



Media Release
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New Citizens Advice Bureau Opening in Darfield

Selwyn residents will have access to a wealth of information and advice when a new Citizen's Advice Bureau opens in Darfield on 1 July.

The new bureau will open in Darfield from Tuesday 1 July at the Darfield Library and operate every Tuesday from 10am and 2pm.

"The Citizens Advice Bureau service is about helping people to know their rights and responsibilities," says Mollie Howarth, the Citizens Advice Bureau Christchurch Area Manager.

"Our volunteers listen to people and provide them with information and options that help meet their needs," she says.

Volunteers can provide advice on a wide range of topics including consumer rights, education, training, employment, benefits, budgeting, finance, tax, health, counselling, disputes, human rights, housing, tenancy, family, immigration, hobbies, sports and social activities.

Mollie Howarth says that there are many people in Selwyn who may want to use the service, including new residents wanting to find out about what clubs and groups they can join, people who may need advice on budgeting, financial help, childcare and housing or young people wanting information on training and employment options.

The new service is free and no appointment is required. The bureau also stocks a range of information pamphlets. People can visit www.cab.org.nz for information, phone 03 317 9438, 03 318 7645 or 0800 367 222 to speak to a volunteer on the phone or request to be sent a pamphlet.

The Citizens Advice Bureau is looking for volunteers who have a couple of hours available a week or a month to help other people in their community. An induction course for volunteers starts on the 15 September. Email cab.christchurchareacoordinator@xtra.co.nz for information.

This service is supported by Selwyn District Council and the Malvern Community Board.

"Citizens' Advice Bureau volunteers are trained to provide a high standard of advice and assistance and we encourage people to use the new service," says Selwyn District Council Community Services Manager Lesley Symington. The establishment of the bureau has been funded by Selwyn District Council.

"The Malvern Community Board fully supports the new service. It will be a great asset to the area and will help people find out about what services and support groups are available," says Malvern Community Board Chair Jenny Gallagher.

Ends

Photo attached: The friendly faces of the new Citizens Advice Bureau. Mary Ireland and Graeme Sime are two of the volunteers who will be offering information and advice to Selwyn residents.

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