

Terrific time to tackle overgrown shelter belts, trees and hedges

Could your trees be obscuring drivers' line of sight, or hindering pedestrians walking along the footpath? Now is a good time to give them a trim.

We're encouraging residents to maintain their shelter belts, trees and hedges ahead of winter to ensure neighbourhoods and rural roads remain safe for everyone.

Drivers must be able to clearly see the road and road signs, and pedestrians need to have safe access to footpaths. Trees should not block streetlights or impede larger vehicles from passing by.

The district's Trees and Vegetation Management Policy Manual states that trees on private properties that hang over footpaths or berms need to have a height clearance of at least two metres so that people can easily pass underneath them. Trees

overhanging roads must be at least 4.25 metres above the roadway.

Residents should also consider bushes and low-lying trees that could be encroaching on footpaths: there needs to be a 60cm gap between the vegetation and footpath.

Meanwhile, high shelter belts and hedges situated on the north side of the road pose a risk of shading roads in winter. Colder, shorter days make it harder for sunlight to reach the road and melt ice or frost that might have built up. Keeping these shelter belts and hedges maintained allows the roads the best chance of thawing out on cold days.

To report overgrown trees in parks, reserves or cemeteries that you believe are a safety risk, contact the Council through Snap, Send, Solve or call **0800 SELWYN (735 996)**.

Discover the Amazing Free Benefits at Selwyn Libraries

In today's digital age, libraries remain at the heart of our local communities and are crucial hubs for knowledge, innovation and community wellbeing.

Selwyn Libraries provide numerous benefits to residents, and membership is free. Whether you enjoy reading, are interested in technology, heritage or art, need a quiet study space, or want to connect with others, our libraries cater to diverse interests and needs. With a wide range of quality programmes, events, and digital resources, members have access to a world of lifelong learning and entertainment.

Selwyn Libraries and service centres are located in Rolleston, Lincoln, Leeston and Darfield with a mobile outreach service across the district. With your membership, you can borrow items and access digital resources from any library site. Download the Selwyn Libraries app for easy access to your account.

To find out more about what your local library can offer you and begin your membership, visit **selwyn.govt.nz/libraries**, fill out our online registration form or stop by your local library and service centre.

Waimakariri Gorge Bridge Deck Replacement Update

The bridge deck replacement on the Waimakariri Gorge Bridge is progressing steadily with sealing work scheduled to take place on Tuesday 14 May between the hours of 12noon and 2pm. The bridge will be fully closed during this time.

This work is weather dependent and can only be undertaken in fine and dry conditions. Any changes to this date will be further communicated through our Facebook page and on our website at selwyn.govt.nz/waimakgorgebridge

Following sealing, the guardrail works, and scaffolding removal will be completed as daytime works. This will involve short 10 minute closures during the day until Friday 31 May. During this period, the bridge will be fully open at night.

Rakaia Speed Changes and Commercial Vehicle Safety Centre (CVSC)

NZTA Waka Kotahi wish to advise that from Friday 17 May, new, safer speed limits are coming for SH1 Rakaia.

- The speed limit is changing from 70km/h to 50km/h through Rakaia township.
- The speed limit is changing from 100km/h to 80km/h from just north of Weavers Road, including the railway overpass and the Rakaia River Bridge, through to Rakaia township.
- Intersection Speed Zones with Variable Speed Limit signs on SH1 at North Rakaia Road will drop the speed on SH1 from 80km/h to 60km/h when vehicles are turning in or out of North Rakaia Road.

Final touches are also being made to the southbound CVSC on the corner of SH1 and North Rakaia Road. The CVSC will be ready to go live in mid-2024.

Council and Community Board Meetings

Planning & Climate Change Committee Meeting*

Wednesday 15 May, 9am Rolleston Council Offices

Finance and Performance Committee Meeting*

Wednesday 15 May, 11am Rolleston Council Offices

* Livestreamed on our YouTube channel.

Variety Dance Club

Friday 17 May to Friday 21 June, 6-7pm. Learn a new style of dance each week.

Bookings required at selwyn.govt.nz/events

Community Planting Day

Saturday 18 May, 10am
Preston Downs Reserve 4, West Melton.
BBQ lunch provided.

FREE

For more information and to register, visit **selwyn.govt.nz/events**

Expired Child Car Seat Amnesty

Saturday 25 May, 11am to 1pm Council Car Park, 2 Norman Kirk Drive.

Drop off expired car seats for free. Selwyn Car Seat Champions onsite installing seats. Book via their Facebook page.