

St Albans News

The Voice of our Neighbourhood

February/March 2015

Vol 21, No 7, Issue 209

Giraffes stand tall in Malvern Park

by Belinda Carter

Over summer, you may have seen a tall, painted giraffe under the trees in Malvern Park, close to Innes Road - well, if you were lucky enough to drop by when it wasn't away being repaired, thanks to damage caused when someone kicked the tall beast. This particular giraffe, called Space Wild, was painted by young Wellington designer Ethan Attwell, as part of the Christchurch Stands Tall Project.

The 2.5 metre fibreglass giraffes were painted by local artists, or decorated with glitter tiles or gold leaf, and placed at different places around the city. St Albans got just one and there was another in nearby Merivale Mall - the Shirley Papanui community board asked for more but it was not possible.

Armed with digital cameras, a map from the website or an app for their smartphones, Christchurch people and visitors found giraffes and took selfies around the city.

Altogether, there were 99 giraffes, designed to bring happiness into the lives of those who spotted them. Artists were chosen to paint the larger ones while school children painted 50 smaller giraffes and all 99

were screwed to concrete bases in parks, streets and malls.

The idea was the brainchild of UK-based, public art organisation Wild in Art and followed similar installations involving other painted animals, such as gorillas in Norwich and wild rhinos in Sydney. A

giraffe might not be a New Zealand animal but it did fit the theme of Christchurch Stands Tall (after the earthquakes).

The giraffes were removed in late January, with the smaller giraffes being returned to the schools that painted them. The taller giraffes are destined for auction on February 11 at the Casino, to raise funds for charity, with 75 per cent of the proceeds going to four charities: Child Cancer, Life Education Trust, Gapfiller and Life in Vacant Spaces. If you attend the auction you might be lucky with a bid and score a painted giraffe to take home.

⌘



SARA opposes Cranford St upgrade

by Belinda Carter

The St Albans Residents Association Inc (SARA) opposes the Cranford St upgrade, and northern arterial route linked to the northern motorway because it believes it will be detrimental to people living in the suburb and won't meet the Christchurch City Council's own transport outcomes. They have said as much in submission to the council. These submissions, and 44 others by different groups and individuals, will be considered by the council in April as part of the consultation 'ritual'.

SARA chair Emma Twaddell says the project has not been properly consulted and many residents may not be aware of the (potential) downside of the upgrade. She says the project is out of date, doesn't follow best transport practice and is "fundamentally flawed." The

transport project does not solve "our unsustainable one person per vehicle mode of transport" that contributes to the congestion in the northern corridor. She doesn't think the project, which involves four-laning Cranford St north of Innes Road, will achieve the outcomes the council desires—getting vehicles into the city—because the project finishes at Innes Road. If it is continued, the traffic is likely to end at the T junction in Bealey Avenue and may cause as many problems as it attempts to solve.

Much of this anticipated, increased traffic will head through St Albans and have a detrimental effect on St Albans, cleaving it in two and "degrading the lives of residents socially and environmentally."

"The project will cause congestion and other traffic management issues, including access, for residents living

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What an amazing start to 2015. I hope everyone had a happy and healthy Christmas period and managed sometime in the sun with friends and family.

It is hard to believe it is now over four years since the September 2010 earthquake changed our community forever. As we approach the fourth anniversary of the February quake, it is heartening to see a lot more growth and recovery across the City. Almost 80 per cent of all insurance claims have been settled, or are in progress, and the Government's Blueprint is starting to really come to life. Driving round the streets of St Albans there is a lot of active building work taking place, with old homes demolished and new ones under construction. Our community has been enhanced by new people and families moving into the area, with school rolls higher than ever.

2014 was a productive and successful year for the St Albans Residents Association (SARA). We have a larger, more active committee than ever, which allowed us to engage with community groups and organisations including the Christchurch City Council (CCC) and Shirley Papanui Community Board, to ensure that your voices were heard on issues important to our community. We were awarded the operating rights of our Community Centre back from the CCC, and we are

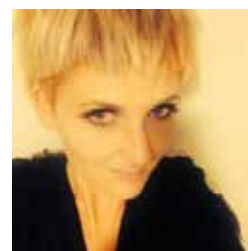
in the financial position to once again employ a Community Centre Coordinator. With a co-ordinator managing the operational aspects of SARA, the committee will be able to focus on more strategic, long term opportunities for the community.

2015 will be a year of ongoing growth and development for St Albans. There is no doubt our community is changing, both the built environment, as well as the makeup of the community. With any change comes some nervousness and apprehension as we wait to see the impact of any changes. The St Albans community has always been one respected for spirited engagement. This year this will be even more important than ever. I am looking forward to a year where we engage constructively and proactively with those responsible for developing and enhancing our City, and our community.

What would you like to see in our community? Contact us to let us know what matters to you and your family as we embark on what will no doubt be the busiest year of reinstatement since the Canterbury earthquakes.

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Renee, Co-chair SARA



5 Reasons to love living in St Albans

1. The trees. St Albans is home to many established trees which not only give welcome shade on hot days, but also attract cicadas who provide a timeless summer soundtrack
2. A diverse population who all have something different to contribute, making this a wonderfully eclectic community
3. The dairy on Colombo Street, which is renowned for its giant ice-creams
4. The Canterbury Crusaders practise in St Albans, and it's great for the children to see this example of international sportsmanship in their community
5. A few drinks without driving. There are plenty of lovely restaurants and bars within walking distance, allowing us to socialise responsibly

By A. Resident

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

SARA opposes Cranford St upgrade

Continued from page 1

on Cranford St, Sherborne St, and the whole area south of Innes Road,” Emma wrote in the submission to the council.

It is likely to have an impact on health outcomes for the area. A Facebook group set up for the Northern Arterial and Cranford St Upgrade Action Group late last year, points out that the council has admitted in its own documents to plans to reduce pollutants down Main North Road by effectively shifting them to Cranford St, which runs through St Albans.

As part of the democratic process, SARA is doing what it ought to do and raising concerns about developments that may harm or disadvantage St Albans residents.

One of the downsides of increased exposure to air pollution is increased health problems, according to a post on the Facebook page and the subject of a growing body of national and international research. These could include increased severity of symptoms, more hospitalisations and greater mortality for those already suffering cardiovascular problems and increased rates of cancer. Another aspect to consider is safety, with the increase in traffic along the Cranford/ Sherborne route, St Albans streets will become busier and less safe.

Council staff have been working on this particular project since 2009, considering a number of options that included a route down Hills Road, before deciding Cranford St was its preferred route and now seek consent through consultation to that decision. SARA regards these studies as “fundamentally flawed.”

The New Zealand Transport agency does not think much of the proposal and in a 2012 report (no 496), in which the northern corridor was mentioned, it was rated it a C in terms of urban form sustainability and future proofing.

It is déjà vu for the St Albans community. In the late 20th century, the plan was to turn Madras St into a motorway. This split the community at the time and newly revitalised

SARA was prominent in opposition to that plan. It never happened in the end but the uncertainty depressed property values in the area for many years. It looks like that plan has resurfaced with Cranford St instead.

SARA would like the whole project stopped and alternatives looked at in more depth, using best practice models of transport, in order to produce a future-proofed plan that better meets the city’s needs. It also believes the social and environmental impact needs to be considered and further study given to traffic dispersal south of Innes Road.

In the short term, the submission suggests a park and ride scheme, with free inner city parking for cars carrying three or more people. ☚



Information about the downstream impact is hard to come by but this map, above, produced by the Christchurch City Council, shows some research is being done to work out likely flows.

Discussion - if you would like to discuss this topic visit the St Albans News Facebook page or the Cranford St Upgrade Facebook page.







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Milk and mischief: childhood memories

Talk to people who have lived in St Albans for decades and you get a picture of a different world. Belinda Carter talked to Garry Berryman of Ethne St, who is very clear about St Albans boundaries.

In the mid-1930s. Cranford St stopped at Innes Road. And milk was delivered at the gate by the farmer.

“Cranford St ended at Innes Road. North of that was only dairy farm paddocks and the milking farmer, a Mr Walker who delivered milk from the back of his van daily from a large drum, dished out to each householder using a one pint dipper.” This was in the days before glass milk bottles and milk was often then ladled into a billy or other suitable container.

Garry Berryman, the youngest of four children was recalling earlier times in St Albans. The youngest of four children, he was two when his family shifted into a new house at 233 Cranford St, three doors from Innes Road.

Educated at St Albans Primary School, he played with coppers in the swampy paddocks at the end of Thames St (very much a residential area now) and climbed trees in Innes Road.

Garry Berryman the adult is a fine upstanding citizen, but as a lad was a bit of a larrikin. When World War II ended, he and the lads headed to town armed with tiny foil parcels and laid them on the tram tracks. Passengers on the No 8 tram from Riccarton must have wondered what had hit them when the third wheel made the little “bomb” explode. No injuries, just a fright. The boys scattered to the four winds.

Do you have tales of an older St Albans, from the 30s to the 90s? Write a piece for St Albans News or drop us a line and we'll come around, armed with a notebook, for tea and a chat. Email news@stalbens.gen.nz or phone 021 163 3890.

Another jape was expanding half pennies into pennies—tram wheels apparently were useful for this—to make the money go further. The compromised coins were still legal tender at the sweetshop at the corner of Westminster and Cranford Streets.

But youthful hijinks cannot last and the grownup Garry soon joined his father's printing firm—George Berryman—in Ferry Road. He also married young—by today's standards—at 20 to 18 year old Kath, whose family lived near his.



When the couple married just over 60 years ago, they bought a section close to the swampy paddocks Garry had played in as a lad. “The farmer who owned those paddocks eventually subdivided and put in three streets named after his three daughters, Nancy, Norah and Ethne”

Garry and Kath's section was at no 10 Ethne St. With their best man as builder and the couple as labourers they set about building their own house. One of the last to be built in the street in a postwar building boom, it took two years to build.

Kath laid most of the concrete blocks, Garry said. It is testimonial to the Kath's bricklaying skills that the house she built survived relatively unscathed in the earthquakes, while the garage constructed later by others succumbed.

Three children were brought up in the Ethne St house. The Berrymans have been the sole occupants of the house and can look back on close to 60 years of family life.

Garry is adamant that Ethne St is a part of St Albans and not Mairehau, a label extended by bureaucrats to cover the area in recent years. As far as he is concerned Mairehau is an area north of Innes Road and the south side is definitely part of St Albans. “It was always St Albans, and much to my chagrin, it seems now to be called Mairehau, which in my view is wrong.”

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The Cantabrian, designed for a seismic city

Last year, Southern Response installed a concept house at 81 Cranford St called The Cantabrian, designed with post-quake Christchurch in mind.

The standalone house has been designed to cope with the city's seismic conditions and is compliant with MBIE guidelines.

It suits narrow sections but can be built anywhere in New Zealand or as part of wider developments. It can be built anywhere in New Zealand, as part of a wider development, but best suits narrow TC3 sections in Christchurch.



The Cantabrian at 81 Cranford St is a show home for Southern Response

It also has the approval of Southern Response.

Southern Response is the government-owned company responsible for settling claims by AMI policyholders for Canterbury earthquake damage which occurred before 5 April 2012.

For more information, check out the website: www.cantabrianhome.co.nz

Acknowledgements: Information for this article has been sourced from the website. Photos: Belinda Carter



This bright corner is lit from above by natural light pouring through a skylight.

The Cantabrian was designed as part of a competition and won by Christchurch-born but Nelson-based Richard Sellars of Continuum Architecture Ltd.

The house is already consented, apart from site-specific foundations and local services. The T3 foundations, using the jack and pack technique, can be viewed with the aid of an angled mirror on site. If you want to see inside the house, it can be viewed between 12 and 2pm from Monday to Saturday.

Second placegetter Simon Blencowe's design has been taken up by Jennian homes and called Jennian Cantabrian.



View of the living room

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St Albans Roundup

Winding back CERA's powers

CERA's days are numbered—it is due to expire around April 2016.

To transition back gradually to the city council running the local show, Earthquake Minister Gerry Brownlee has set up an advisory board.

Among the board's new members is Maggy Tai Rakena from St Albans, representing the not-for-profit sector. Other members of the board include three Canterbury mayors, one ECan commissioner, three business representatives, a community sector representative and a Ngai Tahu representative. Former Prime Minister, Jenny Shipley is leading the board.

Meetings are being held regularly in 2015 before the board dissolves at the end of the year.

The role of the board is advisory so it will be interesting to see what notice is taken of board views.

It appears the board may also advise on ECan, regional government that was effectively taken over by Government over the issue of water. Canterbury people were unable to vote for ECan in the 2013 elections.

St Albans had School of Art

Apparently there was a School of Art in St Albans a century ago, possibly at 143 Cranford Street near English Park. Otautau Museum in Western Southland were sent a photograph of someone who had served in WWI with handwritten details on the back: AW and H Jackson. These initials stand for Alexander Wallace and Honor (nee Banfield) Jackson, who worked at, or owned, the St Albans School of Art (SSA). It is not known whether they were photographers, did colour tinting or both. If anyone has further information send an email to: otautau_museum@yahoo.co.nz.



Neighbours' Day Aotearoa

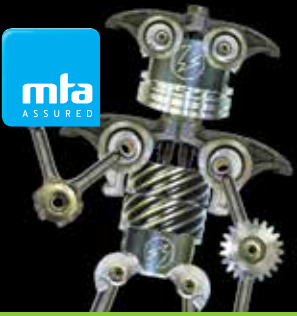
Harvesting vegetables and fruit from home gardens and then creating a shared meal out of it for neighbours is just one of the ways people can celebrate Neighbours' Day Aotearoa on March 28 and 29. This is a nationwide event—CCC runs a similar, local event for neighbourhoods in November—that has been running for several years. The event is supported by organisations such as the Mental Health Foundation but it is up to local groups to decide how and where to celebrate. For more information check out the website: www.neighboursday.org.nz

Our Lady of Fatima closing in a year

Our Lady of Fatima school in Innes Road will close at the end of January 2016 and reopen with a new name, according to a letter sent to parents by Bishop Barry Jones just before Christmas. The new school will have a new name and will cater for the pupils of St Pauls, Dallington and Our Lady of Fatima in the Catholic parish of St Francis of Assisi formed through a parish merger in 2012.

The Bishop said he wished to achieve this in a collaborative way so both schools would contribute to the new school. It will also mean new uniforms for pupils and new signage for the school, which has yet to be officially named but may bear the name of the parish.

St Pauls has been housed in a former alternative school's buildings in Champion St, following earthquake damage and redzoning in Dallington.



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New market for St Albans

St Albans is getting a new Saturday market, to be held in the car park of Beulah Church in Springfield Road starting on February 14, co-ordinator Paul Minter says.

The first market will be held on February 14, starting at 8am and then run every Saturday. The market closes at 1.30pm.

The market will be run on the same lines as the now finished English Park market. Stalls include collectables, bric a brac, books, general household items, fruit and vegetables. There will also be food stalls and stalls devoted to healthy eating.

Paul is running the market in conjunction with Mark Hudson, from Beulah church. The church plans to set up an indoor coffee shop, open while the market is on. Seating will be available indoors and outside the building.

There is enough space for about 40 stalls and If you are interested in holding one please phone Paul on 356 3015 or 027 356 3017, or email stalbanmarket@outlook.co.nz. He says local organisations who are trying to raise money can have their stall space free of charge.

St Patrick's Day

If you're Irish, and even if you're not, Bailies Bar in the Edgeware Village is celebrating St Patrick's Day on March 17, starting with breakfast at 9am. Meals will have an Irish taste too with Irish stew, hotpot and boiled bacon and cabbage on the menu. The music will be Irish and no doubt there is Irish dancing as well. Drinking Guinness is optional and it is not compulsory to wear green or kitschy leprechaun hats but a sense of humour always helps.

Laughter club

Participants who take part in the laughter yoga, laugh for no reason at all. There are no jokes, humour or comedy to set them off.

Just turn up to the Scottish Society Hall at the corner of Edgeware and Caledonian Roads at 11am on Sundays and laugh till your sides split. No special equipment is required.

Laughter Yoga is a form of aerobic exercise, combining laughter exercises with yogic breathing (quite different from traditional yoga with postures). Ultimately, Laughter Yoga is about the cultivation of joyfulness. It teaches you to make happiness a choice and not a consequence.

Yoga Laughter is a form aerobic exercise and helps participants communicate better, be more creative, deal with depression, stress and anxiety among other things. Hannah Airey claims that it increases circulation, boosts the immune system and helps fight cancer.

The organisers ask for a small donation and proceeds go to Lotus Community Wellbeing Trust, which takes wellbeing workshops into the community.

For further information please contact Hannah Airey on 021 998 109 or visit the website www.thegiggles.co.nz

Pay it forward

If you had walked or driven past the block of shops on Nancy Ave last year you may have noticed the little shop on the corner of Nancy Ave and Weston Road called Pay It Forward, filled with handcrafted items. This shop is expanding into bigger premises two doors down thanks to a social enterprise grant from The Canterbury Community Trust.

The new shop includes a meeting space for teaching crafts and a bigger retail space for Pay if Forward Artisans. Pay if Forward is an initiative of the Neighbourhood Trust (part of the St Albans Baptist Church) Project Manager, Ginny Larsen says: "We now have a co-op of 33 artisans selling their goods through this shop, with new stock coming in daily. We're all looking forward to having a bit more space and being able to display some items that we haven't so far had the room for." For more information visit payitforward.kiwi.nz

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Revelling in the summer weather



Summer is a time for outdoor dining, backyard barbecues and picnics in Abberley Park, with ice cold drinks, juicy fresh berries and apricots. A time for sun block and sunhats, bare legs and sunglasses. Don't forget the sunblock because it is also a time for sunburn.

A time for swimming outdoors in Abberley Park, in the repaired school pool at St Albans primary school or damming waterholes with rocks at a favourite holiday camping ground. A time for summer sports like bowling, croquet and backyard cricket.

It is also a time for dry grass, sprinklers and sunflowers.

This summer has been one of those dry, warm summers of our childhoods.



Left: Abberley Park pup. Below: There was a double rainbow and this curious light on January 16 and (below right) the sprinklers were going full bore at Malvern Park to keep the grass green over a dry summer.





Lazy Sunday was held at St Albans Park on January 11 (top left) while paddlers in Amberley Park cooled off.. Centre photo: two long time members find some shade at the 102 years old Edgeware Croquet Club while cricketers play in St Albans Park (right) and skaters make use of the ramps (above right)



Below: Anna Gifford, age 3 of St Albans. Her mum Emma thinks that "...the Matariki and Christmas celebrations at Rehua Marae are really something special"



Packe St Park

by *Belinda Carter*

Packe Street Park was in the news last month after local councillor Pauline Cotter held the gardens up as a shining example of what a community can do with a garden.

The impoverished city council, facing a shortfall of millions of dollars, is casting around for ideas that will save them money and someone came up with the bright idea that residents should mow park lawns and perhaps get a rebate for doing so.

That could warm the cockles of the hearts of those already lending a hand in parks in Shirley and Ilam but it might end up costing the council more than it would save. And it would cost those who did the work eg: fuel for lawnmowers.

Park caretakers Bill Sykes and Peggy Kelly, who started the Park in 1996, are sceptical. "You can't make people take ownership," Peggy says. "It's a joint responsibility." It would require a bureaucracy set up to administer the rebates, not to mention paperwork and she did not think it would work.

Packe St community gardens at 125-129 Packe St, sometimes referred to as a "pocket park", are tended by volunteers who gather at the garden on Thursday afternoons but they do not mow the lawns. The council does.



The St Albans Choir performed at Carols in Packe St Park on December 7



The Friends of Packe St recently asphalted the area under the basketball hoop and has a busy year planned in 2015. Top of the list is moving a toolshed rescued from out the back of a red-zoned state house onto the site and raising more than \$12,000 to give the

shed that is already there, running water, electricity and a toilet. An approach to the community board for assistance with toilet facilities was rebuffed—they don't regard it as a high priority. Volunteers continue to use Bill and Peggy's house a few doors away.

Some community gardens plant just fruit and vegetables, but Packe features more flowers and trees than produce. Stone carvings, mosaics and other artworks have added to the community feel of what was once house and garden of two adjacent properties. It offers a "safe wilderness" as Peggy wrote in the Friends of Botanic Gardens newsletter in 2011.

The Friends of Packe St Park also hope to employ a co-ordinator to organise the gardens and volunteers and take the weight off the shoulders of the current caretakers.

Packe St Park is holding a big working bee on February 14, with the help of volunteers sourced through Volunteer Canterbury. If you would like further information about the park phone 366 3844 or visit the park on Thursday, from 2pm. ☼



Heather Mitchell-Gladstone awarded Queen's Service Medal for services to music

By Lynnette Hurley

Local musician, leader of the St Alban's Community Choir, Heather Mitchell-Gladstone was named in the 2015 New Year's honours list.

"It was such a wonderful surprise," says Heather of her Queen's Service Medal for services to music.

From the age of 11, Heather has played piano and accordion, and sung for live audiences. After leaving school she obtained her music degree from the University of Canterbury and in later years returned to the university to teach extension courses in accordion.

Heather has performed both nationally and internationally as a soloist, as well as in bands, groups and orchestras, including the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra and three tours of Australia with the 2nd Battalion Army Band. She has toured extensively in Australia, Europe, England and America. She has also spent some time as a music specialist and touring musician in schools in the South West of England and in Finland.

A founding member of the Canterbury Accordion Association, in 2005 Heather received a Merit Award from the Accordion Examination Board in recognition of outstanding services to the accordion movement, and in 2007 a Community Services Award from the Christchurch City Council. The council award was for services to music in the Community which recognised her work running numerous choirs through the years including the Christchurch Star Children's Choir and the St Alban's Community Choir. In 2012 Heather was awarded the Vernon Griffiths Prize in Musical Leadership from the University of Canterbury in recognition of her outstanding contribution to music.

"Heather has a philosophy of music for all," says Doug Lamb, a choir member for over eight years. "I went along one evening to see what the choir was all about. I was in my early 50s and had no singing experience. As soon as I arrived I was welcomed into the group and had music thrust into my hands with the clear message to join in. Since that day I have had nothing but encouragement."

Heather is always working on a variety of musical projects, volunteering, leading musical tours through Europe, playing in folk bands and currently running the choir along with her own music school, teaching accordion, singing, and piano.



Heather Mitchell-Gladstone was awarded a Queen's service medal for services to music in the recent New Year's honours award. She received a floral award at the carols to thank her for her contribution.

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Family Dispute Resolution offers help outside Court

by Anna Venz

Family related legal matters can be a stressful and challenging time for everybody involved. The changes to the Family Justice System that occurred earlier this year mean finding a way through the system can now be even more challenging. It is important people know there is help available.

Did you know you might not have to go to Court to settle a family dispute? Since the reforms 74 per cent of disputes involving children that were referred to Family Dispute Resolution (the new mediation process) were settled there. Only 13 per cent of the disputes referred to FDR had no agreement at all. People who can afford to seek advice from a lawyer should do so. Family lawyers are a valuable guide through the process; without sound legal advice there is a risk of doing or saying the wrong thing.

If you cannot afford this, Government funding is available, calculated on income and the number of children. This funding would come under either Legal Aid or the Family Legal Advice Service. Figuring out eligibility is complex: the easiest thing to do is to contact a family lawyer who will be able to discuss the eligibility issue free of charge. Don't leave it to the last minute. Not all lawyers are contracted to provide legal aid, and there is currently

high demand for family legal aid lawyers in Christchurch.

No matter what you or your family members circumstances are, finding a way through the family justice system can be tough. People who find themselves in a dispute are best to contact a family lawyer as early as possible. They will be happy to explain how they can help, eligibility for government funding and how that funding works. 

Anna Venz works for Ebborn Law

Big dry—Fire ban

Put that barbecue away, unless you have gas and a good water supply. The Council announced a ban on outdoor fires from January 10 because of the dry conditions being experienced in Canterbury. The ban stays in place till further notice—there's still another month of summer to go—and prohibits the use of charcoal or solid fuel fires outdoors. Watering restrictions have not been implemented. Canterbury has had very little rain since Christmas and the grass has begun to dry off in city parks.

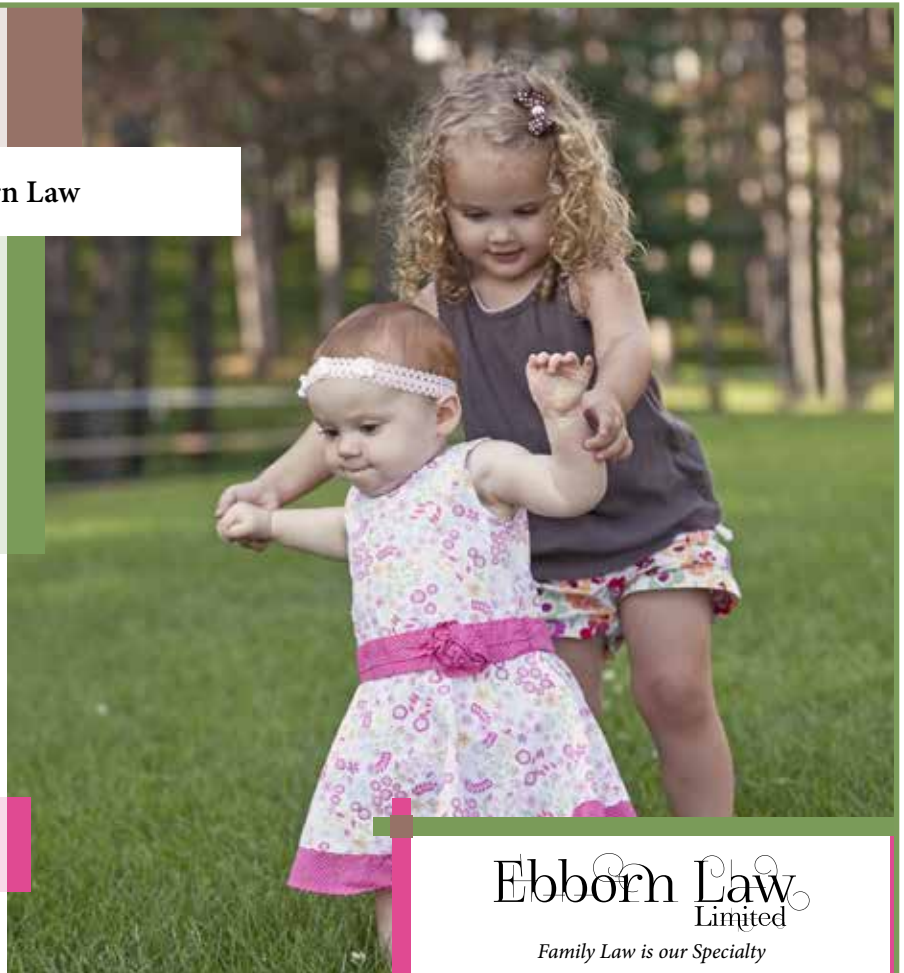
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Family Law is our Specialty

Exciting year ahead for Christchurch

by Nicky Wagner

The new year has arrived! As we all begin to settle back into the hustle and bustle of family life after the holidays, we can take the time to think about our plans for the year ahead and look towards what we will achieve in the coming months.

Christchurch has an exciting year ahead that started off with the wonderful and wacky world of the annual Busker's Festival last month. This stunning line up of shows has continued through our city's ups and downs and my husband and I were amazed by this year's talent. How flexible are those contortionists?!

In February, our city will be hosting three pool matches of the 2015 Cricket World Cup at Hagley Oval. I can't wait to see our Black Caps take on Sri Lanka as the opening match of the tournament. It's also great to see Christchurch get in behind this competition with tickets for the first match already sold out!

Alongside these events, the rebuild looks set to have some major achievements. The Bus Exchange is set to open mid-year. Housing New Zealand aims to have its rebuilds and repairs completed by the end of the year. The fabulous Margaret Mahy Family Playground will be open for the young of all ages. And the transition of CERA into the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet will begin the process of handing over various responsibilities to the

council and other local organisations.

These public projects and programmes are matched by private sector development. Many of you will have noticed the flurry of activity on Victoria St with new shops, cafes and offices opening up. Businesses are starting to settle back into normality both in the suburbs and the city, with new cafes and shops opening up around St Albans helping create a buzz north of Bealey Ave, which is great to see.

As we look over the city's plan for 2015, I feel enthusiastic about the year ahead, when we can see work completed and everyday life return to both the city and the cul-de-sacs. 

St Albans Saturday Market

Starting Saturday 14th of February 2015

Beulah Church Carpark

140 - 146 Springfield Road, St Albans

8am - 1:30pm every Saturday

A variety of different stalls

Stall holders wanted

Phone Paul 356 3015 or 027 256 2017

Email: stalbanmarket@outlook.co.nz



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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: brianspear@hotmail.com

Packe St Park and Community 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, investigator or even an editor at the St Albans News, 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

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



Monster fair raises funds for library

St Albans School's Monster Fair held on November 22 last year raised around \$28,000 towards the new library spaces and community hub, despite the weather not being the best on the day. The event is held every two years in the school grounds in Sheppard Place and included cake stalls, scramble course, photo booth fun and other activities.

St Albans News Classifieds

SERVICES

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

Accountant: Working from home in St Albans. Self employed accounts, rental properties, GST & tax returns. Budgeting and business advice. Contact Susan Ayton 980 7321 or taxayton@paradise.net.nz

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.

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Talking Therapy:

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Ph: 354 8045,

fax: 3548042,

http://www.talkingtherapy.co.nz/

Make your Heart Sing! Find more Joy, Success and Fulfilment with Heather's holistic coaching. Heather Fletcher www.makeyourheartsing.co.nz 355 2297 or 027 241 9237. Your happiness is my business!

TUITION

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

The St Albans News relies on your contributions. Please send your articles, letters and notices to: news@stalbens.gen.nz. The deadline for the next issue is Monday, March 16th

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

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Working for you in our community

'2015' sounds so unfamiliar at this stage, but we're sure it will rush onto us in the new year with its challenges and opportunities. Last year was filled with change for Harcourts St Albans, and we were delighted that with your help we achieved a record last quarter in sales and listings, so thank you for your support. We are looking forward to serving you, our community, again in 2015 and also to take the opportunity to wish everyone every success for the year.



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