

**Zarch 59****St Albans [Edgware] Public Library**

See BASHFORD, D. *History of the St Albans Public Library, 1867-1967*. [Z027.493831 BAS (NZC Research Room pamphlet)] for a summary of the history and administration of the Library.

When the *History* was published in 1967 the Library, though housed in a building provided by the City Council, was run and maintained by volunteers. Use of the Library having decreased as the City Council's library services expanded, the decision was made reluctantly to close the voluntary library on 29th November 1997. At that time no decision had been made on the future of the building, though it was later refurbished for use as a Community Centre.

Appropriate book stock was transferred to the Canterbury Public Library, much of it going directly to the Shirley Community Library to help replace stock lost in their disastrous fire of April 1997.

A sketch of the Library, and a brief history taken from Bashford, was published in *The Press*, 29th November 1997, *Weekend* section, p.13.

Although Canterbury Public Library had held some St Albans Public Library records for several years, a cleanup of the building unearthed more items. The opportunity was therefore taken in February 1998 to integrate the new material within the previously incomplete series, with consequent renumbering. In June 1998, a further and final deposit was made and the last items incorporated.

**59/1 MINUTES**

- 59/1/1 1867-1887
- 59/1/2 1887-1903
- 59/1/3 1903-1909
- 59/1/4 1909-1923
- 59/1/5 1923-1933
- 59/1/6 1933-1945
- 59/1/7 1945-1954
- 59/1/8 1954-1963
- 59/1/9 1963-1976
- 59/1/10 1976-1982
- 59/1/11 1982-1998

**59/2 GENERAL LEDGERS**

- 59/2/1 1905-1922
- 59/2/2 1922-1935
- 59/2/3 1935-1953 [large, not boxed]
- 59/2/4 1964-1976 [large, not boxed]
- 59/2/5 1923-1935 "General accounts"
- 59/2/6 1976-1998 [large, not boxed]

### 59/3 FINANCIAL RECORDS

- 59/3/1 Receipts 1976-1978
- 59/3/2 Receipts 1989-1992
- 59/3/3 Receipts 1992-1993
- 59/3/4 Receipts 1993-1995
- 59/3/5 1996-1997 "Edgeware Library"
- 59/3/6 Daily takings 1993-1997
- 59/3/7 Bank statements and records at closure, to 1998

### 59/4 MEMBERSHIP LISTS

- 59/4/1 Alphabetical tabs, undated, surname and membership number
- 59/4/2 Alphabetical tabs, undated, surname and membership number [1944-1945]
- 59/4/3 1974-1998, in summary, but in exercise book with many pages removed

### 59/5 Issues registers, 1945-[1983?]

### 59/6 [Books destroyed, 1930s and 1940s]

### 59/7 Union Bank of Australia Ltd pass book, Sept 1940-Sept 1944

### 59/8 Reserves and other lands...empowering act, 1915

### 59/9 Bashford, D. Typescript of *History*, and two copies

### 59/10 ACCESSION RECORDS

- 59/10/1 919-2705
- 59/10/2 2706-9969
- 59/10/3 9970-18103
- 59/10/4 18104-22543 [22544-24543 missing]
- 59/10/5 24544-30839 and index 1-5018
- 59/10/6 Index 5019-16900

### 59/11 Author/title sheaf index, letters A and B only [not boxed]

### 59/12 PHOTOGRAPHS ETC.

- 59/12/1 Group portrait [n.d., early 1900s? MS names on back] with newspaper cutting *St Albans Library 100 years old* attached.
- 59/12/2 Group portrait [n.d., 1920s?, one person identified] of 11 men in front of wooden St Albans Library
- 59/12/3 St Albans Public Library Transfer Act 1893 Amendment Act, 1898.
- 59/12/4 J W Baty Ltd: *Christchurch in the early sixties*. A set of photographs from engravings by Jas. Fitzgerald. [Removed from 1930s framing because of water damage to mounts]
- 59/12/4a Christchurch from Oxford Terrace, near the Gloucester Street bridge
- 59/12/4b South side of Cathedral Square
- 59/12/4c Worcester Street West, 1865
- 59/12/4d Oxford Terrace in the early sixties
- 59/12/4e High Street (South side) in the early sixties
- 59/12/4f Looking south from the Colombo Street bridge
- 59/12/5 Group portrait [July 1986], names on back.
- 59/12/6 Anniversary cake, May 1967. Colour photograph.
- 59/12/7 Exterior view of St Albans Public Library [1967?]. Colour photograph
- 59/12/8 Sketch of Library as used for the *Canterbury Sketchbook* article in *The Press*, 29 November 1997, *Weekend* section p.13. 2 copies.
- 59/12/9 Newspaper clipping, *St Albans Public Library 80th Anniversary*, from *The Press*, 13 June 1947, p.8. Includes group portrait.
- 59/13 Correspondence, including some annual reports. [Removed from original folder which was rusting]
- 59/14 Review of Voluntary Libraries
- 59/15 Health and safety
- 59/16 Issues of *STANN (St Albans Neighbourhood News)* containing information about the library.