

Media Release Monday 22 June 2015

## Selwyn Aquatic Centre celebrates 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday

Selwyn Aquatic Centre in Rolleston marks two years in operation this week, and is celebrating with a birthday party on Sunday.

On Sunday [28 June] between 11am and 3pm a range of birthday activities for all ages will be running at the centre.

The pool foyer will be decorated to mark the occasion, and there will be a giant birthday cake and a special giveaway to all two-year olds as they arrive at the pool.

For younger families, the movie Winnie the Pooh will be screening at 11.15am – families can relax and enjoy this family favourite from the comfort of the heated pools.

From 1 to 3pm the pool will be buzzing with a pool party – complete with inflatables, water rollers (inflatable walking wheels on water), music, games and giveaways.

Selwyn Youth Council will also be running their pop-up café and Rolleston Lions will provide a sausage sizzle outside.

The Selwyn Aquatic Centre centre was opened on 24 June 2013. In its first year the centre had 258,000 admissions, exceeding its target of 250,000 admissions.

Centre manager Kathy Moore says the second year has been equally successful. "Our admission target for this year is 270,000 – and to date we have had just over 278,000 people through the centre," she says. "Overall we expect to achieve 280,000 by the end of June."

Kathy says the range of events held at the facility continues to expand. Swimming events held in the past year have included Swim Canterbury swim meets which have attracted swimmers from all over the South Island.

"We have also held bug polo, flipperball competitions, race nights for our swim school and squad members, adult learn to swim sessions and a variety of aquarobics classes.

"In addition we provide space for scuba diving clubs, sports clubs and teams, physiotherapists and their clients, and Burwood hospital patients. Recently we hosted New Zealand Cricket's high performance unit for some pool training."

Kathy says the centre's swim school continues to be at capacity with around 1400 children enrolled in lessons each term.

"We're delighted at the way the Aquatic Centre is continuing to grow, and at how well used it is by people from right across the district."

Ends

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