



Dear Friends,

The impact of Covid is becoming an all too frequent theme of our newsletters. Unfortunately once again we have had to adjust our plans. A fundraising cabaret with Ali Harper we planned to advertise in this newsletter has had to be postponed until later in the year because of the uncertainties caused by Covid. We had also hoped to hold another film evening following our very successful and well supported film evening last year but number restrictions mean that this is not viable in the meantime. The executive has also decided that our AGM this year will be held remotely. We will email copies of our annual performance report next month for your email approval.

Despite all these setbacks, the Arts Centre is still open and the Monday lunchtime concerts series are able to proceed with appropriate spacing. If you have not yet used your members card to get a discount on performances please consider doing so. At a time when so many concerts have had to be cancelled because of Covid restrictions, it is great to be able to support the artists and of course the Arts Centre by



attending. The first concert is Tom Rainey with Friends on February 28th, 1.10 – 1.50pm. For booking and information on subsequent concerts go to <https://www.artscentre.org.nz/whats-on/great-hall-lunchtime-concert-series-2022/>

If you visit Rutherford's Den take time to admire the Rutherford medal board which is protected by perspex thanks to the Friends' successful application for a Helping Hands Grant from Te Papa.

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:

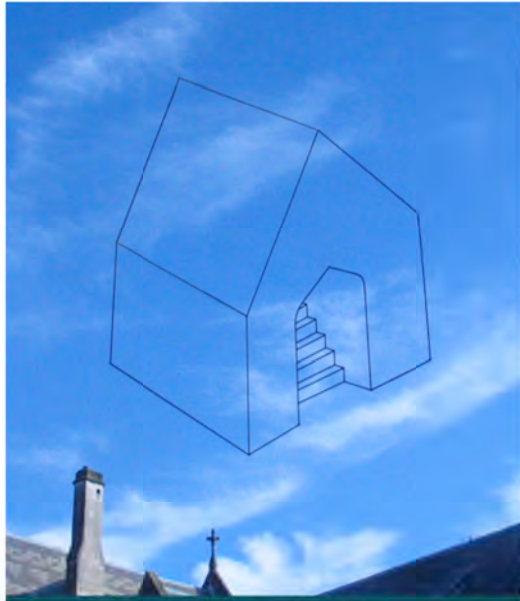
email: christchurchartscentrefriends@gmail.com

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



Echo returns

In early December Neil Dawson's sculpture Echo returned to the North Quad after a 10 year absence. The sculpture was damaged in the earthquakes, dismantled and put into storage. Generous funding from Lady Barbara Stewart allowed the return of the sculpture. Small scale maquettes of Echo can be purchased from the Centre Gallery for a limited time. Proceeds from the sales will assist with future preservation and maintenance of the sculpture.

Another milestone in the restoration of the Arts Centre was achieved late last year with the return of the dome to the observatory tower. The scaffolding has now been removed from the tower so that Mountfort's final contribution to the Arts Centre buildings (completed 1896) has been returned to its former glory. Although work on the interior is not yet complete re-opening will take place this year. Meanwhile the adjoining Boutique Hotel is scheduled for opening on Anzac Day, April 25th.

The opening of the hotel will provide a much needed income boost for the Arts Centre. Restoring heritage to the high standard which has been achieved at the Arts Centre does not come cheaply and unfortunately the insurance settlement has now been spent. This means that work on two of the engineering buildings has had to be put on hold until more funds can be raised. In spite of this, remarkable progress has been achieved. With both quads now fully accessible again the western end of the Arts Centre block has now returned to its pre-earthquake state.

Kete Whānau: online activities for families

Have you checked out the online activities on the Arts Centre website recently? If you are unaware of these they are worth looking at especially if you have children or grandchildren. It is a great way to keep in touch with the Arts Centre, especially in these COVID-impacted times, when you may be reluctant to go out and about. Activities range from those that are largely educational such as the Rutherford's Den word search through to craft activities such as making paper beads. For those who enjoy sweet treats there is a chocolate bark making activity. You can explore the full range of possibilities in the What's on section of the website.

Don't forget to keep an eye on what is happening in the various exhibition spaces at the Arts Centre. In addition to the Centre Gallery and the gallery spaces in the Old Boys' High building, it is sometimes easy to overlook the Physics Room on the ground floor of the New Registry building. If you have an interest in contemporary art but you haven't yet discovered this space you should keep an eye on what is happening here.



Former Biology Laboratories and Townsend Observatory

When Mountfort designed Canterbury College's new Biological Laboratories he was doing more than adding just another building to the site. The location of the new building defined the south-east corner of what he imagined would eventually become a quadrangle plan. The Great Hall had established the north-west corner of the site in 1882 and the Engineering Laboratories along Worcester Street enclosed the northern boundary. Mountfort died in 1898 so did not live to see the completion of the quadrangles or the creation of the cloisters that are such a distinctive feature of the North Quad, but it was his careful planning that created the framework for the eventual completion of the North and South Quads. It is also worth noting the sharp, geometric details of the Biology building that set it apart from Mountfort's earlier Canterbury College designs.



Kunstautomat: South Quad

Kunstautomat

Have you discovered this new attraction at the Arts Centre which is located in the South Quad?

These repurposed vending machines have been popular in Northern Europe for a number of years, particularly Germany. Instead of junk food or cigarettes, for a small charge (3x\$2 here) you can purchase a cigarette box sized piece of original art. The art may be a painting, a drawing, a photograph or even a small sculpture. Lars Kaiser, the German artist behind the concept designed and donated a machine especially for Christchurch, reconfigured to take New Zealand coins (Please note however that it doesn't seem to like the most recent issue of \$2 coins so if you have an especially new and shiny one it is best not to try that.)

This is the first such machine in the Southern Hemisphere. Local artists can apply to have their work included in the machine. The price of the artwork will go towards supporting the artists and paying for their supplies.

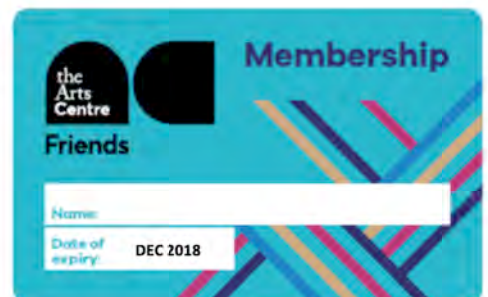
The project is part of the city's arts strategy which has been developed to support the growth of the local arts sector. This is a fun and inexpensive way to purchase small, collectible pieces of art.



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 fudge bar range
- **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 2022

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: \$ _____

All donations will be receipted. Payment of subs will only be receipted on request. Donations (but not subs) are eligible for a tax credit.

Please list any 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

(or post to 7 Stratford St Christchurch 8014)

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