

# MAYOR SAM'S NEWS

## ISSUE 5 – SUMMER 2021

### — KIA ORA —

I take my hat off to the people of Waikirikiriri Selwyn – as advised by the DHB over 95% of our eligible people have had their first vaccination and by the end of November we are over 90 per cent double jabbed. Our Council have been supporting our district health board in setting up drop-in clinics, preparing for the new traffic light system and working out how vaccine certificates will play a part in our council facilities. Community case numbers are projected to increase into the New Year and the best protection for our whanau and communities is to get vaccinated. There's still time to get two shots before Christmas and enjoy an awesome summer in Selwyn. You can catch up with all of Selwyn's events on our website, or for the very latest news or to get in touch go to [facebook.com/samforselwyn](https://facebook.com/samforselwyn).

Mayor Sam



*Crossing the Waimakariri River*



*Chatting with Clem in Glentunnel*

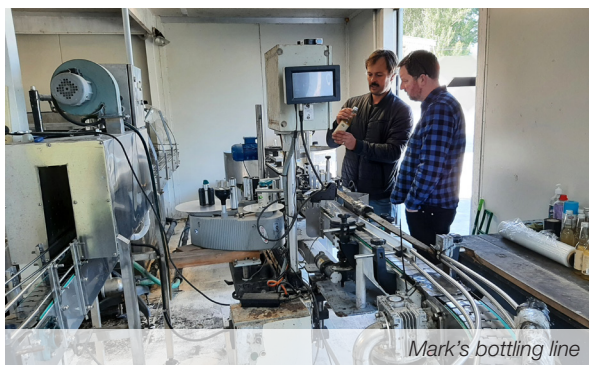
## Cycling across Selwyn

Taking the time to slow down and cycle across Selwyn is a great way to really experience the variety of natural landscapes in our district. In November I set off from Arthur's Pass on a three-day charity ride that finished by touching the Pacific Ocean at Taumutu; a ride that took in a number of townships and other significant spots on the way. It also provided plenty of opportunities to stop and talk with others out exploring our wonderful environment along the way. Day one took us through the upper Waimakariri basin and past the family friendly Bealy Spur walking track and the 600m underground river walk at Cave Stream before a stopover at Castle Hill village. The next two days were spent zig zagging through the Lyndon Road, Wind whistle, Glentunnel, Darfield, Charing Cross Rolleston and Coes Ford, to Taumutu. I was riding in support of Movember to raise money and awareness about wellbeing and health issues that affect men. In Glentunnel I had a memorable chat with Clem from Greenpark who had taken up cycling in his senior years to keep on top of health challenges. It was great to meet people face to face, see our awesome landscape in slow time and reconnect with our environment that I too often only see through a car windscreen. If you want to explore our district jump online to our 'Selwyn from the Land' website which has plenty of local suggestions for you and your whanau to enjoy.





Mark Dillon, owner of Aroha Drinks



Mark's bottling line



Matt and Tracey Jones of Sheep Milk NZ

## A taste of Selwyn

I recently had the privilege of visiting some of our district's business gems and meeting owners who incorporate their passion for local excellence into the success of their ventures. I met people from our amazing townships eateries and businesses that represent the very best of Selwyn's entrepreneurial spirit. Kirwee farmers, Matt and Tracey Jones, have over 600 milking sheep on their farm and are rapidly establishing a reputation for delicious sheep milk and cheese products. They've also developed an extensive range of sheep milk skin and body care products. At Coes Ford I met Mark Dillon at his Aroha

drinks production line. Inspired by a recipe for elderflower cordial in an old family recipe book, Mark has developed a delicious range of sparkling juices with flavors from rhubarb to quince and lime.

Waikirikiri Selwyn has always been renowned for its produce, and our people have gathered and farmed the land for hundreds of years. There are plenty more amazing producers across Selwyn, including several wineries and a buffalo dairy farm in Coalgate. To find out more about our great producers and places to eat, jump online to [selwyn.nz](http://selwyn.nz).

## SICON infrastructure built on trust

Did you know that your Council has over \$175 million worth of investments? And that the returns from these investments subsidise our rates bills.

Part of this portfolio of investments is SICON, a very successful infrastructure and maintenance company providing services across the South Island. SICON runs Selwyn's drinking water and wastewater infrastructure, our parks and reserves, and the resource recovery park. They also provide solutions to other private companies and South Island councils. Last year their annual turnover was \$62 million, with \$2 million returned to subsidise rates. As a locally-based company, SICON understands how important it is that our community plans are delivered in a cost-effective way and that our district is maintained at high standards. The SICON whanau spend time in the parks and reserves they maintain, and they drink the same water and rely on the same services as you and I. They're an awesome team looking out for all of us, so next time you see a SICON vehicle give them a wave – they are working for you.



SICON water engineers Jesse and Kelly



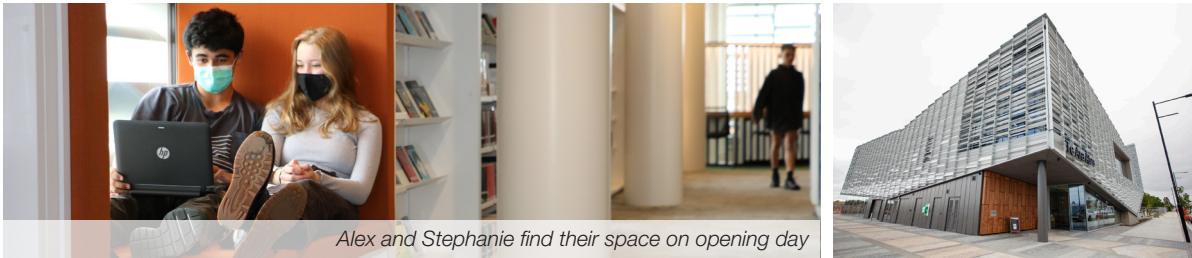
# Te Ara Ātea open

On the 1 December Te Ara Ātea opened its doors to the public. The name means ‘the unobstructed trail to the world and beyond’ and is a perfect description for a place designed for learning, gathering, connecting, exploring and celebrating our district’s heritage and people. The facility is the culmination of many years of community input, planning and collaboration with Te Taumutu Rūnanga and Ngāi Te Ruahikihiki ki Taumutu to tell stories and allow us to all explore our rich heritage. It’s been designed with sustainability at its core, wherever possible locally sourced materials have been used and all the timber

sustainably sourced. Careful design and smart technology reduces energy use and natural conditions are harvested for efficient heating and cooling. Te Ara Ātea will be surrounded by a sensory space and gardens with pergolas and raised beds. This mirrors the internal brief to have accessibility baked into the design. The place offers community meeting spaces, performance areas, a studio and workshop space, exhibition areas as well as an extensive library. We now look forward to welcoming you to come and relax and enjoy the space or get involved in our jam packed series of events planned for Te Ara Ātea – enjoy!



L-R Corban Te Aika, Denise Sheat, Liz Brown, Mayor Sam Broughton at the opening ceremony.



Alex and Stephanie find their space on opening day

## SELWYN STATS



62,000 Selwyn curbside bins registered for collection



73,600 Selwyn's population at the last count



45,000 books, audio DVDs, puzzles, games and tech kits at Te Ara Ātea



500 km of roads and 14 bridges repaired since the May floods



\$4.2m for two new artificial sports fields underway at Foster Park



12 Selwyn Youth Councillors





## — FROM THE SELWYN YOUTH — COUNCILLORS

### Inaki Cepeda Rios

It has been my absolute delight to have been a part of the Selwyn Youth Council for the past two executive years. Being part of this initiative has taught me useful life skills such as teamwork, resilience and determination. I was extremely fortunate to have been elected as this year's Chairman. This leadership role allowed me to take on additional responsibilities and I have been able to further strengthen the relationships I've made with my peers in the Council. I've made lots of new friends and I recommend all youth from the ages of 12 to 24 to take part in this awesome group!



### Scarlet Shannon

On the SYC I have been a voice for youth with disabilities and that means I have been trying to make things in Selwyn better for youth/people with disabilities in the community and get them more involved in what is going on in Selwyn.

This year I have been on the events team. I have learned so much about how health and safety plans work, and how to run events and do surveys.

I think the Selwyn Youth Council is an awesome opportunity to be a part of the community and be the voice for youth.



**We are currently looking for new youth councillors representing Ellesmere and Malvern wards. For more information visit [www.selwyn.govt.nz/youthcouncil](http://www.selwyn.govt.nz/youthcouncil). Applications close on 20 December.**

## News in Brief



It's been my privilege to 'virtually' award several of the eight \$3000 high school scholarships for year 12–13 students to help further their education.



To help combat the decline of native species, our Selwyn Natural Environment Fund has allocated \$160,000 to assist landowners and our community with activities that benefit the natural environment and protect indigenous biodiversity.



The Selwyn Youth Project Fund administered by the Youth Council has supported four organisations this year for activities that contribute to the strengthening of youth wellbeing across Selwyn, including Matariki and triathlon events.



Our Council strongly opposes the Government mandating us to become a member of their proposed Three Waters entity. See our letter of protest on our website, local newspapers or Facebook page.



As we steadily reduce the time to process building consents towards our 20-day target, the International Accreditation NZ has assessed our building consent team as one of the top-performing consent authorities in the country.



Our Council has set up an interim fund to protect the district's history while it works with mana whenua and those who are part of Selwyn Community History Committee heritage groups to administer the development of a strategic heritage plan.

If you have any questions or feedback please contact me at [sam.broughton@selwyn.govt.nz](mailto:sam.broughton@selwyn.govt.nz) or on Facebook at [facebook.com/selwynforselwyn](https://facebook.com/selwynforselwyn). You can also view the latest issue online at [selwyn.govt.nz/mayor](http://selwyn.govt.nz/mayor).

