

## Council Candidates do battle at Aro Valley ‘waterfight’ debate

Two hundred people crammed into Aro Valley Community Centre for its famous and much anticipated ‘Meet the Candidates’ evening for Council hopefuls these elections.

*Krissy Cloutman*

On Monday 19 September the Mayoral, Lambton Ward and Regional candidates came together in Aro Valley hall to tell us why we should vote for them. The doors opened at 6.30pm but by 6.00pm people were streaming in aiming to get their front row seat to witness the debate up close and personal.

AVCC committee member Roland Sapsford told everyone to “snuggle up close and get to know your neighbour as it’s packed in here”. Stuff news reported that “about 200 people crammed into the tiny room. The lights cut out a few times and the microphone lost power at one point, but it wasn’t a conspiracy to silence the candidates, rather, it was the result of people leaning on light switches and tripping over power cords as they jostled for what little space there was on offer”.



**Wellington mayoral candidate Helene Ritchie whips out her umbrella to shield herself from the water pistol barrage that follows speaking too long at the Aro Valley election debate.**

Bryan Crump was MC for the night and did a fantastic job. The speaking order of the candidates was determined by drawing numbers out of the hat and water pistols were used on the candidates when they ran over their allotted speaking time.

The Regional candidates spoke first, followed by Lambton Ward and then the Mayoral candidates.

The topics were serious, but the debate was fun with lots of laughter. . The

biggest laugh of the night came after an audience member asked Wellington mayoral candidate Jo Coughlan if she was channelling United States presidential nominee Donald Trump by proclaiming that “Wellington can be great again” in her campaign pamphlets. “Maybe he wants to be me,” Coughlan replied with a smile. Current deputy mayor Justin Lester was the crowd’s favourite, he told the hall we do need to ease the congestion at the basin reserve but we don’t need to do it with a flyover, and that we do need a balanced public transport system.

Mayoral candidates Helene Ritchie came prepared with an umbrella and told everyone “I am the most experienced candidate in all sorts of ways.”

Results:

The total Wellington voter return was 45.57%, being 65,567 voting papers. Congratulations Justin Lester who is elected Mayor (see page 3 for his comments) and Iona Pannett, elected again for Lambton Ward (see page 5).



## What's on at the hall?



Tutor Sarah Stark (far right) with just some of her happy students

## ESOL Students Graduate

We have had another successful programme of English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) at the community centre. We have had 3 classes a week over 24 weeks. This year we have had students from 16 different countries including China, Taiwan, Israel, France, Poland, Mexico and Peru.

The classes have been run by the fabulous Sarah Stark who has put huge amounts of time and energy into the beginner, elementary and advanced classes. Sarah believes that the English classes really offer a great service to the community and she has loved being part of them. She says it was such a welcoming and positive environment each week and she can see the students gain in confidence.

The classes have been filled to capacity and the students who have attended have not only improved their English skills but also made connections and friends.

Lucas Corneto who came to the intermediate and advanced class every week commented that he

learnt so much from Sarah whilst attending and was grateful to be part of ESOL at Aro Valley.

Jessica Artus arrived in New Zealand from France and struggled to make herself understood, she remembers the day she went to the bank but could not make herself understood to even open a bank account. She has left the classes feeling a lot more confident and now has a bank account! As well as improving her English she really enjoyed the social aspect and loved the fact that she met so many people from different countries.

Thank you to Wellington City Council for funding these classes, we are proud of the fact we can assist so many people with developing their English as well as making connections and friends.

**New Conversational English Class:  
Thursdays 10.30 – 11.30am**

**In term 4 we are starting a free conversational English class at the community centre. If you are interested contact us or just turn up on Thursdays.**

## Wellington Free Yoga Day

**On Monday, 24 October**, the Wellington yoga community will be inviting everyone to join them for free yoga classes around the region. People can try yoga for the first time, attend a new studio, try a new style of yoga, and meet instructors.

Wellington Free Yoga Day encourages beginners to use this day of free classes to try yoga for the first time. Aro Valley Community Centre has the following classes running throughout the day:

12pm– Hatha and Pranayama yoga

2pm – Power Flow Vinyasa

3.30pm – Yin Yoga

5.30pm – Yoga en Espanol

If you would like more information on class schedules, descriptions and participating studios, please visit [www.freeyogaday.nz](http://www.freeyogaday.nz) or [www.facebook.com/wlgfreeyogaday](http://www.facebook.com/wlgfreeyogaday).

We have three fabulous community yoga classes on offer at Aro Valley Community Centre at the moment. Come and bend, stretch and ease yourself into a more flexible, relaxed person. Current classes include:

Tuesday 6.00-7.00pm: \$5 class

Wednesday 10.00-11.00am: Koha

Saturday 9.00-10.00am: Cost \$5

Thank you to Compass Health for their support in running the Wednesday yoga class.

## Security in Aro Valley

**There is an on going problem** with vandalism in Aro Valley. If you are experiencing issues such as letter boxes and car side mirrors being destroyed, please report it to the Wellington Police Station on (04) 381 2000. If the police are aware of the on going problems they will take action and community patrols will start monitoring the area more regularly.

**ARO VALLEY FAIR DATE CONFIRMED:  
SATURDAY 11 MARCH '17**

# Mural makeover planned for the basketball court starting November

Two brand new murals are planned for Mid-November thanks to local and City Council funding. The community project will see consultation and design input from local artists and youth.

By *Krissy Cloutman*

AVCC has been lucky to bring on board two local talented artists, Stephen Templer and Sean Duffell to create two new murals in this area. Working alongside them will be a small group of young graffiti artists learning new skills and contributing ideas and assistance.

The Aro Valley based artist Stephen Templer, who's illustrations and murals are part of the Wellington visual landscape is passionate about the city and regularly brings fun and energy to Aro Valley and Wellington through art projects such as the Arolympics and the recent festival of lights on bikes down at Wellington waterfront.

For his mural Stephen will be getting design input from students at Te Aro Primary School.

Stephen wants to "create a mural that is a beautiful inclusive vibrant reflection of Aro Valley, like a series of postcards or stamps from the valley. A love letter from home to some one living abroad."



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Sean Duffell the second artist, is a full-time Wellington based Graphic Artist, predominantly painting commissioned large scale walls in public and private spaces nationally and internationally. Sean has a strong sense of community and enjoys working alongside young people to educate, inspire and bring social change. He has a personal affiliation with Aro Valley having lived here for several years and he continues to create his own personal works in Aro Valley when he can.

The mural project will be a team effort. Thank you to the Wellington City Council (WCC) for funding this project and the advice and input from the Rod Baxter from the Boys and Girls Institute (BGI). We would also like to thank The Garage Project for

their support, they have helped raised \$515 for the project so far and Hire Pool, Aro for contributing a scissor lift to the project.

The Aro Valley mural project will be taking place Mid-November.



## Word from the new mayor of Welly

Kia ora koutou Aro Valley residents. I'm delighted and humbled to be your new Mayor.

I love Wellington and I know how much the people who live here, in Aro Valley and in all suburbs, love this city too. In my experience, Wellingtonians are passionate, outspoken and committed to their communities – and that's brilliant.

We all want Wellington to be a city that's thriving, a place with lots of jobs and lots happening, but be a place that's fair and looks after those who

choose to settle here.

Wellingtonians – and I have spoken to a lot of them in the last few months – have told me they want a Mayor and a Council which is innovative, decisive and has new ideas. I'm going to work hard to deliver on that.

My priorities as Mayor are:

- Kick-starting Wellington's economy and supporting local business
- Making housing affordable and a rates rebate for first-home builders
- Improving Wellington's transport and freezing the cost of public transport

- Creating the world's first predator-free capital

- Greening our city

- Protecting our libraries, parks and pools, with free swimming entry for under 5-year-olds and their caregivers

- Putting art at the heart of the city

Looking after our most vulnerable by establishing New Zealand's first wet-house

Strong communities don't happen by chance, they need good planning, good facilities and a good team – I look forward to collaborating with your community.

Justin Lester

# Aro Valley Preschool



*A caring  
learning community*

Monday to Friday 8.30am - 2.30pm

**04 384 5156**  
[arovalleypreschool.nz](http://arovalleypreschool.nz)

# Goat on a Rope

Garden Services

Energetic, young and not so young, local workers with a range of skills and tools seeking small or big jobs

Lawn mowing

Section clearing

Weed control

Hedge trimming

Pruning

Tree trimming & felling

General garden maintenance

Slip clearing

Green waste removal

Planter boxes

Garden furniture

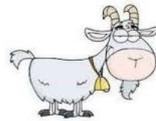
Wood chopping

Spouting clearing

Vegetable gardens

Chicken coops

Goats



022 0977 236 or 934 8516 or  
[goatonaropenz@gmail.com](mailto:goatonaropenz@gmail.com)  
or fb;goatonarope  
(text or email preferred)



Hi lovely Aro folk,

If you would like a **free** hessian shopping bag, then send me your name and address, and I will have one delivered to your home, please email or text me on the details below.

Happy plastic bag free!!

# ZoeSmith

ACHIEVE YOUR BEST RESULT

021 856 887 | [zoe@tommys.co.nz](mailto:zoe@tommys.co.nz)

# Community Hāngi attracts hundreds

**Aro Valley creates a popular new community event centered around food, hapori and building stronger connections.**

*By Amy McEwen*

Three Hundred People turned out for a community hāngi in Aro Valley in August.

The evening was part of a series of meal based events Aro Valley Community Council has been running, aimed at bringing the community together and supported by CompassHealth.

Volunteers from the community and Wellington Timebank worked all Saturday and Sunday to prepare and cook the food, which was slow-cooked in a kai-cooker hired from Kahurangi School.

The popular event even saw one former resident travel from his new home in the Wairarapa to attend.

One of the organisers, Daniel Brown, says the event is all about harnessing community spirit.

“That’s what it’s all about, bringing the community together,” he says.

Local businesses in Aro Valley helped out by donating food for the event.



**Young timebanker Charlotte with 200 meals prepared by volunteers**

Those attending could either donate food for the hāngi in advance or pay a koha at the event, which contributed toward the cost of food.

Lexi Taylor, community developer for the AVCC, also saw the hāngi as an event which connected people with Maori culture.

“The Aro Valley is a beautiful community which loves to get together, and what better way than with food? she says.

Initially there was a fear that because of the big interest in the event they may run out of food.

However in true community spirit, many shared their meals.

Te Aro School performed Kapa Haka before the food was served at six thirty pm.

Byran Crump, MC for the night, was impressed by the amount of effort put into the evening.

“A group of about 10 to 15 people started preparing the food yesterday at about 11 in the morning and the food finally went into the hāngi at 11 o’clock this morning,” he says.

Aro Valley Community Council hopes to repeat the event next year.

## Holiday Programme

The Aro Valley School Holiday Programme celebrated spring and warmer weather with an action packed timetable this season. We couldn’t run a community programme without fantastic help from volunteers and businesses in our community. AVCC would like to acknowledge their kind donations and efforts over the last two programmes. Thank you Jahn Lindsey, Tommy Millions, Esther Lofley, Pascale Parentau, RNZ Ballet, Reiko – Honey Badger Studio, Daniel and Sonny Brown, Yair Metargem, Yi Ching, Stu Farrant, Chris Tennet, Hannah Simpson, Peter Methven, Russel Taylor, Bunnings Lyall Bay, Majula Patel and Georgina at Garage Project.



**Local kids Connell and Ben build new ramps with Russell Taylor a the school holiday programme.**

**Councillor Iona Pannett**

Affordable housing, greening the city, cheaper bus fares, strong action

on climate change and a rental warrant of fitness will be on my agenda as we start a new Council term.

I’m honoured to have been re-elected to the Lambton Ward and am grateful for the support given by voters. Some great new councillors have joined the team and I look forward to working with them and new mayor Justin Lester to make our city even better.

I’m also very much looking forward to continuing to serve the Aro Valley community. My immediate priorities for the Valley are to work with the community to upgrade the Aro Valley hall, resolve user conflict issues around Polhill Gully and making the land below Te Aro School part of the Town Belt. I am very much looking forward to the next three years.

Iona Pannett 021-227-8509/iona.pannett@wcc.govt.nz.

# AVCC Vacancies

Please visit [www.arovalley.org.nz](http://www.arovalley.org.nz) for more information

## Aro Valley Community Developer Extraordinaire (Fixed Term Parental Leave Vacancy)

Aro Valley is a vibrant inner city community of 3,500 people. We're looking for a person with experience and aptitude in developing and running community events and community programmes, building relationships and fostering community cohesion. You'll need to be able to manage your own time and work well in a small team.

This community development role is based in the Aro Valley Community Centre office, alongside and with support from the Community Administrator.

This is a 12 month fixed-term, part-time role – 20 hours per week, over 4 or 5 days. You will be filling the position while our community developer is on parental leave.

The salary is \$47,840 – \$52,000 pro rata for hours.

## School Holiday Programme Team Leader 2017

Aro Valley School Holiday Programme is looking for a new and experienced team leader for the January programme (2 weeks) with the opportunity to continue throughout the primary school term breaks of 2017. The role would be suited to a mature person with previous experience in child care or teaching, with strong management and communication skills. The role includes planning a creative programme with the community centre coordinator, managing staff and staff rosters and supervising children to have a great time. The role is based at the Aro Valley Community Centre.

## How to Apply for the above roles

Please view the job descriptions in full at [www.arovalley.org.nz](http://www.arovalley.org.nz). apply by email to [community@arovalley.org.nz](mailto:community@arovalley.org.nz) by 5pm on the 26th of October 2016.

You'll need to attach your CV and a letter setting out why you'd be great

in this role, focussing on the key tasks and skills required for the role as set out in the job description. You also need to provide at least two references.

## Christmas Tree Sales Coordinator - Contract for Services (Nov 2016 to Jan 2017)

This is a part time contract position of between 90 to 110 hours split into 3 parts as follows:

Pre Sales (5 – 15 hours) November 2016

Task include: Supplier liaison; Assist with volunteer's roster; Hang and place advertising banners; Administration and supplies preparation for sales.

Sales (80 - 90 hours) 1 - 23 December 2016

Tasks include: Assist with selling of trees 3 to 6.30pm Wednesday to Friday and 9.30am to 6.30pm Saturday and Sunday; Assist with volunteer's roster; Manage stock quality, orders and deliveries; Administration, daily sales reconciliation and banking.

Post Sales (10 hours) January 2017

Tasks include: Take down advertising banners; General tidy up; Administration; Debrief meeting.

## Christmas Tree Sales Assistant - Contract for Services (Dec 2016)

This is a part time contract position of between 50 to 60 hours as follows:

Sales (50 - 60 hours) 1 - 23 December 2016

Tasks include: Assist with selling of trees 3pm to 6.30pm Monday to Friday ; Assist with volunteer's roster; Assist in the management of stock quality, orders and deliveries; Provide cover for Coordinator on their days off for administration, daily sales reconciliation and banking duties.

Please submit summary of your suitability and availability for this contract role to [arovalleyxmastrees@gmail.com](mailto:arovalleyxmastrees@gmail.com) by Friday 4 November 2016.



## Aro Video Shizzle

*By Kiel Taylor*

With Halloween just around the corner and the likelihood of Holloway road raking in all of the trick-or-treaters, this month's Shizzle will be mostly about the world of Horror, mostly.

### The Walking Dead: Season 6

The sixth season of one of television's greatest shows has just become available to rent from our favorite video store within a month of the seventh season televised release.

As a fan of the show's source material I have to admit that the show has always slightly lacked the heart and beauty of the graphic novels, but the first episode of this season was mostly done in black and white which was a nice nod to the monochrome design of the comics. The Walking Dead series is a highly character driven piece which will have you fearing for your favorite characters lives. This season has a lot of that with a couple of the leads especially the final episode which will either leave you wanting more or wanting to never watch it again.

Rating - 70%

### Top 5 scary non Horror films good for the Family

5 – Coraline (2009) Rated PG - 7/10

4 – Poltergeist (1982) Rated PG – 7/10

3 – Return to Oz (1985) Rated PG – 7/10

2 – Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory (1971) Rated G – 8/10

1 – Jurassic Park (1993) Rated PG – 10/10

### Hunt For The WilderPeople

Just for fun I'm going to give you guys my short view of this film.

Possibly the best New Zealand film, ever. It's hilarious, fun, warm hearted and at times tear jerking. An A-list movie that must be seen asap.

Rating – 95%

**Monday****7:15 am – 8:15 am**

Tai Chi Class (free)

Lynsey 021 267 6638

**6 pm – 8 pm**

Capoeira \$10 per class

\$50 for 8 classes Bobby

Semau 027 696 1708

bobbysemau@gmail.com

**Tuesday****12 noon - 12.45 pm**

During school term

Sit and Be Fit

Kathy McConville:

teacher

Contact Community

Coordinator

3848499 / community@

arovalley.org.nz

**1 – 2 pm**

Hair for you @ Aro Valley

haircuts \$20 and under

Kellie 027 800 7432 /

kllwtkns@gmail.com

**3.30-5.30pm**

Acting Classes for Kids

Jen McArthur jennyrowan.

mcarthur@gmail.com /

021 321 508

**6 – 7 pm**

Yoga With Katie

\$5 per class

community@arovalley.

org.nz / 384 8499

**7.10 – 9.10**

Taiko Drumming

Jessie Gibbs

narukamitaiko@gmail.

com

**Wednesday****7:15 am – 8:15 am**

Tai Chi Class

free

Lynsey

021 267 6638

**10 am – 11 am**

Open Yoga with Bridget

community@arovalley.

org.nz

**6.30 pm – 8 pm**

Starjam

Susannah Potts

wellington@starjam.org

212 4971 / 021 782 866

**Thursday**

CSA Organic Pick up

**10.30 – 12.00pm**

Conversational English

Class

Contact: community@

arovalley.org.nz

**2.00-2.30pm & 3.30-****4.00pm**

Pre-School Dance Class

Contact: Debbie info@

db4dance.co.nz / www.

db4dance.co.nz

**6 pm – 7.00 pm**

Samba from Brazil

Hillary Mitchell &amp; Fabiola

Stevenson

\$10 per class

Hillary Mitchell

021 230 8732

Hillary.Reid@vuw.ac.nz

**7.30 pm – 9 pm**

Yoshukai Karate

\$10 or pay what you

can afford. Includes 2<sup>nd</sup>

weekly class at Northland

Community Centre

Colin Berry

475 9985 / 027 249 5342

Cberry2020@gmail.com

**Friday**

CSA Organic pick up

**7.30 – 8.30am**

Tai Chi Class (free)

Lynsey 021 267 6638

**10.30 am – 12.00 noon**

During school term

Sing For Your Life –

Community singing

Come along any time

to have a great sing &amp; a

cuppa. \$5 a time.

Julian Raphael

802 5398

communitymusic@xtra.

co.nz

**1.00 – 2.00pm**

Zumba Dance Class

Contact: Belen 021

029687

Saturday

**9 am – 10 am**

Yoga with Bridget

\$5 per class

Contact: community@

arovalley.org.nz

**10.30-11.00am**

Pre-School Dance Class

Contact: Debbie info@

db4dance.co.nz / www.

db4dance.co.nz

**11.00 – 12.30**

Afrobrazilian Dance Class

Yovana Lienqueo

yovana.lienqueo.m@

gmail.com

0224514092

**1 pm – 3 pm****First Saturday of every****month**

Capoeira

Free

Bobby Semau

027 696 1708

bobbysemau@gmail.com

**Sunday**

7.30pm-9.30pm

Taiko Drumming

Jessie Gibbs

narukamitaiko@gmail.

com

**Editor: Lexi Taylor**

Distribution:

Krissy Cloutman

All contributions and

feedback to:

arovalley@gmail.com

or 384 8499

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Aro Valley Community

Council

48 Aro St

Wellington

**AVCC**

Co-chair: Luke Allen

Co-chair: Hilary Unwin

Secretary:

Heather Mackay

Treasurer:

Rachel Griffiths

Committee Members: Brent

Efford, Jay Buzenberg, Jo

Brien, Karen MacIntyre,

Madeleine Rashbrooke,

Nicole Benkert, Roland

Sapsford, Chris Carey-Smith,

Zeke O'Connor-Sapsford

**Aro Valley Community****Centre**

community@arovalley.

384 8499

## New after school classes

**Choreography 4 Kids (or Make Your Own Dances) Oct 17- Dec 15 2016 (6-10 yrs) \$95**

This is a class for boys and girls who love to dance. It's about discovering your own style, having fun and creating your own dance masterpieces! The inspiration for this class is to encourage play, let kids find their own movement

and express themselves physically.

**Tues 3.30 – 4.20pm**

**Comedy Club 4 Kids Oct 17- Dec 15 2016 (8 – 12 yrs) \$95**

A combination of physical comedy (a la Charlie Chaplin/ Mr Bean) and theatre, this class allows kids to play and be silly and learn how to mould it into something watchable. We will look

at physical comedy and clown skills and learn things that make people laugh. We will also look at theatrical storytelling and create skits with comic characters and situations of the participants' making.

**Tues 4.30 – 5.20pm**

Aro Valley Community Centre

CONTACT: Jen

McArthur, [jennyrowan.](mailto:jennyrowan.mcarthur@gmail.com)

[mcarthur@gmail.com](mailto:mcarthur@gmail.com),

021321508, [jenmcarthur.com](http://jenmcarthur.com),

# Song for Ernie Abbot

By Don Franks

Maybe you might know the building, Wellington's trades hall  
Not the flashiest place in town, it's dingy old and small  
Where unions keep ticking over, from year to weary year  
They seldom make sensations, but thank god, they're still here  
Union people help the working folks in many different ways  
Without their efforts we'd have even colder darker days

The end of one grey autumn day, near time to shut the door  
Ernie took a one last look around the foyer floor  
"Some silly bugger's left his bag, I'll stow it" Ernie said  
He grabbed the little handle and a union man was dead

Now they never caught the bastard who booby trapped our place  
All we do know it was somebody afraid to show their face  
Who didn't front like Ernie, and happen how it may  
He wore it for the rest of us still in the hall that day

Now thirty years later, the old building still remains  
It seems easier to count the knocks than tally up the gains  
But unions keep ticking over, from year to weary year  
They seldom make sensations, but thank god they're still here.  
'cos union people help the working folks in many different ways  
Without their efforts we'd have even colder darker days

# Festival of Place



Over the weekend 19th and 20th of November the community site development project is holding an open, family friendly event! Fun, interactive and informative activities will be facilitated by participatory professionals to help us all contribute to the voice and the collective thinking for the Aro Valley Community Spaces. Refreshments will be provided as we "gamestorm" through the day. More information coming soon! Keep an eye out for the ARO VALLEY, FESTIVAL OF PLACE and please come and join in for the greater good!

## Beautiful new signs in place for AVRCP



Aro Valley Restoration Project has great new signage. Here Darcy Mendano and Emily Elvin, the designer, are planting a sign at the entrance to our main site, Tanera Gully, at the top of Epuni St. Just up from the world famous in (Aro Valley) compost bins.

Lexi Taylor, the Community Developer for AVCC, facilitated getting the signage which was sponsored by the Aro Valley Community Council. There is another sign on the hall in the park. For anyone who wishes to join us the next planting and weeding sessions are 2-4 pm on Sunday Oct 16th & 6th November and Tuesday 8th November. We will meet by the sign. If you can, please bring your own tools. We have put in about 1000 trees this winter, including 200 rata, which were once a conspicuous feature of the original vegetation in the valley. We still have a few more plants to go in before the summer dries out the ground and meanwhile the weeds are growing very fast. Every couple of hours work makes a big difference to this project. for more information please contact [denis.asher3@gmail.com](mailto:denis.asher3@gmail.com) or [jbwstace@gmail.com](mailto:jbwstace@gmail.com)