



## Exploring biodiversity at Ahuriri Lagoon

As part of the two-week series of activities following the SWELL Expo, Council's biodiversity team hosted members of the community on an exploration of the ecological features and biodiversity of the Ahuriri Lagoon Walk.

Ahuriri Lagoon located on the Huritini/Halswell River between Tai Tapu and Motukarara has been undergoing a significant restoration since 2018 with the establishment of a constructed wetland after the area was drained in the late 1800s.

Being able to share the restoration project's work with the community was rewarding for Senior Biodiversity Specialist Denise Ford.

"In the past this area served as an important mahinga kai site for local rūnanga and food source for native wildlife. Now we are seeing the return of many of our indigenous species including birds, reptiles, fish and insects, all playing an important role in the ecosystem".

Alongside the Council team was Te Ara Kākāriki Greenway Canterbury Trust who have planted thousands of native seedlings around the lagoon with five local schools through their Kids Discovery Plantout initiative. A large legacy site of 20,000 indigenous plants, Te Pae O Ahuriri, was also planted as part of a Jobs for Nature project and forms part of their Greendot programme.

Te Ara Kākāriki Coordinator Letitia Lum explained the importance of Greendots to the Selwyn region. "Greendots act as a natural habitat stepping stone or biodiversity corridor, from the mountains to Te Waihora and the sea. These sites can extend the habitat of native birds, so they can re-establish a foothold on the plains. We hope the sites at Ahuriri Lagoon will help our native species thrive across the Selwyn region".

The Ahuriri Lagoon restoration has played a significant role in attracting Selwyn's native biodiversity, making it a valuable ecological asset for the whole community to enjoy.

## Making turning safer at the SH1, Dunns Crossing and Walkers Road intersection

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency is proposing to install an Intersection Speed Zone to slow traffic to 60km/h on SH1 when vehicles approach it from the Dunns Crossing and Walkers Road.

An Intersection Speed Zone means when a driver is approaching the highway from Dunns Crossing or Walkers Road an electronic sign is activated to reduce the legal highway speed to 60km/h, similar to the Burnham Road/SH1 intersection.

The speed on SH1 was lowered to 70km at the intersection by a Temporary Speed Limit as part of the now completed Southern Motorway project. To install an Intersection Speed Zone, Waka Kotahi is now required to formally consult with the community to capture and consider everyone's feedback.

Reducing the speeds people travel at through the intersection means that crashes are less likely to happen, because people will have more time to react to mistakes and avoid collisions causing death or serious injury. If a crash does occur, the people involved have a better chance of walking away if vehicle speeds are lower.

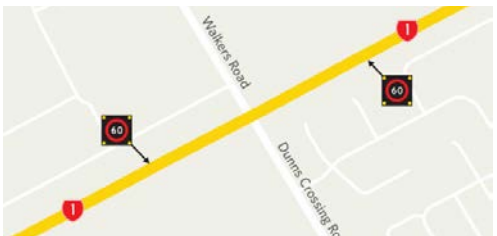
### What else is happening in the area

We're working towards a wider package of safety improvements in this area as part of the New Zealand Upgrade Programme SH1 Rolleston Transport Improvements Project, which includes a roundabout and pedestrian and cycle underpass — recommended as a result of community feedback — at Dunns Crossing and Walkers Road intersection with SH1. The project Request for Tender closes November 14th.

### How to respond by Monday December 11

Fill in the short online survey or send us a paper copy using the FreePost form.

FreePost forms are available at Te Ara Ātea, 56 Tennyson Street, email [dunnscrossingis@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:dunnscrossingis@nzta.govt.nz) to be sent a e-copy, or fill in the survey online at [nzta.govt.nz/sh1-dunns-crossing](http://nzta.govt.nz/sh1-dunns-crossing).



## Overcoming barriers to help create safer roads

Learning to drive is often key to creating independence and making life easier, especially for those living rurally with limited access to public transport.

For some Selwyn residents, there are obstacles, such as lesson costs and access to a vehicle, that get in the way of obtaining a restricted and full licence.

Run by Proactive Drive Charitable Trust, the Community Driver Mentor Programme (CDMP) removes these barriers for Selwyn residents by matching them with a mentor to teach safe driving skills, helping them pass their licences.

The Council provides funding for this programme, which recently won a gold award in community volunteering at the Selwyn Awards 2023.

Last Monday, 10 drivers graduated from the programme in a ceremony held at Te Ara Ātea.

Graduates, family members and Selwyn's CDMP Coordinator Faye Lammers helped to share the stories of the graduates and how the programme helped them overcome barriers.

Graduate Lucy Bain, daughter of a single mum and one of six children, says the programme was great because she didn't have to rely on her mum to teach her and it reduced the financial strain.

When Lucy found out she passed her restricted it felt like a whole weight had been lifted off her and her family's shoulders.

"There's so much freedom for me now I've got my restricted, it's so much easier for everyone."

Also attending the graduation were the mentors who play a critical role in ensuring drivers who go through the programme are well equipped to drive safely on our roads.

Retired heavy transport driver, Geoff Carpenter says it's great to see students getting their licences and gaining confidence in their own ability to drive safely.

"I enjoy it. Because I am retired, it's easy for me to fit students in for teaching and I like putting my spare time into something that benefits the community."

To close the graduation, Proactive Drive's General Manager Tim Hartnell talked about how rewarding it is to be involved with a programme that improves the Selwyn community which we all live and work in. He told the mentors and graduates to be proud of their contribution in making the community safer.



## New brochure out 16 November



Pick up a copy from any Council facility or view it online: [selwyn.govt.nz/events](http://selwyn.govt.nz/events)

# 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

Kirwee Bowling Club Incorporated has applied to renew its club licence. Objections to this application is open until 8 December. For more information visit [selwyn.govt.nz/alcoholnotices](http://selwyn.govt.nz/alcoholnotices).

DOG MICROCHIPPING

This free monthly service is available on Friday 24 November at:

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

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

- All clinics last for 30 minutes
- Rolleston venue is in Norman Kirk Drive
- Microchipping will not take place if wet
- Clinics in Darfield and Leeston will be alternated each month

If you have 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

<b>Council Meeting*</b> Wednesday 15 November 1pm Council Offices Rolleston	<b>Extraordinary Audit &amp; Risk Committee*</b> Wednesday 29 November 4pm Council Offices Rolleston
<b>Malvern Community Board</b> Monday 27 November 4pm West Melton Community Centre	<b>Extraordinary Council Meeting*</b> Wednesday 6 December 1pm Council Offices Rolleston
<b>Long Term Plan Workshop*</b> Tuesday 28 November 9am Wednesday 29 November 9am Wednesday 6 December 8.30am Council Offices Rolleston	<b>Extraordinary Finance &amp; Performance Committee*</b> Wednesday 6 December 2pm Council Offices Rolleston
<i>* Livestreamed on the Council website and YouTube channel</i>	<b>Council Meeting*</b> Wednesday 13 December 1pm Council Offices Rolleston



Our roading crews continue to be out across the district doing upgrades and repairs to maintain the district's roads. For a map of all our road works around Selwyn follow the QR code or visit [selwyn.govt.nz/roadclosures](http://selwyn.govt.nz/roadclosures). Please take care around work sites and follow site signage.



Darfield Business at 5pm

Council extends a warm invitation to local businesses in Darfield and surrounding areas to a special after-work business event from 5pm to 6.30pm on Tuesday, 21 November at the Darfield Community and Recreation Centre Lounge Room.

Offering an evening of valuable insights and networking opportunities, the event aims to bring together the Darfield Business Community, providing a platform for collaboration and knowledge sharing.

Future Selwyn will be in focus as the Selwyn District Strategy team explores upcoming trends, including population and demographics. This information is essential for local businesses seeking to align their strategies with the changing landscape.

Julia Roberts, a local digital marketing expert from the Marketing Club, will explore Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its impact on businesses. Gain insights into how AI can make operations more efficient and cost-effective.

Leasa Clark from the Ministry of Social Development will also provide information on available support and resources for the local business community.

Council's Community and Economic Development Advisor, Sarah Cobbold says that beyond the informative sessions, the event is structured to encourage networking among local businesses.

"We're looking forward to providing a unique opportunity where attendees can gain useful insights on industry trends as well as build visibility among other local businesses".

Attendance to this event is free, but tickets are essential at [selwyn.govt.nz/events](http://selwyn.govt.nz/events).

Event Guide

Thursday 16 November

Board Games

Leeston Library, 3.30–4.30pm

Love board games? Play a variety of exciting games, suitable for players of any experience. Free. Bookings not required. Full information can be found at [selwynlibraries.co.nz/events](http://selwynlibraries.co.nz/events).

Saturday 18 and 25 November

Have-a-go Bollywood Fitness

Rolleston Community Centre, 11am–12pm

Have-a-go at a Bollywood Fitness class by Colours of India NZ (COINZ). This 60-minute low to mid intensity dance cardio workout is designed to leave you feeling fit and fabulous. Suitable for all ages. Drop in. Full information can be found at [selwyn.govt.nz/events](http://selwyn.govt.nz/events).

Saturday 18 November and Sunday 19 November

Outdoor Pool Opening Parties

Darfield and Southbridge

Celebrate the opening of our outdoor pools! Bring your whānau and make a splash on the inflatables and hydroslide (at Southbridge). Awesome spot prizes up for grabs. Saturday 18 November, 1–4pm — Darfield Pool; Sunday 19 November, 1–4pm — Southbridge Pool. Normal pool admission applies. Drop-in.

Monday 20 November

English Learners

Lincoln Library 1.30–2.30pm

Join us to improve your everyday English language skills and confidence in a casual setting. All English language learners welcome. Suitable for 18+ years. Free. Bookings not required.

Monday 20 November

Female Self-Defence Classes

Rolleston Community Centre, 6–7pm

Learn how to defend yourself at one of our free self-defence classes run by Selwyn Taekwondo. 8–11 years: 6pm. 12+ years: 6.30pm. No spectating please, however parent tickets are available to actively participate. Bookings required at [selwyn.govt.nz/events](http://selwyn.govt.nz/events).

Tuesday 21 November

Men's Health Mo-ment

Te Ara Ātea, 7–9pm

It's Movember, so let's get together and talk about men's health. We'll discuss the importance of getting 'those' checks, mental health, wellbeing, the future and more. Presenters include Phil Dean, Councillor and business owner, Dr. Chris Wynne, Chief Scientific Officer NZ Clinical Research and Mel Johns, Mental Health and Wellbeing Consultant. Complimentary refreshments from 8.30pm. Bookings required at [selwyn.govt.nz/events](http://selwyn.govt.nz/events).

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

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19 Messines Street, Leeston  
Ph 347 2871

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

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