

# St Albans News

The Voice of our Neighbourhood

August 2011



## Highlights

Sustainability  
for the future  
page 4 & 5

Recovery and  
Rebuild  
page 7

The End of an  
Era  
page 8 & 9

English Park  
pages 10

## The End of an Icon in our Community



### Local Community Forum Representative Speaks Out

by Maxine Feutz

More than 10 years a local resident, Emma Twaddell has become one of 39 members of the CERA Community Forum.

She describes herself as “a strong woman, a stropky but supportive wife, a loving mother, a kind daughter, a fun friend, a friendly neighbour, a creative teacher, a hard working small business owner and a newly appointed but keen Chairperson of SARA.”

This description is the one she gave when applying for a position on the forum and perhaps its simplicity as a CV and down-to-earth directness is what resulted in her being chosen for one of the coveted spots.

I recently asked her about herself and her new role.

***My first question: “What made you decide to get involved?”***

Not one to mince words, her first response was to say “I was angry!” This

*continued on page three*



Chairchat - August

Mushy head I spoke about in May – full of too many thoughts and emotions. It's still sitting on top of my shoulders. The difference now is I

am exerting a lot of energy keeping the nightmares of the present from wiping out the dreams for the future.

Thank goodness, dreams win the battle on most days and I put it down to my whanua.

Whanua - the people we love and care for. They continue to be there for me, supporting and providing me with reasons to laugh (and cry!) Like the joy felt this morning when I opened the door to find a basket of home baked goodies left the doormat. Yesterday, my amazement at my 5 year old son while making play dough. He chose yellow "because I love hard hats and vests! " My children's actions and talk show they are already living in the new Christchurch and loving it.

This ability that children have to adapt is truly amazing and as we all adopt adaption we will move

on from the nightmares and create the reality of our future.

From my involvement in St Albans, SARA and CERA, from all the meetings and forums that I have recently attended, this future, to be successful must be led by people, by communities. And there is a chance this could occur. There are channels for communication with those who have the final say.

But it won't happen if we don't involve ourselves in the rebuild, in our communities. If we continue to sit on our butts and complain about how things are panning out rather than getting out there and showing through our actions the type of city we want to rebuild.

We have the opportunity to change things we don't like, we have the opportunity to have a rebuild that the residents of Christchurch can be proud of, one that will heal the grief we currently feel for what we have lost. Being involved is not a tiresome burden, it is just life.

Emma Twaddell  
Chair of the St Albans  
Residents' Association

## Editorial

Our community paper keeps growing. This month we will distribute 6000 copies, another increase of 20% over the previous print-run in June. This is mirrored in the increased number of people who are volunteering and helping



with the distribution. On the sad side, this is the last issue of St Albans News that I'm producing as the editor. My involvement with this community paper has stretched over 45 issues and has been part of my work since the beginning of 2007. The regular creation of the paper has always been a most enjoyable and satisfying challenge and it is with reluctance that I'm moving on. I wish all the best to the team which is putting so much work into the production of the paper, the St Albans Residents' Association which continues to publish it and all the readers and residents and advertisers in St Albans and beyond who have continued to be loyal to the paper over so many years!

Kia Kaha

*by Christoph Hensch, Editor*

**The St Albans News relies on your contributions. Please send your articles, letters and notices to [news@stalbens.gen.nz](mailto:news@stalbens.gen.nz). The deadline for the next issue is September 29th**

## **St Albans News, August 2011 Vol. 19, Number 3, Issue No. 190**

The St Albans News is a community newspaper. This newspaper is delivered monthly, and is free to over 3000 homes and businesses. All contents are copyright by the original authors. Please acknowledge the source of any excerpts as the St Albans News.

Send your news contributions and adverts to:  
St Albans News, P.O. Box 21-102, Christchurch  
Email: [news@stalbens.gen.nz](mailto:news@stalbens.gen.nz)  
Phone: 374 2465

Website: <http://www.stalbens.gen.nz>

Editor: Christoph Hensch

Proofreader: Max Feutz

Design, layout, advertisement design: Maria Hayward

With regular contributions from:

Maxine Feutz, Hilaire Campbell, 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.

*continued from page one*

was a reaction to the way that the Forum had been advertised, with notices in the media allowing only 10 days in which to apply. She felt that this short time frame didn't allow community groups to canvass their members and get feedback, and showed little understanding of the day-to-day difficulties that slow us down when trying to get anything done, thereby not taking into account the principle of 'family first.'

Nonetheless, she feels that it is crucial for ordinary people to have a say in the rebuild so she offered herself for nomination and was selected by the St Albans Residents' Association to represent the St Albans community. "It is the intention of the Residents' Association to play a part in the development of a vibrant and healthy community brought about by involvement and empowerment of its residents." Emma believes it is vital to get the community talking before a new City Plan comes out. If we are not proactive, we will find ourselves in the usual position of trying to react to proposals that are already set in stone.

***"What is your personal vision for St Albans?"***

Emma wants a "connected community," something she saw in action at street level after the Feb quake when residents of her own street (Courtenay St) came together to look after each other and deal with their own problems. Liquefaction was quickly cleared and emergency repairs done without outside help and residents have continued to support each other. This is a model of a tight-knit community she would like to see throughout the suburb, not just in times of crisis but long-term. To achieve this she feels that the strong identity St Albans used to have as an area needs to be regained. Historically it was an important town in its own right but in recent years has progressively been ripped apart, now having no specific draw card or focus. Administrative decisions

have partly been responsible for this, with changes to voting areas and postal codes for example, but more importantly, town planning decisions have eroded the character of the area through inappropriate developments. Emma feels St Albans is in danger of becoming little more than an inner city housing area unless we use this unique opportunity to halt the trend. There are already a large number of rental properties in the area and this presents a real challenge. She feels that current amenities do not provide for the increasing population density, but she also asks "How do we involve renters in our community?"

I asked if she would use the forum to lobby for a new community centre, but she said that for her this was not an issue. She assumes that Council will be well aware of the increased importance of community centres at this difficult time, so she has blind faith that the plan to extend the old centre, budgeted for prior to the quakes, would be relooked at and that a new building will eventuate in St Albans.

***"What has the Forum achieved so far?"***

At the time of writing, there had only been one meeting, on 7<sup>th</sup> July. (The next three meetings are scheduled for 4<sup>th</sup> Aug, 1<sup>st</sup> Sept and 6<sup>th</sup> Oct.) This initial meeting was largely taken up by 'meet and greet' tasks, with Mr. Brownlee and Mr. Sutton speaking and then the introduction of all members. At the next meeting, working groups will be set up according to participants' areas of interest. The 5 groups are Arts, Culture & Heritage; Business & Employment; Residents & Community; Sports & Youth; and Education.

Emma commented that, despite the obvious enthusiasm for the task ahead and an overall positive atmosphere at the meeting, it concerned her that negative comments and questions from the floor were quickly 'shut down'. One such question was whether participants would have

expenses such as childcare or travel costs covered so that they would not be financially disadvantaged by taking on the role. The answer was that their payment would be "the egg sandwiches provided for supper." Emma points out that if you look at the diagram of the organizational structure of CERA, the Community Forum is alongside the Review Panel. However, one is remunerated handsomely, the other asked to be involved but given no resources to ensure it happens, leading her to worry that the Community Forum could be mere lip service to the ideal of community participation.

***"What outcomes would you like to see from the next meeting?"***

Emma would like to see a full schedule of meetings for the year, and hopes that detailed background information will be made available about other forum members. She asks "Am I the only Forum member who lives in St Albans?" If there are others from the area, she would like to network with them.. Three months on from the setting up of the Community Forum, the only thing that has been achieved to date is that members know they have been placed in a group.

She would therefore like to come away from the next meeting with something concrete to tell the community about the function of the Forum and a description of her own role.

***"How can members of the community contribute right now?"***

Ideas are needed and lots of them, whether they be something small just for your street, or grand schemes for the long term future of St Albans.

"It would be good to hear from the residents of St Albans about what they expect from the Community Forum and in particular me." If you would like to contact Emma, please email [communitycentre@stalbens.gen.nz](mailto:communitycentre@stalbens.gen.nz), leave a message on 03 374 2465 or send a letter to P.O. Box 21102, Christchurch.

## Kia kaha! Let's get sustainable...

by *Jocelyn Papprell*

It's been interesting over the months since February 22<sup>nd</sup> to talk with a number of young people about their aspirations for the rebuild of our city. Those I talk with express a desire to see a city rebuilt that is somewhat better than what we had. Do they mean better in terms of things to do, jobs to work at or new shops and houses? Often, no. Their 'better' was a city as community, as a place for nature, as a place where democratic processes thrive.

A series of youth hui were held in the city over May—June and attendees at each of these gatherings explored ideas about how their communities and our city could look, sound and feel like as we rebuild. There was a genuine desire to see our city position itself as the 'world's most eco-friendly city', recognising that designing for such a city takes vision, courage and fortitude. These young people know about the limitations we need to live within if we are to leave anything for future generations. Climate change, biodiversity loss, peak oil, resource depletion, social inequity and community resilience were some of the issues canvassed during the youth workshops. Each needs to be addressed in our rebuild.

The effect of these 'quakes has provided us with an enormous opportunity, an opportunity rarely afforded a modern, first world city but without a clear long term vision we may well leave future generations with more problems than we face now. With the billions of dollars likely to be spent we need to get this rebuild right, especially so if we are to meet the desire of our youth to have the 'world's most eco-friendly city'. We may have had a seismic shift in our physical world but what we need now is a seismic shift in our thinking and actions. So what does that mean?

It means acknowledging the imperatives nature has presented us with and acting to mitigate the

effects now. Those imperatives are numerous but let's deal with just three Christchurch now faces.

The effects of climate change, particularly sea level rise: while some areas are already deemed Red due to land subsidence of up to a metre and silt deposition, other parts not currently affected may need to consider how they redevelop, redesign or retreat to take account of sea level rise of between 0.4 to 1.6m over the next 50 to 100 years. We need to consider what that means for how we landscape our recreation and wetland areas and for where we allow building to occur.



Electric bike at Sol Square

Peak oil: we are a very car dependent nation. New Zealand is second only to the USA for the number of cars owned per person. As peak oil production begins to hit home petrol will cost more and we will need to consider alternative options. We must future-proof our city during this rebuild; we cannot afford to continue along a 'business as usual' track. Prior to the earthquakes, car travel was growing at about 2.5% per annum and traffic volumes were expected to increase by 27% by 2026 "leading to more congestion, longer and more unreliable travelling times, greater travel costs, increased dependency on non-renewable fuels and reduced road safety"<sup>1</sup>.

Our rebuilt central city must have a comprehensive walking, cycling

and public transport network that integrates with the suburban hubs. Those hubs must offer the everyday services (i.e. doctor, dentist, grocery store, café, child care) a community requires to reduce the need to travel long distances to access them. James Lundy shared his ideas for such a city in his recent TedxEqChch talk.<sup>2</sup>

Food supply: as oil becomes more expensive so too will our food. Our communities must become more self-sufficient in food. We have the opportunity to create more community gardens and to enhance the green belt within and around our city. Already we have lost much productive land to housing development. As we protect our local food supply we must concurrently intensify our urban communities in a manner which inspires and provides for privacy. The design ideas that some young people came up with at the hui showed they were thinking about what they wanted to leave for future generations.

By understanding at least these three imperatives we may begin to consider how to make the most of this opportunity to reshape and recalibrate our city so it can be an eco-city to be proud of. Part of that shift will involve reflecting on the values that drive us, both as individuals and as a society. We will need to ask ourselves whether they fit with what we understand now about the impact our lifestyles have had on the earth's resources and life supporting systems essential for our very survival. Kia kaha — may your personal seismic shift be a positive experience!

***Jocelyn Papprell is the Educator for Sustainability, a Member of Sustainable Otautahi-Christchurch and a Member of the CERA Community Forum***



<sup>1</sup> P3 Greater Christchurch Travel Demand Management Strategy and Action Plan Urban Development Strategy

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=95U4RqnpRA>



## Strong (not Weak) Sustainability for the Future

*John Peet, Chair, SANZ*

Jocelyn's three imperatives highlight the need to develop a way of linking the positive options for the re-creation of a Christchurch that could be fun, just and sustainable.

An in-depth description of such a future where such possibilities could happen in New Zealand is set out in the second half of a detailed report that is available to download for free from Sustainable Aotearoa New Zealand (SANZ).

One could be forgiven for thinking that achieving such a positive future could mean giving up much of what we currently enjoy, but the SANZ report gives both the background to what needs to be done to achieve this positive future as well as what it might actually look like. And the resultant picture is decidedly rosy!

The term the SANZ report uses to describe the way to get there is Strong Sustainability. It sets out a "big-picture" look at all the issues

involved and enables us to realise that it is definitely possible.

We need to be aware that in order to try to sustain what we have now, we make compromises. For example, in order to sustain my wish to feel good I might smoke a cigarette, drink too much wine or eat junk food. I do something now without taking future consequences or side effects into account. If I just do less of these things, my health will probably improve, but nowhere near as much as if I change my diet to eat more sensibly, do exercise, get out into the fresh air and generally change my way of life.

This is also true for societies. In order to be able to sustain our current economy, resources oftentimes get exploited, unhealthy working conditions are created, poverty and violence are accepted. If all we do is reduce some of these undesirable effects without addressing the long-term big picture issues, we fail to

get to grips with our situation. This is sometimes referred to as "Weak Sustainability".

The real problem is that we often build our desire to sustain what we have now on the backs of others, or with loans which the next generations will have to pay back.

So the challenge we are facing now is to create an intelligent way of living that embraces our wish to sustain quality of life, but that also takes into account everybody else's need for quality of life. And not just for this generation, but also future ones. It is a complex question, and in order to create an intelligent answer, we need to look very deeply into a wide range of issues.

The SANZ "Strong Sustainability for New Zealand: Principles and Scenarios" report is offered to help us do that. See [www.phase2.org](http://www.phase2.org) for more details and for free download of the report.

✍

## Winter Wonderland in St Albans



An extraordinarily cold day, with an extraordinary amount of snow bring alive an extraordinary number of creative snowmen (or is it PC now to say "snow persons"?)



## Jan McKenzie and the Blues bar



Sandra and Jan at the bar

*by Hilaire Campbell*

"Phil and I sat in the dark and had a wee drink. Then we got up and walked out the door, and that was that," says Jan McKenzie. It was June 1st, and she's talking about the day she was bar manager at the Edgeware Blues Lounge when EQC arrived and ordered the owner Phil Adcock and everyone out. "They said the walls were falling in and there were 60 tons of tiles on top, that everyone in the whole block would have to go – the TAB, KB's, the Fruit and Veg shop and United Video. You know, we all got on," says Jan. "Out the back at the chiller, we nattered to the hairdressers or bakers putting out their rubbish, it was very casual but there was a bond."

Jan says the bar attracted businessmen in their forties, real estate agents, motel people, and

just locals. The 1066 theme, which referred to the street number, was retained after the name change, and displays of mock weaponry provided common ground for conversation. "You'd be surprised at the number of people who wanted to get those swords off the wall and swish them around," says Jan. "But they were well screwed down. On the whole there's been little trouble. I've had to trespass one or two on drugs. They can get quite nasty."

She has seen some sad things, like women forgetting to pick up kids from kindy because they're on the pokies, "but there are funny stories too. When I asked a young man to remove his beanie, I saw he was hiding the most beautiful set of curls. I praised him to the heavens and after that he took a pride in them I hope."

Jan has tried to nurture a

communal feeling in the bar which is part of her wider effort round St Albans. It comes not only from her fantastic floral artistry – "gardeners attract other gardeners" – but from her catering experience: fried snails sourced from a friendly chef on Bastille Day, Guinness cakes and what she calls beef and bean bullshit stew for St Pat's.

"As well as that, you need a good listening ear, and friendly eye contact. A bar manager should show respect and shouldn't push personal views on customers. It's that biblical thing, do unto others, you know."

Jan says she's quite conservative. "You should look and smell nice and not show too much flesh." There's a photo of her behind the bar — Jan pulling the pumps. Bright lippy and a big wide smile. Glasses that owe something to Edna Everage... a few more sentences to add... *✍*

# Community Discussion on Recovery and Rebuild

by *Maxine Feutz*

A well-attended meeting of local residents and representatives from a wide range of local government and community-based organizations was held in the Abberley Park Hall on 12 July. Organized by the St Albans Residents' Association and chaired by Emma Twaddell, the purpose of the meeting was to start the process of creating a positive vision for a future St Albans to which any motivated resident can contribute, and to look at practical ways of harnessing the energy and skills available in the community, much as other 'urban villages' in Christchurch are doing, most notably Lyttleton, Sumner and Sydenham.

Every person in the room was given the opportunity to introduce themselves and present their views. Christchurch City Council planner Dale Harris (Suburban Centres Recovery Team), who is also a local resident, along with Marcus Blayney (Resource Consents) and Helen Miles, (Community Advisor) made themselves available to listen to the discussion and answer questions.

Naturally, there was a sense of urgency on many issues. Doug Jacks (SARA) stressed that temporary accommodation is desperately needed to replace the demolished community centre, and there was also a general consensus that the immediate focus for business recovery should be the Edgware Village. Stephen Anderson, owner of Edgware Supervalu, said that he hoped that the supermarket could be reopened by mid 2012, but spoke of the need for an 'action plan' for the whole area. The idea of redesigning the Edgware Village precinct and Edgware Rd itself into a more attractive and safer area was strongly supported by Bevan Killick of the Canterbury Business Recovery Group and also Mark Tao, Vice-Chair of Cancern. It is hoped that more green space and areas for public

seating will be incorporated into the design.

Craig Dixon of the St Albans Pavilion and Pool Group believes that the earthquake has made it more important than ever to push forward with plans for a new outdoor pool, which he sees as a natural extension of the Edgware Village. He hopes that the CCC will not delay processing of the existing resource consent application, which once approved could be the basis for an amended plan to maximize the use of the site. He said that it was always envisaged that the Pavilion be a multi-purpose building for community use, which could possibly house a new community centre, and be a base for programmes such as Oscar.

The St Albans Swim Club is again homeless now that the Shirley Intermediate Pool has been damaged, but Valerie Somerville reported that there are still 87 club members who are keen to resume as soon as possible. Helen Miles (CCC) stated that it is unlikely that any long-term decisions will be made on Christchurch pools until a complete survey of damage to both public and school pools has been undertaken, but short-term solutions are being sought for the summer season. Lack of amenities for youth in St Albans has always been a problem, and it was felt that this will become more evident as more renters continue to move into the area.

One of the main concerns of local residents is that any new developments in St Albans not repeat the mistakes of the past. Many people fear that more of the suburb's unique character will be lost if aesthetic elements of design are not given enough consideration. In the absence of any statutory requirements for developers to make sure new buildings are in harmony with their surroundings, it is felt that we will almost certainly see a proliferation of tilt slab buildings and a further loss of green space. Pressure

from a strong local community might be the only way to slow this.

At the end of the meeting, participants were asked to note down their ideas on large posters around the room under the same headings that are being used to generate ideas at the CERA community meetings. The categories were Culture & Heritage, Community Well-Being, Economy, Built Environment and Natural Environment. This exercise highlighted many common themes. (See Table)

Although Mark Tao noted, "The unpalatable truth is that it takes a long time to turn subjective ideas into objective policies," it was encouraging to see a strong vision emerging even in these early explorations of the possibilities. Emma Twaddell emphasized that we now need to find out where the talent is, perhaps by making a St Albans 'Organizational Tree,' and then to make working groups to begin the real work of interacting with officialdom.

The meeting closed on a positive note with the overall message being that successful communities all have one thing in common: a strong sense of identity and entitlement, a strong sense of personal involvement, and an ongoing commitment to achieving the desired outcomes. *✍*

## Schroeders

"Tomorrows beer today"



Come home to  
Schroeders...

Cnr Warrington/Barbadoes St.

# On 20 July 2011 an Era came to an end

*photos by Christoph Hensch*

**Comments about the demolition of St Albans Community Centre left on the St Albans Community Centre website and on the Facebook page**



Just as the 'phoenix' rose from the ashes so shall your community centre

Keryn Morten

Good to have you on hand to see the final moments of the building that served St Albans so well in the past years. A number of people have come up to me when I was at the South Library asking when the rebuild may happen? For the sake of St Albans identity and community spirit I hope it is earlier rather than later. Kia kaha to you all. Doug @ Nelson

Doug Craig

On behalf of Nicky Wagner, I would like to pass on sincere thoughts and condolences on the news of the demolition of the St Albans Community Centre last week. The centre provided a real focal point for the community, as a meeting place, an education and drop in centre, and a place to share each other's company in this strong community neighbourhood.

It was indeed sad news, as you said, and we would like to acknowledge your loss.

*Kirsten Chambers  
on behalf of Nicky Wagner National  
MP*

Your photos are so moving Christoph. The elegant little building that has been a second home to so many for so long...

*Hilaire Campbell*

The end of an era. Thank-you to everyone who made this the pulsing heart of our community that touched and supported so many.

*Jane Demeter*

Great photos Christoph, much appreciated.

*Joe Wylie*

Haere atu ra St Albans Community Centre... so many great projects... so many great people... so many great events... so many memories... a little old earthquake or 2 can't take that away from us all... there will be another place for St Albans to gather again one day soon... kia kaha... hold onto the new opportunities around the corner for us hardy souls

*Maggy Tai Rakena*

Wow, went past the site last night and was shocked to see nothing but rubble. Great photos Christoph. It'll be interesting to see what's in the time capsule.

*Ian Rae*

Great photos Christoph, thank you. Feeling the sense of loss of a community icon acutely, but hopefully a community centre will be rebuilt somewhere in St Albans.

*Team Baines*

Christoph, my heart felt sympathy to you and all who used the St Albans Community Centre. A sad day for Edgeware.

*Kim Dunkley*





build a larger and safe community centre some time.

*Belinda Carter*

I know this dear building from so many dance and theatre workshops and it was our Playback Company rehearsal home for a while. The rooms hold so much good energy, so many memories, the floor is easy on the feet and body, and it had gotten so lovely and warm from that new heat pump! And the immense helpfulness of the people who ran it and loved it. I feel so sad at the loss of these small community halls that have held so much human activity and warmth over

Wow, thank you Christoph. What great photographs, well done being there at the right time. I was there earlier in the day and they were dismantling the building carefully and retrieving as much of the contents as possible including timber, which was really good to see. One of the crew told me they have found a time capsule; that will be very interesting!

*Pauline Cotter*

Constable office but a place where so many people came to get together.

*Megan Evans*

Very sad. Will anything be salvaged?

*Margaret Meehan*

Thirteen and a half years of my life associated with this building and the computer room. Let us hope that CCC will redesign the 2010 plans and

the years.

*Torfrida*

I fondly remember the first time I entered this building, about 20 years ago when it was a library run by a group of older women. The books were old and the air dusty... and then the revamp into a much beloved community centre. Haere atu, haere atu ra!

*Jeanette*

So so sad. It's hard to envisage thru the dust & tears, but somehow... somehow we will come through this stronger & better, us vibrant stayers, to be joined & rejoined by others.

*Di Lucas*

Christoph, we're so glad that you were here to record this event. Great sequence of historic photos.

*Ross Becker*

What a very sad day!!!!

*Peter Tuffley*

Christoph looking at these photos made me so sad, even sitting here in Singapore I am keeping up with all the events and seeing this is hard as it was not only my Community



## Artificial Pitch Set for Completion Early September

ASB Football Park's (formerly English Park) state-of-the-art artificial pitch is due for completion in early September. Mainland Football has lobbied the Christchurch City Council for the past 5 years, arguing that the pitch at the home of Canterbury football was substandard, with heavily compacted soil and poor drainage leading to a boggy ground with limited winter usage over the past decade.

Mainland Football CEO Mike Coggan heaps huge praise on the Christchurch City Council which has recognised that one of their city sports facilities has been under-utilised by the public. "CCC has been wonderful. Senior management staff and Council have listened to our concerns and as a result football in this city will have a high quality

football pitch with improved lighting, particularly at a time when many fields and floodlit training grounds



have been damaged by recent quakes.

Principle funding has been secured from CCC and FIFA. Calcon will shortly conclude sub base construction with pitch installer Tiger Turf due to get started this week. Coggan said the

new turf would be a fantastic new asset for not only football but other sporting groups. "We will be able to offer

year-round recreation opportunities as well as traditional football. We have a good relationship with St Albans school, whose 600 plus kids will benefit along with training and playing opportunities for the local sporting community clubs, Coggan said.

Work to fix the car park starts shortly and this will also complement the new facility with the English Park market being able to set up once again on flat

ground.

An official FIFA and CCC launch is set for early October with a proposed charity game being planned to involve past and present stars as part of the celebrations. *✍*

## talking talking talking therapy therapy therapy

We are 5 Registered Psychotherapists who recently had to relocate our practice from Bealey Ave due to earthquake damage to the building, to Courtenay St in St Albans. We have long experience in providing expert and confidential therapy for a wide range of personal issues, eg anxiety, grief, low self esteem, depression, personal and professional development, sexual abuse, relationship difficulties, eating disorders, life transitions, and many more.

**We are registered with the Family Court for funding for couple counselling and with ACC for sexual abuse trauma.**

**We are also funded through the Ministry of Social Development for Free Earthquake Trauma Counselling.**

**For an appointment please phone: 355 5435**

Irene Deliefde, Errol Hay, Anne Hemapo, Ursula Klein, Mark Piercey

19 Courtenay St • St Albans 8014 • Fax: 355 5430 • [www.talkingtherapy.co.nz](http://www.talkingtherapy.co.nz)



**St Albans Pharmacy**  
*Your Pharmacy on Hand*

- \* Personalised Pharmacy Healthcare - helping you make the most of your medicines
- \* Health and Beauty Products
- \* Gifts for any Occasion
- \* Open 6 days including Saturdays 10am to 3pm
- \* Shop Online @ [www.pharmacyonhand.com](http://www.pharmacyonhand.com)

**1073 Colombo Street, Edgeware Village**  
Phone 366-0404

# Edgeware

## Mowers & Chainsaws

For all your outdoor power needs  
**WE HAVE MOVED TO**  
**237 Westminster Street**  
**Ph 366 3924**  
[www.edgewaremowers.co.nz](http://www.edgewaremowers.co.nz)

# The Edgeware Sports Bar

*"The Tiny Bar with the Big Atmosphere"*

**18 POKIES**

**Pool Table**

**TAB POD & TAB TERMINAL**

**Ph: 377 2294**  
*Beside Sema's Restaurant*

**Nicky Wagner**  
NATIONAL PARTY MP

*Do come and visit me at my office*

[chchoffice@nickywagner.co.nz](mailto:chchoffice@nickywagner.co.nz)  
Ph: 03 365 8297  
222 Bealey Ave, Christchurch







**Edgeware Automotive Ltd**

- WOF & full mechanical repairs
- \$72.50/hr charge rate
- Latest diagnostic equipment
- Courtesy cars
- Open Saturday



**25 Canon Street 377 1133**

**www.edgeauto.co.nz**



**Brendon BURNS**  
MP for Christchurch Central

For assistance with earthquake or other issues contact my electorate office:  
P 03 377 8840  
304 Fitzgerald Avenue  
[brendon@christchurchcentral.org.nz](mailto:brendon@christchurchcentral.org.nz)  
[brendonburns.co.nz](http://brendonburns.co.nz)




**tracetteowers**  
hairdressing



- ★ Gorgeous Blondes
- ★ Stunning Redheads
- ★ Breathtaking Brunettes
- Organic colour specialist
- Ammonia free products
- One-on-one
- 10th cut and colour free (special conditions apply)

*Sulphate free hair care products ★ 30 years hairdressing experience*

80 derby street | christchurch | **379 6368**



## Value and Cost


by **Brendon Burns, MP for Christchurch Central**

I recently attended the AGM of St Albans Edu-Care, the excellent community-owned ECE (early childhood centre) based at Glenmoor School after quake damage to the Thames St site. The relocation has gone well but this ECE has had to shed four staff in recent months after Government funding cuts. Earlier, the St Albans community facility faced a council effort to hike its rent. Those making such decisions need to look at the research; for \$1 invested in our

youngest learners we get a \$17 return. Better to spend money here than boot camps which are not working.

Council does now face huge pressures. As a St Albans resident you're up for a 7% + increase in rates (or via your rent), to help pay for our share of earthquake repairs. There may be worse to come. Our rates are kept down about 15% through returns from council-owned assets like our power network, Orion, Christchurch airport and port, assets which might now be sold.

At Parliament, I asked Finance

Minister Bill English to guarantee such sales would not happen. The Minister said that it's for the city council to decide as cost-sharing discussions begin. He spoke before June 13's aftershocks and the end of council's insurance cover. He backs state asset sales to reduce debts so he won't hesitate to so steer councillors. As your local MP I utterly oppose selling state or council assets. This would produce mean long term increases in rates and power charges. We must remember the value of things as well as the costs. 

## Rebuild Provides Youth Training Opportunities

by **Nicky Wagner, National MP**

Youth skills and employment opportunities for the Christchurch rebuild have received a boost with recent trades training announcements.

I'm pleased to report the Government is providing \$42 million for trades training for Canterbury, to ensure Cantabrians can build skills and contribute to the rebuild of our city.

This investment will fund up to 1500 extra training places as part of a cross-agency response to meet labour demands for the reconstruction programme called 'Skills for Canterbury'.

The 'Skills for Canterbury' package also includes up to 3000 more places

in polytechnics for construction-related training from existing funding, accelerated training programmes at polytechnics, and further funding and measures to help place more people into the construction industry.

A Maori trade training partnership has also boosted youth employment opportunities for the rebuild.


He Toki ki te Rika is a partnership between Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, Te Tapuae o Rehua, CPIT and the BETA Industry Training Organisations, with support from Ngāi Tahu Property.

It was an honour to attend the official announcement at Rehua Marae in St Albans, which welcomed dignitaries Maori Affairs Minister Dr Pita Sharples and Ngai Tahu Runanga

Chair Mark Solomon.

CPIT Kaiarahi Hana O'Regan presented an overview of the kaupapa of the partnership – an aspirational programme providing leadership and personal development for young Maori as well as practical trade training.

The partnership has received funding from Te Puni Kokiri, and CPIT is to facilitate the training. The programme aims to recruit 200 local Maori trainees within the next six months.

These are significant opportunities for our local youth to develop skills and participate actively in the rebuild of Christchurch - our city, and their future. 

### Ambrose Heal

"RISING FROM THE RUBBLE"



EQC:

- quotes
- restoration
- replacement

Cnr Barbadoes & Edgware  
Christchurch  
Phone/Fax: 03 385 3138  
email:  
ambroseheal@inet.net.nz

## PROMED DOCTORS

**Now at: 933 Colombo St**

(Next to 24 Hour Surgery)

**No Appointment Required  
New Patients Welcome**

**Weekdays 8am-6pm / Saturday 9am-1pm**  
**Phone (03) 3791112 [www.promed.health.nz](http://www.promed.health.nz)**



## Letter to the Editor

Dear residents,

The Mainland Press community newspaper reported on June the 29th that the Canterbury Rugby Football Union and Sport Canterbury made a presentation to the Shirley-Papanui Community Board regarding the CRFU's interest in Malvern Park.

Intentions are unclear at present as to what the CRFU is actually proposing for this much used public reserve, although there has been talk about shared community facilities, whatever that might mean?

My concern is that in a suburb with few open public spaces a large commercial sporting organisation, with deep pockets, appears to now be interested in Malvern Park, which as everyone knows is adjacent to CRFU's Rugby Park.

At present Malvern Park is a delightful public reserve, an oasis of 'undeveloped' green surrounded

by chestnut trees, with a children's playground and basic changing rooms, which has been used for low-key club sport and general recreation by local residents.

St Albans residents may wish to consider what the CRFU's interest might mean for the long term appearance and use of Malvern Park, and perhaps contact their Councillors and the Residents' Association?

Meanwhile the CCC Community Board Adviser, Peter Croucher, says that if the CRFU makes a formal proposition to the Community Board or the Council regarding Malvern Park, there would be public consultation and the opportunity to make submissions. He also says the Board is conscious of the need to protect public greenspace, particularly in St. Albans, and it has received such advice from Council officers.

*A.G.Talbot*

*Mays Road, St Albans*

## Ode To Pinot Noir

*by Reetah Mitchell*

Goodbye Pinot my trusted friend, It's been great but now it has to end. You used to help me with my stress, But now I can't get in my dress I'm a wobbling fashion mess, Goodbye Pinot its hard to leave, I will cry and I will need to grieve, I used to love you on my lips, But now you won't get off my hips, I've really got to get to grips...

We had joy we had fun, We had sessions in the sun, But the fun that we shared, Has left me mentally impaired.

Goodbye Pinot my pretty wine, You hid the clouds and helped the sun to shine, When the earth began to shake, You moved in, became my mate, We were a team against the quake. Goodbye Pinot my little

vice, I know the truth and it is not so nice, You did not bring me calm and light, You brought me flab and cellulite, Now my jeans are way too tight...

We had joy we had fun, But now we are all done, Please don't beckon any more, From my friendly Bottle Store.

Goodbye Pinot its not just you, I have to leave my good friend Chocolate too, Three amigos for so long, Table dancing — off key songs, I wonder how it went so wrong? Goodbye Pinot I know its grim I gotta haul my ass off to the gym, Firm my thighs — get in my jeans, Stop busting all my seams, Get the body of my dreams.

We had joy we had fun Oh my pretty little one, But your ruby red caress Has left my carcass in a mess.

### St Albans Veterinary Practice

Cnr Cranford & Berwick Sts

Phone us when your pet  
needs the vet

355-6747 (24 hours)

**Dr. Geoff Mehrtens B.V.Sc**

### Cats on Cranford

(next door to St Albans Vet)

102 Cranford Street

Phone 355 6743

**Inspection Welcome**



### The St Albans

**News relies on your  
contributions. Please  
send your articles,  
letters and notices to  
news@stalbens.gen.  
nz. The deadline for  
the next issue is  
September 29th**

### trade skills

Building - Carpentry  
Painting - Plastering  
Electrical - Plumbing  
Paperhanging  
Waterblasting  
General Handyman  
and much more

**Trade Skills**

**Phone**

**Peter on 332-6274**

## Community Notices

### ST ALBANS SWIMMING CLUB AGM

Monday 5th September 7.30pm  
Shirley Intermediate School  
All past & present members welcome

### Gamblefree Day

On Saturday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> there will be a Family Fun day at St Albans Baptist Church from 11am - 2pm to celebrate our resilient communities in honour of Gamblefree Day. There will be food, entertainment, health stalls, face painting, kids' activities, and a visit from Captain Stomper! The event is free for everyone, so bring the family and celebrate with us!

Sara Epperson, Health Promoter, Problem Gambling Foundation, Mobile: 27 662 2312  
Email: sara.epperson@pgfnz.org.nz  
Visit us on the web: www.pgfnz.org.nz

### St Albans News Delivery

Are you or someone you know not receiving the St Albans News in the letterbox? The most likely reason is because nobody is delivering in that area. Our designated boundaries are the inner sides of Innes Road to the north, Hills Rd to the east, Bealey Ave to the south and Springfield Road to the west.

Owing to the earthquake, the St Albans News is now produced voluntarily, this includes the delivery of the paper. We currently need approximately 10 more deliverers to keep the task manageable for all involved.

Can you or someone you know help with the delivery? The delivery areas take approximately 2 hours and delivery occurs every 6-8 weeks. This is a total of 12 - 16 hours walking a year! Please contact 374 2464 or email communitycentre@stalbens.gen.nz

### Computer Training for the Over 55s

SeniorNet Canterbury - located at the Lions Club Rooms, Gate A, Ferrymead Park Drive - has Computer Courses and Workshops available on a wide range of subjects for those aged 55 and over. Peer training with small classes of up to six students and two tutors. Free Help Sessions every Tuesday. Telephone 383 7249 for an information pack.

### WOOL WANTED

Needed for Knitting for Plunket by the Kiwi Family Trust. We are urgently in need of wool to help Plunket with knitted garments. Please Contact Barbara 963 8040 or email barbara@kiwifamilytrust.org

### St Albans Residents Association Meeting.

August 9th, September 13th and October 11th @ 7.30pm. Abberley Park Hall. The meeting will be about SARA, how it will rebuild and be involved in the St Albans Community. We will be looking at the resources we currently have and how these can be used to the best advantage of our community. We warmly invite anyone who would like to be involved in this planning and the future development of St Albans.

### Beat the Budget Blues

Where: SWAP Community House  
Time: 9.30am - 12pm (with soup lunch to follow)

Date: Wednesday 3, 10, 17 & 24 August

Beat the Budget Blues is run each Wednesday over 4 weeks to show you tips and strategies to stretch your dollar further, to reduce debt and stay debt-free. The facilitator is Paul from Kingdom Resources. Phone Lorelei on 366 8540 if you are interested in this or any other course.

Lorelei Skilton, Community Worker, Single Women as Parents, Ph. 366 8540

### Neighbourhood Trust Notices

- Neighbourhood Trust presents Mairehau Community Day at Mairehau High School, Saturday

27th August, 11am - 3pm. Lots of free activities for the children including bouncy castles, kids karaoke and much more, plus cafe for the adults. Supported by Shirley/Papanui Community Board.

- Toolbox: Parenting the Middle Years (6 - 12 years). 6 week course gives skills and strategies to meet the particular challenges of parenting this age group. Starts 1st September, 7.30pm at St Albans Baptist Church, 64 McFaddens Road. Cost: \$30 (includes substantial manual). Ph. Kim Button at Neighbourhood Trust on 355 6522 or 027 677 2472 or email kim@nht.org.nz
- FREE POST-QUAKE WORKSHOP FOR THE OVER 50'S - 31st August 2011 1 - 3pm.
- If you are experiencing anxiety or distress as a result of the earthquakes, please phone Kim to register for this free Quake workshop. Afternoon tea will be served. Ph. 355 6522, or 02767725472
- Breakout of anxieties - these 6 week courses start 18th August - one during the daytime, starting 10.30 and one in the evening, at 7.30pm at 64 McFaddens Road - you choose what suits you. Text Ginny on 027 746 5168 to book. Numbers strictly limited.
- DROP IN lunch - running every Wednesday & Thursday at 64 McFaddens Road (St Albans Baptist Church) until the end of the school year, 12 - 130pm (lunch 12 - 1pm). No need to book; just turn up. Yummy food. Gold coin koha.

Look us up on  
<http://stalbens.gen.nz>



Follow us on  
Facebook,  
<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.

## St Albans News Classifieds

## SERVICES

**Apex Painting and Decorating:**

All interior-exterior work and roofs. Competitive rates. Free Quotes. No job too big or too small. 40 years experience. Pensioner rates available. Ph 354 6300 anytime

**A to Z Appliances:** Repairing, Selling & Buying Whiteware. Any brand, old or new. I stand by my work with warranties & offer very cheap local rates. For personalized service with a smile phone Zaine Harding on 980- 8262 or 021 249 2292

**Aakland Carpet Cleaning:** Carpets and Upholstery Cleaned. Super cleaned from \$15/room. Over 25 years experience. Phone 388 3314.

**Accountant:** Working 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. Couple, individuals and blended families. Free counselling may be available through the Disability Allowance (WINZ) or the Family Courts. Ph. (03)365 7776 (wk) or 027 688 2061.

**Computer Guru:** Highest quality computer servicing, fixing all hardware/software problems, installations, advice and more. Servicing St Albans for five years. Callouts start at \$40/hr. Offsite repairs \$20/hrs. Phone Ron 379 3061 or 021 0243 7398 or pcguru@orcon.net.nz

**Counselling:** Earthquake trauma has placed considerable pressure on some relationships. As an approved Family Court Counsellor, I am able to help people to access funding to meet with me where appropriate. Website: <http://www.dianecounsell.com> or ph 386 2746, Mob 027 338 5274 Diane Counsell.

**Door Specialist:** Repairs,

adjustments and installation of all doors and locks, ranch slider wheels and locks, garage doors. Qualified Tradesman. Ph Stewart 365 2969 or 021 185 4055

**Eastcoast Landscapes:** Unique quality service. For all your landscaping needs. We do paving, lawns, fences and planting. EQC approved contractor. For free quotes and advice phone Blair Gibson on 03 981 5929 or 027 699 5815

**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

**Handyman:** Pete Knuiman Ltd. For all your property maintenance, repairs, painting, carpentry, fencing, brickwork, tiling work, alterations and those odd jobs. Ph Pete 021 022 53774 or 385-1718. pete@peteknuiman.co.nz

**Healing:** Energy healing, sound healing, regression healing. Ph Sunny on 374 3388. Facebook: sunnymayahealing

**House cleaning job in St Albans wanted:** By honest efficient and reliable lady on a weekly basis. \$25 per hownhouse/flat. Excellent references available. Ph. Nicola 386 1118

**Painting and Decorating:** Internal/external. 22 years experience plastering. Owner operator, efficient service, locally based. Ph Mark 355 7670 or 027 434 3300


## TUITION

**Clarinet, Sax, Guitar & Piano:** Experienced local teacher for the NZ Modern School of Music. Phone Nicola 377 1753

**Drums:** Experienced & qualified teacher at well-equipped studio with two kits. Rockschool exams available. Ph Andrew at 351 5456. a.s.couper@paradise.net.nz

**Yoga:** Mary Potter Centre. Tuesday 10-11.30am. Friendly, relaxing class, well suited to mature figures. Phone Pauline On 980 8760

## The Mystery Hole on Edgeware Road

There seems to be a mystery in our midst. I observed the operator of the digger working there looking down into the hole in a puzzled manner, shaking his head. He didn't seem to know what to do. Requests for information from CERA and the CCC are met with silence. The neighbours don't seem to know much either, except that the hole gets bigger over time. Looking at old maps reveals a stream at the location, that was probably converted into sewage drain at one point. One wonders, could this be the elusive new location for a new Edgeware Swimming Pool? 

by Christoph Hensch





## SARA Update

by Emma Twaddell

It is with much regret that I start this update with the news we are losing a valuable member of our community. Christoph Hensch. Thank you Christoph for all that you have achieved for St Albans and Christchurch. We will miss you and your family (as well as all your amazing array of knowledge and skills) and hope that even from across the ditch you will continue to be involved in the future of Christchurch. We wish you and your family well in your new home and hope that Christchurch will become a city that will draw you back again soon.

To SARA, losing Christoph as a Board member and editor of the St

Albans News is like the 'icing on the shake.'

The organisation was devastated by losing its staff members, including Christoph, who was the Manager, when the St Albans Community Centre was destroyed in September. Since February, Christoph has been producing the St Albans News voluntarily, has set up the new St Albans website and joined the SARA board to help with the workload of the organisation!

If ever an organisation needed a bit of new blood, it is now! If you would like to become involved, our next meetings are on August 9<sup>th</sup>, September 13<sup>th</sup> and October 11<sup>th</sup> @ 7.30pm in Abberley Park Hall.

The recent demolition of the Community Centre could have been worse! The demolition team were able to retrieve almost everything inside and a time capsule was discovered. I believe this is currently at the museum and we will follow this up. SARA is hoping to meet with Council in the near future to work on a short-term plan for the site, maybe a Gap Filler Project? Any great ideas – let us know.

SARA is continuing to look at its own structure for its new phase of life. We have set a couple of short term goals which involve building community usage of the St Albans News and the St Albans website. We hope to provide a voice for community-directed/involved projects. *✍*

## Edgeware Village Developments



By Corey Charlton

Supervalue owner Stephen Anderson hopes the community can collaborate to revitalise Edgeware's badly damaged shopping village.

He hopes with the input of residents and businesses they could make a plan to "turn the village into a place where people like to shop."

He said they could incorporate trees and outdoor tables to give it a "village atmosphere."

He hopes his own business, the history laden Supervalu building which was demolished not long after the February earthquake, would be back up and running early to mid next year.

"It's difficult, very difficult, but we're working our way through it. Hopefully with the support of everybody we will rebuild."

He said in normal times it was difficult enough, but the earthquake brought with it additional problems with things such as insurance and Geo-Net reports to wade through.

The loss of Edgeware Supervalu destroyed the centrepiece of Edgeware Village. It also took with it a piece of Christchurch history, as it was a cinema long before it became a supermarket.

Anderson said they had many locals who sometimes visited several times a day, even just to pick up some milk or a loaf of bread.

Roger Metherell, who owns the Edgeware Postshop, said "long term, a really good supermarket will only be beneficial to Edgeware."

He believed the Edgeware Village needed modernising, but was dubious as to whether this could be achieved.

On the bright side, Metherell said his business had been booming since the quake, with it initially "bordering

on out-of-control," with each month nearly equivalent to a November rush.

He, like Anderson, believed an upgraded village complex would be better for the community, and had been planning on refurbishing his own shop, but now needed to wait for the quakes to finish. *✍*



### Quote of the Month

The beginning is always today.

**Matthew Arnold**  
(1822 - 1888)

*English poet and writer*