

St Albans News

The Voice of our Neighbourhood

April 2010



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A New Image for Edgeware Supervalue



by Max Feutz

The scaffolding has come down and the grand old lady that was once the Century Cinema is swishing her brightly-coloured dress in delight, showing us something of her former glory. It's good to see her take her place again on centre stage, a focal point for the shopping hub of our community and further sign of the continued vitality of the area.

New owner, Stephen Anderson and his family, who took over the shop in November 2009, couldn't be prouder.

Involved in a number of businesses and an accountant by profession, Stephen used to live in St Albans before he got married and often used to pop into the supermarket. He remembers it as a friendly place with a unique atmosphere, where you could rely on seeing many of the same faces and where your name

was often remembered. In that regard, nothing has changed. Manager Adrian is still there after 40 years, and although there is a staff of 45-50, including many part-timers, the same vibe remains, and is something Stephen is anxious to retain. He says that its success lies in the fact that it's not a Big Box, so although he intends to refurbish the interior to make it even more user-friendly, there will be no dramatic changes.

At present, people tend to come in for a few items several times a week, and also regularly visit the other shops in the Edgeware Shopping Centre. He sees this sharing of the customer base, and interaction between the businesses as the greatest key to preserving the vibrancy of the neighbourhood, and he has made it a goal to promote the Village to ensure its long-term survival.

continued on page two



This year, 2010, seems to have gotten off to a cracking start for me, and my summer holiday is now a very distant memory.

The Centre has also been busy planning a large Community Event to be held on 10th April, as well as working on the hearing process regarding the Orion Site Appeal by the developers. We have also been excitedly awaiting the pending CCC decision re the future of the Edgeware Pool site. The generous lifeline thrown by Mr Coffey makes the Community's dream of building a new pool draw closer to a possibility.

My professional life has also been busy with a variety of collaborative projects. A large network of non-government social service providers has been beaver away on a very exciting innovation to assist families to more easily access the help they need. The wide variety of excellent services on offer locally can confuse people seeking help, so a single point of contact has been established to help them sort out what is available. Whilst a simple concept, the process of getting some 45 local services linked up and developing a process to manage such enquiries has been challenging. Christchurch has again shown considerable initiative though, and the new system is

settling in well. People needing help do not have to use this process, but those who have no idea where to begin to get help can make contact.

This innovative practical project is called Right Services Right Time and is attracting a lot of national interest.

The Community Centre is planning a number of fundraising opportunities as we grapple with our ongoing funding uncertainty. I hope you will all buy lots of raffle tickets when they go on sale shortly!

I would also like to invite any people interested in joining the governing body here at the Centre to pop along to one of our regular meetings and see what we get up to.

We were delighted to be successful in gaining the services of a Community Max worker, Aidey Nolan. She is organizing our big Community Event so I hope you will come along to the Korean Church on Packe Street on 10th April and support her efforts.

I am also delighted to announce a new column in future for our Community News which will feature work from the local schools here in St Albans. As a person who has worked with young people most of my life I look forward to seeing some of their work in print.

Until next time

Regards

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


continued from page one

He is therefore extremely concerned about the proposed retail complex mooted for the Orion site in Madras Street, and has come out strongly against it. He says that there are currently five supermarkets within a 2.5km radius, so there is "no logic whatsoever" in duplicating Edgeware Village just a few hundred metres down the road. He says, "in the harsh economic climate currently being experienced, local businesses that are already under financial pressure could find themselves in a situation where the existing customer base becomes distributed between the old and new businesses, leaving half-empty shops. This would prevent the Village from reaching its full potential as a district centre."

However, his objections are not just commercial. He shares the concern of many in the wider community who fear that the increase in traffic, which is likely to occur due to heavy goods' vehicles and a large retail car park, will have a profound effect on what is essentially a residential area.

He feels that the community should respond to the

threat by giving the Village its ongoing support and that landlords should take a long-term view and help ensure full tenancy of the centre by keeping rents at reasonable levels.

He would also like to see local businesses be proactive in their support for the local community. One initiative which is already underway is the production and sale of a calendar as a fundraiser. Any profits generated will be donated to a community project, such as a new outdoor pool, if it gets the go-ahead. 

**The St Albans News relies on
your contributions. Please
send us your articles, letters
and notices. The deadline for
the next issue is the 15th of
April**



Commentary by Christoph Hensch

Last month I wrote about how a healthy city is continually creating and improving our physical and social environments. Improving environments is a continuous challenge our city is facing and during the past month there were two examples nicely illustrating the challenge.

One is the council commissioned report by Danish urban designer Jan Gehl and the other is the rent increase for community based early childhood centres, occupying council-owned facilities.

In a recommendable move the Council looked for advice from the internationally recognized authority on urban design, Jan Gehl, to get input on how to improve the physical environment of the central districts of our city. Gehl judges our city to be “an attractive living city for the 21st century”, but also recognizes that Christchurch has shortcomings, like “public spaces have lost their original functions, such as market places to meet”, etc. This is true for both the central city as well as suburban areas like St Albans.

The report yielded 110 suggestions mainly aimed at making the area more people-friendly and improve bicycle access. In a recent decision by our elected Councillors, based on the recommendations by a staff report, it was decided that out of the 110 recommendations, a mere 5 should be followed up. Gehl’s report also said something to the effect of ‘put the needs of people first.’ I hope there will be more opportunities for ‘the people’ to scrutinise the recommendations and give input into the planning process.

In a controversial move that reminds us of the 24% rent increase for the city’s social housing units, the Council decided that it would simultaneously increase the rent it charges to community-based early childhood centres and cut the funding from which that rent is subsidised. City-wide, 11 centres are subjected, with the St Albans-based Educare centre facing a 102% rent increase.

To create and maintain a healthy city, Council is also responsible for its social environments. The same principle that Jan Gehl pointed out in connection with the physical environment needs to apply here to: “Put the needs of the people first.” Not that this would come at a large price; it could cost as little as 16c per child using the centres per day as one letter writer to The Press pointed out.

Does the CCC have a moral responsibility to spend our money on people versus projects? We must have elected councillors who believe that the needs of the people (our needs) are addressed first!



**St Albans
Community Centre**

Te Pokapū Hapori o Hato Ōpani

**St Albans News, April 2010
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Send your news contributions and adverts to:
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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.

Philip Kennedy on Living in St Albans



by Hilaire Campbell

Philip Kennedy is a Christchurch architect. Lean and unsuited, he sits in his office on top of St Elmo Courts, surrounded by hundreds of scale models, old and not so old, of buildings he and his team have designed.

Here, on the middle shelf are the 9 units comprising 57 Champion Street, St Albans, sitting like forgotten dolls' houses, they are a little shabby now, but out there, beyond the trees and cell phone towers, stand the real things, as good as new. They have proper gardens and garages, and they are Kennedy's contribution to medium density living in St Albans. "No, it wasn't a compromise," he says, in answer to a question. "The developers, friends of mine, identified a market which they understand, and that is the sort of people who like to live in pleasure and permanence. Not concrete and polystyrene. These are people who take a pride in their environment."

They are not the sort who want to live their fantasies in fake chateaux and replicas of Tuscany. "That is the saving of St Albans," he says. "No one goes there to show off." Kennedy is not a believer in the kind of spaces being built on the Port Hills or in Akaroa, but he doesn't think the St Albans character is so definable that anything like that could destroy it. "Akaroa had a distinct character and was aware of it. Peter Beaven and the council formulated rules which were bypassed or scrapped, and up came the modernist boxes. St Albans doesn't have that character."

"But certain materials age more gracefully. Timber, stone to some extent, and brick. The old London brick was soft...there are some nice older houses around St Albans," he says. The Browns Road area, "treed, decent, called Merivale East," and Bristol Street, where he lived in a bay villa for 20 years. "It was a good house with good bones. We did everything to it over that time. But you don't have

to scrape right back. A house is for living in, not showing off. It should be straight forward, but not boring, and if the materials are good and the proportions are nice, your house will be a great pleasure." Of course it must be functional. "French doors say you are open to the world, but a sliding door is more useful in a nor'wester."

"Now people want everything to look new. So houses are tarted up, like a woman with ten facelifts; huge aluminium-faced panels avoid ageing, all counter to any idea of character. It's to do with no longer valuing old things." Cheap land along the motorway doesn't help. "There's a lot of bad stuff going up," he says, "and if you build the living upstairs you don't have to provide ground space, you only need a balcony. So you drive into your apartment and climb the stairs and you don't come down again. Outside becomes a giant ashtray."

These are just dormitories, he says, "owned by the landlord and let out, and there are problems with noise and smashings in." But Kennedy likes the idea of lots of people. "We don't want to be jam-packed like Haiti, but it's quite nice to have compaction in a few places. A young chap with a big car won't care, but shared entrances and gardens help foster community. You can see what we've done in Salisbury and Peterborough Street. The Council could help, but it won't. The Edgeware pool is a classic example. A great erosion of community spirit."

Kennedy now lives on Riverlaw Terrace, but if he moved back, it would be to a large piece of land with established trees. He remembers the beautiful mulberry tree at the Blind Institute, the wisteria running riotously round the building. His garden would be like this, full of potential, not the finished things you see nowadays. And he would build a house. But you won't see it because he says the best stuff is never noticeable.

Indian Mission Trip

by *Hugh Macdonald*

On 1st February this year, a team of four people from the Christchurch North Apostolic Church in Thames Street went on a medical mission trip to Bihar India on the Nepalese border. We landed at Kolkata (used to be known as Calcutta) where we stayed overnight. The next day we were met by the Pastor who was to stay with us and be our interpreter. He took us to a local pharmacy where we bought the necessary medical supplies that we needed. That night we caught the train from Kolkata to Katihar a 12-hour journey and then one hour by jeep to Ranipatra which was to be our base for 14 days.

Over that time we had medical clinics for approximately 400 children from three schools. Two of our team were nurses and one a physiotherapist, so we were well equipped. As well as seeing the children we set up clinics for the villagers of whom we saw over 440. There were no nurses and no hospitals so we were sorely in demand. Our aim was to train 20 people in basic community health and six of those in First Aid, and teach 30 village women about basic health care and hygiene so there will be ongoing health care. We also participated in two church services. In this period we covered over 530 kms by jeep over dusty and potholed roads. We also did basic eye checks and were able to give out reading spectacles when required. Our Church had also rallied around and supplied over 600 toothbrushes as well as quite a few reading glasses!

This was a very rewarding trip, as besides seeing sick people we also saw some very remote villages that are not on the tourist map. We were told not to go for walks longer than ½km as there had been 21 murders within a 1 km radius in the last month.



Waiting to be seen by the nurses

To prepare for this mission our Church got behind us and many helped with fundraising which included sausage sizzles, trivial pursuit evenings, and best of all, delivering the St Albans News. We did this every alternate month for 18 months so we are very grateful to Christoph Hensch and his team for the opportunity.

If anyone is interested to know more please ring the Church office ph: 356 1939 or Hugh Macdonald: 980 5465.



Market

The St Albans Community Market

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Canterbury Water and Democracy

by David Moorhouse

There are parallels between the ongoing Edgeware pool saga and the latest developments at ECan.

In both cases a report was commissioned to manufacture a sense of crisis. With the pool it was the consultants' report asserting hundreds of thousands in repair costs, which independent assessors said were unrealistic. This report provided an excuse for the city council to ignore the wishes of our community and bulldoze the pool.

With ECan it is a biased report, written by a political appointee with financial interests in dairy farms that have been convicted for polluting waterways. This Government is using his report as a smokescreen to remove local control over Canterbury water.

In both cases local democracy has been shunted to the back seat so vested interests can get their hands on valuable community assets.

The latest news on the pool provides a way forward where a generous donor has offered to rebuild the pool if the bid to repurchase the land goes ahead.

With ECan we may not be so lucky. With the bulk of New Zealand's fresh water located in Canterbury, the regional Council has never been adequately resourced to ensure the needs of the environment and society are balanced against commercial pressures to extract ever

more water. Successive governments have failed to complete the National Policy Statement for water, meaning much needed guidance for resource consent hearings has not been available. This, combined with the first come first served nature of Resource Management Act, has been disastrous for water quality in our region.

There are real limits to how much water can be extracted from our rivers and aquifers before the irreversible adverse consequences occur.

This is why it is important that local people, who are accountable to local citizens through local body elections, retain control over these key assets. Plans by the Government to hand over control of water to an unelected board will leave us paying ECan rates without any say in decisions about how our water is allocated. No taxation without representation is a key principle.

With the Edgeware pool, it finally looks like a satisfactory solution may be on the way. Let us not allow central Government get away with stealing our water and bulldozing our democracy.

David Moorhouse is the Green Party's local spokesperson on waste and local democracy.

Contact details: greens@moorhouse.net.nz

Cell: 027 2365415

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Run, don't walk

A Commentary by Bill Demeter

The orchestrated plan to render Ecan virtually worthless is not just about water. Yes, water plays a big part in the puzzle as special interests (read: irrigators, corporate dairy factories, and power hungry mayors) seize the moment to ensure short term control of water and momentary gains in profits. Perhaps, even privatisation?

The real reason is simply; centralised control of decision making. It appears that the current power structure at the central, regional and locals levels want decision making to reside only with them and thus will be able to quickly do what they want without input from the voting population and certainly not from cumbersome democratically elected representatives.

If the current National Party government in Wellington decides they can get away with it with little or no political capital being expended, they will replace democratically elected councillors. The removal of elected officials elected

by voters and replacing them with appointed bureaucrats is an authoritarian movement unthinkable in a democracy. It has happened before in other countries with disastrous consequences. Germany, Chile, Iran and Iraq quickly come to mind.

What can we do as voters? First and foremost we must understand the dire consequences of removing elected representatives. Secondly, let everyone know, especially Ministers and the Prime Minister. Let them know that history will not treat them kindly if they dare denigrate democracy. Let them know that if this happens they will certainly lose your vote. Lastly; be scared, very scared.

Democracy only works when we work to make it work. Once politicians and bureaucrats start to tinker with our right to be represented by our elected representatives we will no longer be a democracy — if that happens — run, don't walk.

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Tertiary Changes

by Hilary St John

The Government will focus on making big changes within tertiary education institutes this year. This will include limited open entry for adults wanting to study at universities, as well as “policy changes to ensure providers offered courses that were relevant to job opportunities, and that courses were high quality,” John Key has said.

This would mean that students would find that certain courses they studied out of interest, and for personal satisfaction, would be restricted, some even scrapped, as they apparently fail to equip students appropriately for future careers — especially those in demand within the New Zealand job market.

On one hand I think it is important to consider this, however, on the other hand I think we should take a closer look at some of these courses, for example those within the arts faculty, as ones that promote and sustain creative thinking and voice passion for something at least.

As a university student myself, the courses I have taken from the arts programme have been the ones that I have enjoyed most.

Although the Bachelor of Arts Degree does not offer an absolute, direct job position on completion, the list is still long of exciting opportunities and different career prospects available to me after I finish. Why not take an interest paper and make your learning fun?

In saying this, John Key has also stated that we need to ensure that “taxpayers’ generosity is not being exploited by those who refuse to take their tertiary studies seriously. This could mean that even though Mr Key has confirmed that zero percent loans will stay, a rise in university fees is speculated to filter out students who are just there for interest rather than those who are there for career focuses.

A recent article in The Press has confirmed that another change set to take place within universities could be the closure of open entry for adult students. “University of Canterbury Vice Chancellor Rod Carr wants to do away with open entry to university at age twenty.” He believes

that open entry is “an annoying failure that raises people’s expectations, then causes them to fail.”

Alice, an adult student currently studying at The University of Canterbury disagrees with Rod Carr. She believes that, “getting rid of open entry would be bad. Some people don’t excel in high school and don’t end up achieving University Entrance, but by going to university they realise what they love and what they are good at. Everybody needs to be given that chance.”

I agree with her, and I’m sure that many other students currently studying at universities will too.

For more information you can visit:

<http://tvnz.co.nz/politics-news/tertiary-education-sector-in-govt-sights-3352349>.



Awards for Peter Timbs



Chris Timbs, the new shop manager, proudly presents the two awards the shop recently received: One from Retail Meats of New Zealand, the “Great NZ Sausage Competition” for Mango Chilli Chicken and the other one for their Streaky Bacon.

Brendon Burns

Member of Parliament
for Christchurch Central

Contact my electorate office
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All Not Happy at St Albans Edu-Care Centre



Brendon, with Heather Alderton, Centre Manager, and one of the children at St Albans Edu-Care, and Sarah Templeton, Infant and Toddler Teacher.

by Brendon Burns

MP for Christchurch Central

The welcoming smiles in the photo taken during my recent visit to St Albans.

Edu-Care on the Westminster Street/Thames Street corner belies some real concerns about the future of this community-owned early childhood facility.

Certainly there were few smiles during the public meeting held a few days later in Redwood. Representatives of the eleven community-run early childhood centres based on City Council land grilled a local councillor about why drastic changes are being made to lease arrangements.

In St Albans Edu-Care's case, this will mean a 102% rent increase for the Council-owned land and rather cramped former house. The Council majority doesn't seem to understand the difference between a not-for-profit early childhood centre like St Albans Edu-Care and others — which while often providing very good services — are run as profit-making businesses.

A new site is suggested at the Westminster sports complex once redeveloped, but that is perhaps five years away, and it will need a lot of capital.

In essence, the Council is saying that centres such as St Albans Edu-Care can apply for a grant from the Strengthening Communities Fund, though this will have \$55,000 less in it than currently provided. Some centres are going to miss out.

St Albans Edu-Care has over 70 families on its roll; at any one time, there are 35 children from babies to those approaching school age. While the last Labour government put in place the fantastic 20 hours' free childcare, this is limited to 3 and 4-year olds for up to 6 hours per day, 20 hours per week. Therefore, most of the parents still have to pay fees towards their child's early childhood education.

That currently costs them \$5.50 an hour. If St Albans Edu-Care has to pay the \$681 per week increase represented by the 102% lease increase proposed by the Council, this could add \$1 or more an hour to what parents pay. Sure, some parents may be able to afford it, but others will find it very difficult. If you were on the minimum wage of \$12.50 an hour, an extra net \$1 or \$2 is a lot of money to find.

I acknowledge we remain in uncertain economic times, but somehow it always seems to be those on the bottom who end up paying the bill.

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St Albans School

Sample Poem from the School for Young Writers Workshops 2009

Tutor: Jason Clements

Director: Glyn Strange

With funding assistance from the Canterbury Community Trust

Laughing Antidote

Having fun with family
puts a smile upon my face
and when the world is laughing
it heals the human race.

People spend their money
but don't know what it's worth
as laughter is the antidote
to heal a poisoned earth.

Having cuddles with a kitten
makes me feel at ease
and when I see my goldfish
I'm a laughing sailor on the seas.

People spend their money
but don't know what it's worth
as laughter is the antidote
to heal a poisoned earth.

Te Iwa Johnston

Student Leaders 2010 St Albans School



Pictured from left:
Head Girl Arlia Schurr, Head Boy Daniel Mathers, Deputy Head Boy Toby Norris, Deputy Head Girl Emma Coultas

Head pupils lead our school council and sports captains. Other responsibilities include; playground duty to support positive play and community, mufti days, assisting with play lists for school discos, leading celebration assemblies, being a voice of the school for visitors.

Our head pupils wear red sweatshirts, proudly sponsored by our PTA (Parent Teacher Association), as this makes them more visible as role models in the playground and at school events.

The Swimming Sports

Wednesday, March 10, 2010

by Room 16 St Albans School

Thanks to Heathcliff for his sketch!

It was a sunny morning in St Albans. The Year Three and Four classes were buzzing with excitement and nervous energy. Today was the day of the Swimming Sports! We boarded the busses and were off to Jellie Park.

Like a swarm of bees heading for the hive, the children went to change in the changing rooms. School uniforms, socks and shoes flew everywhere as the children readied themselves for the big event. They headed out into the pool area and settled by the pool.

Across the rippling waters the parents were beginning to gather. The excitement rose and so did the noise level. The width races were first.

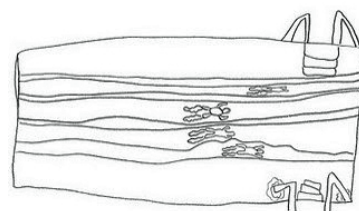
PEEEP "On your marks..." CRACK

The water was cold, and rippling from the other swimmers. Arms and legs powered through the water leaving a wake behind them. The crowd cheered and went wild. The swimmers were pushed on by their encouragement. Some people were first, some came second, third or fourth. Everyone tried their best.

If we thought the crowd had been loud up till now, we sure got a surprise when it came to the class relays! Room 16 was represented by Zachary, Kezia, Grace and Flynn in the water, and everyone else in the stands. We were all proud when Room 16 won!

The length races were next and we all watched those swimmers with amazement and admiration as they tried their hardest to be the best. All the while the non-swimmers were having their own experience of being better than before in the shallow pool.

The Swimming Sports finished on a high note as Kakariki won the house relay. Whero came a close second followed by Kowhai and Kahurangi. St Albans Middle School was the ultimate winner on the day. The children displayed the values of Respect, Excellence, Community, Fun, Manaakitanga and Initiative.



Values

Following our community consultation evenings we held during the development of our St Albans Curriculum developed a SIMPLE yet effective graphic to be used to represent our school's value and vision. This is being used in a variety of ways to help us all 'own' the vision.

We would like to acknowledge the work Greg of: Greg Dodds, La Fabrica Design Studio, PO Box 21419, Christchurch 8014 Phone 03 366 9980, Mobile 027 353 3789 www.lafabrica.co.nz

Check out our website www.stalbans.school.nz and look at our wikis and blogs.

The History of the St Albans Swim Club and the Edgeware Pool—Part 11

Compiled from Swim Club and Management minutes—Valerie Somerville.

During the 1990s the Pool continued to be operated voluntarily by the new Management Committee and Swim Club.

A Swim Club publicity effort resulted in an increased membership for the 1990-91 season, with Mary Dickson as President assisted by Brian Gardner, and Mr B Mulloch as Club Captain. The club combined with the St Albans Tennis Club to organise a very successful fundraising casino evening and with Rodney Bryant (television presenter) as MC made a profit of \$950.

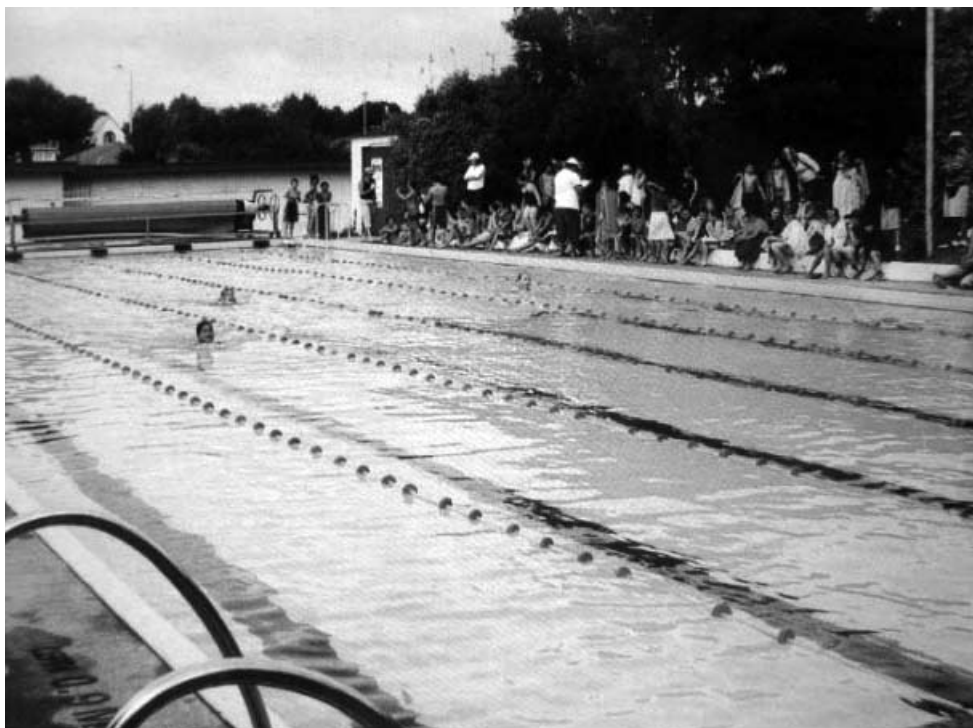
Club swimming training was led by Margaret Evans as head coach, assisted by Shane Ellison and Brian Gardner coached water polo. The lifesaving instructor, Annabel Foley was presented with her Life member's badge and the Swimming Federation presented Dorrie Venning with an Honours award for the 40 years' association with St Albans Swimming Club.

Brian Gardner took over the Club Captaincy for the 1991-2 season and together with Lynn Anderson and S Fowler as swim coaches the club had a good year with a healthy number attending the training sessions. Overall membership was down and the club was not greatly involved in Canterbury competitions, however, those that were attended were worthwhile and successful for the swimmers with Jasmine Mallard making the final of the Centennial Cup. A publicity officer was appointed "to promote the club to the community and form communication within the Club". The season saw the advent of a new style of fundraising through the Parklands Tavern Charity Trust scheme at the Woodpeckers Restaurant.

During the 1992-3 season, the club with Barrie Mulloch as President offered a programme of lifesaving, Learn to Swim, masters, club nights also improvers and competitive training coached by Brian Gardner, Linda Fowler, Lynne Anderson, Michaela Ross, Roger Simm and Louisa Preen. The highlight of the season was a successful "Safeswim" swimathon as reported in a Royal Lifesaving Newsletter:

"At 6pm on Saturday February 6th 1993 the St Albans Swimming Club started their Swimsafe event. Members camped at the pool and ensured swimming continued

throughout the night — Councillor Graeme Elmsly was seen swimming 30 lengths just after midnight — the Fire brigade and the local MP David Caygill were in the novelty swims and younger children swam widths. A barbecue finished a fun weekend — 45 people swam almost 65km, more than 2000 lengths and raised more than \$800. A great total and just as importantly a great family event for the club."



A 1994 recommendation: "suburban pools should be closed as soon as possible or for community boards to undertake financing responsibilities."

Good weather heralded a successful 1993-4 season led by Brian Gardner as Club Captain and Ron Clarke as President. In October the management and swim club committees joined forces to paint the pool. Michaela Ross was appointed head coach assisted by Brian Gardner and Lynn Anderson. Michaela also managed a small group interested in competitive swimming at carnivals. Louisa Preen taught Lifesaving and Linda Fowler the Learn to Swim programme. February saw a successful improvers' carnival held also a popular sleepover in the clubhouse.

In March 1994 a CCC strategic pool review came as a huge shock. It noted that there were eight major pools in Christchurch with only three operating at no cost to owners. It recommended that "suburban pools should be closed as soon as possible or for community boards to undertake financing responsibilities." No recognition was given to outdoor pools as opposed to indoor facilities, nor consideration given to the fact that the club owned the pool and its facilities on council land with a legal agreement of community management.

A club submission outlining their concerns was sent to

the council voicing the concern that “biggest is not always best” and that “smaller suburban pools enabled the wider community greater access to Learn to Swim programmes”. They were also concerned that funding of community pools was to be handed over to community boards.

A pre-1994-5 season get together at Hanmer Springs Forest Trust Camp was organised by Lynn Anderson which was a great success and engendered “club spirit”. Nicki Taylor took over as club captain and with sufficient members in the club, membership was closed and a waiting list put in place. A swimathon and sleepover raised funds for the Learn to Swim programme and another Woodpeckers Fundraising dinner was held. A carnival was held in January and the club competed in the Centennial Cup, Kaiapoi and Town and Country Carnivals.

A working bee was held to paint the pool ready for the 1995-6 season and with Michael Fitzgerald as swim coach a programme of training, stroke correction, water polo and Learn to Swim was put in place. There was also the opportunity of competing in carnivals at Papanui, Canterbury A&B, New Brighton and the Centennial Cup.

During this season the management committee was in discussion with the council regarding a 5-10 year capital project plan for the pool: painting, new seating, tidying up the changing sheds and re-roofing, which all looked promising for the future of the pool. Unfortunately this was never to happen. Questions needed to be asked.

After an association with the club for ten years, Brian Gardner became President for the 1996-97 season which started with the usual working bee. Brian had many questions concerning the operation of the pool which he put to the mayor, Vicki Buck in a letter from the club:

“Why are thousands of dollars spent on the other city pools, also to schools to build pools when our pool has not been even granted enough money to paint buildings, or do repairs?

Why do our Club members have to do so much voluntary work to staff the pool and also contribute to the operating budget?

Why is the Edgware pool not promoted by Council?”

An answer from the mayor was never received.

During this season Andrew Chisholm was in charge of the Learn to Swim and Matt Claridge appointed as head swim coach. The council imposed strict controls on all voluntary pool staff which required everyone doing a CPR course. It became evident that few members wanted to swim competitively, therefore, after much debate and consideration, the decision was made, for financial reasons to withdraw from the Swimming Federation and carry on as a ‘family club’. This decision was the end of an era with its Federation membership dating from 1892.

Prior to the 1997-98 season, the local Fire Brigade pumped the water from the pool using it as a training exercise and Justice of Peace PD workers cleaned the pool in readiness for painting. Jim Edwards, the club

groundsman/handyman thought the job hadn’t been done well enough, so he re-cleaned and painted the pool himself. He also kept the lawns mowed and garden weeded during winter. Brian Gardner was made a Life member on his resignation, and a trophy purchased and named after him in recognition of more than ten years’ service to the club. With Mary Dickson as President, the club continued to grow significantly with the emphasis as a family club. “It was a summer of fantastic weather and great swim coaches provided members with enjoyable inexpensive swimming lessons.” Money saved from Federation fees was invested into resources for the club.

During the summer season of 1997-98 the council carried out a survey of pool users at Edgware. The CCC congratulated the management committee and club volunteers for “an excellent job done over what has been our busiest season for many years “. The results are interesting: main reason for using the pool: 65% recreational swimming; 35% lane swimming. Most pool users were from St Albans 34%; Shirley 13%. They rated as



Best and cleanest pool in Christchurch

excellent: cleanliness of pool grounds 54%; water quality 58%; safe environment 42%; value for money 49%; staff 57%; water temps 85%. Other comments were: best and cleanest pool in Christchurch; quality staff; not enough outdoor pools; better than indoor pools; why doesn’t the council promote this pool?

In October the 1998-99 season started with the usual assistance from PD workers and the groundsman Jim Edwards painted the pool and surrounds on his own, a mammoth task for one person. Tragically the New Year didn’t start well with the sudden passing of Jim due to a heart attack. With Andrew Knight and Andrea Chisholm as swim coaches the President, Mr Eric Outram, commented that it was such a successful year especially in the Learn to Swim programme. Christine Riches was made a Life member in recognition of her tremendous service, and as the decade ended the club moved into the uncertain future of the new millennium.

St Albans Community Day

by Aidey Nolan, Events Co-ordinator

The St Albans Community Centre, in partnership with the Korean Presbyterian Church, presents the First Annual St Albans Community Day on Saturday 10th April, 11 a.m. till 3 p.m. at the Korean Presbyterian Church, 75 Packe Street, St Albans.

Whether you come for the food, the entertainment, the stalls or just for a look around, your presence will be much rewarded. At the event we bring together the St Albans community, and provide an opportunity to meet with neighbours from near and far. The Community Day is going to be a big hit and hopefully we will continue it for years to come, resulting in further neighbourliness in St Albans.

The Community Day will be a mixture of cultures to experience, food to taste, music to listen to and dances to participate in, all within the perimeter of the Korean Presbyterian Church. With a range of attractions such as Korean dancing, great bands, a belly dancing workshop and more, we are expecting to gather a good crowd.

There is going to be a bouncy castle and face painting for the kiddies, plus creative things to keep them entertained. There is also a playground at the Church for them to play on, and volunteers to keep an eye on them if you want to have a look around. The St Albans Art Society is having

an exhibition, and our own Bill Demeter is gathering his friends for a vintage car show. There is also space for a flea market, so come grab yourself a bargain, or sell old things you no longer want/need. We are also organising a clothes swap where people donate \$5 drop off any unwanted clothes and have a pick of whatever clothes and accessories that are on display. If you would like to donate clothes for this in advance, please contact me at the Community Centre.

We are looking for more people who would like to have stalls, entertain or are available to volunteer to help out throughout the day. If this sounds like something you would be interested in, or if you have any questions or comments, please ring me at the Community Centre on: 374 2465 or email: events@stalbans.gen.nz.

The deadline to register a stall is Thursday 1st April—so get in quick!



Erratum

In 1000 of the 9000 copies printed and in the first email version of the February issue of St Albans News, we erroneously printed on page 2 that \$6,000+ was allocated by the Community Board to print a book about themselves. The correct amount should have been \$5,300.

AYLESFORD
AUTOMOTIVE

Bill, Karen & the team are relocating
in April to 961 Colombo Street...

...and will be
trading as

**piston
cranky
motors**

The PC Automotive Company

385 8890

info@aylesfordauto.co.nz

**piston
cranky
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Caledonian St Nth
Colombo St
Purchas St
Manchester St
Sherborne St
Bealey Ave

The Korean Presbyterian Church of Christchurch

aims to

- Achieve our dreams to immigrate & study abroad
- Educate people with talent
- Become a Base Camp for World Mission

Church Services

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

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

Letters to the Editor

THE DRIVING DEBATE

Raising the driving age eh? Well may I bring up a little bit of history to add a suggestion that I feel would benefit us all without depriving the 15 & 16 year olds? They won't like it but if you think about it, it would save a lot of money and almost certainly save a few lives.

A very long time ago at the age of 16 I was allowed, by law in England, to obtain a motorcycle licence. I couldn't get a car licence until I was 18 even supposing I could afford the car and the petrol on an apprentice's wage. So it seems the powers that put us on two wheels to serve a two year 'apprenticeship' learning about road surfaces and traffic sense. For what its worth, I never got over the motorcycle bug and I'm still riding 64 years later.

My point is that if our 15 year olds need mobility than there are now any amount of cheap 50cc scooters or mopeds on the market that would fill the need for a couple of years before getting turned loose on four wheels. In the same way that I very soon found out that if I rode like a nutter there was a good chance I would find myself sliding down the road without my pride and joy and it hurt!

I can almost hear you Mothers, worrying about your son or daughter loose on two wheels with all those dangerous people out there. And yes, you are quite right, there would be a few bent scooters and some kids would get hurt. But think of it this way; the kids are young enough to bounce back, I know I did and survived 12 European winters with lots of snow and ice on the roads on two wheels. At least if the kids bend a scooter it would only be one of them, unlike as we so often read, a car smashed beyond recognition and 3 or 4 more kids scraped out of the wreckage.

Of course the lads will be dead against such a move, their vanity would take an awful blow to be seen on a scooter instead of in a car that they can load up with mates and girls. But they wouldn't be able to hurt any of them that way either, would they?

Derek Upton

Dear Editor,

Many thanks to you for publishing, and to Dirk De Lu for writing, the excellent opinion piece 'Canterbury Water Strategy Unmasked'. It has been a source of amazement to me that so few Cantabrians seem aware of the fact that not only is a very valuable public resource being gifted to a narrow private sector, but the wider public are actually paying to enable this to happen. The \$7 million ratepayer donation is just the most recent, and by no means final, contribution. Never has the application of the principle of 'privatise the profits while socialising the costs and losses' been so blatant.

The article deserves much wider exposure and I would love to see it in the 'Perspective' page in the Press — please can you persuade him to submit it. Then, perhaps, a few more people would wake up. In the meantime I can only hope that Nick Smith does override this disgraceful abdication of responsibility by the Mayoral Forum, despite the fact that we probably won't like what he comes up with either. At least it will provide a single target for dissent rather than the 'divide and conquer' approach provided by ten local self-serving committees with little or no accountability.

Robert Sherlock



'The Dancing Tree'

@ ST ALBANS COMMUNITY CENTRE

with KAREN LEWIS
DANCE INSTRUCTOR

**10 WEEK PROGRAMME
BEGINS — APRIL 21**

Dance classes	Wednesday	\$
Tiny Dancers Pre-schoolers Ages 3 & 4	12.30 – 1.00pm	37.50
Mother & Child 'Gentle Stretch' Infants under 12 months	1.00 – 1.30pm	37.50
Dance for Dance Sake Adults	1.45 – 2.45pm	100.00 *Payable in 2 instalments
Dance for Dance Sake 'Inspire' Ages 5 & 6	3.30 – 4.30pm	50.00

To enrol in the class of your choice please email: Karenlewis@ihug.co.nz for a full programme and enrolment form.

Enquiries welcome to 021 944 675. Detailed programme and enrolment form available from: St Albans Community Centre, 1047 Colombo Street, Christchurch

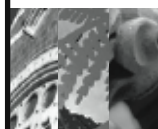
Nicky Wagner

NATIONAL PARTY MP

Available for appointments/contact my office:

chchoffice@nickywagner.co.nz

Ph: 03 365 8297, 189 Montreal St, Christchurch



National
www.national.org.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)

Christchurch Vegetarian Centre; Special lunch at Welcome Cafe, 28th March 12.30pm. \$20 adult, \$10 child. For more info, to book tickets and for full menu, please ring 9409 483 or email info@vegetarianchristchurch.org.nz.

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)

Diet free weight loss for women; 15 May 9am to 3.30pm at the Abberley Park Hall. Learn to use visualisation and gentle exercise to turn around your weight issues. This revolutionary programme combines the proven Gabriel Method and Invincible Athletes programmes. e-mail shonabradly@xtra.co.nz or phone 379-0332 to book your place.

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

Friday Night O/A; Friday, 7 pm – 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)

Jewellery design/making classes; Book Now for school holidays. Children can make bracelets for \$25. Includes bracelet and 10 beads. European/Pandora Style just like Mums. 1hr classes Tues-Thurs. 10.30-11.30. Also available Birthday Parties by arrangement. Term 2. Adults Classes Tues-Fri, Children Saturdays. 6/60 Vagues Rd, Papanui. Phone 352 3562

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

Mairehau Parish Indoor Bowling Club; behind Our Lady of Fatima Church. We welcome new members. Starts Monday at 7 pm. The Season is between March & September. 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; Starting again Friday 16th April, 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)

Ratana Church Service; Every third Sunday of the month. 11am-12pm at the Rehua Marae. (355 5606)

Scottish Society Inc; Great Winter activity for your child. Saturday morning dance classes for all ages starting March 27th. Scottish Society Hall, Corner Edgeware and Caledonian Road, 9.30 – 11am. Tutors all trained in Highland and National Dancing. Please contact Cushla Piesse 3527251 for more information.

Share International - Maitreya steps forward: His open mission has begun. St Albans Community Center. 1st Wednesday of every month, 7.15pm-8.45pm. For further information phone/txt John 027 545 4823. maitreya.chch@xtra.co.nz

Shirley Community Choir: Sessions on Tuesday evenings, 7.30-9.30, at the Scout Hall in Harrison St (off Flocton St). Contact Christopher at: 386 1025, 027 568 5515 or christopher_musgrave@yahoo.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 75 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 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 Swim Club AGM

Monday, 10 May 7.30pm. Shirley Intermediate School Library, Shirley Rd (signs will be up). All welcome. Refreshments available

St Albans Uniting Church Garden Club; 28 Apr, 2pm-3.30pm (366 0396)

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

Tai Chi - Beginners; Mondays, 1.15 – 2.15 pm. Ph: 366 5472 (Phillipa, Presbyterian Support)

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

Transition Initiative St Albans (TISA); For more information, phone 374 2465 or email tisa@stalban.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@stalban.gen.nz)

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

Community Garden

Edgeware Village green/common/community garden — what do you think?

The establishment of this garden is starting to take shape — it is located next to the former Edgeware pool site, where the wells are, off Trafalgar St. Fingers crossed, we may end up with a swimming pool and a village green/garden — truly an urban oasis!

A working bee was held on Saturday, March 13th with Peggy Kelly & Bill Sykes (local/national garden/community icons) digging the first hole where some fruit trees will go.

To keep informed and get involved, join the email list/telephone list and check noticeboard on fence outside 17 Trafalgar St.

St Albans News Classifieds

SERVICES

2 A.K.C Teacup Yorkshire Terrier Puppies: For free (M/F) contact Mrs. brown.tracy@gmail.com

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 personalised service with a smile phone Zaine Harding on 669 2292 or 021 249 2292

Aakland Carpet Cleaning: Carpets & 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

AFFORDABLE COUNSELLING: Experienced Counsellor & Therapist Don Rowlands, is locally based at the Durham Centre 110 Bealey Avenue. Couples, individuals & 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

Alexander Technique: For women. Pain relief & stress release through postural awareness. Take control of your own health & well-being. Call Shona on 379 0332

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 15 April

Computer Guru: Highest quality computer servicing, fixing all hardware/software problems, installations, advice & more. Servicing St Albans for four

years, Call outs start at \$40/hr. Offsite repairs \$20/hr. Phone Ron 379 3061 or 0210243 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

Door Specialist: Repairs, adjustments & installation of all doors and lock, Ranch sliders, Garage doors. Qualified Tradesman. Phone Stewart 365 2969 or cell 021 185 4055

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

Hairdresser: Long lasting shiny hair colour, organic based ammonia free, good for you, good for the environment! Great haircuts. Tracette, 80 Derby St, ph 3796-368.

Housecleaning job in St Albans Wanted: By honest efficient & 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

Massage Therapy: Therapeutic Massage/ Acupressure Diploma (Ad.C.M.A.) BSYA Queensland. Welcome to new clients. Community Services Card Discount. Tuesday–Friday 10am –7pm. Saturday 11am–4pm. Phone Yvonne 382 9569 or 027 617 3179.

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 & have confidence that you will get the best service & results. Phone Wendy Teague 356 1422 or 027 523 0588, Ray White Merivale, AJ McPherson Ltd. Licensed (REAA 2008)

Relationship Counselling: Professional, confidential counselling service by approved Family Court Counsellor. I am able to help people to access funding to meet with me from the courts where appropriate. Website: <http://www.dianecounsel.com> or ph 386-2746, Mob 027 338 5274 Diane Counsell

Tiler available: Local & experienced. Interior/Exterior. Wall & Floor. Licensed Waterproofer. Phone 021 411 542

Tiling: Qualified Experience, Workmanship all kinds, Kitchens, Bathrooms, Repairs, Ph A/H 356 0244, cell 021 189 8057

Wanted: Three bedroom house required for reliable local family (& 1 cat) for approximately 4 – 5 months from beginning of April. References available. Phone Mark or Kirst Baines 365 3335

TUITION

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

BELLY DANCE CLASS: For fun & fitness. Any age & fitness level, no dance experience necessary. City YMCA (Thurs 7:30pm / Sat 11am), Albans (Wed 10am), Rangiora (Mon 7:30pm). Ph Yurie 352-8209 / 027-201-8858 / email: mebellydance@gmail.com

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

Drums: Experienced & qualified teacher at well-equipped studio with two kits, Rock school exams available, Andrew Couper, 980 5456, a.s.couper@paradise.net.nz

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

Great Winter Activity for your child: Saturday Morning Dance Classes for all ages start March 27th, Scottish Society Hall, Cnr Edgeware & Caledonian Rd, 9.30-11am. Tutors all trained in Highland & National Dancing, Preschool learning to dance, Getting Started to Dance. Please contact Cushla Piesse 352 7251 for more information

Guitar Tuition/Harmonica Tuition: St Albans/City based. I am a professional musician & a very patient, motivational & 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, 03 355 6852, bpetrosino@hotmail.com

Learn to Tap Dance in St Albans: NZAMD Tap for those aged 2 to adult, exams, competitions, annual concert, fun, fitness, great prices, rhythm, coordination, personality, presentation, friends! Look at www.bedazzledbeatz.com for info

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

Walking for the Dolphins

by Ella Soryl

On 4th to 6th March, eleven others and myself, took part in 'Aescleah's Walk For Hectors.' The walk was from Christchurch to Akaroa and was done to raise awareness of our endangered Hector's Dolphins.

To ensure the success of the walk, a great deal of planning, preparation and fundraising took place. We all had to take the time to go to meetings, organize various fundraising events and much more, and as a result, we managed to raise over \$10,000.

The walk itself was both challenging and rewarding. We all got something great out of it, and hope that the message got across that the Hector's Dolphins are endangered, and if we don't do something about it soon we could be the first country in the world to let a dolphin species become extinct.



Quotes of the Month

"It was but the other day that a man sent me a letter asking what matter one should put into a political speech. To which I answered, having an expert knowledge in this, that the whole art of a political speech is to put nothing into it."

Hillaire Belloc

"Political language – and with variations this is true of all political parties, from Conservatives to Anarchists – is designed to make lies sound truthful, and to give an appearance of solidity to pure wind."

George Orwell

Kidds Cakes & Bakery Wins Easter Bun Bake-Off

by Max Feutz

Congratulations from everyone in St Albans to Kidds Cakes & Bakery in Cranford Street for its spectacular success in the recent South Island-wide hot cross bun competition. Having been named the Champions, owner Martin Meehan and his staff can expect to be run off their feet. According to the judges, Kidds' Easter buns are the perfect size and shape, have an enticing aroma, a lovely balance of flavours, plenty of fruit in every bite, and last but certainly not least, they are soft but not too doughy, with that glossy crust a connoisseur would expect.

Lucky St Albans.



Chainsaw Chain Sale

Buy one chain,
purchase anything else in store,
and get a second chain **FREE**

We also sharpen chains and garden tools

Ph. 366 3924
EDGEWARE MOWERS
and chainsaws
1036 Colombo Street

**First Annual
St Albans
Community Day**

Korean Presbyterian Church
75 Packe Street
10th April 11 am - 3 pm

Performances by:
Two Dogs in a Bath
&
Korean Music and Dancing

BOUNCY CASTLE
Art Expo
mini Donuts
Flea Market
Food stalls
and more...