

SUBMISSION TO THE CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUCL ON THE DRAFT
COMMUNITY PLAN 2006 – 2016

REGARDING THE CHRISTCHURCH BOTANIC GARDENS AND HAGLEY
PARK – Pages 4 & 14

I was born in Christchurch and have lived here most of my life. My ancestors arrived in Canterbury prior to 1876, including Greatgreatgrandparents who preceded the First Four Ships.

It was due to the foresight of the Early Settlers that we have an exceptional area so close to the centre of this beautiful City. The Christchurch Botanic Gardens and Hagley Park are an irreplaceable asset which give the Public of Christchurch, and the many visitors from further afield, hours of pleasure. Hagley Park with its sporting activities, surrounded by splendid shade trees is a wonderful recreation area. The Christchurch Botanic Gardens is a place of beauty for leisure, recreational and relaxation activities, as well as entertainment, educational and botanical services, with a very dedicated Staff.

In all the areas which are financed by the Christchurch City Council plans are continually coming to light for upgrades and improvements. But very little has been done to improve the infrastructure of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens. Staff, Library and Educational facilities at the Gardens are decidedly antiquated and there is very little room for research and the use of the superb Herbarium collection.

With a view to the future, in particular the 150th. Anniversary of the Gardens in 2013, a modern, purpose-built Building is essential in order to accommodate the above activities, as well as a large meeting room, an Information Centre and fully stocked Retail Shop. The improved commercial aspects, since the alterations to the present Information Centre, give an indication of what could be expected as income from an extended Retail area.

I understand that more people, local and tourists, visit the Christchurch Botanic Gardens every year than the Canterbury Museum, Christchurch Art Gallery and Our City, O-Tautahi, combined. More funding is required for an overall upgrade of facilities and further projects that will no doubt be proposed in the new Christchurch Botanic Gardens Masterplanning Project.

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I, therefore, wish to support wholeheartedly the proposal to spend at least \$11.1 million in the Christchurch Botanic Gardens in the expectation of these funds going into the provision of a substantial building project. I also support the fund for the renewal of tree plantings in Public places of the City.

In support of my submission I wish to speak at a Hearing.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Alison Fox', with a horizontal line underneath.

Alison Fox (Mrs.)
77 Golf Links Road,
Shirley,
CHRISTCHURCH.