

St Albans News

The Voice of our Neighbourhood

December 2009



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No Exit



July 2008

Gordon is in his early 30s, married with two children, aged six and a half, and three years. Ella his wife, worked part-time until July 2008 when she was made redundant as a local retail store.

Gordon graduated from the University of Canterbury in business and is employed as a financial analyst for an investment firm. They recently purchased a home, and by any measure seem like the people who will always do well and will always get ahead.

Their life is a complete hell! In the last four weeks the following events have taken place. Three weeks ago, Gordon came home drunk after work on a Friday and fell asleep before supper. Saturday was their tenth wedding anniversary and Gordon did nothing for Ella. In fact, he had completely forgotten.

Last week, Gordon hid a small bottle of vodka under the front seat of the car and showed up at work with a take away latte laced with vodka. This has now become routine and gets him at least through the morning till he can sneak off somewhere at lunch and have a couple more drinks. This seems to be working better and has avoided any further conversations with his boss, Nigel.

Nigel has spoken with Gordon and made it very clear both verbally and in writing that he knows Gordon has a drinking problem. In fact, a client complained about smelling alcohol on Gordon's breath at a morning meeting. The client also noted that Gordon was not prepared and made excuses. Nigel made it clear that one more incident involving alcohol would be cause for immediate dismissal.

Ella called the family doctor, explained the situation over the phone and the same day visited the doctor. The doctor was very clear and very firm with Ella. Gordon needed help now, needed it regardless of cost and to delay would have serious consequences.

Gordon and Ella's hell grew even worse. Gordon was fired after not showing at work for a 1:30 p.m. appointment — one of the office staff had found him in the bar

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Manager's Report 2009

The year is going towards its end again, and this is a good opportunity to share a report with you from my own perspective. 2009 has been an extraordinarily busy and interesting year for the Centre; we can look back to a string of successes. As noted elsewhere, the Centre has seen about 32,000 visits this year, which I believe, constitutes a new record. We are more and more often in the unfortunate situation where we cannot satisfy requests from groups and individuals who would like to either run a class, meeting or other event at the Centre, simply because space is limited and most time slots are taken.

It was again a pleasure to work with the local community, dealing with a number of issues, among them complaints about boy racers, resource consent issues for preschools, finding space for local institutions like the toy library and OSCAR, and the ongoing issue of traffic safety on the Edgeware Road/Colombo Street corner. We are happy to report that after several articles in local papers and a deputation to the Community Board, stop signs were installed on both Colombo and Trafalgar Streets turning into Edgeware Road in October 2009.

On behalf of the Residents' Association I was also involved in making submissions to several consultations held by CCC, ECan and the government in Wellington.

As presented at our recent AGM, the financial situation of the Community Centre has become a bit more challenging during the last year. While we serve more people, we've not seen a corresponding increase in funding and income, but an increase in costs over the year. The Centre and Residents' Association is and will be increasingly more dependent on the support of local residents and businesses. I'd like to express my special thanks to the 39 local donors who donated various amounts between \$5 and \$1000 to the Centre during the year!

I hope we will be able to improve on that in 2010.

A milestone was achieved this year when our organisation was registered with the Charities Commission, giving us a charitable status. This was finally possible after a Special General Meeting approved changes to our constitution, which dates back to the time before the joining of the St Albans Residents' Association with the St Albans Community Resource Centre.

I'd like to acknowledge Alison, Kim and Magda, our paid staff, without whom our Centre would not be able to provide all the services we currently provide.

At the same time I'd like to acknowledge also the other pillar of our organisation, the about 40 volunteers. There are several services that would probably not even exist if it wasn't for the volunteer input. Foremost are the Internet service we provide at the NeighbourNet room and the production of the St Albans News. For both projects, volunteers spend uncounted hours to make them happen. The same of course, also applies to those who have volunteered to sit on the Board of the organisation. The following eight people were reappointed to the Board for another year at the recent AGM: Maggy Tai Rakena, Bill Demeter, Emma Twaddell, Lorna Szentivanyi, Nanette Cunningham, Ian Rae, Maxine Feutz and Kevin McDonald.

Their wisdom and efforts have guided the organisation through a few challenging and difficult situations and times, and I immensely appreciate their support.

A complete Annual Report, with audited financial statements, is available from the office at the Community Centre.

I'm looking forward to serving the Community Centre, the and community at large, for another year of interesting challenges and successes!

Christoph Hensch

Correction

Two errors were made in the article on poet Jeffrey Paparao Holman in last month's issue.

Firstly, as many readers have pointed out, Jeffrey is not NZ's Poet Laureate, of which there can only be one, currently Cilla McQueen. I mistakenly believed that the expression could be used in a more general way as an accolade, as well as in the specific sense originally intended by the word. I now know that it is not to be sprinkled around like parsley, and apologise for any embarrassment caused.

Secondly, Jeffrey is part of the English Dept not the Maori Dept at Canterbury University.

The St Albans News relies on your contributions. Please send us your articles, letters and notices. The deadline for the February issue is the 4th of February

Events Calendar

8 Dec, 12.30pm	Transition Forum (374 2465)
8 Dec, 7.30pm	St Albans Residents' Association (374 2465)
13 Dec, 7.30pm	Movie: This is Spinal Tap (374 2465)
20 Dec, 11am	Ratana Church Service, Rehua Marae (355 5606)
22 Dec, 7.30pm	NZ-Japan Society (355 9903)
23 Dec, 2pm	St Albans Uniting Church Garden Club (366 0396)
11 Jan, 10am	St Albans Community Centre re-opens (379 6305)
17 Jan, 11am	Ratana Church Service, Rehua Marae (355 5606)
19 Jan, 12.30pm	St Albans InterAgency meeting (374 2465)
26 Jan, 7.30pm	NZ-Japan Society (355 9903)
9 Feb, 12pm	Transition Forum (374 2465)

Chair Chat



Well another good year's work has been achieved at the St Albans Community Centre with over 32,000 people making use of our excellent facilities and services. My thanks and praise to all involved.

On a completely different note, I was recently involved in the development of a new aspect of a local campaign designed to help inform parents and the general community about keeping young people safe from sexual abuse. There are presently four buses circulating the city carrying a message that 90% of child sexual abuse is done by those known to the victims — that is family or acquaintances. This message is an important one as our community frequently looks to protect young people from strangers and is loathe to believe that the people they know could engage in such behaviour. The campaign is keen NOT to cause panic and paranoia, but sees factual information as the way to assist safety. Workshops on this topic are available by calling: 355 4414.

I wish you all the compliments of the season and a safe and relaxing summer break.

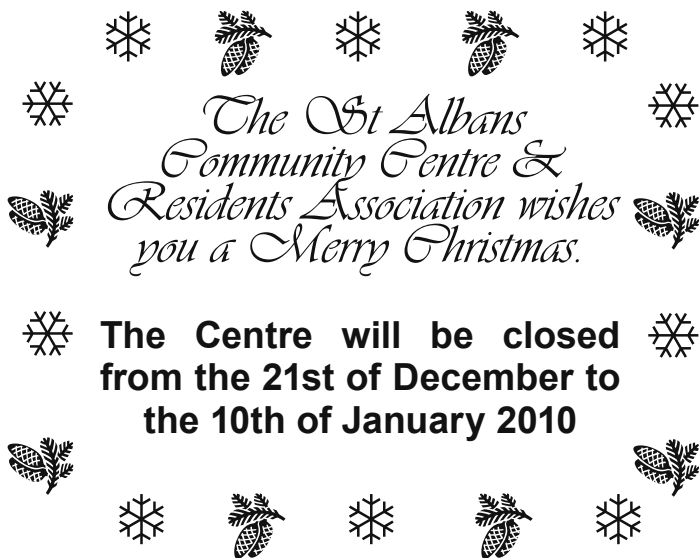
Meri Kirihimete me te mihi o te tau hou hoki.

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



St Albans Community Centre

Te Pokapū Hapori o Hato Ōpani



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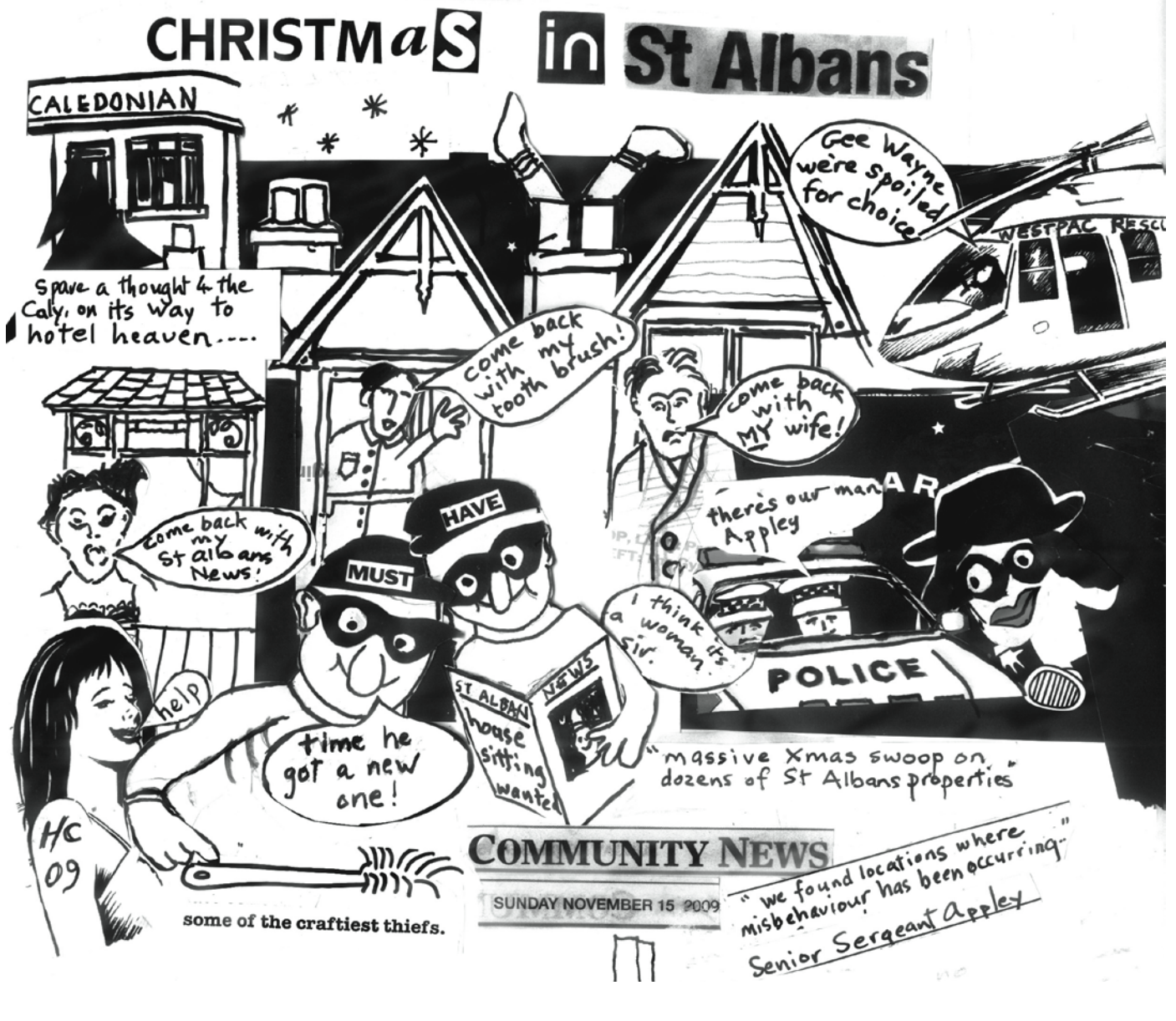
Proofreading: Terry Connor
Design, layout, advertisement design: Maria Hayward

With regular contributions from:
Maxine Feutz, Hilaire Campbell, Bill Demeter, Maggy Tai Rakena, Doug Craig, and others.

The opinions expressed in this publication are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the St Albans Residents' Association.

The St Albans Residents' Association wishes to acknowledge and thank the following funders for their support:

- Canterbury Community Trust - Accounts/ Admin wages & volunteer expenses - \$9,980
- Lottery - Salaries - \$16,000, Training & supervision - \$1,000 (\$17,000)
- COGS - Wages - \$3,000



continued from page one

of a downtown hotel. Nigel was alerted and confronted Gordon and fired him.

Two small children, a distressed wife, no job, no savings, and a dependency on alcohol so severe Gordon cannot stop drinking. He is physically, psychologically and emotionally addicted to alcohol.

November 2009

Gordon has separated from Ella, and according to one of his friends is now working in Melbourne as a labourer at a construction site. He is still drinking but apparently not on the job. He has yet to seek any kind of professional

help and claims that he is now controlling his drinking.

Gordon's parents sold a rental property and have bought Gordon and Ella's home which has allowed Ella to stay in the house. She is now working at a large home building store and trying to balance the issue of working and parenting. She has received much help from Gordon's parents and her mother. Gordon has sent money to Ella on an irregular basis and has called the children. Ella is willing to wait for Gordon to seek and receive help and will not consider divorce.

Earlier this month, Warren, Gordon's best friend, visited him in Melbourne but returned with bad news. Gordon's health has deteriorated; he is not eating properly and is smoking again years after he quit when he got married. Warren said Gordon had been drinking when he picked him up at 11:00 a.m. Saturday morning.

This story is but one of the tens of thousands of sad stories repeated daily in New Zealand because of alcohol abuse.

Bill Demeter

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A Day in the Life of a PORSE Home Educator

I would like to start off by saying that my life is very fulfilled and rewarding.

I started out at 16 years old as a very driven and determined chef at which I was very successful. With the bonus being this was how I met my husband, also a great chef.

We now have three gorgeous children; two boys—one 6 years old and the other 3—then there is our wee princess who has just turned 2. Also, my husband has two older children: Michael who is 21, and Alexander 15, and they are very much involved in the family.

In 2006 I decided to train as an early childhood caregiver with PORSE, completing with Level 3 training, mainly for the knowledge and skills to help raise our children.

But then I started to look after my nieces and haven't looked back.

Daily we open our home and welcome in the children and their families. I want them to feel part of our family, environment, community, with a sense of belonging.

Once the kids have settled in and had a catch up, normally a cuddle with the other, we do something with music...be it playing with the instruments, singing, doing action songs or jumping around doing exercises.

Then it's morning teatime.

Food brings people together and is important to me. We have a regular routine that all meals and snacks had are eaten together, making eating an enjoyable experience and great for communication and understanding manners.

Then it is free play! One of them would have something in mind they would want to do, so we normally do it all together. Be it water play outside, digging in the sandpit, kicking the ball, train set creation, tea parties, building huts; the list is never ending so there is always something to do.

Once a week we go to Mainly Music at the local church, or we may go to a PORSE playgroup gathering, depending how the children are feeling.

After lunch, we are either heading to kindergarten

to drop off the 3 year old, or winding down ready for afternoon naps. We set up a blanket with their favourite toy and book, a drink of milk and then we have story time.

In the afternoon after their nap, we head off to school and kindergarten, which they love. The enjoyment of the walk, seeing nature and the community around them, the interaction with the people, develop communication and the feeling of belonging.



On the way home we often stop at our local park or the Mairehau children's Community Trust Library.

Once home we all eat afternoon tea together and share in our day, and then it is free play again before we settle down for dinner then home time.

Philippa McIntyre.

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Decisions, Decisions

In early September a small team of Bill Demeter, Christoph Hensch and myself attended the Planning Commissioner's hearing on the proposed Plan Change for the Orion site. The Orion site of some 4.32 Ha has been a topic of controversy of a number of years but to date remains vacant and a bit unkempt. In the late 1990s, a sustainable ecovillage had been proposed by a number of St Albans residents, together with the Sustainable Cities Trust. Discussions were held with Council staff and Mayor Gary Moore but nothing more eventuated from this. Council sold the bulk of the land some six years ago to a developer for intensive development. The land zoned for L3, is and remains a prime site for intensive mixed use development, but the surrounding L3 multi-unit development that has sprung up in the 5 years, gave no grounds for optimism that any future L3 zone development on this site would be distinctive nor original with sustainable features to complement the urban heritage of St Albans.

So when Wakefield Mews Ltd proposed a new intensive development and brought together a recognized architectural design team (Kerry Mason ex Warren Mahoney and now Modern Architecture partners, and Nicole Lauenstein from the Design School), we were pleased that, at last, we might see something suitable and innovative that would become a valued community hub within greater St Albans. There were some consultations and a meeting at which an outline of the proposed development via flythrough, showed 4 storey blocks in the central portion of the land, and a smaller commercial zone to the south... So far, so good.

The proposed Plan Change when it arrived earlier this year was not all good news. There was a much larger Business 2 zone with a proposed supermarket (larger than New World in Stanmore Road), and fifteen office units; a miniscule public space area, loads of carparking in the centre of site, a pool or tennis courts probably only for residents, and large swathes of units (13 and 15 respectively) along the frontages of Madras and Packer Streets. And possibly the residential development would be gated to keep out undesirables that is, the rest of St Albans!

So when we fronted up to the hearing together with lawyer Craig Dickson, Peggy Kelly and another neighbour, Lorna Parker, it was to oppose a number of the proposed features, but to provisionally support an integrated and more sustainable development via a Plan Change. We were heartened that a number of submissions from Council planners, and traffic experts supported our ideas and conclusions.

The Hearing Commissioner Ken Gimblett of Boffa Miskell did not have an easy job – there was quite a technical argument over possible site generated traffic impacts on surrounding streets, and another protracted expert witness debate over potential economic impacts on

the Edgeware Road shopping precinct that is also zoned Business 2. In the end, the Commissioner exercised the judgement of Solomon.



Corner of Madras & Purmas Streets

He recognized arguments that there was such a low hurdle to meet for urban design that a rejection of the Plan Change would result in more of the same sterile multi-unit urban streetscapes. He also recognized that the scale of the proposed business zone was detrimental to the future growth of Edgeware Road shopping.

So the recommendation was for Business 2 zone should act as a local, not a District Centre and no tenancies over 450 sq metres floor space; traffic entering and exiting the site to be a controlled activity; and an assessment of design elements and frontages via a restricted discretionary resource consent process. Council passed these recommendations and adopted the Plan Change at its October 22nd meeting.

We did not win over the public space and tree protection arguments. There will be some designated open space with public access via walkways and bikeways through the development to possibly encourage more walking and less local driving. Stormwater will be dealt with via designated swales and storage areas, and toxic waste onsite dealt with through remediation measures at the resource consent stage.

We may also see some traffic measures to increase walkability on local streets but they are not part of the decision given. They will have to be advocated for via the LTCCP.

There will also be a strong presumption on integrated development i.e residential and commercial, via outline and concept plans, preceding the required resource consent applications. This part of the Plan Change should deter the piecemeal development seen currently along Barbadoes and Madras streets. It now remains for the developer to find the \$30-40 million needed to turn this potential into reality. And St Albans will be watching!

Doug Craig

The Relevance of Urban Design and Your Toothbrush

More than 80% of New Zealand's population lives in an urban environment. They are important places. Cities and towns together consume nearly half of the energy produced in New Zealand, which is used for building, using, and maintaining them. They occupy large amounts of land, and they produce prodigious quantities of waste. Yet, amazingly, of all the things we use in our day-to-day lives, our towns and cities are the only commodities which are not designed. They are instead the product of two, now irrelevant, social ethics.

One of these comes from the foundation of European occupation — the then well-intended belief that new immigrants could, and therefore should, be provided with something unattainable in their place of origin: a piece of land to build their own houses on, or to clear and farm. It was the manifestation of a well-intended social ideal, but it established the cult of individual rights as against the communal characteristics which were an inherent part of the settlements they left behind.

The other was the rapid post-WWII population boom. This led to the establishment of a town planning system, the Town and Country Planning Act 1968, which therefore had its roots solidly planted in the social context of the 1950s and '60s — mum and dad together forever; dad in the same job for forty years; kids staying at home until they married, and who then repeated the pattern. State housing got going in the '50s — the early houses commonly came with 1,000m² or more of land, and attempts at medium density housing largely failed. By then the motor car was ubiquitous; it was a visible, measurable, and seductive representation of 'economic progress'. So town planning centred its interests primarily on providing for that, and set aside entirely the notion of incorporating into the urban environment amenities which recognise and support the close and personal human-to-human interactions that have existed for as long as humans have been recognisably human.

Perversely, the town planning system — in its defence of individual 'rights' — has corrupted the meaning of the word so that the right to develop has priority, while the right to protect and preserve established interests is seriously marginalised. Thus, we have witnessed, for example, the progressive destruction of St Albans — the loss of heritage buildings, street architecture, trees, open spaces, privacy and access to sunlight, daylight, and pleasant surroundings which are human in form and scale.

A design process would have dealt with things differently. Designers (generally) are trained to think with breadth; town planners are not.

It is interesting... astonishing actually, to note that your toothbrush has received incomparably more design attention than our cities — and this includes most of the buildings they contain.

The toothbrush results from a programme of intensive, ongoing, market research, as well as ergonomic studies, a knowledge of plastics' technology, and of people's responses to such things as colour and shape, and tactile sensations when it is used; there will be modelling and trialling and committee assessments; production equipment adaptation and other manufacturing issues will feed back into the toothbrush design process; packaging and marketing will also have to be dealt with.

Our towns and cities result from volumes of ill-conceived, hopelessly generalised, totally inflexible rules which are based on thinking which is fifty years out-of-date.

Many SOC members are involved with things like energy, social interactions, localisation of food production, water quality, biodiversity, healthy living... it's a long, long list. Virtually none of this finds its way meaningfully into the urban environment except through citizens' own initiatives.

Roger Buck

*Reprinted from the newsletter of
Sustainable Otautahi Christchurch*

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Young People Making a Difference in Samoa

As a student at Unlimited Paenga Tawhiti (an alternative high school in town), I have the opportunity to get involved in various projects and activities that I may not have been able to do at a mainstream school. One of the projects I'm involved in, along with eleven other students, is Project Iva: Kura 2 Aoga (school 2 school). In this project, we are aiming to raise close to \$15,000 in order to go to Samoa with a container filled with school supplies such as desks, chairs, whiteboards, books, first aid equipment and any other useful learning materials. We are also filming a documentary to share our learning experiences about aid, development and life in a different culture, and to inspire other young people to try to achieve similar goals.

The school we are going to help is a village school on the island of Savaii, which unfortunately, due to rising sea levels, was forced to move to a new location. So far we have made almost \$2,000 with our fundraising efforts, and by the time you read this we will have finished a tour of several schools in mid-Canterbury including Kaiapoi High School, Ashgrove School, Rangiora Borough School and Ashley School. At each school we plan to work with pupils in a series of different workshops which we hope will teach them about different aspects of Samoan culture. I am running a Samoan myths and legends storytelling workshop, and the other workshops are card-making, Samoan cricket and singing. The idea behind all of this is to generate interest in the problems the Samoans are facing. The schools we go to will support us by fundraising in their schools and communities, for example by holding mufti days and street appeals.

We feel very confident that we will reach our goal before our departure date in August 2010, especially with the support of Lealiiee Tufulasi Taleni, advisor for Canterbury University, and of Fuetanoa Kose Seinafo,

Southern Region Manager for the Ministry of Education. We also already have two major sponsors, Sofrana Shipping, who are providing a discount on freight rates, and Agility Logistics, who will help us to be as carbon neutral as possible.

Livio Petrosino



Louis, Taylor, Livio, Bryony and Emily model their Project Iva t-shirts

How Can You Help?

Help us to achieve our goals through contributing one or more of the following:

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Account number: 123191 0004293 00 50

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And you thought St Albans was an amazing community already!

Read on to see how much more amazing it is...

Earlier this year I was forced to sell my beloved house in Coles Place. For anyone in St Albans who doesn't know, Coles Place (a small cul-de-sac) is filled with amazing people, well over thirty kids and an incredible sense of community. I was heartbroken at losing my home, but much, much more so at the thought of having to leave Coles Place.

As soon as the situation became clear to the neighbours, action began. A meeting was organised (organiser, you know who you are!) of all the neighbours to decide the best course of action. I was completely overwhelmed (and still am) by the number of people who came along with ideas, suggestions and, most of all, support. Whilst it was obvious that I would have to sell, everyone decided that the best effort must be made to achieve the highest possible price.

What followed was absolutely amazing...

The following weekend a "working bee" was held (there must be a better expression, because this was so much bigger!). Eleven families from Coles Place, plus many other friends (all St Albans residents or St Albans School parents) spent the entire weekend at our house. The list of jobs completed is tremendous: gardening, lawn mowing, gutter cleaning, packing, many trips to the tip, scrubbing walls, cleaning the bathroom, laundry, pantry etc. the list could go on for a very long time. Many friends contributed to the oven and windows being professionally cleaned, and we even ended up with new carpet (thanks to yet another Coles Place resident — again, you know who you are)... hard to believe I know, but it happened to us.

By early the next week the house was clean and incredibly well presented (partly due to the lovely loaned furniture, again from the neighbours) and ready for open days.

During the chaos, another neighbour told of us of a townhouse in Coles Place that was for rent and gave us the landlord's number. Incredibly, we were able to rent this property and these very same people moved us in. My new landlord said to me, "You must be a good person if all these people helped you." To be perfectly honest, I'm not sure about that, but I sure do know that my neighbours and friends are incredible, amazing people and I am so very, very thankful to have them in my life.

There is no way I could have even have made a dent in what needed to be done by myself. These people gave of their time willingly and I will never, ever forget it! Moving to this street changed our lives, and staying here means the world to us as a family.

To all of you, I can never say thank you enough, and I hope you know how much the four of us appreciate having such amazing people in our lives.

Monica Guy

St Matthews On Cranford #145

A Church "In" And "For" The Community

Traditional Prayer Book Service Sunday 8:45
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 Children's Programme @ 10:30
 Phone 355 7004
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Market

The St Albans Community Market

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Justin Galligan

Its creator says (tongue-in-cheek) that it's just a bean fence, but to the daily passersby, to whom it brings such joy, Justin Galligan's life-sized driftwood giraffe at 10 Edgeware Road is so much more. Personally, I am drawn back to it time and again, and each time it has the same ability to lift my spirits for the day. Judging from the comments of people of all ages overheard by the artist as he works in his yard, and by the complimentary notes he finds in his letterbox, many people feel the same way as I do.

So, here are a few things you might have been wanting to know:

What was the original inspiration? And why a giraffe? Well, he really was thinking about the functionality of the bean fence. It had to be tall and it had to be a skeleton. Also, as street art it had to be fun and easily visible, making a giraffe the obvious choice. So how tall is it? Actually, it's 19 feet, but he says this is a little short for a mature giraffe, and it could have been a couple of feet taller. Where did he start? Armed with the knowledge that "a baby giraffe has to suffer a six foot fall on its birthday", he started by measuring the height of the hind quarters. From there, he said it was just a matter of having fun with his children, aged 14 and 15, putting together a kind of giant jigsaw, held together by No 8 wire. He makes it sound so easy, but of course the charm of its simplicity would not be there if he had not demonstrated an expert eye for correct proportions.

And what of the artist? Originally from Perth, Australia, he moved to NZ in 1999 and settled first in Kaikoura. There, he made a living from a wide variety of jobs, which included working in a restaurant, a saw mill, a Night 'n' Day, a pizza shop, a pruning business and on a Marlborough salmon farm. He even had an ice cream truck at one stage. In 2003, he came to Christchurch and trained to be a teacher, subsequently finding work at Hornby High School and then Shirley Boys' High. It proved difficult to find a permanent position however, and he therefore went to England for a while and back to Australia when his father became seriously ill, before returning here. He is currently working as a relief

science teacher at Linwood High, and in addition has a lawn mowing business.

But all the while, he has always been good at art, and there is evidence of this not only in the easy grace of the giraffe, but in the wire sculptures looking down from the



Justin and the Giraffe

roof and dotted about the garden, which have become his trademark. They are all of women and all made from wire. Copper is his preferred medium, and he explained his long association with it and why he loves working with it. "My father was a mechanic and would bring home old starter motors to extract the copper wire. It would be used to tie up the grape vine, or hold the chook pen together. I have an affinity for copper. It has a malleability that lends itself to shaping and a unique colour that looks good bright and new or aged and tarnished." He also works with

St Albans Monster Fair

St Albans School held another successful Monster Fair on 31st October.

With a Halloween Theme most of the stalls took on a spooky feel including the ever popular haunted house, sweet stalls and crafts.

Getting into the spirit of it, the teachers and students all worked on running sideshows or items to sell at the wide variety of stalls that were on offer.

chicken wire, and here too succeeds in achieving an amazing smoothness of form and voluptuousness without any use of moulds, other than his arms and hands, which often bear the scratches inflicted in the process of shaping and weaving the wire into the desired shapes.

I asked him why he always chose to portray women. There was a definite glint in his eye and much staring off into the distance as he tried to explain this, but the short answer is that he finds the curves of a woman utterly captivating and full of emotion, in a way that a man's shape or that of say, a dog or a horse is not. Although his first work utilising wire was the skeleton of a fish (using bent nails as the ribs), and he does other pieces full of whimsy and humour, he always returns to exploring the theme of womanhood. His fascination for women, artistically speaking, started a long time ago when he saw a picture in a magazine of a model posing for a leg wax commercial and was struck by the way her body formed a triangle. He reflected on the fact that a woman's body contains many such triangles, but in particular her hip, which surprisingly can have up to a 45 degree angle. Justin thinks of the sculptures as "3-dimensional sketches," and since there is no expression on the women's faces, all the expression is in their posture. He provides the basic form and a suggestion of emotion, but it is the viewer who fleshes out the detail and who is free to form their own response.

As our interview came to a close, Justin told me how much he loved living in St Albans, but he had a question of his own. "Don't you think there's a real absence of street art?" I had to agree.

To contact Justin Galligan, email: justin-galligan@hotmail.com, phone him on: 021 577333, or view more of his works at the Little River Art Gallery.

Max Feutz



There was non-stop entertainment provided by the school and community groups, a fairy grotto, as well as traditional fair favourites such as the white elephant, the chocolate wheel, cake stall and mystery bottle.

It all went into creating a fun and enjoyable fair for all, with all the money raised going towards equipment to heat the school swimming pool.

Organisers of the fair, the school PTA, were delighted with the success. "There was a real community feel about this fair and we were thrilled with the amount of people who came and supported us and got a few bargains along the way," said PTA Chair, Vicki Farrant.

Michelle Rouse and Jennifer Leahy



Why Young People Should Care About Feminism

I often wonder why people are not interested in things that are important, interesting or significant. Is it apathy? A feeling of irrelevance? Doesn't seem to apply to you, personally? The one issue I wish my generation would acknowledge and support is feminism. Feminism should be at the forefront of the consciousness of youth concerns because of the profound effect gender and its implications have in society and our individual lives.

Most people don't see gender as a socially constructed thing; they don't see it at all. This is why I am so often asked what exactly it is one learns when they study 'Gender' and why Gender Studies is constantly referred to as 'Women's Studies'. Here the concept that privilege is invisible to those who have it comes into play. Male privilege is entrenched in our culture, and women are automatically and subconsciously regarded as being 'Other'; they are not the default when one thinks of 'humankind'. This is why people think that studying gender must mean studying women. What is there to study about something that is natural and inherent?

Once you begin to see that gender (to be differentiated from sex) is somewhat a formulation, the extent to which gender imbalances and stereotypes are harmful becomes more clear.

So why should young people care about feminism? Because it is absolutely still relevant. Gender equality blatantly does not exist here or in most, if not any, parts of the globe. You can use women's lack of rights in Arab states as an example, but you don't need to look far to find examples closer to home.

In New Zealand, a woman is paid 88 cents to a man's dollar. There is no good reason for us to accept that in this country, in this time, there is a 12% pay equity gap; or that men are more likely to reach the highest ranks of the workforce than women; or that even though young women graduates outnumber male graduates, they are horribly underrepresented in almost every professional sphere, particularly in business and politics.

I fail to understand why more kids today don't find this unjust (or anyone, for that matter).

In opposition to this point one might offer that women are not proportionately represented in highly paid careers because of the hiatus they take from the workforce to have children. Simply put, what do we expect? Someone has to give birth! It is unfair to present women with the 'choice' of being a mother or going far in their professional field. Rather than dismiss child rearing as inevitable career-stopping fact, we ought to follow the example of the Scandinavian countries and offer longer paid parental leave so that parents, no matter their gender, are not forced to choose between their jobs or their families.

Employment is just one of the many arenas in which a feminist perspective is necessary. The media has a key role in how gender is portrayed; and often it is harmful to women. My most loathed advertisements are those for household cleaners and other products, which depict a frazzled mother desperately trying to restore her home to an acceptable level of domestic paradise, only to have the husband/kids mess everything up when they come home from work or school with muddy feet/another stained shirt or whatever. I think most people see that these ads are a fairly ridiculous and traditional description of home life, but it disturbs me that these gender relationships and roles which should have died in the 1950s are still omnipresent.

The sexualisation of women and girls and the promotion of unreal body images in the media is another issue for another day!

I happily call myself a feminist and it pains me to hear the word used as an insult, or dismissed as insignificant, in our lives today because it simply isn't true that women experience the same degree of freedom as men or are as 'liberated' as they ought to be. This was made all too clear to me last weekend when I went out in the city. Not only am I expected to dress in an appropriately attractive manner when I go out (no baggy pants, probably should be in heels...), I find myself in a double bind when I wear something that is too short, or too ripped or too whatever. "You'll attract the wrong sort of attention! Some men can't help themselves!" These sorts of interactions annoy me because: 1) I resent being told what I can and can't wear; and 2) How insulting is it to men to regard them as out of control, testosterone driven things?

This point was contradicted when I was walking to town with a long duffel coat and combat boots, and a car full of men yelled 'slut' at me anyway; clearly not at all based on what I was wearing.

I don't know why people who do this think it is okay or funny to say sexually offensive or abusive things to women, but it puts me in a situation where I feel vulnerable and persecuted because of my gender, and that pisses me off. Later in town I was approached by a guy, 'Ricky', who stood two inches from me as he tried to 'make a new friend' and then told me I was the most assertive girl he'd met when I asked him to give me some space if he wanted to talk to me. Following a ten minute conversation he finally realised it wasn't going to go where he wanted it to, so he stalked off, not before muttering "#\$@\$@%@% feminists!" under his breath, an incident which only served to reinforce the need for feminism in my mind. Girls should be able to go out without feeling scared or self-conscious, and ought to be able to have a frank and friendly discussion without having their personal space violated and being verbally abused. At least, that's what I think. *continued on page 13*

Community Gardens

St Albans Gardening Group

One of the groups that formed out of the Transition Initiative St Albans process was the St Albans Gardening Group. Over the months this has evolved beautifully into a group of people who love to get together every few weeks, have a shared meal, and either help someone out in their garden, talk about gardening, or share plants and seeds.

We've sorted out the worm farm and compost heaps for Dianne, remade a veggie garden for Gaylene, helped convert gravel into gardens for Tim, been astonished by the abundance of Jim's backyard and had the most wonderful seed-raising workshop and lesson in weird and wonderful tubers from Jan. And all along the way we have made new friends and eaten copious amounts of delicious food!

The aim of the group is to help each other produce more food in St Albans, and I think we're doing pretty well. Members have not only gained new plants and seeds (for free!) for their gardens, but also numerous tips on how best to grow things, ideas on keeping chooks, and ways to prepare fruit and vegetables for the table.

The premise we are working on is that we already have in our community, in our own backyards, many of the resources we need to become a neighbourhood overflowing with delicious food. All that's missing is a way for people to get together to share what they can spare—and that includes know-how.

We are a pretty organic group with no co-ordinator, no bank account, no minutes and no legal identity. Members find out about what's happening next either by coming to semi-regular potlucks, by email, phone calls, Facebook notifications and bumping into each other on the street. Although this is a bit haphazard, it means no one gets lumbered with being secretary and we all take responsibility for checking in with each other and participating actively in the world we want to create.

To be part of this, email me at: matthew.morris@canterbury.ac.nz

Matt Morris

continued from page 12

Feminism is often misunderstood as a quest for female superiority, not as a movement that has fought for equality and continues to level gender imbalance and discrimination. Men can only benefit from gender equity. No one will lose when the stereotypes and restrictions placed on how we form our identities and how we live based upon which gender we enact are loosened, and that is why young people have to start to care about feminism.

Daniella Petrosino
Youth Correspondent

Edgware Community Garden

In September, a group of locals got together at the site of the new Edgware Community Garden to discuss what they'd like to see there. Ideas flowed thick and fast and included a BBQ area, a playground, compost toilet, beehives and a wind turbine. There was preference for fruit and nut trees in large planters, raised veggie gardens and shelter from the easterly.

The group also decided to ask organic landscape designer Carl Pickens, a gold-winner at Ellerslie, to draw a plan based on these ideas and taking into account the various restraints of the site. Carl is currently working on a draft plan, which will shortly be circulated through the initial community gardening group and hopefully put on display at the St Albans Community Centre.

Matt Morris

Matt Morris is Green Party member of the Shirley/Papanui Community Board.



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The History of the St Albans Swim Club and Edgeware Pool—Part 10

The decade of the 1980s was in a sense the toughest in the history of the club, but it did have a golden lining. You would imagine it should have been plain sailing for the volunteers with all their past endeavours in place: securing the land, fundraising to build the bath and facilities, new dressing sheds and clubhouse, installing filtration and heating, pool maintenance, managing a daily pool duty roster as well as teaching swimming and lifesaving. The '70s ended with clouds on the horizon and in the '80s the Swim Club committee was to struggle with an unfortunate set of circumstances: a spate of bad summers, loss of revenue, boiler breakdowns, the loss of three of the club's stalwarts, a constant change of leaders and the overwhelming oil crisis which in turn pushed the club into a financial crisis.

In 1980/81 with M Cox as President and MJ Sullivan as Chairperson, an electrode boiler was installed which operated in tandem with the existing oil fired system, which resulted in the reduction of fuel costs being hailed as "the biggest single significant achievement". As with other club assets the \$3000 required for the boiler was raised by public donations and the generosity of the Christchurch Round Table and the Village Jaycee Chapter. Additional funds were also raised to provide a second pool cover, rollers and a toddlers' pool. Recognition for unstinting volunteer work was recognised by awarding Life Membership to Dorrie Venning, Myrtle Stewart and Mary Dickson.

Membership increased during the 1981/82 season with a new chairperson G Robinson and Club Captain Donna Bayne. Michael McDonald was employed as Coach and was a tremendous asset to the club improving competition results. He coached two squads of 33 seniors every day as well as juniors. A club ladder system was initiated as an incentive to increase competitive enthusiasm especially the junior squad. A swimathon was held in which 30

swimmers took part raising \$300 for the club. Club carnivals were attended at Papanui and Sockburn and all major carnivals: Canterbury Age Group Champs, Under Age Group Champs and the Wharenui Junior Olympics.

Membership increased during the 1982/83 season and a change in leadership with David Fluery as President, Brian Marsh as Club Captain and Joy Clareburt and Brian Marsh as Coaches. Mrs Annabel Foley offered to help with the Lifesaving and take CR classes with 28 awards earned.



Dorie Venning, aged 83 and Myrt Stewart, aged 72: two New Zealand Master Swimming Champions

It was with regret the club suffered the loss of three stalwarts of the club: Stan Williams, Rene Kirk and Mr Venning all dedicated volunteers who gave assistance to the running of the pool for many years. Life member Mrs Kirk was up until her death at age 81 a very active member in both swimming for her own enjoyment and helping with the running of the club.

With the demise of the electric heating system towards the end of the season, it was necessary to revert to the oil fired boiler which depleted the reserves of diesel oil. The club suffered a \$4,800 loss in revenue with the poor weather and high running costs. The club reluctantly looked for assistance from the council.

The 1983/84 season was one of highs and lows. A

“Splash for Cash” event was held with 60 swimmers taking part in freezing conditions clocking up a mileage of 126kms which raised \$849. A highlight in the club’s history was celebrated with Dorrie Venning taking a Gold medal in the 200m breaststroke for 80+ years at the World Masters’ Championships. Also Myrtle Stewart made a record in her age group 70–74 years.

A steering committee led by Councillors Wright and Evans met to consider the future of the pool. Although the club recognised it could no longer operate the pool itself, the steering committee considered: “that because the facilities including the pool construction itself were the property of the swimming club it deserved special consideration.” In April 1984, a public meeting was held to debate the issue. It was decided that the pool was to be run with the help of the community. A new management committee was formed from: local business men, representatives from community groups, local service groups and the swim club. “This was a great relief for the club as now it could develop without the financial burden of running the pool.” It was the first time the club had not had full responsibility for managing and maintaining the pool. However, club volunteers still maintained the weekend pool duty roster and were responsible for chlorine checks and certain maintenance work.

With the management of the pool in the hands of the new committee, the club started the 1984/85 season with Gordon Burrows as President and Lynn Anderson as Club Captain. Miss A Stil was appointed Coach and Annabel Foley coached a large active lifesaving squad. The decision was made to change the name of the pool from St Albans to “Edgware” with a Gala Opening on 3rd December 1984.

A successful swimathon was held with \$700 raised to send Dorrie Venning and Myrtle Stewart to the New Zealand Masters’ Champs in New Plymouth. Both were extremely grateful and swam well, with Dorrie breaking the world record in her age group and NZ titles going to both. The Press reported: “They were not seeking personal glory. Their project was to publicise the St Albans swim club’s Edgware pool, which had been under threat of closure by the Council. The Council had been talking about filling the pool in and building flats on the site, Dorrie said. Christchurch could not do without such an amenity she maintained. It was an invaluable facility for teaching lifesaving, swimming and canoeing skills.” The threatened closure of the pool became the major issue in the next decade. The season ended with a toast for Dorrie and Myrtle and hearty congratulations were bestowed on them. The Royal Lifesaving Society awarded the Wigram Trophy to the club for the greatest number of awards in the South Island, with due thanks to Annabelle Foley for her tireless efforts in lifesaving. It was with regret that the club recorded the death of Mr E Stentiford a club stalwart

and an original foundation member.

The 1985/86 season started with a working bee to paint the dressing sheds, clubhouse and tidy the pool surrounds. “What a summer! Rain, cloudy skies, cold winds. Not exactly the catalyst for a good year,” remarked the President, Gordon Burrows. Helen Hurndell was appointed Coach and together with Lynne Anderson a revised coaching programme was introduced promoting more individual coaching of children. A sponsored swimathon was held raising \$400 for the purchase of a new diving board. Lynn Anderson kept the St Albans name to the fore by winning a New Zealand title.

The 1886/87 season was “a year of consolidation more than spectacular events”. With an increase in early morning swimmers; at times swimmers were waiting for a space to get in. The club members assisted the Edgware management committee with cleaning and touching up the pool, repainting lanes, painting sheds, toilets and showers, and paid for and erected two large spotlights. Club members continued as pool duty volunteers. With Margaret Evans as Coach, the Club attended seven carnivals with 54 competitors in 170 races with 15 firsts, 14 seconds and two silver medals. Club morale increased with the instigation of club caps and a mascot.

Highlights of the 1987/88 season were the number of carnivals participated in, with credit due to Margaret Evans’ coaching. The Masters entered 14 competitors in the NZ Masters performing with credit individually and in relays. Gold medals were won by Dorrie Venning and Myrtle Stewart and a silver by Lynn Anderson. Dorrie also again broke a world record in the 100m breaststroke. Lifesaving again was a highlight with Jayne Burrow gaining a prestigious national award, the George Griffiths Memorial award for outstanding work. Through her work at the club and Christchurch Girls’ High School, Jayne prepared more candidates than any other NZ pupil under 20 years.

The club went forward into the 1988/89 season with new officers at the helm: Elizabeth Edwards Club Captain, Margaret Evans President and Dan Rogers as Coach. Bob Meyers was presented with an engraving as an addition to his Life Member’s badge on his resignation, owing to moving out of town. It was inscribed: “In appreciation 1948-88”. Life members Dorrie Venning, Myrtle Stewart, Mary Dickson, Freda Leckie and Rachel Milner continued to teach children to swim on Saturday mornings as well timekeeping at championships. Sadly at the end of the season the committee stood for a minutes’ silence to mark the passing of Bob Meyer and the Club Patron Doreen Brown MBE. President Margaret Evans remarked, “We are looking towards 1990 and still going strong.”

Compiled from the minutes of the St Albans Swim Club.

Valerie Somerville

Letters to the Editor

My grand daughter attends St Albans School and as a 'good' Nana, I went along to the monster fair they had recently. I was very impressed with the stalls, which had lines of people at most, especially the food and drink. I was also really surprised at the crowds and hundreds of children there, UNTIL I saw an open sided tent with alcohol being sold.

Can we not even have a school fair now without 'booze'?

New Zealand has a problem with young people drinking already. What kind of message are we giving our very young, as St Albans is a primary school, and the majority of families had even younger children attending that evening.

The 'tent' was open with a sign 'no under 18's allowed', but in full view of patrons buying liquor. How can we blame our younger generations when adults cannot survive without liquor. Also, was a licence required, was one given, and if so then shame on the authorities who issued it.

In my humble opinion, the selling of alcohol at St Albans School fair was in extremely bad taste, giving out very wrong messages and should not have been allowed.

No wonder New Zealand is world 'famous' for our booze problem.

The latest front page article of your magazine says it all!

*Saddened
(Name withheld on request)*

This is a response from the St Albans School PTA to the above letter, as to why alcohol was served at a stall at the Monster Fair.

The Editor

St Albans School is very fortunate to have a dedicated and hard-working Parent Teacher Association (PTA) who spend many unpaid hours to organise well-supported school community activities such as the Monster Fair. A request by the PTA to the School Board of Trustees to have the stall at the fair was given careful consideration and permission was granted on the basis that all rules and regulations regarding monitoring, control, and licensing were adhered to. The fair was a great success, many hundreds of people attended, and we thank the community for their ongoing support of this event.

**St Albans School Board of Trustees and Parent
Teacher Association**
Nicky Scott (Chairperson BOT)
Vicki Farrant (Chairperson PTA)

It was only a few months ago that the raging debate of the name of our suburb St Albans / Edgeware was the hot topic of the St Albans News. Can I take it that everyone has decided on St Albans for our suburbs name, as The Voice of our Neighbourhood the "St Albans News" still remains. I have lived here since 1982 I brought my old villa that was listed in St Albans and my postal zone was St Albans. I inform any people who send me mail that the postal address is incorrect as "Edgeware" the correct address is "ST ALBANS"

B. Szymanski

As a Bealey Ave Resident I saw the latest St Albans News article headlined, "New Laws to Ensure Safer, Quieter Streets from National List MP Nicky Wagner."

I went to many meetings held in the town on the noise pollution and I can remember the promise Nicky Wagner made to reduce the noise-level lower than the 95 decibel level that the Labour Government had regulated. She had promoted 90 decibel. However I have not seen any reports of the new legislation cutting back to a lower decibel level. Is this going to happen? Or was this pre-election noise emanating from Nicky Wagner?

**Bruce
Long term Bealey Ave Resident**



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The Fairy School of Dance

New Community Choir

The Fairy School of Dance and Music gives children as young as 20 months and up to seven years, opportunities to discover and respond to a wide range of music through movement, fantasy and dramatic play. With a sprinkle of fairy dust and the touch of a magic wand children put on their fairy dresses and dance their way into enchanted kingdoms.

A new community choir has started in the St Albans/Shirley area. We're having sessions on Tuesday evenings, 7 – 9 p.m. at the Scout Hall in Harrison St. We may change the time, if the group needs to — possibly to a 7:30 p.m. start time. We'll be singing world spiritual songs, which is my personal favourite genre.

I totally love it that, with plenty of different world cultures to choose from, there are plenty of styles/feels to choose from too, like funky African, lilting Celtic, uplifting African-American Gospel, dramatic Georgian, Eastern European songs with their characteristic crunchy harmonies, sweet sweet Hebrew songs... even the occasional funny one! My vision is to be part of a group that is consciously inclusive. SO... We are open to all who want to sing, and there is no membership fee, simply a request for koha.

As well as being inclusive in the general sense, I also specifically aim to be pro-actively inclusive of any person with any kind of beliefs about spirituality. I believe there is a need for this kind of interpersonal connection in community, within our wider community.

I love singing songs (in a group especially) that have a spiritual meaning or message, even if only in the broadest sense. And I particularly love seeing what kinds of group dynamics it creates, when we sing together in this way. It creates connection/closeness so fast, and easily. My hope is that the group will draw people who enjoy exploring and expanding on our understanding of what "spirituality" means to each of us, in the context of singing for the joy of it. (Not simply an intellectual journey!) How many of us used to "go to church mainly for the singing"?!

Christopher Musgrave

My phone numbers are: 386 1025 & 027 5685515

Email: christopher_musgrave@yahoo.co.nz



Carefully planned within a comprehensive framework, Fairy Dance classes will help young children develop a better understanding of how their bodies move, while promoting self-expression, creativity, spatial awareness and rhythmic and sequencing skills.

Special care and careful training is given to every child in a positive nurturing environment. They will gain confidence, improved listening, motor and social skills, better co-ordination and balance while having lots of Fairy fun!

An exciting Fairy Dance Holiday Programme in January promises magic, mystery and marvellous music! For bookings and 2010 enrollments please phone:

Pam: 021 1206540, or

Alison at the St Albans Community Centre, 379 6305.

A Piece of the Edgware Pool Finds a Home

This snippet of news from the Malvern Record might interest our readers. In an article about the summer opening of Darfield's outdoor swimming pool—where I learnt to swim in freezing water as a child more than 40 years ago—a local named Paddy McKay is thanked for "being in the right place at the right time-he secured the fantastic water heating system from the now closed Edgware Pool." The article goes on to say, "This heater should be able to heat the pools to at least 28 degrees C and ensure a long and enjoyable swimming season."

We wish...but at least it went to a good home!

Max Feutz

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Enquiries Phone 379 6305 or 021
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High and Dry

“The St Albans Swim Club might have been left high and dry when we were left without a pool but now we are back in the swim,” says a member of the swim club.

After losing their base of seventy years when the council demolished the Edgeware community pool—which was originally built by the club—and denied the right to fundraise and build a new pool, and recently barred from their own club pavilion, the club is now embarking on a second season of teaching young people to swim using the main outdoor pool at Shirley Intermediate School. Last summer, with the goodwill of the Board of Trustees (BoT), the club was able to put approximately 90 young people through swimming lessons.

This proved so successful that this summer, with the approval of the School, they are working hard at upgrading a second pool on-site to cater for the needs of the St Albans/Shirley community. “A local community businessman has donated materials to repair the pool and we will have it painted and filled ready for opening on November 27.”

The club, which is run by volunteers, provides affordable lessons in a Learn to Swim programme, an advanced training squad, lane swimming, and a weekly swim and barbecue night catering for recreational family swimming. Enquiries can be made through contacting the club on: 355 6512.

Valerie Somerville.



Pool repairs underway by Shirley Intermediate Board of Trustees Chairperson Kevin McDonald, assisted by swim club committee members: Roger Dowling and Paul Somerville.

Community Notices

Computer Training for the Over 55s

SeniorNet Canterbury – at the Shirley Community Centre - has computer instruction available on a wide range of subjects for those aged 55 and over. Peer training with small classes of six to eight students and two tutors. Telephone 386 2140 between 10.00 am and 12.00 noon for an Information pack or leave a message on the answerphone.

St Albans Uniting Parish.

Church Services celebrating Christmas 2009

6th December at Merivale Church cnr Papanui Rd and Rugby St. 7pm Carol Service.

24th December at Aldred Church cnr Nancy Ave & Knowles St - 7pm Christmas Eve Service (followed with Supper).

25th December at Merivale Church cnr Papanui Rd and Rugby St. 9:30am Christmas Morning Service

St Albans News Classifieds

SERVICES

A to Z Appliances: Repairing, Selling & Buying Whiteware. Any brand, old or new. I stand by my work with warranties & offer very cheap local rates. For personalized service with a smile phone Zaine Harding on 669 2292 or 021 249 2292

Aakland Carpet Cleaning: Carpets and Upholstery Cleaned, Super cleaned from \$15/room, Over 25 year's experience. Ph. 388 3314

Accountant: Working from home in St Albans. Self employed accounts, rental properties, GST & tax returns.

Budgeting & business advice. Contact Susan Ayton 980 7334 or taxayton@paradise.net.nz

A F F O R D A B L E C O U N S E L L I N G : Experienced Counsellor and Therapist Don Rowlands, is locally based at the Durham Centre 110 Bealey Avenue. Couples, individuals and blended families. Free counselling may be available through the Disability Allowance (WINZ) or the Family Courts. Telephone (03) 365 7776 (w) or 027 688 2061

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Working for your future

St Albans News Classifieds

SERVICES

After School Caregiver: Mature woman available for 2010 employment. 7 years experience, no family commitments. First Aid Certificate and Police Clearance available. Phone Jenny on 021 643 361

Babysitter available: First year early childhood student available for babysitting. Reliable & honest with great references. \$6 an hour. Phone Jo 027 353 1258

Bowen Therapy – Bowtech Gentle therapy for all aches & pains. 1040a Colombo St, Edgware, Ph 0800 581 481

Builder: Maintenance, alterations, decking, new residential, kitchen installations, bathrooms, office fitouts, etc. Phone Kevin 021 268 2832 or 366 1177

Builder: residential & commercial. New homes, extensions, alterations. Kitchens & bathrooms. Registered Builder. Free Advice. Phone Victor 021 519 766 or AH (03) 366 4150

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

Classifieds: 30c per word prepaid. Deadline for the next issue is 19 December

Computer Guru: Highest quality computer servicing, fixing all hardware/software problems, installations, advice and more. Servicing St Albans for four years, Call outs start at \$40/hr. Offsite repairs \$20/hr. Phone 379 3061 or 0210243 7398, or pcguru@orcon.net.nz

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DOOR SPECIALIST: Repairs, adjustments and installation of all doors and locks, Ranchsliders, Garage doors. Qualified Tradesman. Phone Stewart 365 2969 or cell 021 185 4055

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

Electrician: registered tradesman. Accredited Heat Pump installer. Domestic & Commercial Local rates. Call John: 021 232 1173

Event Organisation: Is event organisation your strength and are you well connected within the community? We need Volunteers to help with two to three community events per year. Please get in touch with the St Albans Community Centre, 379 6305.

Hairdresser: Long lasting shiny hair colour, organic based ammonia free, good for you, good for the environment! Great haircuts. Tracette, 80 Derby St, ph 379 6368.

Housecleaning job in St Albans wanted: By honest efficient and reliable lady on a weekly basis. \$25 per

townhouse/flat. Excellent references available. Phone Nicola 386 1118

Painting & Paperhanging: Airless spraying. New work & renovations – quality workmanship. Qualified Tradesman established over 40 years, Ph 355 2948 or 027 432 9870 ask for John

Painting & Decorating: Internal/external 22 years experience plastering, owner operator, efficient Service, locally based. Ph Mark 355 7670 or 027 434 3300

REAL ESTATE AGENT: Competent, friendly, hard working, professional agent is waiting to help you with your property needs. List to sell and have the confidence that you will get the best service and results. Phone Wendy Teague 356 1422 or 027 523 0588, Ray White Merivale, AJ McPherson Ltd, MREINZ.

TUITION

Bellydance Fitness: Wednesday 10 – 11 am at St Albans Community Centre. 2010 Term 1 starts 17 February. Phone Yurie 352 8209. Email: mebellydance@gmail.com

Clarinet, Sax, Guitar & Piano: Experienced local teacher for the NZ Modern School of Music. Phone Nicola on 385 6399

Computer tuition: 1 on 1, Windows, Internet, Email plus much more, For beginners and over, on my PC or yours. Low rates. Ph David 356 1280 or email davidmackenzie@clear.net.nz

Dance Fitness: Adults Monday 1.30 – 2.30 pm At St Albans Community Centre. Phone Donette 365 6585

Drums: Experienced & qualified teacher with well-equipped studio with two kits, Rockschoo exams available,

Andrew Couper, ph 980 5456, a.s.couper@paradise.net.nz

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

Fairy Dance: Classes from 18 months. Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday. Phone Pamela 021 120 6540 or 379 6305

Guitar Tuition/Harmonica Tuition: St Albans/City based. I am a professional musician and a very patient, motivational and passionate tutor. I cater for all ages, many styles. Complete beginners onwards. Great facilities. David 021 124 4801. (03) 379 9394. backyardmusic.co.nz

ITALIAN LANGUAGE LESSONS: \$25/hr, ph. 03 355 6852, email bpetrosino@hotmail.com

Language Exchange for beginners: Chinese, Japanese, English. Phone 377 5050 or 027 776 2120

Pilates – Beginner and Intermediate classes, Monday and Wednesday nights, St Matthews Church, Cranford Street. Phone Julie 355 8168

Renaissance & Baroque Dance: For class details phone Nicola 3856399

Self Defense Classes: Gain health & flexibility. Tues at St Albans Church Berwick St 5.30-7.30 & Thurs at Foundation for the Blind, 96 Bristol St, Merivale 5.30-7.30. All ages Ph 0800 581481

Singing Lessons: Do you want to learn how to sing? Affordable lessons for all ages. Phone Meredith at 3553672

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

About to be Torn Down?



Near the corner of Colombo & Salisbury Streets. Is the city really going to allow this heritage building to be torn down? Stay tuned!

Quotes of the Month

“There is a lack of policies, facilities and programmes around the country in relation to treatment of people with alcohol problems.”

The New Zealand Law Commission

“Fewer than 25,000 people are able to access substance abuse treatment each year, while there are 160,000 Kiwis who need treatment.”

The National Committee for Addiction Treatment (NCAT)



This is Spinal Tap

A Mockumentary of this famous British rock group

13 December 2009 @ 7:30 pm
at St Albans Community Centre

Koha \$4

Rated PC (contains coarse language)

Carols in Wacke Street Park

Sunday, 6 December

5.00 – 6.00 pm



Music by

Heather Mitchell Gladstone, The St Albans Community Choir and Guests

Seasons Greetings from The Friends of Wacke 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.