Don’t lose your local

**Tucked away in the tree lined street of Kensington Avenue, a little gem sits. Mairehau Library opened in 1961 as a Children’s Library and a few years later, the Adult Library was added.**

Long-time volunteer, Rae was on duty the day the Adult Library opened in 1964. She says, ‘In the early days, at the suggestion of the Public Library staff, the library was opened on Tuesday and Friday evenings and this proved to be a great success. Then television came and the evening sessions suffered terribly, although Friday nights remained reasonably busy with three ‘staff’ on duty. In the school holidays we often had Story Time for the children and these were well attended.’

The advent of the Shirley Library opening at the Palms brought about more changes and Mairehau Library suffered in loss of membership as a result. The temporary closure of the Palms with the February earthquakes has seen a resurgence of interest in Mairehau Library and brings home how important it is to keep local services available.

The library is still well used, with a swell in numbers each day at 3pm, as families pop in to get books for the children. It’s a fantastic space for the little ones, with brightly coloured walls and a huge range of DVDs as well as books.

Jean says, ‘We always struggle for funding, as the amount we get from the Council depends on the number of books issued. We’re lucky that it has been recently painted and carpeted, but we need help with the power bills to heat the place in Winter.’ They could also do with some more volunteers.

It looks like it might be a case of ‘use it, or lose it’. Looking round the shelves there is plenty of choice, including large print books. Jean says, ‘It’s mainly recreational reading, but we have a good range.’

Mairehau Library is open from 2-4pm Mon-Fri, 10am - 2pm Saturday. Charges are kept low; you can hire three books for 50 cents, or 70 cents each for the new books. Come along and support your local.

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**Editorial**

I was at the library the other day, glancing over magazine front covers. One word stood out. Happiness. It seems to be something we all want, yet as the old adage says, if we pursue it, it stays outside our grasp. It’s something that creeps up on us by surprise as we serve others. It’s often in being part of something bigger than ourselves that we feel is worthwhile that we find a satisfaction and contentment that we recognise as happiness.

We’re fortunate in Mairehau that so many groups are functioning and enriching people’s lives. It’s well researched that getting connected is good for both our mental health and our total health. In fact, joining a group adds as many years to your life as quitting smoking! So do yourself a favour and take a look through the community notices and see if there’s something you’d like to give a try this year.

Blessings, Ginny Larsen.
**Shave 12 for Mairehau Primary student**

Local Mairehau Primary School student, Georgia Roberts, lost her locks for a good cause. She joined the Leukaemia & Blood Cancer New Zealand (LBC) in their effort to get 10,000 people shaving in a mass expression of solidarity. That’s one shavee for each one of the estimated 10,000 New Zealanders living with a blood cancer or condition like leukaemia.

Georgia says, ‘I got involved with ‘Shave for a Cure’ because my mum has an old school friend who has a son with this disease. I think he is a brave wee boy having to deal with all the treatment. I would like to do this for the other kids too. I think they are amazing people to have to go through these treatments and still have smiles on their faces.’

The Mairehau thinks Georgia is pretty amazing too, as she lost her long locks, raising $600 in sponsorship for LBC.

LBC is the national charity dedicated to supporting patients and their families living with blood cancers and related blood conditions, this support can last months or even years.

Shave for a Cure is LBC’s signature fundraising event. LBC receives no government funding.

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**Need Help With Mosquito Bites?**

Over the last few months there has been an increase in people experiencing mosquito or insect bites. Topical creams are a good choice for treating a few itchy bites that aren’t swollen. Anthisan (an antihistamine cream) or Hydrocortisone cream can be applied to help the itch and inflammation. Soov bite cream will help to numb the bites and reduce the chance of them becoming infected.

Oral antihistamines are the best option for treating multiple red, swollen itchy bites. There are liquids such as Claratyne and Zyrtec for children from two years old and tablets for older children and adults. One dose a day will help to quickly reduce the itch, redness and inflammation. Talk to your pharmacist about the best option for your family.

If these bites are swollen, red, and painful and have pus in or around them they may have become infected and you should see your pharmacist or doctor for treatment options.

It is a good idea to wear insect repellent, long sleeves and trousers when around water or outside at dawn or dusk, to help prevent mosquitos biting. Your pharmacy has both chemical and natural insect repellents available.

*Practical health tips from Mairehau Pharmacy.*

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**Nicky Wagner**  
**MP FOR CHRISTCHURCH CENTRAL**

*I welcome your enquiries. Feel free to contact my electorate office.*

[chchoffice@nickywagner.co.nz](mailto:chchoffice@nickywagner.co.nz)  
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103 Salisbury St, Christchurch 8013

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Yoobee@Natcoll now in Mairehau

After the February earthquake, Natcoll could no longer work from the Hereford Street campus. Yoobee@Natcoll managed to gain temporary premises at Canterbury Sports Management College at 537-541 Innes Road, Mairehau. While they initially needed to split classes between this site and Lincoln, in 2012 they have been able to run all 11 classes from the Mairehau site. Staff and students are thrilled to be back working from one modern, designated campus. As well as day courses in graphic design, animation and digital video work, web development and digital filmmaking, Yoobee@Natcoll also has professional development courses in the evenings and weekends. Contact: 0800-665-544 or visit www.natcoll.ac.nz for more information.

Emotional Recovery

After Christchurch’s big earthquake in September 2010, Neighbourhood Trust facilitated a post-quake workshop in conjunction with Real Steps Trust and Ignition Plus, which was attended by around 100 people. Who would have thought that 18 months later, the people of Christchurch would still have such uncertainty, ongoing stresses and issues stemming from this and subsequent earthquakes? Statistics from other places that have experienced huge natural disasters show what we are experiencing is ‘normal’ - the disillusionment, exhaustion, discouragement and the difficulty in just keeping going. It’s time to look at how we can recover emotionally from all we have, and are, experiencing. Neighbourhood Trust is again partnering with Real Steps Trust and Ignition Plus to bring an Emotional Recovery workshop to Mairehau/St Albans/Shirley in June. Look out for more details coming in the June issue of The Mairehau. Last time, so many people said if they had known how good it was going to be, they would have come. Counsellors who came along said it was the best presentation they had seen. Don’t miss out this time. It’s for you, for dealing with your children’s behaviour, for helping your family, friends and neighbours. This is excellent, researched information presented in a way you can take it in to help yourself and others. Phone Ginny on 355 6522 for more info.

Old and new for Mairehau

Two new roads in Mairehau had their names approved at a recent meeting of the Shirley/Papanui Community Board. The first was a new cul de sac, running off Holiday Drive, which will eventually link with Haughey Drive. Grant McFadden, one of the three people carrying out this subdivision, proposed the name, ‘Rostrevor Place’ as a result of having spent time at Canterbury University investigating the naming of streets in Christchurch as part of the record of first settlement purchases, and the first major farms in various parts of the City. Mairehau recognises some of its early residents in many of its road names, for example Philpotts Road and Walters Road and Park. Mr McFadden says, ‘One notable omission in road names in the locality is that of the Haughey family, whose dairy farm ‘Rostrevor’, was the first large farm in the area.’ Rostrevor extended from Winters Road to St Albans Park and Haughey delivered milk to most of the north side of Christchurch in the late 1800s. Haughey’s first house in the 1800s was situated on Lot 2 of the subdivision, on the corner of Hills Road and the new road in the subdivision. It would therefore be a fitting name for this new street, linking Mairehau to its past. The second road is an access way to the new Ryman Healthcare elderly housing complex that is sited between East Ellington Drive and Philpotts Road. As the complex has been named The Diana Isaac Retirement Village, Ryman have proposed the new road be named Lady Isaac Way.

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The Hub of the Matter

Some 18 months on since the start of the shakes, rattles and rolls in Christchurch, it can seem an endless and tiring journey towards recovery. It is important to remember that we are not walking the journey alone. A team of dedicated, committed people are working hard to make a difference for residents in the Mairehau council ward area.

Fletcher EQR (Earthquake Recovery) Mairehau Hub, on Westminster Street, has so far completed more than 3,738 emergency repairs and some 399 full repairs. The Hub services Papanui, St Albans, Edgeware, Mairehau, Shirley and Richmond.

Don Hayes, Project Manager at Mairehau Hub steers an enthusiastic and committed team of 31 Fletcher EQR employees, 80 contractors and nine others from support services such as Christchurch Earthquake Temporary Accommodation Service.

‘We are here to rebuild people’s homes safely and cost effectively. Through doing so, we hope to help people rebuild their lives,’ said Don. He knows first-hand what it is like living with liquefaction, so he is able to be empathetic with local clients.

Julie Barry, Community Liaison Officer (CLO) has been with the Hub from its inception in March 2011.

‘Working to support this community is a truly rewarding role,’ said Julie. ‘We are pleased to be in a position to make a difference to people who really need it and we encourage members of the public to call into the Hub for a chat. It is also possible for myself or the other CLO here, Lesley MacDonald, to make home visits for residents who may be unable to get to the Hub.’

As CLO’s, Julie and Lesley work closely with the contracts’ supervisors in progression of repairs. They endeavour to support members of the community in navigating their way through any issues that may arise, from understanding the claims process to suggesting who to talk to about temporary accommodation needs. Generally, sorting out any questions or concerns residents might have.

‘We continue to cover the bases and work through the claims at a steady rate,’ said Don, ‘it is our pleasure to be of service to this local community and welcome communication with residents whenever the need arises. Our door is open to you.'
Mairehau Community Day

Although Mairehau Community Day at Mairehau High School started out cloudy and slightly drizzly, the team chose to set up outside in the hope that it would fine up. Thankfully it did, and soon the place was buzzing with café, entertainment and food and information stalls. Highly talented music students from Mairehau High school performed on the outdoor stage, along with Kathryn from Mairehau Zumba, and the library ladies who entertained the kids with a fantastic interactive story. It was great to see the Mairehau community out and about enjoying these Indian summer days while we have them. Make sure you look out for this fun community day again next year.

Corban Baker - winner Lolly Jar

Computer Troubleshooting – also tuition. Low rates. Ph. David 366-3020 or 022 635 9414 or email davescomputer@actrix.co.nz

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Flower Bazaar

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Mobile: 027 508 5298
Email: janharveyflowers@yahoo.co.nz
Web: www.janharveyflowers.co.nz
Community Noticeboard:

Church services:
- St Albas Baptist Church (SABC), 64 McFaddens Rd, Sundays: Contemporary @ 10am.

Vision Church
- Christchurch North, cnr Thanes & Dee Streets, Sundays @ 10am
- Our Lady of Fatima, Innes Road, Masses Sat @ 5.30pm; Sundays @ 7.30am, 9am, & 10.30am
- International Missionary Society
- SDA Reform Church meets 10am Saturdays. Venue: Contact the Earthquake Support Co-

Need help with earthquake related problems? Contact the Earthquake Support Co-ordinator Service on 0800 777 846. Available 7 days a week.

Year 13, CPIT or Uni students: We are looking to start up a new scheme of Ambassador Volunteers’ at Ferryrned Tramway to be tour guides and generally assist visitors to the Tramway and are seeking volunteers to be trained and work with us on a volunteer basis in the Park. If you are interested in meeting local or overseas visitors and helping them to enjoy their Ferryrned Tramway experience then this could be for you. For more information, please contact Alan Harwood on Ph. 385 5519.

Course for anybody coaching junior sport. Thursday 3rd May - 3.30pm - 5.00pm at Mairehau High School Sports Hall. Contact: Jon Derry, Young Persons Advisor D003 373 5052.

2 Free De-stress Courses: May 3-6; May 17-20, Thurs Fri 6.30-8.30pm, Sat Sun 10am - 2.30pm *gentle stretches *breathing techniques *deep relaxation. Email canterbury@artofliving.org or Call 05080artofliving (0508-2786354)

Disco Inferno at Mairehau High School

An enthusiastic group of students are currently rehearsing and the show will be performed on Wednesday 15 May and Thursday 16 May. It is a very lively and entertaining show which would appeal to all ages. Tickets will go on sale at the beginning of Term Two - Adults $8, Children $5. Get ready to have some fun with the whole family and support your local school.

Quote of the month:
"Turn your back on sin; do something good. Embrace peace—don’t let it get away!" (Psalm 34:14, The Message)