



Help us shape the future of Selwyn with our upcoming Long-Term Plan.

From today, Selwyn residents will have the opportunity to have their say on Selwyn’s future. Over the next three weeks we’ll be seeking your insights on various topics relating the District’s 2024–2034 Long-Term Plan.

This is the first opportunity for you to help us set the priorities and share the areas you’d like us to focus on when developing the future of Selwyn.

Our online survey is now live at [yoursay.selwyn.govt.nz](https://yoursay.selwyn.govt.nz) and you may see us popping up at your local library or local event. And, from Saturday, 16 September, you can try out our mystery scavenger hunt. Check out the QR codes around the Rolleston Town Centre and follow the trail to take part.

“Our aim with the Long-Term Plan is to plan what we do to build the Selwyn that our residents want. But we can only do that if we know what your key priorities are. This is another opportunity to impact tomorrow today by letting us know [what matters most to you,” Council Chief Executive Sharon Mason says.

Head to [yoursay.selwyn.govt.nz](https://yoursay.selwyn.govt.nz) to let us know your priorities, or try the scavenger hunt, have some fun and impact tomorrow today.

## Selwyn series From the People launched

Our extraordinary heritage, people and iconic places in Waikirikiri Selwyn have been highlighted in a local short film series.

The series, From the People, was commissioned to celebrate Selwyn’s heritage, people, and iconic places. It will be promoted through tourism campaigns and other outlets.

Each film focuses on a different part of the district, including Arthur’s Pass, Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere, Lake Coleridge, and Kura Tawhiti/Castle Hill.

The series is part of a shift towards weaving more of people’s stories through the narrative and destination brand for the district, Council Executive Director — Community Services and Facilities Denise Kidd says.

“There were several key partnerships involved in creating this series including the Department of Conservation, Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga and Te Taumutu Rūnanga. It was a powerful way to acknowledge the unique and special places we have in Selwyn and people’s connection to them.”

A screening of the films at Te Ara Ātea at the end of August was well received by attendees, Denise says.

“People from the areas that feature in the series introduced the films and spoke about why these places were so special to them, and what it meant to be part of the project. The filmmaker also spoke about the importance of the project to him and people’s hospitality and warmth.”

Council Principal Advisor Economic Development Shay Robinson says each film highlights different themes and will resonate with visitors and people wanting to learn more about the history and communities of the district.

“Some feature intergenerational perspectives on how a place has shaped families and their upbringings, or why people settled in these places. Others show perspectives of local business owners and their passion for welcoming visitors, as well as highlighting places of significance to mana whenua,” she says. “Stories like these are crucial for building community connection and creating a sense of pride and belonging.”

You can view the series at [selwyn.nz](https://selwyn.nz).



## Business conditions looking positive in Selwyn

Selwyn businesses have reported feeling more optimistic about the future and current business conditions than their nationwide counterparts, in the latest Selwyn Business Survey.

The twice-yearly survey, which Council has been running for three years, captures valuable information for businesses and those involved in supporting the Selwyn business community. Results provide insights into how local businesses think they are faring and what their outlook for the next several months is.

The survey, which ran from 25 July–15 August, attracted 121 responses and found that overall, local businesses expected conditions to continue improving, including profitability and investment intentions. Businesses also reported carrying more staff and planning to increase their number of employees, although recruiting staff was continuing to be difficult.

Other notable results include output/sales continuing to rise steadily over the last 12 months, with 27% of businesses expecting this to increase.

Operating costs were continuing to remain high, with 92% of businesses experiencing increases. However, the outlook for the next six months sees this reducing to 75%. Businesses pricing intentions were also steady and decreasing slowly from a high of 58% in February 2023.

Results from the survey were presented to businesses during a sold out Selwyn Business Breakfast at Te Ara Ātea last week by Economist Benje Patterson. They are available to view on the Selwyn District Council website.



## Thrilling tales of mysterious events

A tale of modern warfare colliding with an infamous World War One battle, and the day of a nurse besieged by strange interactions have won out, as creative Selwyn writers put their skills to the test.

More than 30 writers took part in the Selwyn Libraries’ Adults’ Short Stories competition from 1 June to 31 July where entrants submitted an unpublished story of less than 5000 words.

The competition unearthed several compelling and entertaining writers from within the district Programme and Outreach Lead Trudi Fraser says.

“We were very impressed with the variety and quality of stories entered.”

Nina Atkinson won first prize for her intriguing story, Dragon of the Somme, which followed a British soldier’s diary account of being saved by a 21st century attack helicopter at the WW1 Battle of the Somme.

“The premise of exploring how someone from that period would interpret a piece of modern technology was something I had a lot of fun writing about,” says Nina. “He describes what he saw without knowing what a helicopter is so it’s a really interesting perspective.”

Nina is an avid writer who is currently working on editing the first draft of her debut novel — part of a planned sci-fi series.

Runner-up, Rachel Horne impressed the judges with her creative story of a nurse who finds herself having increasingly odd interactions with her colleagues on her morning shift after taking a sleeping tablet for the first time the night before.

“I wrote the story in the midst of my third burnout during nine years of nursing,” she said. “I drew on common issues nurses face in their day-to-day practice such as high workloads and lack of time — reflected by the relentless ticking of the watch. I wanted to touch on some of these issues in a light-hearted, comical way.”

The competition was judged by a panel of four people from Selwyn’s different libraries, who scored each story based on character, plot, theme, setting, mechanics, and quality.

Nina and Rachel’s entries will be available to read by visiting [selwynlibraries.co.nz](https://selwynlibraries.co.nz).

# Council Call

**SELWYN DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
Norman Kirk Drive, Rolleston  
Ph 0800 SELWYN (735 996)

**TE ARA ĀTEA**  
56 Tennyson Street, Rolleston  
Ph 347 2880

**DARFIELD LIBRARY & SERVICE CENTRE**  
1 South Terrace, Darfield  
Ph 318 8338 or 347 2780



Notices

DOG MICROCHIPPING

This free monthly service is available on Friday 15 September at:

- Leeston Library and Service Centre, 9–9.30am
- Lincoln Library and Service Centre, 9–9.30am
- Rolleston Council Offices, 11–11.30am
- Darfield Library and Service Centre — no clinic this time.

If your dog was first registered after 30 June 2006 and is not a working dog, the law requires them to be microchipped.

- Clinics last for 30 minutes.
- Rolleston venue is Norman Kirk Drive.
- Microchipping will not take place if wet.
- Clinics in Darfield and Leeston are alternated monthly.

Any questions regarding microchipping, please contact Animal Control on 0800 SELWYN 735 996.

Meetings

**Public Forums:** Council and Community Board 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 by emailing [meeting.changes@selwyn.govt.nz](mailto:meeting.changes@selwyn.govt.nz)

COUNCIL & COMMUNITY BOARD MEETINGS

Emergency Management Bill Workshop\*

Wednesday 13 September  
11am Council Offices Rolleston

Council Meeting\*

Wednesday 13 September 1pm  
Council Offices Rolleston

Malvern Community Board

Monday 25 September 4.30pm  
Darfield Library/Service Centre

\*Livestreamed on the Council YouTube channel

Council shares priorities for incoming government

The national elections are fast approaching, don't forget to enrol and vote.

Ahead of the elections, the Council has put together its priorities for any incoming government on what's important for Selwyn.



24/7 Primary Care Health provision and improved access to mental health services, especially for our young people and in rural communities.



200 publicly owned homes across our District to meet the diverse needs of those in our rapidly growing population.



Funding to fix our roads and for more frequent public transport including new routes between our townships. Invest in regional Mass Rapid Transport.



Serious co-investment to preventing flooding across our district.



Commit to an intergenerational investment approach to restore Te Waihora (Lake Ellesmere) to its former state.



Roads closed for maintenance: Benmore Road Kowai River Bridge; Golf Links Road from SH75 to Old Tai Tapu; McLaughlins Road from Elmhurst Road to Coaltrack Road and Riversleigh Road from SH77 to Flagpole Road.

Traffic lights or Stop Go controls are in place for maintenance and repairs on Boundary Creek Road from SH1 to Rakaia Selwyn Road; Derrets Road from Substation Road to Rockwood Road; Goulds Road from Leetson Road to Ellesmere Junction Road; Hororata Road from Aitkens Road to Plantation Road; Melton Grange Road from Bells Road to Old West Coast Road; Old West Coast Road from Minchins Road to Redmonds Road; Rakaia Terrace Road from Ardlui Road to Te Pirita Road Sandy Knowles Road from Two Chain Road to Wards Road; Wards Road from Courtney Road to Highfield Road; and Weedons Ross Road from Maddisons Road to Johnson Road.



Please take care around work sites and follow site signage. Follow the QR code or visit [selwyn.govt.nz/roadclosures](http://selwyn.govt.nz/roadclosures) for a map of road works.

Culturefest Series

Check out our two-week calendar of activities around Selwyn from 14 to 28 September!



Henna Art



Faces of Selwyn on Air



Celtic Fiddle Orchestra



Sushi Making Workshop



Fashion Showcase



Hair Braiding



Women-Only Swimming



Italian Cooking Demonstration



Tai Chi



Highland Dancing

For bookings and more details visit: [selwyn.govt.nz/culturefest](http://selwyn.govt.nz/culturefest)

Event Guide

Thursday 14 September

Lincoln Community Garden Open Day  
Lincoln Envirotown Community Garden  
(James Street), 1–3pm

Join the Lincoln Envirotown team to find out how to prepare your garden for the upcoming growing season. Pruning berry and fruit trees, preparing your strawberry patch — there's lots to do! Plus, find out how you can get involved. Located on James Street, behind the former Maternity Hospital site, Lincoln. Free. Drop-in. Learn more at [selwyn.govt.nz/events](http://selwyn.govt.nz/events).

Thursday 14 September

English Learners  
Te Ara Ātea, 1.30–2.30pm

Join us to improve your everyday English language skills and confidence in a casual setting. Sessions are focussed on the needs of learners, so no two classes are the same. Whether you're looking to learn, or simply just to socialise, join us at our weekly coffee club. All English language learners welcome. Suitable for people aged 18+. Free. Bookings not required. School term time only.

Friday 15 September

Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori Storytimes  
Lincoln Library, 10.30–11am

Celebrate Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori by attending one of our popular storytime sessions where basic te reo Māori will be included through stories, songs and activities. Suitable for ages 3–5 years. Free. Bookings not required.

Saturday 16 September

Cheese Making Workshop  
Sheffield Community Hall, 10am–1pm

Experience this exciting introduction to hand-made, cost effective cheese. This workshop will explore the process of creating camembert, feta, ricotta, mascarpone, halloumi and neuf chatel. Cheesemaker, Cushla has been practising for more than eight years, and will introduce you to the joy of cheese making at home. Session includes a lunch of various cheeses, delicious homemade crackers and fresh bread. Suitable for ages 18+. \$15 per person (for Selwyn Libraries members), \$30 for non-members. Payment can be made in-library beforehand. No payments can be accepted on the day. Bookings required at [selwynlibraries.co.nz/events](http://selwynlibraries.co.nz/events).

Sunday 17 September

Women-only Swimming Night  
Selwyn Aquatic Centre, 6–8pm

The Selwyn Aquatic Centre is celebrating CultureFest with a women-only night. There will be aqua fitness classes, water safety sessions with the swim school team, plus other fun activities. If you want to participate in a free swimming lesson, please register your interest at [selwyn.govt.nz/news-and-events/events/women-only-swimming-night](http://selwyn.govt.nz/news-and-events/events/women-only-swimming-night). All ages welcome. Normal pool admission applies.

FOR MORE COUNCIL EVENTS VISIT  
[SELWYN.GOV.T.NZ/EVENTS](http://SELWYN.GOV.T.NZ/EVENTS)