

June 2010

Adult Education is Alive and Well



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At the end of 2009, the government made the decision to cut back funding for Adult and Community Education (ACE) programs, resulting in a range of responses from the various providers. Some schools ceased to offer programmes; some reduced the size of theirs. Others decided to continue full steam ahead and to confront the challenges of the new environment.

Six months on, we visited one such school, Shirley Boys' High (which is now the closest option for most St Albans News readers) to find out just how much impact the changes have had. We talked to Fiona Browne, who has long been the ACE co-ordinator there, and whose passion for adult education is as strong as ever.

Shirley Boys is one of the schools that didn't apply for funding, but which made the decision to continue offering courses. Fiona's response to the changes has been different to many of her counterparts, in that she expanded the number of courses on offer to fill the vacuum left by the closure of programmes at Aranui, Linwood and Mairehau High Schools. In doing so, she was able to continue some of the courses previously offered by those schools and offer their students continuity, also offering employment to some of the tutors who had lost their jobs in the cutbacks.

Unlike many schools, Shirley Boys

initially saw an increase in enrolments because of the publicity generated both through the media and the school's own efforts to spread the word that ACE was very much alive and kicking. Now though, statistics show that numbers are dropping off. A lot of people simply don't realize that although they have to pay more, the courses are still extremely good value for money, with the average course working out at around \$10 an hour. Take the course called Computing Basics, for example. It consists of six one hour classes for \$60, with a maximum of 8 students per class. This course offers extremely intensive tuition with everyone working together and plenty of one-on-one time from the

tutor. Yet this is a course which sometimes fails to attract sufficient numbers.

Another problem is that people assume that the school now only offers basic tuition around language, literacy and numeracy but a great deal of effort has gone into making sure

that there's a wide variety of offerings. Shirley Boys continues to offer the tried and true such as fitness, health and dance classes, foreign languages, computing and business, and various DIY options and each term tries to offer something new.

One very popular weekend course is Cheese Making, and people come from far and wide to attend it. Another is



Thai food cooking class

continued on page two



Recently I was pleasantly reminded of the saying 'that it takes a village to raise a child'. My daughter graduated from Canterbury University last month and we were surprised and delighted to see a photograph of her in the academic procession feature in the following morning's Press. That night I returned home from a celebratory event to a pile of copies of the Press on my doorstep. Accompanying the papers was a note from the adjoining primary school's secretarial staff to say they thought I might appreciate a few spare copies of the photo to give away. Of course I was really pleased to receive the extra photos but much more than that I was humbled to have my local community care about

our family in this way. I really experienced 'the village raising my child' in that moment.

Our recent St Albans Community Day event was a great success and a real tribute to the energy and enthusiasm of our youthful organizer, Aidey Nolan. It is also important that I acknowledge the wonderful generosity of the Korean Church which provided a superb venue, excellent food options and many hospitable people to assist at every level. Many of these were also young people.

My own perception of our youthful citizens is somewhat at odds with their media image. I experience humour, vitality and enthusiasm.

The Pool group's successful bid and purchase of the pool site bodes well for community action and community facilities.

I have my togs ready!

Heoi ano

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

continued from page one

Oamaru Stone Carving, and there is also a course called Day Skipper (NZ Coastguard Boating Education), which teaches boaties about maritime safety.

Many of the courses also encourage the participation of families now that the new regulations don't stipulate that students be over 16. There are many cooking classes on offer, but the one which really caught my eye is Cooking "Dinner Tonight," which runs from 5 to 6.30pm. Students learn how to make Thai, Indian, or Asian-style food then take it home to feed their family. Teenagers 13+ can come with an enrolled adult. To me, this is a fantastic idea, both fun and extremely practical.

Some courses take place at other locations, such as Shirley Community Centre, Impact Dance and Stage School, and Shirley Tennis Club.

Increasingly, the school organizes classes in collaboration with local businesses, which has benefits for all parties concerned. One such course is Bike Maintenance, which is tutored by Graeme Taylor at Burwood Cycles. The student learns how to save money, locals are made aware of, and support, a local business and Shirley Boys can widen its selection of courses under this model.

In the third term, a new course called Flowers for the Home will be run on Wednesday nights at the contemporary florist, Tall Poppies. There will be demonstrations, then hands-on practice and students will be able to take home what they have made.

It is reaching out into the local community like this that Fiona is passionate about. She believes people from all walks of life should be able to access education at any

time in their lives, and refuses to give up on the vision of students being able to walk from their home to a safe friendly environment where they can not only learn, but find a sense of belonging that enriches both the students' lives and the fabric of the community. She is enthusiastic in listing the benefits that the government fails to consider when making cost-cutting decisions, benefits which in themselves save the government money in the long run.

She sees direct evidence of this every day: ACE programmes help assimilate disabled people into the mainstream, help the lonely or depressed find friendship, act as a stepping stone into the job market, and provide the ideal environment for refugees and migrants to learn how to teach, to name just a few of the positive outcomes. And of course, they are a great way for the average Joe Bloggs to step out of his comfort zone once in a while and indulge in some self-development.

It's very easy to find out about the courses. You can email Fiona at ace@shirley.school.nz, phone her on (03) 375 7060 or visit the school to pick up a brochure.

With the 3rd term beginning in the first week of July, Fiona stresses the importance of students enrolling early and paying for a place before a course starts, or at least confirming their interest even if they are experiencing financial difficulties. It is frustrating to have cancelled a class, only to find out later that some people had still planned to attend but not advised her. This happens all too frequently.

Come on people! Let's support community education and keep the irrepressible Fiona Browne in a job.

by Max Feutz



Commentary by Christoph Hensch

You will have noticed: the election season has started for good. Mayoral candidates have made a splash and there is an increasing number of notices in the paper about council and community board candidacies being declared. In last month's column I suggested that you get involved and vote. As Cantabrians we've lost the opportunity to elect regional councillors. What we are left with is an opportunity to elect city representatives and members for the health board.

Are you signed up to the electoral roll, but still not convinced that your vote makes a difference? A 2004 voter survey shows that up to 97% of potential voters were aware of the local body election but only 46% participated. The participation rate was lower still three years later. Abstaining from voting may be a sign of a deeper malaise. While in 2003, only five people in ten understood how Council makes decisions, that number dropped in a follow up survey five years later to about half of that.

When asked in 2008 if Christchurch City Council makes decisions in the best interest of the city, only four people out of ten agreed, a similar drop in numbers from previous years like in the previously mentioned study. In fact, the numbers are now so low that council has stopped reporting them¹. What does this say about the majority of the currently elected city politicians? To me it speaks volumes.

It is clear that the residents of Christchurch believe that Council should make decisions that are in the best interests of the city. It is clear that we should be electing people to represent us who have our best interests at heart.

Abstaining from voting doesn't get the right people elected. When good people don't vote, bad people get elected. It is our duty to inform ourselves about the candidates, incumbent or otherwise, and to make an educated decision who should lead the city for the next three years. And as I also said last time: it's your responsibility and the well-being of our community depends on it!

¹ *The Quality of Life statistics are available at www.bigcities.govt.nz*



The St Albans News relies on your contributions. Please send us your articles, letters and notices. The deadline for the next issue is the 17th of June



St Albans Community Centre

Te Pokapū Hapori o Hato Ōpani

Community Centre Notices

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

Southern Trust – for the grant of \$4,160 towards the wages of the Community Worker

In its efforts to achieve financial stability, the St Albans Community Centre starts a raffle sale on the 5 June. For more details and the full list of prices please see page 13 of this paper.

Would you like to be involved in giving a small but regular donation to a local registered charity? There is a new system that has been introduced recently called payroll giving. You can contribute as little as \$1 per week, which is directly deducted from your wage, and of which you get 33% back from IRD. Ask your employer to set up payroll giving for you. The St Albans Residents Association (SARA) Incorporated is a registered charity (no. CC41629)

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

Robbing the Poor to Pay the Rich

by Doug Craig

The rise in the rate of the Goods and Services Tax announced in Thursdays (May 21st) Budget is likely to prove a real disincentive to low income households and beneficiaries in Christchurch to save. Although it is a consumption tax, and as such is paid by all, the poor and low paid will be paying a greater proportion of their income in buying necessities such as food, clothing, power, education and health services. The wealthy, who have paid a lower proportion of their income in tax through tax shelters, such as family trusts, income write-downs and offsetting losses for tax purposes, can choose how and where to spread their consumption beyond these necessities. And they will also get the lion's share of the projected tax cuts, down from 38 cents in the dollar for income over \$70,000 to 30 cents in the dollar for income over that threshold. My guess is that a fair number of the wealthy will already be booking their overseas holidays in North America and Europe.

The Good and Services Tax has now climbed to 15% and unlike sismilar taxes in Australia and most of Europe (where it is known as Value Added Tax or VAT) it does not allow for exemptions. Except for one notable exception. There is no GST charged on financial services! The finance houses and banks do not pay additional service charges on the millions of financial transactions that they carry out every day.

If we look at a number of overseas countries where there are exceptions to minimise the effects on low and middle income families we see that groceries are often exempt.

Australia: Most basic food items being exempt from the GST introduced in 1999, library purchases of books being refunded the GST, a temporary 8% refund on school textbooks, increases to welfare payments, and greater powers to the ACC. A proposal was made to exempt tampons from GST, but it was dismissed by the then Prime Minister.

EU Countries: Certain goods and services to be exempt from VAT (for example, postal services, medical care, lending, insurance, betting), and certain other goods and services to be exempt from VAT but subject to the ability of an EU member state to opt to charge VAT on those supplies (such as land and certain financial services).

Denmark: This country has the highest rate of GST at 25% but has the following exemptions. A number of services are not taxable, for instance public transportation of private persons, health care services, publishing newspapers, rent of premises (the lessor can, though, voluntarily register as VAT payer, except for residential premises), and travel agency operations.

Sweden has 3 different rates; 25% for most goods and services including restaurants bills, 12% for foods (incl.

bring home from restaurants) and hotel stays (but breakfast at 25%) and 6% for printed matter, cultural services, and transport of private persons. Some services are not taxable for example the education of children and adults if using public utility, and health and dental care, but education is taxable at 25% in case of courses for adults at a private school. Dance events (for the guests) have 25%, concerts and stage shows have 6%, and some types of cultural events have 0%.

Canada: Common zero-rated items include basic groceries, prescription drugs, inward/outbound transportation and medical devices

For the National Government, the promised rise in Goods and Services Tax take from October the 1st is an offset for the tax cuts to personal and company tax rates. But GST also has the advantage of coming in regularly over the tax year and smoothing out the tax take. Most financial experts/economists love consumption taxes and have talked down personal tax rates over the past 20 years. A number are also in favour of less government and hence less tax in order to allow business to invest and "stimulate the economy". However there is little evidence that tax cut stimulations through personal incomes has done more that fuel financial speculation. If there is to be a productive economy there needs to be both incentives for businesses to improve environmental and financial performance, and related measures to improve wages and conditions in the labour market, otherwise we end up with a low wage economy like some of our Asian trading partners with dirty production, polluted rivers and slag heaps dotting the landscape. Income inequalities will inevitably increase. Not the vision of NZ that most of us want to see.

The dream of emulating Australia and its standard of living is getting further away all the time.

(references on Country GST schemes Wikipedia accessed 19/05/10)

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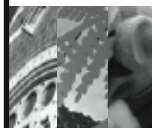
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Electric Bikes

by Maria Hayward

Morgan Lawrence had been a fan of Solex and Mobylette bikes for years, but found that the two-stroke motors were too noisy and smelly. He tried his brother-in-law's prototype electric bike about 18 months ago and was so impressed that he decided to search out the best components to make his own.

His experience as an aircraft engineer has been a great help in modifying and improving on existing designs. His bike compares more than favourably with a petrol motor, which is only 30% efficient compared to the electric motor, which is 90% efficient.

The technology is improving rapidly, in a similar manner to computer technology with enormous gains every year.

Morgan's mission is to get 1000 electric bikes on the road in Christchurch in 10 years. He estimates that he could reduce the traffic flow by 10%.

International touring cyclist Guim Valls Teruel is presently a year into touring the world. He also took part in the last Wellington to Auckland Bicycle Challenge, cycling 700 km in seven days, supported by Morgan Lawrence.

Visit his site: <http://www.electricbicycleworldtour.com/en/>. Morgan can be contacted at <http://www.electricbikes.co.nz/content/view/78/107/>



Photos by Maria Hayward



St Albans Food and Gardening Group Update

by Matt Morris

The St Albans Food and Gardening Group, also known as the St Albans Gardening Group and the St Albans Organic Gardening Group, has continued meeting. Plenty of fresh home grown food has been harvested and shared, as have flowering bulbs and other decorative things for the garden. We are still a very loose network, not formally constituted, but we are getting some great gardening done in our neighbourhood and getting to know each other better.

The photos show one of our recent potluck dinners, and a gardening working bee at Kerry's house where we helped tidy up the front yard. An hour or so with six or seven people can make a real difference! We came away with armloads of walnuts, beetroot, carrots and lots of seeds.



The group has also been involved in the establishment of the new community garden at Edgware – the Edgware Village Green – and, with others in the community, helped out with a site clearing and planning afternoon recently. So little by little this small informal group is aiding the transition of St Albans to a place brimming with food and beauty, and stronger relationships.

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On Wednesday 5 May the Canterbury/West Coast Region gifted the Edgware Community Gardens with two fruit trees, to reflect the work midwives do within the community and our vital role in promoting health within communities and future generations.

Right: Valerie Somerville receiving two fruit trees from New Zealand College of Midwives Canterbury/West Coast Region Sonya Gray, Mary Campbell, Ruth Chisholm and Janaya Anisy, along with children Archie Mooar and Ethan and Cohen Anisy.



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Drinking Age

By Hilary St John

How many more drinking incidents is it going to take for New Zealand's teenagers to finally realise the impact of what they are doing?

In November of last year our MPs voted on the possibility of the drinking age being raised from 18 to 20. The results came out with a definite no – 72 votes to 49 – so the drinking age stayed as is. However, since the recent, tragic, alcohol related death of sixteen year old, Auckland schoolboy James Webster in May, the drinking age has once again come under strong debate.

So who is to blame for New Zealand's so called binge drinking culture?

In 1967 the legal age to buy alcohol was lowered from 21 to 20, and was cut once again to 18 in 1999. Labour MP Martin Gallagher has said that this decision "has had devastating consequences for young people. "That decision in 1999 was detrimental," he has said, "there has been a trickle-down effect and people under eighteen now find it easier to get alcohol."

Teenagers as young as 14 are beginning to start binge

drinking but still a majority of MPs, such as Green Party MP Metiria Turei, refuse to support the potential age rise, claiming that "we will strip the legal rights of adults," and that nothing will change, people are still going to drink.

In a recent interview by The Press, University of Canterbury's student president states that raising the age to 20 "would be bizarre." He said that, raising the age in a university context would "draw a distinction between students who are eighteen and students who are twenty, and I think there'd be some real problems with collegiality at the university."

Twenty two year old Aimee also believes that the age should stay at 18. She states that "putting up the drinking age will just mean that people are going to start buying alcohol for others. There will be more house parties meaning that their liquor intake cannot be monitored."

So what needs to be done to protect our youth?

Better education and attitudes towards drinking need to change, but its not just our youth that need to change, it's our whole adult binge drinking culture too.

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"Rehua" - Heavenly guardian



Rehua's wharenuī, as seen from Springfield Road.

By Kevin McDonald

I am really pleased to be able to announce another exciting new addition to our newspaper. Tucked into our leafy suburb beside Harakeke (flax) and Ti kouka (cabbage tree) stands Rehua Marae. It is obvious to their Springfield Road neighbours that many meetings (hui) are held there. Meetings about what? What other activities happen there? Why is this site significant?

Over the next few issues we will find out for our readers. We will talk to Dr. Terry Ryan MBE, Rehua's secretary and an acknowledged historian and expert on Ngai Tahu whakapapa. Dr. Ryan will speak of the history and the exciting future facing the Marae.

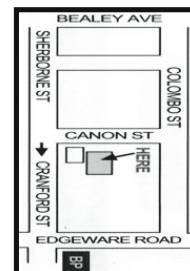
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Honest John

by *Hilaire Campbell*

J.W. Beanland was a rare man. He combined love of family with service to the community. Mayor of Christchurch, builder of fine houses, chair of almost everything,

Beanland was born in 1866 in Ballarat, Victoria, from Yorkshire stock. Church of England and state educated, he was one of four brothers from one family who married four sisters from another. When he and his wife Mary Ann came to NZ in the early 1890s, women were campaigning for equal pay, and a maritime strike was raging on both sides of the Tasman.

His 85 year old grandson, Alan, who lives in Mt Pleasant, says he found him a little daunting. "They called him 'honest John.' He wasn't gruff exactly, but he stood no nonsense. When I was a wee boy I used to follow him round the garden. He'd have me fair marching."

"John's firm built the nurses' home in Hagley Ave; I was seven when the first three stories were up in 1931.

He also built 237 Edgeware Rd, his own house, in 1922, then the one next door; then another five or six further towards the village. His was two storeys, quite fine for its day – he added a bedroom downstairs for my grandmother when she was sick but she died the week he finished it. Lorimer was the slater; he did all the roofs because slate was cheap. John ended up owning the whole block. We lived at 10 and 12 Hendon St which backed onto his house. The land between was his timber yard. No cars of course, dray horses pulled everything; he kept them in a paddock in Cleveland St. But it's Beanland Ave in Spreydon that bears his name."



Photo from Chch City Council Archives

"Yes, he was good looking, I don't know about the rest of us. No, he didn't have a moustache; no one did in our family..."

"John was a Councillor and Deputy Mayor, and finally Mayor, from 1936 – 1938. Some were only in a few months. We have a nice photo; he looks weighed down by his chains and robe. I visited him at 237 after that; I was



in my cadet uniform, he was quite ill then, and he died in 1943, two years after my lovely grandmother. As for me, I left school and carted wool invoices round Christchurch; the first time I fell off my bike I joined the Air Force."

Beanland was President of the Edgeware Bowling Club and the Christchurch Yacht Club. He liked water sports too, but shouldn't be confused with Canon Bean, a non-swimmer who dog paddled the inaugural length of the St Albans Bath in 1934. He founded the local library, and chaired the St Albans Division of the Red Cross during World War 2. He was a life member of the RSA – "Beanland took a great interest in all patriotic work," says his obituary. He was a member of the Lodge and Grand Lodge, the Tramways and Drainage Boards and the Citizens Association; what he did there probably wouldn't make Pulitzer Prize reading but his passion for these activities says something about him; they were what made him tick. And they seemed to be compatible with his Council duties.

You can't see him for bunting in the photo, but Beanland the Mayor opened the new Gloucester St Bridge; his name is on the plaque. "What else he did I don't know," says Alan, "only that he ran a strict meeting. My grandfather commanded respect."

Thanks to Council and Library staff. Also Ken and Joy McCormick, who have lived 30 years at 237 Edgeware Rd. They kindly invited me in and shared their story. Z

Our Lady of Fatima School

Room 1 camp

by the combined effort of all the students of Room 1

Each year the Year 8 students at Our Lady of Fatima School get the wonderful opportunity to go on a camp. The purpose of this is to build a strong class community and to learn a bit about our wonderful country at the same time.

This year the senior class of 30 students went to the Marlborough Sounds on a trip from March 1 till March 4. We were joined by five parents and our teacher, travelling by train to Picton, then escorted around the sounds by Pete and Takutai Beech from Myths and Legends Eco-Tours, on their 80 year old launch Tutanekai. Each night we stayed in a different location – Arapaoa Marae in Picton, a tepee village on Arapawa Island and in cabins at Resolution Bay on the Queen Charlotte walkway.

Going around the sounds we learnt so many different legends, information and we got to connect with other. It was interesting, exciting and lots of fun to be together in a beautiful part of the South Island for four days.

Highlights of the trip were – each of us taking a turn to steer the boat, going to the bird sanctuary islands of Motuara Island and Blumine/Orua Wairua Island, seeing gun emplacements from World War 2 on Blumine Island, swimming and jumping off wharfs, skipping stone competitions, travelling on the train, listening to Pete telling stories and giving facts, sleeping in tepees.

We learned that the Marlborough Sounds is made up of three drowned river valleys, which project out into the Pacific Ocean like the fingers of a welcoming hand. The valleys which were formed when the mountains sank and the sea flooded the valleys owing to tectonic movements in the past millennia, are geologically termed as 'drowned valleys' or sounds. We also learned about the impacts of mussel and salmon farms on the area, and what is happening to stop the growth of wilding pines on the hills in the sounds, especially around Picton and on Arapawa.

There is an interesting Maori legend which tells a story of the creation of these sounds. Legend has it that Kupe while wrestling with a giant octopus, grasped the South Island for support and immediately his fingers went deep inside the soil and carved out the waterways. This is a story which Uncle Pete told us. He also told us how Kupe,

the Maori warrior god, fought with a giant octopus in the Pacific Ocean. As the battle raged, the octopus reached out with its tentacles and grasped at nearby land, gouging out all the intricate bays and coves of the Marlborough Sounds. Kupe finally overcame and slew the octopus and cut out its eyes and threw them into the sea nearby - today these are the Brothers Islands near the entrance to Cook Strait.



At the end of each night, all of the students wrote down something which was their 'Magic moment' of that day. Here is what Jessica Shaw wrote, and this pretty well sums up the feelings of everyone else.

Monday – going on the train for the

first time and being in Picton together.

Tuesday – swimming at Waikawa and Burneys Bays, then going on the boat and exploring the Marlborough Sounds.

Wednesday – jumping into schools of blue cod and other fish off the Resolution Bay wharf. It was so awesome!

Thursday – seeing the dolphins in Resolution Bay. They are amazing creatures and I was shocked at how big they really are.

The most positive aspects of a camp experience like this are the fact that students are getting to bond together at the beginning of their final year at Our Lady of Fatima School, and secondly that they come home from the trip with a lot of ideas about the human impact on our country. As a result, there will be work to take action for the community and the environment later in the year.

St Albans Swim Club Trophy Recipients: 2009-10 Season



Swim coach Helen Pugh and Life Member Brian Gardner presenting a special achievement award cup to Danyon Crawford-Oliver

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Successful Club Day

by *Eddie Cropley*

Grassroots rugby was alive and well at Christchurch Football Club's Christchurch Park recently. The Annual Club Day saw most of the club's teams playing at its Westminster St headquarters. With six of the seven senior teams winning and many of the club's 36 junior teams also having successful outings there were smiles aplenty across the faces of players, coaches managers supporters and club officials.

Along with the on field activities, off field the club hosted some of its sponsors, guests, Life Members and 'Axemen' Club members.

CFC Director of Rugby Bob Eastgate said "Club Day is always an important day as it encapsulates the culture and history of our club. A full on day for all members from age 5 to 85, men, women and children are involved from 8am in the morning till midnight, the Christchurch Football Club cherishes its position and Club Day will always be at the forefront of our activities"

The sunny autumnal day also contributed to good numbers of people watching the games, keeping BBQ and



Kids preparing to have a 'rippa' game at the Christchurch Football Club.

coffee sellers busy throughout the day.

For more information on the Christchurch Rugby Club please visit www.christchurchfootballclub.co.nz

Photo courtesy of Ginny Larsen.

2

Views of planned community facility sought

by *Eddie Cropley*

Community organisations in St Albans, Mairehau, Shirley and Papanui are being asked what use they might make of a planned new multi-purpose indoor sport and recreation facility on Westminster Park.

Plans are proceeding well, but Westminster Sports would like to hear from anyone who might use the complex. It is likely to be here for at least 50 years, and we would like to work out what to include while the design is in preparation, rather than find out, after the facility is built, that we might have included this or that extra feature to increase its value to the individuals and community groups using it.

Westminster Sports have been working with several consultants and developed further some initial concepts, but there is still plenty of scope to include other ways to maximise community benefit from the facility.

An independent feasibility study completed for Westminster Sport in August indicated that a multi-purpose indoor sport and recreation facility on Westminster Park would be a viable project that would contribute valuable sporting services to many groups within the various diverse communities it is likely to serve. Based on what the study found, the most appropriate configuration for indoor sport would be a minimum of a three-court stadium, with

supporting office and administration services.

According to the study, additional configuration of a dedicated dojo, a three matted area, for martial arts, also appears feasible. That would be a first for the city, catering for the many disciplines that make up the martial arts that have not yet been able to develop a collective facility in Christchurch. A childcare facility, fitness gym, physio and multi-purpose rooms are also part of the plans.

Westminster Sports Incorporated is an umbrella organisation for eight different clubs, including Christchurch Football Club, Western AFC, Christchurch Football Club Squash, Christchurch Football Club Netball, Canterbury Judo Area Association, Canterbury Lacrosse, Canterbury AFL and Westminster Korfbal Club.

For further information:

2



The St Albans Cookbook Project

The St Albans School PTA is creating a cookbook as a fundraiser for the school. We hope to make it a wonderful record of our neighbourhood and community for years to come. We would love to have recipes from people and groups throughout St Albans, whether connected with the school or not.

We are especially interested in hearing from older, long-time St Albans residents, cooks from the many different ethnic groups represented in our suburb, kids who cook and any 'celebrity' St Albanians ('world famous' in St

Albans?)

We can't guarantee publication of every recipe we receive, as this will depend on the response and space available. Recipes need to be with us by the end of June.

If you would like to contribute, please do so via the recipe form you can find on the PTA page of the school website: <http://www.stalbans.school.nz/pta.htm> or email: stalbens.pta.recipes@gmail.com or ring Kylie 386-1417 or Sarah 374-5444 and look out for the book on sale in October!

✍

Free Nurse Health checks

by **Ginny Larsen**

This new service for the people of Mairehau/Shirley/St Albans runs from 64 McFaddens Road (St Albans Baptist Church).

The Health Checks are operated by registered nurse, Karolien McBride, who will do blood pressure and blood sugar tests, check for ear and throat infections, as well as doing general check-ups.

Over Winter especially, when lots of bugs are going round, it can be difficult to know if you need medical



help. Karolien will refer on to your GP where necessary.

No medicines are kept on-site.

The service runs on Wednesdays, usually from 9am-12 noon, but every six weeks there will be an afternoon clinic running from 1-4pm. (16 Jun, 28 Jul, 8 Sep, 20 Oct, 1 Dec)

Booking is not essential, but may save you a wait on the day. Phone Ginny or Tony on 355 6522 or txt 027 746 5168.

This is a Neighbourhood Trust programme sponsored by the Ministry of Social Development's Community Response Fund.

✍

Letters to the Editor

Thank-you Christchurch North for the support you have given me as your elected Environment Canterbury Councillor. It has been a privilege to represent you. Listening to and taking forward your views and issues is a responsibility I take very seriously. Thankyou to all who have been so concerned about our loss of democratic representation and the significant limitations now placed on the people of Canterbury to participate in resource management processes and decisions in the same way that the rest of New Zealand does. It may take time for us to fully understanding what we have lost. Your voice and involvement is more important then ever.

Forced removal from office has not in any way lessened my interest in issues such as protecting our water nor my desire to ensure we create a community we are proud to hand on to the next generation.

Jane Demeter,
Sacked Environment Canterbury Councillor

To the Editor:

Regarding the trees in Oxley Avenue I also wish to add my horror at the state they have been left in. Having been in the garden industry for 50 years, I cannot believe that the council is satisfied with the work. I would suggest it is time for a clean out of staff in this area. One point not mentioned in your article was that a private company had the first slash at the trees before City Care.

Regards,
M Simpson

etcetera... coffee

MILITARIA NZ books
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SHOP
LOCALLY

RAFFLE for St Albans Community Centre Fundraiser

by Aidey Nolan

Between the 5th of June and the 23rd of June, the St Albans Community Centre is holding a raffle in a bid to raise money to help pay for increased costs due to growing interest and a boost in the number of visitors to our centre.

In 2009, from January to December, we had approximately 30,000 people use our centre including 3190 people using our NeighbourNet Internet Cafe, 4087 visitors to the Centre during office hours 10am till 3pm, 980 people attending monthly community meetings and more.

Tickets for the raffle are \$2 each, or for every five you buy (\$10), you get one free!

The full prize list is:

1st Prize: \$400 cash

2nd Prize: \$100 cash

3rd Prize: \$100 cash

4th Prize: \$50 cash + 1 x Deep Skin free facial (\$50 value) + 1 x Mocha Cafe voucher (\$15 value)

5th Prize: \$50 cash + 1x St Albans Pharmacy gift basket (\$40 value) + 1 x Piston Cranky Motors free WOF and gift pack (\$60 Value)

6th Prize: \$50 cash + 1x KB Bakery voucher (\$50 value) + 1 x BP carwash voucher (\$13 value)

7th Prize: \$50 cash + 1x Brumby's gift voucher (\$10 value) + 1 x Civic Rentals free ex-rental video (\$15 value)

8th Prize: \$50 cash + 5 x United Video vouchers – one free 8 day hire (\$15 value) + 1 x BP carwash voucher (\$13 value)

9th Prize: \$50 cash + 1x Brumby's gift voucher (\$10 value) + 1 x Civic Rentals free ex-rental video (\$15 value)

10th Prize: \$50 cash + 1x BP carwash voucher (\$13 value)

11th Prize: \$50 cash + 5 x United Video vouchers – one free 8 day hire (\$15 value)

12th Prize: 1 x Coriander's Restaurant gift voucher – Meal for Two (\$70 value) + 1 x Super Liquor bottle of wine (\$30 value)

13th Prize: 1 x Sema's Restaurant gift voucher – Meal for 2 (\$60 value) + 1 x Super Liquor bottle of wine (\$30 value)

14th Prize: 1 x Piston Cranky Motors free WOF and gift pack (\$60 value) + 1 x BP carwash voucher (\$13 value)

Tickets will be on sale from the 5th of June till 23rd of June and can be purchased from one of our stalls set up on the street and at the Community Centre. The prizes will be drawn on the 24th of June here at the centre by a local celebrity. For more information, contact the St Albans Community Centre on 374 2465 or Emma Twaddell on 027 288 6334.



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Market

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& much more*

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Bring in this ad for a FREE dessert (dine in only)

Community Notices

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

Astronomy Open Nights; The Canterbury Astronomical Society's West Melton Observatory is open to the public from 7:30 to 9:00 pm every Friday night from April to September. Individuals and groups of less than 15 people are welcome on any public night. Larger groups require a booking. For further information see www.cas.org.nz, email bookings@cas.org.nz, or phone 027 445 8443. Cost \$6 per person.

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

The Black Velvet Band; -HOOLIE- Live dance music. A sort of Celidh, a kind of barn dance, a bloody good night out! Scottish Society Hall - Cnr Edgeware/Caledonian Rds, Sat 19 June. \$25 - bookings essential. For more info/tickets - backyardmusic.co.nz / 021124 4801

Computer Training for the Over 55's; SeniorNet Canterbury Inc – 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 for an Information pack or leave a message on the answerphone.

Community Gala; Our Lady Of Fatima. Friday 19 November at Our Lady Of Fatima School from 5pm till 8pm. Food-Fun-Families-Friends. To raise FUNDS for your community. Food, Entertainment, Stalls. For more information, contact Convenor Philippa Grocott (942 6198) or Secretary Bernie Campbell (386 1024).

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

Diet free weight loss for women; Saturday 26th June 9.30am to 1pm 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. Email 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)

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. Mondays at 7 pm. The Season is between March & September. For details phone 382 8340

NeighbourNet; Open Monday - Friday, 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; Fridays, 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. Scottish Society Hall, Cnr Edgeware & Caledonian Roads, 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 Centre. 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 Flockton 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; Monday (2nd,3rd,4th,5th), 7.30 – 9 pm at St Albans Community Centre. Ph: 379 9188 (Heather)

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

St Albans Residents Association; The next meetings will be held on 8 June and 3 August 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

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)

The Dancing Tree; Wednesdays at the St Albans Community Centre

Tiny Dancers; 12:30 - 1 pm; Mother & Child 1 - 1:30 pm

Dance for Dance Sake; 1:45 - 2:45 pm; Inspire 3:30 - 4:30 pm

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

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

WINTER DOCUMENTARY FILM SERIES

The St Albans Centre, with the help and cooperation of Alice in Videoland, are pleased to present six documentaries that have significant importance to Kiwis.

Our first documentary, End of the Line, takes a realistic look at the global fishing industry and concludes we must quickly change our habits both in eating and catching fish or quickly we will be forced to look for another source of protein. How quickly? A majority of scientists say as early as 2038.

Other films in the series will be picked by Paul Stewart of Alice in Videoland and his excellent staff. Each of the six films will clearly relate to current issues, problems and opportunities we face in New Zealand and you will leave each film realising how important it is for you get involved.

Showings

End of the Line: Sun 13 Jun, 6pm

The Cove: Sun 27 Jun, 6pm

The films will be shown at the St Albans Community Centre, 1047 Colombo St, St Albans. There will be a \$4.00 charge to help our Centre. Further showings will be held on 11 July, 25 July, 8 Aug and 22 Aug and the programme for those dates will be announced in due time.

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 personalised 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 years 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 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, Edgware, Ph 0800 581 481

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

BUILDER: new housing, renovations, additions and other building work. Phone Henry at NBS Builders on 022 646 7244 or 741 1035 or email nbsbuilders@gmail.com

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 17 June

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 Ron 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

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

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

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.

Home Help: Tidy honest lady offers home help at very moderate rates on ongoing basis, Ph Kaori 366 4005, 021 169 4947, email k.homehelp@gmail.com

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

Law of Attraction Coaching: Enhance your understanding and change your life today. Call Shona Brady on 379 0332 or email shonabrady@xtra.co.nz, www.concerncottage.co.nz

Massage Therapy: Therapeutic Massage/Acupressure-Diploma

(Ad.C.M.A.) BSYAQueensland. Welcome to new clients. Community Services Card Discount. Tuesday – Friday 10 am – 7 pm. Saturday 11 am – 4 pm. Phone Yvonne 382 9569 or 027 617 3179.

Mower Repairs: and Reconditioned Mower sales. Ph Stu 021 245 3748

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

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)

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

Wanted Scrap Metal: Damaged or old trailers, car parts, mowers etc, Free pick up, anything considered Ph Stu 021 245 3748

TUITION

BELLY DANCE CLASS: For fun & fitness. Any age & fitness level, no dance experience necessary. City YMCA (Thurs 7:30pm / Sat 11am), St 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, Rockschoool exams available, Andrew Couper, ph 980 5456, a.s.couper@paradise.net.nz

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

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

Fairy School of Dance and Music Holiday Programme at St Albans Community Centre: July 19 – 23. Fan-fairy-tastic fun. Fairy Dancing 2 – 7 years; Magic Ballerina's 4 – 10 years. No experience necessary. Phone Pamela 021 120 6540 or 379 6305

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

Guitar Tuition: For beginner and intermediate (up to Grade 5); acoustic or electric, all ages. Private lessons, weeknights in Richmond area. Competitive rates. Call Stacy - 366 3455 (evenings) or 027 304 0617

Magic Ballerinas: From 4 years. Visit Enchantia and learn to dance like a ballerina. Phone Pamela 021 120 6540 or 379 6305

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 3553672

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

St Albans Community Broadcaster wins Plains FM award for the Best Current Affairs Interview Programme

By Christoph Hensch

Bill Demeter, the St Albans Residents Association and Community Centre Co-Chair, recently won a top award from Plains FM 96.9 radio station. Bill's broadcast is heard fortnightly from 11:30 am on Tuesdays and repeated at 9:30 PM on the following Wednesday.

Bill interviews key people who are involved in Christchurch affairs and it is the only programme that conducts in-depth interviews without letting people to being interviewed know the questions in advance. He has been able to get many well known names such as Dame Ann Hercus,




Bill Demeter receives the Best Current Affairs Interview Program Award for Nicki Reese, the station Director. (photo by Ed Swift)

Sir Kerry Burke, Richard Sinke, Eugenie Sage, Chrissie Williams and Yani Johanson just to name a few. In fact, on Tuesday, 1st of June, Bill interviews Jim Anderton, a recently announced candidate for mayor.

Bill stated; "Plains FM is a real asset to our city and they have programmes that cover an amazing number of topics and tastes. The staff are fun to work with and very knowledgeable. Tune in and hear what you have been missing and you

will be very glad you did."

You can also hear past broadcasts of Bill's by going to the It's Our City, Inc. website at www.ioci.org.nz. 

Matariki Celebrations 2010

Saturday 19th June 10am-3pm
(Sat 26th if rained off)

Packe Street Community Garden
125 – 129 Packe Street

- It's time for the annual winter working-bee
- Please come and help prepare the land for planting the New Year's crops

12 Midday

Free Sausage Sizzle and Vegetarian Fare

- This Matariki the garden needs your energy
- Tools provided or bring your own
- Most important - just come!

Enquiries: Friends of the Park at
125 – 129 Packe St Inc.
Secretary Peggy Kelly 366 3844



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<http://www.facebook.com/StAlbansNews>



The QR code can be decoded by a "smart-phone" with an embedded camera and barcode reading software installed.
Barcode scanning software is available for free.

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(Next door to St Albans Vet)

102 Cranford Street

Phone Rebecca
355-6743

Inspection welcome

Quotes of the Month - Animals

"Dogs think you are God, cats know they are God"

– Anon

I like pigs. Dogs look up at us. Cats look down on us. Pigs treat us as equals"

– Winston Churchill