



DOG DANGER: Martin Woolley sits next to Kit's grave with a picture her.

Photo: ARIELLE MONK

Loved pet killed by roaming dog

By ARIELLE MONK

ADDINGTON'S Martin Woolley's weekend came to a devastating end on Sunday afternoon when he realised his beloved cat, Kit, had been mauled by a neighbourhood dog. The worst part, he says, is she was lying in her favourite sleeping spot on her own property.

"Kit did not deserve to die on her own property. If she had wandered onto the dog's territory, it would be another story."

Mr Woolley's niece, Jacinda, lives in a flat behind him and says this is not the first time one of the neighbour's dogs has come onto the property.

"I came out because I heard a rustling noise in the bushes and that's when I noticed."

Jacinda called the dog away and was surprised when he

obeyed. Her partner grabbed hold of the dog and secured it at the front of the property while she tried to check the cat.

"They took Kit to the emergency vets, who could do nothing."

"There was no hope for her. He'd smashed her ribs and broken her back. She had to be put to sleep."

A "council chap" came in after the incident to check over the area and found scratch marks along a wooden section of a metre-high steel wire fence.

Mr Woolley has complained "countless" times to the council about the two dogs, which also bark through all hours of the night.

"I don't know what's going to happen. They say there's not enough evidence."

Although the dogs try to break through rotten parts of the fence and have dug right under it in

places, Mr Woolley doesn't blame them and is worried the dogs aren't exercised enough.

"They've got to get better fencing. That's what the council chap said."

"But what if that dog kills something else or bites someone?"

Mr Woolley recalled another incident when a dog forced itself through some rotten boards in the fence. He had to push the dog back through and board up the fence at the same time.

Jacinda has four cats and is too scared to let them out of the house any more.

"People today don't seem to understand how attached you can become to an animal," Mr Woolley said.

"I was in such a state. She just did not deserve to die the way she did. She never went off the section."

Residents wary on plans

By ANNA PRICE

THE UNIVERSITY of Canterbury has moved to quash local speculation that it intends to ultimately shift all student activities to its Dovedale campus.

Residents living in the area are being urged to attend a community meeting on Monday called by vice chancellor Rod Carr - which they fear will have far-reaching consequences.

The meeting will be held at 6pm, in the Wheki seminar room on level 3 on the Dovedale campus, where residents understand the university intends eventually to shift all student activities.

This would include student health, university clubs, the theatre and licensed premises.

In this scenario, all academic teaching and research would be moved off Dovedale to the main campus. However, the university hotly refutes this.

"This is not correct," a spokesman said this week.

"The university has no master plan for the Dovedale campus, no decisions have been made, no funding has been secured, and no agreements have been entered into. The claims have not been proposed."

The spokesman was adamant only one proposal was on the table - "that is for 250-bed accommodation on Dovedale campus".

The meeting had been called purely to update residents on this proposal and on student orientation, he said.

The Ilam and Upper Riccarton Residents' Association is encouraging members and others in the community to show up at the meeting.

Cynicism surfaced after the last meeting with the university, on December 9, a consultation - they were told - about the temporary prebabs for student accommodation on its Ilam Field, only to find work began the next day.

Is stadium viable?

From page 1

Mr Vandervis urged people to "recognise and research the wealth of international information available on stadium viability and economic impacts". They should note Christchurch's existing venue capacity and establish "whether a real need for a new stadium exists".

"The main issue preventing the Forsyth Barr Stadium from making money is that no stadium can make money unless it has millions of moneyed sports fans living within its catchment area," he said.

Dunedin's Carisbrook Park model made extensive use of volunteers and service groups to run larger events, which helped to limit losses. But he said losses are inevitable for any South Island stadium - if only because of population proximity.

Though the roof stadium model has been held up as something

Christchurch could emulate, he said "the high covered roof cost and maintenance is difficult to justify in financial terms at Dunedin".

"It has made growing the turf expensive and problematic, it has required significant maintenance and electrical costs to keep inflated, and the expected lifespan of the plastic roofing material in our environment has been questioned."

It has "undoubtedly added to the attraction and usability" of the stadium, however, "and some events would probably not have taken place without the stadium being covered".

Such events have been rare though, he said, and the stadium remains mostly empty.

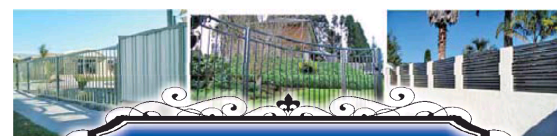
"The question now is whether Dunedin will be able to continue to subsidise Forsyth Barr Stadium."

He said a Christchurch stadium would inevitably require significant permanent subsidy.

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