veranda Cocktail and Reuben Ishrahm.

MONDAY
24
FEBRUARY

Scrabble Club
Lincoln Library, 11.30am–12.30pm
Join our weekly Monday Scrabble Club. Whether you're a competitive player or just happy to play and enjoy a social chat this is a great place to get to know people and enjoy a good game.

WEDNESDAY
26
FEBRUARY

Darfield Summer Skate Jam
Darfield Skate Park, 3.30–5.30pm
The highly-anticipated Summer Skate Jams are back and heading to Darfield. A great way to introduce young people to skating with free gear hire, prizes, music and coaching from CheapSkates Skate Skool. Join us in a relaxed environment to give it a go. Something for all abilities.

THURSDAY
27
FEBRUARY

Tai Tapu Picnic in the Park
Rhodes Park Domain, 5–7pm
Enjoy a summer's evening at the park with the family, with live music a free sausage sizzle, Pedalmania, face painting and more.

SATURDAY
29
FEBRUARY

Food Waste Workshop
Lincoln Envirotown Community Gardens 10–11.30am
Dr Meike Rombach of Lincoln University will talk about the options for food waste – toss it, sell it or redistribute it? The gardens are behind the Maternity Hospital. Gold coin donation appreciated. For more details – phone Ruth 021 074 3905.

For information on listing a community event visit
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
SelwynDistrictCouncil

