

# The Bishopdale Bulletin

a community newsletter

Winter 2019 · Issue 24

## Little thrift shop, hidden depths

The start of 2019 saw the arrival of a new shop in Bishopdale Village Mall when the Papanui branch of St Vincent De Paul moved into the space that had been the temporary home of the Bishopdale library.

St Vincent De Paul had been operating out of their Langdons Road building for decades. It had originally been a residence and had been converted into a shop. This setup had been less than ideal so it was decided to demolish the old building and replace it with a new purpose built one that would work much better for both customers and staff. While the work on the site was being carried out, the shop would move to another location.

Bishopdale Mall had been chosen to house the shop for a number of reasons. It was reasonably close to Papanui, had a good rear drop off area for donations, and the shop itself had a good layout that would suit the way St Vincent De Paul would need to operate. It was also felt that there was a need in the suburb for a second hand goods shop.

"The move to the new premises was a bit stressful as it had to be completed in two days," said Polly Fisher,

manager of the shop. "Having said that it was very successful, mostly down to the fantastic staff and volunteers who worked so hard to move the stock and equipment from Papanui and set up the new space for the opening."



Young volunteers Maya, left, and Xanthe, right, sort clothes before they hit the shop floor

The first week of business at the mall was very successful, with crowds forming outside for the grand opening on 14 January. Business has been good ever since and the shop has been happy with the turnover. Staff members have also received positive feedback from both old and new customers, who have particularly enjoyed how easy it is to find a car park close to the shop.

Despite the move the shop has kept its loyal customer base. People come from all over Christchurch and even from out of the city to visit. The shop maintains an active Facebook page - @svdpbishopdale - where details of specials and photos of stock are posted.

To run the shop requires a lot of workers. Currently the shop has two paid members of staff, only one of which is based full time at the shop, and 46 volunteers who work up to three shifts a week. At busier times of the year, such as Christmas, the volunteer numbers can be as high as 60. Volunteers are often retired but also include community probation workers.

The stock is all donated and there are collection bins around the area which are the source of most of the clothing items. Most of the other items for sale, such as china and books, are delivered by individuals visiting the shop. Interesting items that have come through the door include a set of dresses from the 1900s and a taxidermy frog. Any item that is unable to be sold is either put in free bins or sent overseas to developing countries.

*Continues on page three...*



Papanui Bishopdale shop manager Polly Fisher, second from right, with volunteers Mary, Veronica and Wendy.

# Let's catch up with...

## Paulhansa and Sàraseva Sawyer



Paulhansa and Sàraseva Sawyer are the newest members of the team that run the SevaLight Retreat Centre for Self-Realization, Pure Meditation, Healing & Counselling

### Where do you hail from?

*Paulhansa:* I'm originally from Chester in England.

*Sàraseva:* I was born in Oxford but, being a member of a forces family, was brought up in many places, mostly in the south of England.

### How long have you been in New Zealand?

*Paulhansa:* We've been here since June last year. I visited the country seven years ago as part of a working holiday and thought it would be a lovely place to live.

*Sàraseva:* I have an uncle who lives in New Zealand and for years he's been telling me how amazing the country is so I'm really pleased to have an opportunity to live here.

### What are you doing here?

*Sàraseva:* We're both working at the Sevalight Retreat Centre for Self-Realization, Pure Meditation, Healing & Counselling which is located on a lovely back section at 100 Highsted Road.

There are four of us living and working as full-time volunteers at the Centre and (together with a team of regular daily volunteers), we work to care for the Centre and those who come.

We run Retreats which range from a few hours to several days, as well as Yoga classes and a daily clinic for Healing and Counselling. Central to our work is the teaching and practice of Pure Meditation. This is a depth meditation which also gives people tools to keep the peace and balance in practical ways in life. We run courses regularly and hold open Pure Meditation evenings every night of the year which are open to all.

### Tell us a bit about the centre

*Sàraseva:* We are one of six Centres around the world, (the others are in Auckland, Canada, the USA and Australia) run under the guidance and love of Mata Yogananda Mahasaya Dharma our spiritual head and founder. We used to be called the Self Realization Meditation Healing Centre but recently changed our name to the SevaLight Retreat Centre for Self-Realization, Pure Meditation, Healing & Counselling. And yes, we realise that the new name is long! However we thought it was important that the name represented the different activities that we're involved in. As well as Pure Meditation, we run numerous self-development courses, workshops, classes, training and retreats. You can visit our website to see details of all the things we offer.

### How did you get into this kind of work?

*Paulhansa:* We first met at Brighton in 1997 where Sàraseva was a student. She was studying human sciences and I'd just finished studying mechanical engineering. After this we trained and worked as teachers. During this time we took the Pure Meditation Course and seeing how it transformed the experience of teaching and our overall health and wellbeing (for the better!) we decided to take this further.

### What is it like working at the centre?

*Paulhansa:* We love the work we do. The ethos at the centre is living a life of service. We want to offer help whenever it is needed. Our work all about helping people in their lives, and seeing the tangible difference it makes is extremely rewarding and uplifting.

### How are you enjoying being in NZ and in particular Bishopdale?

*Sàraseva:* There is a something about New Zealand that is more relaxed and open than the UK. The people are warm and friendly and we like that there are lots of different people from lots of different places who call New Zealand home. There is a strong community feeling here that we really appreciate.

*Paulhansa:* We really like living in Bishopdale. It's a great location which has easy access to other places in the area. We can get everything we need at the shopping centre, the library at Ōrauwhata is wonderful and there are great chips to be had from the fish and chip shop in the mall!

### How long will you be here?

*Sàraseva:* We're currently here on a two year visa but we like it here so much that we're hoping to be able to stay here for the long term.

### Are you missing anything about home?

*Paulhansa:* Not the weather! We're missing family of course but we're already making plans for them to come over to visit us next year. I

*Sàraseva:* We miss also being (geographically) close to Mataji, our founder, who is still based the UK, but with modern technology it's a small world nowadays.

For more information about the centre visit [www.sevalightretreatcentre.nz](http://www.sevalightretreatcentre.nz), phone 03 359 8507 or email [info@sevalightretreatcentre.nz](mailto:info@sevalightretreatcentre.nz)

**Free Pure Meditation Talk, June 5 @ 7:00 pm**  
 Come along and find out all about this profound, in-depth form of meditation and how it can change your life. All are welcome. SevaLight Retreat Centre for Self-Realization, Pure Meditation, Healing and Counselling, 100 Highsted Road, Bishopdale.

## All done and dusted

There's always a good atmosphere at the Bishopdale Menzshed but it's just got better thanks to a new piece of equipment. A new dust extractor has been installed which has made a considerable improvement to the quality of air in the shed's main workshop space.

The extractor is capable of sucking an impressive 3,000 m<sup>3</sup> of air through its filter every hour. This makes it a fairly noisy machine so it has been located in a side room surrounded by sound insulating material. It replaces three extraction units that were located out on the main workshop floor and so, as well as extracting the dust more effectively, it has also led to a reduction of noise and created more space in the workshop .

The shed has lost a few members because the dust levels exacerbated their respiratory problems. The cleaner air now means that some of them may be able to return.

The budget for the new equipment was \$10,000. The shed raised \$5,000 and received a grant of \$5,000 from the Fendalton-Waimairi-Harewood Community Board.

The extractor isn't the only new piece of kit that the Menzshed has acquired of late. A shade sail has been installed outside the workshop. This has resulted in an increase in the space available to work in and the opportunity for members to work outside in the fresh air, protected from both sun and rain.

The Menzshed acknowledges the generous assistance of local contractors for both projects.



Menzshed coordinator Richard Rendle, left, with the dust extractor and members Neil McNabb and Dave Crawford, right, under the shade sail.

*Continued from page one...*

All the money raised is used to help local individuals and families in need by way of food, household goods, advice and information. St Vincent De Paul operates a welfare telephone line and through its local network supplies 80 food parcels a day to people in Christchurch. They operate a personalized model of delivery which makes it unique in its role as a charitable organization.

The new building in Langdons Road is due to be completed at the end of August but the Bishopdale shop will continue to operate until the end of the year. This will give St Vincent De Paul the opportunity to see if maintaining stores in both Papanui and Bishopdale is financially viable.

"It's been wonderful working in Bishopdale as both the local people and businesses have embraced us with open arms," said Polly. However she is looking forward to returning to the new Papanui building as she's hoping to start up a Resew project, which would see volunteers alter and mend unsellable items that are donated to the shop to create new items that can be sold.

For more information on St Vincent De Paul visit [www.svdpchch.co.nz](http://www.svdpchch.co.nz) or drop into the shop at 17c Bishopdale Court.



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## CHILDREN and YOUNG PEOPLE

**4th Christchurch Boys Brigade Company** meets Thursday nights, 6-18 years from 5.00pm-9.00pm. Phone Phil Mardon on 03 359 0149 at St Margaret's Church office.

**Babytimes/Wā Pēpi:** Rhymes, movement and music. Korero pukapuka, puoru, korikori. Fridays 10.30am -11.00am during term time for under 2 year olds. Ōrauwhata: Bishopdale Library and Community Centre.

**Bishopdale Cranmer St John Youth Division:** Meets at St Paul's Church Meeting Room, 1 Harewood Road on Wednesday evenings from 13 Feb. Penguins 6-8yrs 5.30pm-6.30pm; Green Cadets 8-10yrs 6.30pm-8.00pm; Blue Cadets 11-12yrs 6.30pm-8.00pm; Gold Cadets 13-18yrs 6.30pm-9.00pm. We have a variety of activities including first aid, interest badges, camps, fun nights and leadership training. For enquiries please phone 027 332 3660 .

**Girls Brigade** meets Tuesdays 5.30pm-7.00pm for girls aged 5-16 years at St Margaret's Hub, 94 Farrington Ave. Phone Fiona on 03 359 0149.

**Jumpstart:** A free fun programme offered to children ages 6 to 11. Held fortnightly on Fridays during school terms at 392 Wairakei Road. Includes games, lessons, crafts, snacks and more games. Ring 03 359 9247 for more information.

**Makerspace** Join the team for fun activities in Makerspace sessions at Ōrauwhata: Bishopdale Library. These Makerspace sessions will be focusing on engineering. Thursdays, June 6, 13, and 20, 3.30-4.30pm.

**Matariki:** Come and celebrate Matariki at Ōrauwhata: Bishopdale Library on Tuesday 18 June, 3.30-4.30pm with a fun craft session. Check library website for more details.

**Mindfulness Class for 5 – 12 year-olds:** July 10, 10am. A wonderful and enjoyable class for children to learn to calm themselves at will and to be fed by the peace. Parents are invited to 45 minutes to curl up with a book, relax over a cuppa, and have a stroll in the gardens at no extra charge. \$35/child. SevaLight Retreat Centre for Self-Realization, Pure Meditation Healing and Counselling. Phone 359 8507 or visit [www.sevalightretreatcentre.nz](http://www.sevalightretreatcentre.nz)

**Playgroup:** A chance for Mums to chat while children experience a safe and fun environment with age appropriate activities. Morning tea provided. Gold coin donation per family for each session. Fridays at 10.00am-11.30am during school terms in Youth Hall, 392 Wairakei Rd.

**St John's Anglican Church Mainly Music:** (cnr Cotswold Avenue and Kingrove Street) has a thriving Mainly Music session. We meet on Tuesdays at 10am in our Hall, for our music for pre-school (0-5) aged children and finish with morning tea. All welcome to attend. Phone Lynne on 03 359 9692 if anyone would like to know more.

**St. Margarets Mainly Music Group** has moved to Isleworth School Hall, Farrington Avenue, Bishopdale. We meet on Tuesdays with morning tea starting at 10:00am, followed at 10.30am by our preschool music session, finishing at approximately 11.15am. From new-born babies through to 4 year olds, and their parents/caregivers enjoy a time of music, movement and friendship. Places are available. For further info please contact the church office on 03 359 0149 or Maree on 027 359 3559.

**Storytimes/Wā Kōrero:** Stories, movement and music. Korero pukapuka, puoru, korikori. Wednesdays 10.30am -



# NEW WORLD

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Scan code to email



**Volunteer!** Sundbye House is looking for volunteers to help with our regular Monday coffee mornings and Thursday lunches. If you have time to help once or twice a term please get in touch with us on 03 359 1741 or [bctoffice@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bctoffice@xtra.co.nz).

## Cotswold Preschool & Nursery

Spaces available in both our nursery and preschool. Drop by for a visit anytime. Our opening hours are weekdays 8:30am - 3:30pm, including school holidays. We are now offering *24 FREE HOURS* to our 3-4 year olds.

### JUST \$22 FOR FOUR DAYS

37 Colesbury Street, Bishopdale, just off Cotswold Avenue, plenty of safe off street parking  
Phone: 03 359 7675  
[www.cotswoldpreschool.co.nz](http://www.cotswoldpreschool.co.nz)

11.00am during term time for over 2 year olds and over.  
Ōrauwhata: Bishopdale Library and Community Centre.

**YMCA Activities:** afterschool programs for basketball, miniball, gymnastics, and hip hop dancing. Gymnastics program for pre-schoolers. Ring YMCA Bishopdale on 03 359 8320 or visit [www.ymcachch.org.nz/children/recreation/bishopdale/](http://www.ymcachch.org.nz/children/recreation/bishopdale/)

## CRAFTS and WOODWORK

**Bishopdale MenzShed** meets Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1.30pm at the old Kendal Ave Scout Den at 55A Kendal Avenue. MenzShed brings men together in a space to share skills, have a laugh and work on practical tasks, either individually on personal projects or as a group for the Shed or wider community. Contact Richard Rendle on 03 359 7275 or [rendle@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rendle@xtra.co.nz).

**Bishopdale Spinning Group:** Learn the art of spinning and knitting. 1st and 3rd Friday of each month. 10.00am-1.00pm at Meeting Room 1, Ōrauwhata: Bishopdale Community Centre. \$4 per visit. Contact Jess for more information on 027 202 2038.

**Card Making Club:** a weekly club for keen greetings card makers wanting to meet others with similar interests to share ideas and techniques. Basic equipment required. New members are always welcome. Cost \$4 per week. Mondays at 1.00pm-2.30pm during school term at Bishopdale Community Trust, 100 Farrington Ave. Phone 359 1741 for more information.

**Craft, Crochet & Knitters Group:** bring your own craftwork and have some good laughs. A friendly, informal group with a helpful tutor. Gold coin donation. Wednesdays, 1.00pm-3.00pm at Bishopdale Community Trust, 100 Farrington Ave. Phone 03 359 1741.

**Kiwi Coffin Club** is open every Friday from 1.00pm-4.30pm at the Menzshed, 55A Kendal Ave. Come along and chat over a coffee.

**Knit 'n' Yarn:** Tuesdays 1.00pm-3.00pm. Bring along your current craft project and enjoy a social crafting time with others. Ōrauwhata: Bishopdale Library.

## FITNESS, DANCE and MOVEMENT

**Bishopdale Badminton Club:** Fun, social badminton for men and women over 40. The club meets Tuesdays at 1.00-3.00pm at the Bishopdale YMCA and costs \$6 per session. For more information contact Jackie on 03 343 4645, 022 072 1656 or [Jackie.derose30@gmail.com](mailto:Jackie.derose30@gmail.com).

**Bishopdale Table Tennis Club:** social table tennis for adults every Wednesday and Friday at 10:00am-12:00pm at Bishopdale YMCA. \$5 per session, no joining fee, no subs. Phone Jean on 022 160 4421. Look forward to seeing you!

**Bishopdale Tennis Club:** 35 Leacroft Street. Contact Senior Club Captain Andrew Stanton and Junior Administrator Andrea Stanton on 03 359 1605. All are welcome, very reasonable subs, large junior section, and a friendly club. New members, come along and try out our great facilities. Resident Coach – Gareth Robb.

**Bowls Papanui:** friendly, local club offers 50% off for new members, special rates for students, free shirt, excellent facilities and a coaching and buddy system. Come and try out the sport for all ages! Newcomers are most welcome. Contact Bev Baxter on 03 359 6017, Barry Holland on 03 352 6158 or visit [bowlspapanui.co.nz](http://bowlspapanui.co.nz) for more information.

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“If you want to change the visible, you must first change the invisible.”

**DeChans Martial Arts:** teaches both kung fu and tai chi on Monday and Wednesday evenings at New Apostolic Church, 352 Wairakei Road. Kung fu: 6pm - 7:15pm; tai chi: 7:30pm - 8:30pm. Contact Nick Haslett (kung fu) on 027 406 0337 or Manle Chan (tai chi) on 021 027 59028 or visit [chansmartialarts.com](http://chansmartialarts.com) for more information.

**Delta Rhythmic Gymnastic Club:** if your daughter is interested in dance and gymnastics, this could be the sport for her. We have beginners recreational classes most days for girls 5 to 10 years. To learn more about our club see our Facebook page - Delta Rhythmic Gymnastic Club Inc. or phone 03 354 5552.

**Easy Yoga with Jo:** People with injuries or not used to regular exercise welcome. Saturdays 11.30am at Ōrauhata: Bishopdale Community Centre. Cost \$10. Ring Jo on 027 247 3097 for more information.

**SevaLight Hatha Yoga Classes:** Thursdays, 6.30-8.00pm. Get fit while bringing peace, balance and upliftment to your whole being. Beginner's welcome. SevaLight Retreat Centre for Self-Realization, Pure Meditation Healing and Counselling, 100 Highsted Road. Phone 03 359 8507 or visit [www.sevalightretreatcentre.nz](http://www.sevalightretreatcentre.nz).

**Indoor Bowls** takes place March - September every Wednesday at 7.30pm at Christchurch North Methodist Church, 68 Harewood Road. New players are most welcome. For more information ring Lester on 03 323 8184.

**Nia Dance & Fitness:** Nia Dance & Fitness: Feel lighter, happier, and more energised as you move to music with a blend of movements from martial arts, dance and yoga. Nia classes encourage you to move freely and are suitable for all ages and fitness levels. Three classes each week at the St Albans Uniting Church. For more information contact Stephanie on 027 416 8283 or [steph@stephaniedemay.com](mailto:steph@stephaniedemay.com) or visit [www.PlensoryMovement.com](http://www.PlensoryMovement.com).

**Papanui Walking Group** Join us on a gentle 30 minute walk and exercise programme. Meet new people and feel great! Wednesdays, term-time, 1.15pm. Walks leave from St James Park entrance, opposite Dalriada Street. Phone 03 941 8999 for more information.

**Pure Meditation Course, May 5-11 or August 4-10.** Many people are ready to learn in-depth meditation and Pure Meditation is perfect for the needs of life today. It is practical yet spiritual and for people of all beliefs. SevaLight Retreat Centre for Self-Realization, Pure Meditation Healing and Counselling, 100 Highsted Road. Phone 03 359 8507 or visit [www.sevalightretreatcentre.nz](http://www.sevalightretreatcentre.nz).

**Scottish Country Dancing:** Starts Thursday 7 March. Come to the Burnside Scottish Country Dance Club for fun, friendship and fitness. Thursday, 8.00pm-10.00pm at Isleworth School Hall, Farrington Avenue, Bishopdale. Experience is not needed, wear some soft soled shoes and come and join us. Contact 03 327 0193 for further info.

**SevaLight Retreat Centre for Self-Realization, Pure Meditation Healing and Counselling** offering Yoga classes, Pure Meditation, Healing, Counselling, Retreats, and much more! Hatha Yoga & Pure Meditation classes on now! 100 Highsted Road. Phone 03 359 8507 or visit [www.sevalightretreatcentre.nz](http://www.sevalightretreatcentre.nz).

**Tai Chi** classes are run on Wednesdays at 11.30pm at St John's Church, Chedworth Avenue. Come along!

**Tai Chi Classes:** Thursdays 1.30 - 2.30pm at Bishopdale YMCA. Enhance your physical and mental wellbeing with

slow gentle effective movement. Experienced instructor. All welcome. Enquiries to Gai on 027 827 2791.

**Wednesday Wanderers Walking Group** meet at 10:30am Wednesday at Bishopdale Community Trust, 100 Farrington Ave. A very friendly group, all abilities are welcome. Walks are 30 minutes around Bishopdale. Phone 03 359 1741.

**Women's Social Walking Group** meet in front of the Furniture Warehouse at 10:00am on Tuesdays. After the walk, the group heads back for a coffee or tea at Bishopdale Community Trust. Please wear appropriate clothing for the weather. Please phone Chris on 03 359 1741 for more info.

**Zumba with Missy:** Newbies are welcome. Monday 9:30am at Ōrauhata: Bishopdale Community Centre, Tuesday 6:10pm at Wairakei School, Wednesday 9:30am at Bishopdale Seventh Day Adventist Church, and Saturday 10.00am at Waimairi High School. Cost: \$7.00 per visit / concession card available. For further information call Missy on 021 194 6413 or visit <https://misato123.zumba.com>

## FOOD and SOCIAL

### Christchurch Widow and Widowers Social Group

The group welcomes new members aged late 50s and up for outings, friendship, movies, walks, dinners, etc. We meet once a month. Please phone Claire on 03 354 3976 or Carol on 03 981 4125 for more information.

**Coffee and Friendship Group** at Bishopdale Community Trust, 100 Farrington Ave. Come along and enjoy morning tea with others. We'd love to see you! Mondays 10:30am-11:30am. Gold coin donation.

**Community Lunch at Bishopdale Community Trust.** Delicious soup, toast and good company! All welcome, Thursdays from 11:30am at Bishopdale Community Trust, 100 Farrington Ave. Gold coin donation.

## SEATED GAMES

**500 Card Playing Group:** Wednesdays at 1.00-3.00pm.



**The Canterbury Workers Educational Association**  
Roopu Kaimahi Matauranga O Waitaha

### Northwest Branch : Term 2 talks

**Fridays 10.00am - 11.30am. Talks begin at 10.30am. \$4 per session. Morning tea included.**

Chapel Street Hall, corner Chapel St and Harewood Rd.

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| <b>17 May</b>  | Joy McClintock - Festival of Flowers Revisited                         |
| <b>24 May</b>  | Robyn Johnston - Transition Navigators: Planning Lifestyle Changes     |
| <b>31 May</b>  | Chris Coles - Sundbye Community House                                  |
| <b>7 June</b>  | Jenny and John Hoskin - Edmonds Gardens                                |
| <b>14 June</b> | Dan Bartlett - Socialist Heroes  |
| <b>21 June</b> | Margaret Lovell-Smith - When Women Won the Vote and What Happened Next |

For more information please contact Jan Tedesco on 03 351 9796 or visit [cwea.org.nz](http://cwea.org.nz).

Beginners welcome. \$2 per session. Bishopdale Community Trust, 100 Farrington Ave. Phone 03 359 1741 for more information.

**Bishopdale Bridge Club:** Wednesday Bridge, 11.00am-2.30pm at Ōrauwhata: Bishopdale Community Centre. Table fees \$5.00. Enquiries Janet Stokes 03 352 1440.

**Book and Jigsaw Library:** Bishopdale Community Trust, 100 Farrington Avenue. Open Monday to Thursday, 10.00am-3.00pm.

**Jigsaw Puzzle Library:** Saturdays 10.30am-12.00pm. Reese Room, Papanui Methodist Church, Chapel St. New members welcome.

**Rummikub Club:** Come along and enjoy a friendly game of Rummikub in the library. Some games are provided but you're welcome to bring your own. No need to book, just turn up and play! Mondays 1.00pm-3.00pm. Ōrauwhata: Bishopdale Library.

**Scrabble Club:** A friendly game of scrabble in the library. Wednesdays 1.00pm-3.00pm. Ōrauwhata: Bishopdale Library.

**Scrabble Group:** Come along and play scrabble with a friendly group. Exercise your brain and have fun. 9:45am Tuesday mornings. Gold coin donation. Bishopdale Community Trust, 100 Farrington Ave. Phone 03 359 1741 for more information.

**Social Housie:** First Thursdays of the month from 1.00pm. \$2 per session. All welcome, 100 Farrington Ave. Phone 03 359 1741.

## SPEAKERS, BOOKS and INFO

**Bishopdale Book Club (BBC):** Join our friendly group of readers to discuss your favourite books and current reads. There's no set book to read, just come along and join our relaxed and friendly social book chat. Second Monday of the month at 10.00am-11.00am or last Thursday of the month at 1.00pm-2.00pm. Ōrauwhata: Bishopdale Library.

**Bishopdale Branch of the NZ Society of Genealogists** meets on the 4th Thursday January to November in the Hub, 94 Farrington Avenue, Bishopdale at 7.30 pm. Visitors welcome, \$3 door charge. Contact Lis 03 3543993 or Fran 03 352 5605.

**Bishopdale Ladies Club (formerly Probus)** Good monthly outings and speakers. Meets at the Bishopdale Reformed Church, 90 Highsted Road on the second Monday of the month February to December at 10.00am. Contact Lyn on 03 359 6387 or Leonie on 03 359 6401 or 027 476 3144.

**Bishopdale Toastmasters Club** Do you want to develop your public speaking skills, so you can speak confidently in front of an audience? The club meets every Thursday 7.25pm-9.00pm upstairs at Bowls Papanui, 181 Condell Avenue next to Edgar MacIntosh Park. Phone Jess on 03 352 3933 for more information.

**JP Clinic:** Wednesday 10:00am-1:00pm. A Justice of the Peace will be available to members of the community, to witness signatures and documents, certify document copies, hear oaths, declarations, affidavits or affirmations as well as sign citizenship, sponsorship or rates rebates applications. No charge for this service. Ōrauwhata: Bishopdale Library.

**Northwest Branch WEA** meets Fridays at Christchurch North Methodist Church, (cnr Harewood Road and Chapel Street) 10.00am-11.30am. Cost \$4. For more information

please contact Jan Tedesco on 03 351 9796 or visit [cwea.org.nz](http://cwea.org.nz)

**NZ Stamp Collectors Club** for enthusiasts or beginners. Meet on 1st Wednesday of each month at 1.00-3.00pm at Christchurch North Methodist Church (cnr Harewood Road and Chapel Street). Visitors and new members welcome to buy, sell, swap or just chat. Phone Ross Stanton on 03 359 9815 or Shirley Bone on 03 359 9025.

**Papanui Combined Probus Club** Calling all Baby Boomers! Join us at the Papanui Combined Probus Club for interesting speakers, great outings and making new friends. Meetings are on the first Tuesday of the month at 10am at the Papanui RSA, 1 Harewood Road. Good parking. Enquiries: Marie 03 351 7708 or Sian 03 359 0057.

**Rotary Club of Bishopdale Burnside** meets on Monday nights 6.00pm-7:30pm for networking, guest speakers and for planning future community projects. Contact David Conroy on 03 358 5555 or check [bishopdale-burnside-rotary.com](http://bishopdale-burnside-rotary.com) for more information. Don't wait to be asked, we'd love you to be involved.

**Technology Help Drop-In Sessions:** Thursday mornings 10.00am-10.30am, term-times. Free casual drop-in sessions for help with your computer or device. Ōrauwhata: Bishopdale Library.

## LEARN COMPUTING FOR FREE

Ara Bishopdale, located in Bishopdale Mall, runs *Computing For Free*, a self-paced learning programme for anyone who wants to gain formal computer skills for employment, or learn the basics of computing and Microsoft software.

Timetables are very flexible and you can choose which sessions you attend. For more information ring 0800 24 24 76 or visit [www.ara.ac.nz](http://www.ara.ac.nz).



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## A turn up for the books!

The Rotary Club of Bishopdale Burnside hosted its annual three day Bookarama sale at Bishopdale YMCA at the end of April. This was the second time that the sale had been held in Bishopdale and, like last year, it attracted large crowds to the area. The club has received positive feedback from its customers about the new location. The ease of parking and proximity of coffee vendors and eating places in particular are appreciated by visitors.

A long queue formed for the 10.00am opening. Some eager customers had arrived at 7.30am to claim a spot at the front. Although the main attraction was the thousands of books, Bookarama also sells vinyl records, CDs, DVDs, jigsaws and puzzles.



Over 200 people gathered for the 10.00am opening

The month before had seen the Rotary club collect three and a half container-loads of stock to sell. This year had seen an increase in the number of DVDs donated, as more people choose to watch streaming services like Netflix and Amazon Prime.

Once received the stock is sorted. Some of the books are put to one side and sold on Trade Me, which raises around \$1,500. The remainder of the books along with the other items are put into the sale, each with a maximum price tag of \$3.00. The exception to this are the jigsaws; these are individually priced and can cost over \$3.00.

It's estimated that between 40,000 and 45,000 books are sold at each Bookarama sale. Only 35,000 books can be put out at one time so keen book hunters often return each day to look at the newly displayed items. Customers include book sellers and dealers who come to replenish their stock. People come from far and wide with one dealer making the trip each year from the West Coast.

The person in charge of the sale is Lindsay Crossen.



Eager book lovers filled the gymnasium at Bishopdale YMCA

Having worked as the CEO of Futon Hogan for 10 years he has plenty of project management experience and is part of a team of 40 volunteers that work hard to ensure that everything runs smoothly.

Once the sale is over the remaining stock is examined and 100 banana boxes, the equivalent of a third of a container, is kept for next year's sale. After 14 years of running Bookarama the club members have a keen eye for what is worth keeping. The remaining books are then sent to paper reclaim.

Bookarama is the club's main fund raising activity of the year. The money from the 2019 sale will go to fund community organisations and activities in 2020. The club awards \$50,000 - \$75,000 to community annually.

For more information on the Rotary club visit [bishopdale-burnside-rotary.com/](http://bishopdale-burnside-rotary.com/)



Thousands of high quality pre-loved books on sale now at St. Christopher's Dove Bookshop, Farrington Ave, Bishopdale (inside Phil's Furniture Warehouse).

**Phone: 359 9869**

Also a store at 29 Harewood Road, Papanui next to the Railway Line, by St Paul's Church.

**Monday - Friday 10am to 4.30pm,**

**Saturday 10am to 1pm,**

Closed Sundays.

*Donations of books appreciated! Pick ups arranged.*

*St Christopher's Community Trust  
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Ph: 358 5505*

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