

SELWYN
FROM THE LAND

MEET US IN THE COUNTRY THIS SPRING!

SPRING 2021, ISSUE 8

It doesn't get much better than spring in Selwyn with our fantastic mountains to sea landscape. Spring brings us country A&P shows, gardens to visit, botanical expos, lunch in the sun with mates and family outings.

Check out what's happening this spring in Selwyn, visit selwyn.nz/whatson for events and activities.

RIDING THE RAPIDS, UNCOVERING HISTORY AND PROTECTING THE WHIO

Above the Waimakiriri, north-west of Springfield (Tawera) sits Jet Boat World; New Zealand's first and only jet boat display co-owned by Paul Mullan and Paul Vernel. The pair launch their jet boats opposite Woodstock Beach under their business Alpine Jet Thrills, which also offers New Zealand's first and only airboat experience.

From their passion for jet boating and in honour of Bill Hamilton, Vernel and Mullan reveal Selwyn's untold story in Jet Boat World's exhibition and have on display the last jet boat Hamilton owned, *Whio V*. Today, the pair launch their jet boats opposite Woodstock Beach under their business Alpine Jet Thrills, which also offers New Zealand's first and only airboat experience.

Mullan says that the most special thing about their businesses being in Selwyn is its historical connection to the jet boat. "Woodstock Beach is where all our pioneer forefathers first launched their wooden jet boats. Selwyn is extremely lucky to have such a rich piece of history. I can show them first hand where it was and that's what makes it really special."

When the Covid-19 pandemic saw New Zealand's borders closed to international tourists, Alpine Jet Thrills decided they needed to look at how to market their tourism business towards Kiwis. Introducing a couple of firsts, Jet Boat World and the AirBoat have certainly helped but this and a more sustainable approach to their Springfield Adventure Park business helped them achieve a Gold Qualmark, the highest ranking for a tourism business based on customer service, safety and environmentally friendly qualities.

The company runs entirely off renewable energy from solar power and has recently taken the Tiaki Promise; a national initiative to 'Care for People and Place'.

"One of the things we are proud about is we've pushed hard to get Gold Qualmark this year – and that's pretty exciting because we're the only jet boat operation in Canterbury to achieve gold. For us that was pretty important."

Read more and find out how Alpine Jet Thrills are supporting the endangered Whio duck in partnership with Orana Wildlife Park at www.selwyn.nz.



FOUR THINGS TO TRY IN SELWYN

1. French pastries at Les Délices in West Melton.
2. Travel to Middle Rock Farmstay, and tour the farm in the afternoon, stay the night and enjoy the bright stars in the rural night sky.
3. Feel the thrill of a jet boat down the Rakaia River onboard the Alpine Jet.
4. Lunch at the Willows after a game of golf at the Hororata Golf Course in Glentunnel.

Or stay a while and do all four!

INSTAGRAMMABLE

BLUEBELLS IN GREENDALE

Adam's Arboretum in Greendale will be bursting with bluebells and spring flowers, along with freshly budding fruit and nut trees. This accessible arboretum is 10 minutes south-east of Darfield on the Canterbury plains.

TW Adams was one of the first farmers to settle in Greendale, during the 1860s. The arboretum is full of amazing specimen trees, some now considered endangered in their natural environments. The arboretum has the remains of the sod hut TW built for his first wife and child. The tracks are well defined and easy to walk around. However there are a number of stiles to go over if you would like to take the track to Greendale Domain.

greendalecommunitytrust.co.nz





VINTAGE TREASURE TROVES, SHOP LOCAL THIS WINTER

Grab some friends, book a lunch and go on a thrift shopping adventure in Selwyn.

Selwyn has a variety of second-hand and vintage shops. Each store has its own style and retail experience. From the Salvation Army's charity family store or Hororata's Carols Closet where proceeds go to the rebuild of St Johns Church; to The Loft in Tai Tapu with high-end labels or High Street Collectables in Leeston for vintage-wares.

No matter what your taste, you're bound to find something fabulous!

Make a day of it, and have lunch at one of the many local cafés before heading to the next treasure trove on your list.

For locations and opening hours visit selwyn.nz/thingstodo/vintage

SPRING EVENTS

Canterbury Astronomical Society Open Nights

Fridays in September
West Melton Observatory
CAS.org.nz

Botanical Expo

11-12 September, Lincoln Event Centre
eventfinda.co.nz

Ellesmere Spring Fling

Sunday 3 October, Broadfield Gardens
eventfinda.co.nz

Selwyn Spring Show

Saturday 16 October, Ellesmere Showgrounds
ellesmereshow.co.nz

Hororata Highland Games

Saturday 6 November, Hororata Domain
hororatahighlandgames.org.nz

Selwyn Fireworks Spectacular

Saturday 6 November, Foster Park
facebook.com/selwynfireworks

Courtenay A&P Show

Saturday 20 November, Kirwee Showgrounds
courtenayshow.org.nz

SUBJECT TO ALERT LEVEL RESTRICTIONS

FENNEL, WALNUT AND PEAR SALAD



SALAD

- 2 handfuls mix of mesclun, baby spinach and pea shoots
- 1 fennel bulb
- 2 medium sized firm bosc pear
- ¼ cup finely chopped Italian parsley
- ½ cup roasted walnuts

VINAIGRETTE

- 4 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon raw honey
- Pinch of salt and a twist of black pepper

DIRECTIONS

Set oven to 175°C fan bake.

Roughly chop walnuts and place on a baking sheet and bake until fragrance is just released, set aside to cool.

Finely slice fennel bulb and pears, toss with salad greens and finely chopped Italian parsley. Generously sprinkle walnuts over the top.

Put all the vinaigrette ingredients in a jar (with tight fitting lid) and shake vigorously, pour over the salad.

To add protein, top with hot smoked salmon or crumbled sheeps milk feta.



SELWYN SHOPPING LIST

- ☒ **Untamed Earth**
UNTAMEDEARTH.NZ
 - Mesclun salad mix
 - Pear
 - Fennel
 - Parsley
 - Lemons
 - Baby spinach
 - Pea shoots
- ☒ **South Lea Olives**
SOUTHLEAOLIVES.CO.NZ
 - Olive Oil
- ☒ **Coalgate honey**
COALGATEHONEY.CO.NZ
 - Raw liquid honey
- ☒ **Tricketts Grove**
TRICKETTS GROVE.NZ
 - Walnuts
- ☒ **Salmon Heaven**
SALMONHEAVEN.NZ
 - Hot smoked salmon
- ☒ **Charing Cross Sheep Dairy**
CHARINGCROSSSHEEPDAIRY.CO.NZ
 - Marinated sheeps milk feta