St Albans News

The Voice of our Neighbourhood

April/May 2015 Vol 21, No 8, Issue 210

Polyfest

Polyfest, held at Westminster Park on March 21, celebrated Pasifika culture. Students from Burnside High School (left) and Aranui High School (right) were among a dozen or more schools to take to the stage

No place for market

by Belinda Carter

The weekly Saturday morning market hosted at Beulah Church in Springfield Rd has closed down after operating for just one month..

Organiser Paul Minter says he was told he did not need a resource consent for the market and then three days before the market was due to start was told he did need one.

He is not sure why he was told one thing and then told the opposite but thinks it may have been because of different people handling his request for information.

He says there was no hint of any opposition to the market until a sign, 1200 x 800, went up on the church site at the end of January advertising the market.

He has been told that neighbours have complained but has not been given specific details, just that there were objections in "your street" i.e. Springfield Road. "It only takes one person to say no."

On Valentine's Day, the short-lived market opened with 35 stalls. However, after Paul told the stallholders what was happening, numbers dwindled down to about half a dozen. Stalls included clothing, crafts, secondhand goods and the church hired a coffee-making machine.

Before the earthquakes, St Albans had a successful Saturday market in the English Park car park. The resource consent still stands but the grounds are now too busy post-quake to accommodate a market.

Paul says he read about community attempts to get a market started last year in St Albans News and decided to try and set one up. He had been involved with the market at English Park.

The council let him start the market and gave him a further three weeks to organise a resource consent, which allowed the market to operate until mid-March.

He has pulled the plug on applying for resource consent because it appeared it would cost him at least $12,000 or more and he is not prepared to pay this with no guarantee that the consent would be granted. The church is not prepared to continue hosting the market without resource consent.

Paul says the consent costs included paying for a private contractor to do surveys of traffic and to interview householders. That would cost around $7000. The other $5000 was to pay the council. Council staff say that figure could even rise above $12,000, depending on the amount of work the consent required.

Even though he has not gone through with the consent application, Paul has sunk some of his own money into paying for signage and advertisements and took a month off work to get the market off to a good start. He is considering legal action.

Continued on page 3

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Chair Chat

Happy autumn everyone. Am loving the colours but the dramatic drop in temperature is not cool.

For many of us this drop in temperature brings back the realities of living in broken houses on damaged land. I really hope the weather behaves itself this winter while we continue to work through the issues we face with our homes.

Recently 9600 homeowners (who were advised last year by EQC that their land was potentially at risk of increased flooding) were sent out flood vulnerability settlement packs. Though EQC's preference is to settle claims by paying the costs of repairing the land, they admit because of the nature of the damage, this has often not been feasible. Cash settlements are being made instead, based on the reduction in value of the property.

This cash won't make much difference to homeowners facing another winter in a home at risk of flooding and as a community it shows the importance of area wide solutions being initiated. I would hate to see our neighbours forced to walk away from their properties and neighbourhoods!

Other neighbours are still waiting for information on their properties concerning the risk of increased liquefaction. For these people it continues to be difficult to make decisions on fixing earthquake damaged homes without all the land information.

Five winters on and we continue to live with many of our core assumptions of certainty and predictability being uncertain and unpredictable. This can be stressful and provokes anxiety and distress that influence our responses to life.

It is important that we continue to recognise this in our relationships with friends, family and colleagues. It is important that we continue to support one another as we recover and adapt. We need to highlight other people's strengths and successes and help us all remember what makes us happy and incorporate it in our lives.

Research I read on post-disaster recovery has described recovery as community (re)development under extraordinary pressures and that our psychosocial recovery will require facilitating people's ability to adapt to assimilate and actively manage our altered present and future. Doing this together, helping one other, will make our futures better.

E Twaddell.

Emma Twaddell,
Co-chair SARA

5 Reasons to love living in St Albans

1. The pride most people take in their garden displays (in spite of the drought)
2. The good soil to grow our edibles
3. The pleasant street walks with all the coffee stops
4. The variety of schools from early childhood through to intermediate
5. The big choice of sports clubs for all seasons

By A. Resident

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No place for Market, cont.

Paul said that councillor Pauline Cotter had been "more than helpful", helping compose a letter to householders.

But Pauline played down her role. She was not aware that he had pulled the pin on the market but expressed shock at the outcome.

The council did not receive a resource consent application for the market, according to John Higgins, its resource consent manager.

He says activities such as markets that are held on a regular basis require resource consent as "non-residential activities in residential-zoned areas."

"Any resource consent application would need to address the size of the activity (number of stalls and people visiting), hours of the market, provision of car parking for both stall holders and customers, any proposed live or amplified sound and signage. These matters, along with who may be potentially adversely affected, would be assessed by Council."

The church site is zoned Residential L2. Rules surrounding the use of this land are outlined in pdfs available on the Council website. Search for Resource Consent (Planning). The council says that the rules can be varied and complex and invites people to a pre-application meeting before they submit a resource consent application.

Comment: It would seem that the council is operating under two sets of rules. One temporary set imposed by CERA as a result of the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Act 2011, allows for some flexibility in accommodating temporary or displaced activities and the other, the council's own tighter rules regarding land use. CERA is still operating, are those rules still operating or are they being phased out?

This does not bode well for further attempts to restart a market in St Albans, even markets on council-owned land may face the same hurdle. Anyone wanting to do anything outside the residential rules needs resource consent and deep pockets as the consents can add thousands of dollars to the total. Or consider setting up on non-residential land, perhaps?

Letter to the Editor

Dear StAN,

Congratulations on another wonderful edition of your St Albans newsletter Feb/March 2015. I especially enjoyed the article about the Packe St Park, which we are all so very proud of. However, I would like to offer clarification around the Park's quest for running water, sewer and electricity connections to an existing shed in the grounds. As yet the Friends of Packe St has made no formal request for funding assistance from the Shirley Papanui Community Board. If an application is received, it will be weighed on its merit as all other applications for worthy projects are. There is no doubt that the Community Board recognises and values the many, many benefits Packe St Park offers the local community, and the Community Board is there to support in any ways it can where appropriate. It is a testimony to all those who contribute their time, love and energy that the park will this year be celebrating 20 wonderful years!

Pauline Cotter

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Community spirit alive and well in Mersey Street

by Bronwyn Thomas

Old and new neighbours banded together at the Mersey Street Party on Saturday, 14 March in a bid to get to know one another and create a sense of community in the street.

Staged for residents living on Mersey Street, between Berwick and Westminster Streets, the party provided a great opportunity to meet neighbours in an informal setting.

Party organiser Bronwyn Thomas said it was a fantastic afternoon and was thrilled with the turn out.

"The sun came out and so too did the neighbours. The

The Mersey Street Party Group hired the St Albans Community Barbecue trailer and got to know one other

youngest person at the party was six weeks old and we had residents there who have lived on the street for more than 50 years. There were lots of good connections made. Two neighbours even discovered they work for the same company."

Mrs Thomas said it was also delightful watching the kids play together and get to know one another. "It's really nice to know who's about. It certainly makes you feel good about where you live and a bit safer. Everyone was very enthusiastic and so the next event is already in the pipeline."

Mrs Thomas said they hired the St Albans Community BBQ which provided a great focal point for the party. "It was a real community event; we had great support not just from the people on the street but also from local business."

Peter Timbs Meats Ltd donated sausages and SuperValue in Edgeware provided bread and tomato sauce. "We'd really like to thank them for getting behind us, it was just great."

The event was held a week ahead of Neighbours' Day Aotearoa which aims to connect neighbours to create more friendly, fun and safe neighbourhoods. "We hadn't realised that when we planned the event so the timing was serendipitous," said Mrs Thomas.

As a result of the event the group have now set up a Facebook Group Page to help them stay connected.

"It's a really useful tool especially if people need their pets fed while they're away or have any community news they want to share. There were some yummy cakes at the party and so we will be posting those recipes shortly." ⌘

Measles at kindy

Reports of a St Albans preschool with a case of measles have been tracked down to Sunbeam Kindergarten. The case was more than two weeks ago. Nevertheless, parents have received a letter from the Ministry of Health advising on symptoms, incubation period and vaccinations and teachers have been in touch with parents. With two confirmed cases (another case at a pre-school in Sumner) the CDHB is concerned that the disease could grab a foothold in the city. Measles is highly contagious but can be immunised against.

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Catholic school gardeners' green thumbs win gold

by Belinda Carter

St Albans Catholic School won gold and the People's Choice award inaugural Oderings School Gardens Show in early March.

The show was run by the Canterbury Horticultural Society, building on the success of the schools category at the 2014 Ellerslie International Flower, and was held in its centre in South Hagley Park.

The society held the event to build on the Ellerslie show competition by providing an ongoing opportunity for Canterbury schools to demonstrate the creativity and commitment of their students.

The St Albans garden was called Scented Night Garden (seen in photo below). The students wanted a garden that showed what it looked like when they were "tucked up at night". But it wasn't their initial idea. That started off as the result of a curious question asking why some flowers smelt and others did not. "We initially planned a garden filled just with fragrant plants but also added the excitement of a night setting," the students said.

Nicky Ryan Yates, the school's gardener said "the children were all really keen to share their knowledge and skills. Many already help their parents in the garden and understand the basics of cultivation, but for most students it was their first time working collaboratively on a really 'green' challenge"

Gold medallists: St Albans Catholic School Year 4-6 students show off their medals. From left to right: (back) Rosa, Niamh, Riley, James, Ewan, Zoe. (front) Lila, Amelia, Grace, Zoe, Scout.

St Albans was one of eight primary schools that entered the competition. The others were: West Melton Primary, Cathedral Grammar, Aidanfield Christian, Shirley Intermediate, Bishopdale, West Spreydon, and Bromley.

Each school produced a storyboard describing their garden theme, with judging criteria ranging from wow factor to construction, presentation and finishing. A planting plan was also required to help visitors identify all the plants in the exhibit.

CHS Manager Tony Kunowski said that the Society was delighted to have secured the support of Oderings Garden Centres as the naming rights sponsor along with a number of supporting sponsors including Intelligro, Magic Moss, Shrinkmaster, Christchurch Star, Weekend Gardener, Tui Garden Products and Christchurch South Rotary Club. ⌘

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Uniting parish about to rebuild church

The St Albans Uniting Parish is to demolish its buildings at the corner of Knowles St and Nancy Avenue and replace them with a modern structure.

The work is expected to start in April and be completed in December.

The present buildings were erected in the mid 1950s. The earthquakes shook them up a bit, but the main reason for building something new is that the seismic strength of the buildings does not meet the standards of the Methodist Church (which owns the property). It would have cost almost as much to bring the buildings up to the required minimum code, as to build something new. So we have gone for the brand new option.

St Albans Uniting is made up of Presbyterians and Methodists from formerly separate parishes in St Albans. The two churches amalgamated in 1997 and now worship in the one place.

The new church complex will have space for community activities and services, including the Men's Shed, which will be at Papanui High School during the rebuild.

The Breakfast Church for young families will be held each Sunday at 8.30 am in the parish lounge – in the house next to the church in Knowles Street. Music and Movement, an activity especially for parents and their young children, will also move to the parish lounge during the rebuild.

The parish also has an award winning community garden that grows produce for the community, free or for a koha.

For more information visit the website at www.stalbansuniting.org.nz, phone 385 7545 or email beamsup@xtra.co.nz ⌘

Scottish Society commemorates WWI

The Scottish Society of New Zealand is holding a service to commemorate WWI and its members who served in the NZ forces on May 10. Guest of honour is Col Chris Faulls, the Director of Army Reserve. The NZ Pipe band and pupils of St Albans Primary School will be taking part. The event will be held in the Scottish Society Hall at the corner of Edgeware Road and Caledonian Road and starts at 10.30am. Email resarf@paradise.net.nz for further information.

Youth writer wanted

Do you have your finger on St Albans pulse? What's it like living in St Albans as a young adult?

What's happening in the local band scene?

Share your views and write about what's up or what you would like to see happen in St Albans

Email news@stalbans.gen.nz or txt 021 163 3890

The St Albans News relies on your contributions. Please send your articles, letters and notices to: news@stalbans.gen.nz. The deadline for the next issue is Monday, May 18th

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Seeing green: St Patricks Day in Edgewa

Above: A cheeky little girl with her leprechaun father in 2014. Below: the leprechaun has had a bit of growth over the last year

Above: Green Sausages provided by Peter Timbs
Below: You've heard of rainbow coloured glasses, well, this fellow sees everything green.

are Village

Above: Sisterly silliness off to an early start at lunchtime
This chap's T-shirt (below right) features Bill Murray as a leprechaun.

Bailies at Edgware Village took on a distinct green tinge to mark St Patrick's Day on March 17, offering green sausages, green cakes and Irish delicacies. People got dressed up in silly hats and wore green garments in keeping with the theme. Ireland's national day is celebrated mostly by expat Irish and like-minded Kiwis. *Maria Hayward took the photographs.*

Green icing dolloped onto green sponge—yum?

St Albans Playcentre's 5+ fruit and vegetable week

by Cathy Mundy

Wow what a fantastic 5+ a day fruit and vegetable week we had at St Albans Playcentre!

Monday was spent creating healthy smoothies. The children loved selecting a variety of fresh fruit and vegetables to go in their smoothies, along with milk or yoghurt. Our parent help whisked up the children's creations and voila—frothy, fruity vege drinks.

Tuesday's families spent time making nachos with sweet juicy tomatoes—the children had fun mixing up a tasty salsa for the nacho chips.

Scone mixing

On Wednesday, the children enjoyed mixing up scone dough and adding in a delectable range of fruit and vegetables. These were baked into scone parcels and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Thursday's children made fruity frog creations with apples, raisins and cream cheese. They looked—and were—nice to eat, while the younger children delighted in colouring a pancake mixture with reduced carrot, beetroot or blueberries. These rainbow stacked pancakes looked and tasted fantastic in the little picnic we had at the end of our Playcentre session.

A fruity frog

Throughout the week the children not only had heaps of fun making, baking and eating but they broadened their knowledge and vocabulary of different fruits and vegetables. They had lots of practice making healthy food choices too.

A fish and chip night brought our families together on Friday evening, after which we shared delicious fruity desserts and vegetable snacks. Some of the children even dressed up as fruits and vegetables with a green 'running' bean and a strawberry among them.

Above: pancakes from start to finish. Below: the spread on Friday night

Apple cars with grape wheels, little fruit puddings with jelly and instant pudding, frozen pineapple coconut cream cubes, fruit platters, succulent raspberry jelly and moist blueberry cake made the perfect end to an awesome fruit and vegetable week.

St Albans Playcentre has spaces available if you and your family want to join in the fun. Contact us on 982 1643 to find out about your three free visits. ⌘

Breaking through the insurance logjam

by Marcus Irvine

Has your progress with Southern Response stumbled to a halt? Well, there's a programme designed to try and break the deadlock and get your insurance claim moving in the right direction.

Breakthrough is a pilot project between the independent community organisation CanCERN and Southern Response that puts the homeowner's needs at the centre.

"It enables you to tell them where it's gone wrong for you and how it could be better. It gets everyone on the same page so that common sense solutions can be worked out," said CanCERN spokesperson Leanne Curtis.

For one family, two facilitated Breakthrough meetings ended two and a half years of no progress. Participant Jan said, "This is a phenomenal programme. We have found our insurer willing to listen. We are moving forward now, unstuck after many years. CanCERN were incredibly supportive, following up our questions and ensuring timely answers were provided."

Breakthrough can't be used to advocate for a specific claim outcome and CanCERN won't give policy, legal or technical advice. However, what Breakthrough does do is facilitate meetings with Southern Response where you can talk about your experience and progress to date, explain why you are stuck, and explore pragmatic solutions for progress.

Breakthrough has the support of senior management at Southern Response. Chief Executive Peter Rose said, "We understand the earthquake claims process can be challenging. From our perspective, and constructive dealings with CanCERN, we are confident we can work together to improve our interaction and relationship with affected customers."

Breakthrough is currently a pilot project with Southern Response only. However, it will be assessed by CanCERN soon and if found to be successful, it may be expanded to include other insurers and EQC.

If you would like more information about Breakthrough, contact Marcus Irvine, CanCERN's communications manager – Ph: 027 304 8092 or email: marcus@cancern.org.nz.

CanCERN is a community organisation advocating for the prioritisation of homeowners in residential recovery decision-making and delivery.

www.cancern.org.nz ⌘

Scottish Society Hall Renovation

In April the Maiden Group will begin repairs on the nearly 140 year old Scottish Society Hall on the on the corner of Caledonian and Edgeware Roads.

The hall is the former wooden (although now roughcast clad) parish hall of St Matthew's Anglican Church and dates from 1876.

The first job is to remove the roughcast to check and or replace the weather boards. Then the interior is to be repaired room by room, enabling the hall to remain in continuous use.

"Of course of interest to all of us will be the quality of the weather boards. If we were lucky enough to have wood of the quality of St Michaels and All Angels built in 1872 and Knox Church built in 1880 then we look forward to serving the Edgeware/St Albans community for a further 140 years," the society's chief, Graeme Matheson says.

Over 20 groups use the hall on a regular basis and many others hire one or more of the rooms on a casual basis.

During the time of the repairs there will be a safety fence around the hall and there will be a safe corridor to enter the hall. There will be no carparking available on site.

The repairs are expected to be finished by the end of September to bring the hall up to current earthquake requirements.

"In the interim we apologise for the inconvenience to pedestrians and hope that this disruption will be for as short a period as is feasible. This will allow us to restore our hall and remain as a valuable resource to the St Albans community.". ⌘

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Tennis club celebrates court repairs

by John Laffey

Work is currently under way to repair earthquake damage to four of St Albans Tennis Club's six courts. The repaired courts will be another step along the path of earthquake recovery for the St Albans community. The tennis club hopes that the repaired courts will lead to a rejuvenation of the club that has struggled since the earthquakes.

The February 22 earthquake left two of the courts so severely damaged that they had to be replaced. The other four courts had a range of cracks, lumps and mounds but we have been able to continue playing on them. For the last four years our members have played under the challenging conditions of an uneven court surface. The only thing that can be said in favour of the damaged courts is that if you can get a serve to hit a lump it guarantees a point and a few laughs.

Last winter the club decided to repair four courts and defer replacing the two more severely damaged courts until the other repair work was completed. Multi Sport Surfaces started work in December cutting out the lumps and filling cracks. To the club's relief no damage to the courts' foundation was found. The replacement asphalt has been curing during January and the contractor is now applying a two tone green acrylic surface. The acrylic surface also needs time to cure so the repairs will not be complete until mid April.

Members are experiencing a strange mix of emotions of having to be patient for the repair work to be finished and growing excitement of having new courts to play on.

To start the rejuvenation the club is promoting its winter tennis with a special offer of a $20 membership to play from April to September. The club urges you to take advantage of this offer as there is no better way to spend an afternoon than playing tennis on one of Christchurch's sunny mild winter days.

For more information contact John Laffey, ph 351-2992. We are a social tennis club and welcome new members. Come and meet us at our Dover St courts (off Edgeware Rd) on Saturday afternoons from 2pm. ⌘

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Hockey Gold Repeat

Westminster Sports KiwiSport Coordinator Tracey Jones was part of the successful Canterbury Women's 40 team that won back to back golds at the recently competed National Masters Hockey Tournament in Napier.

The Canterbury team got out to a flyer in pool play scoring 23 goals whilst conceding only 1 in their first two matches. They then drew 0-0 with Auckland, before beating North Harbour 3-1 in the quarter finals.

Then a repeat of last year's final they beat Waikato 2-1 to earn a place in this year's gold medal match. A match Canterbury won 2-0 and deservedly returned with a golden glow.

The team were unbeaten in six games, with conditions (temperatures of 30 degrees) during some games making it tough work.

But as Tracey said 'It is all worth it, when you bring back gold'. ⌘

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Keeping the roads safe, You are all responsible

by Wayne Stapley

It has been well documented that the driving related deaths over the Christmas holiday period was one of the worst in years, and that comes down to drivers' attitudes. The number of deaths on the roads in 2015 (as at 13 March) stands at 55, compared to 51 at the same time in 2014, and 2014 was one of the highest in the last ten years.

Of those 55 deaths so far this year, Canterbury's record is the second worst district in the country with eight road deaths. That's eight families too many, who have lost a loved one.

As mentioned, a lot of this comes down to driver's attitudes, and I mention a couple here.

1. Police have noticed that a large number of drivers seem to have the wrong attitude when approaching intersections controlled by traffic lights. The common reason for not stopping for the 'yellow' light is, "I didn't have time to stop".

That's because drivers are not preparing themselves when they approach an intersection, that is, preparing to stop. They seem to be more prepared to accelerate through a yellow light. This means very late yellow lights and sometimes red. Not complying with a yellow traffic light can incur an instant fine of $150.

Be Prepared To Stop At Intersections

2. A number of drivers are still finding it necessary to answer their cell phones and talk on them while driving, texting while driving or when stopped at intersections waiting for the green light. This is all a loss of driver concentration. Either don't answer the phone or invest in a 'hands free' kit for your vehicle. Using a cell phone in any way can incur an instant fine of $80.

The New Zealand Police urge drivers to keep in mind the 'Fatal Five' when on the roads, that includes passengers reminding their drivers to drive in a responsible way: Speed, Alcohol, Keeping left, Seatbelts and Reckless or Dangerous driving.

(Wayne Stapley is the Community Constable, based at the Papanui Police Station) ⌘

Vibrant, people friendly city

by Nicky Wagner

What a wonderful summer for Christchurch! Although gardens aren't happy with the 'big dry', it has been fantastic for the many events that have kicked off the year here in Christchurch. We had the Busker's Festival in January, the Cricket World Cup in February and we recently hosted Te Matatini, the national Kapa Haka festival. It is great to see so many events, large and small, international and local happening in our vibrant, people-friendly city.

I was recently at the opening of the 'Pay It Forward' shop in Mairehau. This neat little shop is a great opportunity for local artists and craftsmen to display and sell their wares through community enterprise. I loved some of the items on display and did some of my Christmas shopping there. It is a great place to buy imaginative gifts for those special people in your life. Good luck to the team running this through the Neighbourhood Trust.

I enjoyed Polyfest on March 21 in Westminster Park. It was a good day to experience and learn about Pasifika cultures, customs and cuisines.

The 'Ideas to Remember' project has generated a large amount of feedback from the local community. We had over 300 original ideas and shortlisted them to the six that were released for public consultation. The fabulous feedback we received means that the final memorial will reflect the experience of everyone in Christchurch.

Enjoy the rest of the warm weather and make the most of all the local events as they come up. Volunteer community groups do a fantastic job and we should support them wherever possible. As always, if you have any issues or concerns my office is happy to help, so feel free to contact them via the details on the advert below. ⌘

NICKY WAGNER
MP FOR CHRISTCHURCH CENTRAL

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Funded by the Parliamentary Service and authorised by Nicky Wagner MP, 103 Salisbury Street, Christchurch.

National
www.national.org.nz

Community Notices

The St Albans History Group wants to make copies of any photos or records of earlier St Albans homes, businesses, personalities or locations. Anyone who could help with this project should contact Brian Spear for further information. His email address is: briangspear@hotmail.com

Packe St Park and Commmunity Garden Working Bee and Afternoon Tea: Thursdays 2 to 4pm.

St Albans Community Pre-school: Westminster St/Thames St Cnr. For more information contact Odette on 03 355 9396

St Albans Uniting Parish presents 'Community Comment' on the first Friday of each month @ 7.30pm. Nancy Ave/ Knowles St Cnr.

St Albans Leisure Group is an older adult's recreation group that provides social contact and activities for its members. Contact Wendy at sara@stalbans.gen.nz

FREE INSULATION Warm Up New Zealand: Healthy Homes projects provide free ceiling and underfloor insulation for low-income households occupied by people with health needs related to cold, damp housing. Available to home owners and tenants. Contact Right House 0800 744 569, EnergySmart 0800 777 111 or Community Energy Action Charitable Trust: 0800 GET WARM (0800 438 9276)

St Albans Community BBQ Trailer is available to hire for events. FREE to any St Albans resident to use for a street level event. Enquires to BBQ@stalbans.gen.nz

We're looking for volunteer writers, reporters, investigative journalists. At St Albans News, we're always striving to bring you the best articles, in depth reports and interesting facts about this great suburb that we live in. However, to do so, we are searching for more volunteer writers and reporters and even investigative journalists.

If you think you might be a good fit as a volunteer writer, reporter or investigator send an email to news@stalbans.gen.nz

Local residents needed to lead and/ or join local community projects: See the St Albans Community Strategy 2013-2023 for ideas of how you can help out in the community. Contact SARA@stalbans.gen.nz for more information.

St Albans Residents Association Community Discussion and Management Committee Meeting. Second Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Mairehau Library, Kensington Ave. All welcome.

Swim lessons. The family-friendly St Albans swimming club offers affordable swimming lessons in Shirley Intermediate School's laned, heated pool. The club often has a barbecue at the lessons. Lessons run from Monday to Thursdays, from 4-5.30pm. For more information email: paul.valerie@actrix.co.nz

Canterbury Embroiderers' Guild, Hammersley Community Centre. 11 Amos Place, off Marshlands Road. Groups meet Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri.Workdays with projects and tutored classes held during the year. All welcome who enjoy any form of stitching at any skill level. Contacts: Kate 027 446 0138 or Lynne 382 2572

Merivale Elite6: Every Thursday at 7:30am—8:30am (Arrive 7:20am to order a drink and/or breakfast). At McDonald's Merivale, 217 Papanui Rd, Christchurch 8014. www.elite6.co.nz/merivale/

Earthquake Support

Earthquake Support Coordinators are available to assist people navigate through the wide range of services involved in repairing and rebuilding people's homes and lives. The Coordinators work with you to access as little or as much help as you need. Earthquake Support Coordinators can meet with you anywhere you choose – your home, place of work, or other location. The assistance is free and confidential and can be contacted on 0800 777 846

Residential Advisory Service (RAS) 03 379 7027 – 0800 777 299

The Residential Advisory Service provides free, independent help to residential property owners who are facing challenges in getting their home repaired or rebuilt after it has been damaged by the Canterbury Earthquakes. For more information, go to: www.advisory.org.nz

Need help to find help? Feeling distressed and overwhelmed right now?

Call the Canterbury Support Line 0800 777 846 open 7 days from 9am to 11pm. Talking can help. Call 0800 777 846 to be referred to free and confidential advice.

New Zealand Red Cross help still available in Christchurch

Pack and Move. To assist households in greater Christchurch with limited or no insurance who are moving house because of the earthquakes. Up to $750 per household paid directly to the moving company

Storage Grant. To assist earthquake affected homeowners and renters who have had to vacate their property and pay for storage anytime since 4th September 2010 and have exhausted other financial assistance to pay for storage. Up to $1,000 per household

Independent Advice Grant. To assist homeowners in the Red/Green TC3 Zones or who have over $100k of damage with obtaining assistance on what to do with the earthquake-damaged property.Up to $750 per Household. For more information go to: www.redcross.org.nz and click on Canterbury or phone 0800 754 726

Let's Find and Fix is a CanCERN project. Call 0800 233 551 - let's find it and fix specifically targets those homes where there are holes in external walls, the roof or floor, or plastic used as cladding. Problems with drainage where the toilet backs up, or there is raw sewerage/waste water or polluted liquefaction lying on the property. External windows or doors do not open, shut or lock properly.

In the Know is a question-and-answer based service that aims to make it easier and faster for residents to get information about the residential rebuild and repair process. In The Know can be found online at: www.intheknow.org.nz or contact Leanne at CanCERN on 027 655 5665 for more information

Canterbury Earthquake Temporary Accommodation Service

Attention landlords!

Temporary Accommodation needed

Do you have houses you rent out for short term accommodation (6-8 months) and don't mind pets?

CETAS (Canterbury Earthquake Temporary Accommodation Service) is looking for unfurnished rentals, under $600pw in central or eastern Christchurch to house people while their earthquake damaged homes are repaired or rebuilt.

Email: cetas.property@mbie.govt.nz or telephone Andrea 966 7624

St Albans News Classifieds

SERVICES

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

Bookkeeper: Help with getting your accounts sorted for an accountant, startup, cashflow, budgeting and funding applications. Call Carole 021 264 5772

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

Dog Wash and Groom
352-4133, www.dogwashandgroom.co.nz

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

Gardening: Ants' Lawn and Garden services, reasonable rates, WINZ quotes ph: 980 4070

Glazier, Glass repairs, pet doors, mirrors, new glazing, conservatory roofs, pensioner discount. 40 yrs experienced tradesman. Call Bill on 981 1903, mobile 022 413 3504

Heat Pump Installer. On time, every time. Call Blair 377 7393

Hairdresser: Long lasting shiny hair colour, organic based ammonia free, good for you, good for the environment. Great haircuts. The Lounge Organic Hairdressing, 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.
www.peteknuiman.co.nz
pete@peteknuiman.co.nz

Moa Cottages. EQC repair. Fully furn. cottages in various locations in St.Albans/Merivale. Everything supplied just bring toothbrush.
www.boutiquestays.co.nz ph.385 4789

Painting & Decorating EQC Accredited. Opt out work, Project Management, Gib Fixing. Plastering. Piling, building work. References, Est. 50 Years, Ph Mark 021 171 1586 or John 027 432 9870

Painting and Decorating: Internal/external. 22 years experience plastering. Owner operator, efficient service, locally based. Phone or text Mark at 027 434 3300

Tillock Tiling. For all your tiling needs. Waterproofing specialist. Contact Eric Tillock at ptek86@hotmail.com or 022 129 0850. No job too small or big.

Microwave oven repairs from $35 at your home or business. Qualified, experienced technician. Ph Alan 385-3830 027 646 1425 or microwaves.co.nz

Talking Therapy: Registered Psychotherapists, 178 Harewood Road, Papanui, Christchurch. Ph: 354 8045, fax: 3548042, http://www.talkingtherapy.co.nz/

Clarinet, Sax, Flute, Guitar, Bass, & Piano—Experienced local teachers. Ph Nicola and Ivan 377 1753

Meditative Yoga: St Albans Shirley Club 269 Hills Road. Tuesdays 10–11.30am. Gentle, enjoyable, relaxing, ideal for mature bodies, fuller figures, beginners. Phone Pauline 980-8760

Yoga Class Thursdays 10am - 11.15am Abberley Park Hall in the delightful Abberley Park - all abilities and ages welcome. Tracy 02204 86949 or 03 356 1754

Homebased Educator. Qualified teacher providing care in Edgeware. Small family sized groups. One to one attention care and education. Phone KIDDZ 0800454339

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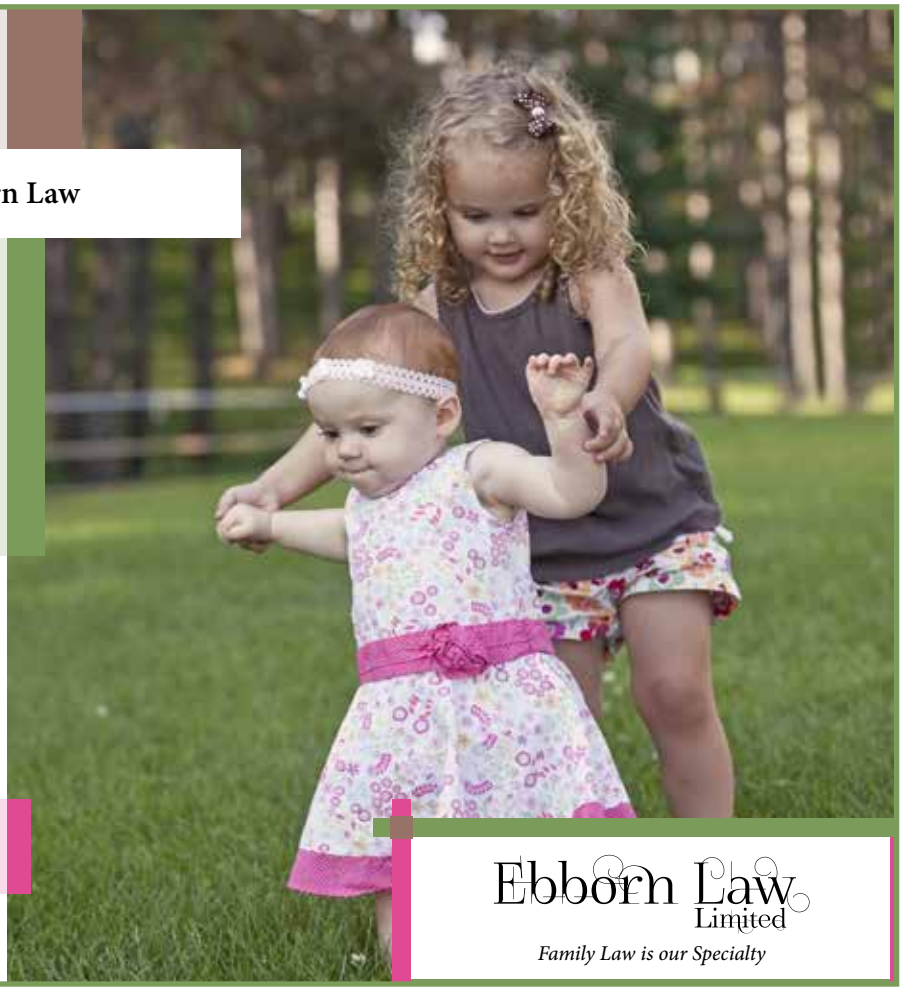

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