

St Albans News

The Voice of our Neighbourhood

December 2007

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Such a grand building deserves a name



Such a grand building so far out of town deserves a name - think of The Argonaut in Stanmore Rd or the Royale in Papanui - far less impressive in their execution. Upstairs, there is one private tenant, whose leafy contemplation of St Matthew's belfry is sullied only by the Husqvarna workshop and all that testing chainsaws entails. The rest of this very silent upstairs space is given over to storage of commercial goods among old fire surrounds and claw foot baths which sit on fragments of quality carpet.

Starting from the bottom left, there is Mr Lindsay Trott's T.V. shop, Altron, which has the smallest foyer you have ever seen. Its walls are tiers of televisions, testimony to the success of a business which has been associated with the phone number 3559059 since 1975. Quieter probably than Hays 'the friendly store' where he used to work, but on a busy corner his shop has hosted the back end of at least one

convertible.

Next along is Chris's Clothing Services. "I do Air New Zealand and Virgin Blue and the Fire Service," she says. "You'd be amazed what comes through the door." She and two other part-time ladies also remodel retro gear and American pants (their sizes are larger) and do a full hem on a ball gown for \$20. Not a bad price for plain Jane to become a Cinderella. But there are also what she calls the "rubber glove" jobs - trousers and jackets brought in by older men for cleaning, often after their wives have passed away.

Allan's shoe shop is represented only by a faded sign. But he was mighty in his time. 30 or 40 years apparently. There is a small art gallery - "where the picture meets the frame". Keith Fisk is the barber - they say he does a great high top fade. Thai takeaways and heat pumps. It's all here. In an old building which looks like a castle and is falling slowly to pieces.

Hilaire Campbell



Tena koutou katoa—Hi Everyone!

What exactly happened to 2007?? Here we are soon to be embraced by summer's warmth and the festive season. We also shortly bid farewell to Christoph and his whanau as they head off to Geneva to attend the Red Cross Award Ceremony where he will receive the prestigious Henri Durrant Medal. Once again we congratulate him and wish them all a safe and enjoyable trip.

The Governance board of the Community Centre met recently for a full day of strategic planning. This was a great opportunity to reflect upon achievements made since the last planning session, and cast our minds forward to our future goals. I felt particularly pleased to consider the many gains made by our small voluntary organisation and the excellent day-to-day work undertaken by our paid staff. We were delighted to have our long-serving ex-board member, Ben Harris facilitate the session for us. We have received an excellent injection of new energy and interest with four new Board members joining the team. It was also a good opportunity to welcome new Board members, Ian Rae and Max Feutz. We also welcome Emily Watson and Maria McEntyre.

St Albans Community Centre remains a buzzing hub

of community activity and information. The re-formatting of our newsletter has met with a mostly positive response, despite some concerns about the loss of a local 'character' called STANN. The newsletter has grown in size and distribution recently which are both great signs. We are also in the process of re-designing and updating our Community Centre logo with some exciting designs submitted by a student.

The Board has set itself the task of connecting more with our community—both residents and businesses, alongside our politicians. There are plans for more open days and signage at the Centre, as we frequently hear of long-standing residents who do not yet know of its existence. The Board is also extremely keen to involve more people in its discussions and activities, so please feel free to come on down and let us know what is important to you.

The Board plans to meet up with all newly-elected politicians in the near future to ensure the great relationships we have maintained on behalf of St Albans in the past are continued. Our congratulations to successfully elected new politicians: Ngaire Button (Council); Jane Demeter (ECan); Carole Evans (ECan); Pauline Cotter, Matt Morris, Aaron Keown (Community Board); and returned members Yvonne Palmer, Megan Evans (Community Board); and Norm Withers (Councillor and Deputy Mayor). Our thanks extend to all candidates who stood as their effort enables our democratic process to function.

Well that's my update for now. Enjoy the busy/silly season and remember what actually matters.....people, not things!

Maggy Tai Rakena – Co-Chair of the
St Albans Residents' Association

Events Calendar

- 25 Nov Friends of Edgeware Plant Sale
- 25 Nov Liedertafel Christmas Concert (332 8317)
- 27 Nov NZ- Japan Society (355 9903)
- 4 Dec St Albans InterAgency meeting (374 2465)
- 6 Dec Breast Chek Meeting (348 4627)
- 9 Dec Carols in Packe St Park (366 3844)
- 11 Dec Linux User Group (CLUG), (981 5469)
- 16 Dec Ratana Church Service,
Rehua Marae (355 5606)
- 21 – 23 Dec Activator Training
(Youth Programme), (374 2465)
- 23 Dec The Nativity Story,
Chch North Apostolic Church (387 0076)
- 25 Dec Christmas Day Community Celebration,
St Albans Baptist Church lounge (355 6522)

Submissions

- * CCC: Papanui Rd / Main North Rd bus priority route - closes 17 Dec 07
- * ECan: Regional Land Transport Strategy - closes 20 Dec 07
- * ECan: Travel Demand Strategy - closes 20 Dec 07
- * ECan: Canterbury Transport Regional Implementation Plan 2007 - closes 20 Dec 07
- * CCC: Extension to the bus border trials, Hills Rd – closes 19 Apr 07

For details, please consult the City Council and ECan websites at
<http://www.ccc.govt.nz> and
<http://www.ecan.govt.nz>



Christmas Holiday Fun for Children 7 - 11 years at Packer Street Park

Every Tuesday and Thursday 10am – 3pm
8th – 24th January

The St. Albans Residents' Association and the Friends of Packer Street Park intend to kick-start 2008 by offering a fun-filled holiday programme for 7 to 11 year olds.

When the festivities of Christmas and New Year have died down, children can sometimes feel bored and at a loose end; we aim to combat the boredom with some exciting summer adventures.

Our holiday programme will be based at the Packer Street Park/Community Garden (125 Packer Street, St Albans) and will include trips to interesting places in and beyond the city – to the seaside, the hills and the estuary.

Details about this good opportunity for children to escape the computer and television and get into the outdoors will be advertised at the Carols in Packer Street Park Sunday 9th December 5pm – 6pm. Registration forms may also be picked up at the St Albans Community Centre, 1047 Colombo Street. Places are limited, so early registration is advised.

Costs to register are minimal.

Fees: \$5 per session or \$20 for the whole programme (6 sessions).

Registration closes 17th December 2007

Enquiries: phone Peggy 366 3844

Letter to the Editor

The Editor.

Dear Sir.

Well done as always on your work for the paper. Just a small note, on page 16 of the October edition in referring to John Evans "Yankee" BROWN, he was not a mayor of St Albans, but was for the period 1881 to 1884 MP for St Albans in the General Assembly.

Regards

BG St Albans History Group.

**St Albans News, December 2007.
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Send your contributions and adverts to:
St Albans News, P.O. Box 21-102, Christchurch

email: news@stalbans.gen.nz,
phone: 374 2465 or 379 6305, fax: 374 2467

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Editor: Christoph Hensch

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Maxine Feutz, Richard Bradley, Hilaire Campbell, Bill Demeter, Maggy Tai Rakena and Dafyd.

St Albans Community Centre and NeighbourNet Computer Room:

Closed for three weeks over Christmas
and New Year

Closes 21st December 2007 at 3pm

Re-opens 14th January 2008 at 10am

Wishing you all a wonderful break.

Controversial New Café-Bar on Westminster - part 2

Last month, through this magazine, many of you heard for the first time that a new Café-Bar-Restaurant is going to be built in the little shopping strip near the Westminster/ Cranford Street corner.

Neighbours living and working in the area wrote strongly-worded submissions opposing the idea, many appeared in person at the Resource Consent Hearing and spoke passionately and emotionally of their fears, and in addition, presented a petition containing around 250 signatures.

So what then led to the decision in favour of the business getting the green light from Council?

Firstly, the parking and traffic issue. Council looked at the increase in traffic volume in relation to the overall volume of traffic along Cranford Street, and felt that the additional number of cars would not be noticeable in a total flow of 24,000 to 30,000 cars a day. In considering a waiver of the off-street parking requirement, the Council again had a different viewpoint from that of residents, in that they needed to look at it from a legal point of view, and legally any single business along that strip has the potential and right to seek to increase their volume of business and, by extension, the volume of traffic. In theory therefore, it is irrelevant that the business is a café-bar rather than one of the existing businesses.

In addressing the issue of noise and anti-social behavior, the Hearing again had a more limited view than the residents, in part because many of the issues are outside the scope of the Resource Consent process and will need to be addressed when the Liquor Licence is lodged.

However, the applicants themselves made some concessions and alterations to their plans in response to residents' concerns. Originally, they planned to remain open until 11.00pm but this has been changed to 10.00pm. They have further agreed not to apply for any late licences or special licences.

A Noise Management Plan will be adopted, and alterations to the back of the building will, in theory at least, minimize noise pollution from rubbish disposal, deliveries and such.

Landscaping requirements are envisaged to enhance the boundary between the bar and closest neighbour.

The resource consent process is a long and arduous one for all concerned, as it seeks to be thorough and fair within its statutory limitations.

The applicants presented their initial inquiry to Council in February 2006, and door-knocked in the area in May-June 2006, advising residents of their basic idea by letter.

They feel that they informed the relevant parties at an appropriate stage of the planning and that they have made every effort to ameliorate any potential negative 'side effects.' Naturally, they stress the positive aspects of the project in terms of revitalizing a somewhat rundown area and providing increased opportunities for social interaction.

Equally naturally, the people most affected cannot help but focus on the negative aspects of the project.

As is often the case with the consultation process, people in opposition to an idea, even having taken full advantage of the submissions process, still feel that they were not listened to. Many of their letters point out obvious inconsistencies in the way some reports were interpreted, and inappropriate comparisons with other dissimilar projects that the hearing panel relied on in making its decision.

In this case also, the Limited Notification meant that the wider community was not deemed to have an interest in the outcome, and did not have access to the hearing. There is a lingering sense of injustice about this.

Perhaps the community's sense of frustration is also due to the fact that all this has been dealt with through a third party. There may well be sound commercial reasons why the shareholders of Westminster Holdings and the leasees have remained anonymous, but it would have been healthier if all parties concerned could have sat round a table and chewed the fat.

As it is, many of the issues will need to be revisited in response to the Liquor Licence application. In my view, the system thus far has done what it is designed to do, which is to provide checks and balances to protect communities whilst allowing individuals the right to pursue their business...but this fight is probably far from over, and this lengthy process will mean a further anxious wait for residents to see whether what they see on the plans will translate into a community-friendly oasis or a major headache.

A big challenge ahead of us in the wider community is to take a close look at zoning laws—and the 'permitted activities' therein—to help influence the way our community develops.

Max Feutz

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Resource Consents

There are three types of resource consent:

1. Non-Notified – This applies when you have the written consent of all affected neighbours and your project is a 'permitted activity' for its zone.
2. Limited Notified – This applies if you are unable to gain the consent all the neighbours identified by the council, but the council decides that the adverse effects would be minor. In this case only those neighbours identified by council are told, and only these parties may lodge a submission supporting or opposing the application.
3. Publicly Notified – The council decides the application impacts on the wider community. The application is publicly notified in newspapers and copies are circulated to neighbours. ANY interested parties can lodge submissions.

What happens next?

Once the deadline for submissions closes, a hearing is arranged. A council hearing panel is usually made up of two councillors and one designated community board member. Submitters, council staff and the applicants can all attend. After the hearing, the decision is made within three weeks, and all persons notified.

Is help available?

Yes. There is free advice available on all Resource Management Application (RMA) issues:

1. Approach any council resource consent officer
2. Phone CCC Info Line: 9418999
3. Phone the duty planner: 941 8657
4. Phone Canterbury Law Centre: 366 6870
5. Email: rms@comlaw-chch.org.nz

Have you been approached by a developer to sign a Letter of Consent?

Even if you support a project, you still need to exercise caution – always sign not only the Neighbour's Consent but also the Resource Consent Application itself and the Assessment of Application. You need to do this to be sure you know exactly what you are agreeing to.

Can I change my mind?

Yes, but you need to inform the council before the hearing date.

Hawkesbury Avenue Special Amenity Area 40 Encroachment

Residents in Hawkesbury Special Amenity Area 40, (SAM40), are saddened by the prospect of losing a house to the Australian company, Metlife, who has bought Merivale Retirement Village and is expanding rapidly.

This Special Amenity Area consists of a row of mostly villas on both sides of Hawkesbury Avenue, from Browns Road to Somme Street, which were constructed in the early part of last century.

Number 30 Hawkesbury Avenue has been bought by Metlife, with the intention to remove the house and replace it with retirement units, in order to continue their spread onto a previously untouched neighbourhood considered to have character worth retaining as stated by the Christchurch City Council in their publication of the SAM 40.

Metlife has been buying up large numbers of properties behind these villas on Somme Street and building retirement units. There are currently between 20 and 30 of these new subdivided homes on Somme Street, all single level, stucco and fairly identical hence dramatically affecting the streetscape. There are very few mature trees with protection remaining in what is an old part of St. Albans/Merivale.

This is not a local issue—all over Christchurch there are examples of our Heritage being lost to development. Christchurch City Council appears to be leading the way in heritage destruction, and the residents are speaking out to protect our Special Amenity Areas.


Sheryl Fraser

Ray White
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Life in the 1500s

The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to be.

Here are some facts about the 1500s:

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May, and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all the babies.

By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying: Don't throw the baby out with the bath water..

Houses had thatched roofs-thick straw piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying: It's raining cats and dogs.

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house from the roof. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying: Dirt poor. The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on the floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entranceway. This is where the word "threshold" came from.

In those old days, they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day, they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight, and then start over the next day. Sometimes stew had food in it that had been there for quite a while. Hence the rhyme: Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old.

Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man

could bring home the bacon. They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and 'chew the fat'.

Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leach onto the food, causing lead poisoning death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered poisonous.

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or the 'upper crust'.

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whiskey. The combination would sometimes knock the imbibers out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of holding a wake.

England is old and small, and the local folks started running out of places to bury people. So they would dig up coffins and would take the bones to a bone-house, and reuse the grave. When reopening these coffins, 1 out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realised they had been burying people alive. So they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, lead it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night (the graveyard shift.) to listen for the bell; thus, someone could be, saved by the bell or was considered adead ringer. And that's the truth...

Now, whoever said history was boring !!!

Anon

What's happening at the St Albans Community Centre

Computer Course:

Struggling to use the computer?

Come to a course tailor made to suit your needs.

Small classes of six.

Available soon. Small classes and low fees

Leisure Group:

Come along & join the fun with the St Albans Leisure Group – get to know our city & what it offers in entertainment & activities that are of low cost & high value.

Phone Alison at the Centre – 379 6305



Five ways to save money as a Family

1. Little bags of chips, popcorn etc, are very convenient for lunches, but it's much cheaper to buy a big bag (or pop your own popcorn) and put it in little bags of your own. We also use pretzels, nuts, raisins, Shapes biscuits etc. I buy the Glad® snack bags and wash them after use.

2. Having friends over is a free (apart from food!) way to entertain the kids. I find I get a remarkable amount done around the house when the kids have their mates over.

3. Creative junk (i.e. boxes; scrap paper; junk mail; yoghurt containers; old magazines; margarine containers; etc etc etc) is a wonderful way to keep the children amused on a rainy day. All you need to provide is glue, felts and scissors, and of course a room that you don't mind being very messy!!

You might be surprised by what wonderful creations come out!

4. Go to the library – apart from the huge range of books and magazines, you can borrow children's CDs, DVDs and videos for no charge, and keep them for a week. The libraries also have free computers for kids and offer school holiday courses which are very reasonably priced – certainly cheaper than the movies!

5. Go to the park! Take food from home and bread for the ducks. We are incredibly lucky to have Abberley Park, St Albans Park and the Botanical Gardens so close.

Monica Guy

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Music Making Tots

We didn't know many other toddler families around here, and there didn't seem to be many music groups for preschoolers close by. The Hall at the St Albans Resource Centre seemed a perfect venue. So I decided to host a weekly drop in music session for under fives and their caregivers, to start in February 2008. They can bring their own instruments, noisemakers and CDs but I'll supply extras to share. We can use a beat-box to play CDs that kids love to sing, dance and make noise to—like The Wiggles, Hi 5, preschool songs and well anything really! Even the Loving Touch CD about food has turned into a hit at our place. How can you go wrong with songs like Sandwiches Are Beautiful! And Fred Dagg's Gumboot Song of course.

Thursdays from 10:45am -11:45am is the time we have pegged, starting on the 7th of February 2008. Caregivers will need to stay in the room with their children. All provided for a gold coin donation.

If you would like to offer any suggestions or voice concerns, feel free to contact me about them;

355 9458, or oolandri@hotmail.com. You can also register at the centre Ph 379 6305.

Canterbury Aikido Club

The Canterbury Aikido Club is currently running a weekly, stand-alone Sunday afternoon self-defence/self-improvement class for all-comers. The actual training session is one and a half hours long and starts at 2.00pm. There is a friendly BBQ afterwards for meet-and-greet socialising with all food supplied by the club. Classes are totally free to anyone who wants to attend; there are no hidden charges. For safety reasons we have an age limit of 14 years old for kids without parents, though younger children can still attend as long as their parents are participating as well.

The classes are specially designed for all fitness levels, so there is no basic minimum fitness requirement. All training is supervised by qualified instructors. Training is deliberately low-key with the focus on self-improvement and self-defence; a useful skill in today's environment.

Our dojo is located at 274 Westminster Street (the old Western Soccer Club clubrooms). For more information, please contact Dave Thompson at 366 6588 or email: dave@pcanytime.co.nz

Pool Update



Aynsley Macnab presenting one of the St Albans Pavilion and Pool collection buckets to Christopher Timbs from Peter Timbs Meats in Edgeware Rd. Residents will be seeing lots of these around the many local businesses who are keen to help St Albans raise the money for the new facility. Resource consent is progressing smoothly through the necessary stages. Thank you to everyone for the continued support and enthusiasm. Please donate generously to this wonderful project which will hugely enrich our community.

Pauline Cotter

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Activate - a programme for youth, 11 - 18 years

The St Albans Community Centre is pleased to launch its youth development programme Activate. This programme is tailored in response to the calls to action by young people at the recent youth forum held in response to the tragedy in Edgeware Rd.

The conference makes a series of calls to action—including the provision of more events, enhanced networking and communication between young people across the city; stronger relationships with authorities; enhanced intergenerational interaction; youth radio stations; publications and much more. The calls to action are significant in that they provide a work programme which will make a great difference for youth across the city, but the question remains...who will do it!

The Community Centre has committed to supporting a youth worker to muster youth leaders, train them and then finally, facilitate the application of these leadership skills to implementing the outcomes. This training occurs weekly in youth group format.

To this end, we are calling for young leaders, if you are young yourself and feel and your friends have what it takes to lead the charge then contact us. If you are a parent or you know of a young person who you think has what it takes then make the contact. Insofar others working on implementing the calls to action have recruited significant numbers of youth leaders, Activate intends to recruit local St Albans leaders to join the movement. We anticipate hearing from you.

Contact us at 374 2465

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Email news@stalbans.gen.nz
or call 379 6305



ACTIVATE

Activate your child! Do you see leadership potential, good ideas, heart, and an ability to lead in your son or daughter ?

We are now taking enrolments in the 'Activate' leadership holiday programmes. If your son or daughter is a natural leader, has energy, time and loads of enthusiasm, then enroll them with us now.

Your child will meet others of like mind, will gain valuable skills and apply them to projects which will make a true difference to a city which caters for, and values, youth ! In the New Year, there is still an ability to remain involved and active with **ACTIVATE**

In total there are 13 interactive social training events over the holiday period.

- ◆ Programme is tailored for young people aged 13 - 18. Exceptions are negotiable.
- ◆ For enrolment information, contact us at 274 2465

The St Albans Community Centre Youth Holiday Programme in partnership with the White Elephant Trust



Tim Barnett

*Christchurch Central's
Member of Parliament*



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to be shown at a special
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COMMUNITY NOTICE

INVITATION



Carols in Packer Street Park

Sunday, 9 December 2007
 5.00 pm – 6.00 pm

Music by

Heather Mitchell Gladstone,
 The St Albans Community Choir
 And Guests

Seasons Greetings from
 The Friends of Packer Street Park

- If the weather is good, bring your picnic.
- If the weather is bad, Carol Singing will be in the St Albans Community Resource Centre, 1047 Colombo Street.



Brumby's

6.30am to 6.00pm

Sunday 6.30am to 5.00pm

Phone 3749 336
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 Buy one white or wholemeal
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 Brumby's Edgeware only.
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St Albans Classifieds

SERVICES

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Aakland Carpet Cleaning: Super cleaned from \$15/rm; standard clean from \$10/rm, economy clean from \$8/rm. Over 20 years exp. Ph. 388-3314

Accountant: Working from home in St Albans area. Self employed accounts, rental properties, GST and tax returns etc. Excellent references available. Phone Susan Ayton on 980-7334 or email taxayton@paradise.net.nz

An Exaltation of Organs: A history of the four pipe organs of the St. Albans Methodist Churches by Frank Paine, 22/40 Bristol Street, Christchurch 8014. Available from the author @ \$13.50, including p&p.

Bricklayer available for BBQs, fences, planters, blockwork, etc. phone Jeremy 942-7195

Casual Walker, Companion required by lady in St Albans, Merivale area. Please reply in writing to SARA, P.O. Box 21-102, Edgware, Christchurch.

Celebrant available for your marriage, civil union, or other ceremony. Ruth Gardner, phone 03 365-6943, www.ruth.org.nz

Childcare & Babysitting: \$11.50 per hour. Phone 356 1353

Computer Guru: Highest quality computer servicing, fixing all hardware/software problems, installations, advice and more. Serving St Albans for three years, now expanding. Call outs start at \$30/hr, offsite repairs \$20/hr. Ph 355 4118 or 021 0243 7398, or pcguru@orcon.net.nz

Electrical: Bright Sparks Electrical Ltd. Registered tradesmen. Call Peter at 027-572-8864 or 382-5824 (after hours)

Hairdresser: Fully qualified for haircuts, perms, & sets in your own home. Phone Theresa 352-8208 or 027-221-8616

Housecleaning job in St Albans wanted by honest and reliable lady on a weekly basis. \$25 per townhouse/flat. Phone Nicola 386-1118

Housecleaning: Regular or casual. \$13 per hour. Phone 356 1353

Painting & Decorating: Qualified Tradesman, 20 years experience. Internal external plastering. Free quotes. Locally based. Ph Mark on 355-7670 or 0274 343 300

Roofing: New Roofs, Repairs, Maintenance, Parapet Flashing, Free Advice. Ph Clinton 366-6019 or 027-220-1982

Shopping helper available with own car - reliable honest lady willing to help with groceries, mail, Doctor/hair appointments, etc. pick up, assist & support, drop off & unpack. Hourly rate. Phone Nicola 386 1118

St Albans Osteopathy: best for back and neck pain. Philip Bayliss has 21 years experience. ACC registered. After-hours emergencies. 43 Thames Street, 356 1353

Clarinet, sax & piano: experienced local teacher. Phone Nicola on 379 4184

Wanted – Beatbox/CD Player. Ph Kerry 355 9458

TUITION

English Tuition: Foreign students of all levels. Individuals or groups. \$15/hr. Phone Peter 377 8197 or email petercmd@yahoo.com

English Tutor: Students, all levels. \$15 per hour. Phone John on 027-6865 232

Yoga: St Albans Community Resource Centre. Tuesdays 10-11.30am. Friendly, relaxing class, well suited to mature figures. Phone Pauline on 980-8760

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Cranford Street

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up to 40 stalls selling plants,
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collectables, household goods
& much more
Enquiries phone 351- 9727

St Albans Neighbourhood News ten years ago

December 1997

Ten years ago in your local newsletter, amongst all the good wishes for the following year and the announcements of celebrations for the most important date in the Christian calendar was a look around the neighbourhood – shops decorated - windows painted - staff wearing funny red hats... all the rest of the commercialisation – you could say Ho-Ho-Hum... but somehow the season sneaks up on you and before you know it, everyone is smiling and people actually say hello to each other. No doubt it will happen again this year.

Anyway, in STANN of a decade ago was news of the re-opening of the Shirley Community Library after the fire of the previous April.

The Mobile Library Service would be starting in the New Year. It's been a Tuesday happening outside the video shop in Colombo Street ever since. Never forget that printed words allow knowledge to be passed accurately down the generations – something that word of mouth – stories - cannot do.

Brumby's in Edgeware Road was judged the best-run franchise in NZ.

It was a sad day for the St Albans Library – it opened in 1867 and closed with a farewell luncheon on 29 November 1997 after 130 years of service. (see photo)

I see that "Off the Track Curtains" in Westminster St was advertising in STANN, same owners too – congratulations Annabel and Rab, and thanks for all the support over the years.

In the other photo are some of the donated computers that are (were) to be refurbished and given new homes. The donation of computers is still welcomed in 2007, and Gordon Taylor, the guy on the right in the photo is still on board, helping to bring people up to speed with computing. Well done Gordon.

Well, that's it for me. There is no newsletter in January, so I will see you in February.

And isn't it great to get the newsletter delivered to every household in the district. Sometimes commercial companies just cannot (or will not) do the job properly.

Dafyd



Farewell picture at the St Albans Library closure



Recycling used computers. The staff remain <grin>



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Community Resource Centre

1047 Colombo Street.
Phone 379 6305 or 374 2465
Email: office@stalbans.gen.nz
Office Hours 10 am – 3 pm

Monday to Friday

Offers to the community:

- The Press - available in lounge area
- Fax facility
- Photocopying @ 10 cents per A4
- Hall Hire - Conditions apply
\$10 per hour non-profit community rate
\$15 per hour Commercial rate
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