

## Help us find the family of Margaret McNeally

We're looking to reunite the memorial to a young woman with her family and solve a 148-year-old mystery.

Margaret McNeally was 12 years-old when she died on 20 April 1875, she was buried in Springston Cemetery and her family placed a wooden marker over her grave to remember her.

Almost 150 years later that headstone was discovered by Council staff damaged and in a patch of bushes at Springston Cemetery. The headstone has been stored by the Council and we are hoping to reunite it with the family.

Council Information Management Council Information Management Advisor Leanne Page says the Council would love to get it back to the family.

"We don't know much about this young lady, but if anyone's out there from her relatives we'd love to get this back to them, to help commemorate their relative. Wooden headstones are rare in our cemeteries so this is a special piece historically, but most importantly it's a memory of a precious young woman and we'd like to see them reunited."

Anyone who believes they may be a relative of Margaret McNeally, or have further information about finding her family can contact us on [information.management@selwyn.govt.nz](mailto:information.management@selwyn.govt.nz) or give us a call on 0800 SELWYN (735 996).

## Bringing the magic to school holidays

Make some magic, hone your spy skills, go on an animal at the zoo adventure, or see your favourite book characters come to life these school holidays.

If you're planning for the school holidays make sure you head into one of our facilities, or over to our website and pick up a copy of the What's On brochure packed with holiday activities.

From building an insect hotel, heritage hunting or running some energy out at the Selwyn Sports Centre there's a huge variety of things happening to suit all ages and interests.

Have a magical time learning your own magic tricks with magician Shad Rutherford, see him perform his hilarious show or test your magic knowledge with a Harry Potter Quiz.

Test your spy skills with Cyphers and Code Breaking for Kids and see your favourite book characters come to life with a night of stories, crafts and interactive experiences with the Court Jesters at Te Ara Ātea.

An 'animals at the zoo adventure' is on to bring a fun way to help children aged 5-8 learn tips to self-regulate emotions and take care of their minds and bodies.

Or there's opportunities to let out some energy at the bouncy castle fun day and sports skills sessions at Selwyn Sports Centre.

For those into art and craft there are opportunities to make your own masks, put on a puppet show, learn painting and pastel art, get handy with some cross-stitch or learn the art of 3D printing.

Pick up a copy of the school holidays guide at your local Council facility or download a copy and plan your events at [selwyn.govt.nz/events](http://selwyn.govt.nz/events).



## Work going well to preserve rare native species

A major weed control project in Rakaia Gorge is progressing well, with some impressive gains in the first 12 months.

The four-year operation will help protect native biodiversity and significant ecosystems with well over 12,000 cherries and sycamore controlled in the 2022 season.

The project is a collaboration between the Council, Environment Canterbury, landowners, Manawa Energy's Rakaia Fund — administered by the Rakaia Catchment Environmental Enhancement Society, and Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand.

Ashburton District Council has also contributed by removing several old-man pines to curtail wilding spread into the wider project area.

The team has used high-tech drone and GPS technology to survey the area, and plan and track work in the hazardous steep terrain and bluffs of the Gorge.

Council project lead Andy Spanton says the hard-work of the first year will give the team essential information to guide the future work.



An ecological assessment of the gorge in 2019 found at least 16 threatened and at-risk native plant species, including Canterbury pink broom and rōhutu/myrtle — both nationally critical — along with others that are regionally uncommon.

Landowner David Harper said he's proud to be involved and is grateful to everyone involved.

"The Rakaia Gorge holds a special place in our hearts. We feel very excited that this is just the beginning of looking after this very important place. This will be something that future generations will carry forward."

## Plan to transform drains to streams takes next step

A plan to reimagine drains and transform them into streams along the Ararira catchment has reached a key milestone.

Started in 2013, Living Water (a partnership between the Department of Conservation and Fonterra) was an ambitious plan to reimagine the 76kms of council drains and a similar length of private drains in the Ararira/LII catchment, from traditional mostly straight drains, with steep banks, into streams.

A ceremony has been held recently to mark the end of work by the Living Water programme and a hand over to the Council of the vision to continue transforming the streams. The ceremony included other key stakeholders and contributors to this programme; representatives from Te Taumutu Rūnanga, Environment Canterbury, and the LII Drainage Committee, supported by consultants Aqualinc, EOS Ecology and Cawthron Institute.

Together the group produced a high-level Catchment Management Plan and Implementation Guide, capturing the vision of the project and how it could be implemented both in the Ararira/LII catchment and across our district.

The Council is now working through the plans and how it can continue the work, rethinking the drains to be streams, support the land and gain better ecological outcomes.

#NVW2023

### Volunteer Connection

Tuesday 20 June, 11.30am-12.30pm  
Te Ara Ātea, Rolleston

### The Big Shout Out - Selwyn

Thursday 22 June, 6.30-7.30pm  
Te Ara Ātea, Rolleston



NVW  
Te Wiki Tūao ā-Motu  
national volunteer week

He wā pīataata  
Time to shine

In celebration of National Volunteer Week, Volunteering Canterbury in conjunction with Selwyn District Council is hosting two free events. Come along to learn more about volunteering in the district at Volunteering Connect, or be acknowledged for your great mahi at The Big Shout Out — Selwyn. Drop in. Learn more at [selwyn.govt.nz/community/volunteers](http://selwyn.govt.nz/community/volunteers)

# 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

ALCOHOL NOTICES

Leon & Bronwyn McKavanagh Partnership (Summerhill Heights Vineyard) has applied to renew its off licence. Objections to this application are open until 27 June. For more information visit [selwyn.govt.nz/alcoholnotices](http://selwyn.govt.nz/alcoholnotices).

FLYING FOX MAINTENANCE FOSTER PARK

Maintenance is being done on the flying fox at Foster Park to ensure the flying fox continues to meet safety standards into the future. The flying fox area will be closed from today Wednesday 14 June for up to two weeks, weather permitting. The remainder of the Foster Park playground will remain open.

Meetings

**Public Forums:** Council and Malvern 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

**Community Services Committee\***  
Wednesday 21 June 9am Council Rolleston Offices

**Transport & Infrastructure Committee\***  
Wednesday 21 June 1pm Council Rolleston Offices

**Malvern Community Board**  
Monday 26 June 4.30pm Darfield Library

**Extraordinary Council Meeting\***  
Wednesday 21 June 12pm Council Rolleston Offices

**Council Meeting\***  
Wednesday 28 June 1pm Council Rolleston Offices

**Tai Tapu Library Inc. AGM**  
Wednesday 14 June 7.45pm Tai Tapu Library.  
This meeting follows a committee meeting at 7pm

**Sheffield-Waddington Township Committee – Final meeting of committee**  
Thursday 15 June 7.30pm Sheffield Hall

*\*Livestreamed on the Council YouTube channel*



Stop/go controls are in place for drainage improvement works on Whitecliffs Road from SH77 to Cass Street and a priority give way for work around the cattle stop on Lyndon Road at the SH73 end. Maintenance is also being completed on Auchenflower Road from Kimberley Road to Loes Road; Beethans Road from Volckman Road to Drain Road; Bleackhouse Road from Auchenflower Road to Old West Coast Road and Hanmer Road from Stephens Road to Caldwell's Road.



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

Disposing of hot ashes safely

A warm fire in the fireplace is one of the best things about winter, but without care it can quickly become a hazard. One of the easiest ways fires start is not disposing properly of hot ashes. Ashes can stay hot long after a fire has gone out and they can and do start fires in household rubbish bins. Hot ashes have also started fires in rubbish trucks and transfer stations.

Always remember — bucket, bag it and bin it.

- Using a small metal shovel, scoop ash from your fireplace into a **metal** bucket with a lid. It's really important that you only use a metal bucket or container and not something that could easily catch fire from any residual heat left in the ashes such as plastic or cardboard.
- Take the bucket outside, away from any buildings, and douse with water.
- Leave to cool for at least **5 days**.

Once the ash has been safely cooled you can use it sparingly in your garden by spreading thinly over your lawn or stirring thoroughly into your home compost pile, or empty the cold ash into a rubbish bag and place it into your rubbish bin. **Please do not place ash into your recycling or organics bin.**

### Dispose of hot ash safely

FIRST

Bucket and soak it



THEN

Spread on your garden



OR

Bag it and bin it



Hot ash can cause bin and truck fires

Event Guide

Thursday 15 June

Selwyn Libraries at Broadfield  
Broadfield Community Centre, 2.30–4pm

We're bringing the library to you! Choose some new reading material get creative with the LEGO®, bring a couple of different coloured stray socks and turn them into your own No-Sew Sock Snowman. Come along and share your ideas with our Recreation Programmes Coordinator about physical activities, programmes and opportunities you would love to see in your community. Children under 8 must be accompanied by a parent. Free. Bookings not required

Friday 16 June

Rhyme time wriggles and giggles  
Lincoln library, 9.30–10am

Stories, songs, rhymes and bubbles make up our Rhymetime sessions, designed to assist with early language development and to have fun. Aimed at 1–3 years. Free. Bookings not required.

Friday 16 June

Children's book and board games club  
Leeston Library, 3.30–4.30pm

Head along to Leeston Library every Friday afternoon to share your latest reading adventures, play board games and enjoy some fun crafts. Free. Bookings not required.

Saturday 17 June

The Art of Bonsai — Intermediate  
Te Ara Ātea, 11.30am–3.30pm

Tony Bywater from the Christchurch Bonsai Society will lead this intermediate workshop on the art and practice of bonsai. It covers the annual cycle of care for bonsai, encouraging growth, pruning and development of branches and foliage pads. Bring one or more of your trees, or Tony can supply a new tree for a fresh start! All you need to work on your tree(s) will be provided. Bookings required at [selwynlibraries.co.nz/events](http://selwynlibraries.co.nz/events). \$10 Selwyn Libraries members, \$20 non-members. Payment can be made on the day, or in-library beforehand. Payment is not required to secure the booking.

Monday 19 June

Adult Book Club  
Darfield Library, 7–8.30pm

Book discussion groups are a fun and popular way to expand your reading subjects, meet people in your area and share your thoughts and ideas about reading. Free. Bookings not required.

Tickets on sale now

[selwynawards.co.nz](http://selwynawards.co.nz)



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

LEESTON LIBRARY & SERVICE CENTRE  
19 Messines Street, Leeston  
Ph 347 2871

LINCOLN LIBRARY & SERVICE CENTRE  
Gerald Street, Lincoln  
Ph 347 2876

0800 SELWYN  
[SELWYN.GOV.T.NZ](http://SELWYN.GOV.T.NZ)  
SELWYN DISTRICT COUNCIL

