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Preparation underway for work on corner of Don and Dee Streets

Part of the inner city's streetscape will begin a transformation early next month, as preparation work starts for the ILT's hotel development.

THE building on the corner of Don and Dee Streets, known variously as the Caledonian or the Langland, will be demolished to make way for the new development, and this work is expected to begin in early February. Members of the public will soon notice changes to Don Street, with acoustic walls to be put up, and a container-lined walkway developed to maintain pedestrian access in the

The demolition of the three-storey building is a mammoth task, which will be undertaken by contractors Ryal Bush Transport Ltd.

ILT or Ryal Bush Transport representatives will be visiting businesses in the inner-city area in the coming weeks to keep retailers up-to-date on the works, and what impacts they may have.

Safety is of the utmost importance, and so while there may be some inconvenience and disruption caused by the work, this is to ensure the safety of everyone in the area, including residents, businesses, contractors, and the public.

ILT Chief Executive Chris Ramsay acknowledged there would be some disruption during the demolition and build phases of the project.

"We are working closely with ICC and our contractors to ensure this is minimised as much as possible.

"The finished project will only add vibrancy to our CBD," Mr Ramsay

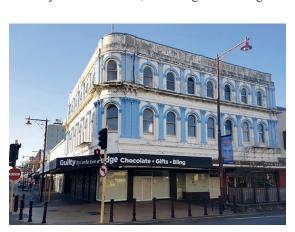
The ILT secured a resource consent to demolish the Victorian building following the decision of an independent commissioner in December 2018.

Updates on the work, including any road closures or diversions, will be advised as available through both Council and ILT publications, and

Keep an eye on the Invercargill city website: www.icc.govt.nz

Follow Invercargill Word on the Street on Facebook: www.facebook. com/InvercargillWordontheStreet Follow the ILT on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/ InvercargillLicensingTrust



LEFT: The former Caledonian/ Langford building is to be demolished.



ABOVE: Architectural interpretation of finished ILT Hotel on the corner of Dee and Don streets.

Buskers Festival celebrates 10 years in the south

This year marks a decade of international street performers and artists descending upon Invercargill to entertain and delight the city as part of the Southland Buskers Festival. HANNAH McLEOD caught up with festival organiser Jodi Wright to look back on the last ten years, and find out what's in store for 2019.

EVERY year for the past ten years, some of the world's best buskers have enthralled, surprised, and charmed Invercargill residents and visitors to the city with their talents.

We have Christchurch-based Jodi Wright to thank for our wonderful Southland Buskers Festival, which she has curated since its inception.

Mrs Wright was one of the founders of the World Buskers Festival, held in Christchurch.

The event, now managed by the Christchurch City Council, began in 1994, and is New Zealand's largest outdoor festival.

With the Christchurch event attracting international performers, Mrs Wright decided to attempt to introduce satellite festivals throughout New Zealand, with Invercargill on her target list.

"I was always envious of that beautiful park you have," she confessed.

Wright successfully approached various funders including the Invercargill City Council with a three year plan, and the festival grew from there.

"There are a lot of other smaller festivals," Mrs Wright said, "but Invercargill is the only other festival I still produce."

While not a performer herself - "I don't have any of those skills," she admitted, Mrs Wright's background is in "organising and parties" – much to her parents frustration in her younger years.

She handpicks many of the acts, most of whom she has seen perform on her travels throughout the world.

Mrs Wright accompanies the performers to their southern-most stop, and fills the role of 'Camp Mother', while her husband, Peter, is

the driver. "Invercargill isn't overly difficult [to attract performers to].

"It's another part of New Zealand they get to see, and the audiences there are always generous with their applause. It's not so much about the money in the hat," she said.

"If you have money to give in the hat, that's great. If not, that's fine too. It's a gift to be able to perform in that beautiful park."

This year's Southland Buskers Festival includes performers from New Zealand, Portugal, Mexico, the United States, Israel, and the United Kingdom.

Mrs Wright said it was an incredibly eclectic group, with each act offering a different style, and all with plenty of entertainment promised.

The festival begins on Thursday, January 31, at 6pm in Queens Park, with performances continuing in the park, in Esk Street, and at the Southern Farmers Market at various times until Sunday, February 3.

To check out a programme and keep up-to-date on the latest information for the festival, follow the Southland Buskers Festival on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ southlandbuskersfestival/

Free barbecue installed at Russell Square



ABOVE: His Worship the Mayor Sir Tim Shadbolt checks out the new barbecue at Russell Square on Elles Road.

 $\pmb{\textbf{VISITORS}}\ to\ Russell\ Square\ can$ now enjoy a family barbecue, thanks to an initiative from the Rotary Club of Invercargill South and Invercargill City Council.

To mark its 50th anniversary, the Rotary Club of Invercargill South has provided an electric barbecue, which can be used by park visitors free-of-charge, while Council provided a shelter offering shade or protection from wind and rain.

Club past president Ron Taylor said many local businesses and club volunteers worked together to make the project happen.

"This barbecue is a wonderful asset for South Invercargill and the Russell Square area," Mr

Taylor said. "Judging by the feedback we have had so far, I am sure it will get lots of use, especially during the summer months with our

lovely long twilight evenings." Council's Acting Parks Manager Michele Frey said Council appreciated the opportunity to work with the Rotary Club of Invercargill South on the community project.

"The new double burner barbeque will be fantastic for families and social gatherings. It adds another attraction for families at the playground," Ms Frey said.

It is the first public electric barbeque in the city, and will be managed and maintained by the Invercargill City Council.

People using the barbecue are asked to use the 'Share with Care' code:

• Clean barbecue plate after use ready for the next user.

• Dispose of your rubbish in the

bin provided. · Limit your time on the barbeque to allow access for

others. Supervise children in the area as hot plates will remain hot

COUNCIL **MEETINGS**

Notice is hereby given of the following meetings:

> **Child Youth & Family Friendly** Monday, 28 January, 4pm

Council Tuesday, 29 January, 4pm

Bluff Community Board

Monday, 11 February, 7pm **Community Services**

Monday, 19 February, 4pm **Regulatory Services**

Tuesday, 19 February, 5pm

Infrastructure & Services Monday, 25 February, 4pm

Finance and Policy Tuesday, 26 February, 4pm

The above meetings will be held in the Council Chambers / Committee Room, First Floor, Civic Administration Building, 101 Esk Street, Invercargill, except for the Bluff Community Board meeting, which will be held at the Bluff Municipal Chambers, Gore Street, Bluff.

www.icc.govt.nz

UPCOMING EVENTS

Burt Munro



(1) (2) (8)

Sunday 10 March



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NOTICEBOARD

For more about the Council's Noticeboard items contact the **Communications Department on**

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