



Media Release

Thursday 17 September 2015

Walking Festival comes to Selwyn

Spring is here and Selwyn residents can explore our district, enjoy some sunshine and get fit by taking part in The Breeze Walking Festival.

The festival starts on Saturday 26 September, with 37 free walks planned throughout Selwyn, Christchurch and Waimakariri. It runs until 10 October, taking in the school holidays and there are walks to suit all abilities and ages, including kids.

Three walks are taking place in Selwyn during the festival:

- The Rakaia Gorge Experience (Tuesday 29 September, 10am-2pm). Enjoy magnificent views of the gorge and learn about its history, botany and wildlife from a DOC guide. This 10km walk is suitable for fit individuals, but not suitable for pushchairs or wheelchairs. Booking required, numbers limited. Walk departs from Rakaia Gorge Bridge car park
- Lincoln Mums and Bubs (Wednesday 30 September, 10-11.30am) Enjoy a 4km stroll around Lincoln and its attractive historic buildings on a spring morning. Children of all ages welcome. The walk finishes with a coffee and a chat. Booking not required, walk departs from Lincoln University Recreation Centre. Suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs. Dogs welcome but should be on a lead
- Motukarara Railway Station (Thursday 8 October, 10am-2pm) Meet at the historic Motukarara Railway Station and join a 10km trek to discover this section of the Little River Rail Trail. Booking required, numbers limited

To book a place on the Rakaia Gorge or Motukarara walk please phone 347 2719 or email active@selwyn.govt.nz.

"The walks are a chance for people to keep fit, get to know some of the hidden gems of Selwyn a little better and meet new friends," says Selwyn District Council Recreation Advisor Dave Tippett.

Mr Tippett says that if there is enough interest from the community, the Council is hoping to help establish a regular mums and bubs walking group in Selwyn. "We know that there are lots of young families in our district. The walk would be opportunity for people to keep fit in a supportive environment while also visiting different parts of Selwyn which may be popular with people who are new to our district."

Selwyn residents can also join walks further afield in Christchurch and Waimakariri that are being held during The Breeze Walking Festival. Planned events include walks alongside the Avon River, at Sumner and South Brighton beaches and at the Port Hills by night. A Great Dog Walk will take place at Roto Kohatu Lakes and a Pukeko Stomp walk for kids is planned at Travis Wetland which includes storytelling.

To find out more about the walks taking place as part of the festival and book to attend events visit www.walkingfestival.co.nz or pick up a guide from a Selwyn Library.

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