

Building Services team earns re-accreditation

Council's Building Services team is set for re-accreditation, following a biennial national assessment of its systems in June.

THE assessment ensures that the Building Section is following the Building (Accreditation of Building Consents Authorities) Regulations 2006, which set out the minimum policies, procedures and systems that the team must use.

If the team is not accredited under these regulations, it cannot continue to operate as a building control authority.

Every two years, International Accreditation New Zealand (IANZ) spends time in the Council's Building Section, carrying out checks of the system to ensure Council can retain its accreditation, which was first gained in 2008.

A lead assessor from IANZ, along with a technical expert and two observers from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE), were at Council for two days in June.

They have checked thoroughly to make sure that Council's Building Services team has:

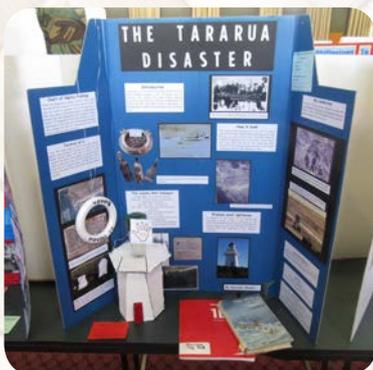
- Competent, experienced staff;
- Internal and external quality control checks;
- Effective systems and procedures;
- Properly calibrated equipment; and,
- Validated testing methods.



Building Services Manager Brendan Monaghan (pictured) said: "I'm very pleased that, apart from a few minor tweaks to the systems, IANZ will recommend re-accreditation, and so we are 'good to go' again".

"Thanks go to all of the Building Services team who have worked hard to make sure that we are accredited once more."

Mr Monaghan said for the team to achieve its levels of service in relation to the statutory clocks, it may need to use external contractors to perform some building consent processing and inspection services. This was a reflection of present staff shortages.



Councillors come up trumps

SHOWING that they are community-minded and have good senses of humour, ICC Councillors recently put their hands in their pockets to fund a prize in the 14th Southland Social Sciences Fair.

Organiser Cr Lloyd Esler persuaded his

Council colleagues to put up the Councillors' Prize for the best exhibit in the Conflict and Disaster Section. (He cautioned not to read too much into that!)

First prize went to an entry on the Tararua wreck, second on the Titanic and third on the Springbok Tour.

Catalogue project yields rich connections

BY KIMBERLEY STEPHENSON
COLLECTIONS MANAGER

IN LATE 2016, the Southland Museum and Art Gallery launched a programme to systematically upgrade its catalogue records. One of the major benefits of this project has been to once again bring to light the rich connections that exist between individual items in the collection and the community.

A recent re-connection that was made as a result of this ongoing upgrade was between two early twentieth century paintings and contemporary local artist Chiaroni (Greg McDonald), whose great-grandfather, Mansueto Chiaroni, established a commercial art gallery and picture framing business in Invercargill as early as 1903. With more details about many of the pieces in the art collection now having been entered into the database, a quick keyword search revealed that Mansueto's business label appeared on the back of two works: an oil painting titled *Highland Cattle* by Ada Lewis, dated 1903, and a watercolour painting of the New River Estuary, Invercargill, by Emily Moffett (née Moseley), dated 1922.

Ada's painting, which is a copy of a famous work of the same name by William Watson II, was framed in a thick gilt frame by M. Chiaroni and Company while it was based near the former Briscoes Building on Dee Street. Emily's work by contrast is housed in a thin, gold-painted frame with a gold-coloured mat, which was completed following the business' move to Tay Street. Both women were local artists. Ada completed her painting during or soon after her studies at Convent High School, while Emily was the proprietess of a small art school in the city from as early as 1896.

Greg has vivid memories of the family home and the paintings passed down by his great-grandfather that it contained. Today he continues on a rich family tradition of supporting the arts in Invercargill, and is about to open a commercial gallery with Sean Woodward on Don Street.

Such meetings across time are part of the value that resides in museum collections. And as our knowledge of the collection grows and becomes more searchable, the more connections that will come to light. Watch this space!



Chiaroni (Greg McDonald) inspecting one of his great-grandfather's business labels.



TOP: Emily Moffett (d.1947), *The Fisherman*, 1922. Collection of the Southland Museum and Art Gallery Niho o te Taniwha. Purchased 2003.

BOTTOM LEFT: M. Chiaroni Art Depot label on the verso of Emily Moffett (d.1947), *The Fisherman*, 1922. Collection of the Southland Museum and Art Gallery Niho o te Taniwha. Purchased 2003.

BOTTOM RIGHT: M. Chiaroni and Company label on the verso of Ada Lewis (after William Watson II), *Highland Cattle*, 1903. Collection of the Southland Museum and Art Gallery Niho o te Taniwha. Gift of Margaret Joy Llewellyn Lewis, 1969. O69.84



Students of democracy



STUDENTS from Southland Girls' High School visited the Civic Administration Building this week to learn about Council and the democratic process.

Two classes, 8LR and 8AS, spent time in the Council Chamber learning about elections, elected members' responsibilities, plus committee and meeting processes. Each class held a mock meeting, with students taking the place of the Mayor, Councillors, Chief Executive, staff and the media.

This week's sessions follow visits in April by three classes of students, also from Southland Girls' High School.

Parks staff praised for compassion

Chief Executive Clare Hadley this week received a letter from Raewyn Benzie, Southland Secretary for the National Council of Women Southland Branch. It read:

AT the June meeting of NCW Southland the attention of members was drawn to a situation where a woman was discovered distressed and homeless.

Parks and Reserves staff on hand at the time treated this woman with utmost care and compassion. Eventually there was a positive outcome for her due in no small part to these staff members coming to her assistance.

We wanted to write to alert you to this commendable action which speaks of the generosity and caring people in our city.

With our good wishes.

Raewyn Benzie

(NCW Southland Sec)



National Council of Women
Southland Branch

21 August 2017

Clare Hadley
Chief Executive Invercargill City Council
101 Esk Street
Private Bag 90104
Invercargill

Dear Clare

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Raewyn Benzie
(NCW Southland Sec)

Paintings flood in for Jiangsu competition

BY MARY NAPPER

WE ARE overwhelmed by the paintings that have flooded in from Invercargill schools and families for the Jiangsu International Painting Contest.

Invercargill's Chinese sister city Suqian, invited Invercargill children to enter the competition run by Jiangsu Province, which has 80 million people.

The theme was "Dreams of the Future" and children and young people have been keen to give their interpretation. Up to 30 paintings will be selected to be sent to Jiangsu, where they will be part of an international contest. The paintings not sent to China will feature in an exhibition in our city.

Interpretations include personal dreams of becoming a ballerina and a policeman, the Rugby Stadium which attracts people from all over the world, children of many countries holding hands, and pollution-free cities.

The children's interpretation of the future is exciting and interesting and leaves us with hope of a world where kindness and awareness are key ideals.



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
9-22 JULY

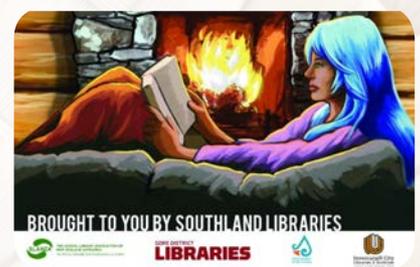
@ THE LIBRARY

The July school holidays are just around the corner and the Library has a full programme of activities for the two weeks. There will be a storytime three times a week in the children's area, babytime for preschoolers, Lego, board games, crafts, colouring in, video game theatre and movies on both Fridays. There is something for everyone and all free.



Escape Room

FOR teens and families, a Harry Potter themed Escape Room has been organised. It has proved very popular and was booked out the day after being announced. Groups are locked in a room and have to solve various puzzles and clues to get back out. Fun or frightening? It seems to be the new 'fun' taking over the world.



Winter Reading Challenge

THE Great Indoors is the theme of the winter reading challenge that is running in all Southland libraries for the months of July and August. Download an entry form from any Southland Library website or pick one up from your nearest public library, read six books and enter to win.

For details check out our website www.ilibrary.co.nz

