



# Bush Telegraph

April 2018

## *From the Manager*

The cycleway has undergone some minor alterations: The entrance from the south has been moved closer to Kahu road; a bollard has been installed on the Kahu Road entranceway to prevent vehicle access (yes it has happened!!!), and rumble strips have been placed at both approaches to the house.

Early in the New Year we placed a brochure in the rates demand that went out to 142,000 households in Christchurch. For the first three months of the year the number of people participating in our daily tours has increased by 70%. A rather good result.

The House grounds are a perfect place to bring your dogs for a walk. The Riccarton Bush Bylaw 1955 requires dogs within the grounds to be on a leash. We have never policed this and provided your dog is under control I don't really want to start. Please make sure, that if you are in the eating area, your dog isn't wandering around – not everyone is a dog fan. Also please clean up after your dog – it isn't much fun for the Gardener when he is weeding the borders.

A short week for most this week but we are open on Anzac Day. The cafe is open 9am – 4pm and we will have tours running at 11am and 2pm. Book and pay for a tour and then enjoy coffee or tea at half price.

Shona Willis, Manager

## *What's happening in the grounds?*

Unfortunately we have had to remove two of our significant trees. The English Beech which was on the driveway by the wooden gate was showing severe dieback in the upper canopy and the decision was made to remove it.

Just as we were deciding to close the Bush and Grounds due to the strong winds on 1st February, a large limb of the Copper Beech broke off and fell onto the shared pathway. A closer inspection showed the branch attachment to the tree had been weakened and there was significant internal decay now evident. The tree has been felled but the base of the trunk will remain.

The northern side of the driveway has been cleared and mulched. We will eventually plant, but in the meantime want to fully control the weed growth.



## ***What's happening in the House?***

Earlier in the year we were lucky enough to purchase a collection of flow blue china circa 1890-1910. It now holds pride of place in the old kitchen. The large mahogany table in the Fine Dining Room has been repaired and polished and is looking rather magnificent. We are currently working on plans to upgrade the downstairs toilets and provide more accessible facilities.



## ***Local. at Riccarton House***

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

We have a new autumn menu which is rather scrumptious. Come in and enjoy the warmth of the open fires or choose a beautiful autumn day to sit outside and enjoy the last of the sunny days.

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

Contact details for restaurant booking or private event enquiries:

Phone: 03 348 6190

Email: [info@localatriccartonhouse.co.nz](mailto:info@localatriccartonhouse.co.nz)

Website: [www.localatriccartonhouse.co.nz](http://www.localatriccartonhouse.co.nz)

## ***Tours***

**Mothers' Day Tours** - Sunday May 13th at 11am and 2pm. Accompanied mums come for free. Bookings required on 0274430067.

We run hour-long tours six days a week from Sunday to Friday at 2pm. We have stopped our Saturday Tours over the winter and have added an additional Sunday Tour starting at 11am.

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

Note that for each paying visitor a local resident can have a tour for free.

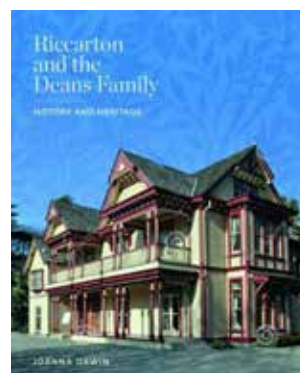
Group and combination tours are heavily discounted and we also run private tours and school groups by prior arrangement.

## ***Noticeboard***

**Special Offer for a limited time - "Riccarton and the Deans Family" by Joanna Orwin** - This beautifully written and presented book can be purchased at the House for \$25.00 - it usually sells for \$50.00.

**Wanted to Buy** - We are looking for a mahogany vitrine or glass-topped display cabinet to display Deans family treasures.

**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](mailto:rbkresidents@gmail.com) for more information.



## ***Contacts***

Manager: Shona Willis, 341 1018 or 0275440462

Ranger: Gavin Ruckledge, 0211332280

Tour enquiries: Antonia Allison, 0274430067

## ***Opening Hours (until 1 November 2018)***

Grounds: 6am – 7pm daily

Bush: 6am – 6.30pm daily

