



Auckland City Centre Residents' Group Inc P.O. Box 106-667 Auckland 1143
<https://www.ccr.org.nz/> <https://www.facebook.com/aklccrg/>

Winter seems to have gone in a flash. There are now four little lemon trees on our communal deck and we have a team to water them. The leek and celery seedlings I took away from the August Gratitude Meal at Griffiths Gardens in August are surviving well ... in my sister's garden in the burbs.

This issue comes out around the time of the CCRG election meeting (see page 3) and the elections are probably prominent in everyone's minds at present. A few days ago a friend from the far west of the city impressed me with her thoughtful research into the different policies of the various parties. See you at our local meeting!

Past E-News: <http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/dbtw-wpd/serials/cbdcommunity.htm>
<http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/dbtw-wpd/serials/CityCentreCommunitye-news.htm>

Audrey van Ryn - audrey@writeaway.co.nz

No one identified the scene last time, so I have made this one much easier! Email me at audrey@writeaway.co.nz if you know where the city centre scene on the left is.



This time we have a prize kindly donated by the Kapiti Store at 19 Shortland St: a voucher for four ice creams. The Kapiti Store team writes as follows:

The store has been in this location since around 2011. We have become famous for our grilled cheese sandwich filled with delightful aged cheddar that melts into wild wheat sourdough bread.

We present the full range of Kapiti cheeses and delicious ice creams. We can assist with gift hampers, and prepare a fabulous platter for an event or function or party.



Scene from June issue: Xuxu, cnr Commerce & Galway Sts.

Recently, cheese layer cakes have become popular for weddings and celebrations, and we have a range of cheeses that make the perfect cake.

The store can be hired as a private use venue for a special event for groups, with wine and cheese match tastings, and events can be tailored to needs.

So the Kapiti Store is a unique place for an event, a gift, a quick lunch, a wedding cake, or an indulgent ice cream.

We also manage the Kapiti online shop tastekapiti.co.nz and ship nationwide.



- also ...
- FROM THE CHAIR
- CITY CENTRE ADVISORY BOARD
- ELLEN MELVILLE CENTRE
- AUCKLAND HERITAGE FESTIVAL
- HOT CITY NEWS
- RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS
- LOW CARBON NETWORK
- BIKING BEE ADVENTURE
- and more ...

Members of the CCRG committee met with various parties to advocate for support of the City Centre Master Plan and the Waterfront Plan as the vision documents that should lead developments in the city centre because these have already been agreed by the majority of residents living here. These included the Auckland Central MP, Nikki Kay, the Waitematā Ward Member, Mike Lee and the Chairperson of the Auckland Council Planning Committee, Chris Darby. The Auckland City Centre Advisory Board has also advocated for this position and it is pleasing to note that design staff at both Auckland Council and Auckland Transport have confirmed that these documents will be the blueprint for the work they are currently planning.

Submissions have been made to Auckland Council on the Auckland Plan Refresh, the review of the Public Safety and Nuisance Bylaw and the update of the waterfront and mid-town areas. Similarly, we made a successful submission to Auckland Transport defending the future Victoria Street Linear Park in preference to it being used as a major bus across town bus route.

The Stop Auckland Sewage Overflows Coalition invited the CCRG to become a part of their efforts to stop overflows into our harbor and we have accepted that invitation. Currently there are more than 50 overflows each year, primarily from the older infrastructure in the areas immediately west of the city centre, and this results in beaches from St Mary's Bay to Pt Chevalier being so polluted that swimming is prohibited. Although this is a long-term project, it is important that we all advocate for clean air, clean water and clean beaches because without these Auckland is not Auckland!

Following Auckland Council's decision to change the central city area from the "central business district" to the "city centre," we changed our name from the CBD Residents' Advisory Group to the Auckland City Centre Residents' Group. This has involved quite a bit of work and some expense, so we were very pleased that the Waitematā Local Board granted us funds to meet some of those expenses,

NOELENE BUCKLAND



such as the new Facebook and website presence. We have also booked our monthly meetings in the newly refurbished Ellen Melville Centre, so it will be much easier for residents to attend our meetings and to discuss any issues with members of the committee. A date to note is the public opening of the centre and the upgraded Freyberg Place on 15 September.

Other upcoming events include the election forum on 7 September at St Matthew-in-the-City, where residents can meet their local candidates. Confirmed attendees are Nikki Kay (National), Helen White (Labour), Denise Roche (Greens), Mika Haka (The Opportunities Party) and Stephen Greenfield (Conservative Party). The forum will start at 6.00 pm and candidates have been sent a series of questions that each will have two minutes to respond to. Attendees will then have the opportunity to ask questions from the floor, so we are expecting a lively evening and an event that all residents of the city centre are welcome to attend.

NB this newsletter is distributed over two days, so some of you will receive it on 7 September and some on 8 September, after the election event.

We also have an event in the Auckland Heritage Festival on 1 October - see page 6.

Membership of the CCRG

If you would like to join the Auckland City Centre Residents' Group, please send an enquiry to aklccrg@gmail.com
See also <https://www.ccr.org.nz/take-action>

Your full-time principal residence in the city centre is a membership requirement.

Thursday - 7 September 2017 - 6 pm

SAVE THE DATE – the 2017 General Elections are coming!

Meet Your Election Candidates

at St Matthew-in-the-City: Cnr Hobson & Wellesley Streets

**Brought to you by Auckland City
Centre Residents' Group - CCRG**

CCRG is hosting political party candidates for the Auckland Central seat at a meeting to answer questions affecting all people living in the City Centre.



All City Centre Residents Welcome
Come Along - Be Informed!

For more information contact us:

aklccrg@gmail.com

www.ccr.org.nz

www.facebook.com/aklccrg

Thanks for support from:



ccrg

Your Neighbourhood Your Community Your Vote

CCRG Chair Noelene Buckland has joined me at the City Centre Advisory Board, taking up one of the two seats that we residents occupy on this important body. Noelene brings her extensive governmental, policy, and strategic experience to the table. Stephen Greenfield will take up the alternate spot, and we thank him for all his work on the Board to date.

Along with keeping an eye on the status of the usual ongoing projects being funded in the city centre by the targeted rate, the Board has been grappling with some higher-level issues from which all these smaller projects flow. These are the “refresh” processes that take place every few years on the city’s founding high-level plans - the Auckland Plan, the City Centre Masterplan, and the Waterfront Plan - to ensure that they are still “fit for purpose.” It is obvious that much has changed since these plans were first discussed and introduced - the massive increase in resident numbers and pedestrians being the obvious change means that the plans should be reviewed in light of all these changes. These are big transformational projects, and everyone accepts that they must be viewed as a whole, planned very carefully, prioritised, and integrated into the City Centre Masterplan as efficiently as possible.

The CCRG have been making presentations and submissions on the Auckland Plan, the City Centre Masterplan, and, more recently, the various components that make up all the waterfront plans, and we have joined a sub-group presenting to Council’s Planning Committee on the waterfront, midtown, and downtown reports that were recently presented to the ACCAB. You will most likely have seen the plans discussed in the media recently, or on our Facebook/website pages - exciting times for the city.

Looking ahead to the day when the CRL works are complete outside Britomart/CPO, the design work is well underway for this area of Lower Queen Street (no name yet for this new square). The plans create a large public open space, totally pedestrianised, that will be very flexible for all sorts of events, apart from just the day-to-day meeting, mingling, walking through, and general urban hanging out. The waterfront plans envisage a much-improved pedestrian link from this square, linking across Quay Street to the ferry building and waterfront.

We were all very pleased to see the original vision of the Victoria Linear Park reaffirmed and strongly supported by the Board. We welcome the decision by Auckland Transport to stay with this important Masterplan vision.

Freyberg Place (another targeted rate project) is almost complete. The opening for this (and the Ellen Melville Community Centre), will be on September 15. We look forward to seeing everyone there to celebrate the return of this wonderful facility, targeted at residents primarily, and an expanded public space along with it. Residents, and quite a few businesses, are still keen to explore the opportunities for reducing the vehicular traffic through this area and creating an even more resident-friendly and business-supporting environment. There are now 13 times as many pedestrians than cars using High Street.

CRL works continue, of course, and we feel for the residents and businesses on Albert Street who are suffering, some more than others.



CRL works - image - Ashley HD

One area of the city centre that needs some love and attention is the Victoria Quarter, particularly the area at the top of Hobson and Nelson Streets, which is the densest residential area in New Zealand. Many of the masterplan projects have been deferred due to the CRL, and due to construction activity related to the international convention centre and other developments. We are pushing for some interventions in the southern areas at the top of Nelson/Hobson Streets. It is quite clear that this area has been long-neglected, and unfortunately the potential for urban activity subjugated to the needs of eight-lane highways connecting to motorways.

(continued next page)

The Galway Street shared space project is complete. Next, we look forward to starting on Tyler Street to make sure that this area melds into the larger picture of a pedestrian-friendly city centre.

We were all inspired by the proposals for the tunnels under Albert Park to be upgraded and reopened as part of a larger project to provide access through and under the city centre, creating an east-west link from Parnell to Victoria Park, foretold and promised in the city centre Masterplan.

All in all, busy but exciting and satisfying times at the Board.

And remember, these monthly meetings are open to the public.

Adam Parkinson

Ellen Melville Centre & Freyberg Square

Ellen Melville Centre - Community Centre for City Centre Residents Re-opens

Official opening - Friday 15 September 5-9pm

<https://www.facebook.com/EllenMelvilleCentre/>

The Ellen Melville Centre is located adjacent to Freyberg Place on Auckland's High Street. Residents will be familiar with the building and its charming square, as a meeting and gathering place. Formerly known as the Pioneer Women's and Ellen Melville Hall, it is council-owned and operated, and has long been highly regarded within the local community.

We have missed it since it has been being redeveloped, but are thrilled that it is about to return to the residential community.

In August 2016, Auckland Council, with financial support from the Waitematā Local Board and the Auckland City Centre Advisory Board, recognising that there was an increasing shortage of facilities catering to residents in the city centre, commenced the redevelopment of the centre and Freyberg Square. The aim was to transform the integrated space (facility and square) into a community centre to support the

rapidly growing residential population, and for both city centre locals and visitors to access and enjoy.

The centre's primary target is city centre residents, and it will facilitate and engender a sense of community for city centre residents through offering a place to meet, gather and connect. That is what we will also be working towards.

Importantly, CCRG will be holding our monthly meetings here from October - in the Elizabeth Yates room - look out for the announcement for this after opening day. This will provide a more central and visible location for residents to meet up, connect and get involved with CCRG in making city centre life better for all of us

The community centre will comprise indoor programming spaces including an "urban living room" which integrates with the outdoor space. The centre will seek to maximise community benefit, providing a platform for programming that is accessible to the entire community.

CCRG are very excited by the reopening of this facility, and thank all those who have worked so hard for this - particularly the Waitematā Local Board.

The centre and square will be officially opened on Friday 15 September 5pm - 9pm

<http://bit.ly/2vBx8Xt>

Come along and enjoy the return of this facility and the square to public and residential use.



Image - Auckland Council

Adam Parkinson

CCRG Event in the Auckland Heritage Festival**Hosting the Coast to Coast****Sunday 1 October, 10am-3pm**

The Auckland Heritage Festival runs this year from 30 September to 15 October. With the programme now available in print as well as online, you can start planning the events you would like to attend. We hope there will be a good number of CCRG members joining our event!

We will meet outside the New Zealand Maritime Museum, cnr Quay & Hobson Sts. The Coast to Coast walk is 16km and takes several hours. You can walk as much or as little of the distance as you want. Signs along the way mark the route, and there are many heritage sites of interest, including buildings, parks and volcanoes. We hope to connect with residents of other suburbs along the way, and that our baton will make it all the way to the other coast.

We will be walking at a leisurely pace and having a stop for lunch. If you think you will be coming too, let us know on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/aklccrg>

See the next pages for some more central city Auckland Heritage Festival events.

<http://www.heritagefestival.co.nz/>



CCRG members at the start of the Coast to Coast walk - photo Allan Matson

Activate Auckland Events in the Auckland Heritage Festival

Albert Street: Pubs, Cathedral, Toilets & the City Well

Wed 4 Oct 5.30-7.00pm & Sat 14 Oct 4.00-5.30pm

Bookings essential

Meet at the Bluestone Room & finish at the Shakespeare Hotel

Your guide: Chef, DJ & Cocktail Star Dan Davis

Albert Street and its surrounds were home to traders and manufacturers. This walking tour takes in St Patrick's Cathedral, the 1898 Shakespeare Hotel, the bluestone wall and the 1861 Bluestone Room, which house Auckland's first well.



Shakespeare Hotel - photo - Les Downey.
Sir George Grey Special Collections



Tues 3 & Tues 10 October, 12pm-1pm & Sat 14 October, 2pm-3pm

Meet at Info Hub, 42 Wellesley Street, Auckland Central

Where were Dior originals made in Auckland? Who was the fashion designer that became one of New Zealand's most famous madams? Who made Trelise Cooper's wedding dress?

Walk the Walk will reveal the traces that remain of our inner city fashion history through a one-hour guided walking tour.

This is a New Zealand Fashion museum event.

Te Rangitira & Ida: Māori Sailing Heritage on the Hauraki Gulf

Exhibition Sat 7 Oct - Sun 15 Oct 10am-5pm

Sat 7 Oct 10-11am - Opening with Paula Morris and Haare Williams

Workshops Sat 7 Oct only:

11:15am - 1:30pm - Navigation and traditional ropemaking with Manihera Forbes and Numangatini Mackenzie

2pm - 5pm - Rangatahi (youth) Māori dance workshop with Atamira

Māori maritime history. An account of Mana Whenua maritime history. The adventures of Te Rangitira and Ida. A love story of Te Moananui-ā-Toi (Hauraki Gulf) and its islands.



"Ida" in the traders race at an Auckland Regatta
photo - James D. Richardson
Sir George Grey Special Collections

Two events in the soon to be opened Ellen Melville Centre

Heritage Debate <http://civictrustauckland.org.nz/>

Tuesday 3 October, 6pm-8pm

Civic Trust Auckland has organised this event, which is evolving into something more akin to a discussion. The topic is “There is adequate protection for built heritage.”

Confirmed participants are Auckland Council’s Heritage Manager, Noel Reardon; Character Coalition spokesperson, Sally Hughes; and Civic Trust president, Allan Matson. Audience participation is welcomed.



Allan Matson Lecture

Wednesday 4 October 6pm-7pm

Saturday 7 October 12.30pm-1.30pm,

Wednesday 11 October 12.30pm-1.30pm

Heritage Consultant Allan Matson presents an update on his personal outlook for our architectural heritage, now that Auckland’s Unitary Plan is in place.

His talk includes the architectural and social history of the Ellen Melville Centre.



More events in the city centre! Details: <http://www.heritagefestival.co.nz/>

Knot Touch holiday programme, exhibition & workshops: Maritime Museum

K’Rd Presents: Urban Pasifika - Polynesian Panthers, Viva Las Vegas, Touring the Taboos,

Ghosts of the Gully, Shopping on the Strip, Poly Road - Stories of Karangahape Rd

St Matthew-in-the-City: 162 years of Taonga in Auckland City

Ted Ashby Heritage Sailing, from Maritime Museum

A Celebration of the NZ Clinker Boat, Karanga Plaza, Wynyard Quarter

Rykenberg Photography Exhibition, Central Library

The Auckland School: 100 Years of Architecture & Planning, Gus Fisher Gallery

The Auckland Town Hall Organ, Great Hall, Town Hall

Collar, Cuffs and ‘Penguin Shirts’: Chinese Laundries in Central Auckland, from Aotea Square

Guided Walk of Roy Lippincott Buildings, from Heritage Hotel, 35 Hobson St

IPENZ Engineering Heritage Walks, from old America’s Cup Boat, near Maritime Museum

Ports of Auckland Heritage Tugboat Sailings, from Hobson Wharf West

Ports of Auckland Red Fence Heritage Walk, from Maritime Museum

St Patrick’s Cathedral, A Guided Tour

University of Auckland Campus Stories, from the Clock Tower Building

Walk Foreshore Heritage Trail, Auckland Central Waterfront

‘My Grandmother used to Knit’: Celebrating NZ’s Fibre Art Heritage, 40 St Paul’s St

Rock, Roll, & Erupt: The Earthquake & Volcano Laboratory, Commerce A Building, UoA

Wai Horotiu - Queen Street’s Hidden Stream with Lisa Truttman, Central Library

Splice Random Acts of Kindness '17

On your travels in the neighbourhood on the first day of spring, you may have been the recipient of a small pot of honey, or a free coffee from your friendly barista, along with an accompanying “Kindness Card” extolling the potential to build even better communities through simple acts of kindness to each other.

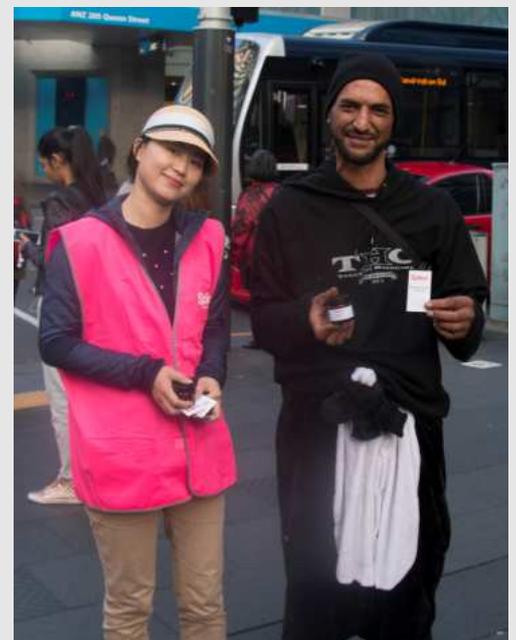
Splice’s ethos is to connect the strands of community of the city centre. Kindness is an age-old traditional value with the power to help build those connections and transform a good neighbourhood into one that is stunning in experience.

Acts of kindness, big or small are the things we do for each other without expectation of return, yet the experience of giving kindness has as much power as that of receiving it.

Kindness: “We are inclined to overlook its importance ... is unmistakable when we come across it ... the highest and truest expression of what it means to be human.”

Bryan Gould 2016

Mik Smellie



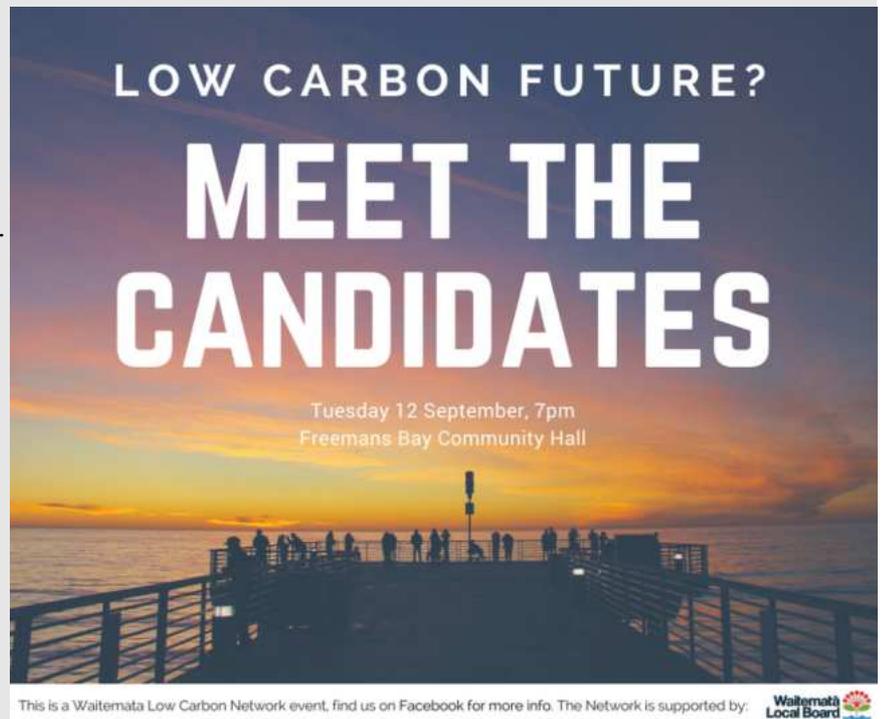
Tuesday, 12 September, 7pm
Freemans Bay Community Hall

Candidates will talk about their low carbon policies and their priorities and response to the climate change challenge.

Facilitator: Rod Oram.

Confirmed candidates
 (more to be announced)

- Helen White - Labour
- Julie Anne Genter - Greens
- Stephen Greenfield - Conservative



www.facebook.com/events/321904098280745

The Waitematā Low Carbon Network celebrates, profiles and supports a low carbon future for Auckland by bringing together organisations, businesses and individuals to work together to reduce carbon and build energy resilience across Waitematā.

World Press Photo Competition

Mik Smellie won the street photography competition that was run in the June issue of the E-News, and received two passes to see the World Press Photo Exhibition, the world's most prestigious exhibition of international current affairs photography, held throughout July at Smith & Caughey's.

This travelling exhibition is the result of a worldwide annual contest on press photography for professional press photographers, photo-journalists and documentary photographers. Proceeds from entry fees are donated to charity.

Mik said that he “enjoyed the exhibition, albeit some pretty challenging shots.”

Thank you again to the Rotary Club for the prize and to Chris van Ryn of Freestyle Event Photography for being the judge.



Mik's photo

3rd Spring Biking Bee Adventure

Meet at 257 Symonds St 11am Saturday 9 September

Visit central city community gardens and city parks, sites that are activating safe spaces for our city bees. Learn as you go, contributing to each site, leaving them more bee friendly than you found them.

Brought to you by Ella Rose Shnapp, Sarah Smuts-Kennedy and the For the Love of Bees team. If running late/want to join later in the ride, contact Ella on 0220772935.

Spot prizes of honey, biodynamic seeds, seed balls, Biochar and other biological products. Bring a dish for a pot luck picnic. Wear your helmet and reflective gear.

- Learn about the Biodynamic Permaculture Growing Hub and Plans for Organic Parks and Biological Bee Sanctuaries
- Gain a landscape perspective of Auckland's green spaces and what we can do to make them healthier
- Learn about the incredible secrets of the relationship between plants, microbes and bees
- Make cuttings from plants using organic systems
- Liquid fertilise plants using microbes and minerals
- Learn about and inoculate Biochar
- Inoculate garden beds with mycorrhizal fungi
- Learn about turning parks into carbon sinks
- Sow seeds using biological support systems
- Prepare ground for organic planting
- Listen to sweet music from Rook
- Try yoga in the park

Spring biking bee Adventure

saturday 9th of september
Meet at 257 Symonds St at 11am

Route

Symonds St - 11am
Prepping land for Organic Growing Hub and Biochar Making

Auckland Domain
Inoculating garden beds with mycorrhizal fungi to the sweet sounds of Rook

Feijoa Forest
Discover the history of Auckland's Feijoa Forest and apply tree pastes

Victoria Park
Design and lay the ground for a Pasture Painting and recalibrate your body to resonate with bees

Myers Park
Liquid fertilise, sow next generation seeds and see inside our hives, discover our queens

Griffiths Gardens
Enjoy a herbal cup of tea, inoculate our new Biochar and learn to make cuttings as part of a 1000 rosemary plants for Auckland

for the love of bees
a city bee collaboration

Thanks to:







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Artweek in the Central City

The annual celebration of contemporary art in the central city's galleries and public spaces returns from 7 - 15 October.

Pop-up art installations will change the scenery of many familiar spaces for the duration of Artweek, with Changing Lanes coming to life in Exchange Lane, Durham St East and St Matthew-in-the-City, an Urban Art Village taking up residence in St Patrick's Square and a large-scale work, Poi Life, being installed in Aotea Square.

The ever-popular series of Unlocked Collections takes art lovers behind the closed doors of corporate offices and through the corridors of the city's major institutions, and City Art Walks encourage attendees to stop, pause and appreciate the works that bedeck the streets, squares and walls of the city. Bookings are necessary for these programmes.

Late Night Art returns on Tuesday 10 October, with Street Art Dego in Te Ha o Hine Place and Khartoum Place, Ernest Auora's KINA Lights in Freyberg Place, a drawing club session in Little High Street a, performance by Mika Haka at St Matthew-in-the-City, galleries open late and much, much more.

Artweek Auckland is run by the New Zealand Contemporary Art Trust and supported in the central city by Heart of the City and Activate Auckland.

For more information about what's on in the central city, and to download the Where Next App so you're never lost for what to do next in the city, visit www.heartofthecity.co.nz



'Tautai', Tiffany Singh (2016) for Artweek's Changing Lanes. photo - Daniel Davis.

New website

The new Auckland Libraries website is now live, delivering improved accessibility and simpler navigation so you can find what you are looking for. You can now browse the new website from your mobile phone.

The web address is the same: www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz



So you finished your comic, now what?

Thursday 14 September 6.30pm - 7.30pm Free Refreshments from 6pm in the Whare Wananga.

Four experienced cartoonists talk about the realities of getting a finished comic in front of an audience. Moderated by Zak Waipara (Otea), the panel will include Sam Orchard (Rooster Tails), Li Chen (Extra Ordinary) and Michel Mulipola (Headlocked: The Last Territory).



Stars of Aroha with Tess Moeke-Maxwell

Wednesday 20 September 6pm - 7.30pm Free Refreshments from 5.30pm.

Tess Moeke-Maxwell will present her research in creating Stars of Aroha, a new book and resource that incorporates elements from the natural environment with Māori mythology, to deliver meditation readings



Zippy's Tales

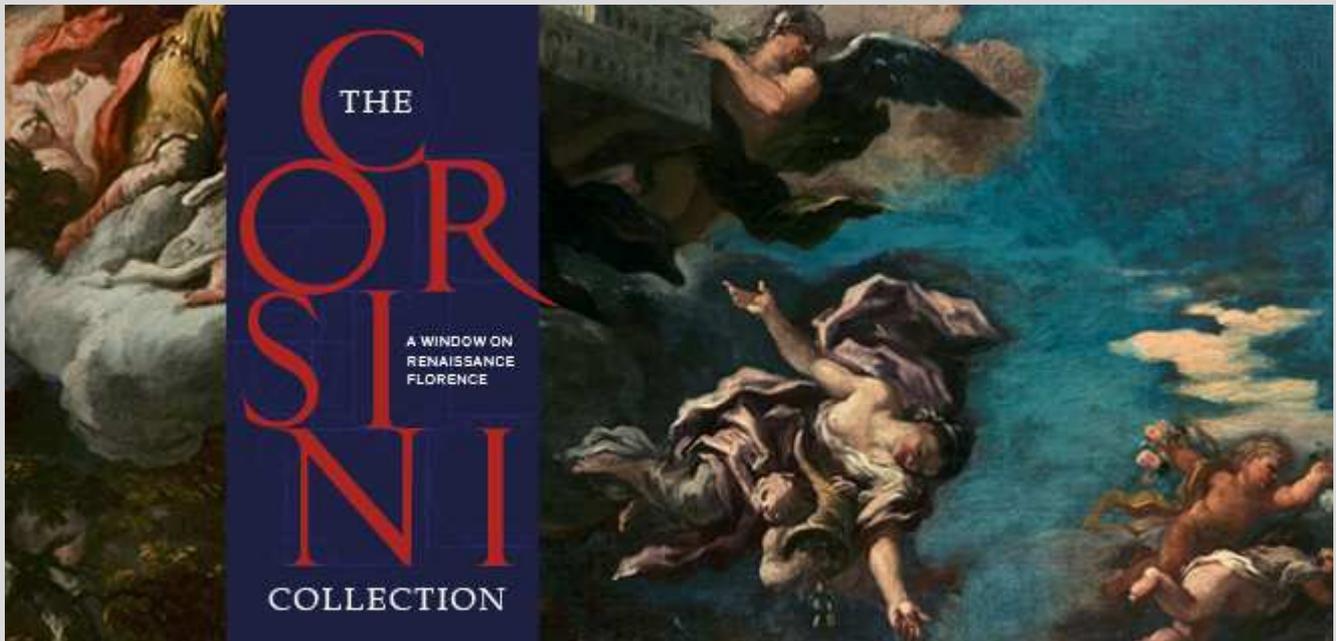
Saturday 30 September 10am - 4pm Free - bookings required.

The ground floor of the library will be transformed into Zippyland, where kids will be transported through a portal to explore Zippy's world.

Zippy is a very cute squirrel who lives on a floating tree in outer space.

Using VR technology, children can accompany her on adventures exploring some of the myths and legends of Aotearoa/New Zealand. You can see your colouring pages come to life through your phone, and explore virtual worlds, all while learning more about Zippy and her friends.





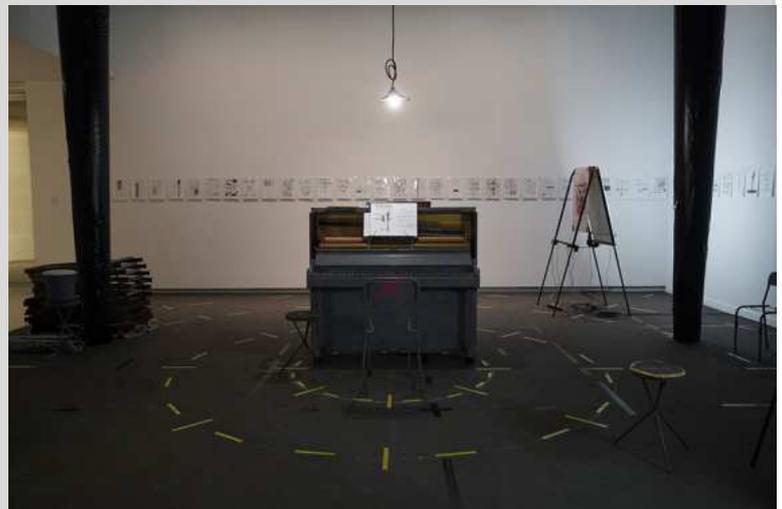
The Corsini Collection: A Window on Renaissance Florence, is a remarkable private art collection of a powerful Italian family, providing a window into the Corsini family's continuing passion for art and their ongoing loyalty to the city of Florence.

Works by Botticelli, Caravaggio, Andrea del Sarto and Pontormo

Until January 2018

Shout Whisper Wail! The 2017 Chartwell Show looks at how an artist might use forms of performance, sound, music or the tools of rhetoric to activate the idea of an audience within their work. Explore how 11 contemporary New Zealand and Australian artists use 'voice' in this triennial exhibition. It features new commissions by emerging New Zealand artists Juliet Carpenter and Biljana Popovic; a new installation by Auckland-based Janet Lilo; the first new work shown at the Gallery in 12 years by Jacqueline Fraser; and a new work by Australian artist Stuart Ringholt.

20 May - 15 October



et al. & Samuel Holloway: Upright Piano (installation view)

A Room with a View Saturday 9 Sep 2017 1pm

This film tells the story of Lucy Honeychurch (Bonham-Carter), a young Englishwoman, is touring Italy with her older cousin (Smith). At a hotel in Florence, Lucy meets the charming and free-spirited George Emerson (Julian Sands). Although intrigued by George, once she's back in England Lucy ponders settling down with the wealthy, staid Cecil Vyse (Daniel Day-Lewis). When George reappears in her life, Lucy must decide between him and Cecil.

Saturday 9 September, Auditorium, lower ground level Free



Vice-Chancellor's Lecture 4 – Wild Auckland: How liveable is the city for nature and people?

13 September, 12 - 1pm

Lecture Theatre 260-092, Owen G Glenn Building, Business School, UoA, 12 Grafton Rd

Speaker: Dr Margaret Stanley, School of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science

Research shows that nature is good for our health and wellbeing, yet 87% of New Zealanders live in urban areas. Dr Stanley discusses research on the surprisingly diverse range of species living within urban areas and the value to city dwellers of protecting it. Risks to biodiversity, including intensification and changes to artificial lighting, are also explored, along with a look at opportunities for improving nature in urban regions.

Albert Street Businesses

Residents on Albert Street are not enjoying the construction during the CRL but the businesses are faring worse. Fourteen of them have complained to AT about the effect that the noise and disruption is having on their business.

City centre residents could consider supporting the businesses on Albert Street during this difficult time. This includes such places as the Shakespeare Hotel, UP Café at number 8, and the Food Alley food court at number 9.

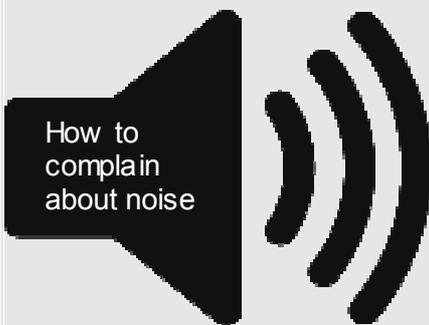
Noise

Central city residents are subjected to more noise than most people in the suburbs, whether this be from vehicles, building sites, events, vocal individuals, leaf blowers or road works during the middle of the night. The latter has been brought to the attention of the CCRG by residents in K' Road. They have our full sympathy and we are in conversation with them on how we can help them with this problem.

Complaints about noise can be made to Auckland Council by phoning 301 0101. Noise complaints can be placed at any time of the day or night. You need to call when the noise is happening.

During working hours you can ask to speak to an environmental health officer or noise specialist.

Some levels of construction noise are allowed during that day. Noise rules don't apply to unplanned emergency works, such as water mains breaks.



Details about how to complain can be found here:

<https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/licences-regulations/noise/Pages/complain-about-noise.aspx>

Once you make a noise complaint, Auckland Council has a legal obligation to investigate.

If that doesn't seem to be happening, you can contact your local board, which for city centre residents is the Waitemata Local Board on (09) 353 9654.

<https://www.ccr.org.nz/> <https://www.facebook.com/aklccrg/>