

## OLD ADDINGTON: The Police House



The Addington Police House is pictured here in its early stages of demolition many years ago. It was situated on Lincoln Road, approximately in front of the old Addington Prison building that still exists.

In the background, on the left of the photo, was the old Addington Post Office. The Police House was across the road from the old "Star Hotel" so the police could keep a wary eye on any strange goings-on over there.

The Police House was replaced in the 1960s to 80s with a building now used by Master Valet Drycleaners, then for some years the Addington Community Constable had an office in the Addingtown Mall, behind the "Price Cutters' shop.

**Text and photo, Dave Gorton.**

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Kidsfirst Kindergartens Selwyn Street offers places for three and four year old children. Our kindergarten plays a significant role in providing quality early childhood education with 100% trained teachers. We have full day sessions 8.30-2.30 and morning sessions 8.30-11.30 Monday to Friday. We provide a welcoming, caring environment which focuses on life-long learning for children. Please feel free to visit us to see if our kindergarten is what you are looking for. **We are currently enrolling three year olds.**

**Kidsfirst Kindergartens Selwyn Street:** 366 Selwyn Street, Addington, Christchurch 8024.  
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## CANTERBURY RED CROSS

The local Red Cross is helping residents to keep warm and to deal with the on-going effects of post-disaster stress. They have a number of winter warmer packs to give away, so if you know of a worthy recipient, please call 0800 754 726 or e-mail :

[winterwarmer.packs@redcross.org.nz](mailto:winterwarmer.packs@redcross.org.nz)

Packs include a blanket, socks, gloves, soup, hot chocolate and other items, plus a Dr Rob Gordon DVD with tips on coping with stress.



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## Addington Times

Contact the editor if you have a good idea for an article or if you have suggestions for future editions. Advertising for the local community is welcome. Our copy deadline is the 14th of each month. Addington Times is available in colour online at : [www.addington.org.nz](http://www.addington.org.nz)  
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JULY 2013



## Moving On ...

Twenty years after Judi and Geoff Guest bought *Aqua Vitae*, the Lincoln Road shop has a new owner who will be distilling essential oils as well as selling winemaking and home brewers' supplies.

That's the word from Geoff as he shut up shop for the last time in June. Since 1993 he and Judi have seen many changes in the area — not least in the style of Addington itself.

"When we came here it was a real slum but the tone of the area has really come up in recent times." He welcomes this as he remembers back to when Addington Prison and the Epitaph Riders bikie gang helped to lower the tone in the old working class suburb. Judi says she has noticed there is now less vandalism and graffiti in the area, though of course the traffic is much worse.

While we are talking, a customer comes to wish Judi and Geoff well and give flowers to say goodbye. Geoff says he will miss his regular customers and chatting about the whys and wherefores of brewing. Judi too has accumulated a lot of knowledge, though her main role has been in the office and accounts side of the business.

The Guests say that since the early 1990s there have been 30 changes of tenant in the shops above and near them. They recall that upstairs there was a graphic artist and a fishing fly maker and later, a soap maker. Slightly down the road there was a massage parlour and they are sure there was a "tinny" shop over the road. The clothing shop nearby was a bike shop, hence the name "Pedal Pushers".

The florist over the road was a Chinese Restaurant called "The White Horse" The hairdressers' next door was a laundry. Where Porse is now used to be a TAB, the bookshop used to sell hardware and the spice seller's on the corner used to do a really nice coffee. The Chinese restaurant in Addingtown mall used to be a craft shop and there was a shop that sold all kinds of imported Japanese things. Opposite the ANZ there used to be an early branch of The Warehouse. There was a Trust Bank and a BNZ and a Post Shop. Now there's only the ANZ. Aqua Vitae was a shop for home brewers when the Guests took it over. Geoff says no one in Christchurch was selling (spirit-making) home distilling things at the time. "Over the years stills from Aqua Vitae have gone to Israel, the South Pole, Hong Kong, all over."

**Text and photos: Di Boyd**



Photo:  
Geoff Guest with  
one of his stills.  
Above: Judi Guest  
standing outside Aqua Vitae.

*We wish Geoff and Judi Guest all the best in their retirement. Our best wishes also go to Graham and Paulette Robinson, who have sold their "Everyday Butchery" in Selwyn Street. Locals will continue to enjoy traditional meats supplied by the new owner. **Editor.***



## A BIT OF OUR HISTORY

*(Your Editor has been doing some research)*

***Since St Mary's Church has so generously provided a temporary refuge for Manuka Cottage/Addington Community House, we are reminded of the important role played by St Mary's in the history of Addington's settlement.***

In Britain, the Archbishop of Canterbury is the designated head of the Anglican Church. Thus, in 1848 a group of English churchmen whose aim was to encourage the settlement of New Zealand by upright, God-fearing Anglicans, set up The Canterbury Association.

One of the group, Rev. George Parlane, of Addington, Surrey, purchased a parcel of 150 acres of land (bounded in Christchurch today by Moorhouse Avenue, Selwyn and Jerrold Streets, and Lincoln Road). Parlane never came to New Zealand, but made a tidy profit on his investment when he on-sold the land in for £30 per acre in 1860 to Henry Sewell, one of Christchurch's early settlers.

Sewell's agents, Harmon and Stevens, advertised quarter-acre sections in a new suburb to be called Addington, but Sewell reserved an acre on which to build a church as well as nearly four acres for a parsonage and associated buildings. The church, which grew from a very basic wooden structure in 1867 to its stuccoed glory with memorial belfry in 1907 (and a lych gate added in 1921), now graces a beautiful heritage site – a little England in post-postcolonial New Zealand. Henry Sewell

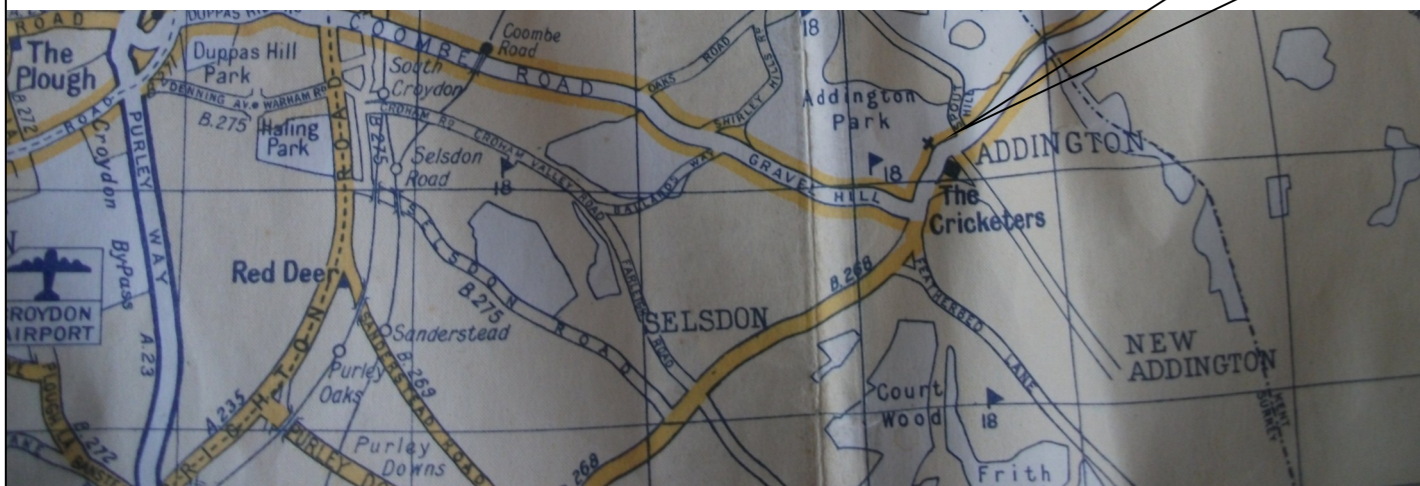
was to become Christchurch's first MP and he served briefly as the colonial Prime Minister.

For me, there is a very personal connection. Examination of my father's pre-war Automobile Association map of south-east England (showing pubs, golf-courses and churches) reveals that the English Addington is just a few miles away from where I went to school in Wallington, Surrey. In fact, Anglo-Saxon Addington was part of the Wallington 'hundred'. The site of the English Addington's church was established as a place of worship in 1080, and the present church is in the borough of Croydon. Its name is The Church of St Mary the Blessed Virgin.

The Manor House in the village of Addington, Surrey, was eventually purchased as a palace for the Archbishop of Canterbury and his successors. Thus, Archbishop John Sumner, who was enthroned in the year that the Canterbury Association was formed, would have had as close an association with the name, Addington, as did Rev. George Parlane.

DD

St Mary's Church,  
Addington, Surrey, UK.



**TUNE INTO RADIO ADDINGTON AT 107.5 F.M.**

## Manuka Cottage at St Mary's

Addington Community House would like to thank St Mary's congregation for hosting the Manuka Cottage activities and programmes in their church while we are looking for suitable premises. On the village green of Church Square, Addington, visitors and regulars to Manuka Cottage have enjoyed the welcoming atmosphere of the historic church and surrounding park setting.

The first week in June saw an influx of people who joined in the numerous activities and groups. Perhaps you have wondered what Manuka Cottage is and what happens here? Manuka Cottage/Addington Community House is a Community Development Hub. Dianne Fitzgerald is the Cottage Coordinator who is responsible for the day to day running of the Cottage. She makes sure the groups have everything they need and will make everyone feel welcome. Dianne is the person to see if you would like to be involved. You are welcome to pop in and see what happens here, and if you feel inclined, have a hot drink and participate in an activity.

Cherylan Davies is the Community Development Worker. She works with individuals, groups, and the Addington community to help them assess what they need as a community to help make Addington a place to enjoy living, working or playing in. Addington TimeBank, the Fruit & Vege Co-op, Addington Well-being, Addington Times, and the Twilight Community Evening are some of the Community Development projects established. Cherylan is currently working alongside Amanda Wallis and Sarah Pullman for Parenting Week, bringing a host of workshops and events to Addington beginning with an Expo for Addington parents and their families. Community Development in Addington has been made possible because of generous funding and support from the Canterbury Community Trust, Christchurch City Council, COGS and Lotteries, the Ministry of Social Development, and Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board. Addington is a special and very unique place that boasts of great people doing great things. Well done Addington!



Photo below: Cherylan Davies, Addington Community Development officer, and Phil Clearwater, Chair of the Spreydon Heathcote Community Board, with Megan Woods at the traffic stakeholders meeting.



## Megan Woods' Addington Traffic Survey

Over 300 responses were received for the traffic survey sent out to Addington residents last month. This overwhelming response rate only serves to highlight to me how strongly the people of Addington feel about traffic issues in their area and how important it is that residents' concerns are taken seriously.

A few of the key concerns raised by residents include the extreme congestion and lack of parking on many streets, bus route changes and issues with refuse collection due to the narrowing of streets, as well as a need for changes to the traffic light system.

Since receiving and collating responses to the survey, I have held an initial meeting with key stakeholders to discuss the concerns raised and another meeting is scheduled for Friday 21 June to progress some solutions.

One thing is clear, Addington has gone through a rapid and significant transformation over the past twelve months. Parts of the CBD have relocated into Addington and while this has been great for our local economy, it's important that we retain a sense of community. Part of this is ensuring residents feel safe on their own streets and preventing Addington from becoming one giant parking lot.

**Megan Woods**