

Decision imminent over Cranford St future

Christchurch City Council received 632 submissions on the options for laning Cranford St between Innes Rd and Berwick St. Of these, 28 per cent came from St Albans area including those living on Cranford St. The greatest number of submissions came from people living in other parts of Christchurch.

Group submissions, including the one from St Albans Residents Association (SARA), cyclists advocacy group Spokes and the youthful Greater Ōtautahi (a transport and housing group), tended to favour a bus lane or T2 lane, while businesses and developers favoured a clearway. Individual submitters (the bulk of the total) also tended to favour a clearway.

According to CCC Transport Planning and Delivery Manager Jacob Bradbury any approved option will supersede the bus lane trial resolutions. However, if

the T2 lane option is approved, buses will be able to use the T2 lane. He said if CCC chooses a T2 lane it may require an interim system as it will take time to implement.

The submissions, including one from St Albans Residents Association closed in late August, and are now accessible online. The Waipapa/ Papanui-Innes-Central Community Board is expected to make a decision/recommendation at its meeting on November 14. The board has indicated in the past it does not favour a clearway but whether the peak time bus lane becomes permanent or a T2 lane is installed, the full council meeting will have the final say in December. For more information see the reports on the Letstalk page: <https://letstalk.ccc.govt.nz/cranford/which-option-cranford-street-what-we-heard-page-update> ☘

Bus, shared lane or clearway? Which is best?

by Belinda Carter

If Christchurch City Council decides in December to replace the Cranford St peak time bus lane with a clearway, the safety of pedestrians and cyclists in St Albans will be at stake and it will do little to improve traffic congestion at peak times, and may even exacerbate it.

"Expansion of the Cranford Street bus lane and service is what should be considered, not removal." SARA committee member Francine Bills says when speaking on behalf of the residents association. "The bus lanes should stay, and the intersections should prioritise the safety of pedestrians and cyclists."

"Since the opening of the Christchurch Northern Corridor, intersections along Cranford Street have become dangerous to cross and move through, whether you are a pedestrian or cyclist or driver. The



SARA would like to see the bus lane as a permanent fixture in Cranford St

frustration regarding this".

She said a clearway would not miraculously unclog traffic. It would create two lanes of almost uncontrolled traffic and pedestrians could face two lanes of red light runners at intersections not just one. Commuters would be prioritised over pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users and the decision would offer little environmental and social protection to the area. It might not improve travel times for commuters either by encouraging more people to drive their cars into the city rather than using public transport.

Any changes to Cranford St or the surrounding areas should focus on community, not commuters, she said. "It is a key time to actually do something concrete to improve the roads for St Albans residents in particular who have been wearing the

motorway has turned local residents into side-street [rat] runners, and there is significant

roadway decisions made at council level for years."

continued on page 4



Activities at the community centre

Weekly groups that meet at the community centre.

Monday	10am	Saygo - Rowena
	10am	Multicultural Mums and Bubs
	10am	SeniorNet Mac
	11am	Happy Feet
	5pm	Universal Martial Arts
Tuesday	9.30am	Zumba with JB
	10.45am	Yoga with Tracy Kells
	10am	Neighbournet
	5.30	Pippins
	7pm	Avon Toastmasters
Wednesday	7pm	Ungu Capoeira
	9am	Wednesday Wheelies
	9.30am	Zumba with JB
	10am	SeniorNet Mac
	10.30am	The Corner, coffee and chat
Thursday	7.00pm	Capoeira Angola
	9.30am	Saygo - Daph
	10.45am	Yoga with Tracy Kells
	10am	NeighbourNet
	5.00pm	Universal Martial Arts
Friday	7.15pm	Women in Harmony
	10am	SeniorNet Mac
	10am	Social Square Dancing
Call Centre for details	6pm	Impact Youth

The programme lists activities run at the centre on a weekly basis. One off or less frequent activities can be notified for free through community notices or the events column or through paid advertising. Please contact advertising@stalbands.gen.nz for further information.

**SARA Committee**

St Albans Residents Association meets bi-monthly at St Albans Community Centre, 1049 Colombo St. Next meeting is yet to be confirmed

Advertising in St Albans News

If you would like to advertise in the News, phone Lynne on 972 5534 or email advertising@stalbands.gen.nz. Please ask for a copy of our ratesheet, which specifies sizes, prices and requirements.

St Albans History Group

Next meeting: November 4, 2pm at the St Albans Community Centre.
Email: briangspear@hotmail.com

Wednesday Wheelies

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

The deadline for the December issue of St Albans News is November 12

Please send your articles, letters and notices to: news@stalbands.gen.nz

SARA Website

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

StAN on Facebook

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

SARA on Neighbourly

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

SARA on Facebook

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

SARA and Centre news**Cafe Chat focuses on St Albans Strategy**

Di Lucas was unavailable to talk about planting suitable for St Albans soils on October 7, so St Albans activator, Emma Twaddell, filled in with a talk about the St Albans Strategy – a list of goals that the residents association would like to see happening in the suburb in the next decade. It's an aspirational list, ranging from the practical to the blue sky thinking. It is being updated through a survey that will assist SARA to update the 2013-2023 strategy to one for 2025-2034. SARA runs the St Albans Community Centre, the Kohinga Māra, the associated pantry and the bbq trailer, and produces the monthly St Albans News as well as a number of other communications channels. The strategy, which will help St Albans become a better place, was included in the October StAN. It can also be filled out online: www.stalbands.gen.nz/?page_id=11220

The next cafe chat on November 4 features the Christchurch Methodist Mission (not to be confused with the Anglican-run Christchurch City Mission). The methodist social service organisation will be talking about their newest service, the blanket collection drive run over the winter months – the centre is a collection point – and other activities. They run a care home for older people, and help support families and children. For more information check out: <https://www.mmsi.org.nz>

Harrison McEvoy joins SARA

Community advocate Harrison McEvoy was elected to the SARA committee at the AGM in September to help with transport and housing issues and to give youth a voice.

Since the local body elections in 2022, when he came close to winning a seat on the Waipapa/ Papanui-Innes-Central Community Board, he has been building his profile as a community advocate, largely through urban advocacy organisation Greater Ōtautahi, which he helped found, to advocate for better housing and public transport in the city. He also blogs on those topics and regularly engages with the council, mostly recently over the Cranford St lane decisions.

As a teacher at Shirley Boys' High School, "to ensure there is a future-focused voice at the table," he is focusing on helping younger people engage with their community and decision-makers.

"I am a big believer in local community decision-making and in empowering our community to make the decisions we know are right. I envision SARA taking a more active role in our community's planning and development and focusing on securing council support for more amenities.

"Our community needs more targeted support in areas such as transport and infrastructure to underpin the incoming changes in housing density and I intend to take an active role in securing that support."

Multicultural Mums and Bubs

Mondays
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ST ALBANS TENNIS CLUB Open Day

Saturday, 9 November
1.00 - 4.30pm
Are you new to tennis or Looking for a new club?
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37 Dover St, off Edgware Rd

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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@stalbands.gen.nz

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

Letters can be mailed to:

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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.

Residents safety at stake in lane decision

continued from page 1

The St Albans Residents Association (SARA) first preference, outlined in the submissions, is to retain the peak time bus lane which has been trialled over the past couple of years. Its second preference, a T2 lane, would allow buses and cars carrying at least one passenger to use the lane during peak hours and could, at some later stage with a bit more work, link up with the T2 lane to QEII park.

Figures supplied by Environment Canterbury to St Albans News in a compressed graph format reveal more people are travelling down Cranford St by bus on weekdays. For example, average weekday boardings for the 91 (express bus from Rangiora) increased from 100 to 250, the 92 (Kaiapoi express) from 50 to 140 over a three year period ending September 2024. Figures for the 27 route in the city jumped from 500 to 2000 from September 2023 to September 2024.

If council opts for a clearway it means a separate bus lane is history. Cranford St is likely to face increasing congestion and emissions from increasing numbers of people who work in the city and drive into town. It might also erode any current advantage bus travellers have avoiding congestion and lead to more people relying on cars.

Neighbouring Waimakariri District Council has spent considerable sums on its park and ride schemes in Kaiapoi and Rangiora to encourage drivers to leave their cars at home. If the northern towns continue to grow as they have been (Pegasus, Ravenswood, Rangiora, Kaiapoi

and Woodend) and the bus service fails to attract more commuters, more single occupancy cars will be heading for Christchurch, which is not good for St Albans residents.

If CCC opts for a T2 lane, at least buses and other vehicles with two or more people in them will have access to the lane (as long as it is enforced), while single occupants might find their trip is a little slower at peak times. T2 benefits the greatest number of people and has more benefits longterm, particularly environmental.

St Albans residents look forward to a solution that keeps residents safe, provides good public transport and deals with increasing traffic on Cranford St at peak times; one that does not 'induce demand' where creating more space for cars results in it being filled with more cars as it has in Auckland, Francine Bills said.

A decision is possible in December but roadworks, including some additional safety work (raised platforms, signage etc) required, are not likely to happen till 2025, CCC says.

For further information see the consultation report: <https://letstalk.ccc.govt.nz/cranford/which-option-cranford-street-what-we-heard-page-update>

(This article has been partly based on Francine Bills' submission to the CCC consultation on behalf of the St Albans Residents Association which prefers a bus solution but the conclusion of this piece which favours a T2 lane is the writer's responsibility.)

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Get ready to make a splash in Edgeware Pool



While they wait for the building consent to be processed, pool group volunteers have been carrying out landscaping work at the Edgeware Pool site.

Eighteen years of growth from self-sown seedlings, ivy and old man's beard has been cleared from the fenceline with seedlings harvested from under the tall Kowhai saved to form part of the planned tree-lined perimeter.

Site preparation will remove the grass vegetation in readiness for the pool construction. A sod turning event and blessing is planned for mid-November.

Unfortunately, the pavilion with its colourful mural is also being removed, a sad occasion because it is the last vestige of the old pool complex. Foundations for the concrete block club house, which members paid for and built themselves, were laid in September 1956 at a cost of £118.



The pavilion, the last remnant of the old pool (as it was in October 2024) is being demolished and the black and white image (above right) was taken when it first opened.

Edgeware Pool Project

Tuesday 12th November
12.15 - 12.45pm

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Your local MP for St Albans

If you would like me to be a guest speaker at your meeting, or you would like some help with a problem, **please contact my office:**

Duncan Webb
MP for Christchurch Central
366 5519
chchcentral@parliament.govt.nz

Labour
Authorised by Duncan Webb MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

Afterword to story on construction noise

October's St Albans News included a page 1 story on construction noise and the impact it was having on some neighbours. National standards (see the table here: <https://stalbens.gen.nz/?p=11>) govern decibel limits and these vary according to the day of the week and time of day. A decibel reader from a hardware store or a decibel app for a smartphone can be used to find out the actual noise levels.

A second illustration (<https://stalbens.gen.nz/?p=11249>) found on boomspeaker.com features a cone with the quietest sound at the bottom and the noisiest ones at the top. Jet engine noise is right up there. Loud sounds can damage hearing with repeated exposure.

Talking of decibel levels. The same article contained some erroneous information about decibel levels that St Albans News believed related to construction noise. This was not the case, and the figures were wrongly attributed to Pauline Cotter. St Albans News apologizes to her for their inclusion.

Stories wanted for StAN

St Albans News is always on the lookout for small news stories around 100 words. It could be someone getting an award or a development in the neighbourhood. A good time to do this is in the first half of the month to meet the deadline. For longer pieces contact the editor. Please email: news@stalbens.gen.nz

Group seeks more photos

Many of the older photographs included in the Edgware Pool calendar are from part of the St Albans History Group's collection. The Group is always searching for images relaying to the history of St Albans and would be grateful for copies of any material as an addition to its collection. The subject matter may be various, showing buildings, people, events, places or even vehicles. Recollections of stories are from the past are also appreciated. St Albans history is colourful and needs to be preserved. Contributions of suitable material may be left at reception in the Community Centre in Colombo Street.

Menders on the move

If a garment doesn't fit you any more or the item you picked up at one of the second-hand clothes shops in St Albans is a bit long or there is a huge rip in the ballgown you wore a lifetime ago, Mel and Zoe's Alterations could help out. Operating locally for a while, they recently moved to the new block of shops at Warrington St. Prior to this they were based at 151 Edgware Rd (after relocating from Redwood in 2012) then briefly in Westminster St. Their retro signage is well-known in St Albans. They are mainly known for their mending and altering skills but also do made to measure garments.



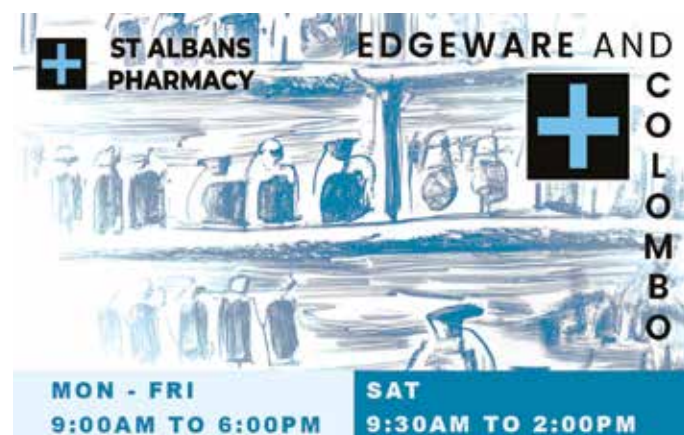
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Book on our website: www.caringstay.co.nz or phone Kate 0211294486 for more information

Having difficulty making family, work, relationship or legal decisions? We can help you make practical decisions. Call Bill Demeter 027 379 3873. Can meet St Albans Community Centre. No charge for this service

Italian language classes, all levels at St Albans Community Centre. Info on our website: www.dantechch.com

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Guitar Lessons: Jonathon Harper (weebly

website) Mairehau 027 413 6299 Learn with a long time professional concert artist, composer, singer, and band leader (AMIGOS).

Yoga Class: Tuesday and Thursday 10:45am-12pm at Kohinga St Albans Community Centre. All abilities and ages welcome. Tracy 022 048 6949

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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.

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

Roofing repairs: leaks and maintenance. Phone Richie 021 342 852

Support Services

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

Aviva, live free from violence: Free Canterbury-based 24h support line: +64 800 2848 2669

Emergency Services: call 111
Allies online mentoring offered by young Muslim adults to Muslim teens run by Youthline. Free text 234 or phone 0800 376 633

After hours counselling: Call on 027 694 5275 or email at: murray@afterhourscounselling.co.nz

Are You OK? Family violence helpline 0800 456 450.

Comcare Trust: For health or addiction issues. Tel: (03) 377 7020, Fax: (03) 961 0794, Email: enquiries@comcare.org.nz

Counsellors available via text: 1737

Depression: 0800 111 757 or text 4302

Eating Disorder Recovery Support: Contact: 021 195 6766.

Elder Abuse Response Service: 0800 EA NOT OK/0800 32 668 65 (available 24/7) Email: support@elderabuse.nz or text 5032

Family Violence Information Line: 0800 456 450 (available 9.00am -11.00pm daily)

Family Drug Support Aotearoa New Zealand. Tel: 03 2818 740. www.fds.org.nz

Hey Bro helpline: 0800 HeyBro/0800 439 276. Supporting men to be free from violence

Kidslines: For under 18s, 0800 54 37 54 (speak to a Kidslines Buddy 4pm-9pm weekdays)

OUTLine NZ: provides confidential

telephone support for matters of gender or sexuality, 0800 688 5463

Rape Crisis National Call Line: 0800 88 33 00

Sexual Assault Support Service Canterbury (SASSC): 03 377 5402 for recent and historic cases

Shakti Crisis Line: for migrant or refugee women living with family violence with multi-lingual staff. 0800 742 584

Suicidal? Phone 0508 828 865

Worried about a child: 0508 FAMILY/0508 326 459 (available 24/7) - Oranga Tamariki - Ministry for Children, formerly Child, Youth & Family

Youthline: 0800 376 633 (Free TXT 234)

COMMUNITY NOTICE

St Albans Community Choir and The New Brighton Silver Band will be presenting "STARLIGHT & CANDLELIGHT" Carols from Around the World on Sunday, November 24th at 5pm, at St Paul's Church, 3 Harewood Road, Papanui. Entry is by donation at the door.

Where are the community notices?

Smaller 8 page editions of St Albans News put pressure on space. This edition we have paused the community notices but these will return in the December edition. Look up the October edition of StAN for the most recent listings as they change little from month to month.

St Albans events

If you have events you would like announced here, please email: news@stalbens.gen.nz

November 4, 10.30am-12pm: St Albans Community Centre, Cafe Chat

November 12 12.15pm: 43 Edgware Rd, Blessing of new Edgware Pool site

November 24, 5pm: St Paul's Church, 1 Harewood Rd, Starlight and Candlelight; carols from around the world, St Albans Community Choir concert

News from St Albans and beyond

Label clothing without the label prices

by Rob Cope-Williams

As financial pressure continues to bite, fate has a lovely twist, Label clothing is moving out of reach for many but is coming within range for those who want to wear fashionable clothes.

The Edgeware St John shop has had a large range of top-level clothing donated by folk who no longer have a need for them.



Manager, Jude Kirk, says there has been a solid increase in clothing and homeware being donated, the proceeds of which go to the St John Community Health Services and Programmes.

"We are amazed with the standard of goods and clothing being donated, fashion labels you would expect in a high-class boutique."

She says the high standard helps to attract buyers, who not only want to buy nice things, but also like the fact it is a donation which will help the charity.

"I think the nice thing is that there is no stigma whether real or imagined when buying from us. It is in a way an insurance that the service will be there if they need it."

It seems that people who go into the store to pay the annual membership for St John are being exposed to another option when it comes to donating or buying.

Jude says many of the garments have never been worn. She says all clothing is washed or dry cleaned so it is as good as new.

While the economy is certainly directing people to those selling pre-worn clothing and homeware goods, it seems that for many it is both practical and accepted.

"We have clients who are buying now for Christmas with the idea that all gifts on the 25th will be from us simply because they don't want to or can't afford normal retail. It has become a wee game to see who can get the most value for the less money."

⌘



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