



# Bush Telegraph

December 2018

## *From the Manager*

Many thanks to those of you who are now using a leash when you bring your dog/s for a visit. The amount of dog poo in the garden beds has decreased dramatically and our Gardener really appreciates it.

A gentle reminder that the Saturday Market is a no-go area for dogs – leashed or otherwise. Food stalls, with lots of pedestrians, and dogs aren't a good mix and we have had a number of complaints from people concerned at both food and people safety. If you are coming to the market please leave your dog at home or with someone who isn't coming into the market area.

We are getting quite a bit of unruliness and vandalism in the grounds and we very much appreciate our close neighbours letting us know when they see this is happening. We have very good cameras and recently were able to identify two young men who set alight one of our cameras.

Christmas is fast approaching and hopefully the good weather is as well. Best wishes to you all for a stress-free holiday period spending time with friends and family and generally doing not too much at all.

Shona Willis, Manager

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

The landscaping is almost finished and looking really good. We have put some temporary fencing around the two new garden beds and this will stay in place until the buxus grows a bit.

Now that the decision has been made not to extend the carparking area we have started planting the north side of the driveway with rhododendrons and azaleas.

The new surface on the driveway is causing us a bit of grief due to the wet weather we have been having. There is limited opportunity for it to dry out and this is creating mud and puddling. Our fingers are tightly crossed that it will dry out completely and set over the summer.

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

We have recently treated all of the moss on the cedar roof tiles, washed the house down completely and spider-proofed the exterior. In addition we have installed extra pigeon spikes to discourage the pigeons roosting and soiling the paintwork. They are very clever and manage to nest in the most inaccessible locations - even on top of the spikes.

Inside we have had the floors in the old kitchen and also Deans Cottage re-oiled and they are looking really good.

We have applied for funding to renovate the downstairs toilets which are looking rather tired. If we are successful we will start the work around the end of May. We were unsuccessful in our two attempts to obtain funding to replace the 25 year old carpet on the ground floor. We will keep repairing in the meantime and look at other sources of funding next year.



## Tours

We run hour-long tours six days a week from Monday to Friday at 2 pm. Sundays 11am and 2pm. Group tours are heavily discounted and we also run private tours and school groups by prior arrangement.

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

Note that Locals accompanying an Adult or Senior get to have a free tour with our 2:1 price special.

## 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, memorial services and more.

Contact details for restaurant bookings or private event enquiries:

Hannah Goldfinch

Phone: 03 348 6190

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

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

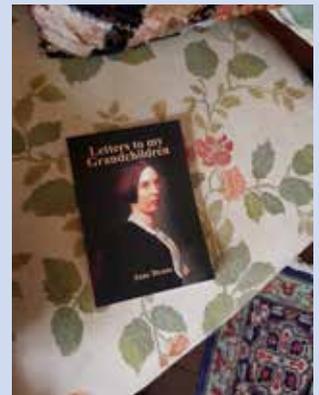


## Book Release - Letters to My Grandchildren

This book was first published by the Riccarton Bush Trust back in 1923 with subsequent editions in 1971 and 1995.

One of our Guides, Marina Steinke, has had considerable experience with publications so, together with Antonia Allison, has put together a vastly improved publication. The enhancements include a larger font, over 100 pictures, maps and drawings, two family trees and a timeline to provide context to the reader.

**Christmas Special** - This attractively presented book, which usually sells for \$24.95 can be purchased at the House for \$20.00 – a wonderful Christmas present. We are also offering a Christmas combo which includes a copy of Letters to My Grandchildren and a standard house tour for \$30.00. This Special will run from Monday 3rd to Sunday 16th December.



## Noticeboard

**Christmas Hours** - The house and cafe close on Friday 21st December and will reopen on Sunday 6th January.

**Christchurch Farmers Market** - Special Christmas Market on 22nd December. Markets as usual every Saturday throughout the festive season.

**Christmas Carols** - The St James and St Marks Church are again hosting Christmas Carols in the grounds adjacent to the Scout Den. Sunday 9th December from 6pm – 8pm

**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 February 2019)

Grounds: 6am – 9pm daily

Bush: 6am – 8.30pm daily

