

St Albans News

The Voice of our Neighbourhood

February/March 2010



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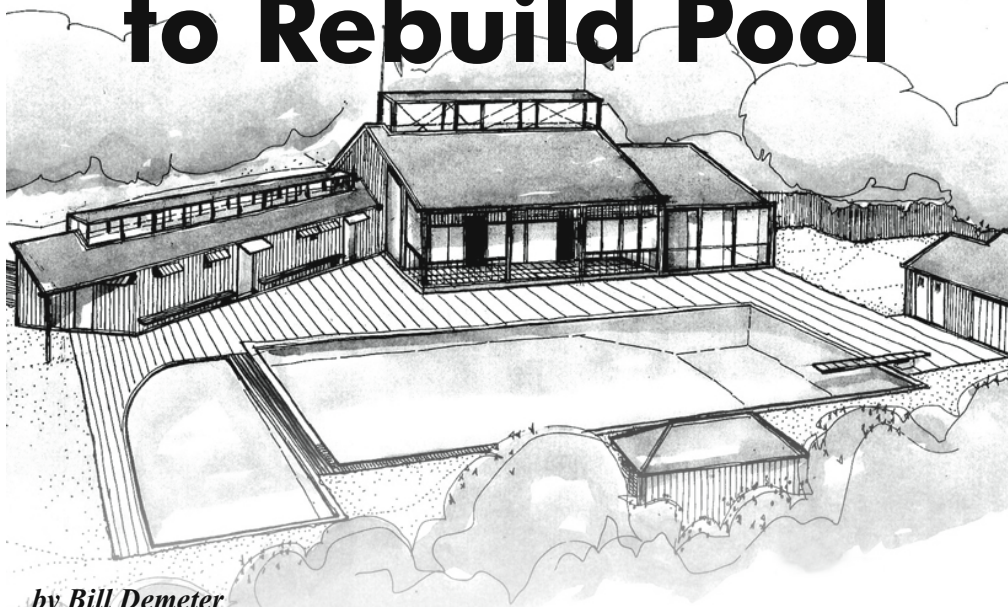
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Community Seeks to Rebuild Pool



by Bill Demeter

The long journey might be ending, as several new developments in the saga of the Edgeware Pool have become public.

As most of our readers are aware, the old Edgeware Pool site has been offered up for sale and bids for the property have been received by the Council. The sale of this property was a surprise, as the Council had originally supported the formation of a group of residents, a community board member and a local councillor to determine the best use of the property. The working group's recommendation was for a multipurpose centre to be built on the site for the use of the residents. This 13th January 2009 consensus was promptly disregarded by the City Council on 21st February 2009, when they opted for the senior staff recommendation to sell the property.

The Council entertained bids for the property and will begin negotiating with the winning bidder on 12th February 2010, then will make a final decision no later than 31st March. The Council also reserves the right to do nothing and not award the bid even to the winning bidder.

One of the bidders is the St Albans Pavilion and Pool Group in combination with the St Albans Swim Club. If they are successful they fully intend to put an outdoor pool back on the site of the Edgeware pool land. Public support is clearly evident for this solution, as shown by surveys and the many comments that have been received by the Community Centre.

The most exciting development is the news that a local business person, Martin Coffey, will donate the necessary funds to build the pool, providing the land purchase is successful. Martin, a long-time resident and property investor, has offered to pay for a pool because he passionately believes this community should never have had the original one taken away by the council. Martin wants to see neighbourhood children being taught to swim in their own neighbourhood—not being bussed halfway across town for just a few minutes of so-called swimming instruction. He sees the pool as

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Edgeware Pool News: Like a three-chapter book, chapters one and two have finally been written. Chapter one is complete, thanks to the unbelievable tenacity of the St Albans Pavilion and Pool Group. Over the years, this group has never given up on their vision that St Albans needs, and wants, an outdoor pool and the city council was totally wrong in bulldozing it to rubble.

Chapter two is also now completed, because of the amazing generosity of St Albans own, Martin Coffey. Martin has offered to pay for a pool because he passionately believes this community should never have had the original one taken away by the council. Martin wants to see neighbourhood children being taught to swim in their own neighbourhood — not being bussed halfway across town for just a few minutes of so-called swimming instruction.

Only the final chapter needs to be written. If written in the right way, this community will get the privately paid for, and privately managed, pool it deserves. This chapter can only be written by the Christchurch City Council (CCC). What remains is for the current elected CCC councillors and the Senior Staff to agree to allow for a private pool to be built in St Albans. It won't cost the ratepayers a penny. The right way to write this last chapter is for the city to sell the land to the Pool Group, approve any and all permits and resource consents, In other words, simply do the right thing.

First Annual St Albans Community Day: Mark your calendar for 10th April and make sure you attend the St Albans Community Day hosted by the Community Centre and the Korean Presbyterian Church. This fun event will start at 11.00 a.m. at the

Church grounds and there will be games, shows, vintage cars, Korean food, events for adults and kids, and a wonderful chance to meet your neighbours. This will be the first of what will be an annual event. Don't forget 10th April.

St Albans News: Starting in this issue will be a regular column by Christoph Hensch, our Manager of the Community Centre. The column, Communities Count, will keep us informed about local community issues and why our communities in Christchurch are absolutely essential to our overall health. Christoph will talk with, and report how, communities are coping in hard times and continuing to help make lives better.

Historical Houses Trust presentation: I'm giving a presentation on 8th March at 5.30 p.m. in the Timber Chamber of the Provincial Council Building about the restoration of our character house. We will discuss what was involved, and what was gained, not only in preserving a home built in 1908, but the financial rewards that are possible. Please join me and get to know more about the Canterbury Historical Houses Conservation Trust.

What Next: The purse strings have tightened for any organisation trying to serve the needs of people. The CCC, Community Boards and other groups have drastically cut back on funding, with more cuts to come. However there is an exception. Believe it or not, the Shirley-Papanui Community Board recently voted 4-3 to give themselves \$5,300 to write a book about, guess what, themselves! I'm sure we should start waiting in the queue to buy this vainglorious ode. With luck, maybe we can get those who voted for this fiasco to autograph it.

Bill Demeter
Co-Chair of the St Albans
Residents' Association

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a social focal point for the community, and a meeting place for families and children to get to know each other in pleasant surroundings. Martin's offer is most generous and well-timed.

Where to from here? A perfect scenario would be for the Council to approve the bid of the St Albans Pavilion and Pool Group in combination with the St Albans Swim Club. The Council would then approve all permits and resource consents and the pool would proceed to be built.

This scenario becomes a win-win-win! The community of St Albans wins because a pool is built by private residents for the use of everyone regardless of age.

The children win because of more and more of them learning how to swim without high costs of lessons and

bussing them some distance away to learn.

The city wins because they will have corrected an ill-advised decision made in 2005, and there will not be a single dollar of ratepayers' money involved.

May this scenario become a reality.

The St Albans News relies on your contributions. Please send us your articles, letters and notices. The deadline for the next issue is the 11th of March



By Christoph Hensch


Do communities count? Why do they? Do we need them? A common definition of 'community' is "a group of interacting people living in a common location." Communities are often organised around common values and social cohesion within a shared geographical location.

Communities are neighbourhoods, villages, cities, or communities of shared ethnic ancestry, or of professional interest. Communities give identity and help support individuals. The community of people that one belongs to takes care of one's basic needs and social well-being, guides us through our different stages of development and stages of life. Community provides safety. The strength of a particular community is depended on the social cohesion and the involvement of people in that particular community.

I've been fortunate to have been involved as a community development worker and Manager of the St Albans Community Centre and Residents' Association for more than three years. I've also worked with several other community groups and organisations, and this has given me a unique perspective on community life both in St Albans and of Christchurch.

Starting in this issue, I will be writing a column called Communities Count. I will endeavour to answer questions about the health of our community, its organisations, their importance, their issues and problems, and the support needed to make them healthy. Most importantly, I will try to convince you that you need to get involved, and why.

For now, I would like to leave you with my favourite definition of a healthy community (the words 'city' and 'community' are interchangeable):

"A healthy city is one that is continually creating and improving those physical and social environments and expanding those community resources which enable people to mutually support each other in performing all the functions of life and in developing to their maximum potential." (*Hancock, T. and Duhl L., 1988*). 



**St Albans
Community Centre**

Te Pokapū Hapori o Hato Ōpani

St Albans News, February 2010 Vol. 17, Number 1, Issue No. 179

The St Albans News is a community newspaper. This newspaper is delivered monthly, and is free to over 8500 homes and businesses. All contents are copyright by the original authors. Please acknowledge the source of any excerpts as the "St Albans News"

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St Albans News, P.O. Box 21-102, Christchurch

Email: news@stalbands.gen.nz
Phone: 374 2465 or 379 6305, fax: 374 2467
Website: <http://www.stalbands.gen.nz>

Editor: Christoph Hensch
Board Delegate: Bill Demeter

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.

St Albans Toy Library Comes Of Age

By Jo Scott

Last year, 2010, was a huge year for the St Albans Toy Library... it turned 21, left home, got married and changed its name.

"To say it was a busy year for us would be an understatement," says Jo Scott, who heads the committee that runs the library.

You may remember the library was based at St Albans School but had to move as the school required its site.

"We looked long and hard for a site in St Albans and have a list of more than thirty-five organisations we approached that couldn't help us. We came pretty close to closing."

Thankfully, Shirley-Papanui Community Board Chair, Yvonne Palmer, introduced the library to Brent Egerton, the Principal of Hammersley Park School in Shirley, who welcomed them with open arms.

"The school had the perfect space for us... it has a warm and welcoming atmosphere and a really nice place to be," says Jo Scott.

There was one problem... the school was down the road from the Burwood Toy Library.

"The last thing we wanted to do was create a turf war, so we asked them to marry us. Thankfully, they said yes, and we created the Shirley Toy Library," laughs Jo.

The new library opened quietly in November.

"It looks great. It's bigger and better and more fun (with

a place for children to play). It's just fantastic," says Rachel Vavasour, the Toy Library's Treasurer.

"We have everything from big ride-on toys, bikes, slides etc. to small jigsaws. A large range of toys for babies — including exersaucers and push along toys — even board games the whole family can play," says head librarian Fran Pashby.



A children's paradise

The library's members pay an annual fee (membership starts at \$30.00 a year) and then a small fee each time they take an item out from the library (from 50 cents).

"Children can be very fickle and they might like something for five minutes and then not play with it again. This way, you can find out what inspires your child and find their interests through the toys," Fran says.

The new library is literally one of the biggest, if not the biggest toy library in Christchurch, despite that, those who run it hope 2010 will be a little quieter for them.

"Last year we did everything from rebranding, legally registering the new library, relabelling nearly 3,000 toys to the physical fit out — it was seriously mad. This year we hope to make the most of our new space, welcome even more

members and really have some fun... after all that's what toy libraries are about," concludes Jo Scott.

The Shirley Toy Library, Hammersley Park School, Amos Place (off Marshland Road) Christchurch, New Zealand 8061



Market

The St Albans Community Market

Every Saturday 9am - 2pm

at English Park,
Cranford Street

up to 40 stalls selling plants,
fruit & vegetables, cakes, crafts,
collectables, household goods
& much more

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Orion Site Development –Adverse Traffic Effects in Packe Street

by Peggy Kelly

The Friends of the Packe Street Park were pleased with the Council's decision to rezone a portion of the Orion site for business and to allow higher residential density than normal on the remainder of the site. The good things about this piece of land are its proximity to both the Edgeware Village and to the CBD, its views of the Port Hills and of course the richness of its local community. Good, high density development is the most sustainable use of the site.

Most people will be glad to see the land developed; most may even think that the creation of a small business zone to service the new residents and the surrounding neighbourhood is a good thing too.

But this is not what the developer wants. Wakefield Mews Ltd wants a bigger business zone and a full-size supermarket — more than twice the size of the Edgeware SuperValue. As well as this, they don't want to commit to providing adequate play space for the children who will

be living in their new apartments. They are appealing the Council Decision to the Environment Court.

Packe Street is one of the few quiet streets in south St Albans. It's a safe place to have a park-cum-community-garden. The park is used a lot and serves as a big backyard for many of the local children. This could all change. A road is to be built through the new business zone linking Madras Street with Packe Street; the bigger the business zone the greater the increase in vehicular traffic passing the little park — nowadays a quiet, local oasis (except in the school holidays!).

The Friends of the Packe Street Park are grateful that the Shirley-Papanui Community Board listened to these concerns at the first meeting of the New Year, and unanimously agreed to ask Council staff to carry out a traffic count in Packe Street before any development begins on the site. "This will allow us to accurately measure any adverse effects in relation to traffic," says long-time Chairman, Bertram Rush. *B*



Packe Street Park

St Albans Medical Centre



by Hilaire Campbell

It's a fine place for a patient to be. A credit to the architect, an ex-builder called Doug Bellamy who later enrolled as a patient. Access to the centre is easy; the interior is spacious; the seating is hospitable. On a good day, the sun strikes warmth into your shoulders from skylights high above the rafters.

When it was built in 1971, this corner medical centre was what Dr Andrew Gillespie calls "the absolute cutting edge" in design. Purpose-built, possibly the first in the country, it has a large U-shaped central service area, and two consulting rooms for each of the seven doctors. This saves time on a busy day because there's always a patient waiting in the room ahead.

Today it's me taking up Dr Gillespie's lunch break, not to show him some awful rash, but to get his story for St Albans News. He is a family man — and this is a family-based practice — married with grown children; he is healthy and well, and lives in St Albans, close enough to walk to work. "But it's not so important to write about me," he says. "We have a great team, and I'm just part of it."

It's a story of affection and long-term loyalty. Dr Kingsley Warden is one of four founding partners, so he has been working here for nearly forty years, "But I was the junior for a long time," he says. "I came from England to join the three partners who were already here. They had a second surgery in Edgeware, in what became (Debbie's)

second-hand bookshop. One of them only recently retired." I know Dr Andrea Caldwell has been here at least twenty-two years — she's the one who calmed my crying baby.

Dr Gillespie's twelve years have "...gone in a flash. I love everything about my job: the staff, the mix of patients... from very needy to less needy, low income earners to the well off." People come from Shirley through to Fendalton, and Dr Gillespie home visits. "Not many of us do now. It practically costs."

There are different ethnicities and language barriers; people with different customs. Some opposed to cervical smears for instance; increasing numbers from infill housing. "We're squeezed for space, but we box on," says Dr Gillespie. "We've got new doctors with fresh ideas, and we have to keep up. Commonly we treat asthma and high blood pressure, but new medications come out every week, and there are lots of new ones for Parkinson's and dementia. Medical education is ongoing and we have to be found competent by visiting examiners in order to retain our fellowship of the College of GPs. One thing I do miss is delivering babies. We all do. My last one was ten years ago."

In their place, Dr Gillespie sees increasingly younger, heavier children with diabetes and incipient heart disease. And more of them seem to be drowning because they can't swim. Then there are smokers and drinkers, but Dr Gillespie sees reason to hope... he and his team of fellow travellers at the St Albans Medical Centre. ✍

Organic Gardening

by William Staniforth

With no experience in organic gardening, six years ago I decided to throw away all the sprays and chemicals and do all my gardening in a totally organic way in the flower gardens around my flat.

The first thing I decided to do was to use leaves as organic matter in the soil, and adopt a policy of nothing leaving the garden except weeds.

Now the bare ground is covered with flower plants that have finished flowering, rose prunings, leaves, organic soil and other organic matter, which provide really good habitat for beetles. This includes really good beetles like ladybirds that can lay their eggs in and over winter and during Christchurch's hard frosts.

The beetles and other insects living in my organic garden break down the flower plants, rose prunings and other organic matter in the flower beds, and with the nutrients of the flower plants being taken out of the soil, being returned to the soil in a natural yearly cycle, I have noticed several things.

The rose plants in my garden have become naturally immune to leaf spot, scale and bacterial disease most gardeners control with spays and chemicals. They have almost disappeared in all my flower gardens.

I have been growing my delphinium plants from seeds and letting them revert back to their original form (not stopping growing and dying back every winter). Having a thick base of leaves around the bottom of plants on a year round basis means there is always plenty of food in the garden all year round for slugs and snails. Thus they don't touch the flowering stalks and I don't have to put slug pellets around the delphinium plants at the end of winter and risk poisoning the blackbirds and thrushes living in the area. The delphinium stalks are really thick and not affected or damaged by Christchurch's strong summer winds.

To conclude, I companion plant my flower beds with flower plants letting the forget-me-nots go to seed and grow new forget-me-not plants. I pull up the calendula plants after Christmas and pick the ripe seeds and cover everything with organic soil, keeping the soil nice and damp. The calendula plants start to flower at the start of winter and flower right through winter and the forget-me-not plants at the end of winter. Planting marigold plants also means there is plenty of food for all the good insects I want in my flower gardens right through the year, gardening in my living organic flower gardens.

✍

Fifteen or Sixteen?—The Driving Age Debate

by Hilary St John

Raising the driving age.

Who knew that these four words could cause so much debate amongst a group of fifteen-year-olds?

"It's not fair," and, "We hardly get any independence anyway," were just some of the arguments that came out of my interview with three fifth form St Albans teenagers.

When I began writing this article I agreed with the teenagers. Why should the driving age be changed?

The proposal currently being debated by the Government specifies that the age at which a learner licence can be obtained will change from fifteen to sixteen; with the minimum time period changing from six months to one year. However, the eighteen-month period for holding a restricted licence will stay as it is. This means that by the time a full licence can be obtained the individual will be at least eighteen years old.

A recent New Zealand Herald poll was in support of this, concluding that eighty-seven percent of New Zealanders agreed with raising the age.

So what will we achieve in taking the right to gain a learner licence off our fifteen-year-olds?

According to a report by New Zealand Press Association (NZPA), "statistics show that young people make up sixteen percent of licensed drivers but are responsible for thirty-seven percent of serious injury crashes."

But is this because of their age or is it the way that they

are being taught to drive?

The Automobile Association spokesperson Mike Noon believes that raising the age from fifteen to sixteen will make no difference whatsoever; "If all you did was increase the driving age of our youth and did nothing else, you would kill them all a year later."

So what needs to change? Mike Noon points out that tougher tests should be introduced as well as attitudinal training. This will allow our young drivers to understand the risks associated with driving and will make them better drivers for it. With New Zealanders being the youngest drivers in the world to gain their licences, it is crucial that parents take the time to give their children as much supervised driving training as possible. This needs to include practising in the rain, at night, in heavy traffic flows and on country roads to allow a maximum amount of exposure to all conditions.

Daniel Naude from Canterbury Road Safety is "Happy that the age may be raised." Although he also doesn't think that we will gain a lot. He states that,

"Statistics show in South Canterbury that eighteen year olds are the ones mainly involved in fatal crashes."

This definitely proves that New Zealand needs to take a new approach to driving education, and is what convinced me that changes do need to be made. And as for the driving age — we will find out this month when the Government releases its new Road Safety Strategy to the public. ✍

Recognising Bluegreen Business in 2010

Bluegreen business ... what is it and why value it?

by Nicky Wagner, National MP

New Zealand's environment is an asset and environmentally-friendly business presents a unique opportunity for our country. Bluegreen business is sustainable, environmentally friendly... and profitable.

As chair of National's Bluegreens caucus, I am proud to recognise and highlight the increasing number of businesses right here in Canterbury that are leading the way in bluegreen technology and practice. In fact, Canterbury is rapidly becoming known as the bluegreen business hub of New Zealand — something we Cantabrians can feel justly proud of. Not only that, but in 2010 we sent less to landfill than we had in the last 25 years!

Bluegreen business makes good economic and environmental sense. Operating a sustainable, environmentally-friendly business is a desirable goal, but to do so profitably makes even more sense. Waste minimisation and management has become one of the most challenging and pressing infrastructure issues of recent times, and an increasing number of businesses are committed to meeting the challenge in innovative and profitable ways.

Plastics and industrial waste are two of the most identifiable and arguably problematic types of waste. So, drastically reducing the amount of plastic and industrial waste to landfill would be a fantastic achievement. Two Christchurch companies I have had the opportunity to visit recently appear wholeheartedly committed to achieving just that.

Mastagard, based in Bromley, processes over 30,000 metric tonnes of recoverables each year. The key to Mastagard's status as an innovative market leader appears to be the sheer extent of its waste collection and processing. General Manager Sebastian Stapleton, says customers want a 'one-stop-shop' for their waste these days, "They don't want to be dealing with lots of different waste management companies."

The company has sourced state-of-the-art technology

from Europe to enable it to build New Zealand's first full 'closed circuit' plastic recycling facility. The benefits of this machinery include the ability to reduce the export of dirty plastics to countries that do not allow the importation



of contaminated recycled materials, as well as enabling the processing of milk bottles and shrink wrap into small pellet or fine flake form with the cleanness of virgin plastic. I was eager for a chance to view and handle the end product and I can vouch for its dramatic transformation!

Industrial and commercial waste presents its own challenges. Another company I visited which is clearly dedicated to a significant reduction in waste to landfill is Becon Limited. The company's Director Richard Lloyd argues we have one of the most woeful environmental records in the world. "Landfill is just burying the problem for the next generation," Lloyd says, and this has strengthened his commitment to the goal of zero waste to landfill.

I found it interesting that one of the company's biggest waste recovery and processing products is Gib Board. Richard Lloyd explains the stripped and cleaned plaster produces gypsum which is fully and safely able to be applied in the soil. He says the end product from the processing of waste Gib Board is a clean, effective soil conditioner — and the recovered gypsum has even been applied in vineyards in Waipara!

One notable feature of my visits to these successful local waste management companies was their obvious commitment to bluegreen business practice. So much so, it has encouraged me to make 2010 my year to showcase bluegreen business in Canterbury, and build our reputation as the bluegreen business capital of New Zealand. There are numerous other Canterbury businesses adhering successfully to the same bluegreen business principles. Do let me know if you have a story to tell — I'd love to hear from you.

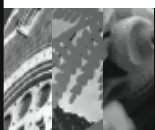
Nicky Wagner

NATIONAL PARTY MP

Available for appointments/contact
my office:

chchoffice@nickywagner.co.nz

Ph: 03 365 8297, 189 Montreal St, Christchurch



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Medieval Sword Training

by Maria Hayward

David and Terry run a school that teaches combat techniques from the time period of 1100 CE to 1500 CE. The course is open to anyone over the age of fifteen. They encourage their students to research, design and construct their clothing and weaponry. Initially steel swords are provided for beginners, but one is expected to purchase one within two months of commencing training. Students also have to provide their own riggers or welders gloves for hand protection.

The group gets involved in historical displays and re-creation demonstrations.

If you are interested in studying and learning ancient crafts and skills like woodworking, blacksmithing, embroidery, weaving, cooking, building and music, this school could be for you.

✍

You can contact David at 021 269 7893



The padded vests are called tabards and can be bought. but the helmet, shoes, chainmail, gauntlets & rabbit skin leggings have been made by the wearer.

Photos taken at the St Albans Park, by Maria Hayward.

What Parents Don't Know About Their Kids on the Net

by Dean Stewart

In days gone by, a parent would give their wee Johnny or Jackie instructions of how to keep safe while playing. These would consist of playing nicely, not to play on the road, be nice to other kids and don't be late.

These days it's a totally different ball game. Our kids have swapped the fun of running around the neighbourhood, to running around cyberspace. With it, come more dangers than you could imagine, than playing in the neighbour's backyard.

The Internet is a fantastic reference tool. It is also uncensored and uninhibited. In addition, if it is also unmonitored and unmanaged, it can be a hive for everything you wanted to protect your young ones from. As parents, we now have the responsibility of protecting our kids online. After all, they are exposed to cyber stalkers, sexual predators, impersonators and bullies.

The Internet has become a necessity for most of us. Finland has become the first country in the world to declare broadband Internet access a legal right.

(<http://www.cnn.com/2010/TECH/10/15/finland.internet.rights/index.html>). Ask your child what they would rather do without from a cellphone, TV or Internet and see what their answer is. More than likely the answer will be the Internet.

For children, the Internet is all about communication. For adults, it is the CONTENT that becomes a problem. Children often do not understand issues surrounding privacy, and in many cases do not use privacy settings within social networking sites.

In two surveys reported this year by Pew Internet Research—of 700 and 935 teens, respectively — 38% of respondents ages 12 to 14 said they had an online profile of some sort.

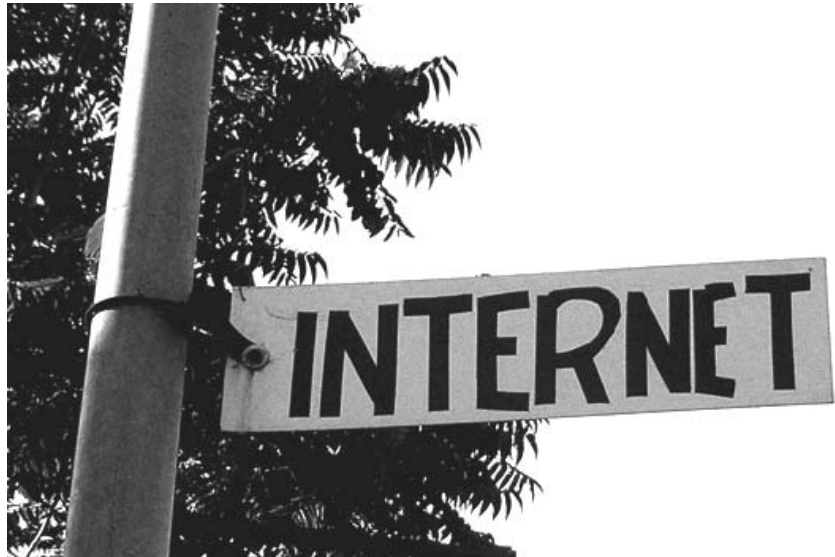
Of those in the study, 61%, aged 12 to 17, said they use social networking sites to send messages to friends, and 42% said they do so every day. In a lot of cases, 2 out of 3 parents are unaware their kids have a social networking site.

Social networking sites require a user to be a minimum age of 13, but often this is flaunted by younger users who will provide a false age. There is no way to verify the true age of the user.

Children are not equipped to understand the importance of privacy. As a result, they often post images of themselves up on the Internet. Once a photo appears on the Internet, it no longer belongs to you. Anyone can copy a photo and

do as they please with it.

In the past, we had 17 and 18 year olds dressing in sexy clothes and heading off to the local dance. Today we have 12 and 13 year olds dressing in sexy garb, photographing themselves with their latest camera phone, and posting the images to their social networking profile. There is a growing trend for young girls to post sexual images



A road well travelled, but not without perils.

of themselves to give the impression of a more edgy character.

Many teenagers have unlimited access to the Internet, and their parents have no idea what their children are doing. Many children are receiving unrealistic sex education through hard-core websites.

Recent studies show that the average age of first exposure to pornographic material is 11 years of age. This is usually when the child is doing their homework, and accidentally stumbles on it. The studies show 90% of 8 – 16 year olds viewed pornographic images at least once, while doing their homework.

Parents need to understand that installing Parental Control software is a minimum. We are prepared to pay for baby-sitters to look after our kids when we go out in the evening, yet are prepared to leave the kids at home in the school holidays to use the Internet unmonitored.

There are a range of software products for monitoring and restricting Internet access. I recommend installing the K9 software product from Bluecoat Technologies. You will find it at www.getk9.com.

Dean Stewart has 25 years' IT experience, and many in IT security. He lives in St Albans and has two teenage children and provides cyber safety packages installed on home machines and more. Contact him at: <http://www.dcc.net.nz> or: dean_stewart@clear.net.nz.

My blog is: <http://ParentsNeed2Know.blogspot.com> 

Canterbury Water Strategy Unmasked

An Opinion Piece by Dirk De Lu

Just before Christmas the Mayoral Forum's Canterbury Water Management Strategy was released to the public. The strategy is targeted at managing and developing Canterbury's water resource and allocation issues.

The Mayoral Forum is self organised and consists of Canterbury's mayors and the chair of Environment Canterbury (ECan). They meet regularly to discuss and work out regional issues. They lack a legislative mandate.

Meeting Current and Future Water Needs

The strategy seeks to achieve sustainability within a context of developing infrastructure for irrigation and energy generation while protecting indigenous biodiversity and water quality. The strategy sets principles, priorities and targets.

Principles seek to apply a consistent approach across the region. Priorities are simply what the Forum sees as most important. Targets are supposed to support both while providing a way to measure how well the strategy is doing.

The primary principles are sustainable management, regional approach, and tangata whenua. Supporting principles are natural character, indigenous biodiversity, access, quality drinking water, recreational opportunities, and community and commercial use.

Priorities are in two levels. First order priorities are environment, customary use, community supplies and stock water. The second order priorities are irrigation, renewable electricity generation, recreation and amenity.

The first four targets are drinking water, irrigation, energy and environment. Recreational usage of water is last.

Environmental protection and remediation (the undoing of harm already done) is scheduled, but commitments are unclear. The strategy calls for "Parallel development" of drinking water, irrigation, energy and environmental concerns. "Environmental limits" are proposed to be set in the first 2 years with restoration to follow over the next five. The needs of recreational users or "recreational outcomes" will be met sometime over the next 30 years.

Who Pays

The water strategy does not seek to make existing consent holders pay for monitoring the impacts of their water usage and certainly not for the water used. In fact they are to be offered "incentives" to limit their water use rather than have their allocation subject to limit, be required to manage a public resource responsibly, or pay the cost of monitoring the impacts of their usage. Infrastructure investment is to be funded either by ratepayers, levies on "new water" and/or through public private partnerships.

This course has been chosen in part to avoid legal conflicts. Trying to limit water user's rights could lead to

protracted legal battles. Another approach would be for Parliament to enact sensible legislation. Parliament, like the Mayoral Forum and other political bodies, are sensitive to consent holders concerns. Consent holders have had the good sense to make politicians aware of their interests.

Ratepayers are slated to cover all expenses for the foreseeable future with levies on questionable "new water" to be applied at some future time. Levies on "new water" appear intended to cover a portion of the capital costs of its development. The cost of such development will be high and likely to result in corporate and/or multi national ownership. Relief for ratepayers is uncertain and unlikely.

Who Benefits

Under the strategy private consent holder's rights are paramount. Rights can, and will, be bought and sold. The public's water needs and interest may well come in conflict with local and overseas corporate owners with deep pockets and broad legal rights granted to them by this strategy. Ratepayers will have to compete with these interests.

Publics' Interest

The water strategy fails to limit the benefits granted to consent holders from the current water consents policy. The vital and contentious public policy issue of who controls and benefits from Canterbury's water lies at the very heart of this strategy yet is not raised.

The strategy does contain information and insights of value. The missing emphasis on an informed and involved public is its undoing. Perhaps this reflects the strategy's origins with an essentially political body.

It is clear that the public good is not best served by handing out or enshrining privileges in law. That those privileges were handed out a long time ago does not make them a public good. That some will cry foul and rightfully point to sizable investment made based on those privileges does not acknowledge that said investments were typically funded from the proceeds of those privileges. That some chose to continue investing emboldened by the belief that they could defend against the public demand for better management and allocation of a public resource is not a winning argument.

What Has Been and What Will Be

Environment Canterbury has been grappling with water issues and the private interests involved for years. Its attempts to manage water for the public's benefit have been contentious. In some instances ECan has had to resort to the threat of legal action. The strategy seeks to remedy this by increasing the levels and expense of bureaucracy while handing over power to local elites.

The strategy sets up local bodies to be deal with

regional issues. To this end the strategy creates 12 new bureaucracies: 10 Zone Committees, 1 Regional Water Committee, 1 Water Executive. We are asked to believe, if not understand, that this limits bureaucracy and cuts costs.

Rather than get behind ECan and work out mutually beneficial solutions the strategy creates 10 water fiefdoms. What we seem to be expected to believe, but are not actually told, is that with confidence in their newly established power Zone Committees will feel magnanimous and work out matters for the benefit of all concerned.

The Committees

Zone Committees and the Regional Water Committee will be appointed by the Mayoral Forum. This is currently being done without broad public consultation. Finding enough skilled and available unpaid public advocates to offset the vested interests likely to dominate so many committees is a tough ask. Finding candidates from those with a financial interest in water will be much easier.

The Regional Water Committee is to recommend overall policy, monitor the Zone Committees and direct the Water Executive. The strategy sets various targets, but Zone Committees can “interpret” them. Zone Committees and the Regional Committee will be left to work out differences. The opportunities for political intrigue created by this strategy are legion. Heaven help the public interest.

The Water Executive is a grand title for Environment Canterbury’s new role. It will serve at the will of the Regional and Zone Committees and tasked to provide support services and facilitate matters between them. ECan is transformed from guardian of the public interest to being directed by the Regional and Zone Committees. ECan will set environmental flows and provide many services to the strategy which the ratepayer will fund. ECan will have no real power. Zone Committees appear the clear winners here.

Zone Committees

Zone Committees are to practice undefined “community driven planning methods” and “consensus” decision making where all have to agree to on what is to be done. This is a laudable goal. Genuine community participation is good, but unlikely to be realized under zone committees heavy with financially interested parties, government and “respected members of the community”.

There is nothing in the strategy which indicates, let alone requires, Zone Committees to reflect a wide range of interests. The strategy clearly states that Zone Committees will not be required to listen to “outside interests”. Water does not abide by artificial boundaries, but Zone Committees will impose them.

The courts will remain a last resort, an expensive resort and very likely the only resort. The public will likely fund

both sides’ legal expenses. The underlying problems are worsened, not resolved.

Legal Mandate

Government bodies typically are created by legislation. The strategy puts things backwards and creates the bodies first. Legislative support, a potential legal mandate, is scheduled for the 4th quarter of 2010. Zone Committees are to be in operation by March 2010. This is despite the strategy having yet to complete work on policy, process and governance issues. Not so much “build it and they will come” as “make it up as you go and they will have to accept it.”

Consultation and “Public Good”

The quality of public consultation for the strategy has been disappointing. The issues are wide ranging and crucial. The public requires much more information and widespread consultation. The strategy is short on specifics, has questionable legal origin and status and clearly serves the interests of existing consent holders.

Former Environment Canterbury Chair Kerry Burke has been tossed out in a power struggle that appears tied to an attempt to assess levies on existing water consent holders for a portion of the cost of monitoring Canterbury’s water resources (ratepayers got stuck with the \$7 million bill). The Auditor General has ruled that 4 ECan Councillors, Angus McKay, Bronwen Murray, Mark Oldfield and Pat Harrow had conflicts of interest due to their water interests. Remarkably he also felt that no “public good” would be served by prosecutions.

It seems that the “public good” is hard to serve, so we are left with little for the public to feel good about.

A Canterbury water strategy is needed. This strategy does offer a base to work from. Let’s stop the rush to implement and take the time to complete the details in consultation with an informed public. Let the public learn about and understand the challenges faced. Make certain the governance and costs of the strategy include all “interested parties”, including ratepayers and those who directly benefit from Canterbury’s water resource.

What You Can Do

The Environment Canterbury annual plan is one opportunity to let councillors know your views on this issue. Watch following websites: <http://ecan.govt.nz> and <http://www.canterburywater.org.nz/>

You can also contact your local mayor to share your thoughts on this issue.

Dirk De Lu is the Administrator for Quaker Investments Ethical Trust and a concerned citizen who is happy to pay his fare share, but tired of paying more.

✍

It's Not Too Late to Make a New Year's Resolution

by *Ann Shearer*

And start computing in 2010! Join SeniorNet Canterbury at the Shirley Community Centre. Set up in the mid-1990s for people over 55 who want to learn computing, the Society runs regular courses, workshops and interest groups. At its busiest, it offered three classes every day, some evening classes, and often two on Saturdays. Now, twelve years later, one would think most seniors who want to use a computer would have learnt to do so — but far from it! They keep rolling in; the numbers are smaller, but the members are no less enthusiastic.

Some have already attended classes elsewhere, often with frustrating results. A frequently heard comment is, "It's so much easier to learn here!" The reason... the classes are restricted to six or eight members, with two tutors per class. Very comprehensible notes are supplied which build up into a handy manual, much more user-friendly than most commercial computer publications. Most courses consist of four two-hour lessons. All members are expected to attend the Introductory Course, which is free to those who have paid their first year's membership fee of \$25. Thereafter, the cost is \$30 for a four-week course. Not a bad price for eight hours of solid instructions with excellent notes supplied!

The SeniorNet tutors and Executive Committee members are all volunteers. Those who have constructed the courses have ingeniously devised lessons that lead the students logically through the early steps. The 'graduates' from the Introductory Course can next learn to send emails and/or learn how to use the computer keyboard properly, or use the program Microsoft Word, which enables them to

produce a document, while also introducing new skills in the general use of the computer. The next essential course



is File Management, in which students learn to store (or 'save') their work in such a way that they easily find it again — any computer user knows how easy it is to lose work irretrievably, simply by touching the wrong button! Once they have navigated their way through these lessons, the students are ready for... well, what might they want to do? Digital photography? Desktop publishing? Genealogy? Spreadsheets? The sky's the limit and lessons in all these fields are offered.

Of course, many members simply want to learn to send emails or to surf the Internet, but it is common for most students to become hooked quite quickly on more advanced computing, even if they arrived with modest ambitions. The single-session workshops are very popular; learn to make cards, buy and sell on Trade Me, talk to relatives overseas on Skype, and many other fascinating pastimes. The sessions on digital photography are particularly sought-after. Interest groups meet monthly and cater for those who want to dig more deeply into family histories, photography, music or technical matters. Free help sessions are held every Tuesday between 12.00 noon and 2.00 p.m. A monthly social afternoon meeting is well-attended, with stimulating speakers, afternoon tea, and a chance to mingle with other enthusiasts

Members numbering 1300+ can't be wrong! Ring: 386 2140 for an information pack, or leave a message on the answerphone and we will get back to you. You will be made very welcome at SeniorNet Canterbury. *JS*

Our Paper ... the St Albans News

We are continually trying to improve the service of the St Albans News to our community. With the start of the new year, we've introduced a few small changes in how we present ourselves graphically, but also how we present some information. In an effort to make more course, group and events information available, we've completely redesigned the 'Community Notices' page. If you belong to a community group and would like to publish meeting times, etc., please send them to us (email to 'news@stalbens.gen.nz') and we will happily add them to the page in the next issue.

The St Albans News reaches every household in St Albans. This is possible thanks to the efforts of several community groups who are doing the distribution of the paper in the neighbourhood.

Their involvement has turned out to be a good fundraising activity for them. We have new opportunities this year to accommodate new groups who would like to get involved. Distributing the paper could be a one-off, or it could be a regular monthly or bi-monthly activity. For more information, please get in touch with us and call Christoph (374 2465) or send an email to 'christoph@stalbens.gen.nz' *JS*

School Visit to Parliament



by Brendon Burns

In November, I hosted a visit to Parliament by four pupils from St Albans School and teacher, Michael Williams.

The four children — Jack Ansell, Noah Goodwin-Bain, Daniel Mathers, Keziah Cameron — had been selected by me as winners of a speech competition at the school earlier in the year. Their prize was a visit to Wellington, including lunch with me at Parliament, including huge wedges of chocolate cake!

B

For "A" grade service to all cars

**John Radley
Mechanical Ltd**



**From 1st of April we are merging with
McGirr Motors at 127a Peterborough St,
Ph 377 1588.**

Look forward to seeing you there.

Support your local businesses

Brendon Burns

Member of Parliament
for Christchurch Central

Contact my electorate office
Monday-Friday, 10-4pm
Level 3, 103 Worcester Street
Phone: 377 8840

Working for your future

NEW ZEALAND
Labour



Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Congratulations for the piece on Jeffrey Paparoa Holman in the November issue, a St Albans resident whose achievements are well worth celebrating. Jeffrey did do some tutoring for us a number of years ago — and if he wishes to do more he is welcome to put his name forward — but it is incorrect to say that he is currently a tutor and mentor to students of the Christchurch School for Young Writers.

Keep up the good work, though...

Glyn Strange

*Director, The School for Young Writers
(also a St Albans resident)*

Dear Editor,

Yesterday (Monday, 1st Feb) while working as the volunteer on duty in the NNet Computer Room at the St Albans Community Centre, I was impressed by a young lad's manners. He, along with his mother, spent quite some time in the Computer Room, but it was while his mother was absent from the Room for a few minutes, I handed him the picture he'd just printed off, and he said "Thank you!" I commended him on his good manners, as those two words (i.e. thank you) are very seldom heard these days, as, sadly, many people forget to use them. If more people remembered their manners, it would make dealing with people much more pleasant.

*Regards,
Terry*

I would like to thank the miserable thief who stole my five year old grandson's scooter that he got for Christmas out of my car in Canon St on New Years Eve. It still had the bows on the handlebars. My grandson has no Mummy, as she has brain injury, and has no Daddy either. Also stolen was my 60s CDs, and my sons CDs — he works hard for his money. I suggest you get a job and buy your own cds. Was this the same scumbag that tried to steal my fairy lights a few nights earlier? Next time you come near my house at night I WILL let my dog out. Obviously you knew it belonged to a young child,

*Have a very Happy New Year, scumbag
A Very Angry Nana*

I started composing music seven years ago when the person who works with me transposing my music was working in St Matthew's Church office, my church of worship. However, my music sessions at St Matthew's Church using the church piano became unavailable, thus a member of my church suggested I contact the St Albans Community Centre.

My case manager and I made a visit to the St Albans Community Centre, and I showed the person at the office a rough copy of a song I had composed. I explained I was a composer and needed a piano to use to work on my music. A very satisfactory arrangement was worked out.

The person who works with me transposing my music and I were absolutely delighted to find the piano was in mint condition and was being looked after with loving care. It is a standard piano with pedals, which is great.

To conclude, when I visit the Centre, I really enjoy the relaxed, warm, friendly atmosphere, and being able to use the piano on a regular basis plays a vital role in me being able to compose music (something I love doing) among other artistic things I enjoy. Those include doing painting, pencil drawing, stone carving and writing poetry.

It is much appreciated.

*Many thanks
William Staniforth.*

Community Centre Services

Lounge area with local papers and wireless Internet access

Hall Hire

\$10 per hour non-profit community rate

\$15 per hour Commercial rate

\$30 per hour for private functions

Conditions apply

Photocopying

10 cents per side – A4, 20 cents per side – A3

Laminating

\$1.20 per A4, \$2.00 per A3

Faxing available

donation

Computer Room

Internet Access, Printing

Daily 11am – 3pm, Saturday 1pm – 3pm

1047 Colombo Street., Phone 379 6305

or 374 2465

Email: office@stalbands.gen.nz

Office Hours 10 am – 3 pm

Monday to Friday



St Albans Community Centre

TERM 1 - 2010**Weekly Groups & Activities**

Activity	Day	Time	Contact
Art Society	Monday	10 am – 12 pm	Ph: 355 5090 (Reg)
Belly Dancing	Wednesday	10 - 11 am	Ph: 027 201 8858 (Yurie)
Choir	Monday (2 nd ,3 rd ,4 th ,5 th)	7.30 – 9 pm	Ph: 379 9188 (Heather)
Dance Fitness	Thursday	5 - 6.30 pm	Ph: 365 6585 (Donette)
Dancing Drum	Monday	3.45 – 4.45 pm	Ph: 328 9408 (Polly)
Email/Internet	Mon – Fri	11 – 3 pm	Ph: 379 6305 (Centre)
Email/Internet	Saturday	1 – 3 pm	Ph: 379 6305 (Centre)
Fairy Dance Academy	Tuesday Thursday Saturday	3 – 4 pm 9.30 am – 10.30 am 10 am -12.30 pm	Ph: 021 120 6540 (Pam)
Friday Night O/A	Friday	7.30 – 9 pm	Ph: 386 3183 (Carla)
Harlequin Players	Days & times change		Ph: 331 6162 (Glenys)
Hatha Yoga	Tuesday	10 – 11.30 am	Ph: 980 8760 (Pauline)
Laughter Yoga	Sunday	11 – 12 pm	Ph: 021 998 109 (Hannah)
Leisure Group	Friday – fortnightly	10.30 am	Ph: 379 6305 (Centre)
Meditation Group	Sunday	7 - 9 pm	Ph: 960 2039 (Patricia)
Pilates – Levels 2 & 3	Friday	9.30 – 10.30am	Ph: 342 3172 (Coralea)
Qi Gong	Monday	5 – 6 pm	Ph: 021 161 7831 (Mitsue)
Share International	Wednesday	7.15 – 8.45 pm	Ph: 027 450 8171 (Ellen)
Tai Chi - Beginners	Monday & Thursday	1.30 – 2.30 pm	Ph: 366 5472 (Phillipa)
Tai Chi - Maintenance	Monday	12 – 1 pm	Presbyterian Support
Wu Tao Dance	Tuesday	5.45 - 7.15 pm	Ph: 354 9328 (Karen)

Monthly Groups / Meetings

Inter Agency Meeting	Wednesday (bimonthly)	12.30 – 2 pm	Phone: 374 2465
NeighbourNet	Thursday (4 th quarterly)	5 – 6 pm	Phone: 379 6305
NZ Japan Society	Tuesday (4 th)	7.30 – 9.30 pm	Phone: 355 9903
St Albans Choir	Tuesday (3 rd)	7.30 – 9 pm	Phone: 379 9188
SANDS	Monday (1 st)	7 – 9 pm	Phone: 323 9850

For more information, call 379 6305 or email office@stalbans.gen.nz

Community Notices

Art Society; Monday, 10 am – 12 pm at St Albans Community Centre. Ph: 355 5090 (Reg)

Belly Dancing; Wednesday, 10 - 11 am at St Albans Community Centre. Ph: 027 201 8858 (Yurie)

Choir; Monday (2nd,3rd,4th,5th), 7.30 – 9 pm at St Albans Community Centre. Ph: 379 9188 (Heather)

Computer Training for the Over 55's: 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.

Dance Fitness; Thursday, 5 - 6.30 pm at St Albans Community Centre. Ph: 365 6585 (Donette)

Dancing Drum; Monday, 3.45 – 4.45 pm at St Albans Community Centre. Ph: 328 9408 (Polly)

Fairy Dance Academy; Tuesday 3 – 4 pm, Thursday 9.30 am – 10.30 am, Saturday 10 am -12.30 pm at St Albans Community Centre. Ph: 021 120 6540 (Pam)

Friday Night O/A; Friday, 7.30 – 9 pm at St Albans Community Centre. Ph: 386 3183 (Carla)

Hatha Yoga; Tuesday, 10 – 11.30 am at St Albans Community Centre. Ph: 980 8760 (Pauline)

Laughter Yoga; Sunday, 11 – 12 pm at St Albans Community Centre. Ph: 021 998 109 (Hannah)

Leisure Group (55+); Friday – fortnightly at 10.30 am at St Albans Community Centre. Ph: 379 6305

Meditation Group; Sunday, 7 - 9 pm at St Albans Community Centre. Ph: 960 2039 (Patricia)

Mairehau Parish Indoor Bowling Club: New season starts 1st March 2010. For details phone 382 8340

NeighbourNet; Open Monday - Thursday, 11am - 3pm, and on Saturdays at 1pm - 3pm. Internet access and Office applications, listen to podcasts, etc. At St Albans Community Centre. Phone: 379 6305

NZ Japan Society; Tuesday (4th), 7.30 – 9.30 pm at St Albans Community Centre. Phone: 355 9903

Pilates – Levels 2 & 3; Friday, 9.30 – 10.30am at St Albans Community Centre. Ph: 342 3172 (Coralea)

Qi Gong; Monday, 5 – 6 pm at St Albans Community Centre. Ph: 021 161 7831 (Mitsue)

Share International: Maitreya steps forward - His open mission has begun [visit <http://www.share-international.org>].

The way prepared by His Herald the 'Star', Maitreya, the World Teacher, has given His first interview on American television. Millions have heard Him speak both on TV and the internet. He spoke earnestly of the need for peace, achievable only through the creation of justice and the sharing of the world's resources. Share International invites you to come and find out more -

Venue: St Albans Community Centre, 1047 Colombo Street,

Date/Time: 1st Wednesday of every month, 7:15pm – 8:45pm

For further information phone/text John 027 545 4823

maitreya.chch@xtra.co.nz

Shirley Toy Library; Hammersley Park School, Amos Place (off Marshlands Road. Opening hours:

Wednesday 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM,

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Saturday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM,

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

St Albans Choir; Tuesday (3rd), 7.30 – 9 pm at St Albans Community Centre. Phone: 379 9188

St Albans Neighbourhood Day, held by the St Albans Community Centre and the Korean Presbyterian Church at Packe St on 10 April. All community groups are invited to participate - please contact 374 2465!

St Albans Residents Association: The next meetings will be held on 9 March and 4 May at 7.30pm at the St Albans Community Centre, 1047 Colombo St.. If you have issues you'd like to put onto the agenda, then please contact 379 6305

St Albans Uniting Church Garden Club: 24 Feb, 2pm, 24 Mar, 10.15am, outing (366 0369)

SANDS; Monday (1st), 7 – 9 pm at St Albans Community Centre. Phone: 323 9850

Tai Chi - Beginners; Monday & Thursday, 1.30 – 2.30 pm. Ph: 366 5472 (Phillipa, Presbyterian Support)

Tai Chi - Maintenance; Monday, 12 – 1 pm. Ph: 366 5472 (Phillipa, Presbyterian Support)

Transition Communities Event: James Samuel from Waheke Island will present the movie 'In Transition' on Thu 18 March at 7.30pm at the St Albans Community Centre (koha). 374 2465 or tisa@stalbens.gen.nz

Transition Forum: The next forum meeting will be held on 13 Apr, 12pm - 2pm, at the St Albans Community Centre (374 2465 or email tisa@stalbens.gen.nz)

Wu Tao Dance; Tuesday, 5.45 - 7.15 pm at St Albans Community Centre. Ph: 354 9328 (Karen)

Who is your real friend?



This really works!

If you don't believe it, just try this experiment

Put your dog and your spouse in the boot of the car for an hour

When you open the boot, which one is really happy to see you?

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 COUNSELLING: 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

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

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

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 the 11 March

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 021 0243 7398, or pcguru@orcon.net.nz

Computer Volunteers Required: If you have some

spare time & are knowledgeable in Internet, email & XP the St Albans Community Centre would love to meet you. Please phone Alison 379 6305

Dave's Computer Service: Troubleshooting, Virus removal, Tuition etc. Low rates, ph David 356 1280

DIVINE MASSAGE: Acupressure, Therapeutic/Deep Tissue Massage (non-sensual) Diploma (Ad.C.M.A) BSYA Queensland. Yvonne welcomes new clients. Tuesday Friday 10 am — 7 pm. Saturday 11 am — 4 pm. Phone DIVINE MASSAGE 382 9569 or 027 617 3179.

Electrical: Bright Sparks Electrical Ltd. Registered Tradesmen. Call Peter at 027572 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

Ironing: Available at \$20 per hour. In your home or can collect in St Albans/Merivale area ph Janis 355 9034

JEWELS n BEADS: Wholesale Jewellery. Open to the public. Competitive prices for European Style Jewellery, Necklaces, Beads & Pendants. Unit 6, 60 Vagues Road, Papanui

Mature, Retired Lady: requires full, permanent board in the North

West area of Christchurch handy to all amenities. An unfurnished, serviced double room with a telephone jack point, easy access and a walk-in shower are an absolute necessity. Occasional transport would be appreciated. Lady is respectable and financially reliable. Please reply with your contact details to: 'Boarder', PO Box 21153, Christchurch

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

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

REAL ESTATE SALES PERSON: Competent, friendly, hard working, professional agent is waiting to help you with your property needs. List to sell and have 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. Licensed (REAA 2008)

Wanted Housecleaner job: Available 3 or 4 hours. Phone Nat: 379 8166 or 021 837 541

Widow: Well past the bloom of youth missing male company would enjoy meeting a 65 plus presentable gentleman (Edgeware area a bonus) who would also enjoy companionship, cards, music, drives, watching TV, a simple meal, occasional movies, picnics, etc. I am a one-eyed Cantabrian and follow the Crusaders and All Blacks games. Could we meet for coffee and a chat? Phone after 5 pm 027 611 7368

TUITION

Ballet Classes: Pre-school to senior level. Phone Sandra 021 214 0673. A/H 981 3627

Bellydance Fitness: Wednesday 10-11am at St Albans Community

Centre. 2010 Term 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: Low rates, ph David 356 1280

Drums: Experienced & qualified teacher at well-equipped studio with two kits, Rock school 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

Guitar Tuition/Harmonica Tuition: St Albans/City based. I am a professional musician and a very patient, motivational and passionate tutor. I cater to 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

Piano/Keyboard: Experienced and qualified teacher in St Albans. Great teaching programme, affordable lessons, beginners welcome. Please phone Claire on 337-2521 or email carpenterc@clear.net.nz

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

Self Defense Classes: Gain health & flexibility, Mon & Thurs 5.30 — 7.30 at Foundation for the Blind, 96 Bristol St, Merivale. All ages. Ph 0800 581 481

Singing Lessons: Do you want to learn how to sing? Affordable lessons for all ages Meredith phone 355 3672

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

Local Football Club Gears Up for the Season



Left to right: Aynsley Macnab SASJFC Committee ClubMark Project Leader; Lorraine McLeod ClubMark Co-ordinator; Martin Meehan past club president; Alison Duggan, committee member, holding ACC sponsored first aid kits.

by Etienne Rousse

St Albans Shirley (SAS) Junior Football Club offers children from 5 to 16 years the opportunity to play football at all levels. Their aim is to help children enjoy the game and develop as skilful and creative players, as well as experiencing the fun and friendship of being part of a team.

The Football Club prides itself on its community spirit and family-friendly atmosphere.

Late last year the Club achieved a ClubMark accreditation. The Sports Canterbury accreditation aims to assist and encourage sporting clubs to become capable, sustainable and healthy.

SAS Junior Football Club will be holding a registration day on the 21st February from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at St Albans Park for children interested in playing football.

For more information on joining SAS Football Club please email us on: stalbansshirley@gmail.com or phone: 355 7999.

Korean Presbyterian Church of Christchurch

aims to
Achieve our dreams of immigrate and study abroad
Educate the people with talents
Become a base camp for world mission

We invite you to our **Gala Festival on 10th Apr.** at the Korean Presbyterian Church. This festival has been organized by the St. Albans community centre and Korean Presbyterian Church.

Church Services

Sunday morning service 09:30am
Sunday main service 11:30am
Dawn service (Tue-Fri) 06:00am
Youth group service Saturday 06:00pm



Quotes of the Month

"Bureaucrats write memos both because they appear to be busy when they are writing and because the memos, once written, immediately become proof that they were busy"

Charles Peters

"Diplomacy is the art of saying 'Nice doggie' until you can find a rock"

Will Rogers

