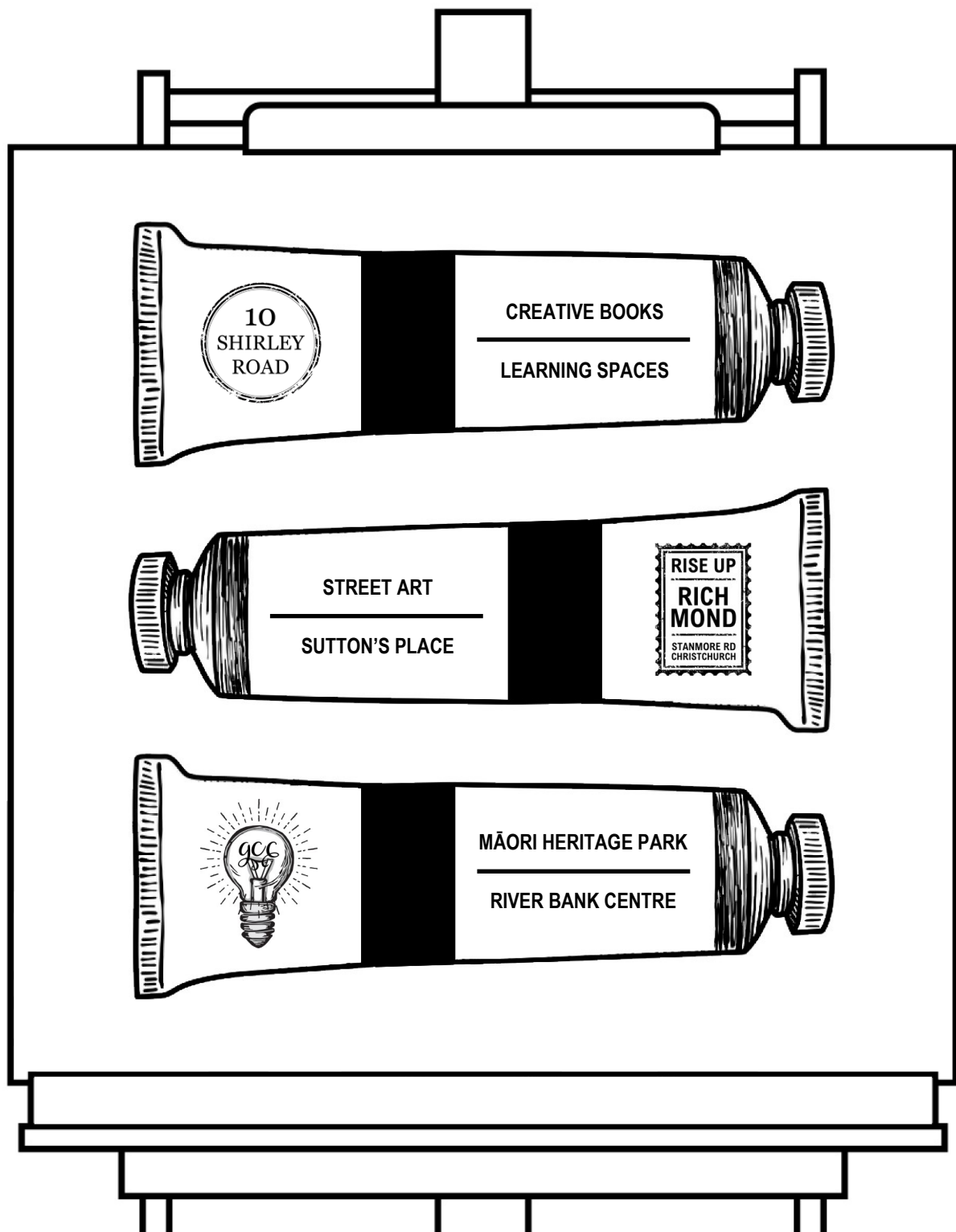


SHIRLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE UPDATE
Papanui-Innes Community Board | Sept 2018



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10 Shirley Road | Shirley Community Centre | <https://www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/>

On a map “You Are Here” is a locator if you are lost in an area & reminds you where you are in this place, this world.

“You Are Here” locators are usually for tourists or those new to this area. As the locals, those that were born here, already know where they are, part of their identity is already wrapped up in this place in our world.

Shirley Community Centre (former Shirley Primary School) was built to the design of Education Board architect George Penlington. Before the earthquakes, it was a Category 2 historic place and demolished in 2012.

“The closure of the Shirley Community Centre and the Ministry of Education’s proposed closure of schools have had a major effect on community morale.” [Shirley Community Profile – November 2014](#)

“...an important focus of recovery is the establishment of the basis for a new future. Recovery is, in the end, the resumption of a meaningful life: the life you want to lead.” Dr Rob Gordon

Community In Mind Strategy by Community & Public Health [Community In Mind Strategy – June 2014](#)

Our community identity has been connected to our schools in the past. Since the earthquakes we have seen our schools closed, rebuilt and relocated. We have seen the demolition of the original Shirley Community Centre, and our community has become disconnected and displaced.

– **April 2018:** I started with this ‘project’ <https://www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/imagine/>

I created <https://www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/>, to collate my ideas/research for the rebuild of the Shirley Community Centre, as part of my submission to the Christchurch City Council 2018 Long Term Plan.

– **May 2018:** Presented my verbal submission to the Christchurch City Council’s 2018 Long Term Plan, for the rebuild of the Shirley Community Centre, to create a multi-cultural centre as a “Gateway to the East.”

Mayor Lianne Dalziel said “Are you saying that rather than just building back a community centre, that actually we should look at the whole of the area, and look at the whole of the needs.

So maybe what we need to be considering for the Long Term Plan is a budget that would enable a full needs analysis, and to look at what the different options are.”

– **June 2018:** I began to look around at our Richmond suburb, and my ideas/research became my “Rise Up Richmond” website <https://www.riseuprichmond.nz/>.

– **July 2018:** Regenerate Christchurch asked for feedback on their Red Zone Futures Exhibition:

<https://engage.regeneratechristchurch.nz/red-zone-futures-exhibition-online>

Created <https://www.riseuprichmond.nz/red-zones-future-ideas-map-by-joanna-gould/>, for my Red Zone Futures ideas.

Created <https://www.riseuprichmond.nz/otakaro-avon-river-corridor/>, for my Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor feedback.

– **August 2018:** “Help develop the draft Arts Strategy for Ōtautahi Christchurch.

Have Your Say on the draft Christchurch City Council Arts Strategy 2018.”

<https://ccc.govt.nz/culture-and-community/art-museums/toi-otautahi-christchurch-arts>.

Created <https://www.getcreativechristchurch.nz/ideas/>, for my CCC Arts Strategy 2018 feedback.

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The rebuild of the Shirley Community Centre was my starting point, but through my research/community mapping, I realised that there was a need for more in our communities, more opportunities for everyone to find their space/place, and to create a new identity (after the earthquakes) for our communities through creative placemaking.

Our People: [Identity](#) | [Well-being](#) | [Learning](#) **Our Place:** <https://www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/> | [Creative Books](#) | [Learning Spaces](#)

Q. Why do we need to build a new library/community centre at 10 Shirley Road?

Our access to knowledge and where our locals have gathered since the earthquakes, is currently hidden in the car park of The Palms, as our [Shirley Library](#). A security guard watches over the computer users at the entrance to the library. Elderly/Disabled have limited access to car parks close to the library. Orange, Orbiter & 100 bus routes go past 10 Shirley Road. There are no dedicated learning spaces. No opportunities for resident/community initiated groups/classes/seminars/clubs. Limited space for any activities hosted, using space between bookshelves. Limited after school/holiday programs for children. The rebuild of the Shirley Community Centre represents laying a new foundation stone as the 'Gateway to the East', that says 'we value our children and everyone in the community, by providing access to creativity and life long learning for all'.

Q. Why do we need to "Get Creative Christchurch"?

- to acknowledge research that shows the connection between creativity and well-being/mental health
 - to include these groups of people in our community: WINZ, Housing NZ, Probation Services, Immigration, Disabilities, Mental Health & Addictions
 - to build environments/spaces/places to promote 'social' behavior and deter 'anti-social' behavior
- "Tangata ako ana i te kāenga, te tūranga ki te marae, tau ana. A person nurtured in the community contributes strongly to society."

Q. Why is identity, well-being and learning important for our people?

When we know who we are (identity), what we need to be healthy (well-being), and the importance of a growth mindset (learning), this causes a positive ripple effect in our businesses, communities and economy.

Through my research I realised the ideas I had created, had a common theme: learning.

- [Shirley Community Centre](#): library with learning spaces available for anyone in the community to use
- [Sutton's Place](#): arts/crafts community with learning spaces for local/overseas teachers to provide classes/workshops/retreats, opportunity to learn about [W. A. \(Bill\) Sutton](#) and his teaching/artworks and house/garden
- [Māori Heritage Park](#): indoor/outdoor learning spaces for Māori architecture/arts/crafts, opportunities to learn about the Māori language/culture/stories/legends
- [River Bank Centre](#): research/design/technology hub with learning spaces to inspire/educate with STEAM, opportunity to see startup/innovation businesses and to learn about [Richard Bedward Owen](#) and why he was called 'River Bank' Owen.

Q. Why do we need these types of learning facilities in the East?

To inspire/educate the children/teenagers living in the East, who now have fewer options for schools, and limited access to continued learning outside of the schools.

We need to open the eyes of every child in Christchurch to what is possible through learning.

In the south of Christchurch, children/teenagers see those attending Ara Institute of Canterbury.

In the west of Christchurch, children/teenagers see those attending the University of Canterbury.

Learning is part of our Christchurch identity. Our communities are centered around our schools.

Our education connects us to social networks/employment. We value learning and the places it can take us.

"The MORE that you READ. The more THINGS you will KNOW. The MORE you LEARN. The more PLACES you'll GO!" – Dr. Seuss

Q. What difference could we make in Christchurch if we started to value creativity for everyone?

"I want to see a country where the creativity and joy that comes from the arts is available to the many, not reserved for a privileged few. I want to see a country where the arts flourish and breathe life into, well, everyday life. I want to see a country where the arts are available to us all and help us express ourselves as unique individuals, brought together in diverse communities. I believe the arts and creativity are integral and inseparable parts of what it is to be human. It concerns me that a mind-set still persists in which only those things that can be counted matter, and things not easily quantified are too quickly discarded. Using that mind-set, some argue the arts are simply a nice to have. I whole-heartedly disagree." Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern

<https://www.thebigidea.nz/stories/soapbox-opinion-piece-by-jacinda-ardern>