

# our christchurch

Christchurch City Council news, events and information  
6 December 2012

## New Regent Street sparkles

Some of the Spanish Mission Style Buildings on New Regent Street are sparkling thanks to support from the Council's Heritage Incentive Grant scheme.

Heritage Incentive Grants can be used for the repair, renovation, and maintenance of a heritage building. In New Regent Street grants were awarded to a number of owners who applied before the earthquakes as part of plans at the time to revitalise the street.

Funding was given for installing wall ties to improve structural performance, repairs to external plasterwork, replacement of existing roofing material and repainting and retiling of the street frontage. An important goal was to support the preservation of as much of the street's original materials and 'story' as possible.

While the project was interrupted by the Canterbury earthquakes the buildings performed well structurally due to including a concrete frame in the design. This may have been added in response to the 1931 Napier earthquake.

The New Regent Street project showed how the Heritage Incentive Grant scheme in parallel with other funding can help provide protection for heritage buildings, says the Council's City Planning Unit Manager Brigitte de Ronde.

"We have been very happy to support the care and revival of these much loved buildings.

"The Council, like many owners of heritage buildings, understands the need to invest in the long term future of heritage, and the importance of regular maintenance work whether done alongside, or despite of earthquake damage."

David Manning, who owns four units in the street, says the grant has provided much needed help.

"It's rare to find an intact street in the Central City and this particular street is unique in the Southern Hemisphere. It looks so much better now and we're very much looking forward to opening to the public in the next few months."

### Examples of how to use Heritage Incentive Grants:

- seismic upgrading of building structure
- replacing lost components of buildings
- installing fire protection devices and systems
- appropriately cleaning, repainting and repairing facades



The facades of New Regent Street buildings have been painted in hues of green, yellow, orange and blue, based on clues from the original plaster work.

## Gardeners encouraged to water sensibly this summer

Christchurch City Council is encouraging green-fingered residents to water sensibly this summer.

Council City Water and Waste Manager Mark Christison says gardeners should keep up the great effort made last year.

"While 12 months of hard work repairing water pipes, wells and pumps means Christchurch's infrastructure is in a much better state than this time last year we all need to be sensible in our use of water in the garden," says Mr Christison.

If you live in Akaroa, or are planning to holiday there, it's worth noting level one water restrictions start this

weekend (Saturday 8 December) for that community.

This means people with odd-numbered street addresses can water outdoors on odd-numbered days, and those with even-numbered street addresses can water outdoors on even-numbered days.

Mr Christison says summer places a huge seasonal strain on Akaroa's stream-fed water supply. Both locals and holiday makers need to be aware of the restrictions, be responsible and conserve water as much as possible.

The restrictions are likely to be lifted in March or April 2013, as visitor numbers decrease and cooler weather returns.

The water restrictions apply to Akaroa, but Banks Peninsula residents and visitors are particularly asked to conserve water in general and be mindful of water use when washing cars and boats and irrigating gardens.

For tips on saving water in the garden visit

[www.ccc.govt.nz/waterwise](http://www.ccc.govt.nz/waterwise)



## Christmas comes to Latimer Square



Christmas festivities in Christchurch have a new home at Latimer Square.

Festive events will start this Saturday (8 December) and run until Christmas Eve.

Features include the Telecom Christmas Tree, a phone box where kids can ring Santa, an Encraftment Market to buy last minute pressies, YMCA Carols by Candlelight (celebrating its 65th anniversary), a Christmas Eve Church Service and a

huge Advent calendar counting down the days.

The GIANT ZM Advent Calendar, made of now-familiar shipping containers and housing over \$50,000 worth of prizes, will open one door each day until December 24 to reveal prizes for lucky 91.3ZM listeners.

For more information, including a schedule of events visit

[www.ccc.govt.nz/christmasonlatimer](http://www.ccc.govt.nz/christmasonlatimer)

## Council's Christmas opening hours (for public)

### Civic Offices (Hereford Street) and Service Centres

Closed from Christmas Day and re-open on Thursday 3 January.

### Public Information Counters

Closed from Christmas Day and re-open on Thursday 3 January.

### Libraries

Close at 6pm Christmas Eve and re-open on Thursday 27 December. Close at 6pm Thursday 27 December, Friday 28 December and Monday 31 December.

Open normal weekend hours Closed New Year's Day and re-open on Thursday 3 January. Akaroa and Diamond Harbour Libraries will close at their usual times.

Little River Library and Service Centre will be closed from Christmas Day and re-open on Thursday 3 January.

### Kerbside Collection

Kerbside collections that would normally occur on Christmas and New Year's Day will be moving forward to the Saturday prior: 25 December will move to 22 December

1 January will move to 29 December Collections will occur as normal on Boxing Day and on 2 January.

### Transfer stations

Closed on 25 and 26 December 2012 and 1 January.

### Botanic Gardens

Open seven days a week, 7am – 9pm. The Info Centre will be closed on Christmas Day.

### Christchurch Art Gallery Shop

Closed Christmas Day.

### Jellie Park, Pioneer and Graham Condon Recreation and Sports Centres and QEII Fitness at Parklands

Closed Christmas Day. Close at 6pm Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Open at 10am New Year's Day. Otherwise, holiday hours (7am-8pm at Jellie Park and Graham Condon; 7am-7pm at Pioneer; or 8am-2pm at QEII Fitness at Parklands) will apply Wednesday 26 December – 7 January.

For more information phone 941 8999 or visit

[www.ccc.govt.nz](http://www.ccc.govt.nz)

