

# FACILITATION

FMD, University of Waikato

Issue No: 97 - October 2011

## Student Centre New Landscaping

Photo (right - provided by Mark Thompson) of the new landscaping/sculpture and east view of the Student Centre.

The pictures below show the Library before the Student Centre was constructed – you can see the difference.

There are many other photos that can be viewed by going to the link below  
<http://www.waikato.ac.nz/library/construction/>  
and then clicking on the link "Construction Photos on Flickr"

A celebration for the opening of the Student Centre *Te Manawa* is being held at 4pm on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November – you will have received an email about this, along with seeing the notice in the Official Circular.



Charlie moving into politics – are we surprised!!!



**Talking Rena:** It's the ship on everyone's lips, even at Waikato Hospital. Charlie Watson, left, and his son Cayleb Balks discuss the stricken container ship Rena with John Key.

Picture Taken from Waikato Times week of 10<sup>th</sup> October

Note: This is Charlie's nephew not his son as mentioned in the article.

## FMD Social Club reminders:

- ✚ Wed 16<sup>th</sup> Nov – Sausage Sizzle lunch at midday in the FMD courtyard.
- ✚ Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec at 7pm – Christmas Function at Vilagrads. Names and money are needed by 16<sup>th</sup> November.  
Price:  
FMD Staff who are NOT in Social Club (i.e. don't support raffles/lotto) is \$59 per person (same price for partners)  
  
FMD Social Club Members is \$35 per person (same price for partners)  
  
Plus Buy Your Own drinks
- ✚ Raffle: Rimu Coffee Table (made by Tom) – there are still tickets available - tickets are limited to 100 and cost \$5.00 each. Contact Faye if you want a ticket.

## Christchurch Earthquake – A Personal Observation

I recently went to Christchurch for a meeting of the Directors of Facilities Management of the 8 Universities in NZ. We meet twice yearly under the auspices of Universities NZ and we move the meeting around the country to each different university so that we can also do a little tour of new facilities or changes at each location. On this occasion we went to Canterbury, partly to have a look around and partly to provide support to them, and then after the meeting on Thursday and Friday of last week I then stayed over for the weekend with friends.

This gave me an opportunity to view the effect at Canterbury University and more generally in the city, and on a personal level to view the damage to a house that I spent six years of my teens in.

Canterbury University still has 60,000m<sup>2</sup> of building space unoccupied due to earthquake damage and assessment. They have a temporary village made up of 12m x 12m prefabs located on playing fields in two locations with a total of 105 of these units which cost them \$26M to put up. You will see some photos below. Whilst they are rather stark, nevertheless they do provide facilities, including cafes, teaching rooms, computer labs and staff space as well as a staff club.

Canterbury University will take some years before it is up and running again and indeed even then I think there will be a number of people who will be extremely uncomfortable moving back into high rise accommodation.

On the upside, it has been a boon for open plan layout for staff, and it has been a surprise to many how much you can cope in what some would see as more cramped facilities and others would say are simply a more appropriate space allocation.

On the bigger picture of Christchurch itself the bill for work going on there is going to be upwards of \$36 billion and it certainly is a wasteland when you go around it. Many of the familiar landmarks are just heaps of rubble and there are barricades, diggers, army personnel, and high viz vests everywhere. Indeed the hotel I stayed at on the Thursday night was at least half full the following morning at breakfast of people wearing high viz vests and working in the CBD.

It was also interesting to watch the reaction of other local Christchurch people when they went places and saw changes from when they were through that area a week ago, with buildings having been demolished. It was quite obvious that they are quite shaken by (if you will excuse the pun) the experience and have to come to terms with a significantly changed city.

The roads in some areas are fine but in other areas are very third world in nature, with huge pot holes, splits, destroyed kerbing channels, and big bumps and hollows all over them. There are places where you come across little generator driven pumping stations which have obviously been going for a long time and I still encountered porta loos on the side of roads in some areas.

The house that I spent some of my teenage years in, in Mt Pleasant was built new to an architectural design in 1960. It is a ruin and will be demolished. Many other houses on the hillside suburbs are the same. One of the most telling sites is the big barricades (300-400m long x 6m high) of containers that are alongside cliff areas to prevent further rocks falling, hitting cars. It really seems quite alien to be in the suburban area of a major city driving past containers being used as barricades.

*John Cameron*



Above: The central "street" of the 54 12x12m prefabs, on what was previously playing fields



Above: Central courtyard between 8 prefabs



Above: Covered ways between the prefabs



Above: What remains of "the strip"; the area on Oxford Terrace that was similar to the Hood Street bar/café area