

## Earthquake rules affect valley landmarks



Christchurch earthquakes of 2010, it has been more vigorously enforced. WCC began evaluating buildings in the CBD, in what City Councillor and Built Environment portfolio leader, Iona Pannett,



**Above and left: Blythswood apartment block - solid, sun-lit, centrally heated unit living. Owners could be up for two million dollars in costs to upgrade to required standards.**

**A number of well-known Aro Valley buildings have been put on notice by the Wellington City Council to earthquake strengthen or demolish within 15 years.**

Among them are the 1928 Blythswood flats on the corner of Willis and Aro Street (above), the Yeung Shing building on the corner of Willis and Palmer Street, due for demolition (below), Philosophy House, and the bike shop and hairdresser's building at 93 Aro Street.

The Wellington City Council has put their owners on notice to restrengthen to a certain level or demolish them within 15 years.

The City Council's Earthquake-prone buildings policy dates from 2006 and was reviewed in 2009, but following the

describes as a "desktop exercise" Some buildings may prove to be much stronger than initially assessed. Of thousands of buildings reviewed, almost 600 have been assessed as "earthquake prone". These include a number in Aro Valley, Abel Smith and Willis Streets (see list). Aro Cafe at 88 Aro Street closed for ten weeks to have two internal brick walls replaced in order to bring the building up to standard.

The coloured stickers (red, orange and yellow) popping up on shops and buildings around Wellington are "nothing to do with the colour-coded stickering in Christchurch," Pannett says. A yellow sticker means the building is considered "earthquake-prone but not declared dangerous." Red is "dangerous", but she point out there are only six of these in the whole of Wellington.

Tony Simpson is chair of the owners' committee at Blythswood apartments, which has a 'yellow sticker'. Blythswood's ownership arrangements preceded modern 'body corporate' laws. Each apartment owner signs up to a memorandum of lease, making them joint owners of the building.

"Blythswood has a reinforced concrete shell, but the bottom floor and the basement, where the boilers are, are masonry-based," Simpson says.

Because it's not under the Unit Titles Act, the Blythswood apartments are not required to have

full insurance, but until recently had always been insured for full replacement value.

"Suddenly, all the underwriters put up their premiums," says Simpson.

The cost moved from \$14,000 to \$54,000 in a single year, and then to \$132,000 the following year, with no guarantee that it wouldn't keep increasing. The owners' committee called a meeting, and residents almost unanimously said "no" to further earthquake insurance payments. They would rather put the money into improving the building to the Wellington City Council's earthquake requirements, and take their chances.

So they canned their earthquake insurance, and immediately reduced their premiums by over \$100,000 a year.

The initial structural plan for restrengthening the building quoted around \$2 million, about half of which was for the strengthening work and the other half legal and administrative costs. This would make the 34 unit title holders – some of them pensioners – each liable for costs of nearly \$60,000, with inner walls removed and months of disruption to tenants. Simpson says that the owners' committee is looking at a number of ways to bring the flats up to WCC requirements more cheaply and less invasively.

### **Other buildings on the list:**

33 Aro St - Philosophy House  
 47 Aro St (cnr Boston Tce) - residential  
 93 Aro St - bike shop / hairdressers  
 147 Abel Smith St (top, cnr) - residential  
 294 Willis St - Foodmarket dairy  
 296 Willis St (cnr Palmer St) - Yeung Shing  
 300 Willis Str (cnr Palmer St) - residential  
 327 Willis St (part of) Stillwaters bldg  
 355 Willis St (cnr Webb St) - Mercure Hotel  
 1-3 Brooklyn Rd (14 Nairn St) - The Villas



**Beloved old-fashioned eatery the Yeung Shing closed in December 2012. Building owners have resource consent to demolish the circa 1910 corner building and replace it with a modern three storey apartment block. It is classified 'earthquake-prone'.**

## Sculpture table in the park

One fine weekend in December, local artist and school teacher Mary Whalley held a public 'Sculpture Table' in Aro Park. Mary says: "There was an amazing turnout of people who made some awesome sculptures and had great conversations." Barry Thomas describes his experience of the event.



I spoke at some length with Mary about her work – funded by Council grant – in Aro Park. "I want to see sculpture in this park." We wholeheartedly agreed. I apprised her of my position as secretary of the Aro Valley Community Council and old desire for more art in and around the valley.

We talked with Mary about her "mission" ... "I see what I am doing as 'idealistic antagonism', and yes, it fits in with relational aesthetics ... making events, taking actions that cause people to come together in different and hopefully better ways."

I took some photographs of the mainly younger people at the workshop ... most with their own youngsters collaborating



on making their characters, etc. Overnight Mary baked the works and returned and had them painted for the finale – placing them around the park.

I think it is an obvious positive that these kinds of participatory events and their art outcomes could and should be a constant in the Capital. For me – forget the high priced \$350k monstrosities and let's go for many, many more smaller, fun and community-based art ideas like Mary's ... displayed as permanently as possible ... or rotated so as to make new works every year.

What about bus shelters – that brilliant new interventart piece in Brooklyn (where Dick Whyte and I played together, sharing wonderful musical bit and song pieces, for an afternoon of the last day of the 2012 year) – and gutters, lamp posts, roads themselves ... they could all be places for art to make new tourist-attractive ideas, radical ideas, stimulating cultural icons ... hey, this is truly right up my alley, having planted 180 cabbages illegally in the CBD in '78 as a work of art!

So I say – let's take the city by storm ... more yarn bombing please, more guerilla and urban gardening, more individual and anti-institutional interventart. Just



do it. And councillors ... just support it ... it will make us a world capital for other than faux-Scandinavian, yanky dollar-subservient film monstrosities. What better and more benign industry could a city and a people have? What more can the likes of the leading enterprises Letting Space and Christchurch's Gap Filler (inspired by the Kreuzberg cafe – an open air vacant site industry/cafe) give us city dwellers, let alone visiting hordes?

There is a revolution going on here. It's called, people want a share of how our cities are, how they work and what they look like, feel like. It's about humanising and naturalising the bleak CBDs ... I mean, for one thing, let's re-name them Central people's areas (CPAs) or, better, Cities with nature (CWNs)? Ideas – and dreams – are free....

In the end, art joins an audience together democratically; often the art issues from the conscience of the artist working to free her/himself from constraints and contradictions. That's its job: art is just leading, seeding radical new memes in the pavement cracks of culture ... framing elephants in rooms.

Very well done – and be deservedly proud, Mary Whalley – much more please.

## Tyre swing mystery

**I have at times noticed a tyre swing on the big gum tree in the park. While it was there it was enjoyed by young and a little older alike. The children used it frequently and I have, on the odd occasion, seen older young people stop, put their handbag and jacket on the lawn, have a little swing and go on their way. It disappeared for a while (I put this down to the odd hooligan action). It reappeared and now its gone again. I'm sure I'm not the only valleyite who would like to see it reappear.**

*M Brien, Te Aro*

## AVCC news

The next AVCC meeting will be held on Tuesday, 19 February 2013 at 7.30pm at Aro Valley Community Hall. All residents of the Aro Valley are welcome to attend.

# LETTERS

## We welcome your opinions

Please send us your letters, feedback, photos and stories from around the Aro Valley.

Email: [aro.voice@gmail.com](mailto:aro.voice@gmail.com)

## Bikes and tracks

I'd like to respond to recent letters about mountain biking and the proposals for improvement and additional tracks in the Aro Valley area. We have been regular users of the track network since moving to Mortimer Tce in 1991.

Thank you to the vast majority of mountain bikers we've encountered who are courteous and safe users of the tracks. We are also grateful to the track builders. The new tracks are just great. They give us the opportunity to appreciate Wellington's rapidly regenerating bush and wonderful views from new angles, not to mention a healthy and enjoyable way to maintain fitness.

There are two main issues I want to address: (1) the proposal that the existing track up Brosnahan to George Denton Park be reserved for downhill bikers only, and another track with a gentle gradient be built for other users; and (2) the conflict between bikers and other users.

(1) We are regular users of the current steep rutted track from Brosnahan to George Denton Park. The new track is proposed to be two-way for walkers and runners and uphill only for bikes, and "a gentle gradient" (Dave Halliday Nov 2012). The existing track would be downhill only for bikers.

We are very much in favour of the new track, but do not agree that the existing track should be reserved for downhill only bikers. We are not keen on exclusive use tracks on public land, especially where it is so close to a major population centre. I realise there are already some tracks that are supposed to be for just one type of user, but it seems to us that the City Council should be protecting everyone's rights to use public land, which we all pay for.

Exclusive use for one type of user is a dangerous trend in my view.

Also, we like the existing steep track, though it could use some maintenance. So many tracks are even, gentle gradients that barely raise a sweat. It takes ages to progress up a slope on such a path, thus they are not very conducive to maintaining one's fitness, nor does one reach a "destination" (eg the turbine) in a reasonable time. We also find these even gentle tracks tend to encourage overuse problems in knees and other joints. One's body needs variety.

(2) On the issue of conflicting use, over the years we have had some close calls with bikers hurtling around blind corners, or speeding down slopes too steep to allow for safe stopping. My husband has Parkinsons and can't move quickly enough to get out of the way. Actually neither of us can. The speed and suddenness with which some bikers appear out of the blue, and the impossibility of choosing the right way to go to get out of the way means we can only hope they have sufficient skill to avoid us, not a happy feeling for us or the biker. Keeping to the left doesn't work as some bikers' trajectory doesn't allow for that.

We think the onus is on the biker to take responsibility for the consequences of their risky behaviour, much like car drivers who must drive within the limits of the road conditions and their own ability. That said, we would be happy to get out of the way. I don't care so much about the rights and responsibilities, I just don't want to get hurt, nor do I want to see anyone else hurt. But I can't get out of the way if I've got no time to do it!

Can't downhill bike riders find a way to warn other users that they are coming? A simple way would be to shout when approaching a blind corner. This worked well a few years ago when we were having repeated frightening encounters with a racing downhill biker on the roller coaster. Shouting shouldn't absolve a biker from being held to the same standard as a car driver on a blind corner, but at least we all might have a better chance of avoiding injury, and that is what I care about. *Susan Guscott, Aro Valley*



## Bike tracks approved

Wellington City Council has decided to build a new mountain bike track from the Valley up towards the Karori Sanctuary, despite some local objections.

The council received 48 submissions about the proposed track, 37 in support, 10 opposed and one ambivalent.

The council will now convert the steep existing track from George Denton Park down to Holloway Road into a downhill mountain bike track. It will then construct a new, less steep track, to be used by walkers and uphill mountain bikers.

Council officer David Halliday said: "Given the park has a reserve status of 'recreation reserve' and that building the additional track will alleviate conflict issues on the one current track, council has supported the proposal."

The new track building is expected to start in March this year and take up to two years.

Responding to concerns, council officers said current track construction techniques minimised the risks of slips, and unspecified 'speed reduction measures' would ensure walkers' safety. As for tree damage, the track would largely affect mahoe, which re-grows quickly, and the track would give officers easier access to areas where they wanted to do invasive weed control.

In general, the 80ha reserve was "sufficiently large" to accommodate another track, officers said.



Above: Long standing Aro Valley community leader, Pam Whittington (centre), at December's 'Over-50s' do in the Aro Valley Hall

# Could Aro Valley grow its own vegetables?

**Local gardeners Kai o te Aro have big plans for the coming year, including growing food for local shops, running more working bees, and making the Valley less dependent on outside food sources.**

Charles Barrie, the group's community development facilitator, says there is no reason why they couldn't build on their three existing sites – the Secret Garden, the Steps Garden, and the Orchard – to help the Valley become more independent.

"I don't believe in self-sufficiency, but community sufficiency," he says. "We could be community sufficient in the valley for green vegetables. We need a lot more garden sites, but there are potential sites all over the valley. In the Orchard alone, you could grow broccoli for everyone at least along Aro Street."

In the Secret Garden, which lies just off Aro Street, the group have since 2009 planted an array of fruits and vegetables, including raspberries, blueberries, a triple-grafted apple tree (Splendour, Royal Gala and Braeburn) and Jerusalem artichokes.

Kai o te Aro garden holistically: they rotate crops, and grow native trees and wild flowers alongside the fruit and vegetables, promoting biodiversity and nourishing the soil. Parsley is allowed to go to seed, because it attracts hover flies, whose larvae eat aphids.

They also grow apple mint, which they have been providing to Aro Street deli-

catessen Haya. "And that's just the beginning," Barrie says. "There's big plans appear to grow stuff on contract for them – which is obviously really good for their image, and really good for us as well."

In the Secret Garden, which is on privately owned land, the group is also considering putting in a gate to the next-door property so that the neighbour's chickens can come in and peck around.

Kai o te Aro has around 10 people as its core group, but 120 people – and growing – on its mailing list, Barrie says. And the people are the key to the group's success. "We were a group of people who wanted to work together even before we had a garden. The community part of community gardening is the key part. You can't manufacture a community."

Barrie has put in "hundreds and hundreds of hours" on the gardens, but insists: "I'm the most visible of the Kai o te Aro group, but I don't necessarily do the most work. And ultimately I answer to the group."

Up the road at the Steps Garden, opposite the entrance to Adams Terrace, the group are planning a greenhouse made out of recycled plastic bottles to go alongside existing plantings and a native lizard habitat. The land belongs to Victoria University, and has been leased for a nominal fee for the last couple of years. "Before we started, it was just a rat-infested sea of blackberries," Barrie says.

Just past the Steps Garden, and right by Aro Street, is the Orchard, which has eight fruit trees, including a Chilean guava and a pear tree. The site was previously used as an informal rubbish dump, and Barrie has had to "confront a few people" about their littering.

Now, more healthily, the group have built compost bins, which are being "filled up really quickly" by locals. In future, Barrie says, the bins could be run on a system



**Above: Kai o te Aro**

where people have to register to use the compost bins, and after they contribute to them, are entitled to a share of the compost.

In general, the group operates informally. Together they plan what will be planted in each garden each season. But when it comes to harvesting the crops, Barrie says, "Whoever picks it gets to eat it. People probably do take advantage of that, but I don't care – as long as they are not destroying it – because freeloaders always get their comeuppance, in the greater karma of things."

Kai o te Aro serves many purposes, Barrie says. Apart from making the community more resilient – "the plan is to grow more food than we need and distribute that to where it's needed" – the gardening is fun, and gives people something meaningful to do. "People like working together; people like to get their hands dirty. It's psychologically nurturing for people to have control over their environment, and gardening is good for that."

It's also, he says, "a big experience in collective decision-making and collective activity. It's about people power."

"On a broader level, I don't think the Wellington City Council is ever going to get it right. I think we're going to end up with an alternative governance structure that rises up from the community."

Kai o te Aro have had setbacks: \$500 worth of wood, to be used to make garden beds in the Orchard, was stolen, which Barrie says was "pretty frustrating". But generally things are going well. They are building links with the Aro Valley Committee Council and the Radical Centre at 128 Abel Smith Street, and looking forward to running more working bees tailored around locals' specific interests in 2013.

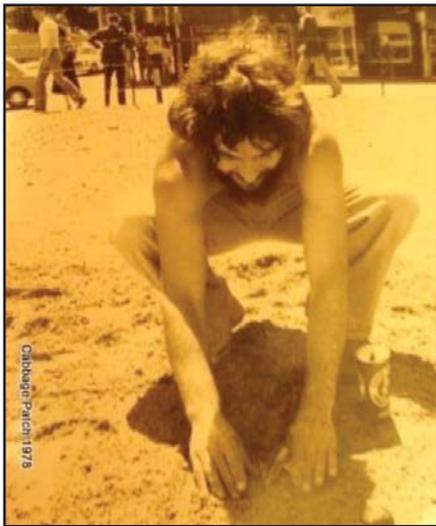


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## Te Papa buys Barry's historic cabbage patch photos and documents



Artist Barry Thomas has had belated official recognition for his revolutionary cabbage patch planting on Willis Street in January 1978.

Te Papa has just purchased Thomas's archive of photos and documents of his interventionist piece of art.

Thomas, who was working as a bricoleur at the time, had seen a vacant site on the corner of Manners and Willis Street, the present-day Dukes Arcade corner.

It was a time of ferment, both artistically and politically. The world was still absorbing the effects of French artist Marcel Duchamp's 'readymades' – everyday objects that he transformed into art by placing them in galleries – alongside the insights of structuralism and other movements.

"When I planted the cabbages, there was revolution in the air," Thomas says. "We hated Muldoon – and the times were a-changing."

## Devon Street trap for large vehicles

Drivers paying more attention to their global positioning systems than to a sign at the top of the street that says "unsuitable for long vehicles" appears to be the cause for a truck and a bus getting caught at the same hairpin bend late last year. Cranes had to be brought in to remove them.

Meanwhile, WCC is again petitioning Devon Street residents not to park on the footpath, despite an earlier agreement that they be allowed to.

In politics, the launch of the Values Party and other 70s movements meant that the time felt right to challenge people's ideas about what effect art could have on private spaces. "I would describe it like a building pressure, and the cabbage patch became a release for that," Thomas says.

Thomas and friends planted 180 cabbage seedlings in heaped mounds that formed the word "cabbage". He says: "There's something about a cabbage that's not a lettuce – they're such a dense piece of vegetable."

As the idea of occupying the space caught on, the cabbages were joined by a sofa, armchairs and a television set, as well as a scarecrow waiter with a cabbage for a head, a half-buried mannequin and a pink tricycle.

The cabbages were then harvested six months later.

Thomas draws parallels with other, later acts of interventionist art, such as the mass planting of 7,000 oaks in Germany from 1982 to 1987 by the celebrated artist Joseph Beuys.

"There is a whole generation or two, not copying what I did but seeded by the same inspiration," he says. "In the last decade, versions of the cabbage patch [have been] happening all over the place."

That inspiration can be seen in interventions such as the Brooklyn bus shelter recently taken over and furnished by local artists. "Who shapes our streetscape?" Thomas asks. "When it comes to public art, who determines that? It gets very interesting."

To those who say, 'It's only a bus shelter,' he responds by pointing to the widespread importance – and influence – of street art in general. "It's only graffiti – what does that mean? It's only Banksy – what does that mean?"



Above: December 2012 (photo: Charles Mabbit)  
Below: A few months earlier (courtesy Fairfax)



## More trees gone



Above: Row of three yew trees removed in Palmer Street.



Above: Front garden taken out for Buller Street development.



Above: Ben Moore removes large sycamore tree next to the bunker, behind the Aro Valley Community Centre. When asked about the removal of the tree, AVCC co-chair Bridget Stocker said: "As yet, the reasons for Ben doing this are unknown."



Above: The Doubtful Sounds evening performance. Below: The Wagtails



## Summer sounds fill Aro Park

The park came alive with music, market stalls, sausages, a coffee van and evening film screenings on Saturdays through January, thanks to the efforts of Martin Wilson and all those who contributed (some of the performers pictured left).

The Aro Valley Fair is on Saturday 23 March

Contact:

Community@arovalley.org.nz

## WANTED: Cleaner

For the Aro Valley Community Centre - to keep the hall in tip top condition for all hall users. Includes floors, kitchens, toilets, foyer area and office. Between 3-5 hours per week. Expressions of interest and enquiries to Centre Co-ordinator Linda Beatson:

community@arovalley.org.nz or 384 8499 by Friday 1st March.

## Aro Valley Community Pre-school



**FREE childcare for 3 and 4 year olds for up to 20 hours per week**

We cater for children 2 to 5 years old

Hours: Monday to Friday 8.30am to 2.45pm

Fees: \$4.10 per hour for 2 year olds and for

3 and 4 year olds using more than 20 hours per week

**Places available now !**

**Opening for 2013 on Monday the 4<sup>th</sup> of February**

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Email: arovalley@clear.net.nz

Website: [arovalleypreschool.blogspot.co.nz](http://arovalleypreschool.blogspot.co.nz)

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# REGULAR HALL USERS

Day	Time	Activity & Cost	Contact
Monday	7.15 - 8.15am	Tai Chi Class (Koha)	Yi Ching Mao 384 3588
	3.00 - 5.00pm	Czech-speaking Playgroup	Sarka 3884638 shark83@extra.co.nz
	6.00 - 8.00pm	Capoeira (\$10 casual /\$40 - 8 classes)	Bobby Semau 027 6961708 bobbysemau@gmail.com
	8.30 - 9.30pm	Private booking	
Tuesday	9.30 - 11.30am	English Language Class Beginner Level \$3	Teacher Wendy Vink Contact Linda 3848499
	12.00 - 1.00pm	Sit and Be Fit (\$3 per class)	Kathy McConville Linda 384 8499
	6.00 - 7.00pm	Nia Classes	Alison Henderson 04 476 4618 021 881 849 alison@zensation.co.nz
	7.30 - 9.00pm	Private booking	
Wednesday	7.15 - 8.15am	Tai Chi Class (Koha)	Yi Ching Mao 384 3588
	9.30 - 11.30am	English Language Class Elementary Level \$3	Teacher Wendy Vink Contact Linda 3848499
	5.00 - 6.30pm	Private booking	
	6.30 - 8.00pm	Starjam (Term time only)	Saran Goldie Anderson Regional Programmes Co-ordinator 04 589 6386 • 021 782 866 www.starjam.org
Thursday	9.30 - 11.30am	English Language Class Higher Level \$3	Teacher Wendy Vink Contact Linda 3848499
	6.00 - 7.00pm	Samba Hillary Mitchell & Fabiola Stevenson	Hillary.Reid@vuw.ac.nz 0212308732 fabiola.stevenson@gmail.com 0274726964
	7.30 - 9.00pm	Yoshukai Karate (\$10 a week - pay what you can afford. Includes 2 <sup>nd</sup> weekly class Northland Community Centre)	Colin Berry 027 2495342 04 4759985
Friday	7.15 - 8.15am	Tai Chi Class (Koha)	Yi Ching Mao 384 3588
	7.30 - 9.00pm	Salsa (with Rocio)	Rocio Pizarro Vargas 021 237 5214
Saturday	9.30 - 11.00am	Chalkle - various classes	http://www.chalkle.com
	11.00 - 12.00pm	ZUMBA Fitness (\$15/\$10 with ID)	Rafael Ferrer 382-8232 www.cubanfusion.co.nz
	1.00 - 3.00pm (last Saturday of the month)	Capoeira (23 February 2013)	Bobby Semau 027 6961708 bobbysemau@gmail.com
	3.00pm	Wellington bike polo - in the basketball court	wellingtonbikepolo.wordpress.com
Sunday	9.30 - 2.30pm	Forward in Faith	Shadreck Mamhute smamhute@yahoo.com shadreck.mamhute@kiwirail.co.nz 021 244 6045
	5.00 - 7.30pm	Chalkle - various classes	http://www.chalkle.com
	7.30 - 9.30pm	Private booking	



## VALLEY VOICE

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS AND FEEDBACK TO:

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Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the writers and not of the Aro Valley Community Council (AVCC) unless adopted at a general meeting.

AVCC co-chairs 2012-13:

Bridget Stocker

Madeleine Rashbrooke

Secretary: Barry Thomas

Treasurer: Mattie Timmer

Committee members:

Jane O'Loughlin, Julia Brooke-White, Clarry Inwood, Jay Buzenberg, Gareth Rouch, Chris Kennedy

Aro Valley Community Centre  
Coordinator:

Linda Beatson

Community@arovalley.org.nz

**STOP EXERCISING and  
START MOVING!**



**Nia Classes in Aro Valley**

First class Tuesday 12 February 5.30pm  
Aro Community Centre

A progressive introduction to the Nia Technique  
"Perfect for those new to Nia"

Bring this ad to 12 Feb class and pay only 1/2 price  
plus go in draw to WIN prize pack worth over \$70!!

Contact Alison 476 4618 / 021 881 849  
E: alison@zensation.co.nz  
W: www.nianz.co.nz / www.nianow.com



**We don't want to sell what we own!**  
**Rally against asset sales**  
**Wednesday, 13 February**  
**Frank Kitts Park**  
**6pm**

**Scott Alexander Watling****11-10-79 – 8-12-12**

Scott was one of the first to move into Aro Valley's Argo House in 1995.

He loved life at Argo and participated fully in the community – amongst other things exhibiting his art at Thistle Hall and the Southern Cross, sailing weekly at Evans Bay and joining the other residents in many amazing adventures and activities. Prior to moving into Argo Scott was the first profoundly disabled person to move right through the schooling system in Wellington – from primary school right through to college.

Argo Trust and Scott's family are fundraising for a Hydrotherapy/Spa Room to be built at Argo for his flatmates to enjoy as a lasting

memory to Scott. He leaves behind parents Robyn & Alec, Sisters Claire & Christina and new niece Cora-Mae aged 3 months.

**Scott Watling: artist****Council tasks for 2013***By Councillor Iona Pannett*

As I sit back at my desk, I'm enjoying a terrific Wellington summer. I hope that you have all enjoyed your break.

This year will be a demanding one with a number of important issues on the agenda: delivering an affordable budget at Annual Plan time, facilitating the creation of more jobs at a time of quite high unemployment, stopping the Basin Reserve Flyover, consulting with the public on regional governance issues and making further progress on the city's earthquake strengthening programme (see cover story).

We will also be attempting to make further progress on a new Town Belt Management Plan for the city. I'm aware of concerns

around the removal of the land stretching between the Boyd Wilson Field and Devon and St John's Streets from The Town Belt. This issue will be carefully considered at deliberation time.

I remain concerned about the need to protect the precious character of the Valley, a number of issues have cropped up around planning controls and a new development, and I hope that these will be resolved this year.

In the meantime, enjoy the continued sunshine.

Iona 384-3382/021-227-8509 or [iona.pannett@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:iona.pannett@wcc.govt.nz)

The above building has been classified by the Wellington City Council as earthquake-prone under the Building Act 2004.

The meaning of earthquake-prone is defined by section 122 of the Building Act 2004 in conjunction with clause 7 of the Building (Specified Systems, Change the Use, and Earthquake-prone Buildings) Regulations 2005.

For further information please refer to the Wellington City Council's Earthquake-prone Buildings Policy 2009 (Policy). You can view the policy at [www.wellington.govt.nz](http://www.wellington.govt.nz).

As the building is classified as earthquake-prone, and in accordance with the Policy, the owners of the building are required by 27 APRIL 2027 to either:

- a) strengthen the building to a sufficient degree so that it is not earthquake-prone; or
- b) demolish all or part of the building, so that the remainder of the building (if any) is not earthquake-prone.

Above: Part of the notice displayed by the WCC on earthquake-prone buildings (see cover story)

**SUNDAY ROAST**

**\$18 WITH A HAVANA COFFEE**

**SOUTHERNCROSS**  
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