



Dear Friends,

In our previous newsletter we reported that on the 22nd of October 2020, Christchurch City Council voted to grant the Arts Centre a one-off sum of \$150,000 to enable it to keep the doors open. This was significant help but does not solve the Arts Centre's long term problems. The Council have listened to the needs of the Arts Centre and have made further provision to assist with the strengthening of the buildings in the long-term plan. The plan is now open for consultation and we strongly urge all friends and anyone else you can rally to make a submission in support of funding the Arts Centre. See the letter accompanying this newsletter for more information about making submissions.



The plan proposes to give a total capital grant of \$5.5 million over 3 years, which will be sufficient to allow the completion of all but two of the remaining stone buildings. The proposed capital grant will allow electrical engineering and the engineering extension to be tenanted and hence to produce more income. The ground floor of the Old Court Theatre will become an event centre and the upstairs will be offices. A sum of \$45 million is still needed to finish the restoration of mechanical engineering and the hydraulics building but temporary strengthening will be carried out to allow the fences to be moved in from Worcester Boulevard.



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:

Tim Hogan(Chair), Lynne Lochhead (Secretary/Treasurer), Rosie Belton, Nadja Grabner-Thornley, Lorraine Logan QSM, Peter Morrison MNZM, Denise Murfitt, Nathan Wallis

Contact Details:

email: christchurchartscentrefriends@gmail.com

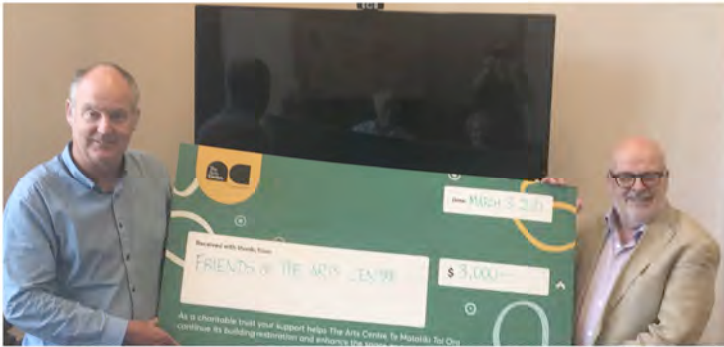
website: <http://friendsoftheartscentreofchristchurch.weebly.com/>

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

AGM 2021



Tim Hogan presents a cheque for \$3000 to Philip Aldridge

At the AGM held on March 3rd, Tim Hogan, Chair of the Friends, presented a cheque for \$3000 to the Arts Centre. This was in addition to the sum of \$9580.46 presented during the course of 2020. With the inclusion of this latest donation, the Friends have so far contributed a total of \$78,580 to the Arts Centre. Our fundraising goal for this coming year is to raise the money needed to restore the fireplace in the office of Professor Scott.

Professor Scott and the School of Engineering

Robert Julian Scott, (1861-1930), a cousin of Captain Robert Falcon Scott, was born in Plymouth, Devon. He came to New Zealand in 1881 to work for the government railways. In 1887, by the age of 26, he had become general manager at the Addington Railway Workshops. The same year he was employed as a part time lecture in New Zealand's first Department of Engineering, set up within the Mathematics Department of Canterbury College, which offered evening classes for apprentices. In 1889, when railways promoted Scott to the position of head office engineer in Wellington, the Board of Canterbury College stepped in and offered him the position of full-time lecturer-in-charge of the new School of Engineering.

Scott took on the job, giving up what would undoubtedly have been a thriving career as a practical engineer. Designs to his credit included the first Australasian motor car, the first New Zealand home-built locomotive, the first New Zealand insulated wagon for frozen meat and New Zealand's first oil engine. Having accepted the job, he single-mindedly devoted himself to the task of creating a successful engineering school, when there were few such schools anywhere. Under his leadership the School of Engineering became highly regarded throughout the British Empire.

Scott's ambition to create a successful engineering school had a significant impact on the buildings of the Arts Centre. He declined a salary increase to ensure the building of a mechanical engineering laboratory adjoining the clocktower block, designed by B. W. Mountfort and completed in 1891. Before this, engineering shared space with the School of Art. Unfortunately it took a further 3 years before the Board allowed the school to purchase the equipment necessary for a functioning laboratory. An experimental steam plant, manufactured to Scott's specifications was the first major purchase and this is still on display at the Canterbury Steam Preservation Society's Museum at McLeans Island.



Mechanical engineering before the hydraulics lab was built.

Scott was keen to expand the curriculum to cover electrical engineering. He achieved his ambition in 1902 with the completion of the Electrical Laboratory to form the south side of the North Quad. The building, designed in brick by Cyril Mountfort, was not completed in time for the beginning of term so instruction in this new subject commenced in the Great Hall. The brick structure was faced in stone when the cloisters were created by J.J. Collins in 1916 following Hurst Seagar's overall plan for the site.

In 1905 Scott succeeded in persuading central government to provide funds for a hydraulics lab. Initially completed as a single storey building in 1906, by Collins and Harman, the additional storeys, which included a departmental library and a lecture room, were completed in 1914. The roof of the first storey became an internal tank room for the hydraulics lab and perhaps the strength needed to support the weight of water along with the stronger beams to support the upper levels which Scott had specified, to the irritation of the architects, helped this building to survive the impact of the quakes. By 1920, Engineering had again outgrown its space and once more Scott succeeded in obtaining

central funding to help with building costs. However, the new building, which housed an electrical machines lab on the ground floor with drawing and design offices above, was not completed until 1923, after Scott's retirement in 1922, on account of ill-health. His legacy was not only a highly successful engineering school, but also the largest group of buildings devoted to a single department on the college campus.



Hydraulics Lab (1906)



Hydraulics lab(right) engineering extension(left)

QUIZ NIGHT FUNDRAISER – Thursday April 22nd Great Hall 6pm



For those of you who didn't get a chance to take part in our previous very popular quiz night, you now have another opportunity.

Gather together a team of six knowledgeable friends and come along for a night of fun while supporting the Arts Centre. Don't worry if you can't make up a team or a full team - those who come as individuals will be placed in teams on the night.

Once again experienced quizmaster Kevin Gough and his assistant Victoria Wales will make the evening run smoothly.

Be prepared for an evening of hilarity as teams vie with one another to purchase clues and answers all in the interests of raising as much money as possible for the Arts Centre. The Quiz will cover a wide range of topics. The top three teams will be awarded prizes. **Bring along some cash to purchase raffle tickets as well as clues and answers.** Eftpos will be available for purchases from the bar.

A table of six costs \$150 dollars but tickets may be purchased individually for \$25. Ticket prices include a platter to share for each table to accompany alcoholic or non-alcoholic drinks purchased from the bar. Numbers are strictly limited so don't delay in booking. Doors open at 6pm, questions starting at 6.20 pm.

You can purchase tickets online at <https://www.artscentre.org.nz/whats-on/quiz-night-fundraiser/> . if you would rather not purchase online, you can obtain tickets from the Clock Tower at the Arts Centre.

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.

- **Zen Sushi and Dumplings** 10% discount
 - **Bunsen Café** 10% discount on hot drinks
 - **Fudge Cottage** 10% discount on a range of products
 - **Concerts for Christchurch** Adult tickets reduced from \$15 to \$10
- (at both the Great Hall & the Ron Ball Studio (Town Hall))



Membership Form January – December 2021

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

Pay by Bank Deposit

Account Name: Friends of the Arts Centre of Christchurch

Account Number: SBS 031355 0807473 00

Please insert your name and membership category in the reference fields

Please email details to: christchurchartscentrefriends@gmail.com

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

Pay by 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.

Please note: the bank will not be accepting cheques after 26 June 2021

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