



## Mānawatia a Matariki!

As mid-winter approaches, Waikirikiri Selwyn is preparing to celebrate Matariki – the rising of the Matariki star cluster that signals the start of the Māori New Year.

This year, we will be celebrating Waitā, the whetū (star) of saltwater bodies and all its inhabitants. If this star is particularly bright, we can expect to have bountiful harvests of kaimoana (food gathered from the sea).

Several events and activities have been organised for Matariki in Selwyn, with the celebrations set to begin with a magical evening of free music, stories, scavenger hunts, art and kapa haka at Te Ara Ātea on 27 June.

Library members will have the chance to watch a screening of Whetū Mārama – Bright Star on 29 June and 5 July. The film explores the man known as Hek Busby and his significance to Māori in rekindling and reclaiming the lost art of traditional Māori wayfinding and sea voyage using the stars.

The celebrations will include a visit from Canterbury Museum to our libraries and service centres from 2 July sharing how Māori journey across the Pacific Ocean without the use of modern technology.

To learn more about Matariki celebrations in Waikirikiri Selwyn, visit [selwyn.govt.nz/matariki](https://selwyn.govt.nz/matariki) or pick up a copy of our What's on in Selwyn Winter Guide from your local Council facility.

## Drinking? Don't drive. It's time to get our heads around it.

We're continuing to get behind the wheel after drinking, with alcohol being a significant factor contributing to deaths and severe injuries crashes in Selwyn.

In 2023, alcohol was suspected in 19% of the 318 Selwyn crashes, which resulted in two fatalities and 13 serious injuries.

In response, NZ Police, NZTA and partners are coming together this June to collectively target people in Canterbury who continue to think it's ok to drink and then drive.

People will be reminded of the consequences through education and advertising, supported on the ground by Police vehicle checks, enforcement and driver education.

Drink driving significantly impacts drivers, passengers, and people using the roads around them.

Around 40% of people injured in crashes involving alcohol were not the drink driver behind the wheel.

The NZTA website has tips to help you make the

safest choice when planning a night out, from having conversations with your mates, to exploring all the options available to get home safely.

You can learn more about keeping yourself and others safe, because there's more to lose than your licence, visit [nzta.govt.nz/drinking-dont-drive](https://nzta.govt.nz/drinking-dont-drive)



## Census data confirms Selwyn is the fastest-growing district

The latest Census data confirms Selwyn district as outpacing all other territorial authorities in New Zealand, solidifying its position as the country's fastest-growing district.

Over the past five years, Selwyn's resident population has grown from 60,561 in 2018 to 78,144 in 2023, marking an impressive 29% increase. The growth for New Zealand during that period was 6.3%.

Selwyn was ahead of Queenstown Lakes District, the next fastest-growing area, with a 22% growth in the resident population.

Mayor Sam Broughton, a strong advocate for Selwyn's growth, affirms that this surge in population underscores the district's allure as an ideal place to live, work, and raise a family.

"Waikirikiri Selwyn is a special place, and we've seen in the last few years that more and more people are waking up to that and want to take advantage of the great location, lifestyle, and amenities we have here."

Find out more at [selwyn.govt.nz/news](https://selwyn.govt.nz/news)

## Dispose of hot ash safely

1. Bucket and soak it



2. Bag it and bin it



## Council and Community Board Meetings

### Councillor Briefings\*

Wednesday 5 June 1pm  
Rolleston Council Offices

### Council Meeting\*

Wednesday 12 June 1pm  
Rolleston Council Offices

\* Livestreamed on our YouTube channel.

## Events

### Chair Yoga

7 June – 29 August

Lincoln, Rolleston and Leeston, various days and times.

Bookings required. Find out more at [selwyn.govt.nz/events](https://selwyn.govt.nz/events)

\$10

### Teen and Tween Time for Homeschoolers

Mondays from 10 June – 1 July, 12-2.30pm  
Selwyn Youth Hub, Rolleston Community Centre.

Bookings required at [selwyn.govt.nz/events](https://selwyn.govt.nz/events)

FREE

### Winter Family Bingo

Wednesday 15 June, 7-8.30pm

Darfield Recreation and Community Centre.

Bookings required at [selwyn.govt.nz/events](https://selwyn.govt.nz/events)

\$5