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### **Red Bus responds to rural needs**

Transport operator Red Bus is going to trial a weekday bus service from Darfield to Christchurch in response to local community requests.

After some contact from Darfield locals, Red Bus undertook community consultation which suggested there would be support for a daily return commuter run.

The three month trial will begin on Monday, May 31, departing Darfield Railway Station at 7.15am, with stops at the Kirwee Hotel, West Melton Hotel, Yaldhurst Hotel and Westfield Mall. The return service will leave from outside the Bus Exchange on Lichfield St at 5.30pm.

As a special introductory offer, fares will be half-price for the first two weeks (\$3.75 adults, \$2.50 children). Standard fares (each way) will be \$7.50 adults; \$5.00 children.

Malvern Community Board Chairman Ian Warren said the need for the service was discussed when petrol prices increased drastically.

"We're impressed that Red Bus has decided to trial the service. It'll be useful for Darfield residents and people in the surrounding area as well – they will be able to drive to Darfield or the other bus stops, park their cars, and catch the bus, saving them money and helping the environment. Now it's up to people to support the service so it will continue," Mr Warren says.

The service will be reviewed at the end of August to determine whether it continues.

Ends

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