



Dear Friends,

Last year was a difficult one for the Friends: first the illness and retirement of our foundation chairman Graeme Wallis, then the death of committee stalwart, David Thornley. (See obituary in Newsletter No 17). Sadly, that was followed by the death of Annie Edmond, on 23rd of October, a much appreciated co-opted committee member who volunteered as a guide for the Friends and enjoyed sharing a wealth of knowledge about the Arts Centre gained during her years as the owner of the well-known *Annie's Wine Bar*. Finally, we were all greatly saddened by the passing of Graeme, on November 30th.

These losses have left the committee depleted and we would welcome new members. If you are interested in joining us please be sure to attend our AGM or notify us of your interest by email. Meetings take place at 4 pm on Wednesdays in the Board Room of the Arts Centre, usually on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

You may not be able to join the executive of the Friends but you can help the Arts Centre in other ways. The Arts Centre has set up a programme of Volunteer Ambassadors to meet and greet visitors to the Arts Centre to provide information about its history, what is happening there and where key facilities are. The minimum commitment required is two 2-hour shifts per month for one year. Weekday and weekend shifts are available. Training will be provided. If you are interested in becoming part of this programme you can find out more about it and make an online application at: <https://www.artscentre.org.nz/support/volunteer/arts-centre-ambassador/>

The aims of the *Friends of the Arts Centre*

- To support and promote the Arts Centre of Christchurch.
- To promote and encourage the use and enjoyment of the Arts Centre as an outstanding cultural centre for the benefit of the people of Christchurch, New Zealand and internationally.
- To support and assist with programmes, activities and fundraising for the benefit of the Arts Centre in consultation with the Arts Centre Board and Management.

Executive Committee:

Ron Barrow (co-opted for tours), Danny Cai (Treasurer), Tim Hogan (Chair), Lynne Lochhead (Secretary), Lorraine Logan QSM, Peter Morrison MNZM, Denise Murfitt, Faye Parkhill, Nathan Wallis

Contact Details:

email: christchurchartscentrefriends@gmail.com

website: <http://friendsoftheartscentreofchristchurch.weebly.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-the-Arts-Centre-of-Christchurch-1668219206745568/>



For further information or if you can assist us in any way, please contact us through one of the above

Heritage Festival 2019



The audience at our heritage week lecture given by Dr Ian Lochhead in the Rutherford 's Den Lecture Theatre, October 2019.

This event raised \$420. In spite of a glitch with the audiovisual equipment which necessitated a move to a new lecture space part way through the lecture, the lecture was well-received and those who attended came away with greater knowledge about the problems facing early colonial architects.

2020 AGM

Our 2020 AGM will take place in the Arts Centre Board Room, upstairs in the clock tower building,
5 – 6 p.m. on Wednesday 18th March.

All members welcome and do bring along anyone who might be interested in joining the Friends. We would also like to hear from you about what you would like to see the Friends doing. (If you cannot attend feel free to email us with ideas.)

A member of the Arts Centre Board will provide an update on progress at the Arts Centre.

Fundraising Quiz Night

Our next fundraising event will be a quiz night in the Great Hall. This will take place mid year. The date of this has not yet been finalised and will be announced at the AGM and by email. Meanwhile start thinking about teams you might form to participate in what should be a fun evening. You will no doubt have seen articles in the Press about the need to still raise funds to complete the strengthening work at the Arts Centre. Although a great deal has been achieved and the Arts Centre has once again become the lively place we enjoyed before the earthquakes, there is still much work to be done. We cannot afford to rest on our laurels so your support of our modest fundraising efforts is appreciated. The climate for fundraising is difficult and there are many competing calls on the available funds. You may not be able to attend our events but donations along with subs are always very welcome and these are passed on to the Arts Centre.

You can also donate directly to the Arts Centre. A key fundraising focus at present is the restoration of the observatory. Find out more about donating to this project here:
<https://www.artscentre.org.nz/support/be-a-star/>



An early photo of the observatory

A new attraction - Cellar Door

Have you caught up with the latest attraction at the Arts Centre?



In January the *Cellar Door* opened in the space which was formerly *Annie's Wine Bar*. This welcome new addition to the offerings at the Arts Centre will once again return on evening dining option. *Cellar Door* is open seven days a week from 10 am til late. The menu focuses on local seasonal ingredients designed to accompany the selection of wines, craft beer, spirits and cocktails available. The menu, which can be viewed on line ranges from nibbles through to full dishes.

This will provide a welcome dining option for those attending the neighbouring Lumiere Cinemas

Forthcoming events at the Arts Centre

Great Hall Lunchtime Concert series

Here is what is the programme for March through to the end of May. Don't forget your membership entitles you to \$5 off the entry price.

Mark Walton (clarinet) and Iola Shelley (piano): 9 March 2020

Janice Gray (vocalist) and Doug Caldwell (jazz piano): 16 March 2020

The Opera Club: 23 March 2020

Kate Taylor and seven-piece band: 30 March 2020

Helen Charlton (soprano) and Chris Archer (piano): 6 April 2020

Jonathan Tanner (violin): 20 April 2020

Cameron Pearce (trumpet) and Tom Rainey (piano): 4 May 2020

Lixin Zhang (piano): 11 May 2020

Jeremy Woodside (piano) and Lois Johnston (soprano): 25 May 2020

Fantastic Feasts- Teece Museum- Through to 30 August

This exhibition explores food in the ancient world, examining what ancient Greeks and Romans ate, food-divinity connections, and their feasting traditions. If you have not already seen this exhibition it is well worth doing so.

Pūmanawa Don't forget to visit this gallery upstairs in old Boys' High. From 25 February to 1 March it is featuring works for sale by Community Housing Trust Tenants. Look out on the Arts Centre website for notice of a forthcoming Archaeology Exhibition in this space, which will display some of the objects uncovered during restoration work. This should be a fascinating glimpse into the past.

Membership Cards

You are reminded to make use of your membership card. The "Friends of the Arts Centre Membership Card" offers members a growing number of discounts on products and services in and about the Arts Centre. Any discounts will be advertised in our Quarterly Newsletter and on our website.



- **Rutherford's Den** 10% entry discount
- **Zen Sushi and Dumplings** 10% discount
- **Curator's Deli** 10% discount
- **Bunsen Café** 10% discount on hot drinks
- **Soul Jewellery** 10% discount
- **Fudge Cottage** 10% discount on a range of product•
- **Concerts for Christchurch** Adult tickets reduced from \$15 to \$10

(at

both the Great Hall (Worcester St) & the Piano (156 Armagh St

Membership Form January – December 2020

Surname(s): _____
First name(s): _____
Address: _____
City: _____ **Post Code:** _____
Phone: _____ **Cell:** _____
Email: _____

Membership Class (please tick one):

- Individual \$35
- Family \$65 (Include names of each family member)
- Student \$15
- Donation \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

All donations will be receipted. Payment of subs will only be receipted on request.

Please list your skills should you wish to volunteer

Please make your cheque payable to the Friends of the Arts Centre of Christchurch and post with this form to:

The Treasurer,
Friends of the Arts Centre of Christchurch,
7 Stratford Street, Christchurch 8014.

OR Tick here if you have credited the Friends of the Arts Centre

SBS 031355 0807473 00 account for: \$ _____ and email details to:
christchurchartscentrefriends@gmail.com

If we do not have your address we cannot get a members card to you.

The *Friends of the Arts Centre of Christchurch* is a registered charity. (No. CC51240) Donations (but not subs) are eligible for a tax credit.