



Look out for learners on the move

Everyone needs to **plan ahead** from the beginning of February, as 11,500 Selwyn students begin travelling back to school again.

That number of learners, which equates to nearly 20 per cent of the district's population, will be biking, walking and scootering on Selwyn's roads and footpaths.

Caregivers are encouraged to practise the safest route for their children to walk or ride to school, and educate them about the risks of crossing roads and driveways. Children should be reminded to **stay alert** and avoid distractions like mobile devices and headphones.

Motorists are urged to **slow down** when passing on the roads, as children can be unpredictable. Get into the habit of going 30km/hr past schools and 20km/hr past school buses. Be patient and obey the crossing patrol.

Congestion around school zones can be reduced by **dropping back** and walking the last part of the journey when taking kids to the school gate. Ensure everyone that needs a helmet has one, which includes those using scooters. Wearing a helmet reduces the risk of head trauma by 74 per cent.

A range of high vis products are available that make children more visible in all weather conditions. Most schools have high vis items available for free or at a small cost.

Road safety resources for parents and children can be organised through your school or Selwyn District Council by emailing roadsafety@selwyn.govt.nz.

More EV charging stations on the way for Selwyn

Electric vehicle (EV) motorists will be able to recharge at even more places in Selwyn this year, with 17 new Zero charging stations being installed at Council sites by Meridian Energy.

Meridian will install these chargers in car parks at West Melton Community Centre, Tennyson Street in the Rolleston Town Centre, Prebbleton's Kakaha Park, Lincoln Events Centre, and the Selwyn Aquatic Centre. They will form part of the Zero public charging network, one of the largest networks in New Zealand with over 85 charging stations already in operation.

Group Manager Infrastructure and Property Murray Washington says the stations will provide greater access for EV drivers.

"Council has been working closely with power providers to build up the district's network of public EV chargers. We're pleased more options will be available around our townships for a more robust network."

The chargers will join Selwyn's existing network of public EV charging stations at Arthur's Pass, Castle Hill, Dunsandel, Leeston and Lincoln. The new chargers are on track to be finished by April 2023.

Four chargers are now available at Foster Park, they can be found on the Meridian Zero app.

For more information on Zero and to download the app, head to zero.meridianenergy.co.nz



Funding helps bring Selwyn's historical collections online

People searching for objects and photographs from Selwyn's past can now find a growing online catalogue of items at their fingertips.

Several historical societies in Selwyn have begun adding their collections to online platform, eHive, in a bid to digitally catalogue and share their collections with the wider public.

The initiative has been driven by Dunsandel Historic Society President, Dr Mike Noonan who applied to Council's new Community History Fund for a grant to buy eHive user subscriptions.



Dr Noonan says until now, much of Selwyn's vast collection of photographs and records of artefacts had not been available online, and this made it difficult for people to see what existed.

"I'm really passionate about Selwyn's history and thought this is something I could do to help preserve and share our past with anyone who is interested."

Dunsandel Historic Society, on behalf of the Selwyn Heritage and History Network was awarded \$12,480 from the Community History Fund, with groups including Dunsandel, Ellesmere, Leeston, Ellesmere Heritage Park, Arthur's Pass, Lincoln, Glentunnel and Hororata all using eHive subscriptions to upload their records. Funding still remains for other groups to join.

Dr Noonan says the online tool will help museums see what local artefacts are available to be publicly displayed.

The collections can be found by Googling one of the participating historical societies mentioned above, along with the word 'eHive'. For example, 'Dunsandel Historic Society eHive'.

The Selwyn Community History Fund is now open for applications until 30 April 2023. It is designed to support community groups to protect and promote the district's history; provide greater access to Selwyn's past; assist residents and visitors to learn about local history; and celebrate our unique stories and places.

Application forms and criteria can be found on the Council website at selwyn.govt.nz/services/funding-And-grants/selwyn-community-history-fund



Summer water restrictions in Hororātā

Summer water restrictions are in place for Hororātā over January and February.

Residents are asked to:

- Avoid irrigating where possible
- Water lawns and gardens by hand, in place of sprinklers or irrigation system
- Reduce household and business water consumption where possible
- Find an alternative source for stock watering if possible.

See selwyn.govt.nz/waternotices for more information and selwyn.govt.nz/savewater for more water saving tips.



Seasonal building tips: septic tank maintenance

It's important to remember that your septic tank is a living, breathing environment. To function effectively, it needs regular maintenance.

Before doing maintenance, check if you have a maintenance manual and know the system type and capacity of your septic tank. You can find this through building records held here at the Council or through the supplier.

- Also check if there are any requirements around inspections or monitoring on the consent with Environment Canterbury before carrying out, or getting anyone else to carry out, maintenance.
- 3–6 months: Check your disposal area. Inspect the ground for any changes or issues developing. There should not be any evidence of moisture on the ground surface.
 - 6 months: Check and clean outlet filters. This may be included in your service contract with your installer.
 - Annually: Inspect the tank for sludge and scum levels.
 - 3–5 years: Pump tank out. Or, do so if the top of the floating scum/solids is 75 mm or less from the bottom of the outlet or the sludge has built up to within 250 mm of the bottom of the outlet.

Systems with electrical float switches, pumps, or mechanical components should be inspected generally once a year.

The frequency of de-sludging depends on the age and capacity of the system, how many people use it and what goes into it (ideally only sewage and toilet paper, not solid items). Make sure you use appropriate chemicals at home to keep your septic system healthy. Most household cleaning products are fine, but it's important to be moderate in your use. Household bleach can be used, but extra strong bleach should be avoided.

You may be able to do some maintenance yourself, but if a site investigation is needed, it is best to engage a drainage contractor or on-site wastewater servicing professional.

A professional check should include assessing sludge levels, checking pumps, pipework, tank inlets and outlets, cleaning as necessary, and flushing the irrigation area. You should also be provided with a maintenance certificate of work undertaken. Keep this certificate.

To find a wastewater servicing specialist, contact the Council, Environment Canterbury, septic tank pump out contractor, treatment plant supplier or plumbing/drainlaying company.

Notices

Malvern Water Race Scheme maintenance

Planned construction works are to be completed within the Malvern Water Race Scheme which will require a shut off for portions of the scheme along Old West Coast Road, and fluctuating flows across the remainder of the Malvern scheme, for approximately 48 hours between 23–25 January.

Alcohol notices

Two Phil Limited (X-beerience, Rolleston) has applied for an off licence. Objections to this application are open until 10 February.

For more information visit selwyn.govt.nz/alcoholnotices.

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.

COUNCIL & COMMUNITY BOARD MEETINGS

Council* Wednesday 8 February 1pm Rolleston HQ Offices	Community Services Committee* Wednesday 15 February 9am Rolleston HQ Offices
Selwyn Waihora Zone Committee Monday 13 February 4pm–6pm Tai Tapu Community Centre	Transport & Infrastructure Committee* Wednesday 15 February 1pm Rolleston HQ Offices

* Livestreamed on the Council website and YouTube channel



On the Roads

Ayelsbury Road is one-way northbound from SH1 to Godley Road weekdays 6am–7pm, and closed from 7pm–6am and during weekends for the installation of a water pipe.

Blakes Road is closed from Springston Road to Elmwood Drive for water upgrades. Weedons Road is closed from Ellesmere Junction Road to Shands Road for resurfacing and repairs. Broadlands Drive is open one-way northbound (towards the town centre and SH1) between Lowes Road and Goulds Road for roading and safety upgrades. Markham Way is open one-way northbound (from Tennyson Street towards Norman Kirk Drive) for safety upgrades and installation of a shared path and cycleway. Shands Road is open one-way southbound between Robinsons Road and Tancreds Road for repairs. Stop/go controls are in place for repairs and upgrades on Dawsons Road from Maddisons Road to Jones Road, Curries Road from Powells Road, Downs Road from Sleemans Road to Osbournes Road, Wards Road at the Sandy Knolls Road intersection, Waterholes Road from Devine Drive.

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.



Event Guide

Thursday 26 January

Paddle Boarding Selwyn Aquatic Centre, 10am–12pm

Learn how to paddle board with Jet Junkies these school holidays. Suitable for kids 10+. \$5 per person. Bookings required at selwyn.govt.nz/events.

Friday 27 January

Let's Play Ball Sheffield Community Hall, 10–11am

Come down with your friends and family and play a variety of ball games. Free. Bookings required at selwyn.govt.nz/events.

Friday 27 January

Children's Book and Board Games Club Leeston Library, 3.30–4.30pm

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

Saturday 28 January

Wind Workshop Rolleston Community Centre, 2–3.30pm

Join our fund wind workshop and make a kite and windmill! Then take your creation along to the Family Kite Festival at Foster Park on Sunday 5 February. \$5 per child. Bookings required at selwyn.govt.nz/events.

Monday 30 January

Scrabble Club Leeston Library 10.30am–12.30pm and Lincoln Library 11am–12pm

Whether you're a competitive player or just happy to play and enjoy a social chat, this club is a great place to get to know other locals and take part in a good game of scrabble. Everything is provided. Suitable for all ages.

Monday 30 January

Selwyn Libraries Holiday Fun West Melton Community and Recreation Centre, 12–2pm

Come along and choose some new reading material off the Edge Connector Vehicle, place your own holds and collect them on the day, or request a mystery selection through our Click and Collect service. Children under 8 must be accompanied by a parent. Free. Bookings not required.

Thursday 2 February

Summer Skate Picnic West Melton Community Park, 5–7pm

Spend a summer evening at your local park with Phatsk8, live music, entertainment, a free sausage sizzle and much more. All ages welcome. Free. Drop-in.

FOR MORE COUNCIL EVENTS VISIT
SELWYN.GOVT.NZ/EVENTS