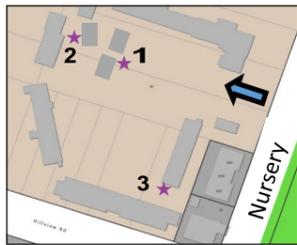


Phillipstown Community Hub



39 Nursery Rd, access Mon-Fri 8.30am-4.30pm

This site was previously the Phillipstown Primary School, which first opened 1877 & finally merged with Woolston School in 2014. It is now home to the Phillipstown Community Hub, hosting a multitude of essential community services and providing a safe connection space for volunteers, visitors & local residents.



Mural 1: "Jungle / Broke" on shipping containers near carpark. Created as a collaboration between multiple street artists, it reflecting distinctive elements of their personal styles (such as unique lettering shapes).

Mural 2: On shipping container near Room 9, used by Ōtautahi Creative Spaces. Nick "Ikarus" Tam (IkarusDtRcrew) created this piece in connection with a kids' art workshop on 10 Nov 2018. The event marked White Ribbon Day, which is an annual international commitment to stopping domestic violence.

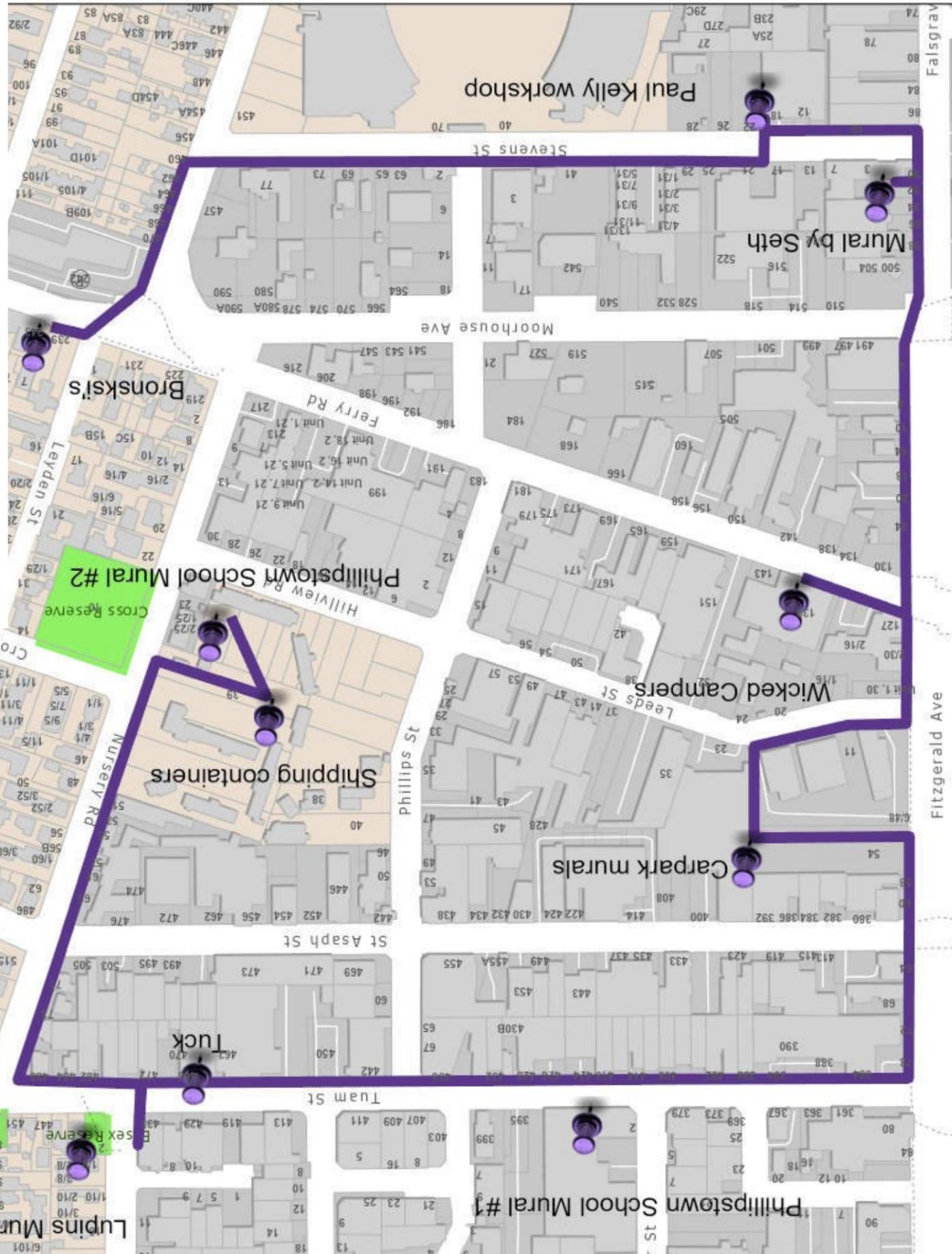


Mural 3: On south wall of Room 10. 'Qui docet discit - Who teaches, learns!' (Motto of the former Phillipstown School). This was created 2012-2013 by Richard "Pops" Baker, aka Popx Art, because an existing mural was due to be lost with the quake-condemned school hall. Richie was offered the commission just days before the School then found out they were to be merged with Woolston Primary. Painting continued whilst the community fought the Ministry's of Education's decision, and the piece remains as a vivid memorial to the School's lasting legacy, focused on themes of hope, community, and finding a place in the world. The mural was applied via brushwork due to Pops' commitment to avoiding environmental harm of aerosol cans. The rainbow & blue background are recurring motifs in his body of work.



Links:

- Richard "Pops" Baker (Popx Art): <https://www.facebook.com/popxart>
- Nick "Ikarus" Tam (IkarusDtRcrew): <https://www.facebook.com/ikarusDtRcrew/>
- The Hub: <https://www.phillipstown.org/>



Phillipstown Walks Route #5



Wonderwalls

Join us on a treasure hunt exploring some of Phillipstown's many murals! The amazing stories associated with these artworks reflect pivotal moments in our neighbourhood's history, international street art festivals, & the development of key local businesses. For your safety, please be aware of traffic (including cyclists) when crossing Tuam St or viewing murals located in carparks.

Please note, public art & murals naturally tend to be ephemeral & vulnerable to over-painting or demolition, so this walk just reflects some of what's around at Nov 2022.

Bronski's Dairy & More



This iconic corner dairy has been beloved by many Phillipstown residents, and was essential during 2020 covid-19 lockdowns.

Bronski's More Than a Dairy was named by ex-owner John Wooles, who lived next door and ran it for 13 years. He, his partner & friends came up with the name over croissants & champagne in 1986. Referencing famous UK band Bronski Beat was a subtle message that this was a gay-owned business, in an era when "coming out" was still fairly radical.

John commissioned the dairy's original murals in 1987, both to increase the site's visibility, and to give something back to the community in terms of aesthetics. They were painted by Tim Croucher & Richard Fahey, under the joint handle "Alias Mick & Leo". Public art of any kind was still pretty rare in Christchurch then, and even now murals on dairies remain fairly rare. Bronski's art quickly became a major landmark, recognized by many non-locals and even spotted in airlines' videos promoting NZ, both here & overseas!

The original building was demolished post-quake and its replacement reopened under new ownership in 2013, complete with significantly altered replica murals, which are shown here.



Tim Croucher: <https://www.wintec.ac.nz/study-at-wintec/faculty/>
Richard Fahey: <https://nz.linkedin.com/in/richard-fahey-a699a313>

Paul Kelly Motor Company



This piece was painted by Russell "Sofles" Fenn, self-taught graffiti artist from Brisbane. It was painted during the 2015 Spectrum Festival, organized by Oi YOU! street art facilitators.

Sofles works in spraypaint, brushwork & digital. This piece reflects his signature prismatic style, multiple perspectives, and strong graphic elements. It also incorporates colours from the building (grey), business logo (orange), and surroundings (Canterbury black-&-red for nearby Lancaster Park).

The mural reflects the building's current function as well as the longer history of automobiles. Sofles often explores these concepts of time, dimensions, and abstracting the past. His aim is to create strong images & evoke emotion. He says, "I believe art should be an important part of the city landscape. I want to create public art for people to enjoy, to transform spaces." Sofles is well-known for his speed & intense work ethic. Amazingly, this fairly large piece was painted in a single day!

Russell "Sofles" Fenn: <https://www.sofles.com/>
Oi YOU!: <https://www.streetart.co.nz/>

Falsgrave St Carpark



This colourful piece by French artist Julien "Seth" Malland was created during Spectrum street art festival 2016, again

again organised by Oi YOU!. Building on the success of Rise 2014 & Spectrum 2015, the 2016 event brought various international artists into Christchurch to participate.

Seth was born in Paris, France, and began creating street art in the mid-90s. He graduated from the French Ecole National des Arts Décoratifs and founded the Wasted Talent publishing house. Prior to becoming a full-time painter Seth worked in advertising, cartoons & comics, and did street art as a part-time personal hobby.

In 2003 he set off on a 5-year global trip to exchange ideas with artists from different cultures. His travels were captured in Canal+ doco series *Les Nouveaux Explorateurs*.

Seth's work often centres around the theme of childhood, using a central child's figure to connect to ideas of innocence, imagination, and interaction with the difficult world of sociopolitical reality. Seth's work is never cynical. His aim is to use urban painting to alert viewers to the state of the world, as a means to advance positive change.

Website: <https://seth.fr/en/> Instagram: [@seth_globepainter](https://www.instagram.com/seth_globepainter)
Oi YOU!: <https://www.streetart.co.nz/>

Wicked Campers



Wicked Campers are remarkable not just for their mural-covered Ferry Rd building, but also for their vehicles' brightly painted, quirky & occasionally rather controversial paint jobs, a familiar sight on South Island rural roads. They specialise in renting out affordable campervans to locals & tourists alike.



The inquisitive face on the building's west side was painted in 2012 by Napier-based artist & event producer Cinzah Merkens. Cinzah paints from & for the environment, exploring themes around inter-relationship of humans & nature, mythology, and the power of storytelling.

At the time Cinzah's work was featured in street art doco *Dregs*, but interestingly, no Christchurch artists appeared in that. The post-quake 'Gapfiller' movement was still gaining momentum, Oi YOU!'s incredibly successful festivals & museum installations hadn't yet happened, and so Ōtautahi didn't yet have its current reputation as a major street art showcase.

Wicked Campers: <https://www.wickedcampers.co.nz/>
Cinzah Merkens: <https://www.cinzah.com/>
Dregs doco: <https://www.facebook.com/dregsmovie/>

#48 Fitzgerald Ave Carpark (Far back of carpark, past the Purple Weka Café)



The wall at the back of this carpark features pieces by multiple well-known Chch street artists. In 2013, Fitzgerald Ave was full of post-quake vacant lots. Two big street art festivals (Rise and From the Ground Up) turned these spaces into super-active graffiti jams, where 10-20 artists might be working concurrently. Some even collaborated, shaping their work to fit around each others' pieces. Well-known names working here included Jacob Yikes (lettering wall lower left), Dside ('Melting Kiwi' climate protest piece wall top), Vesil (music wall top right), and Dove Manuka Finch (Hunter S. Thompson-inspired heads).



Outside of major festivals, street & graffiti art is often clandestine or unauthorized, so artists frequently use aliases and have developed these into tags of highly-stylised lettering, requiring a certain amount of inside knowledge to recognise.

(E.g. Vesil & Yikes' names are hidden in their works here.)
Dside: <https://www.facebook.com/Dside.co.nz>
Jacob Yikes: <http://www.planetyikes.com/>

Phillipstown School Mural 2 Clothier St (cnr Clothier & Tuam St)



This work was designed & coordinated by Alicia Ward, with assistance by "Pops" (see Hub mural on front page).

Alicia is a self-taught artist living locally in Phillipstown, who says "I have to paint to be true to who I am." She is a member of the Phillipstown Community Centre Charitable Trust, and was previously part of the Phillipstown School Board. Her family was one of many heavily impacted by the Ministry of Education's closure of Phillipstown School in Dec 2014.

Alicia created this mural in 2015 as a memorial to the school's lasting legacy. Helping to paint the mural was a way for the community to work through their frustration and sorrow at losing this key connection-place, and incorporating their handprints allowed departing students to leave a lasting mark. As of Nov 2022, Phillipstown Community Hub continue to operate from the former school site, and Alicia continues to be actively involved in supporting their goals, helping to connect with local residents & serve a wide range of visiting participants.
Alicia Ward: <https://www.facebook.com/angelic.mischief.art/>



Tuck (Tuam Cloud Kitchen) 466 Tuam St (near Stanmore Rd)



Tuck is short for "Tuam Cloud Kitchen". This firm leases out fully-equipped commercial kitchen spaces, from the former Ernest Adams factory building.

The mural's was created late 2000 and coordinated by OiYOU!, street art festival & event specialists. Artists Guy Ellis (aka Dcypher) and Jacob Yikes created an optical illusion of a colourful construction site filled with beams, recesses and shadows. This work reflects an international trend for "anamorphic effects" in murals (intentional distortions which rely on a specific perspective).

Jacob is a well-known mural painter whose unique works can be found all over Chch. Guy has lived in Los Angeles but is now back in NZ. He combines graffiti art & graphic design skills to create murals, cityscapes & advertising.

The steampunk-style sculpture around the Base pizza pickup window is also worth a second look!

OiYOU!: <https://www.streetart.co.nz/>
Jacob: <http://www.planetyikes.com/>
Guy: <https://www.dcypherart.com/about>



Essex Reserve Lupins 2 Stanmore Rd (cnr Stanmore Rd & Tuam St)



The original mural of this beautiful design was painted by Sam Billings as a street art piece, slightly further up Stanmore Rd (still visible as at Nov 2022). However, it was so popular that Sam was asked to repeat it at full size on the reserve fence.

Russell lupins are from North America, but run rampant in Sth Island NZ back-country. They're considered an invasive species because they seed very heavily, choking out native plants & damaging our braided river systems.

'Buffing'

Graffiti or tagging is often painted out by business owners, using neutral paint colours, as they consider it vandalism rather than art. This practice is known as 'buffing'.

However, buffing can also occasionally lead to new unique art pieces in its own right...

Such as this cheeky "buff-alo" spotted off Fitzgerald Ave!

