

MAYOR SAM'S NEWS

ISSUE 9 – AUTUMN 2023

— KIA ORA —

I love autumn in Waikirikiri Selwyn; the feel of a fresh morning breeze on your face and the amazing colours as our trees turn. It's also the time that our district showcases our proud rural culture and agricultural heritage — from fetes and A&P shows to the internationally acclaimed field days in Kirwee. Whether you are a young person who wants to show off your school art project, a keen gardener who is keen to compare their veggies with other growers or an international dealer in the very latest farm technology, there is something for everyone. I hope this edition gives you an insight into how amazing our communities are.

Mayor Sam



Opening day at the ReDiscover Centre

ReDiscover a better environment

This month we opened our 'not brand new' ReDiscover waste education facility at the Pines Resource Recovery Park near Rolleston. This amazing new centre offers free waste minimisation and sustainability programmes for schools and community groups across the district. To set an example, from the get-go the buildings are old, relocated classroom blocks and the car park is made from recycled asphalt and plastic oil containers and waste engine oil. The centre has already had hundreds of children through its doors, learning about practical ways to rethink how to manage waste.

To be added in the near future is a community garden hub and an awesome reuse shop. Eventually there will also be maker spaces, kitted out with tools to repair, refurbish, repurpose or upcycle items that would have otherwise been thrown away. If you or your community group want to know more hop on our website and search ReDiscover.



Catching up with Mark Dillon, owner of Aroha Drinks

Selwyn's rural treasures

There are many hidden gems across our district. Some of these are nestled into the corners of our rural communities and others right under our noses. All these rural industries produce a range of delicious, and often surprising, food and drink. Aroha drinks is the labour of love created by Mark Dillon. Based in Springston, Mark's one-man band curates completely natural soft drinks and cordials after he was inspired by his mother's homemade elderflower drinks recipe. On the outskirts of West Melton, Jo and Andrew Horsbrugh's walnut orchard have offerings from simple nuts to walnut flour and oil. On the old Westcoast Road, Boechii Park grow Italian bianchetto white truffles and if these aren't exotic enough for you, take a trip to Wairiri Buffalo close to Glenroy for a taste of buffalo yoghurt, halloumi, mozzarella and ricotta. They will even offer you a farm tour if you choose to stay over. If it's a tippie you're after there's a choice from the award-winning Sauvignon Blanc at the Rosendale vineyard, a Riesling at Straight 8 in Burnham, or the ever-popular Summer Love Sparkling at Melton Estate. Any one of these will welcome you for a tasting. There's so much on offer, jump on our Selwyn.nz website to see what else is out there.



Previous winners at the last awards ceremony

Selwyn Awards

There are so many things that make our district stand head and shoulders above every other place in New Zealand — a strong economy, an awesome mix of rural and urban, fertile soils and great places to spend your down time. But the one thing that really makes us better — he tāngata, he tāngata, he tāngata — it is people, it is people, it is people. And what better way to celebrate our amazing people than to get them all together in one place and say thank you. That's just what we'll do on 5 August with the Selwyn Awards. However, we need your help as nominations close on 31 May. If you know of a community organisation, business, sports team, or a person that has gone the extra mile for their community I'd love to hear from you. There are eleven different categories to choose from and you can see them all on selwynawards.co.nz website, where you can also find the nomination form.

Last month I met a young person called Sophie who had stepped up to put together a community event to help others in Selwyn who face difficulties associated with disabilities. Nobody had asked her to do this; it was her idea and her dedication and initiative that got the event across the line. It's people like Sophie who make a difference. Who will you nominate?

Annual Plan 2023/24

Tell us what you think about our plan for the year ahead.

Learn what projects we are planning, how much it will cost and what this will mean for your rates.

Feedback closes 5pm, 28 April 2023.

selwyn.govt.nz/annualplan2023





Striking a CORDE

You might not realise this but if you are a Selwyn district ratepayer, you own a hugely successful company, and each year their profits help reduce your rates. So how does this work?

CORDE is the construction, maintenance and water team owned by your Council, and they're celebrating their one-year anniversary of uniting and rebranding as CORDE.

Over the past year, they have gone from strength to strength as Selwyn's trusted force. CORDE take care of many key services that keep our community ticking. They maintain the delivery of our drinking water, manage wastewater through state-of-the-art facilities, keep our parks and reserves in tip-top shape and look after the ever-developing Pines Resource Recovery Park.

Alongside the great work they do in our backyard, they're also busy across the South Island, managing the road maintenance for Waimakariri and Hurunui districts, and the parks and reserves for Timaru District including the award-winning gardens at Caroline Bay. Other high-profile CORDE projects range from building subdivisions like Te Whāriki in Lincoln, to paving works at Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre, and developing the lakefront of one of Aotearoa's top tourist spots, Lake Wānaka.

And it's not just us who think they are awesome; last year they were given Supreme Winner status as Civil Contractors New Zealand's Canterbury Contractor of the Year, took out the Environmental Award for the second year in a row and the national award for Construction Excellence.

Now you've made the connection, when you see one of their bold CORDE vehicles, give them a wave!

CORDE ©

**CONSTRUCTION.
MAINTENANCE.
WATER.**

**JOIN A
UNITED
TEAM**

corde.nz/jobs

News in Brief



Record swim school numbers

Teaching young people to swim is one of the most important skills we can offer our children. This year our Council has enrolled a record 3400 people into swim school in one term, keeping our whanau safe, and improving their mental and physical wellbeing.



Job fair attracts employers

Last month's Council-sponsored job fair in Rolleston saw 30 of our district's biggest employers come together in one spot to help those looking to improve their skills or to find employment. All part of our Council work to help people be their very best.



Westview Special Fund

Do you live in Darfield? If you do, we have a special fund created through land sales in the township. Applications for the last round of funding close on 30 April for projects showing a demonstrable social, economic, cultural, or environmental benefit to the people of Darfield.



Giving for Gisborne

Selwyn has 'adopted' Gisborne Tairāwhiti to support them with their recovery from Cyclone Gabrielle, and so far, your support has been magnificent. See our website for tickets to a charity auction fundraiser event at Rosendale Winery on Friday 5 May.



Smart fire sensors

New sensor technology to detect fires are being installed in McHugh's Forest near Darfield. Thermal imaging, 360° cameras, and air quality monitoring will detect a fire and notify emergency services automatically in an innovative technology rollout for our reserves.



New traffic lights in West Melton

Following a resident's petition, this month saw the completion of the new traffic lights and pedestrian safety improvements in the heart of West Melton. The project reduces congestion and proves safe crossing to the skatepark, community centre and the new recreation park.

SELWYN STATS



400 native trees to be planted at Kakaha Park to mark the coronation



7929 businesses across Selwyn



62 playparks or community parks to have fun in



27% increase in Selwyn tourism expenditure last year



4.4% increase in Selwyn's GDP to December 2022



2650 km of roads maintained by our Council



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

or on Facebook at **facebook.com/samforselwyn**.

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