

SUBMISSION REGARDING FUTURE OF CERTAIN
SURBURBAN LIBRARIES IN CHRISTCHURCH.

By Ernie Heppelthwaite
12 Hockey Street
Harewood 8005 1 May 2006

I wish to support the retention of all of the present library services in Christchurch, for the following reasons:

1. Closing existing libraries would inconvenience borrowers who would have to get transport to other libraries, and add to the cost of using the many services available, and the increasing price of petrol is making it harder for people on fixed incomes to survive.
2. The Bishopdale Library is part of the Community Centre, which was a joint venture, by both the Bishopdale community, and the then Waimairi County Council. Many older people have chosen to live close to the Bishopdale Centre because of the Library, and talk of closing it has upset people of all ages; and it can be seen as an act of discrimination against the elderly citizens.
3. Both the Papanui Library and the Bishopdale Library are very popular, often crowded by users. As well as difficulty finding adequate parking at Papanui, the Papanui Library would scarcely cope with the addition of most people from Bishopdale, Burnside and Avonhead.
4. Far from reducing Library services, the City

Council should be looking at ways to improve and enlarge the Library facilities at Bishopdale.

I have concentrated on the Bishopdale scene, because I have lived in the area for thirty five years, but many of my reasons apply equally to the other libraries which are also potential victims of the proposed cost cutting measures.

I do not wish to present this submission in person.

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