

Long wait for flooding solution continues

Flooding works to fix the repeated flooding in Edgeware Village could be at three years away, city council staff told a drop-in session they had organised at the St Albans Community Centre in mid-November.

The costs, estimated in 2018 at \$23 million for a drainage system that would empty directly into the Avon River, would need to be spread over several years, council staff revealed after pointed questioning by Shirley resident Don Gould. Design work and consultations prior to construction would mean the process could take three years.

Emmett St residents in Shirley described what it was like being marooned in their homes for three days when all the council offered was a sign that said "Flooding". Along with dealing with rat-running traffic coming off the motorway Francis St residents still face (ankle-deep) flooding despite the completion of the Dudley Creek flooding works.

It irks residents when the council says the residents should do something about the problem themselves eg: keeping drains clear. They want preventative maintenance, faster responses, better communication and action from council staff. Peter Timbs, the butchery at the lowest point in Edgeware Village, has access to a borrowed water pump but it is costly.

Cr Pauline Cotter, who was present, said a survey was underway to identify places across the city that have flooding problems so work can be prioritised. ❧

Rehua marae marks passing of kaumatua Terry Ryan



Terry was a much beloved whānau member of Rehua Marae where he spent so much of his life. He was a fixture at activities there and was always warm and friendly, welcoming all. The flocks of people who came to pay their respects to him are testament to the esteem he was held in. He never seemed to forget a name or a face and recalled tamariki who attended Rehua Kohanga Reo even decades later. He was noteworthy for his encyclopedic knowledge of Ngai Tahu whakapapa and always seemed able to connect people up when they were searching. The paepae just won't seem the same without Terry on the bench. Moe mai i te aroha o te Atua Terry.

na Maggy Tai Rākena

by Belinda Carter

In late October, Aotearoa/New Zealand lost a totara tree, metaphorically speaking, when Dr Terry Ryan died aged 80. According to Waatea News, the Waipu-born leader with family affiliations to Te Tai Tokerau and Scottish/Nova Scotian ancestry came to Otautahi Christchurch where he became a trade training officer at a hostel for Māori trade apprentices. He ended up spending most of his life in this city and was the marae's longest serving employee when he retired in 2020 after 45 years, according to Te Ao Māori News.

Terry Ryan was farewelled at Te Whatumanawa Māoritanga o Rehua Marae and flown to Northland where he was buried at Waipu cemetery.

How do you sum up the life of this multi-talented individual and leader? Kaiwhakahaere Lisa Tumahai from Ngai Tahu Runanga paid tribute to Terry Ryan in te reo Maori and English. What follows are her words, reprinted from the Ngai Tahu website.

Ka taki auē te iwi whānui ki te whatukura kua riro atu nei

Te tohuka o te whakapapa, te kaiwhiri i te kupu

E pā, kua pōhara tō iwi i tō korenga

He kōtuku rerenga tahi koe, e kore e kite tō momo anō

Waiho mai i a mātou tō rahi, kia tangi nei, kia haku nei

Mā mātou tō ōhaki e whakatinana

E pā, hanatū rā, hāere, moe mai e

continued on page 6





A good year at the community centre

Hey neighbours.

Glad you are reading the St Albans News. I was told this issue of STAN will mark 29 years since the first publication in December 1993. It's one of the many cool things SARA does in the community. I would really like to thank all the people involved with the STAN, you all do great work on this valuable community resource.

At SARA we have been busy these past months joining other residents' associations in Christchurch to encourage the city council to vote No to notifying the proposed district plan changes that would have implemented the government's Medium Density Residential Standards. We will post further updates as they become available but this past week the government appointed an "investigator" to meet with the Christchurch City Council and we hope that the Residents Associations will also have the opportunity to engage with him.

Kohinga /St Albans Community Centre continues to win awards. In October we received an award from the Christchurch Civic Trust, and in mid-November Kohinga received a national public architecture award from the NZ Institute of Architects. If you haven't had a chance to look through it yet join us for the Christmas Market on December 3.

We at SARA and Kohinga would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas. Take care and enjoy time with family and friends

Take care, Jason Harvey, SARA Chair



Give a little to fund a job

A give a little page has been organised to raise funds to give gardener Euan Johnston more hours of work at the St Albans Community Centre. Euan's cerebral palsy has thrown up barriers that have kept him out of work since 2011. Activator Emma Twaddell from SARA (a registered charity) and Skillwise put their heads together to come up with a role for Euan to use his horticultural skills and secured 15 hours of work but lack of funding has now reduced this to 5. Euan works mainly at Kohinga Mara, the garden beside the community centre but occasionally helps out with the planter boxes around Edgeware Village. SARA is aiming for \$10,000 to keep Euan employed for longer hours. SARA is keen to provide meaningful and accessible employment opportunities for people with disabilities. To assist Euan visit <https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/help-keep-euan-employed-in-the-community-garden>, check out the work he does and donate before December 17. Anything over \$5 earns tax credits.



Advertising in St Albans News

If you would like to advertise in the News, phone Lynne on 027 433 4469 or email advertising@stalbands.gen.nz

Please ask for a copy of our ratesheet, which specifies sizes, prices and requirements.

SARA Committee

St Albans Residents Association meets at St Albans Community Centre, 1049 Colombo St. on February 15 at 7pm.

St Albans History Group

St Albans history group will next meet on Monday December 5 at 2pm at the St Albans Community Centre and on February 13. There is no meeting in January. Email: briangspear@hotmail.com

Wednesday Wheelies

Wednesday Wheelies meet at 9 am, St Albans Community Centre carpark on Caledonian Road.

BBQ Trailer for hire

St Albans Community BBQ Trailer is available to hire for events. Marquee also available for hire, separately or with the barbecue, for corporate events, community gatherings or private celebrations. Enquiries to: BBQ@stalbands.gen.nz

SARA Website

Check out SARA's website on www.stalbands.gen.nz. Contains digital copies of St Albans News, a calendar of events and occasional blog posts.

StAN on Facebook

St Albans News is published every month. If you wish to comment on stories you read in St Albans News or anything that is happening in the area, you can write a letter to the editor (and wait) or you can go to our Facebook page: [StAlbansNews](https://www.facebook.com/StAlbansNews) and post a message there immediately.

SARA on Neighbourly

SARA also has a presence on Neighbourly, a community asset owned by Stuff. Contains notices, advice, things to buy or sell and topics of interest to the neighbourhood. www.neighbourly.co.nz

SARA on Facebook

Emma Twaddell has set up a Facebook page for the St Albans Residents Association. <https://www.facebook.com/SARA.StAlbans>

SARA and Centre news

Community centre receives architectural award

The St Albans Community Centre won two awards recently, one for its heritage value in Christchurch and the other a nationwide recognition of its architecture and construction.

Kohinga won an award from Christchurch's Civic Trust in October for the design and reinstatement of the community centre. Praising the use of pinus radiata on the exterior, spruce gulum beams and timber CLT (cutting edge laminated wood) used on floors, walls and ceilings, the citation referred to the "innovative purpose-built community centre" as a "stunningly beautiful building".

The St Albans Centre might not have won the overall New Zealand Institute of Architects' award for public architecture but it was the recipient of a national award for its design and construction at the NZIA conference in Christchurch Town Hall on November 18. The overall public architecture winner was the Auckland City Mission.



Former CCC architect Crispin Schurr (now at Buchan Group), who designed Kohinga, addresses the NZIA annual awards ceremony watched by former COFFEY project manager Alistair Cory-Wright and PTL structural engineers Emma O'Neil and Daniel Moroder

SARA committee setting own goals

The St Albans Residents Association's management committee is spending a day in mid-December updating its strategy and setting goals. The wider community will be consulted in 2023 over what projects residents would like to see happen in St Albans and a new 10 year plan for 2024 - 2033 will be drawn up. A similar event was held

in 2012 at the Scottish Society Hall in Caledonian Road and participants came up with a list of 20 projects, such as the community centre and a partially implemented fitness trail at Malvern Park.

To find out more about the projects visit this website:

https://stalbands.gen.nz/?page_id=5836



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Send your news contributions and adverts to:

news@stalbands.gen.nz

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

Letters can be mailed to:

PO Box 36687, Chch 8146

Editor: Belinda Carter

Contributors: Leigh Figgitt, Lydia Matthews, Lisa Tumahai, Helen Kidd, Pauline Cotter, Basil, and Maggy Tai Rakena

Production staff: Lynne O'Keefe, Sarah O'Keefe, and Daph Parkins.

Layout & advertisement design:

Maria Hayward

Advertising: Lynne O'Keefe

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

SARA and Centre news

Community Centre hours

Kohinga St Albans Community Centre will be closed from December 22 for the Christmas and New Year period, reopening on January 9. Office hours, usually 9am-1pm, will be limited until Monday February 3.

The centre is available for hire. For booking enquiries please phone 972 5534 and leave message or email communitycentre@stalbans.gen.nz. You can also visit our website sacc@org.nz to view the centre calendar and submit enquiries.

Computer help offline for holidays

NeighbourNet, which offers help with Windows computers and Android devices at the St Albans Community Centre will shut down for the holidays on December 17, reopening on January 17. The group of volunteers operates from the Muriel Soanes Room, also referred to as the History Room because of all the photos on the wall, from 10-12 on Tuesday and Thursday morning and 1-3pm on Saturdays.

The seniornet Mac group, which helps Apple users with iPhones, iPads and Mac computers at the centre on Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10-12 is also closing over Christmas from December 16, reopening on January 16.



Always wanted to learn Italian?

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Join us for language classes, monthly meetings, film nights and more.

All levels are welcome.

For more information email: dantechch@gmail.com or visit www.dantechch.com



Lottery grant funds centre staff

St Albans Residents Association employed staff are the beneficiaries of a grant from the Lottery Canterbury Kaikōura Community Committee. The St Albans Residents Association asked for \$23,000 and was granted \$15,000 towards wages.

Funding for SARA

The following organisations fund the activities of the St Albans Residents Association (including St Albans News)



New start time for coffee and chat

The Wednesday Coffee and Conversations sessions run by All Souls Church at the St Albans Community Centre will be starting slightly earlier in 2023 to bring them in line to the hours of a similar event at the Merivale Corner. The first meeting will be held at McDonalds on January 12 at 10.30am but when the sessions at the community centre resume on January 18 the two hour coffee and conversations sessions will start at 10.30am. The group also runs a nibbles and refreshments session on the second Saturday of the month (starting January 14) for one hour from 4pm. Spreading some end of the year Christmas Cheer, the All Souls community hub co-ordinator in St Albans Leigh Figgitt thanks those who have participated in the All Souls group activities run at Kohinga/ St Albans Community Centre and wishes everyone Merry Christmas.

The St Albans Residents Association and the staff at the St Albans community centre staff wish everyone happy holidays and a warm summer. Note: there is no Thursday morning tea in December and January.

St Albans News wishes you Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We'll be back in late January. The deadline for the February issue of the St Albans News is January 16. Please send your articles, letters and notices to: news@stalbans.gen.nz

Sustainability

Recycle lightbulbs through Mitre 10

Don't put old lightbulbs in the red bin - they should not even go in there. Take them (including LED and fluorescent bulbs) to Mitre 10 where partner Interwaste will organise for the glass to become glass wool and turned into insulation to keep homes warm. They will also extract other

substances such as mercury and send that off to the dental industry. This service is available for residential customers only but for safety reasons this does not include broken bulbs. Trade customers, should contact:

Interwaste at 0800 102 131.

Ways to recycle makeup in Christchurch

Old makeup packaging can be recycled through the Maybelline Greener Together Recycling Programme at Chemist Warehouse, but there are limits in what they will recycle.

Global giant Maybelline is partnering with New Zealand company Terracycle to reduce makeup waste going to landfill and the need to extract more raw materials from earth to create new products. They recycle any brand of used makeup packaging but may not accept all items dropped off. The nearest Chemist warehouse is opposite Northlands Mall. An interactive map on the terracycle website <https://www.terracycle.com/> assists with locating the nearest drop off point, Chemist Warehouse near Northlands Mal (and for other recyclable items)

They will take makeup tubes and bottles with lids, soft and rigid makeup packaging, plastic eye, brow and lip liners, mascara tubes and wands, lipsticks and gloss, compacts and palettes, pumps, caps and droppers. However, they won't accept aerosol cans or perfume bottles, wooden makeup pencils, wipes or facemasks, nail polish bottles or removers, bags, brushes, makeup sponges, false eyelashes, eyelash curlers and other beauty accessories. Packaging still containing lots of product will not be accepted. Outer cardboard packaging is best recycled with the city council.

Once collected, the makeup packaging is cleaned and separated by material type. The fibres and plastics are recycled into raw formats that manufacturers use to make new products.

Busy time at Kōhinga māra

Things have been moving at Kōhinga Māra, the garden beside the community centre. Blair English from Downright Drains (pictured) levelled the new site at the northern end of the garden for the portacom with its colourful mural. It was then moved into position by Smith Cranes, where it is waiting for electricity to be connected. It makes the whole garden seem much bigger than it was but another raised garden plot is about to be added soon, possibly at the volunteers' working bee on November 26. New volunteers are always welcome and they get to take vegetables home. If the birds don't get them first, there could be strawberries for Christmas. Gardener Euan Johnston has been busy painting fences black on the northern and eastern boundaries of 130 Caledonian Rd.



Community activator Emma Twaddell and resident Mark Wilson check out the re-sited portacom.



St Albans Pavilion and Pool board member Peggy Kelly and a young helper dig out plants from a local garden for sale at the upcoming Christmas Market at Kohinga on December 3. A group of pool supporters spent a weekend digging and potting plants from an established garden of a soon to-be-demolished house in St Albans. The potted plants are a fundraiser for the Edgeware Pool Group at the Christmas Market on December 3

Rehua marae marks passing of kaumatua Terry Ryan

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We are deeply saddened to acknowledge the passing of Dr Terry Ryan. Often referred to as Uncle Terry, Terry Ryan offered years of his service to ngā iwi katoa and particularly Ngāi Tahu through his mahi as the Secretary of Rehua Marae and the Kawai Kaitiaki of Ngāi Tahu Whakapapa. Terry's lifetime of achievements, depth of knowledge and warm nature will be missed by many.

In 1994 Terry was awarded the MBE in the Queen's Honour List 'for services to the Māori community of the South Island' and in 2001 he received an honorary Doctorate of Science Degree for his large contributions to genealogy.

In amongst all of Terry's contributions to Ngāi Tahu whānau and the wider community, Terry was most well recognised for his role as the Kawai Kaitiaki of Ngāi Tahu Whakapapa and his acknowledged authority on the contemporary whakapapa of the Ngāi Tahu people. He began work in this area with the Ngāi Tahu Trust Board in 1974, providing critical background for the Ngāi Tahu Claim. It was within this context that he was able to showcase his uncanny ability to recite whakapapa files and draw connections between whānau members based simply on appearance and individual nature. Whānau from across the motu reached out for his knowledge and he was always happy to give of his time. He would often visit Waipu during

winter to enjoy the warmer weather and reconnect with whānau up there.

Terry served in many roles – Māori Land Court clerk; Māori Land Court Title Improvement Officer; Senior Court Clerk and Deputy Registrar, South Island Māori Land Court; Trade Trainee Officer, Department of Māori Affairs; Private Secretary to the Minister of Tourism and Associate Minister of Social Welfare; and Adviser to Inland Revenue. He was also involved in drafting the legislative provision that recognised Māori as an official language of New Zealand. He was involved with numerous civic organisations, including Life Member of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust. In his later life Terry combined his love for history, research and people by dedicating time to being Kaumatua for Christchurch City Libraries.

More than a depth of knowledge, regarded for his knack for building deep connections, Uncle Terry was a loving friend and whānau member to many.

*Haere e Pā, ki tō kura makau e tatari ana ki a koe
Ki ō nui, ki ō rahi i te pō
Ko āu kura nui, ka mau ki a hirikapo ao noa, pō noa
Nō reira e Pā, moe mai
Mōhou tai ata, mō mātou ki muri a tai ahiahi
Auē, ko te tangi taukuri e*



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Making progress for New Zealand



Doing the same thing to address the same problems may seem the easy thing to do, however history has shown that if there is real change to be made then brave steps are needed.

New Zealand has a history of taking bold action – universal suffrage, old age pensions, unemployment benefits, and being nuclear free have all been world leading, and world changing, New Zealand initiatives.

While we need to make sure to soften the effects of global challenges such as high inflation and rising mortgage rates, we also need to remember that the long term challenges are caused by deeper and more structural problems.

Climate change is the most obvious. We have, especially over the past 100 years, developed an economy which is addicted to non-renewable carbon based energy. The science is now clear that to continue down this road will cause irreversible changes to our climate. The effects of that are immediate, direct, and will affect our community. Drought, flooding, storm events and sea level rise are only a few effects which, if not mitigated, will radically change the way we live and how financially secure we are.

The solutions are not abstract – they are concrete, local, and immediate. While in the short term we are looking at planting trees to offset emissions, this is only a temporary sandbank on an incoming tide. In the next 30 years we need to be a society which is carbon neutral. That means that our electricity needs to be from renewable sources and our transport needs to be carbon free.

This means change.

We need to diversify our transport to make buses, walking and cycling easier; we need to travel less distance, and we need to phase out diesel and petrol cars.

This is a whole-of-system change that requires a rethink of how we live - whether we should have a retail industry which presumes that people will drive across town, and whether we should be encouraging more sprawling housing on the city fringes on the assumption that roads will be built or widened to allow easy commutes.

It may just be a little bit of something old and something new that is needed. More compact, walkable suburbs where friends, schools, services, recreation and entertainment are around the corner may sound a little like the village of yesteryear. However a modern city will mean we are connected virtually, can access goods and services online, and facilities are accessible to all.

St Albans and Edgware are superbly placed to demonstrate how modern suburbs can do all of these things and at the same time create strong, resilient, connected and safe communities. That is just one of the reasons that I live here.

Change is challenging but necessary, and it requires us to think not just about what we want today, but what will be needed for our children's children to enjoy a happy and prosperous life.

Governments of the past that were transformational made the big and hard calls. Nuclear free, old age pensions, universal suffrage. This Government isn't here to stand still, and Kiwis don't want us to.

Dr Duncan Webb
MP for Christchurch Central

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

We'll be taking a short break and the office will reopen on Monday, January 9. We do hope you enjoy a peaceful break with family and friends.

Your Christchurch Central team,
Duncan, Sonya and Chloe

duncan.webb@labour.org.nz | [f/DuncanWebbLabour](https://www.facebook.com/DuncanWebbLabour) | [i/duncanwebbnp](https://www.instagram.com/duncanwebbnp)



Authorised by Duncan Webb MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

News from the city council

Board by-election to choose Innes representative

by Belinda Carter

A by-election is being held by postal vote in Innes ward on February 17 to replace Waipapa Papanui-Innes-Central Community Board member and People's Choice candidate Shreejana Chhetri who resigned in late October.

Appointing the candidate with the next highest vote count would have been the sensible idea – in this case Mark Wilson who was only a few hundred votes behind – saving the anticipated \$75000 cost. However, it would require council rules to be changed to allow that to happen, board chair Emma Norrish said after the board's October 28 meeting.

Nominations can be made at service centres or online and close on December 22. Candidates do not need to be ward residents, but their nominators do, electoral officer Jo Daly told Christchurch City Council's Newline.

Mark Wilson who, with little campaigning, came in a few hundred votes shy of Shreejana in October, is throwing his hat in the ring again. The St Albans resident, came to prominence when he and current St Albans Residents Association chair Jason Harvey, who lived near each other, took exception to the council's DEMP plan to turn Warrington/Berwick St into the main route into town for traffic coming off the motorway and into the central city. The pair organised a petition that was presented to the city council for residents to sign and this helped get the council

to focus on Cranford St. They also called for better public transport to help reduce traffic congestion on that route. Mark continues to work in the community.

Harrison McEvoy, who stood for Innes ward in the October election, announced his plans on social media (Mastodon and Twitter) to stand in the by-election. The progressive 23 year old could capture the youth vote (18+) if younger voters bother to vote and this mobile generation's new addresses are up-to-date.

Former board member Ali Jones has opted not to run in the by-election and word on the street is that People's Choice will not run a candidate this time.

After losing his Papanui councillor role to Victoria Henstock, Mike Davidson is now running for the Innes ward on the community board. He has been on the board as councillor (a council appointment) for the last nine years and if he wins the postal vote is "really excited about the opportunity to continue that work."

Voting papers will be posted out on January 26. Special votes eg: for change of address, new enrolments etc can be made in person between January 26 and February 17 at service centres.

The winner of this by-election will represent Innes ward (a large part of it is St Albans) on the new Papanui-Innes-Central community board, alongside Emma Twaddell.

Pauline Cotter remains Innes councillor

by Belinda Carter

Pauline Cotter remains councillor for Innes ward (and deputy mayor) after a recount in early November but her majority was reduced from 16 to eight.

The recount was requested by fellow candidate Ali Jones and ordered by a district judge over inconsistent interpretation of a rule requiring an election staff signature as a witness on voting papers of those making special votes.

Christchurch City Council electoral officer Jo Daly said it wasn't required. The judge's interpretation after the event was that it was required so a few more votes were disallowed, mainly affecting those who voted at the

Beckenham service centre, but not enough to overturn the final results.

There were 167 specials cast during the postal vote period for the Innes ward councillor, of which 37 were deemed invalid. People not enrolled to vote were responsible for 27 of those and 10 had deficiencies in their special vote declaration.

During the recount, electronic scanning equipment was used to count the normal votes while the judge counted special votes, informal and blank votes.

In the final (re)count, Pauline Cotter received 2638 votes, Ali Jones 2630, Mark Wilson 724 and Carl Bromley 384, with 38 informal votes and 243 voting papers left blank.

Names drawn out of a hat

The names of the chair and the deputy chair of the new Papanui-Innes-Central Community Board had to be drawn out of a hat, or rather a black cap, at the board's inaugural meeting on October 28. CCC CEO Dawn Baxendale had to do this twice after contests between Emma Norrish (Papanui) and Sunita Gautam (Central) and Simon Britten (Papanui) and Sunita were drawn 4-4 for both positions. Emma and Simon, whose names were picked as chair and deputy for the next three years, held these roles with the previous board. They offer some continuity but with a larger area to cover now the Central ward is part of the community board.

Edgware Green could be revived

For a brief period a decade ago, the area around the water pumps in Trafalgar St and the demolished Edgware pool site was a community garden, tended by keen locals and known as Edgware Green. Trees were planted and a brick labyrinth was laid. But then a few years ago an issue with Christchurch water quality saw the underground pipes raised and caged (and also alarmed). Public access was cut off. Innes representative Emma Twaddell told Papanui-Innes-Central Community Board on November 10 that with the pipe work completed there was now no reason the public should be kept from it. Cr Pauline Cotter said that the pool group planned to provide access from Trafalgar St to the pool when it is rebuilt.

THE 12 DAYS BEFORE Christmas

Add an item to a box each day and before Christmas, donate it to a food bank or give it to someone it will help this Christmas. This list will provide a family with two NZ favourites, Shrimp Cocktails for a starter and Pavlova for dessert as well as some condiments to add to the main meal but you could create your own menu

- 12 Tinned shrimp
- 11 Thousand Island Dressing
- 10 Lemon Juice
- 9 Tinned Asparagus
- 8 Tinned Peas
- 7 Cranberry Sauce
- 6 Gravy Mix
- 5 longlife milk
- 4 tinned berries
- 3 pavlova
- 2 custard powder
- 1 flake chocolate bar

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Investigator working with council on housing impasse

Investigator John Hardie, who has skills in mediation and knowledge of Christchurch, has been appointed by the Government to work collaboratively with the council to find an intensification solution that best suits the city. He began work on November 21.

The investigation was outlined in a letter from the Associate Minister for the Environment Phil Twyford to Mayor Phil Mauger in response to a letter from CCC sent in September to Environment Minister David Parker declining to notify plan change 14 to the Resource Management Act, as the city council did not support the one size fits all approach the government had legislated for in the main cities through its new Medium Density Residential Standards and requesting a bespoke plan.

Acting Mayor Pauline Cotter, filling in for Mauger who was on holiday in Fiji at the time, welcomed the appointment of an investigator to work with the council to find the best outcome for Christchurch. "We are not against housing intensification, but we do not want a blanket, citywide approach. There are some areas where allowing more housing does make sense and we're willing to look at that."

If notified it would have meant people in most residential areas of Christchurch could build up to three homes, up to 12 metres high (generally three storeys) on a site, without resource consent, and in some areas up to six storeys close to commercial centres but with a resource consent and other requirements. ☞

Letterbox thief at work

Neighbours living in Trafalgar and nearby streets are reporting that their letterboxes have been targeted by thieves. Trails of ripped open envelopes have been found on footpaths on a regular basis and residents suspect someone local is doing this, often early in the morning. Community board member Emma Twaddell recommended reporting thefts to the police through the 105 phone line every time they happen because the more reports are made the more likely something will be done about the problem. ☞

Dogs vulnerable to toxic algae

Keep your dog on a lead near St Albans Creek. There have been reports of potentially toxic cyanobacteria algae in greater Christchurch waterways. Dogs like to lick or eat the dark brown or black mats with slimy or velvety texture and musty smell but it can be quick acting and fatal to them. The algae can make water look cloudy. Dogs may experience lethargy, muscle tremors, fast breathing, twitching, paralysis, and convulsions while humans in contact with water containing cyanobacteria may experience tingling or numbness, breathing difficulty, gastrointestinal symptoms, or skin rashes. ☞

Festive greetings from Cr Cotter

Kia Ora,

By the time you read this we will be very much into the festive season once again, and I'm sure I'm not alone in wondering where the year has gone! St Albans is blooming and even though some new builds do not have much garden space, our parks and street trees are looking good. By the way, if you notice the sprinklers going in the parks please be aware that they are not connected to the drinking water infrastructure; they have their own bores, so when irrigating they are not interfering with or preventing any works being carried out on our pumps and well heads. It's great to see the wonderful development of the community garden at Kohinga, and the fruits of the mahi of the many volunteers.

The Flockton/Francis traffic calming trials have concluded and staff will now engage with residents and the Papanui-Innes-Central community board to determine what worked and

what didn't and 'where to from here', so watch this space early next year.

The Edgware Pool project is looming closer to becoming a reality, with two big funding applications being lodged recently. It now has a website through which donations can be lodged securely so please check it out and help if you can. The pool group currently requires \$100,000 to contract the detailed design drawings, which will enable the building consent to be lodged and the construction to begin.

If you are going away for a Christmas break this year take care and note the speed reductions on many roads, as this is proven to have significant benefits in reducing crashes. Be patient and enjoy the journey. And if staying in Christchurch, there's lots to do here including taking the opportunity to check out all the different cycleways, our beautiful parks, the pump track at Shirley Reserve or putting some time in at the Kohinga or Packe St community



gardens in return for some fresh vegetables.

Or think about taking a bus ride? The Government has extended half price bus fares until the end of January, and possibly forever for those with a community services card, and Ecan is increasing the number of electric buses in their fleet, for a climate friendly quiet ride. But above all look out for each other, be safe and enjoy the festive season.

Meri Kirihimete

Pauline Cotter Councillor for Innes and Deputy Mayor ☞

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Canon St residents chase traffic calming solution

Fast moving cars – some going 100kph – have turned a section of Canon St into a bit of a race track for drivers wanting to move from Manchester St to Madras St and vice versa.

Local residents Graham and Sue ACourt brought the issue to the attention of Papanui-Innes-Central Community Board during the Public Forum session at the board's meeting on November 10, asking for more to be done.

Canon St residents had been promised some traffic calming as part of the downstream management (DEMP) plan at the time when the motorway link opened bring more traffic into the area but disappointingly this had not happened in Canon St. Traffic calming has focussed on finding solutions to traffic behaviour on streets near Flockton St (a work in progress) and in Sherborne St.

Although there are signs in Canon St requiring a 40kph speed limit many drivers are ignoring them and not stopping at stop signs. Some of them travelling as fast as 100kmh are turning the street into a “damn racetrack” Graham said. There weren't any set times for such behaviour.

Although the term “boy racers” was used initially to describe driver behaviour the ACourts said was no one

type of driver or vehicle involved. Sue suggested it could be a souped up performance car or a range rover speeding because the driver was running late to an appointment.

The couple have lived overseas and did not face such traffic problems in intensified cities in Switzerland or Singapore. Working from home in St Albans they have been able to observe bad driving in local streets and have had trouble getting in and out of their driveway safely at times. Neighbours have had similar experiences, they said.

In a street full of retired people and families with young children, the ACourts were worried that someone could be badly hurt by a speeding vehicle. They want the city council to make it tough for drivers so they can't speed.

As a start, board chair Emma Norrish plans to ask staff to monitor traffic using Canon St and count vehicles for a week. She would also bring the matter of calming methods to the attention of the DEMP team.

Excessive speed was a city-wide problem but police have powers to confiscate vehicles if warranted. A review of the DEMP plan to deal with traffic is due in another eight years. ☼

Cranford St bus stop may be moved

A bus stop on Cranford St north of Innes Rd may be shifted in 2023 and additional landscaping added to improve pedestrian safety.

The author of the DEMP plan, covering changes to streets adjoining Cranford St south of Innes Rd, Dr Shane Turner, wrote to Cr Pauline Cotter about the narrow cycleway and footpath adjacent to large fences on the western side of Cranford St, describing his family's experience of the area. When the bus has stopped and pedestrians are waiting it is difficult for other pedestrians to pass without walking on the road.

“Pedestrian safety doesn't always get the attention it needs,” Dr Turner said. Cycle safety has also been compromised due to the “substandard” cycle lane width. To fit everything in, the Christchurch Northern Alliance

responsible for the link to the northern motorway (which included the Christchurch City Council) made the cycleway 1.5 metres at that point when it should have been 1.8.

Dr Turner was surprised the design had passed a safety audit and that the road had not been widened at that point.

He suggested that the bus stop should be moved closer to Knowles or Weston streets, though it might cause some visibility issues. Landscaping at the corners of Knowles St or Weston St could provide depth to bus waiting areas for pedestrians. He also suggested to improve safety one of the turning lanes for vehicles could be removed.

A council staff member told the Papanui-Innes-Central community board on November 10 a community consultation was planned for that section of Cranford St in the new year. ☼

St Albans parks and gardens

Hallowe'en celebrated at Abberley Park

Arise Youth Group, a part of YMCA, with the assistance of the Waimakariri District Council's Games Trailer kept children entertained at Abberley Park's Hallowe'en party in late October. The event was organised by the residents' association. Children and some adults also came dressed up as ghosts and skeletons. ☼



Lots of fun in Waimakariri's games trailer



Arise youth group lead games

Join Packe St for carols and gardening

by Helen Kidd

The annual Carols in Packe Street Park, a big event for the group, will be held on Sunday December 4. Starting with popular duo The Crisis from 4 pm, the St Albans Community Choir and New Brighton Silver Band will perform and lead the carol singing at 5 pm.

The event includes a free sausage sizzle but people can bring food to share. Other local organisations have been invited to participate with a stall, or performance – please message Packe St Park on facebook for details. Activities for children have been organised, including face painting, and Santa will be calling in as well.

Work in the Park goes on, more vegetable beds are

being planted with lettuce, broccoli, spinach, garlic, tomatoes, beans, peas, and other delicious veges. The succulent garden is growing, and donations of succulents are welcome. The benefits of composting, which include food scraps from home, can be seen in the park gardens.

The Park is a big project and the co-ordinator is always keen to see new volunteers at working bees, even ones that have never gardened before. Summer working bees, which include drinks and chocolate biscuits, are held on Thursdays from 4 – 6 pm and on Saturdays from 10 – 12. Once a month on a Thursday the working bee goes on a little longer to include a barbecue and byo picnic food. ☼

A copious collection of coriander

December is traditionally a month with less sowing and planting, although beans, courgettes, radishes, lettuce and winter squash can still be sown, and seedlings of broccoli, cabbage and other autumn brassicas transplanted to their final location from the seed tray.

Sow coriander now. For the best success remember that it needs good light but its roots kept cool. Growing it next to a concrete path or pile of mulch can help with this, rather than in a container baking it the sun on your deck. I have the most success growing coriander as a thickly sown patch instead of in rows. The seeds should be scattered to about 4-5cm spacing and firmed into the soil surface by lightly pressing in. Coriander prefers light in order to germinate. Keep moist until germination is complete and thin the seedlings to make space as they grow by harvesting whole plants, making sure to first take the ones that are bolting – the process of going to seed prematurely. A patch of coriander like this can produce an abundance of fragrant leaves for months, lending themselves to salads, pestos, curries and much more.

Importantly, December sees hotter, drier winds than the two months before it, making it essential to keep up water to vegetables to prevent bolting. Water deeply and slowly, trying to deeply soak the soil less frequently rather than flooding it. Mulch is always a good idea and most especially now, as generously applied it can keep the root zone of plants and trees moist and be the difference between thriving in, or just surviving summer droughts. ☼



Good gardening,

Basil


Hi, I'm Brigita, a maternity nurse, sleep consultant, routine advisor, and baby whisperer based in Christchurch.
I'm pretty much obsessed with all things baby!
I've been working with new parents to create newborn parenting routines that let whole families thrive and grow together.

w. bhbabyhand.com
p. +64 27 265 4025
e. babyhand2020@gmail.com

Edgware Pool Project

We wish you a happy and safe holiday season
We thank you for your support throughout the year

Look out for fundraising events planned for 2023
Go to:
edgwarepool.co.nz to donate


Working bees

Thursday 4 - 6 pm.
Saturday 10am - 12 noon

For more information visit our FB page:
facebook.com/packestreet

ST ALBANS TENNIS CLUB
Pre-Christmas Holiday Camp
19th-23rd December 9am-12pm

To register – Email: info@nickcatontennis.co.nz
New to the area, come and try our club.
Visit our website
37 Dover St, off Edgware Rd

Community Notices

A JP service will be available every Tuesday 6 – 6.30 pm at Kohinga St Albans Community Centre. **Canterbury Embroiderers' Guild:** Hammersley Community Centre, Amos Place. Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri. Contact Ros 021 108 5539, Marie 021 68 3547 or email CEGstitchers@gmail.com. Any form of stitching

Christchurch Senior Citizens: Cards: Mondays 12.30 - 3 pm. Indoor bowls: Tuesdays 12.45 – 3 pm. Activities group have outings for meals, social days, bus trips. Further information – call Veronica 383 4682 or 021 1187 360 or Beth 389 2375 or 027 2610 4931

Citizens Advice Bureau: The North branch now at Fendalton Library, 4 Jefferies Road, 0800 367 222

Coffee and conversation: Every Wednesday 11 am – 1 pm at Kōhinga St Albans Community Centre. Join us for coffee and conversation, meet others in your community. All Welcome. Koha for coffee appreciated.

Coffee with friends: Would you like company, meet new people, make new friends? Then join us for a cup of coffee or tea and some home baking at the Reformed Church Hall, 63 Cornwall Street every Friday at 10:30am. Any queries please ask Sarah at 027 758 5141

Community carols and free sausage sizzle - all welcome! Bring a lawn chair or picnic mat. Sunday 18 December, 6.30pm, 63 Cornwall St. Indoors if wet; see christchurch.rcnz.org.nz for weather updates on the day

Computer aided, touch typing course for students 9 or older with difficulties reading, writing and spelling. Run by the Seabrook McKenzie Centre in London St. Mon, Tues 4-5pm.

Community Bible study: Small non denominational Bible reading class. Monday mornings, 10.30 to 12pm. All welcome. Phone Veronica on 960 7655 or 021 0229 2613.

Cranford Pippins for 5 and 6 year olds meets Tuesdays during school terms, 5:30 6:30pm. Contact: info@girlguidingnz.org.nz

Edgeware Croquet Club: Come and try Croquet, a friendly club off Forfar Street in St Albans Park. Association Croquet Thur and Sat 9.30-12noon and Golf Croquet 12.45 -3pm. We welcome visitors and new members. For more info contact Jan 021303843

Elizabeth Bridge Club: Wednesdays 12.50 (for 1.00pm start) to 4.00pm at the Christchurch Bridge club rooms, 21 Nova Place. Visitors welcome. Friendly club, parking. No partner, contact Maureen on 021 646 123.

Family Drug Support Aotearoa New Zealand: free phone line set up to support family/whānau and friends impacted by the alcohol and other drug misuse of people they care about. Phone the support line on 0800 337 877 or 03 2818 740 for other enquiries.

Free Kindergarten Enrolments: Not for profit Kidsfirst Sunbeam Kindergarten welcomes queries and new enrolments. 13 Cornwall Street, (03) 366 7157.

Free insulation: Community Energy Action (CEA) can assess your house and if eligible organise free insulation for above ceilings and under floors. Curtain bank offering free recycled curtains (including fitting). Curtain bank is mobile so can visit your home. More information, visit cea.org.nz

HOUSIE at the Mary Potter Community Centre, 442 Durham St North, every Thursday at 12.30 - 2.15pm. \$2 per card or bring a prize to the value of the card. Afternoon tea to follow. All ages welcome. Numbers are limited. Gold coin donation. Enquiries ph 372 9224. Visit website: www.lcmchristchurch.org.nz.

Knitting Group meets every Tue at Edge Cafe 10 - 11 am. Ph Mandy 022 365 0745.

Knit & Knatter Shirley: Please can anyone help with free wool for these ladies. Contact Mary 027 733 9666 or 980 0811

Morning tea at Kōhinga St Albans Community Centre, the first Thursday of the month at 10 am. Everyone welcome. For more information phone 9725534

NZ Japan Society of Canterbury provides understanding and goodwill between the people of NZ and Japan. Meetings include talks, video shows or other activities with a Japanese accent. Visitors welcome. Contact Jean Bell: 355 9903 or jeanpbell8@gmail.com

The Respiratory Relief Society Canterbury Inc. runs weekly exercise classes Tuesdays from 1-00-2-15pm at St. Albans Uniting Church Nancy Ave for people with Respiratory, Cardiac and vascular conditions. Contact David Chamberlain 332 4471 or Helen Bush 021 230 6338.

Rotary New Horizons meets at St Albans Community Centre every second Wednesday of the month at 6pm. Email Marg at mlyons747@gmail.com for more info or find us on Facebook, or visit www.rotarynewhorizons.org.nz

Saygo Falls Prevention: Mondays 10 – 11am and Thursdays 9.30 – 10.30 am. \$2 entry. Spaces available in Thursday class. Kōhinga St Albans Community Centre.

Shirley International Playgroup: a fun playgroup for mothers and under fives from any cultural background. Fridays during school term time. 9:30am 11:30am at the Shirley Hub,

69B Briggs Road, Mairehau. \$2 per session or \$10 for the term. Call Shauna at Delta Trust on 03 389 0219 for more information.

Scottish Country Dance club, Scottish Society hall cnr Edgeware Caledonian Rds, Tuesdays at 7.30pm, February - December. A time of fun, fitness and friendship. Contact: Margaret Birse, ph 327 0193.

Shirley Rugby League: Need players to join our family club, girls and boys welcome, ages 4 to Masters age 35 yrs. Contact Rochelle 021 133 5437.

Shirley Ladies Friendship Club meets 2nd Wednesday of the month 10.00am at All Saints Church New Brighton Road (by Bassett Street bridge). Interesting speakers, walking group and trips are arranged. Please phone Dale 385 1133 for more information.

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

St Albans Community Pre school: 20 free hours, 2 5 yr olds, casual bookings taken. 3 Thames St. Contact Odette on (03) 355 9396 or look us up on Facebook.

The St Albans History Group is interested in old photos or articles about St Albans. Contact: Brian: briangspear@hotmail.com

St Albans Shirley Football Club. For players 4-40+ Phone 021 0204 2300 for team details.

St Albans Laughter Club: Laughter yoga teaches you to breathe properly to release tension and stress. Sundays 11am-12pm. Scottish Society Hall, corner Caledonian and Edgeware Rds. \$3. email: hannah@lotustrust.org.nz www.lotustrust.org.nz, FB: Christchurchlaughteryoga

U3A St Albans: meet at St Albans Uniting Church. Monthly 4th Thursday 9.45am, morning tea followed by speaker. Many more activities. Visitors warmly welcomed. Call Noni, 03 354 5643, for further details.

Women in Harmony community choir: Meets Thursdays in primary school terms from 7.30-9.30pm at Kōhinga St Albans Community Centre. Sing world and popular music in 3 part harmony. No auditions. Email: women.in.harmony.nz@gmail.com; facebook.com/womeninharmonychristchurch

Weekend Group: Second Saturday of the month 4.00 pm – 5.30 pm at Kōhinga St Albans Community Centre. Meet for friendship and company with lively chat. Refreshments provided. Koha appreciated – (recommended \$5.00 per person).

St Albans News Classifieds

SERVICES

Are you having difficulty making a decision about family, work, relationships? We can help you make a thoughtful decision and guide you to proper resources if required. There is no charge for this service. Call for further information or an appointment with Bill or Emily at 027 379 3873. We can meet at the St Albans Community Centre on Wednesdays 12:30 to 2:00. First meeting usually 30 minutes.

Clarinet, Sax, Flute, Guitar, Bass, & Piano: Experienced local teachers. Ph Nicola and Ivan 385 3856.

Singing lessons available: Experienced local tutor. All ages welcome. Please ph or text Meredith 027 696290

Becoming You Yoga: \$13, Slow mindful yoga. St Albans Community Centre, Thursday 10am \$15, Restorative Yoga. Suitable for all.

Contact: <https://www.becomingyouyoga.com>
Yoga Class: Tuesday and Thursday 10:45am-12pm at St Albans Community Centre. All abilities and ages welcome. Tracy 022 048 6949 or 03 356 1754

Qualified Florist: Located at 201 Geraldine Street, Edgeware. Same day delivery. theflowershopchristchurch.co.nz 02108355345

TRADIES

Door Specialist: Repairs, adjustments and installation of all doors and locks, ranch slider wheels and locks. Qualified tradesman. Ph Stewart 0800 677 262 or 021 185 4055.

Eastcoast Landscapes: Specialising in all aspects of PAVING including patios, paths, courtyards and borders. We also do lawns, irrigation, garden makeovers and general property maintenance. Commercial and residential. Small, friendly business. Quality

work. Free quotes. Call Blair on 027 699 5815.
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

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Pegasus Landscapes: All aspects of landscaping, design. We do everything on the outside including planting, paving, driveways, lawns, lawn renovation, irrigation, raised timber planters, all timber work, brick and block work, full garden maintenance service. Established in St Albans in 1992. Please contact Andy Cox, ph 0274337629, email: pegasus.landscapes@gmail.com

Mental Health Support

There are a number of places that offer free help, handy when you are having mental health issues:

- **Allies online mentoring** offered by young Muslim adults to Muslim teens run by Youthline. Free text 234 or phone 0800 376 633
- **After hours counselling:** Phone counselling provided. Offer of a free introductory chat and affordable fees related to clients financial situation in these challenging times. Call on 027 694 5275 or email at: murray@afterhourscounselling.co.nz
- **Are You OK?** Family violence helpline 0800 456 450.
- **Canterbury Charity Hospital:** 03 360 2266
- **Comcare Trust:** Comcare assists people with mental health or addiction issues to live well in the Canterbury community. Tel: (03) 377 7020, Fax: (03) 961 0794, Email: enquiries@comcare.org.nz
- **Counsellors** available via text: 1737
- **Depression:** 0800 111 757 or text 4302
- **Eating Disorder Recovery Support:** Here you will find a place to: connect with eating disorder experts, find recommended resources and join a forum for families. If you would like to talk about it further, please contact: 021 195 6766.

St Albans events

Events happening in the next couple of months. If you have events you would like announced here, please email:
news@stalbans.gen.nz

December 2, 5:30-7:30: Christmas Carols, Rehua marae, Springfield Rd

December 3, 10am-2pm: St Albans Community Centre Christmas Market

December 4, 4pm: Packe St Park Christmas Carols

HSW ACCOUNTANTS
115 SHERBORNE STREET PHONE - (3) 3434 134
RECEPTION@HSWACCOUNTING.CO.NZ

St Albans and beyond

CanBreathe celebrates 50 years helping people breathe easier

When Canbreathe, formerly the Asthma Society, was founded in September 1972 asthma was a significant disability without the treatment options available today.

"Many things have changed since 1972, including improved understanding of asthma triggers and management, advances in medications, and the establishment of asthma nurse educators," CanBreathe board president, Lydia Matthews says.

CanBreathe celebrated 50 years of asthma and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) support in Canterbury at its annual general meeting in early November. Canbreathe, which is currently based in Hills Rd near the Westminster St, held



Past presidents Glen Rutherford and Pamela O'Brien celebrate CanBreathe's 50th anniversary at The George Hotel with current president Lydia Matthews.

its first meeting on 12 September 1972, attended by around 150 people:

incorporated in May 1974, the name changed in 2012 to CanBreathe to better reflect the inclusion of other respiratory conditions, including COPD. The group supports more than 1000 people every year.

Ms Matthews says respiratory conditions rely largely on daily self-management. Asthma is a significant health issue affecting around one in eight people, particularly children. This highlights the importance of continued support for those living with asthma.

For more information about Canbreathe's services visit: canbreathe.org.nz

Voting for 16 year olds?

The Supreme Court has declared limiting voting to those 18 and older discriminates against 16-17 year olds who cannot vote in elections, general or local. The Government, headed by the Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, plans to draft legislation to enable it but there is no guarantee it will be implemented. Such a change requires 75 per cent

of MPs to support the legislation and current opposition parties favour the 18+ status quo. The younger age group has been active on issues, such as climate change, and formed the group Make it 16 to advocate for the younger voting age. Even if it does gain sufficient support it won't be implemented for the next general election in 2023.

SR

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