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SELWYN Times

Tuesday, September 21, 2010 | PH 377 24

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Authorised by Bill Woods Mayoral Candidate, 2199 Veroa Centre Road, Springfield Telephone (03) 314 9922 • email: billwoods@selwyn.govt.nz

INSIDE: HOHEPA EVACUATED



The fault line that runs through the Hohepa property.



General manager Raymond Eberhard on the earthquake-ravaged Hohepa grounds.

Hohepa, the Halswell farm site that caters for up to 20 residents with intellectual disabilities and another 20 for day-care services, has been vacated due to major earthquake damage. Story, p3



Graphic images of Canterbury's earthquake appear in the *Selwyn Times* and APN Print's special publication *Earthquake, September 4, 2010*.

Earthquake publication popular memento

CANTERBURY PEOPLE have shown huge generosity in supporting a special fund-raising publication produced by the *Selwyn Times* and APN Print to benefit the region's earthquake victims.

Two print runs of the publication, *Earthquake, September 4, 2010*, sold out quickly and a third edition of 20,000 was printed in Auckland last week and freighted to Christchurch for sale.

"It's just fantastic how the public has picked it up," said Steve McCaughan, general manager of *The Star*.

"What's come through very strongly is that issues are being purchased for grandchildren so they can show their children in 20 or 30 years that mum and dad lived through this as kids."

Mr McCaughan said people had been buying 50 copies at a time for extended family and to send to friends and family overseas.

"It's been great for us as a company to be able to partner something like this using our news resources and help the city in a small way like many other organisations have done."

Mr McCaughan paid tribute to the outlets who agreed to retail the publication.

Earthquake, September 4, 2010 is available from Fresh Choice, SuperValue, New World, Pak'N Save and Countdown supermarkets, and The Warehouse outlets.

Rubberneckers not wanted

By PHILIPPA WILLIAMS

SELWYN'S EARTHQUAKE-affected farmers are facing a new hurdle — rubberneckers are causing further damage to their properties.

Farmers have reported incidents where their crops have been trampled and some landowners say they feel like they are living in a fishbowl because people are stopping to look at the damage.

A report carried out by scientists and researchers from Lincoln and Canterbury Universities has also found that many affected farmers are becoming stressed from so much attention.

The researchers spoke to owners of farms between Burnham and Greendale, where fault displacements up

to 1.5m x 4m have disrupted many land and farming operations.

One family, whose house lies on the fault, have had the news that they could not occupy their property. Now, more than two weeks after the earthquake, onlookers are still treating their home as a spectacle and, on occasions, have blocked their driveway, the report says.

Other farmers had also reported unapproved access to their land.

The Rural Recovery Group said it was time for the public to let the district's farmers get back to business.

Rural Recovery Group Coordinator Allan Baird said if people were interested in viewing the effects of the magnitude 7.1 earthquake on the



Damage: The earthquake's epicentre on a property near Darfield.

landscape, they were able to see plenty of footage in newspapers and on media websites.

Mr Baird said rural representatives were out checking that their clients are coping with the aftermath of the quake.

A meeting was held last week with rural organisations with the aim of getting everyone working collectively to coordinate a response to the earthquake, which centred near Darfield.

"Some of the damage that's been done is underground with water systems, so it's not possible to see the effects immediately and may take some time to pinpoint," Mr Baird said.

Farmers or lifestyleers who needed assistance or advice could phone the Rural Recovery Group through the Selwyn District Council 03 347 2800, or visit the RRG page on the Selwyn District Council website, www.selwyn.govt.nz.

Information for the earthquake-ravaged district, pages 4 and 5.

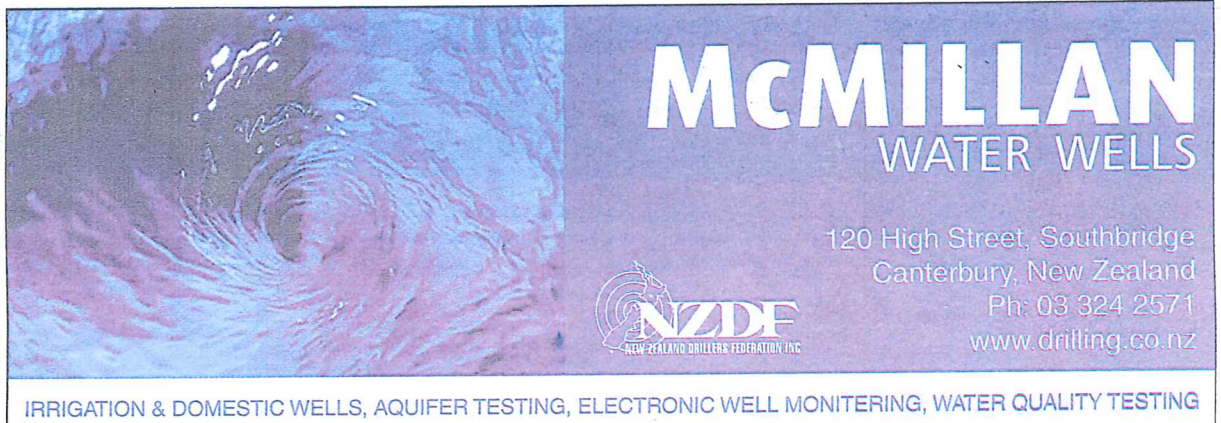


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Quake damage forces evacuation from Hohepa

By PHILIPPA WILLIAMS

HALSWELL'S HOHEPA village may have been badly damaged by the Canterbury earthquake, but it is hoped the residents will be able to eventually return to the site.

The Halswell farm site caters for up to 20 residents with intellectual disabilities — plus another 20 for day care services.

But the entire village is now vacated.

A structural engineer is due to assess the site soon.

The residents and their carers are staying at a motel in Riccarton until they know the future of their home.

Some of the residents have lived at the village since they were children.

The group is travelling to Hohepa's other site, in Barrington St, for day services.

General manager Raymond Eberhard said one of the six houses at the farm had moved off its piles, while others were riddled with cracks.

It is expected that the newest

building, for which more than \$660,000 was raised through charities and public funding, will be condemned, he said. "It's the saddest loss of all. It's where we hold all our day care services.

But the fault lines have gone right underneath it and who knows what the ground is like now," Mr Eberhard said.

The oldest building, where the volunteers stayed, was another that probably could not be saved, he said.

Mr Eberhard said he was trying to get water and sewerage operating so residents could move back into the houses that were repairable.

"I want them back as soon as possible, but I was trying to get some fencing to cut off the areas that have been damaged and there is none left in the South Island."

Hazards such as raised concrete in pathways needed to be securely off limits.

Vacated: Raymond Eberhard examines some of the damage at Hohepa village.

