

THE

# Society Scoop

News from the Ferrymead Printing Society

## In this issue

### Film Evening

This has taken a long time to organise and confirm but things are certainly looking very good for a great evening. Plan to be at this event!

### First Thursday Event

Another great event for promoting the work of the Society and the film evening. Check it out!

### Boot Camp

Following our First Thursday promotional event and Pressing On Film Evening, to build on the enthusiasm this has generated, we are planning on having a Boot Camp for new members over a weekend. Read on for details

### Twilight Group

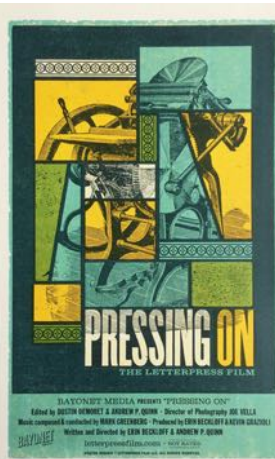
The Twilight Group that meet on Tuesday are the most amazing group for helping each other as they work on their projects. Worth dropping by one night to pick up on the buzz happening in this group.

### Calendar

I have added a calendar to the website which will be regularly updated. So if you want to find out when things are happening in the Printery, check out the website.

## An Event not to be missed!

### Pressing On: The Letterpress Film.



I can now confirm that will be screening this movie in Christchurch on Friday 11th August at 7:30pm in the Student Atrium at ARA / Polytech - a yellow building near the main entrance to the ChCh Campus in Madras St opposite Countdown. The film showing is developing into quite an event with displays of Society projects, vintage presses on display and examples of student work from some of the tertiary institutions around Christchurch.

We have also been able to secure some assistance in the running of this event from some of the leading printing businesses in Christchurch and they will have displays and be in attendance. Doors will open at 6:30 for drinks, nibbles and networking time with films screening at 7:30. This will be the first time Pressing On: The Letterpress Film will be shown outside of the United States so we are promoting this as the World Premiere (outside of America). Does anyone know where we could get some red carpet or other items that make it feel like a film premiere?

There is a trailer for the movie here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RD0lRVEw2zg>

and a movie about the Project here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jO5XX9R9f9o>

Tickets are \$10 plus booking costs and are available here;

<https://www.eventbrite.co.nz/edit?eid=36534222844>

Please get in early! Seats are limited and there is an incredible interest in this movie. More information on our Society website here - <http://ferrymeadprint.org.nz/PressingOn/>

Attached are posters (thanks Cameron!) we hope members can put up in appropriate places at their workplace, shops, etc.

## Pressing On: The Letterpress Film (Cont'd)

We will need helpers for this event so if there are people that are willing to be door people / drink servers, food and wine waiters, members willing to man the Society display to talk to people and show presses, discuss their project work, talk about the Twilight or Junior Print Group, etc, this will be greatly appreciated. Please contact Howard or Gary if you would like to help. A huge thank you to Jessica, Liselle and Cameron who are assisting with the preparation of promotional material for the film event and others promotional events mentioned below.

## More Promotion

Next Thursday night (Aug 3rd), there will be the First Thursday night market event in Sydenham. This event is from 5:00pm until 9:00pm with shops staying open, poetry sessions, artist's workshops, music, food stalls, etc along with booths in shops and the Colombo Mall. There is a wide variety of events and things on offer - altogether over 25 events happening around Sydenham (more info here - <http://firstthursdayschch.co.nz/>)

The Society has been able to secure a booth in the Colombo Mall and will have a display promoting the Society and the film evening. In addition, we will be offering children and adults the chance to try some letterpress printing on some of our smaller portable presses. Some of the Twilight and Junior Groups printing efforts will be on display and for sale and we will have the movie trailer and a slide show of photos from the Kidsfest week on display. Due to the small area of the booth, we don't need any helpers for this event. However we hope you will come down and support this event, as they are supporting us through free entry for our booth - a wonderful gesture for a little non profit society. Come and say 'Hello' as you wander around the events.

## Boot Camp

As a follow up to the two promotional events, we will also be hosting a 'Boot Camp' for new people interested in learning about the wonderful world of letterpress printing. This will be on Saturday 19th / Sunday 20th of August. Attendees will be in small groups working with tutors to participate in a number of activities including posters and projects of their own choosing, using our vintage proofing and Albion presses. Cost will be \$15 per day / \$30 for the weekend or \$25 if they take up a membership. We have had two members volunteer to be tutors already so any other offers gratefully received. Some of our enthusiastic Twilight Print Group members began their association with the Society through a similar event a few years back so we hope this is just as successful. More details on our website at - [ferrymeadprint.org.nz/bootcamp](http://ferrymeadprint.org.nz/bootcamp)

## Twilight Group

Mentioning this group reminds me of an interesting experience just over a fortnight back. It was the Tuesday during the first week of the recent school holidays when the first of the Winter storms hit us - freezing cold rain, sleet and snow on the hills etc. I wanted to catch up with some of the Twilight Group members to ask for help with the Film Evening promotion but after it turned nasty around 4:00pm, I wondered whether Twilight was on. I drove in from Rangiora through the horizontal rain and sleet thinking "Why are you doing this, you stupid idiot! No one will be there tonight!" When I got there, three car loads were parked outside waiting to get in, and altogether around 12 people turned up to happily work away on one of the coldest nights of the year! Just shows how letterpress printing can become a real disease and how keen this group is. The buzz within this group and the support members give each other is fantastic!



## Kidsfest

Over the first week of the school holidays, we ran the Kidsfest programme on Monday, Wednesday and Friday with children opting for either the morning or afternoon programmes. They worked their way around 6 activities over the 90 minutes and ended up with a great bag of goodies to take away with them. The sessions were well attended and the positive comments from parents, both face to face and on our FaceBook page were very rewarding for all the effort put in.



Hopefully you had a look at some of the photos on our Facebook page but if you missed them, a few are featured. Thanks to all the members who helped us during the week, particularly Gary, Russ, Fiona, Sandy and Catherine and the wonderful Junior Print Group members, Isana, Alexandra, Gina, Liv, Naomi, Isobel and Libby. (Apologies if I have forgotten someone) We couldn't have done it without you!



A huge thank you to Gary for all his hard work during the previous week to set all the activities up. We never see the huge amount of work he puts into events such as these. It is much appreciated Gary!



## Council Visit

On Friday of last week, Ferrymead Park planned a visit from the City Council Councillors to the Park. Unfortunately the weather decided to be at its worst. But despite this, the Park went ahead presenting a mock wedding and reception for the Councillors to demonstrate the Park's ability to host events such as this. The Councillors were also going to spend some time wandering through the Park visiting the township and other areas, meeting Society members in attendance. Unfortunately the weather intervened somewhat and only 5 councillors made it to the Printery for a brief visit. It was fantastic to have around twelve members of the Twilight Group, Junior Print Group and Sandy with her marvellous display of bookbinding all working away. It certainly impressed the councillors that did manage to visit. My grateful thanks to all those in attendance, particularly those who took time off work to make themselves available. Just before the Councillor's visit, we were also thrilled to entertain Dr Warren Freeney, arts commentator, writer, art historian and former Director of the COCA Gallery. He came to see first hand the renewed interest and enthusiasm in printing and related arts currently taking place at the Ferrymead Printing Society. The word is certainly getting around Christchurch and further afield that things are happening between those old brick walls! He was very thrilled with what he saw on his visit and the conversations he had with members. I don't want to give too much away, but keep an eye out in the Press over the coming weeks!

## Survey

Thanks to those that have taken the time to contribute to our online anonymous survey. We have had some excellent responses. There is no time limit on the survey so if you haven't had time yet, we would always be interested in your thoughts. The link is - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BLJ3RZ6>

Some of the comments received:

### **What is one thing the Executive could do to improve or add to your membership experience?**

**Response** - Have the library catalogue available online

*Comment from the Exec* - this has been explored previously. To have the Library online would require an internet connection for the Printery which could be a possibility fairly shortly. Dedicated Library software is very expensive or requires a large amount of costly specialist set up time. A simple software package has already been purchased and a start has been made on updating and cataloguing the huge amount of books and resources in the collection. The software allows for the likes of photos of covers etc to aid identification. This is obviously going to take time to complete but when finished, the intention is that members will be able to search for books on computer in the library. There is the possibility that when this is completed, in the short term at least, a pdf of the catalogue could be available on the website, which while not as good as a searchable online catalogue, it would at least enable members to find out what books we have on a given topic.

### **What is one brilliant idea would you like the Printing Society to consider?**

I would love to see the upstairs turned into an art gallery with work displayed by members. Some artwork should be available for sale. With each artwork sold, a part of the the proceeds should go to the Printery. This gallery could be available to the public on days when the workshop is open. Members of the public that are interested in buying a piece of work could be directed to the creator's details to sort payment.

*Comment from the Exec* - I think this comment has huge merit and will be considered as we come to redecorate the Library. With a major re-sort of the resources in the Library, we will have more room for such a display. Major concerns would focus on aspects of safety with people going up the stairs, particularly children and the security of other items in the Library area if the public are up there without a member present. We are also looking at making an area of the foyer available as a work display area which may solve this issue.

*There have been other excellent comments submitted including some very positive ones about how well things are going in the Society, which are much appreciated. Your views are very important to us so please keep them coming! Cheers.*