



# ***Community News***

**2nd QUARTER 2006**

## **BANKS AVENUE SCHOOL JUBILEE**

Banks Avenue School is celebrating its 50th Jubilee at Labour Weekend this year. Over 300 former pupils and staff are expected to attend.

The School Jubilee Committee has worked hard at promoting this event around the local community in the form of billboard advertising. Local flyers will be distributed in the near future. The Committee is also well advanced in finalising the weekend's programme and the school jubilee booklet.

Drinks and snacks, and the viewing of classroom displays will take place at the school on Friday, 20 October. An official opening, on school premises, with photographs and afternoon tea, is planned for on Saturday, 21 October. The jubilee dinner will then be held at the Richmond Working Men's Club, London Street, on Saturday night. A well-known ex-pupil has been arranged as a guest speaker and a popular band will enliven festivities. A Sunday church service will round off the programme.

Anyone interested in registering for this special celebratory weekend can contact the school directly on tel. 385 4163 or email the secretary at: [office@banksave.school.nz](mailto:office@banksave.school.nz).

Banks Avenue School currently has over 650 pupils and was opened in 1956.

## **St. Paul's indoor bowls action**

The St. Paul's Indoor Bowls Club meets on Tuesday evenings at St. Paul's School Hall, Gayhurst Road, Dallington. On normal club nights play starts at 7.30pm so members meet at 7.20pm. On club championship nights the time to meet is 6.50pm. The season runs from the first Tuesday in March to the last Tuesday in September.

The club has been operating since the late 1950s and will celebrate its Golden Jubilee in a couple of years. It has 26 members ranging in age from 14 to over 80 years. It's preferred that members are 12 or over but if children come with their parents or another adult family member they may be accepted at a younger age. Members subscribe \$40.00 each season, juniors \$25.00 and there's a \$2.00 nightly mat fee.

There's a club president, secretary, treasurer and vice-president. There's

also a club captain, selector, coach and match committee. The club has three life members: Maureen Anderson, Mary Duffy and Carmel Sullivan.

On a normal club night three games are played. New members are welcome and the club provides bowls and necessary equipment. Participants are required to wear appropriate footwear, such as outdoor bowls shoes or slippers, to protect bowling mats. New members don't require any particular skill and the club coach and senior members are always on hand to give advice.

There's no maximum to the number of members the club can accommodate. Carmen commented, "With the advent of the seven day working week it has become more difficult to find people available on a regular basis. In its hey day St. Paul's had

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## **DALLINGTON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

### **Annual General Meeting**

**7.00 pm, Tuesday, 30 May 2006**

**at the Burwood Park Tennis Club in Cresswell Avenue**

**Committee members can be nominated from the floor while office bearers will be elected at the first meeting of the new committee.**

**This is an open meeting and all are welcome**

This Community News is published quarterly by the Dallington Residents' Association with the help of the Shirley Service Centre. Contributions and queries should be forwarded to the Editor (Bill Allott), Dallington Community News, 5 Locksley Avenue, Christchurch 8006 (Tel. 389 1816 or Email: [whallott@xtra.co.nz](mailto:whallott@xtra.co.nz)).

## **DALLINGTON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

**Chairperson:** Richard Alderson (Tel. 386 1145)

**Dep. Chairperson:**

**Secretary:** Beryl Starr (Tel. 385 1457)

**Treasurer:** Mary Tamplin. (Tel. 385 1044)

**Members:** Bill Allott, Anton Korunic, Barbara Seaton, Tony Winder.



## LIANNE DALZIEL

Member of  
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for  
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### COMMUNITY NOTICES

#### SHIRLEY SERVICE CENTRE

For community information and details of City services your local Christchurch City Council Services Centre is located in the Library at 36 Marshlands Road by The Palms. Tel. 941 8999

#### OSCAR

An out-of school care and recreation programme for five to 13 year olds at Banks Avenue Primary School. If interested, please telephone Christine on 025 382 604.

#### Dallington Townswomen

This group meets at the Burwood Park Tennis Pavilion at 1.30pm on the fourth Thursday each month. New members are welcome. For further details ring Val (Tel. 389 4466).

#### Art Classes

Every Monday 1.00pm to 3.00pm at Biddick Court in Claydon Place. For more information please ring Jayne on Tel. 942 1239.

#### Dallington Friends

A group for all ages, called "Dallington Friends", meets on the third Tuesday each month at 1.30pm at the Biddick Court Hall in Claydon Place. For more information contact Shirley on Tel. 385 3843, call in to the Community Centre or come along (gold coin donation).

#### Walking Group

A walking group meets outside the Community Centre/Shop every Monday at 10.00am. Walks are arranged in the local area and last about an hour. To join this group all you have to do is turn up.

Thank you to Jim of Gayhurst Mart, Lianne Dalziel MP, Kay of Bambi Drapery, Avonview Retirement Village and the Burwood Park Tennis Club, for help with costs.

Some additional copies of this Community News are available at the Community Centre/Shop.

### AVONVIEW RETIREMENT VILLAGE

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### DALLINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

Winter is fast approaching and its time to think about keeping warm with some warm woollies. There are some lovely hand knitted babies' and children's jerseys at the Dallington Community Centre, together with some other warm clothing and dressing gowns. These are all very reasonably priced and beautifully made. Don't forget outfits for the dolls Too - we cater for dolls from Barbie size upwards - lots of lace and absolutely gorgeous.

There is a wonderful selection of crafts, bags, blankets, jewellery, toys, pictures, ceramics etc. all made by our local craftspeople. Do you realise we are the only suburb in Christchurch that can boast a Centre like ours - where locals have an opportunity to get together as a co-operative to sell their crafts? It's something to be proud of and to support. Why don't you call in, have a look around and have a chat? It's a great way to meet people in the area. Have a look at the history display too.

Let's not forget the groups run from the Centre. Lots of interesting things are planned for the Friendship, Walking, Gardening and Art groups. See the adjacent Community Notices column for details. Why not come along sometime to a group to meet people from the area and to make new friends?

If you would like to join in the activities of the Centre and be part of the team please phone Jan on tel. 942 6825.

### OSCAR Centre Appeal

The new OSCAR Centre would welcome donations of spare tables, bookcases, cupboards and shelving. If you have any such items please contact Christine on cellphone 025 382 604.



## Hatchery produced 12,000 chickens each week

Dawn and Harry Hatton live in retirement near the Avon River in Dallington Terrace. Dawn's family lived at Avonside for many years until 1936, when her father, Bert Petheram, decided to pursue an interest in poultry he inherited from his uncle. Bert had been manager of a printing works for a number of years.

Dawn was six years old when Bert bought two-and-a-half acres of land just over the Dallington Bridge where he built a number of hen houses. He ran the property as a poultry farm for several years, selling his eggs locally and in the city. He then decided that he would hatch his own chickens.

To start with he bought a 10,000 egg incubator. His hatchery shed gradually got bigger as more incubators were purchased. Initially he only hatched his own eggs but then others wanted him to hatch eggs for them.

The Petheram property was opposite and north of the Catholic Church. Their house still stands at 48 Gayhurst Road. When they lived there it was number 40. Their farm went down to the river on what is now Locksley Avenue.

When it was bought there were only two other houses on the eastern side of Gayhurst Road from Glenarm Terrace to the Dallington Bridge. One was the Thorpe homestead, *Arawa*, where Rupert Place is now located. It was named after Rupert Thorpe. Dawn recalls, "We called him 'Thorpey'. He was a real English gentleman. He used to go over his land with a shotgun over his arm wearing a peaked hat. The local children took care when 'Thorpey' had his gun with him. Deep down he was quite a nice man."

Also living nearby was Hiram Hunter who bred scotch terriers at Glenarm Kennels. When streets were being renamed this was the reason Landsdowne Terrace became Glenarm Terrace.

When Dawn and Harry married in 1954 they built a house at the back her father's property down near the river. It was the middle one of three that exist today on slightly higher ground. Access was through the Gayhurst Road property and Harry recalls they used to mow a lawn right down to the river.

When Bert died suddenly in 1958 the hatchery was one of the biggest in the South Island. It was producing 12,000 chicks a week – 7,000 on a weekend and 5,000 on a Wednesday. The business was less viable when a levy of one shilling and sixpence per chick was introduced to curtail the number of hatcheries and reduce a surplus supply of eggs on the market.

Dawn recalls that she had to get up at three o'clock in the morning when the sexer used to come. His job was to identify the male and female chicks and it took two hours or more to prepare the newly hatched birds. Harry and Dawn didn't want to carry on the business as they had a young family and land in the area was being subdivided at the time.

Before subdivision the Dallington Bridge marked the boundary between country and suburbia. There were a number of glasshouses and market gardens in the area with Chinese gardeners farming the land now occupied by Banks Avenue School.

Dawn says, "Every child in the district of Dallington spent time at the river. I never swam in the river but a lot of children did. The river was clear, with a sandy bottom, and I was afraid of the eels that could be seen in it. I can remember my mother sending me down to the river for watercress to make sandwiches for lunch. Some of the local children had canoes and we'd paddle for miles."

Harry and Dawn note that Kerrs' Reach made a difference as a dip at the back of the Petheram, Thorpe and Hunter properties flooded quite regularly before it was cut.

## OSCAR Centre Opening

The new purpose-built OSCAR Centre near the Bramwell Street entrance to Banks Avenue School will be opened at

3.30pm on  
Friday, 2 June 2006.

Dallington residents are welcome and a special invitation is extended to past members.

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## St Pauls indoor bowls action

up to eighty members."

Within the club there are trophies that are competed for on championship nights. Competitions include singles, pairs, triples and fours, and husbands and wives. Players who win these events go on to represent the club at champion of champion events within the Catholic Association and at Canterbury level. Several members have been awarded gold stars for winning five Catholic competitions. St. Paul's has successfully participated in a Catholic inter-club competition for the Chapman Trophy.

Carmel said, "I'm in my 35<sup>th</sup> season and have been at St Paul's for 28 of those years. It's a family orientated club and in tournaments we often play with other family members. I play, along with my sister, son and daughter."

In its early days the club used a school classroom but when the school hall was built it was specially designed with indoor bowls in mind. Its width comfortably accommodates bowling mats and it has one of the best playing floors in Christchurch.

Last month the club celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of a tournament it runs called the P.J. Preston Memorial Triples. It attracts top Canterbury bowlers. Peter was a member of the club who died in his thirties. His mother, Eileen, was a foundation member.



# Improvements projected for Kerr's Reach

The Avon River down stream from Kerr's Reach is a waterway, which in recent years has experienced an increase in the intensity of usage by non-powered watercraft.

In recognition of the above, Council is undertaking some development work on the waterway to ease congestion and create a safer environment for all users.

Following regular expressions of concern to the Christchurch City Council regarding safety and overcrowding, the Council has agreed to spend \$600,000 in the 2005/2006 financial year to alleviate identified problems. To enable improvements to the carparking area the Recreation and Sports Unit and Greenspace Unit are contributing additional funds.

The key result of this project will be to reduce congestion at the Kerr's Reach launching site and improve access to and from the water. This outcome may be achieved by improving facilities at other sites along the river, which will in turn ease demand at Kerr's Reach.

During investigations into possible solutions to achieve the above out-

come Council staff have met and consulted with a number of river group users. Major concerns have been: the width of the river for passing at key points; congestion at Kerr's Reach; difficulties in launching water craft; parking issues at Kerr's Reach; and education in and knowledge of water safety rules.

Four separate elements requiring action have been identified.

**1. The installation of pontoons and riverbank improvements at Kerr's Reach:** The installation of pontoons and the excavation of a portion of the embankment on Kerr's Reach will provide a much wider available area for launching and taking out canoes and rowing skiffs, along with low and high tide entry.

**2. Improvement of the launching ramp at Owles Terrace:** This work will specifically improve the launching area for waka-ama craft, dragon boats and casual users. It is also proposed to install a section of pontoon at this location.

**3. Signage and education:** It is proposed to install new signage at Kerr's Reach, Owles Terrace and at

strategic places along the river which will advise users of the "rules" that apply.

**4. Upgrading of car parking at Kerr's Reach/Porritt Park:** A new landscape plan of the park has been completed which has identified extending the car parking area at Kerr's Reach to accommodate water sport users in the summer and hockey users in the winter. Relocating the main entrance of the Porritt Park Hockey facility via the Kerr's Reach entranceway should reduce parking conflicts with Avonside Drive residents. The landscape plan removes the linking road between the existing hockey car park and the rowing car park and will only allow overflow parking on grassed areas during the summer months. Picnic areas will be created between the car park and the Avon River loop adjacent to the hockey ground.

Design details are being worked on and resource and building consents are being obtained. Work on this project is programmed between rowing seasons over the winter months of 2006.

(Based on CCC Information Leaflet)

