

Ageing water supply pipes cause concern

by Belinda Carter

An Otago University study of Christchurch water supply has shown the pipes transporting the water to city homes are eroding and leaching tiny amounts of asbestos fibres into the water, some of which is used for drinking.

During the university study water was sampled from fire hydrants around the city and tap water. Asbestos was found in all the city hydrants and a handful of the tap water samples.

Christchurch was chosen for this study to see the impacts that liquefaction from the 2010-11 quakes had on the pipes. It was found that the movement/ water was also eroding the pipes from the outside in eastern suburbs.

"It is very important to reiterate that the asbestos cement pipes in our water supply network are not causing any immediate health concerns," Acting Head of Three Waters Tim Drennan says. "Internationally there is no consistent evidence to suggest that ingested asbestos is hazardous."

How dangerous is it? Although we know asbestos can cause problems if airborne (eg: in a poorly controlled demolition)

less is known about the dangers posed by different levels of fibres in water internationally as it has been far less studied. As the pipes age and technology detecting fibres in water improves, this problem is more evident.

Cr Pauline Cotter, who chairs the 3 Waters Infrastructure and Environment Committee says the US Environmental Protection Agency only regards levels above 7 million parts per litre as harmful to human health. The levels of long asbestos fibres in Christchurch water are much lower at .9 million parts.

So how widespread is the problem? Nearly 1000 km (977 to be exact) of concrete asbestos pipes were installed in Christchurch from the 1950s to the 1980s with an estimated life span of 70 years. These represent around 21 per cent of the pipes. A small amount (3.9 per cent) in the red zone was abandoned after the quakes.

Since the water supply renewals programme began in the 1990s, 190.7 km have been replaced. The remainder will

more on page 10

Time to discuss city building heights



by Belinda Carter

Residential buildings up to 32 metres high, with limited off street parking, could be constructed in some areas of Christchurch as part of planned changes to the Christchurch's District Plan which is under review this year.

Christchurch City Council has been directed by central government to incorporate changes to the District Plan that will intensify housing by building upwards (rather than further into the countryside), remove requirements for off-street parking and put pressure on local streets.

But the council is also allowed to exempt some areas of the city from development, and heights are up for discussion.

Changes made are not expected overnight but will allow housing development in the next few decades. It is also linked to planning for improved public transport over the next 30 years, which in turn requires concentrated populations.

Zoning for denser housing

Two main zones have been created to deal with residential growth. The baseline is the Medium Density Residential Zone (MDRZ). The Higher Density Residential Zone (HDRZ) allows for taller buildings.

Most of the city will be deemed MDRZ, allowing buildings up to 12 metres high and up to three units on a single property without no resource consent or notifying neighbours required. Off-street parking/garages are not

For more on the CCC District Plan please see page 6



SARA and Centre news

SARA's submission to CCC annual plan

St Albans Residents Association (SARA) made a submission to the Christchurch City Council's annual plan for 2022/2023 in April. It was similar to previous submissions. What follows is a quick and ready summary.

SARA is a great advocate of community development and wants local groups to determine their own development and community centres to rely on secure funding for their management.

The association accepts increasing intensification of housing to provide homes for the growing population in St Albans, but does not want excessive intensification to take place and at the expense of the loss of amenities such as good design and construction. Mature trees need better protection because the tree canopy deals with heat and reflective glare.

SARA strongly supports the proposal for additional funding to replace Edgware pool as it "rights a wrong" that happened when the council decommissioned (demolished) a community developed pool as it wanted to focus on indoor pools instead.

Traffic congestion in St Albans remains an issue and submitters want to see passengers transported to and from Rangiora and Kaiapoi by rail but in the mean time public transport (bus) was a priority. A shelter for northbound bus passengers in Cranford St near the village would be a good start. SARA also suggested a local bus service could run between the Palms, Edgware Village and Merivale and a tram could link into the innercity.

Street renewals need to focus on people not cars, with speed limits enforced and secure bike parking offered. There should be little tolerance for parking or even stopping on footpaths and cycleways.

Drainage remains an issue in this once swampy suburb, particularly around Edgware Village, and solutions need to be found that address this issue. Local creeks also need enhancing to improve drainage.

Accessible access to buildings was a priority, particularly public buildings and services for new immigrants.

The council is hearing those who wish to speak to their submissions from May 4 and will make a decision in June. ☞

St Albans Strategy

Residents needed to join local community projects. Contact SARA@stalbens.gen.nz for more information.

Wednesday Wheelies

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

Community Centre 1049 Colombo St

The Community centre is available for hire within the Orange Traffic Light protocols. For booking enquiries please phone 972 5534 or email: communitycentre@stalbens.gen.nz or visit our website: sacc.org.nz where the centre calendar is available to view. Centre open Mon - Fri 9am - 1 pm, Mon - Thur 4.30 - 7 pm.

Advertising in St Albans News

If you would like to advertise in the News, phone Lynne on 027 433 4469 or email advertising@stalbens.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 the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm.

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@stalbens.gen.nz

St Albans History Group

St Albans history group meet on the first Monday of the month at 2 pm at the St Albans Community Centre, next meeting will be May 4. Email: briangspear@hotmail.com

SARA Website

Check out SARA's website on www.stalbens.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 and Centre news

Research study at Abberley Park seeks help

A team of postgraduate students from the University of Canterbury is undertaking research at Abberley Park on the importance waterways and green spaces in urban areas as part of their Resilient Cities course.

The information from this study will help St Albans Residents Association (SARA) to raise the profile and social significance of the creek in Abberley Park and its role in supporting the resilience of our local waterways.

As partners, SARA contributed to the development of a survey to find out what visitors and local residents living near Abberley Park know, and



think about the park and creek. The online survey is expected to take around 5 to 10 minutes to complete and will be available until 11:59 pm Sunday 14 May 2022.

If you would like to participate please click the following link: https://canterbury.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4UXCMulp3Tjil5Q ☞

Foraging in Kohinga māra

by Alice Holmes

Who would've thought there were so many uses for 'weeds' from the garden.

From biodegradable food wrap, as an alternative to coffee, as medicines, or nourishing food, there is so much to learn in the world of foraging.

Peter Langlands and Jackie Phillips spent some time in Kohinga Māra (the St Albans community garden adjacent to the community centre in Colombo St) on April 9, sharing their knowledge about useful plants we often dismiss as 'weeds'.

Some of the edible plants found in the garden during the foraging session were mallow, white and purple clover, plantain, dock, chickweed, sheep's sole, purslane, watercress, dandelion, stinging nettle, fat hen...and more.

Peter also emphasized correct identification using technology, such as the smartphone app iNaturalist, and books, as some plants are poisonous, like purple nightshade and hemlock. This is particularly important too with foraging for mushrooms as only about one per cent of wild mushrooms are edible.

It was an informative few hours and further talks are planned at the centre.

For more information on foraging, follow Peter Langlands' and Wild Cuisine NZ's accounts on Instagram. ☞



Peter Langlands holds some purslane, a "weed" high in omega3

Funds raised to pay for mural

The St Albans Residents Association set up a campaign on the Givealittle website before Easter and managed to raise the \$1680 needed to pay for a mural to wrap around the former workshed now on Caledonian Rd. The funds were raised in seven days by 27 people and organisations giving donations ranging from \$10 to \$300

The deadline for the June issue of the St Albans News is May 16. Please send your articles, letters and notices to: news@stalbens.gen.nz

St Albans News
May 2022, Vol 29,
Issue 4

The St Albans News is a free local newspaper which is produced by a team of volunteers. The social enterprise is managed by the St Albans Residents' Association.

Send your news contributions and adverts to:

news@stalbens.gen.nz

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

Letters can be mailed to:

PO Box 36687, Chch 8146

Editor: Belinda Carter

Contributors: Basil, Lynne O'Keefe, Pauline Cotter, Ali Jones, June Peka, Maria Hayward and Alice Holmes

Production staff:

Carla Heslop, 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

Activities at the community centre

Centre now operating under Orange

Now New Zealand is operating under the orange traffic light system for covid19 protection, groups have begun to return to the community centre. Up to 200 people can gather inside the centre at any one time and vaccine passes are no longer required. Masks are still required in areas where one group meets another eg: hallways but optional (individual or group decision) when meeting in one room. Centre management apologises for any inconvenience caused by the reception desk not being staffed on some occasions. Like many other operations, it has had its share of COVID-related staff shortage.

Monday	10 am	Saygo
	3.15	Giant Leaps, speech & drama
	5 pm	Universal Martial Arts
Tuesday	11am	Yoga with Tracey
Registration essential	11.30 am	Pilates with Dee
	5.15	Pippins
	7.00 pm	Yoga with Tristin
Wednesday	9am	Dog training with Lisa
	9.30 am	Wednesday Wheelies
And 2nd Saturday of the month at 4pm	10.30 am	The Corner, coffee and chat
	7.00 pm	Capoeira Angola
Thursday	9.30 am	Saygo
	11 am	Yoga with Tracey
		Giant Leaps, speech & drama
	5.00 pm	Universal Martial Arts

This calendar contains a list of regular weekly users. Others meet monthly or occasionally. Call centre for contact details.

Hot topic: housing changes

St Albans Residents Association is hosting a public discussion on the intensification of housing in our community on May 9 at the community centre at 7pm. City council staffers will speak on the upcoming consultations on the District plan, including planned housing Intensification rules and heritage areas. Local residents and business owners will then offer their thoughts Network afterwards with a cup of tea to share your thoughts.

Recycling proves popular at Kohinga

The community centre is collecting small items which should not be put into yellow recycling bins, e.g. small plastics, bottle tops and bread tags, wine bottle tops, can tear tabs and beer/cider bottle caps. The aim is to keep these things out of the landfill.

- The small plastics are sorted into colours and sent to be made into jewellery, artworks and to other products, such as pots for pot plants.
- Wine bottle tops, can tear tabs (aluminium) and beer bottle caps (steel) provide funds to support Kidney Kids.
- The plastic bread tags go to Bread Tags for Wheelchairs, which funds wheelchairs in South Africa.

Please ensure the items you take to the centre are clean and already sorted into the different products outlined. The black recycling bins can be found underneath the reception counter near the centre's front door. ☼

Thrifty habits make good sense

by June Peka

With a lifetime of experience behind them, Nana and Grandpa know a thing or two about saving money and sustainability – and it could be the answer to rising prices at the vege counter.

Often we oldies are still living our old thrifty ways, not because we're on the breadline but because it makes sense on every level – it's good for our pockets, our health and the planet. And because we've been doing it for a long time, it's just part of everyday living. Tackled in moderation, and knowing you're doing your bit for the world, thrift can be a satisfying and fun challenge.

Some folk go hard at it, pickling and jamming and dehydrating food, but that's hard hot work in my opinion. Why bottle tomatoes when tinned are so cheap? Freezing and swapping are regarded as the lazy squirrel's way, and that suits me.

These last few weeks we have bartered honey for walnuts, pumpkins for pears, peaches for herbal tea, beans for fish, potatoes for relish, feijoas for egg cartons, eggs for plants and writing for a bakery voucher.

The garden which sustains this trade is not big or pretty. It's a jumble of wire netting, baths and sinks and pots and buckets from the Rangiora Dump Shop. Flowers pop

up in the vege patch and vice versa. The produce often isn't perfect. But because the soil is made by composting everything from the kitchen, with chook poop and the odd bag of organic manure or seaweed, it tastes amazing.

It's been no-dig for 40 years so not at all labour intensive. We kill caterpillars with our fingers, not poison. The freezers are full to bursting, with beans, broccoli, scallopini and spinach, not to mention breakfast-sized portions of pears, apples, blackboy peaches and feijoas. As soup lovers, this winter we will buy only onions, carrots and parsnips whilst the garden is put to bed under layers of straw to keep weeds at bay until spring.

Already I hear flat dwellers and renters making excuses for not giving this a go. But there is always a sunny windowsill for herbs, peppers, microgreens, etc, and space for tomatoes in hanging baskets. And buckets on the steps for potatoes. The benefits of all this growing and saving? A takeaway, a meal out, and cafe coffees whenever the mood suits us. Even in retirement I support my charities. We manage to do this because we spend so little in the produce department at the supermarket. Years ago we put these savings into the bank for bigger purchases. Oh my, we would've been so grateful for tinned tomatoes back then. ☼

Local Government Elections 2022

Councillor candidates face off in Innes Ward

Two experienced candidates have already put their hats in the ring to contest a single seat in the elections in October.



Ali Jones standing as an independent

Ali, a passionately independent believer that "politics have no place in local government", has been on the community board since 2016 when she chose not to run for council due to family illness and earthquake repair issues involving the family home. She is also well-known for her quake advocacy work on behalf of others.

Her house is being demolished (a failed EQC repair) and she will be quite literally on the road for many months or perhaps parked up in someone's driveway. While the house is being rebuilt, she and her husband have opted to live in a pimped out bus/van called Dylan.

Jones says the key issues in the Innes Ward are traffic, congestion, crime, road safety, high density housing, and road and pavements still in disrepair.

"As a council, we're too slow getting things done and I am keen to look at why, and how that can (and must) change. I also believe we have to 'spend smarter', meaning screwing down spending and ensuring ratepayers' money is spent on essentials and on getting the basics right. We have to get on top of the congestion and public transport issues – and I am pleased that rail, which I was passionate about looking into more than five years ago, appears to now be getting a more positive hearing," she says.

Three-term councillor Pauline Cotter has also publicly announced that she is standing again for election in the Innes Ward later this year. The ward covers most of St Albans and extends north as far as Belfast. Cotter has been chosen as the People's Choice/Labour candidate for Innes.



Pauline Cotter current councillor

A 35-year resident who has brought up four children in the area, Cotter has a close association with St Albans, advocating for the community to run the council-built community centre and securing the vacant section in Caledonian rd next door to the community centre for the long term. This is currently a flourishing community garden.

Most recently she put forward an amendment to the annual plan for the Edgware Pool Project to receive a council contribution of \$3 million (up from the earlier \$1.2 m). She sees this as "a tangible example of enabling communities and ensuring resilience through local facilities.

A keen cyclist, she also has her eyes on climate change. "We must step up to achieve our goals to reduce emissions. I support active travel, public transport and mode choice. I am passionate about the vision for Christchurch as a National Park City.

"It fits all our wishes for a green city, a healthy city, with an environment rich in biodiversity ensuring an enduring legacy for our children and their children."

St Albans News has also heard of a couple of other people who have indicated their interest in representing Innes. Nominations close in mid August for the election in October. ☼

Come along and hear from Council staff and local residents about the proposed changes to the CCC District Plan that effect the look and feel of our communities, including intensification and our historic heritage. Have your say.

What does your community look like, tomorrow?

MONDAY 9 MAY
7.30PM
@ ST ALBANS
COMMUNITY CENTRE
1049 COLOMBO ST

Organised by the St Albans Residents Association

Ma Baker

Selling delicious, original Kiwi cuisine, baking fresh daily.

EDGEWARE VILLAGE
1066 Colombo St, Ph. 365 0802

BISHOPDALE VILLAGE MALL
135 Farrington Ave, Ph. 03 359 1020

OPEN 7 DAYS 7.00AM - 5.30PM

Time to discuss city building heights

Continued from page 1

required although accessible parking is (wheelchairs etc). Resource consent is required for four or more units or for exceeding heights.

There are also rules about set backs that can be as little as one metre from side and back fences. Up to 50 per cent of the property can be covered with a building. The remaining space can be covered with paths, gardens, grass (or its equivalent size in balconies) and trees and accessible parking (eg; wheelchairs). Although off street parking is not a requirement garages can still be built but blank walls on the street frontage are not allowed with 20 per cent glazing required.

Some precincts may be allowed in these areas for additional housing, higher heights or different minimum property sizes, but the proposal does not elaborate.

Higher Density Residential Zones (HDRZ) will mainly be found within a 1.2 km walkable catchment of the city centre and will allow apartment blocks up to 32 metres high. That classification

might also apply to streets adjacent to suburban commercial zones in Riccarton, Papanui and Hornby, although the building heights will max out at 20 metres.

Building heights determine the rules to follow. For example, housing under 14 metres won't need resource consent but those 14-20 metres will. This is where things like dominance, privacy, shadows, location relative to transport and necessity of the development will be taken into account. Inner city apartment blocks up to 32 metres high will also require increased set backs of upper floors and the impact of wind needs to be tested.

An interactive map on the council website colour codes the different zones covering the city (including character areas and residential heritage areas described on page 7). Type in your address to see where your property is located: <https://gis.ccc.govt.nz/portal/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=3873b31c95bb45ef8elf3cld05b26dla>

Limited intensification

Residential areas are only exempted from those rules if councils can provide evidence that they are unsuitable for the amount of increased housing enabled by the legislation, referred to in the legislation as "Qualifying Matters".

For example, areas of the city such as Shirley, which had vacuum wastewater pipes installed after the quakes, are exempt as the infrastructure is at capacity and cannot handle. Residential Heritage Areas and Character Areas are also be exempt. (See article on page 7).

This article is a simplified summary of the Draft Housing and Business Choice Plan. For more detailed information about planned changes to the district plan check out this page: <https://www.ccc.govt.nz/the-council/plans-strategies-policies-and-bylaws/plans/christchurch-district-plan/changes-to-the-district-plan/planchange/pc14/> Remember to submit your feedback to the council by May 13 submit your feedback by May 13. ☞

Heritage areas exempted from intensification

by Belinda Carter

Some residential areas of Christchurch with special character will be protected from new housing intensification rules through a separate plan change. Residential heritage areas (RHA) or character areas won't be invaded by multi-storey apartments or townhouses.

"They are special," Council Head of Planning and Consents John Higgins says "We want to protect them as much as we can".

Character areas are part of the current district plan and require some coherent character, open space. Massey, based around Massey Crescent, is an example of a character area and has been so since the 1990s. Others in St Albans include Ranfurly St, Francis and Malvern.

These areas focus on coherence of character, patterns of subdivision, open space, and streetscape and the scale and appearance of buildings.

"Residential character is created from

the way that different physical elements of our neighbourhoods come together. This might include the combination of a landscape setting, such as a riverside esplanade or an avenue of trees, or with a grouping of properties with buildings of the same era, with consistent architecture and scale..."

RHAs form a new category with 11 proposed for Christchurch. One is planned for Gosset/Carrington/Jacobs streets. Heritage also has more significance than character values in current legislation and the rules are more stringent for the RHA. Christchurch residents may suggest other areas to become RHAs but these will need to meet strict criteria.

RHAs represent important aspects but less tangible aspects of the city's history, Higgins elaborated when asked to explain the difference between the two types of heritage protection. Historical, social or cultural values (such as who lived there, the importance of the location relating

to a specific event, who designed the buildings and so on) are important. They have a coherent story or shared history whereas not all character areas have this.

While it is possible to live in an area that is both a character area and a residential heritage area, some heritage areas are too diverse in character to be regarded as character areas.

Living in such areas places limits and special requirements on property owners wanting to alter their homes that might not apply to standard residential areas.

Council is also adding 65 buildings, interiors and items to the list Schedule of Significant Historic Heritage, including a house in Derby St and another in McDougall Ave. The council also keeps a list of significant trees as well as buildings.

If you want to know more about heritage areas visit the CCC Have Your Say website and look for the one that says Heritage. ☞

parris & jeanne

SINCE 2020

Hosting Merivale Postshop
Monday to Friday: 9.00 am – 6.00 pm
Saturday: 10 am – 4.00 pm



Handpicked literary selections
from diverse genres. Fiction, non-fiction, adults and childrens.
Over 800 titles.



As well as books, Parris & Jeanne stock a large range of NZ made cards, jewellery, prints, local crafts. Also a wide range of quality children's games and toys and jigsaw puzzles for all ages.

183 Papanui Rd • parrisandjeanne@gmail.com

INVEST ~ IN JOY



VIA SOLLERTIA

74 EDGEWARE ROAD

whittle knight
real estate

Trusted by Christchurch
since 1966



For the last 55 years, our family real estate firm has proudly led the way in providing Christchurch with outstanding service in **Property Sales and Property Management.**

- Property Management
- Real Estate
- Valuations and Appraisals
- Commercial
- Competitive Selling Fees
- No Upfront Advertising Costs

whittlenight.co.nz info@whittlenight.co.nz 03 348 4149

Licensed Under the REAA 2008

ST ALBANS COMMUNITY CENTRE

ALL ages and abilities!

GIANT LEAPS
SPEECH + DRAMA

SPEECH and DRAMA CLASSES

Speech NEW ZEALAND TRINITY COLLEGE LONDON epc

0800 4 SPEECH info@giantleaps.nz www.giantleaps.nz

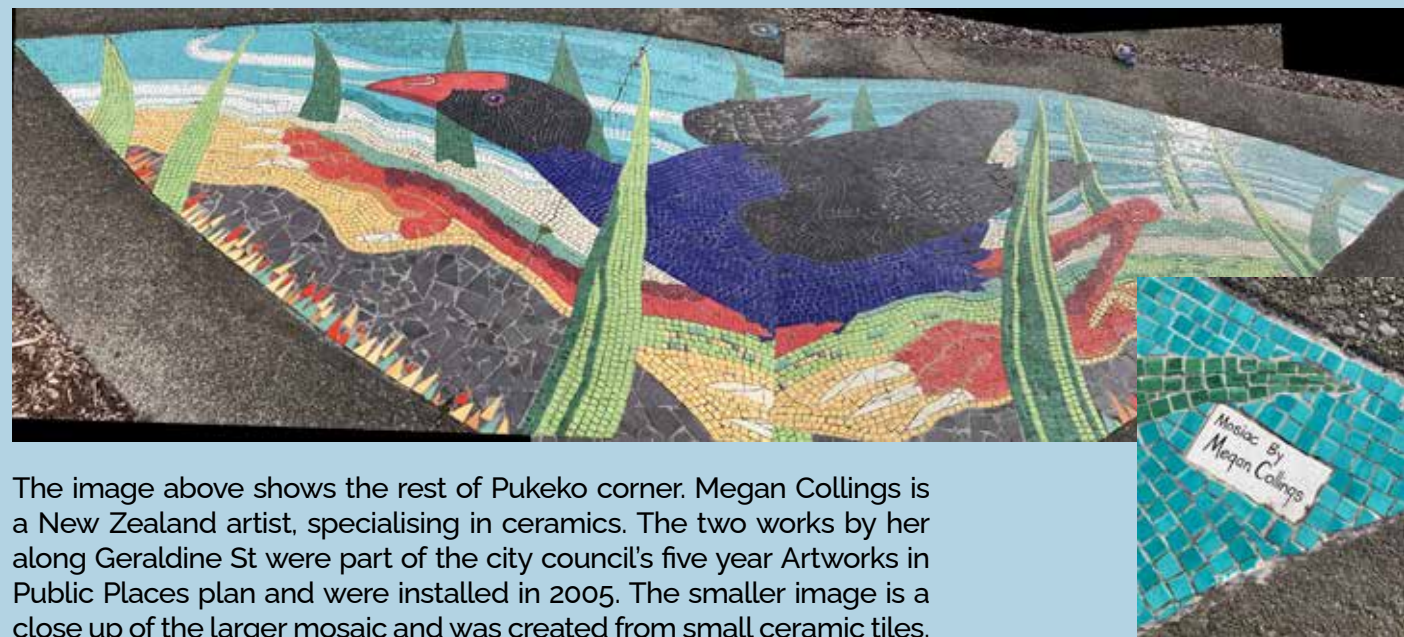
Geraldine St: a living street

Geraldine St is special. In the early years of the 21st century when the Living Street Aotearoa movement was at its height, encouraging people to talk and enjoy public spaces. Christchurch City Council turned Geraldine into a Living Street, one where cars had less dominance, roads were narrowed and artwork was added.

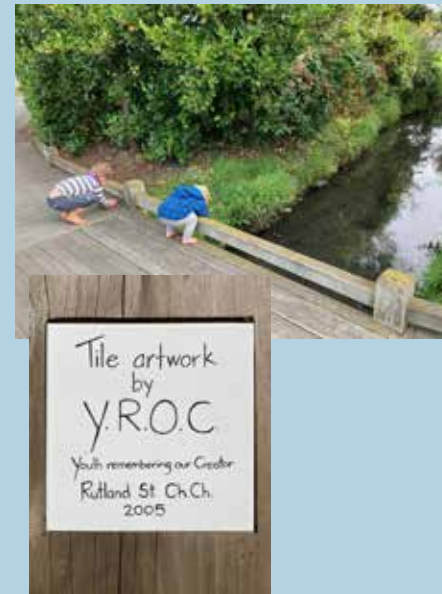
A panel at the Bealey Ave end tells how Geraldine St was renamed after the alternative family name of James Edward FitzGerald, a 19th century politician and founder of the The Press in 1861.



Above: Megan Collings' tile mural features in Pukeko corner at Geraldine and Purchas streets. Unfortunately the first in a series of te pou whenua has had its tiles removed.



The image above shows the rest of Pukeko corner. Megan Collings is a New Zealand artist, specialising in ceramics. The two works by her along Geraldine St were part of the city council's five year Artworks in Public Places plan and were installed in 2005. The smaller image is a close up of the larger mosaic and was created from small ceramic tiles.



The bridge (top right) at Kotuku corner provides safe entertainment for local children.



Above: Kotuku corner at Geraldine St and Edgeware Rd features another of Megan Collings' tile murals.



Above: Rutland Street Youth the Creator church group members decorated te pou whenua with hand-painted tiles in 2005. These run the full length of Geraldine St from Bealey Ave to Warrington St.

NZ Post postal services now at:
Edgeware Freshchoice
Supermarket

Hours: Mon – Fri, 9am – 5 pm
Sat, 9am – 1 pm
Kiwibank coming soon
61 Edgeware Road, ph 366 1918



EA Edgeware
Automotive Ltd
Prestige Automotive
Servicing

25 Canon Street
377 1133



<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Edgeware-Automotive/148457168640223>

www.edgeauto.co.nz

Quote this ad for a discount

- WOF, servicing & full mechanical repairs
- Competitive hourly rate
- Latest diagnostic equipment
- Courtesy cars
- Open Saturday



Packe Street
Park and
Community
Gardens

Working bees
Mondays &
Thursdays
4- 6 pm

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

Let's make a
big splash!

CCC 2022/23
Annual Plan

A big thank you to all who
submitted in support of the
Council increasing their
grant to the Edgeware Pool



parris
& jeanne

Hosting Merivale Postshop.
Your local NZTA agency.
P O Boxes available now with 24/7 access. It is not too late to transfer your Edgeware P O Box if your box has been transferred to the city. It is still free to move to Merivale.

Monday to Friday
9 am - 6 pm
Saturday
10 am - 4pm
183 Papanui Road, Merivale

ST ALBANS
TENNIS CLUB

Returning to, new to or just love tennis, then we're the club for you. We play during autumn/ winter so come and give us a go. You can find us at the courts on Thursday from 3pm or Saturday 1pm.

Visit our website or phone
Robyn: 027 733 4315
37 Dover St, off Edgeware Rd

News from the City Council

Council dealing with changes to our waters

by Belinda Carter

Exemption from chlorination of water sought (CCC Long Term Plan for our waters)

The government's Three Waters reform proposal to remove the planning, delivery and funding of drinking water, wastewater and storm water from local councils in New Zealand in 2024 will see most of the South Island becoming part of a single mega entity responsible for the Three Waters. The Christchurch City Council will no longer have any authority on how these services are delivered to residents.

As well as enabling a higher level of borrowing, the entities will be established as a co-governance model with 50 per cent Mana Whenua (in our case Ngai Tahu) representation. In order to remove the Three Waters from local councils, a huge change to the Local Government Act is required by means of a bill through parliament, which is expected to be introduced mid-year. Some public

consultation is assumed.

Despite these looming changes, CCC is continuing with large investment in our Three Waters, with \$2.3 billion allocated in our current Long Term Plan.

The government has established Taumata Arowai, the agency tasked with setting strict new standards for drinking water infrastructure and protection. Once they have signed off their standards, council can and will apply for a chlorine exemption, hopefully by mid-year.

Currently 30 per cent of Christchurch water supply is not chlorinated. However, at the moment St Albans water supply is chlorinated. Its above-ground pipes can be seen in Trafalgar St, not far away from Edgeware Rd and adjacent to the pool site.

Fluoridation is now a decision for the Director General of Health, who is expected to instruct all councils in NZ to add fluoride. However, due to Christchurch water being aquifer-



Pauline Cotter
councillor
and Innes-
Papanui ward
representative

sourced, and with 50 pump stations, this will prove very expensive for us – a cost of \$63M capital to set up, and \$3M per year to operate. Council has requested the government foot this bill as we believe it is a health issue.

I have also requested details of any other options the government has explored for fluoridating children's teeth. As a child I remember being given small fluoride tablets to rub onto my teeth—perhaps schools could be provided with these. And possibly cheaper too.

Rest assured that the councils' Three Waters programme is continuing with appropriate investment and our infrastructure is of a high standard. ☘

Ageing water supply pipes cause concern

Continued from page 1

gradually be replaced over the next 27 years. The focus is mainly on replacing the water supply pipes as they age. Some stormwater and wastewater pipes are also made of concrete asbestos but the focus is on those water supply pipes made of concrete asbestos.

Drennan said not all city pipes carrying water are made from concrete asbestos; PVC, cast iron, galvanised pipes and more recently high density polyethylene (HDPE) are also used in the network.

Now that the study has been done, regular monitoring of the pipes for asbestos is being considered.

However, Christchurch is not the only urban area in New Zealand using concrete asbestos pipes to supply water. An estimated 9000 kilometres

of concrete asbestos piping needs replacing and will cost the country billions of dollars.

Nor is New Zealand the only country dealing with these types of pipes. In the United States, which has higher concentrations of asbestos fibres in its water supply, cities minimise the problem until pipes can be replaced by using reverse osmosis systems with fine filtration at water treatment plants. Anyone interested in the US experience can find out more on this website: www.asbestos.com/exposure/water-supply.

Christchurch is not using the US methods, although it does use sand filtering on some pumps, Drennan said.

The concrete pipes are under the streets and footpaths. Piping across private land and into homes is made

from materials like PVC, galvanised pipe or other plastics.

He was unable to comment about householders installing filters on taps inside houses but this is done in some overseas cities eg: under sink filters using reverse osmosis process.

Although in home filters are not officially recommended in New Zealand, concerned individuals could check out a UK company called Zerowater, which manufactures electric jugs with filters that pick up asbestos fibres.

The Otago University's Water Supply Journal study report can be found here:

<https://iwaponline.com/ws/article/doi/10.2166/ws.2022.108/87250/The-concentration-and-prevalence-of-asbestos> ☘

Grandad faces a tough day at the park

by Martin Cooney

The plan was an after-school adventure. School pickup from Rooms 1 and 3, then drive to a northwest suburban park and unload the two girls. There's a stream here with an old-style narrow board to cross it and a tree hut beyond – which the girls climb for a mini-picnic.

After a while, I notice the area alongside the stream has been cleared. The girls run along beside it wanting to play hide-and-seek. I count to 30. But as I seek them, I cannot find them. I go quite a long way along the stream and still no sign of them. By now a degree of concern is rising. The stream, though not deep, is quite swift. I cross it and head back down the other side. The girls, thank goodness, know how to swim but still...

Then relief! They too have crossed the stream and are heading back to the car, quite upset with Grandad's abysmal seeking abilities. They had stuck together, circled back to the hut area and finally decided to check the car.

I make a silent vow to stick to St Albans Park in future.

That wasn't the first incident involving water danger and the grandkids. There has been a fall into Travis Swamp and another into the Avon while feeding ducks. And the surf (up to knees) at North Brighton Beach. Let's face it – we live in a narrow island nation cut by swift rivers. Accidents will happen and Kiwi kids need the skills to handle them.

One of those skills is learning to swim. The girls have had paid swimming lessons as well as lessons at school. They have learnt to float and 'Dolphin Dive' and can do some overarm. They have often played in the toddlers' pool at Abberley Park, but the nearest full size public pool is in Papanui.

Now, however, we can support the planned local pool complex, comprising a 25 metre pool, a separate learners' pool, and a toddlers' splash pad on the Edgeware Rd site.

Locals have put in years of hard fundraising: quiz nights, raffles, submissions, and volunteering. The possibility of the council contributing a \$3 million grant to the Edgeware



Author with photo of Edgeware Pool at the Edge Cafe

Pool makes the reality that much more realistic.

I remind myself of my own "Yeah right" comments about fund raising for a "new" New Brighton Pier when I arrived in Christchurch in the 1970s. Well the pier eventually arrived and so will the Edgeware Pool.

In Edge Cafe there is a large photo of the Edgeware Pool back in its heyday. It was hosting the NZ championships in 1934 shortly after its opening before a big crowd. I remember the angst when the council demolished but did not reinstate that old pool. This new one will make up for that decision.

And who knows how many lives it may save. In the 19th century there were so many deaths on river crossings that drowning was known as 'the New Zealand death'.

I see lots of children in the area now who have come from countries without the same water risk that their new country has. The new pool can only help lower that risk for them. I know one grandparent, at least, who really appreciates the peace of mind of knowing their young can swim. ☘

NILE RUGS Persian rugs, kilims & cushion covers
1027 Colombo Street, St. Albans www.nilerugs.co.nz

authentic hand knotted

NAU MAI HAERE MAI!

From April 19 clinics will be once a week on Tuesdays 3pm - 7pm
79 Springfield Road, St Albans

REHUA MARAE COVID VACCINE CLINIC

No booking - Walk in - Vaccination - Kai - 0800 mihi4u (0800644448)

Any clinic updates will be available via Facebook & our website www.rehuamarae.co.nz
email: admin@rehuamarae.org.nz
Come & have a cuppa & kai

mihi Māori Indigenous Health Innovation

Letter to the Editor

Cheers for better urban design ideas

Paul van Herpt's opinion on urban design (Stan April) is spot on. In recent times any of us who have raised objection to the will-nilly proliferation of very small townhouses in multiple blocks, have been pejoratively labelled Nimbys. Mr van Herpt's rationalisation clearly explains there is much more to consider than what's seen from our side of the fence. We can indeed attest to the compromises and impact on neighbours though. At our own home we now have a dozen second-story windows overlooking our previously private section. They each have blinds but the occupier of the unit which directly overlooks our living area likes to perform her ablutions without pulling hers. Two, sometimes three of the units leave their outside lights on all night. There are two dogs despite the To Let advertising precluding same. We now have a third-grade (at least 50 peepholes) fence, and five to seven cars jostling for parking space on the street. Bin day is an absolute shambles and no one seems to have the responsibility of mowing the grass verge. We lost the benefit

of our previous neighbours' established native trees on our boundary, and can expect up to 15 people in the space there were two and a cat they shared with us. We are regularly approached to sell to the same developer.

The wider issue of these reactive housing fix-its on aesthetics, infrastructure, history, gardens, trees, streetscape, etc raised by Mr van Herpt is enormous and must be addressed. Currently, one of the largest developers in our area is advertising (full page Press Sat 2 April) a "10 year structural guarantee. Your new home will stand the test of time."

I can't visualise them looking as good as our 100 year old bungalow in that time, so I think it's safe to say our area is not being gentrified, rather uglified in the short and longer term, and almost solely for the benefit of developers and investors who don't live within cooee of this ever-growing unplanned mess. I suggest we have a competition to create an acronym for them. Something like WYOBY – wreck your own back yard.

June Peka

Working for you

Contact: Phil Adcock
021 909 950
phil@grassamrealestate.co.nz



Grassam Real Estate Ltd MREINZ
Licensed agent reaa 2008

Dr Duncan Webb

MP for
Christchurch
Central

03 366 5519
282-290 Durham Street North
@ chchcentral@parliament.govt.nz



Authorised by Dr Duncan Webb MP
Parliament Buildings, Wellington



Universal Martial Art, Christchurch
8 Hours Free UMA Training
Over a month
Age 8+, wear comfortable clothes & bring water bottle
Monday and Thursday, 5-6 & 6-7
Call Richard on 021 670145 or just turn up
'It's time to learn self defence'
Kohinga St Albans Community Centre • 1049 Colombo St

Letters (preferably 150 words or fewer) can be sent to news@stalbens.gen.nz



Egg hunt spreads happiness

There was much excitement for local children, when Mark Leighs (dressed as the Easter bunny) conducted The Great Edgeware Easter Egg hunt at Abberley Park on April 16. Children hunted in amongst the plants for chocolate eggs donated by St Albans businesses. The free community event was organised by the Community Unity Project. The outcome of the project's inaugural easter event was "community happiness" and was rewarded by that.

⌘

Preparing for winter's bite

As soil and ambient temperatures lower and days shorten, Winter's bite comes in waves to greet our morning toes and garden edges reminding us that it is just around the corner.

These reminders are exactly the motivation we need to get out and prepare our gardens for overwintering. Protecting sensitive plants such as young citrus with frost cloth will give them the best environment to thrive through the cold. Going the extra mile and insulating them with bales of straw can improve growth and get extra use out of your mulching materials for next season.

Getting in the last of the direct sown leafy greens such as lupins, mustard and ryegrass mixes you can get from most seed stores and transplants under mesh cover or in greenhouses will keep you going through lean months.

A good practice is cleaning up the last remnants of the season by removing fallen fruit and old plant material as they can harbour pests and disease. Watch for the leaves to fall from trees such as peaches, to do the first sprays required for the treatment of common fungal infections such as leaf curl. Covering exposed soil to protect it from the harsh elements should be high priority. Sowing green manure crops is a great way to naturally and passively care for your soil. These will work throughout winter to improve soil structure, recycle nutrients, protect from erosion, fix nitrogen and create habitat beneficial for all with very little human input, giving us time to sit in front of the fire and recharge.

Good gardening, *Basil*

Tenants move into rebuilt housing complex

by Belinda Carter

Tenants in the rebuilt community housing complex in Coles Pl, which opened in April, face a warm and dry winter thanks to high building standards.

In front of a small crowd (thanks to COVID), Housing Minister Megan Woods, Christchurch Mayor Lianne Dalziel and one of the new tenants cut a green ribbon on April 8 to declare the complex open.

The new tenants were chosen from more than 1800 people and families on the Ministry of Social Development's Public Housing Register at the end of last year. They were all eligible for a government housing subsidy and moved in recently.

The 33 new homes have Homestar 7 rating (10 being the most energy efficient), with passive solar design and high-spec insulation that will make them cheaper to run. Most of the homes are one bedroom but several have two or even four bedrooms for larger families.

The new homes have private courtyards and



share communal vegetable gardens, fruit trees and grassy gathering spaces, where children can also play.

They replaced 20 weatherboard social housing units built for pensioners in the early 1950s. The replacement complex was delivered a month early and under budget despite

disrupted supply chains and pandemic restrictions.

"Community housing is needed more now than ever," Ōtautahi Community Housing Trust chief executive Cate Kearney said, "especially as we see the impact of the housing shortage, high rentals and the effects of COVID-19 on the number of people in need of a home."

"More and more people need a home, and they want the chance to sustain their tenancies, to have the security that comes with having a home and being part of a community."

The homes are a tangible demonstration of what can be achieved when the community housing trust, the city council and the government work together.

⌘

Community Notices

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

Canterbury Embroiderers' Guild: @ Hammersley Community Centre, Amos Place. Groups meet 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: card section Mondays at 12.30-3pm, indoor bowls Tuesdays 12.45-3pm, old time dance 3rd Saturday of each month 1.30-4pm, live band, Scottish Society Hall, Edgeware and Caledonian Rd. Visitors welcome. Further information phone: Veronica 383 4682 or Beth 388 2375.

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 Kohinga St Albans Community Centre. Join us for coffee and conversation, meet others in your community. All Welcome. Koha for coffee appreciated.

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. Further information phone 381 5383 or visit the home programme version on readandspell.com

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 (off Barbadoes Street) Visitors welcome. Friendly club, parking. No partner, contact Maureen on 021 646 123.

Fit Beans Coffee Club: 9.30am Fridays, Reformed Church Hall, 63 Cornwall Street. Easy exercise for anyone looking to maintain or regain strength and balance. Suitable for any age or ability, sitting or standing. No running, jumping or lying on the ground required. Led by Dee Owers, \$5 per class, followed by free tea, coffee and cake. Phone Sarah on 338-1648 or 027 758 5141

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 12.30pm 2.15pm. \$2 per Housie card or bring a prize to the value of the card. Afternoon tea to follow. All ages welcome. Numbers are limited. Vaccine pass required to enter. Enquiries ph 372 9224. Visit our website, www.lcmchristchurch.org.nz.

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

Laughter Yoga: The St Albans Laughter Yoga Club. Sunday mornings, 11 am – 11.45am at the Scottish Society Hall cnr Edgeware and Caledonian Rds. Contact; Hannah Airey 021 998 109 www.lotustrust.org.nz. No bookings necessary, \$3 donation.

NZ Japan Society of Canterbury meets to promote 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 on Tuesdays from 1-00pm -2-15pm at St. Albans Uniting Church Nancy Ave (off Innes Rd) for people with Respiratory, Cardiac and vascular conditions. Contact David Chamberlain 332 4471 or Helen Bush 021 230 6338.

Saygo Falls Prevention: Mondays 10 – 11am and Thursdays 9.30 – 10.30 am (wait list for Thursdays) \$2 entry. Kohinga 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 meets at the Scottish Society hall corner Edgeware Caledonian Roads, Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm, February through to 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 the second Tuesday of the month at 10.00am at Delta Community Trust 101 North Avon Road. Interesting speakers. Walking group meets on 3rd Wednesday, and trips are arranged. For more information please phone Dale at 385 1133

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

Rockers Of Ages Choir: For elders and aspiring elders (any age welcome). No auditions, music provided. Wednesdays, 2pm 4pm during term time, Forfar Courts, 95 Forfar Street, St Albans. Phone 0800 843 687 for more information.

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 Kohinga St Albans Community Centre, 1049 Colombo Street. Sing world and popular music in 3 part harmony. No auditions. Email:

women.in.harmony.nz@gmail.com;

womeninharmony.wordpress.com;

facebook.com/womeninharmonychristchurch

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

Community groups

Do you represent a community group in St Albans? This is a space for ongoing free notices, but please keep them short. Email: advertising@stalbens.gen.nz

St Albans News Classifieds

SERVICES

Need help with career redirection or regaining life work balance?

Have a disability and need support with retaining or gaining employment or commencing study? Contact Paul Barclay - Vision Without Limits on 028 461-1257 or info@visionwithoutlimits.co.nz. Experienced Employment Consultant and Professional Member – Career Development Association of New Zealand. Free initial discussion. More information at www.visionwithoutlimits.co.nz

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.

Dog walking services: 30 minutes \$15 or 1-hour \$30, Multiple dogs for an additional cost. For more information contact walkinandwagginwonder@gmail.com

Personal Training - 'Fit With Babs' Private Studio off Innes Road. New

modern equipment. Gift vouchers available for Mothers Day for your special someone. Become stronger, fitter, energised and boost confidence! Personalised sessions structured around individual goals and current fitness level/ability. Technique training, Tone and weight loss, Resistance/Strength, Functional movements, Injury Prevention/Rehabilitation, HIT sessions. fitwithbabs@gmail.com, 021 232 7151

ProofreadingNZ: All proofreading and editing services \$60/hour, GST incl. Contact carlaheslop@slingshot.co.nz

Becoming You Yoga: Mary Potter Centre, Tuesday 4.30pm \$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

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

Painter: Experienced local tradesman, interior/exterior, full repaints, fences, decks. Residential or commercial. Call now for quality painting services at competitive rates. Timeliness guaranteed. Shayne 027 214 1827

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

SITUATIONS VACANT

Laundry Assistant wanted. Drivers Licence a plus. Hours are flexible Mon – Friday. Based in the Central City. Please Call Deb at 027 514 5586

Mental Health Support

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

- **Counsellors** available via text: 1737
- **Suicidal?** Phone 0508 828 865
- **Kidslines:** 0800 54 37 54 For under 18s, 24/7
- **Depression:** 0800 111 757 or text 4302
- **Canterbury Charity Hospital:** 03 360 2266
- **Shakti Crisis Line:** for migrant or refugee women living with family violence 0800 742 584
- **Allies online mentoring** offered by young Muslim adults to Muslim teens run by Youthline. Free text 234 or phone 0800 376 633
- **Sexual Assault Support Service Canterbury (SASSC):** 03 377 5402 for recent and historic cases
- **Male Survivors:** 03 365 9000
- **OUTLine NZ:** provides confidential telephone support for matters of gender or sexuality, 0800 688 5463

- **Mental Health Advocacy Peer Support (MHAPS):** Phone: (03) 365 9479, Text: 022 370 8055, Rural Phone : 0800 437 324, Email: reception@mhaps.org.nz, 9:00am – 4:30pm, Monday to Friday
- **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
- **Rape Crisis:** 0800 883 300 for support after rape or sexual assault.
- **Are You OK?** Family violence helpline 0800 456 450.
- **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



St Albans events

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

May 9, 7.30pm: Kohinga, 1049 Colombo St. Public meeting about CCC District Plan



Edgeware & Barbadoes

News from around St Albans

Kiwibank for supermarket

Banking services are coming soon to the Freshchoice Edgeware Supermarket when Kiwibank moves in. Kiwibank services have been in hiatus in St Albans since the Kiwi Bookshop closed in March. "We are still awaiting exterior signage," director Stephen Anderson says. Parcels can now be posted and stamps purchased as NZ postal service is already operating on the Edge Cafe side of the building.

Daylight robbery

Local business Nile Rugs, on the corner of Canon and Colombo St, had two rugs stolen from outside their shop on Thursday 14 April, around 2.25-2.30pm. A woman with dark hair (unfortunately only description provided) headed north on Colombo St. Did anyone see anything or have cameras that might show something?

Skatepark opening

By the time you read the May edition of St Albans News the upgraded skatepark at St Albans Park will have been officially opened by the Waipapa/Papanui-Innes community board. This reopening has been a long time coming with consultations taking place five years ago to find out what young people wanted. The result was more features for beginner skaters. Skateskool will be on site with skateboards, running learn to skate sessions on the afternoon of April 30.

Marae support for Covid19 isolation

Rehua Marae is offering a support service for whanau if their household is isolating and needing support. To register for Covid19 response, Rongoa service or the free nurse service for well checks, please ring the Rehua office on 3555615, email: junior.admin@rehuamarae.org.nz or fill out a form on this site: <https://forms.gle/ZXRHo8G24aUduwgb6>

Power rights

Under the Consumer Guarantees Act your electricity or gas provider must provide power of acceptable quality. If you suffer loss or damage because of a supply problem or unplanned outage, you might be able to claim compensation. For more information on your rights and how you can claim compensation for losses, visit:

<https://www.cab.org.nz/article/KB00000073>

Protect your e-bike

Canterbury Police and Christchurch City Council have teamed up with a community-powered bike recovery service. Called 529 Garage, the global service is free to use, keeps the cyclist's personal data safe and offers a tamper resistant shield to fix to the cycle or e-bike. Check out the appropriate app store or register through the Council website. <https://ccc.govt.nz/transport/getting-around/cycling/nice-bike-lock-it-log-it>

