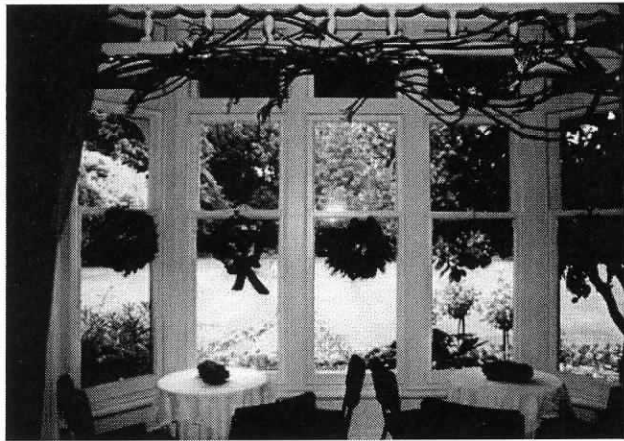


Richmond Community News

• FEBRUARY 2004 •

Vol 2 No 1



Christmas Decorations and Devonshire Teas at Avebury House

Lush green Christmas decorations; masses of blooms, Christmas wreaths and other decorations festooned historic Avebury House during the weekend of 6th and 7th of December, last year. Hundreds of people toured the 118 year old Victorian homestead, which featured once again the spectacular skills of the Avon Floral Society.

Every room had a different theme, from blue delphiniums and modern silver Christmas trees to red roses, nutcracker dolls and a reindeer named Reginald. Teddy Bears and greenery lined the staircase with lilies and peonies on the landing.



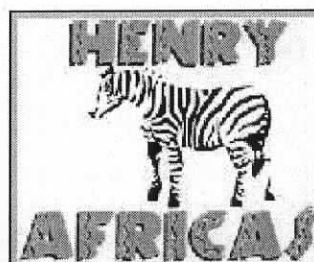
The Christmas theme was continued with four very different table settings ranging from modern pink gerberas to traditional dark red roses with green and gold accessories.

The Flesher room downstairs was turned into an elegant Edwardian tea-rooms serving the fund-raiser Devonshire teas which have become very popular over the last year on Avebury's open days.

"Fabulous" and "Absolutely beautiful" was the opinion of the public who enjoyed the display over the two days. Let us hope the Avon Floral Society can be persuaded to repeat their efforts this year.

This is YOUR Newspaper, We need your input. Any items of interest, happenings, news stories, or items of historical fact are welcome. All contributions are treated equally and with respect. Any opinion is that of the writer only

Contact us on Ph 942-5615 ask for Lesley or Phill.



Bar & Restaurant

325 Stanmore Rd Richmond
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**Book Now For
Valentines Day
February 14th**

Lunch or Dinner

**Bookings
Essential**



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"LIVE TO THE MAX!"

Making a Choice for Change

Delta Community Support Trust
PO Box 26 091 CHRISTCHURCH
Cnr Petrie St and North Avon Rd

Phone: (03) 389 0219
Fax: (03) 389 0273
Email: ciara@deltatrust.org.nz



DO YOU WANT TO "Live to the Max?"

Do you want your life to change? Delta Community Support Trust runs a course to enable you to live life to the Max! Meet with a support worker to discuss your life as it is now, then using a self-profile, we brainstorm new directions and set new goals. Participants are linked to a support group of four or five others, meeting weekly for 1 1/2 hours, to help each other work towards individual goals. These groups gather for four months. But it's not all hard work; participants enjoy meeting new friends and having fun as well.

Apply to join the "Live to the Max" Course in February by phoning Ciara on 389-0219.

crossword

CLUES

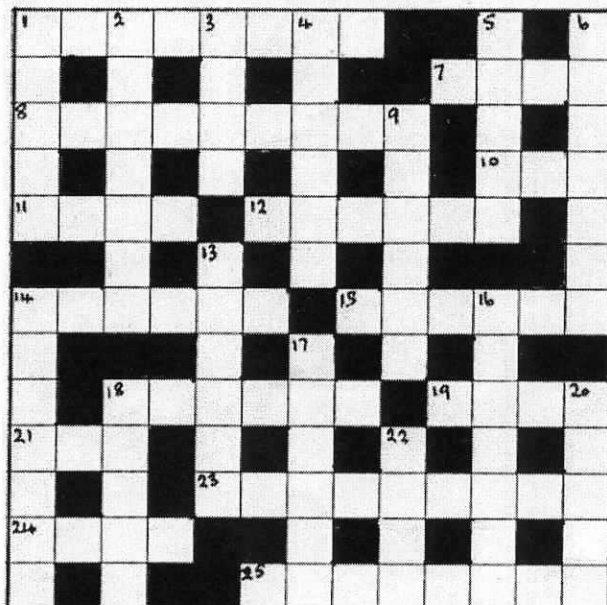
Across

1. Modern-day cravats (8)
7. In as-new condition (4)
8. Fighter (9)
10. Light tune (3)
11. Water plant (4)
12. Attack (6)
14. Humbly (6)
15. Troublesome child (6)
18. Fastener (6)
19. Design (4)
21. NZ native bird (3)
23. N. American arctic dwellers (9)
24. Stream (4)
25. Unnecessary (8)

Down

1. More refined (5)
2. Announcer (7)
3. Sporting group (4)
4. Expire (6)
5. Essential (5)
6. Inciter (7)
9. Traverse (6)
13. Sprightly (6)
14. Perplex (7)
16. Liberation (7)
17. Twisting or rotary force (6)
18. Buffalo (5)
20. Network (5)
22. Tie together (4)

RCN CROSSWORD No. 1304 by GWP



last month's solution

RCN CROSSWORD No. 1303 by GWP



The solution to this month's crossword will appear in next month's newsletter

SUN NING TAKEAWAYS

273 Stanmore Road Telephone 389-3113

CHINESE MEALS ~ FISH & CHIPS
HAMBURGERS

HOURS

Tues - Wed: 11.30 am - 2pm/4.30pm - 8.30pm
Thurs - Sat: 11.30am - 2pm/4.30pm - 10pm
Sun: 4.30pm - 8.30pm Mon Closed

PHONE ORDERS TAKEN
SMALL FUNCTIONS CATERED FOR
SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL
RICHMOND BUSINESSES

Dear Editor

I wonder if any of your readers could help me regarding the boundary of Richmond, the Christchurch roadmap shows that Richmond would have a boundary of Shirley Road, Hills Road, North Parade, but does it go down as far as River Road? now there is food for thought and talking about food, we used to operate a community welfare food bank at the centre in Shirley Road.

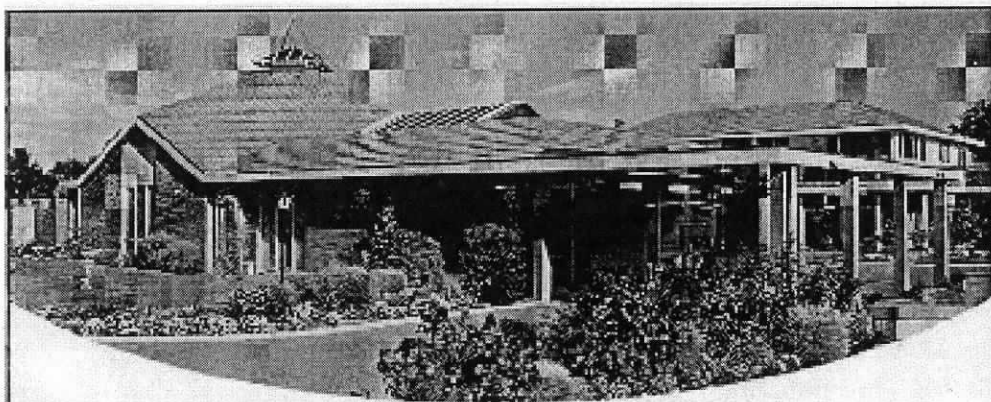
It was our pleasure to do this work at the centre and would like to take this opportunity to relate here that our food parcels were based on a vegetarian diet and were very popular with Richmond residents, also those from other areas, who needed help at the time. We supplied fruit, vegetables, cereals and some canned food also. This service was operated in one of the two front offices of the centre. In one of them was located the local police constable, who enquired what sort of welfare work we were doing and when informed that we supplied food parcels to the needy, was very interested. He said "a lot of troublemakers that I come into contact with don't know what a decent meal is now a days, what with all the fast food outlets about". He commended our work in the community, saying that a poor diet contributed greatly

to crime in society and for us to be promoting a more nutritious diet,(we gave out recipes and better life style information also) being awarded a citation from the local City Council for our public service. All this happened some time ago and since then the need in society has waned somewhat but there still remains a need, as it is written in the scriptures that the poor and needy will always be with us. We plan to set up another educational vegetarian food bank and we need your help, if any of your readers can help us to get relocated in a disused shop or large garage or maybe even send us a donation to get things started it would be appreciated. We helped many in the past at one time or another, both directly and indirectly, as our visitors book will varify. This book can be seen on request. So, Richmond residents, will you help us to help others? We are a registered charitable trust. Please phone Ernie Gale on 385-9338 evenings if you care to help.

Yours truly

E Gale; Secretary

International Missionary Society
Health Education Trust



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Avebury in February

Avebury House, situated at 9 Eveleyn Couzins Ave. Richmond, is a community run, low cost facility which has rooms available for hire.

Situated in the midst of Avebury Park, the house which has been recently refurbished has been open for 15 months and has run several open days and social events.

In addition to the amenities for hire, the following classes and activities are available:

Gentle Exercise Class - Mondays 1- 2p.m
(wear comfortable clothing)

Cost \$2.50

This Sit and Be Fit class is a fun and healthy way to retain mobility, independence and meet new people. Designed especially for those with limited mobility, older adults and those with health or weight problems.

Enjoy these simple and gentle classes at your pace, and enjoy a cup of tea with us afterwards.

Richmond History Group

Held on 2nd Wednesday of each month. No cost. Next meeting Wednesday 11th February 4 – 5pm History Group meets to share resources and research items of Richmond's heritage. The Richmond Room, a resource room with displays, magazines and items of interest is in the process of being set up at Avebury. These resources will be available to the public at no charge.

For further information about facilities and classes etc. please contact:

Lesley McMillan
Community development Worker
Ph 942-5615

Email: avebury@paradise.net.nz

Suggestions have been made for the formation of a games/social afternoon or evening at Avebury. We would like to hear from you to gauge support: Suggestions include:

Mahjong



Bridge



Scrabble



Light Verse



Other

Please tick appropriate box or write suggestion drop into or send to Avebury House, 9 Eveleyn Couzins Ave. (Off North Avon Road).

DO YOU REMEMBER ?

Collecting the unwrapped and unsliced (naturally) bread and eating the middle of the loaf on the way home. Two loaves were joined together in many cases so leaving a crustless end. Brown, white, raised tin, sandwich and vienna covered most of the varieties although sliced bread (wrapped) was available for sandwiches. Bread cost 3d. for a quarter loaf; sixpence for what we would call a loaf today.

Better in blue

The Harcourts advantage

Buying ~ Selling ~ Advice

Alan Williamson

Local knowledge - Richmond resident

Harcourts Grenadier Real Estate
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WE ARE PROUD TO
SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY

Making a Change for Richmond

Before I was elected to Parliament in 1996 I worked as a voluntary sector manager. I did that job in the UK and New Zealand for a total of 14 years, and still think of myself as having that career but being fortunate and honoured enough to have some years to do what I can in Parliament.

Once I had got elected, my world view changed dramatically. Talk to the people who work at Avebury House and they will probably express some of the pluses and problems of employment outside Government and business. The rewards can be greater (because they involve transforming people and communities), but the feeling of being shut out from real power can be so frustrating. Having seen it from both sides, I resolved to do some ongoing volunteer work while still being an MP, by training and advising groups which I support in the art of lobbying. At the same time, working on issues around open government inside Parliament and the Labour Government, I trust that more of the messages are getting through.

New Zealand is a small enough country for local movements to make a difference nationwide. Yet so often vital messages are learned locally, yet are never communicated through. From those 7 years of my voluntary work as a lobby trainer and adviser (and yes, I am available free to your local group! - just contact my electorate office on 377 8840 or at tim@timbarnett.org.nz) I could summarise the practical side of my message to local groups is as follows:

Accept that you have a lobby job to do.
Neighbourhoods get stronger when

local services are better resourced, when the local body responds well to local problems and when powerful organisations in the local community (e.g. Housing New Zealand, a large work site) are good neighbours. All that needs ongoing and organised pressure from local people.

Work out what your special strengths are as a local group. Use those strengths when you plan your lobby work. Make sure people who you talk to go away knowing that you are a special organisation with a vital message.

Write your lobby aim and plan for whatever issue you decide is important on a single sheet of paper. Review it regularly.

Organise your group to deal with the spin-off from lobbying (e.g. contact from the local newspaper; unexpected conflict). Make sure one person acts as spokesperson. Keep records of lobby contacts.


Understand your target - i.e. the person or people whose minds you need to change. See the issue and your neighbourhood from their point of view - and try and work out how you can present your message in a way which they can understand and sympathise with.

When you make a lobby contact - a meeting or a letter, for example - make sure it is planned and delivered professionally.

I have produced some written guidelines, available from my office.

So, the challenge is over to you - make your community into an even better place by being a powerful voice for keeping what is good and changing what is not so good.....

Tim Barnett



TIM BARNETT
Christchurch
Central's
Member of
Parliament
NEW ZEALAND
Labour

Level 3, 103 Worcester Street, PO Box 13 295, Christchurch
Phone: 03 377 8840 Fax: 03 366 4770 Cell: 0274 570 809
E Mail: tim@timbarnett.org.nz Internet: www.timbarnett.org.nz

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 Eva Mason	 Karen McGrath	 Rosemarie Gutschmann

A Special Day for Richmond

Monday 17 December 1934 was a special day for Richmond, it was the day when the new white trolley bus service opened replacing the electric trams which began running up Stanmore Road as far as Burwood on August 15 1910. On October 1914, James Flesher, of Avebury, then Mayor of New Brighton, drove the first tram along The Esplanade (now Marine Parade) to Brighton Pier.

From 1894, Richmond had been served by horse and steam trams operated by the City and Suburban Tramway Company via North Beach and then along The Esplanade to Brighton Pier.

The North Beach tram service was never a success, the service between Brighton and Burwood was suspended from August 1927 to October 1928. On 4 July 1931 white trolley buses ran to Brighton Pier via Fitzgerald Avenue, Hills Road and Shirley Road but were cut back to North Beach on 15 May 1933. The Tramway Historical Society at Ferrymead Heritage Park has preserved one of these early buses in running order; it is the oldest working trolley bus in the Southern Hemisphere.

In 1931 the tramline was cut back to Marshlands Road and the Richmond destination was "10T, Tweed Street". 10T

trams terminated at the southeast corner of Tweed Street where my grandfather (John Johnson) used to take me to sit at the tram stop while he talked to the trammies in their "layover" times. The track cleaning car, really a big green water tank on steel wheels, often had to wait to give way to the service trams. The driver was Mr Walls, a Methodist lay preacher, who sometimes took services at the Richmond Methodist Church where grandad was caretaker. The route was single line with several passing loops and Stanmore Road between Vogel Street and North Avon Road had to be widened for the buses.

The Richmond trolley buses were an improvement on those used on the North Beach route; they had air-operated doors front and rear and pram hooks on the front (possibly the first buses in New Zealand so fitted). In the evening of the opening, Dad took me to town on the new bus. In the Square we left by the back door and got back on at the front - a night out for a small boy at a total cost of eight pence (7 cents). As primary school boys we used to pester the drivers to give us a ride round the turning circle at the Tweed Street intersection and sometimes the secondary school boys were allowed to change the trolley poles onto the circle's wires. To our disappointment the destination "10T Tweed Street" disappeared in favour of Richmond on the new buses but when the trolley buses went on 31 May 1956, the new diesel buses bore the original destination sign and the service was extended up Marshlands Road to Joy Street.

Ted Harrall

Acknowledgement:

"On the move" series published by the Tramway Historical Society