

Work begins on new youth zone



Another exciting new hub for youth in the district is being built in the next stage of the Rolleston Town Centre.

Work on the youth zone, which is being built by Isaac Construction, began in mid March, and aims to be completed by the end of the year. The area will feature a skate park, half basketball court and netball zone. There will also be a gaga ball pit – a game similar to dodge ball and played in a pit area, where players throw the ball with the aim to touch other players’ legs.

There will also be an eagle claw basket swing, and outdoor furniture along with hangout zones.

The skate park will include a pool bowl, flow bowl and snake run and will be built by skate park design and build specialist Nelson Creek Skateboards, led by experienced skateboarder David North. The company most recently built the West Melton skate area.

The youth zone was designed with input from students at Selwyn’s four high schools.

It will add another vibrant and different space to the town centre, Council Acting Major Projects Manager Phil Millar says.

“Our aim with the town centre area is to make this a space for all Selwyn residents, with something for everyone. The youth zone will be a fun space designed with the help of Selwyn youth to be somewhere that is theirs to enjoy alongside all the other areas the town centre has to offer.”

Due to this construction, access to the tennis and netball courts on Rolleston Reserve will only be via the main reserve car park north of Te Ara Ātea for the next six weeks. Access from the Wordsworth Street extension should be restored after this. Signage will be in place to direct people on how to safely access the courts.



Council advocates for better for Selwyn in water reforms

The Council will keep advocating for a better outcome for Selwyn residents than is being offered by the Government’s three waters reforms.

The Council has confirmed it will advocate as an independent voice to get the best outcome for Selwyn.

It continues to oppose the direction of the proposed reforms and is concerned about their impact on water services for Selwyn residents.

“We accept there needs to be change, however we don’t agree the current three waters proposal is the best or only way forward,” says Mayor Sam Broughton.

“The government has done a poor job at communicating the need for change in Selwyn and we publicly expressed our disapproval to them last year.

“We are disappointed at the government’s disregard for councils and local communities in the way it has run this process so far. We are also frustrated by the poor response over key questions we have raised with Government about the reforms.

“We will continue to be a strong, independent voice speaking out to make sure Selwyn people get the best outcome from these reforms.”

Mayor Broughton says the Council’s focus will be on ensuring its concerns are addressed and shaping the outcome of the reforms. It has also committed to working constructively with mana whenua, to ensure the best possible outcomes for Selwyn.

Water is our most important asset and communities need to be able to have a say in how their services are delivered, he says.

“We have over 30 water supplies each with unique challenges. We have invested heavily in water infrastructure and overall we have an excellent service. When we get individual challenges, such as the complex ones we face at the moment in Springfield, we can work directly with local residents, using our local knowledge and we are directly accountable to see through the long-term work required to address those issues.

“We need to see accountability in the reforms to ensure Selwyn residents don’t lose that local voice and assurances that our people will see their needs met. That is what we will be working for – for Selwyn residents to get a service that continues to deliver for them.”

Support for starting new businesses in Selwyn

A first of its kind business series will be running in Selwyn to support people looking to start new businesses.

Applications are now open for the ‘Starting a business later in life course’ which will be running over four sessions throughout May, supporting people over 50 who are considering starting a new business.

The course has been designed by business mentor Dr Chris Kirk, a former deputy vice-chancellor of Lincoln University and founder of the 'Later-in-Life Innovators' Group in Christchurch, which also supports older people starting businesses.

The idea for the series came after the Council organised a mature workers event supported by MSD and Connected, which included advice and support from agencies and mentors including Dr Kirk.

During those workshops there were repeated questions from attendees who were looking for ways to keep busy or supplement their income in retirement as well as those looking for new challenges or with hobbies that with a little support could become businesses, Council Community and Economic Development Advisor Kirstin Dingwall-Okoye says.

“He said, ‘I’ve never had so many people coming to me asking about this’, and I said, ‘Let’s put on a seminar’.”

The idea quickly developed into a four-week course, the first of its kind in Aotearoa, which was successful in receiving funding from the government’s Te Tari Kaumātua, Office for Seniors.

Held each Monday in May the series will cover the process of starting a new business, from the idea stage through launching a new business, as well as connecting participants with expert coaches, mentors and potential funding opportunities.

For more information or to apply visit selwyn.govt.nz/news-And-events/events/starting-a-business-later-in-life



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 MEETINGS

Audit & Risk Subcommittee*
Wednesday 6 April 11am Rolleston HQ Offices
Council Meeting*
Wednesday 13 April 1pm Rolleston HQ Offices
* Livestreamed on the Council website and YouTube channel

DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Dunsandel Community Committee
Tuesday 19 April 7.30pm Dunsandel Community Centre
Kirwee Community Committee
Monday 18 April 7.30pm Kirwee Hall
Kirwee Recreation Reserve Management Committee
Monday 11 April 7.30pm Kirwee Reserve Pavilion
Springston Community Committee
Wednesday 20 April 7.30pm Errol Tweedy Pavilion, Springston Reserve



On the Roads

Tennyson Street Rolleston Drive Intersection Upgrade
Tennyson Street is closed from south of 75 Tennyson Street (the Police Station) to 78 Tennyson Street and Rolleston Drive is one-way westbound for the upgrade of the Tennyson Street and Rolleston Drive intersection. Detours are in place.

Darfield Kirwee Wastewater Pipeline project

Burnham Road is closed to northbound traffic north of the Burnham School Road intersection to State Highway 1 from 10 January to 26 April. A detour will be in place.

Aylesbury Road between SH1 and Two Chain Road is reduced to one-way only. Traffic will be able to enter from SH1 and move north past the one-way site. The one-way system will be in place until late April. Aylesbury Road between Wards Road and Miles Road also remains closed as pipeline project works continue.

For updates on road closures and on the project visit selwyn.govt.nz/darfieldkirweewastewater.

Weedons Ross Road seal widening

Weedons Ross Road will be one-way open to traffic travelling south (towards Rolleston), for the duration of the project to widen the road. The work area is currently from Johnsons Road to Finlays Road and will move south as sections are completed. A detour is in place. Please follow all traffic management signage in place for these works. Disregarding the one-way system puts road users and workers at risk.

Other repairs and upgrades

Pre-seal repairs are taking place on Hororata Dunsandel Road between Hunters Road and Burgess Road, Dunns Crossing Road between Brookside Road and Boulez Mews, Oaktree Lane from Manor Drive to Goulds Road, Dynes Road from Goulds Road to Hungerford Drive and Old West Coast Road from Highfield Road to Halkett Road.

Repairs are also taking place on Hororata Road between Bridge Street and Plantation Road and on Bluff Road between State Highway 73 and Swamp Road.

Repairs are taking place on Waimakariri Gorge Bridge.

A sump is being built on Brookside Road between William Street and Elizabeth Street. Footpaths are being built on Ballinger Street from Vernon Drive to Crowder Street and Goh Street from Ballinger Street to Te Waikere Street.

Traffic management is in place for these works. Please take care around work sites and follow site signage. Follow the QR code with this story for a map of these works, or view our road closures map at selwyn.govt.nz/roadclosures.



Red setting requirements for Council facilities changing

The Council is updating its requirements for accessing facilities following the national changes in requirements for Red settings.

Selwyn District remains in the Red traffic light setting.

As of Saturday 26 March:

- Indoor gathering capacity limits have been increased to 200 (check with individual facilities as some limits may still apply)
- Outdoor gathering limits are removed
- QR code tracing is no longer required
- Face masks are still required in public areas in most facilities

The Council is reviewing vaccine pass requirements ahead of the changes to government requirements for vaccine passes on 4 April.

For the latest information on the requirements for Council facilities and services visit selwyn.govt.nz/covid19

Changes to the Traffic Lights From 11.59pm Friday 25 March

RED	ORANGE	GREEN
Face masks required in most indoor settings	Face masks required in many indoor settings	Face masks encouraged indoors
Indoor capacity limits of 200 people. No outdoor capacity limits	No indoor or outdoor capacity limits	No indoor or outdoor capacity limits
Self-isolate for 7 days if you test positive or live with someone who has COVID-19	Self-isolate for 7 days if you test positive or live with someone who has COVID-19	Self-isolate for 7 days if you test positive or live with someone who has COVID-19

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa New Zealand Government

Unite against COVID-19

Event Guide

RED SETTING PROTOCOLS ARE IN PLACE. VACCINE PASSES REQUIRED FOR THOSE OVER 12 YEARS AND THREE MONTHS OLD FOR ALL FACILITIES AND FOR BOOKED OR TICKETED EVENTS. CAPACITY LIMITS ARE IN PLACE.

Thursday 31 March

Volunteering Canterbury Drop-in Sessions

Te Ara Ātea, 6.30–7.30pm
If you need support to find volunteering opportunities or improve volunteering at existing organisations, please feel free to attend these ‘drop in’ sessions or email selwynoutreach@volcan.org.nz to make a booking.

Saturday 2 April

Bike check and repair workshop

Darfield Library, 10am–12pm
Not sure if your bike is safe or needs a tune up? Learn how to solve common beginner-friendly issues with your ride: puncture repairs, chain breaks and more. Free. Bookings essential at selwylibraries.co.nz/events.

Saturday 2 April

Edutech Fun!

Te Ara Ātea, 10.30am–12.30pm
Learn about designing your own game using Gamefoot, an online Game Development platform developed here in NZ! Discover different types of game creation, creative coding and how to get started and carry on your Gamefoot learning at home and/or school. Whether you’re a kid, adult, student or teacher; all are welcome. Free. Bookings essential at selwynlibraries.co.nz/events.

Sunday 3 April

Mahoe Reserve Working Bee

Mahoe Reserve, Lincoln, from 2pm
Join Lincoln Envirotown volunteers to look after the reserve. Please wear suitable shoes, bring spades, garden gloves, hat, sunglasses or other eye protection and a bucket for mulch if you can. For more info contact Sue Jarvis Sue.Jarvis@orcon.net.nz

Monday 4 April

Easter Craft Roadshow

Sheffield Community Hall, 3.30–4.30pm
Pop down to your local community centre for some Easter crafting fun! Bookings required. Book or find more times and locations at selwyn.govt.nz/events

Monday 5 April

St John’s Outreach Therapy Pets

Te Ara Ātea, 3.30–3.50pm
This St John’s-hosted programme focuses on children who are having difficulty learning to read. When children read with a dog, they start to relax and are more likely to self-correct and try words they are unfamiliar with. Book in with Fen, and his owner Mat, for your 20-minute session. Free. Children under 8 years must have a parent or guardian with them. Bookings essential at selwynlibraries.co.nz/events

Tuesday 5 April

Rhymetime – Wiggles and Giggles

Lincoln Library, 9.30–10am
Stories, songs, rhymes and bubbles make up our Rhymetime sessions, designed to assist children aged 1-3 with early language development and to have fun. Free. Bookings essential – one booking per family bubble please – at selwynlibraries.co.nz/events

FOR INFORMATION ON LISTING A COMMUNITY EVENT VISIT SELWYN.GOV.TZ/COUNCILCALL.