



Bush Telegraph

October 2017

Update From Shona

I have been going through some old Minute Books and I came across the following comments in the Ranger's report written in 1954. "Although vandalism is not rampant, small mischievous acts continue, use of shanghais, riding of bicycles and copulating couples require supervision." "Cyclists riding bicycles recklessly and to the danger of visitors." "Bicycles with motors have also been ridden at dangerous speeds through this area."

I am not sure about the Ranger's choice of wording regarding supervising the couples but I am sure we get the gist of what he is saying. Fast forward 63 years and the Ranger may well be making the same comments. We got inundated by "Pokemon" players recently and we do get a number of young people pushing the boundaries, but imagine how sad it would be if people didn't come into the grounds or we made the rules so rigid that no one enjoyed it anymore.

I can look out my window any day of the week and see parents with their children; dogs and their owners; community groups sitting having their picnic lunch on the outside tables, cyclists of all shapes and ages riding through the grounds; all ages and ethnicities stopping in for a coffee or lunch and people of all ages walking through the grounds or just sitting in the sun.

It is really good to know that we are part of a wider community and we want to encourage people to enjoy what we have to have to offer.

Shona Willis, Manager

What's happening in the grounds?

We did a fair bit of moaning about the very wet spring but the growth is phenomenal and the gardens are looking rather sharp.

The existing cycleway through the Grounds has been upgraded and now forms part of the Christchurch City Council's Cycle network. As the pathway is shared between cyclists and pedestrians we ask that users respect each other. There are still speed calming measures, additional signage and markings and also new light poles to be installed. We will take this opportunity to upgrade our security cameras and increase our monitoring.

Local. at Riccarton House

We are open six days a week, Monday – Friday and Sundays 9am - 4pm. (Closed Saturdays for the Farmers Market.)

Enjoy delicious seasonal lunch dishes, award winning wines and ales and a beautiful restored dining space as well as tranquil rose courtyard and verandah seating with gorgeous river views.

Also open for private dining, anniversary dinners, weddings, corporate hosting and more.

Contact details for restaurant booking or private event enquiries:

Phone: 03 348 6190

Email: info@localatriccartonhouse.co.nz

Website: www.localatriccartonhouse.co.nz



What's happening in the House?

We have been spring cleaning throughout and she is sparkling. Now that the site works have stopped we will be washing down the outside of the house so she is looking good for the summer.

Tours - We run hour-long tours six days a week from Sunday to Friday. Note that for each paying adult a local resident can have a tour for free.

Tour prices: Adults \$18.00, Seniors \$15.00, Students \$12.00, children \$5.00, under-5 free.

Saturday Tours are slightly shorter and a lot cheaper at \$8.00 pp. These run on the half hour while the market is on and are steadily increasing in numbers.

We also run private tours and school groups by prior arrangement.



St Barnabas Church Book Fair - The date is Saturday 14th October from 9am to midday in the Church Hall at the corner of Tui Street and Fendalton Road, Fendalton. There are also records, DVDs and Tapes.

Residents' Association - If you live in the area, are not a member of your local residents' association (and would like to be) simply email rbkresidents@gmail.com for more information.

Seasons of Fendalton, previously known as Probus, is a reinvigorated club that has been active for seniors for 35 years. The club is in good heart (I know because I spoke there recently), has some exciting plans for its new direction, and is welcoming new members. It meets on the first Wednesday morning of each month in the Fendalton Bowling Club rooms, 28 Makora St. Why not check them out - just turn up at 10am. It is free to visitors, includes morning tea and finishes at 12. Further enquiries: Ross 348 2845.

Noticeboard

Dog Owners - Please keep your dogs away from the roped off areas so that the newly planted grass can grow. Most dog owners are really good at controlling their dogs and cleaning up any mess, but there is a small majority that spoil it for others. Please be considerate to other users of this beautiful piece of paradise.

Guides needed - We currently have six guides that lead the house tours and we are looking for two more. The pay isn't great but the people you meet helps make up for it. If you have an hour or two spare each week or fortnight and if you have a passion for history and like being around people, please give me a call.

We are also looking for two casual guides to lead our eco tours through Riccarton Bush. These are held during the day or in the early evening.

Full training and support will be given.

Contacts

Manager: Shona Willis, 341 1018 or 0275440462
Ranger: Gavin Ruckledge, 0211332280
Visitor Guide: Antonia Allison, 0274430067

Opening Hours

Grounds: 6am – 7pm daily
Bush: 6am – 6.30pm daily

