



Community News

1ST QUARTER 2008

Avon River Pathway

The extension of the Avon River path and cycle way into Locksley Avenue is currently in its final design stage. This part of the ongoing project should be completed before the winter.

Festival of Lights

Awards have been given to the following participants who decorated their houses and gardens in our *Light up Dallington* competition.

- 1st Andrew Brusden, 175 Gayhurst Road
- 2nd G and L Jaynet, 23 Landy Street
- 3rd Williams, 60 McBratneys Road

Overhanging trees

Overhanging trees and shrubs should not impede people and vehicles on roads and pathways. They should be trimmed back to the section boundary to a height of 2.5 metres above a footpath or berm and 5.00m above a roadway.

Dallington Residents' Association Meeting Dates

The committee of the Association meets at the Community Centre / Shop at 6.30pm on the second Tuesday of each month. Forthcoming meetings are planned for Tuesday, 11 March and 8 April. Dallington Residents are always welcome.

Tree replacement project planned for Burwood Park

A tree replacement project for Burwood Park was signalled by the Greenspace Unit of the Christchurch City Council towards the end of last year. The views of the local community were canvassed and opportunity was given to complete and return a comment form by Friday, 30 November 2007.

The Greenspace document states, "To ensure the well-being of the trees, and safety for park users, a number of tree management and maintenance issues need to be addressed. Therefore a draft, comprehensive tree renewal programme has been developed in accordance with the Burwood Park Management Plan (1992). Council has funding over the next 10 years to manage these tree issues."

Some trees need to be removed in the short or medium term and there is also the desire to increase planting, create shelter belts where currently there are none, enhance the existing avenues and replace any specimen trees in poor condition.

The park has been divided into five zones for the purpose of tree management and work will be programmed into stages to limit any adverse effect from immediate tree removal. This approach will also allow time for the establishment of replacement planting.

The Dallington Residents' Association Committee considered this proposal at its November meeting and its chairperson submitted a response on its behalf. This indicated that the Association was generally happy with the proposal but particular representation was made concerning trees in the vicinity of the tennis courts and the southern children's play area. The response also suggested that car parking should be formally marked and brought up to Christchurch City standards.

Following consultation the final plan was being considered by the Community Board (February 2008) and a letter will be sent to respondents.

Scout jamboree

After a summer break scouting activities have recommenced centred on the scout den in Halberg Street. Group Scout Leader Chris Chapman reports that 30 scouts and six leaders attended the recent jamboree at the Showgrounds.

A Venturer unit catering for scouts up to the age of 18 is again up and running. Three members of this group have been awarded bronze Duke of Edinburgh awards in the past year.

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).

DALLINGTON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Acting Chairperson: Richard Alderson (Tel. 386 1145)
Secretary: Beryl Starr (Tel. 385 1457)
Treasurer: Mary Tamplin. (Tel. 385 1044)
Members: Anton Korunic, Barbara Seaton, Bill Allott,
Tony Winder John Mulvaney

Hon Lianne Dalziel MP for Christchurch East



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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 0274 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).

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.

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.

Scouting

The scout den in Halberg Street is the venue for the following scouting activities. New members are welcome.
Keas (6-8 yrs) Wed. 6.15-7.15pm
Cubs (8-10.5 yrs) Thurs. 6.30-8 pm
Scouts (10.5-15 yrs) Mon. 7-9 pm
Venturers (14.5-18 yrs) Mon. 7-9 pm

DALLINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE/SHOP

The folks at the Dallington Community Centre are looking forward to another good year and the possibility of welcoming new and old friends to their Craft Shop, at the corner of McBratneys and Gayhurst Roads. The Craft shop is open weekdays from 10.30am to 4.30pm. It has a variety of crafts for sale, ranging from ceramics to school uniforms, from jewellery to toys, lots of knitted goods for warmth for winter – baby knits are a speciality – not forgetting its wonderful range of cards.

The Friendship group started again on the third Tuesday in February. The first planned meeting was a picnic to Spencer Park. The group went there last year and it was such a success that they decided to do it again this year. The second meeting is a trip to Gethsemane Gardens to see Noah's Ark and have afternoon tea – this is an amazing place with such a tremendous view over to the Alps and right down to the Brighton spit. If you would like to come along to the group you would be made most welcome. All you need to do is to phone Shirley on 385 3843.

The Walking Group meets every Monday morning at 10.00am outside the Community Centre and the Art Group meets every Monday afternoon at Biddick Court – you will need to phone Jayne on 942 1239 if you are interested in joining the Art group.

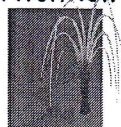
If you are new to the Dallington area and are interested in learning more, do come along to the Community Centre and/or join in some of its activities. We even have a History display at the Centre. You'll be most welcome and you'll find we are such a friendly bunch of people!

Jayne

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Some additional copies of this
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the Community Centre/Shop.

Chaplain linked to Waiouru Army Museum VC

The theft of medals from the Waiouru Army Museum had special relevance for an Ava Place resident, Peter Savage. His great uncle's medals, including a Victoria Cross, were held by the museum.

Thomas Cook was born in Kaikoura on 5 July 1888 but he and his young family went to the suburb of Richmond in Melbourne, Australia about 1912. He was a builder by trade. In World War I he fought with the 8th Battalion of the Australian Infantry. His medals and two other sets were not taken. It seems that the thieves were only interested in New Zealand medals.

In 2005 Peter went to the battlefields on the Western Front and in particular to Pozieres and the small village of Villers Bretonneux where he found the name of his great uncle, T. Cook VC, on a memorial amongst 11,000 Australians with no known graves. On a tour of the battlefield Peter was taken to the vicinity of where his uncle was killed. Although mortally wounded Tom, as the sole survivor of his unit, manned a machine gun and kept the enemy at bay until his ammunition ran out. His battalion headquarters recorded his exploits and he was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross on the strength of their report.

Peter didn't know about his uncle when he joined the NZ Army as a national service soldier in 1962. He then became a Salvation Army officer in 1969. He indicated an interest in Defence Force chaplaincy and three years later he went through a selection process, undertook training and was assigned part-time to an engineers' unit. At his first annual camp he had to minister to soldiers whose friends had been killed when a hand grenade exploded at Waiouru. He got used to conducting services on Sundays and weekdays, at night and early in the morning, out in the bush or in camp. These happened when the Unit officer commanding ordered, and often at very short notice.

His next posting was to a transport unit and when it was restructured he

moved to an infantry unit. Then for a number of years he was chaplain to the Army's general hospital. He was an active chaplain for 14 years.

In 1987 he was appointed The Salvation Army's senior chaplain to the Defence Force and he continues in that role today. He represents The Salvation Army's views on chaplaincy matters and part of that process is to interview regular and territorial force chaplains. As a member of the Chaplains' Defence Advisory Council he serves with other senior denominational chaplains, representing the churches to the Defence Force. This group deals with

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issues of personal morale and the care of service people, particularly following the stress of peace-keeping duties. The senior chaplains meet two or three times a year and receive reports from the principal chaplains of the Army, Navy and Air Force of Defence Headquarters. These cover deployments and chaplaincy supply. At present the Defence Force is stretched to the limit and chaplains need to cover local and peace-keeping demands.

Part-time chaplains commit themselves to a minimum of 20 days a year. This includes training events, special functions and parades.

When it was suggested to Peter that Christianity and military service are strange bedfellows, he said, "It so happens that people who wear green, blue and navy blue uniforms are doing a job that has to be done to keep the peace and they need the full, rounded, holistic support that should be given to anybody. The availability of a chaplain should be no differ-

ent because they are bearing arms. No church likes war but we don't have any difficulty coming alongside and supporting those who have a task to perform."

This year Peter and his wife, Raeline, complete 41 years of full-time ministry as officers in The Salvation Army. They are currently leaders of the Christchurch City Corps that celebrates its 125th anniversary at Queens Birthday Weekend this year. They have previously been involved in church ministry, officer training and for 10 or so years Peter undertook fund-raising and public relations roles at National Headquarters. In recent years Peter and Raeline have oversighted a number of churches and social centres in the Midland Division centred on Hamilton. They then undertook a personnel role. Through all these appointments Peter has retained his strong commitment to military chaplaincy. Raeline was for a time national director of Salvation Army music and then Divisional Commander of the Wellington Division. In recent years she has gained a masters degree in music therapy. Her thesis researched music therapy with people being rehabilitated from drug and alcohol addiction.

DRIVERS WANTED

The Red Cross Meals on Wheels

The Red Cross requires more volunteer drivers for its Meals on Wheels programme so that it can continue this vital service. If you are interested in volunteering as a driver please contact Gerald Edmunds at the Red Cross, Ph. 339 7111. Alternatively, if you know of anyone who may be interested please urge them to volunteer.

Community Centre Trust

Most Dallington residents will be familiar with the Community Centre/Craft Shop on McBratneys Road in the vicinity of the roundabout. It provides an outlet for local craftspeople and artists and is the focal point for some community activities. It also acts as a drop-in centre and the kettle is usually boiling for residents who like to chat over cup of tea or coffee.

This centre/shop grew out of a community cottage that was first sited in a shop at 24a McBratneys Road and then in a house at 116 McBratneys Road.

An elected committee of Dallington Community Centre Trust manages the shop, which is an independent body in its own right. It has no direct link with the Residents' Association. A grant given by the Burwood Pegasus Community Board covers the rent and the shop pays its way without making a great profit. Goods sold in the shop are priced by their producers and they receive payment, less a commission, when their items are sold.

Anita Hindmarsh is the chairperson of the Trust and Jayne Cummins its secretary. The latter also gives attention to its fundraising. The daily management of the shop is oversighted by Jan Robb and she prepares a roster of volunteers. Marlene Hunter takes care of shop finances while Jim Newbury does the banking and book-keeping.

A debt of gratitude is owed to all involved for their efforts in keeping the community together and giving it a sense of identity. At present there are about 30 volunteers involved in keeping the centre operating. These people, plus members of activity groups, shop clients, craftspeople and artists, make this a significant community project. In Anita's opinion the operation of the community centre could be enhanced if larger premises were available.

Anita Hindmarsh

The chairperson of the Trust has lived in the same house in Dallington Terrace for 40 years. She taught at Banks Avenue School for 17.5 years and is still available to help out in emergencies. She was encouraged to accept a role with the Trust when she retired from teaching. Anita's interests include gardening, playing Bridge three or four times a week and spending time with four grandchildren. Her garden was awarded a certificate in 2007 by the City Council.

Jayne Cummins

The Trust secretary is also a long-term Dallington resident. She has lived on the same section for 34 years but is now in a different house on Locksley

Avenue. She was one of the first to respond when community workers, Andre Degreef and Merran Fleming, were seeking activities for a newly opened community cottage. The April 1999 the Community News carried the first promotion of her Folk Decorative Art class that offered tuition for beginners. Jayne still runs an art class that's advertised in our page two Community Notices. She aims to provide enjoyable, affordable tuition, whatever the skill level. As an artist she paints landscapes and flowers in oils and acrylics. A special interest is painting religious icons. She's now also experimenting with pastels. Jayne worked as a medical and legal secretary.

Jim Newbury

When Jim and his wife, Joan, moved to Dallington five years ago Joan was approached to work as a craft shop volunteer. Jim joined her and quickly assumed responsibility for banking, paying the bills and keeping the books of the Trust. He served in the RAF during World War II and is now 88 years of age. During the period of compulsory military training he was orderly room sergeant of the 33 Artillery Battery in Invercargill. He then became its secretary/treasurer. For 20 years Jim was administrative officer for the Invercargill City Council and town clerk at Riverton for one year. He's a playing member of the Dallington Bowls Club.

Jan Robb

Monitoring rosters and oversight of the shop keeps Jan busy. Including a break of five years she's lived in Dallington since 1956. She initially responded to an advertisement seeking craftspeople and artists as shop suppliers when the shop opened four years ago. She has a background in the jewellery trade and for eight years she had a drapery shop on New Brighton Road, opposite Fleete Street. Her particular interest is ceramics and she has supplied the shop with figurines, plates, garden signs and urns. She also paints silk scarves. Jan enjoys being involved with people producing other crafts and considers the shop a wonderful place to meet people.

Marlene Hunter

A Dallington resident for 27 years, Marlene prefers to work in the background. Her role is to balance the shop books and at the end of each month and to write out cheques for people whose goods have been sold. Prior to retirement she worked in a wool exporter's office. She makes cards that are retailed through the craft shop. She says that her involvement helps to keep her mind ticking over.