

MAYOR SAM'S NEWS

ISSUE 13 – WINTER 2024

— KIA ORA —

After signing off the Long-Term Plan, Council is now thinking about Selwyn's future for the next 50-100 years and we are seeking feedback from the community to shape how the district ought to be left for future generations.

Waikirikiri Ki Tua Future Selwyn will guide future decision-making around housing, infrastructure, transport, the environment, people, communities, and the economy. Waikirikiri Selwyn is a rapidly growing and highly sought-after place for families, businesses, and investment and I encourage you to look at what is being proposed in Waikirikiri Ki Tua Future Selwyn.

The interactive website selwyn.govt.nz/future features possible scenarios, projected population changes, the structure of our towns and how we get around. Let us know what you think before **Sunday, August 4.**

Sam



Selwyn Loves Their Dogs

As an avid dog lover, they have always been a big part of my family and clearly, I am not the only person in Selwyn who loves my dog. Did you know Selwyn has one of the highest rates of dog ownerships in the country with one in five households owning a dog? Selwyn dog owners also love the names Poppy, Ruby, Charlie, and Max. With 2,231 labradors registered for the year 2023/24, this breed is a clear favourite.

In the list of top 20 breeds for 2023/24, the Chihuahua made its debut, knocking off the Bearded Collie from the previous year's table. We love our dogs in Selwyn, so it is important for us to make sure we have a good animal control service. Our team are on call 24/7 looking after lost dogs and helping reunite you with your pets, helping with complaints, and running dog safety education programmes and microchipping clinics.

With the district's booming population (and pupulation) the Council has increased fees for the first time in over three years to cover the increasing operational costs necessary to deliver animal control services. Costs have been kept as low as possible, while still maintaining the exceptional service and value for money the animal control team continually provide.



Recommendations for Local Government

Last month a review made recommendations for an overhaul of Local Government, including that Councils should have more control over how public money is spent.

In New Zealand over 90% of public money is spent by Central Government leaving Councils to spend the remaining 10%. This makes it hard for us to provide the infrastructure and services we know you need.

The report also says that Government should pay rates on Crown property, for Selwyn this could mean valuable new income from Defence and DoC. We simply can't continue to raise rates to pay for the ever-expanding list of things Central Government want us to do, as well as tackling climate change and caring for our environment.

Other recommendations in the report might see Councils elected for a four-year term, this would double the amount of usable time between elections to deliver for Selwyn. The report also asks Councils to work together in our regions. Labour and National have said they won't be considering the recommendations until after the elections, so in the meantime I'll be working with our neighbours on issues we can tackle together.

For a more in-depth look at the review, I've put together a podcast, just search 'Unpacking FFLG' on your podcast provider.

Happy Matariki from Ellesmere

Manawatia a Matariki, Nga mihi o te tau hou.

Wow what an amazing time of the year winter is. Frosts on the grass and on your windscreens means extra care is needed when driving, especially in case of black ice.

As our uniquely "New Zealand" New Year we get to spend time together out in the fresh winter air, walking Harts Creek or Te Waihora or on the slopes. It's even better to come home to the fire and share experiences with family and friends over your favourite warm winter meals.

School is back and it's fantastic to see the new speed signs installed in our communities.

This means a safer environment for our Tamariki getting to and from kura or school.

It's an exciting time for Ellesmere. The adoption of the Long-Term Plan 24-34 means Council's focus will be on delivering the new multi-purpose facility "Whata Rau" for our communities now and in the future.

Stay safe and warm.

Ma te wa, Shane.





Census Data Reveals Selwyn Story

The first data released from the 2023 census continues to tell the story of Waikirikiri Selwyn as a fast-growing, young and diversifying district.

Between 2018 and 2023 Waikirikiri Selwyn was the fastest growing district in the country with dwellings and population both growing by 29%.

This increase is considerably outpacing the rate for Aotearoa New Zealand (6.3%) and Waitaha Canterbury (8.6%).

Waikirikiri Selwyn residents are younger, 37.6 years on average, than those across the country at 38.1 for all of Aotearoa New Zealand and 39.1 for Waitaha Canterbury.

While the population is younger in general, there is a relatively

low population in the 20-29 age group with only 10.3% within this age group, compared to the Aotearoa New Zealand average of 12.9%.

Over 50% of the total population is under 40 years of age, while 50% of the population of Māori descent are under 24 years of age, with a median age of 24.7, a full 13 years younger than the total population.

Diversity is growing, as 84.1% of Waikirikiri Selwyn residents identify as European compared to 89.3% in 2018, and 91.9% in 2013.

Increasing number identify as Māori (9%), Pacific Peoples (2.4%), Asian (11.4%) and Middle Eastern/Latin American/African (1.5%).

Community Volunteer – Lois Thomas



Gets Ready” – Council’s Civil Defence Emergency Management Group.

As a committee member of the Selwyn Lions and alongside fellow members she helps fundraise for community projects through hosting events such as “Designs and Desserts”; “Show your Support”, a bra decoration competition for Breast Cancer and undertaking various catering engagements.

While Lois has recently stepped aside from her role as a volunteer co-ordinator of the Springston Enviro Community Garden, a project she is most proud of is the installation of the “pataka kai” vege barrow located at the school gate where you can purchase local grown produce with the proceeds being returned to the garden.

Each month, Neighbourhood Support New Zealand celebrates a community champion – someone who promotes Neighbourhood Support within their local community.

Last month’s June recipient was Springs Ward resident Lois Thomas.

Anyone who know Lois recognises her as a tireless volunteer who has given her time to many past and current organisations. She is a committee member on the Liffey Lifestyle Village body corporate and its local Civil Defence co-ordinator; This role is in association with her participation in Lincoln’s Civil Response Team under “Selwyn



News in Brief



Relationship between Springfield and China celebrated

On 25 May, Luyi Duan the great granddaughter of Selwyn resident Rewi Alley helped mark the ongoing relationship between Springfield and China in a special ceremony with the Chinese Minister of International Relations of the Central Congress.



Educating Selwyn students on truck safety

To celebrate Road Safety Week in May, Selwyn District Council and HEB Construction visited Springston School to educate students on truck safety. This visit is part of a broader campaign by the Council and HEB Construction, with more visits planned.



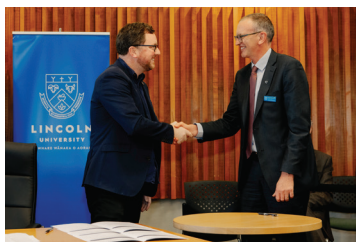
New pipeline helps sustain Leeston wastewater

A \$35.5 million wastewater pipeline project delivered by CORDE across Ellesmere will futureproof the wastewater system for Leeston. Our largest single infrastructure project for the financial year was celebrated with a special ceremony at Chamberlands Ford on 4 July.



New sculpture for district

Toro Atua, by Dr Areta Wilkinson (Ngāi Tahu), was unveiled on 6 July in Selwyn. Produced by SCAPE Public Art and funded by partners including Rolleston Residents' Association, it draws on cultural narrative gifted by Ngāi Te Ruahikihiki ki Taumutu.



Council and Lincoln University formalise relationship

Selwyn District Council and Lincoln University have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to identify and capitalise on economic opportunities and expand knowledge sharing activities including internships and staffing exchanges. The MoU strengthens the long-standing relationship between the two organisations.



Foster Park wins award

At the recent Recreation Aotearoa Awards, Foster Park was named Active Park/Sportsground of the Year. Selwyn District Council, RSL Consultancy and MCL Contracting accepted the award on behalf of the many people and clubs involved with Foster Park since 2009.

SELWYN STATS



Fastest population growth in NZ from 2018-2023 at **29%**



12% of Canterbury now lives in Selwyn compared to 8% in 2018



Median age of **37.6** years compared to **39.1** in Canterbury



More than **50%** of the population is younger than **40**



10.3% in the 20-29 age bracket



Māori population grows to **9%**



If you have any questions or feedback please contact me at **mayor@selwyn.govt.nz**

You can also view the latest issue online at **selwyn.govt.nz/mayor**.