

190B Mt Pleasant Road



I was in St Albans at the time of the earthquake in an old bungalow type building. The building stood up to the intense shaking, but the earthquake was so unexpected and so violent I knew instantly it was a life changing event we were experiencing.

As soon as I could leave, I travelled as quick as I could to Mt Pleasant school to find our daughter. I chose to travel Fitzgerald Avenue and found the whole of the opposite side of the road had collapsed. At this point my son rang me from England while I was in the traffic jam and told me how bad things were, that there had been lost of life. I could not take it in.

When I reached Mt Pleasant school it was very emotional - seeing my daughter was safe and all the children and parents pouring into the school grounds to find each other.

After several hours we walked home to find our home had been very damaged. All our large windows had blown out. The noise would have been so frightening I was so relieved I was not home at the time.

I had no contact from my husband who was working in Lyttleton until 7pm that night.



Our house took six years to be rebuilt.