

**STATEMENT OF MATTHEW PARKIN
593B COLOMBO STREET**

My full name is Matthew Parkin.

I own the Southern Ink Tattoo Studio together with my brother Kerry.

At the time of the September 2010 earthquake we had premises at 593B Colombo Street. The first time I went to the building after the September earthquake I saw that there was a green sticker on the door.

However when I got inside I saw that the ceiling had come down and that you could see up into the upper storey which was unoccupied.

After the September earthquake we asked for repairs to be done on the ceiling and I remember more plaster coming down.

After September the business next door Adam & Eve had moved out and the acupuncturist at the back of our building had moved out as well.

Our communication with the landlord was through Chris Chapman of Harcourts Property Management. I remember I rang him to check whether the building should have got a green sticker.

Around about Christmas time Chris and 2 men came into the building. They were doing an engineering inspection. I wasn't there but my brother Kerry was there at the time.

I remember being told by Chris that the building needed to be strengthened up to 67%.

I think that the owners came over from overseas to have a look at the business but I was not there when that happened.

After September the staff made a plan that in the event of another big earthquake we would all run out onto Colombo Street.

On 22 February 2011 Matthew (Matti) McEachen was working for us. When the earthquake struck I saw him sitting at his desk inside the shop.

I was out the back of the building in the alleyway. I managed to get away without being injured. My recollection is that the rear of the building collapsed within four seconds of the shaking starting.

Matti McEachen must have run out the front towards Colombo Street because his body was found under rubble at the front of the building.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MATTHEW PARKIN', written over a horizontal dotted line.

MATTHEW PARKIN

November 2011