

# NEWSLETTER

## Upper Riccarton Community & School Library Building Project Update #3



## Library to open 23 January

It's official, the new Upper Riccarton Community and School Library will open its doors to the public for the first time on Monday 23 January 2006.

The official opening for the library will be held on February 25 2006, followed by a large community festival.

The new library has a huge collection of 50,000 mainly new books, CD's, DVDs, talking books and other resources. Red Café will also be open from the 23rd of January 2006 and is located at the north end of the building next to a sunny indoor/outdoor area for relaxing, reading and sipping hot coffee.

The library also has a community meeting room.

More information about how to book this great community meeting space will be made available in our February edition.

Another integral part of the library is the Upper Riccarton Learning Centre. Based on the successful model at South Christchurch Library (<http://learningcentre.christchurch.org.nz>), the Learning Centre will be a valuable resource for the local community, providing them access to the latest Information and Communications Technology (ICT).

For more information on the library, meeting rooms, café and learning centre, plus photos of the building progress, please visit our website

[www.library.christchurch.org.nz/UpperRiccarton/](http://www.library.christchurch.org.nz/UpperRiccarton/)

## Make the new library 'Your Place'



Upper Riccarton's new Associate Community Librarian, Irene Prue, is really excited about presenting the new facility to its community. "It is going to be a wonderful place where people from all sectors of the community – parents and their children, older residents, students and teachers can mingle and find out more about each other as well as the information or resources they have specifically come to the library to find," says Irene.

Irene has extensive experience as a school librarian and has been involved in a member recruitment campaign working within schools. She has also

been part of two library teams that have opened new libraries – New Brighton and South Christchurch. These experiences combined with her business administration and librarian skills have made her an invaluable member of Upper Riccarton Library's team which will be headed by Joan Simpson. Irene will be Joan's second in charge and will be heavily involved in the day to day running of the library.

Irene's aim is to encourage the community to take ownership of the new facility. "We want our customers to really see the library as 'their place'. Somewhere to go to find

information but also just somewhere they can 'hang out'. There is great potential for all groups, not just the students. The teaching areas will be available to the public after school hours and will be offered as training areas for people wanting to use the latest technology to update their skills," says Irene.

In keeping with the recently opened Parklands Library and South Christchurch Library which was opened a couple of years ago, the Upper Riccarton Library has a café integrated into its design. "It will be a total experience, somewhere to learn, sit back, relax and enjoy," says Irene.

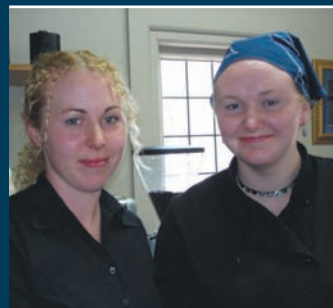


## Family business makes customer relations a priority

When customers enter the Red café at the new library in January they will notice the delicious food and smell the fabulous coffee. What they will not see however, is the thought and planning that has gone on behind the scenes to make Red at Riccarton the ideal café drop in spot in the area.

Red Café owner, Wayne Ormandy and his family, first became involved in Library cafes when they took over ownership of Red at South Christchurch Library. "We see library cafes as a unique concept," says Wayne, "and one we believe can work and be successful for all involved."

Wayne has such faith in the concept that he has committed his family to making sure the Upper Riccarton venture is as successful as Red at South Library. Daughters Lettie and Annie are both part of the operation. Lettie is the Manager of Red at South and Hummingbird Coffee (recently renamed Procopé) in Victoria Street. She will also manage Red at Riccarton. Annie is the



"foodie" who works from the commercial kitchen in Victoria Street and will supply all three cafes with delectable fare. Lettie's fiancé is also involved. He will be the barista at Red at Riccarton.

Getting to know their customers is one of the family's key goals. Wayne currently 'pops in' to Red at South up to four times each day and plans to visit the new café just as regularly. He has a good appreciation for daily 'trends' and has clearly identified busy times during the day at both the South Library spot and Procopé in town. "Some of our current town regulars come in four times a day," says Wayne. "They are serious coffee drinkers."

Menus will be tailored to fit the clientele and while young adults may prefer smoothies and toasted sandwiches to Latte and cake, Wayne is adamant that the quality of their food will be of the same high standard as everything else on offer. He also has several innovations he plans to introduce such as a 'smart' card for café purchases, samples of menu items and continual new menu

combinations ensuring no two days fare are the same.

Customers with special diet needs will be well catered for. Lettie plans to have a variety of weight watchers, gluten-free and diabetic items on offer. "We know how important it is that health needs are taken into account," says Lettie. "Mums in particular need special consideration and at Red Café they will certainly receive this."

"Above all," says Wayne, "we plan to have fun." A team of 12 staff working in shifts will work at Red at Riccarton. To ensure that staff can easily relate to their customers, experienced café staff are being sought from the Riccarton area. "We'd certainly like to hear from people interested in working for us."

### Staff wanted for Red @ Riccarton

If you have Barista or café experience and would like to work at the new Upper Riccarton Library café, Red call Lettie on phone 372 1523. Positions commence 23 January.

## What's in a name? The history at Upper Riccarton

Our newest library's Māori name, Putaringamotu (Pu-ta-ring-a-mau-too), honours the facility with a link to our city's oldest treasure. Putaringamotu is also the name of Dean's Bush, a bush area created when a great fire swept across the Canterbury Plains (Ngā Pakihi whakatekateka o Waitaha). It was the site of one of the many settlements Māori established in the maze of swamps, waterways and

lagoons lying between Lake Ellesmere (Waihora) and the Waimakariri River. By the early 1800s it was occupied by the Ngāi Tuahuriri, a sub-tribe of Ngāi Tahu.

One of its translations is 'place of an echo' as Māori believed that at a certain place in the forest, those trained and skilled in the practice could hear the sound of people approaching on the trails through the

surrounding swamp by putting an ear to the ground.

The area was later settled by Canterbury's earliest European pioneers, the Deans family. It is therefore a very important and significant piece of land for both Māori and Pakeha and a name that reflects the treasures that the new building will offer its community.

### Key dates and information

**Projected construction completed:** December 2005  
**Open to the public:** 23 January 2006  
**Formal Opening Ceremony Gala:** 25 February 2006  
**Opening Hours:** Monday - Friday, 9am - 8pm  
 Saturday and Sunday 10am - 4pm