

ADDINGTON: Old and New

Burke Street and Ruskin Street are two of Addington's iconic 'literary' streets, named or renamed by the Sydenham Borough Council in 1880. They were settled by early colonists in a mixture of simple workers' cottages, and larger villas for the more affluent. Readers will remember last year's protests over the demolition of Enfield Villa in Burke Street, once the home of Henry and Martha Bull and their children (purchased in 1864 with an acre of land that was eventually sub-divided). In 2014 the property was bought by a Russian Developer, but on-sold in 2015 after local protests. The iconic, but shabby villa was demolished in 2016, along with its beautiful garden with numerous fruit trees and a 100-year-old walnut. The recent development of the site comprises six two-storey town houses with adjoining single garages. Access is concreted and the only 'gardens' are very small areas of bark chip on each side of the site.



Photo above (L) shows the demolition of Enfield Villa in April, 2016. Photo, above (R) shows new rental houses built on the site of Enfield Villa. The area is now devoid of trees and grass.



Photo above (L) one of three early cottages in Ruskin Street—the last one standing in May, 2016. Photo, above (R) shows a massive apartment block filling the site of the former cottages, which was still under construction at the end of March 2017. Again there is no evidence of any green space and yellow lines along the road outside suggest that there will be no kerbside parking for residents with two or more cars, or for visitors. (Ed.)

Addington Times

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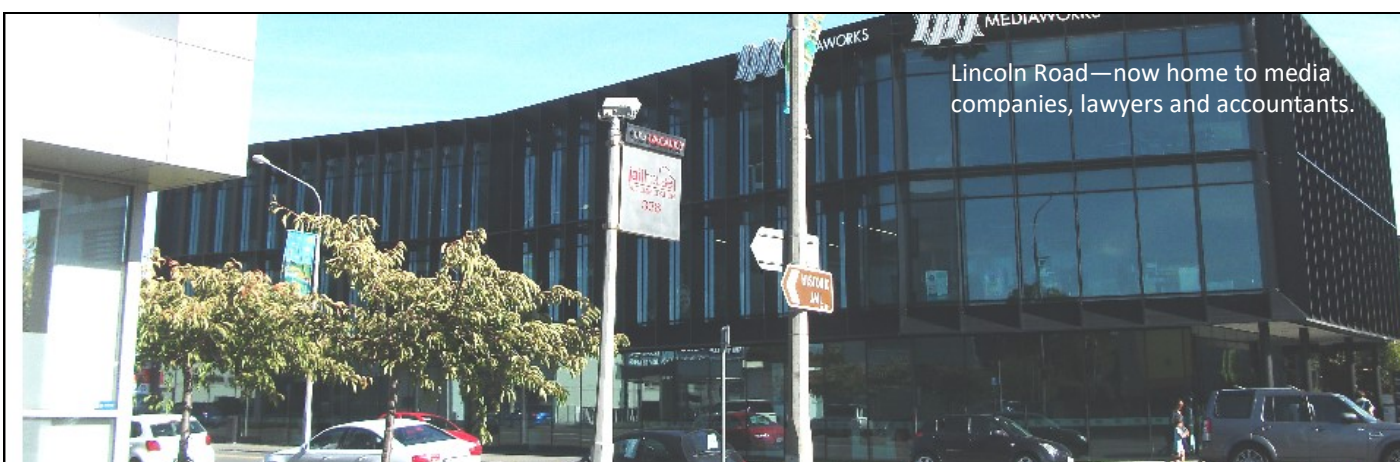
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The Voice of the Addington Community

Addington Times

April 2017



WHAT IS ADDINGTON'S FUTURE?

A few weeks ago *The Press* ran an article that looked at Addington and what had been happening in the neighbourhood since the earthquakes. This appeared only a couple of weeks after St Mary's had its wonderful 150th birthday party in Church Square. Both of these events resurrected in my mind some thoughts that I have been mulling over for some time regarding the future of Addington.

We all know only too well, how much the neighbourhood changed as the central city decamped to Addington in the weeks and months following the February 2011 earthquake. Not only did the media companies, the lawyers and the accountants arrive, but along with them also came the cafés and bars to feed and water the workforce. We also saw the Court Theatre and the city's major rugby stadium set up shop.

So the question for me is, what happens to Addington once some of the businesses leave their new shiny Lincoln Road homes and make the trek back into town? These are new buildings and the rents are certainly not going to be at the pre-quake levels of many of the older premises that were there. What businesses will move in and what will this mean for the local area?

What's going to happen to the hanger that has been home to the Court Theatre once the purpose built theatre is completed in the central city Arts Precinct? I for one would love to see a way to keep it going as a performance space. Having theatre space in this part of town would not be anything new. I cannot even count how many wonderful shows I had the pleasure of watching at the Mill Theatre over the years. Imagine the creativity that would flourish in Addington!

But we all have our vision, hopes and dreams for Addington as we enter a new phase. What I would like to see is an overarching plan for the neighbourhood that brings together all our visions and dreams. Wonderful work has already been begun on collecting together the thoughts of locals on this by Cherylan Davies and community board member Karolin Potter. I would like to see a proactive regeneration plan for the area that prioritises local people and respects the character and heritage of the area while imagining a positive future for our corner of Christchurch.

Megan Woods, Member of Parliament for Wigram.

UTOPIA in ADDINGTON? Is it Possible?

Historically, Addington's distinctive culture was built around the working class status of the residents who both worked and lived locally. The uniqueness of living and working in the same area defined a strong sense of community and the residents' ability to be self-sufficient by growing their own vegetables and keeping chickens and pigs, built stability into the area. It was the bedrock on which Churches, community groups, clubs and educational institutions developed.

There weren't a lot of people moving in and out of the area. The social structure enabled people to know who their neighbours were and they learnt important tid-bits from the gossip hot line across the fence.

Changes to this stability occurred as modernity made its way into Addington. Things like the closures of the railway workshops and other industrial businesses caused loss of local jobs; access to the motor car took people out of the suburb for jobs and shopping; the popularity of supermarkets elsewhere challenged the local corner shop; the TV set in the family home meant the need for belonging to interest clubs wasn't as strong.

The Brougham Street widening divided our suburb, the intensification of infill housing allowed multi-storeyed apartment buildings to be crammed on to sections that once housed one average family in one modest house with a front and back yard; changes were made to the Wards and Electoral boundaries.

With 2017 well on its way, the question remains through all these changes: **WHAT SHOULD ADDINGTON BE LIKE NOW?** That, dear reader, is mostly in your

hands. There are some external things that can't be easily changed, but you are the key to setting Addington's identity, culture and stability. You live here. This is your backyard. Many opportunities are made for you to be involved and directly impact how Addington as a suburb should go.

I am interested in hearing from you; I'm based at Manuka Cottage, and I'm out and about in the community. Both Karolin Potter as TweedleDum and myself as TweedleDee will be at the annual Addington Fun Fair held in November asking for your direction so a plan can be constructed to guide Council and the Community Board with any decisions that may affect Addington. You can attend the Addington Neighbourhood Association that meet once a month, details in this issue. When council put out issues through 'Have A Say', get involved. Talk to your local representatives from Council, Community Boards, the local MP and the Community Development Worker about issues important to you.

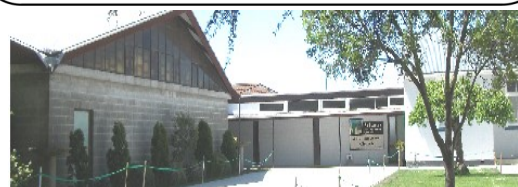
And last but not least, this is election year, and over a period of time there will be articles in the *Addington Times* and in local papers about the enrolment process and how to get enrolled. Manuka Cottage will again run a 'Meet the Local Candidates' so you can make an informed decision and encourage any teenager or young adult to vote this year.

How great would it be if you put Addington on the map with the highest voter turnout in NZ! It can be done. It starts with you!

Cherylan Davies, Community Development Worker.
E-mail: manukacottage@clear.net.nz or leave a message at 3381613

Addington! A Great Place to Live, Work and Play!

addington.net



We are based at Lighthouse Baptist Church on the corner of Barrington and Bewdley Streets.
Open: 10am-12 noon, and 1-3pm.

Addington.net offers expert assistance in all aspects of computer use at minimal cost.

For bookings, call 9627244 or e-mail: info@addington.net



Photo above: Greg helping IT Kids with their 3D printing projects.

OUR CHANGING SUBURB— CONTINUED

The intensification of housing brings with it gains, as well as some additional problems. The higher density of housing apparently puts less strain on infrastructure, such as roading, water supply and waste water removal. This is the thinking behind the Council's desire to see another twenty thousand people living within the four avenues area. People who live close to where they work can walk, cycle or bus to their place of employment. Hence the Accessible City Plan. (Currently streets are not suitable for the disabled or wheelchair-bound.)

But as many central businesses are finding, when people in cars cannot stop and park whilst they shop, then they will keep driving until they reach a place where they can park. The business income can sometimes be less than the obligations of the lease, but this is hard to get out of. No wonder suburban shopping malls are so popular. If small suburban shops are not supported, they close and the local area loses the amenity of those shops, thus making access to a vehicle more important for residents.

Addington is proving popular with some people who work at the Public Hospital and businesses which are just inside the CBD, as well as those who have shifted their businesses here after the Christchurch earthquakes. No doubt, Addington will appeal to many who work at the Justice Precinct or Health Precinct, or are regular visitors to the Metro Sports Centre. (Perhaps they will buy a house, as well as park their cars here.)

The downside of such intensification is that not all residents work or play in our suburb. They are here only because the rents are a little cheaper. The reality for them is, that to get to work, they need a vehicle, and for

a variety of reasons, public transport is not a viable option.

The new intensified housing developments generally allow for one vehicle per household. Driveways are shared, and therefore must be kept clear so other residents can access their homes. Many of the young couples and groups of flat-mates have more than one vehicle per household. This creates two major problems: increased traffic and insufficient parking spaces. The land outside your property belongs to the Council and they are under no obligation to supply residents with on-street parking.

As Addington is a transit area for residents from outer suburbs to access the city, increased traffic flows from those areas, added to more vehicles from within the area, and changes to more cycle-friendly roads will see the number of on-street car parks reduce.

Effects of parking costs and lack of parking availability have already been demonstrated in Addington, with locals parking illegally on the footpath (at the risk of a fine) because there is no space on the roadside. Some CBD apartments are already charging an additional \$20,000 for a car park and one development was offering a motor scooter as part of the purchase price, to compensate for the unavailability of car parking spaces.

Be aware of the changes, otherwise you might find yourself with no place to park your car, or socially isolated because there is nowhere for visitors to park. Do not assume that what is there now will continue as it is. The neighbour in the old house next door, who has space for two cars on his own land, just might have the last laugh.

Graham Robinson

Photo below: A new development near the corner of Feilding and Spencer Streets. (See p8 for more examples of infill housing.)



TUNE INTO RADIO ADDINGTON AT 107.5 FM.

ADDINGTON TIMEBANK



Our members exchange their time helping others in order to 'purchase' the help that they themselves need. Members don't have to make a one-to-one exchange. Just advertise what you can offer and/or the help you are looking for, and see who responds.

You can join us either on-line at www.addingtontimebank.org or come to our community centre, Manuka Cottage (currently based at St. Marys, Church Square), 11am to 1pm on a Wednesday, and have chat to Chrys.

MAKING CONNECTIONS: the TimeBank has been a good way for people in our community to connect and the connections have had a range of outcomes. A few TimeBank Members have found paid work after TimeBank trading. Addington Oscar, for example, began a relationship with a puppeteer by 'employing' her as a story teller through the TimeBank. The relationship has resulted in some paid work helping out with puppet making. Likewise, another individual joined the TimeBank and hoped to find paid work as a result of helping people out. Eventually he too was able to connect into some paid work and to use references from people he had helped through TimeBank.

The connections that TimeBank allows people to make have helped a number of people find just the right assistance they need to run their community groups. The Christchurch Fruit and Vege co-op, for

example, was looking for someone to help with some administration and we were able to connect them to a retired administrator who was keen to find volunteer work. That particular connection was made at one of our TimeBank Dinners in 2016.

we're running another dinner on Friday April 28th from 5.45- 8.30. Cost will be \$7.50 plus one time credit for Timebank members or \$15 for non-timebank members. Contact Chrys at addington.timebank@gmail.com or phone 0272 86 86 53

Chris our cook will be cooking up some great soups, garlic bread (including gluten free options if needed), and we'll have some yummy desert. If you are unable to pay the full amount but would like to come to the dinner, please get in touch. We will also have some family concessions.

OUR CHANGING SUBURB

A comment by Graham Robinson

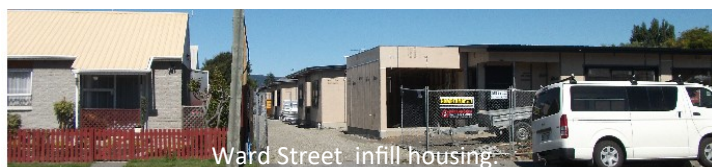
People living in Addington might or might not be aware of the increasing density of housing in this area. When I say Addington, I am talking more or less about the two census areas used by Statistics NZ called Addington and Riccarton South.

Data from the last census (2013) shows some interesting facts:

- There are twice as many dwellings in this area not owned by their occupants, compared to the Christchurch or New Zealand averages. That means that for every house lived in by its owners, there are two more which are rentals or investment properties. Renters do not tend to stay in the same home for as long as people who own the home they live in. They are also less financially and emotionally invested in the properties.

- The number of young people living here aged between twenty and twenty-nine is twice the Christchurch and New Zealand averages.

- There are one and a half times as many young men aged between twenty and thirty-nine as there are young women of the same age.



Ward Street - infill housing.

The above data might be a reflection of the higher density of rental housing which exists in all suburbs just outside the Four Avenues. It might also reflect the cheaper rents for students and young workers, compared to other areas such as those closer to the University of Canterbury.

Numerous 1000m2 (the old quarter acre) sections with old pre-1900s cottages or post 1900s villas are being redeveloped with four to six town houses or apartments on each site. Some would say this is a good thing bringing urban renewal, better insulation, double-glazing, modern building standards and materials, less lawn to mow and no garden to weed. Such urban redevelopment is actively encouraged by the Christchurch City Council, and after the earthquakes many homeowners will be aware that it is often cheaper to rebuild from scratch, than to repair an old building.

Others might think it is sad to lose the older character houses that reflect the working-class roots of this area. Closer living also brings more social problems and conflict between neighbours. Remember, what is new now will eventually become old. **(CONTINUED on p 7)**

Manuka Cottage Addington Community House Incorporated

Operating from St Mary's Church

Activities Co-ordinator: Dianne Fitzgerald

A warm and friendly place for you to enjoy, run by the community for the community.

- Mon** 10am Walkie Talkies Walking Group
10am-1pm Coffee n Chat—10c per cup
11am Parlour Games, cards, etc.
11am-1pm Art Group (*limited places*)
- Tues** 10.30am- 3pm **Women only Day**
Morning tea, Bits and Bobs Projects, Bring and Buy
12 noon Shared lunch
1pm Craft Group - *gold coin donation*
- Wed** 10.30 -11.30am cuppa n chat
12-1pm Community Lunch - *gold coin donation*
11am-1pm Manuka Trading Post Timebank
11am-2.30pm *Manuka Fruit and Vege Co-op*
Collect your order and pay \$15 for the next
- Thurs** 10am Addy-venturers Walking Group
10.30am-12 noon Writers' Group
10am-12 noon Café 10c per cup, 20c biscuit
12.30am-2.30pm Mothers' Community Programme

New activities and groups will arise from time to time. Our goal is to help you to have a sense of belonging and connection in your neighbourhood.

Everybody is welcome and accepted.

Cherylan Davies, Community Development Worker.

ADDINGTON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Contact Dean at:

addington.business@gmail.com

Megan WOODS

Member of Parliament for Wigram



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Labour

Authorised by Megan Woods MP, Shop 8/12 McCarthy Street, Christchurch

ADDINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION

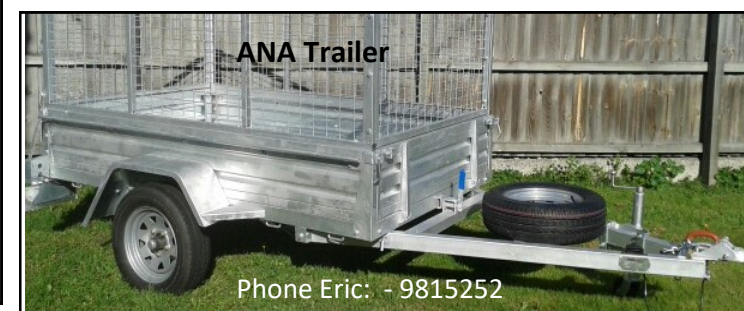
At our March meeting there was more discussion to be had regarding the History of Addington book; it is amazing what people in our community know and are happy to share.

Delta is now contracted to maintain Addington Cemetery including its plots, and we are waiting on more information from Council about the Selwyn Streetscape plan.

For information about the Addington Neighbourhood Association, our community trailer hire and more, visit www.addington.org.nz

Please join us at our next meeting on the last Wednesday of the month — 26 April — 6:30pm at St Mary's Church, Addington.

Amanda Wallis, Secretary.



ANA Trailer

Phone Eric: - 9815252

PEACE CONCERT

With Billy T K and Friends

At St Mary's Church, Addington

Wednesday
5 April
at 7.30pm

All Welcome



SUMMER OF FUN At St Mary's featuring the Beth Hodgson Pancake Race (March 2017)

A great time was had by all, thanks to Allan Hudson, Organiser (*photo L.*), Jason Eager, Master of Ceremonies, and Ian Mac, guitarist/vocalist (*photo R.*), As well as many wonderful volunteers.

Photos: © the editor, Addington Times. (Can you spot members of the Christchurch Fairy Circle?)



Fairies in Addington!

The Christchurch Fairy Circle is a remarkable feature of Christchurch life. It's also a welcome part of Addington's St Mary's Church events. My introduction to the Circle came at the Church's 150th Birthday Celebration in February. A fairy was busy applying face paint to an enthusiastic child while other children waited excitedly. The group's male fairy, Artemis, happily posed for me, and, my curiosity piqued, I met with the Circle's Head Fairy Lily Peas Blossom.

She said there are twenty fairies in the Christchurch Fairy Circle. They are all volunteers with day jobs. 'We are not officially anything. We have no legal status. We do have a donation container at our Fairy Picnics, and that money goes towards the next thing we do. Over this summer we have done thirteen events including New Year's Eve in North Hagley Park. Now that we have proved to the City Council that there's a lot of interest in what we do, it seems likely that a big Fairy Festival will go ahead next year.'

There is a commitment of time and energy to being one of the Christchurch Fairy Circle, with plenty to do – not least in preparation for events. 'At the Family Picnics there are games and face painting and piñata cake. Before one of our Fairy Picnics all the fairies make food and everyone gets a prize or a gift so the kids go home with something. It's a really positive community thing. You have to be really organised and really want to do it.'

Lily Peas is a fashion designer who specialises in designing and making wedding dresses. Her company is called 'Pixie Pocket'. If that name's not familiar it's because she markets on line and most of her sales are in the United States.

The Fairy Circle has been going for about two and a half years. It began after a big get together of 'magical wizard allies' prompted by the man who, since 1974, has been known as Christchurch's Wizard, who likes to be

called Jack. Lily Peas says she made her own fairy dress and that of Ruby Raven Feather, a fellow fairy who is the Circle's photographer. Ruby wondered if they should form a fairy group and the idea caught on. It is important that would-be fairies are suitable. 'People have to be a 'fairy friend' for six months to make sure they get along with the group. It's a lot of work and you don't get paid for it.'

The Fairy Circle enjoyed this year's St Mary's Pancake Race and Summer of Fun Event. It was to mark Shrove Tuesday, the day before the start of Lent. Race participants have to run a race while flipping a pancake a minimum of four times. Lily Peas Blossom — who has been vegetarian for the last ten years — decided to give up being meat-free 'for Lent'. That wasn't a decision she found easy ethically but her iron levels were low so the meat ban had to go. For the six weeks of Lent. You need energy for full-on Fairy work. All power to the Christchurch Fairy Circle.

Di Boyd (text and photos below).

