

# Richmond Community News

• September 2004

Vol 2 No 8 Issue 18

## Second in the series of historic Richmond homes



Mr. Bruce Halliburton searched the title for this old cottage in 1985 and came up with the following information. On June 20th 1851, the Canterbury Association granted title to Charles Edward Fooks of rural section 41 - that is the area bounded today by the Avon River, Fitzgerald Avenue, Hills Road, North Avon Road and River Road. Mr Fooks also owned an area known as the "Great St. Albans Swamp". He decided this area of Richmond and St. Albans would never amount to anything and sold it off cheap at two pounds per acre to George Duncan Lockhart. History records that after a short time he found himself in financial difficulties. He did however, during his time as owner, dedicate Stanmore Road - the only road in Richmond to have been dedicated, all the others becoming roads through popular usage. George Buckley, his trustee, sold the section to one Samuel Collett of Avonside in 1865 for fifty pounds. A carpenter by trade, he set about building the cottage. On November 18th 1893, Collett sold to Charles Edwin Godfrey and on July 4th 1921 at 11am, Mr Charles Shaw bought the property and it remained in the family for more than sixty years. It encompassed the north-east corner site on Stanmore and Swanns Roads with the cottage at 232 Stanmore, at that time being used as a "Girls Finishing School". Mr Leo Shaw (born above Henry Africa's in 1914) a son of Clarice and Charles Shaw has many memories of the time he lived here as a lad. The 1865 cottage was built of kauri weatherboards and kauri tongue and groove and in later years was found to be full of sawdust. In 1928 Charles Shaw built another cottage fronting onto No. 15 Swanns with access to a corner shop, later Leo Shaw built four more shops. In 1985

### SWANN COTTAGE 232 STANMORE ROAD BUILT IN 1865. DEMOLISHED 1995

the cottage was renovated for use as a resource and training centre in beauty related subjects, some 458 man hours spent in the refurbishment and most of the cost of materials borne by the landlord. The tasteful décor, preservation of the period and the restful atmosphere of the cottage, plus the landscaping of the grounds made the total concept a credit to all who worked on the project. Swann Cottage was still used as living quarters by the dairy owner with access through the shop until it was demolished about 1995 to make way for parking for the staff of the Corrections Department Building in Stanmore Road.

The Richmond History Group would like to acknowledge Mr. and Mrs. Leo Shaw for their help in making our first video of memories of the early days of Richmond. We would be interested in making contact with any resident who has lived the majority of their lives in Richmond or those who have got any interesting memorabilia or reminiscences of past times in Richmond. Please ring Avebury House on 9425615

**Harcourts**

GRENADIER REAL ESTATE LTD

**Thinking Real Estate  
Think EVELYN SHERIDAN  
Local Property Consultant**

**Phone: 381-2361**

**Mobile: 027-228-0754**

**Email:**

**enquiries.avonside@harcourts.co.nz**

**Harcourts Grenadier Real Estate Ltd  
MREINZ**

**191 Woodham Road, Avonside  
Christchurch**



CORPORATE  
**print&copy**

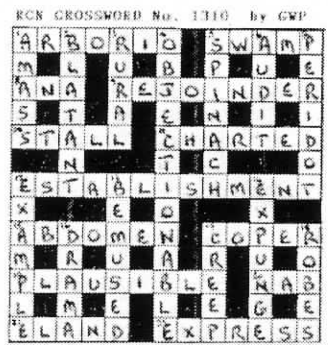
Cnr Moorhouse Avenue & Gasson Street P.O. Box 7232 Christchurch  
Telephone 03-365 5179 Fax 03-365 1286 [www.printandcopy.co.nz](http://www.printandcopy.co.nz)

## PASSING OUT

In 1852 one Morice Bing, formerly an officer in the Hungarian army, came to Christchurch and decided to seek his fortune here. The swampy nature of the settlement area did not deter him. He saw the potential and interested himself in trading and dealing with sheep and cattle as his main lines of business. In three years he was able to buy a considerable area of swampy country through which Stanmore Rd now runs, north of the present bridge. This land, well above river level, was drained by a few natural streams, the main one being responsible for the crooked form of London St, and the depression opposite Gowerton Pl, but, by using these streams it was not difficult to surface drain the whole area and Morice Bing had no difficulty in selling residential sections of a quarter to a whole acre there. The area took the name of Bingsland and by 1873 had already set up a school on Stanmore Rd just south of the creek along London St. Bingsland School flourished and eight years later became known as Richmond School. Meantime, Morice Bing had given quarter of an acre to a group of methodists keen to open, in a growing settlement, a place of worship. In 1869 their first chapel was erected. It still stands and is in weekly use behind the larger church which was erected 10 years later. The chapel is the last remaining public building of Bingsland days. The original wooden school building was demolished just over 60 years ago. Bingsland Post Office ceased to be an entity 40 years ago when the office was designated "North Avon", but there still remained the Bingsland Police Station almost at the corner of Stanmore Rd and Alexandra St. When the force became much more mobile, the officer no longer lived in the station house and now in April 1984, it is an untidy heap of rubble reduced to floor level. So the last link with the name of Morice Bing passes. I am reminded of the lament of Alan Ramsay in "Lochaber no more". "Lochaber no more, Lochaber no more, We'll maybe return to Lochaber no more". But Bingsland has not gone forever, for the street in front of me, once called Mud Lane, now bears the name of a once popular policeman of Bingsland: McLeod.

H.W. Beaumont

## Last month's solution



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

Crossword  
CLUES

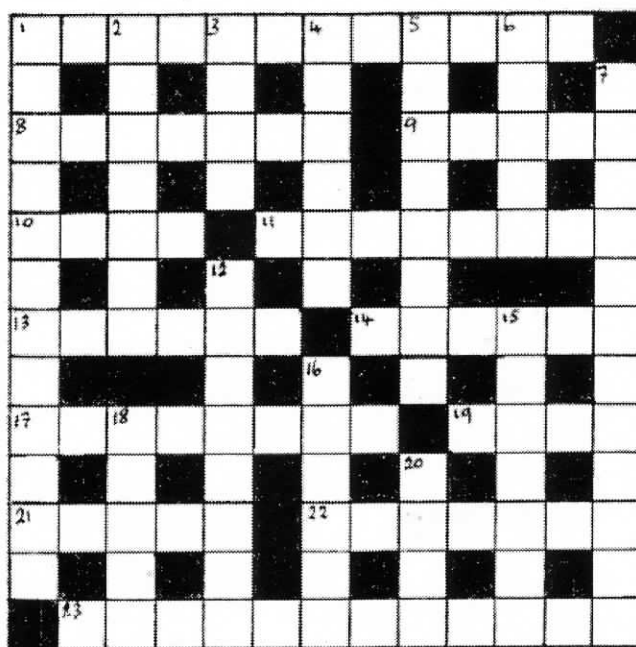
## ACROSS

1. Structure (12)
8. Timid (7)
9. Onset (5)
10. Resound (4)
11. Off-hand (8)
13. Animal fat (6)
14. Leisurely (music) (6)
17. Progenitor (8)
19. Son of Adam (4)
21. Additional (5)
22. Persian (7)
23. Cinematic (12)

## DOWN

1. Intense (12)
2. Arctic whale (8)
3. Implement (4)
4. Dutch explorer (6)
5. Famous waxworks (8)
6. Giraffe-like mammal (5)
6. Of multiple channel sound reproduction (12)
12. Unchanging (8)
15. Pale (7)
16. Sitting (8)
18. Snag (5)
20. Sunk fence (2-2)

RCN CROSSWORD No. 1311 by GWP



## 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

Ali Brown

Flax weaving / paau

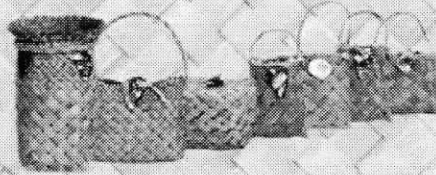
Home: +64 (0)3 329 7051

Mobile: +64 (0)29 239 2248

Email: alibrown@ihug.co.nz

253 McQueens Valley Road,

R.D.2 Christchurch, New Zealand



## Flax weaving workshops

**Avebury House, 9 Eveleyn Couzins Avenue**

### Learn how to weave a simple flax kete

One day workshops - 10am to 4pm, on either Sept 18th or Nov 20th 2004. In this workshop you will weave green flax leaves into a simple yet versatile bag which will gradually dry to a natural cream shade in a few days.

### Do you want to make different flaxworks?

One day workshop - 10am to 4pm Oct 9th 2004. In this workshop you will learn how to make flowers in several different styles or you can make a large round container 35cm tall big enough to hold pine cones.

**The price of each workshop is \$35 per person** which includes flax, paua pieces for clasps, coffee, tea and biscuits. Bring your own lunch and a cushion to sit on.

## Heritage Week 2004 at Avebury

Heritage Week 2004 runs from the 15th to the 22nd of October and to celebrate this event, Avebury House will be holding 2 Open Days on Saturday 16th and Wednesday 20th. The theme this year is 'People, Places and Pursuits' and Avebury will be holding some demonstrations of handcrafts including embroidery, crochet, smocking, spinning and tatting, as well as games of mahjong and other Victorian pastimes. On the Saturday there will also be horse and carriage rides available and demonstrations of Floral Art. Of course our popular Devonshire Teas can be obtained for a gold coin donation.

## Treaty of Waitangi workshop

will be held at Linwood Resource Centre  
332 Linwood Avenue Linwood  
Christchurch

This is a user-friendly workshop facilitated by Mike Flavell over 2 sessions on Tuesdays 7 and 14 September from 9:30am to 12:30pm. Only 15 places available so phone 981-5594 to reserve your place.

## DELTA CAFE now "FOOTPRINTS CAFE"

105 NTH AVON RD OPEN NOW Hours: 10am - 2pm Mon to Thurs Coffee Tea & Food

Please send payment to confirm your booking to:  
Ali Brown, 253 Mc Queens Valley Rd. RD 2 Ch Ch

Name:.....

Address:.....

Phone number:.....

Email:.....

Date of workshop you are booking for.....

*Please make cheques payable to Ali Brown.*



Floral Art demonstration by Sue Cronshaw at Mid Winter Celebration Day for Older Adults in June

The first of the R.W.M.C. picnics took place in 1909 at the Burwood Tea Gardens. Club officers did the catering. The Stanmore Band was engaged and the club was closed from 2pm to 7pm. The cost was 1/- a head. Three trams transported the picnickers. £4 was spent on pastries and cakes, £2 on fruit, supplies included three hams three lambs, 80lb of bread and 10lb of butter, 272 gallons of soft drinks and ginger beer, three bottles of whisky, one of brandy, eight of wine and unlimited beer.

## What's on in September

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 refurbished, 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month. No cost.  
Next meeting Wednesday 8th September  
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.

### Postural Mat Pilates Class

Tuesdays till Sept 14th 10 - 11am  
New term will commence on Monday October 4th 9:30- 10:30 and a new class on Thursday evenings starting October 7th 7-8pm  
All enquiries to Janet Ph 381-4414

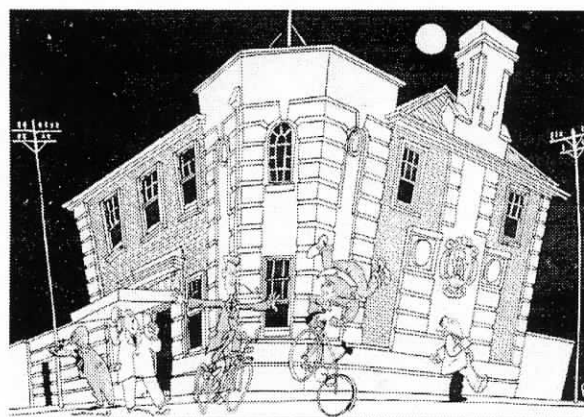
For further information about facilities and classes etc. please contact:

Lesley McMillan  
Community Development Worker  
Ph 942-5615

**Closing Date for  
copy and advts.  
for the Oct issue  
Sept 20th**

If you would like  
to help fold papers  
in a friendly relaxed  
atmosphere,  
Phone 942-5615  
Cup of tea provided

## Swarry: The night of the long clay pipes



The Richmond Workingmen's Club and Mutual School of Arts on the corner of London Street and Stanmore Road, Christchurch (pictured after the "Sam Weller Swarry" in 1931). The Richmond Workingmen's Club was founded in 1888. Members played interclub competitions in billiards, snooker and cards. Cricket followed in 1910 and quoits in 1923. Rifle shooting, bowls (indoor and outdoor), darts, golf, flower arranging, table tennis, pool, squash, boxing and fishing have since been added to the sporting selection.

But of all the club's activities, the Sam Weller Swarrys were the most unusual (the last one being held in 1936). Normally held on a cold winter's night, the swarry was an annual event in the club's early days. At the end of the evening the floor would be awash with ale. Participants dined on boiled mutton and caper sauce, and smoked long stemmed "Churchwarden" clay pipes provided by the club. Part of the tradition was to get the pipes home intact.....no easy task.

•Who was Sam Weller? A colourful character from Dickens's "Pickwick Papers" with a love of grub and grog  
"Reprinted from The Christchurch Press"

### Do you remember

During the war years when meat was in short supply, and only with ration coupons? People would buy skinned rabbits from the fish supply for 1/- (one shilling). They were a great alternative to meat, cheap and very tasty either roasted or stewed.

### FULL MOON Meditation

September 29th

Monday 7pm - 8pm

Avebury House

Gold coin donation

Come along and enjoy a beautiful and deep guided meditation. Expansion of awareness, stillness of mind, re-energising, total relaxation - a unique experience!

From the Art of Living Foundation, a non-religious, non-profit organisation teaching the secrets of Breath worldwide

## The Housing Dream

Statistically, Work and Income enquiries are the largest category of enquiries to my Electorate Office. Second is housing – the most common question being “why do I have to wait for a Housing New Zealand state house?” To find the local answer to this genuine question, I recently went for a tour of housing hot spots in the Christchurch Central Electorate with David Griffiths, the Housing New Zealand manager for the Canterbury Nelson/Marlborough area.

We drove to the Richmond area where he very dramatically showed me how the idea of government housing has massively changed over the years. The brand new town house rows in the Stanmore Road area are visually attractive and architecturally designed. They have been built to face the sun, are double glazed and well insulated and have a clean and modern feel.

The Housing New Zealand (HNZ) Canterbury Nelson/Marlborough region received \$7 million this year for building new housing. To help meet urgent needs fast, David is working with local property developers, who build the new homes and lease them for 10 years to HNZ. HNZ manage them; the developer funds them. It means that HNZ does not need to find money up-front but can use the funds it has saved to top up the tenants income related rents to the market rate paid to the developer. This innovative solution is a win/win one - private investors can get into residential rental estate without the difficulties and hassles of property management, and tenants get good quality properties.

Of course, the massive demand is a challenge. There have been over 60 new state houses built in Christchurch this year but, on the other side of the coin, many of the older houses are now nearing 70 years old. They have many weaknesses such as no insulation and were not built to face the sun. There is a continual programme of modernising existing stock but that is another story.....

Better state homes combined with income-related rents (no more than 25% of household income) mean that families do not move on. That means more stable neighbourhoods and better performing local schools. That means better educational achievement and more chance of adults getting and keeping jobs. Public housing in Richmond is a simply vital service.

**Tim Barnett**  
Member of Parliament  
Christchurch Central Electorate



### 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](mailto:tim@timbarnett.org.nz) Internet: [www.timbarnett.org.nz](http://www.timbarnett.org.nz)

### Society of St Vincent de Paul

265 Stanmore Road

**We sell Cheap Furniture & Clothes &  
All manner of goods**

**★ Help us to help others ★**

**All money we receive goes back to the  
community**

Donations of furniture, clothes etc.  
gratefully received. Pick up & delivery of  
larger items. Phone 389-7484

### Pedal Power

In 1903 a by-law of the city stated  
“ that no cyclist is to exceed the speed  
of nine miles an hour” ( a chance would  
be a fine thing)

# Richmond School

The month of August was very busy for all Richmond tamariki and staff. We would like to thank all our support Whanu for contributing to all our successful events whether it is big or small. First thank you to all of those parents who attended the Camp presentations early this month. The children's slide shows and story writings were wonderful. The shared fish and chips went down well too.

We also had eight of our senior school leaders who went to the University of Canterbury to talk in front of 400 student teachers. They talked about what they believe is important to them in their education and learning. These tamariki did an awesome job. It is wonderful to know such inspirational students.

We are well into our swimming programme that runs Tuesdays and Thursdays at Aqua Gym this term. A huge thank you to all our parent/caregiver and teachers who help in the smooth running.

We would like to welcome our very own "Adopt a Fire-Fighter" programme to our kura for up to two years. An exciting new concept in community based fire safety education is about to be trialed in selected Christchurch schools including Richmond. Our very own Fire fighter is 'Richard Hurst-Long' and he will be with us until the end of 2004 and if successful, into 2005. We are delighted in this trial programme and can see a wonderful relationship forming.

Thank you to all who helped support our Hanhi fundraiser. We were able to raise nearly \$1,800 for our new reading books. Thank you to Tania Te Karu and Ruawhitu Pokaia for leading the way in ensuring a great day. Who would have guessed that you could have a cooked meal from the ground on one of the wettest days in 5 years? We would also like to thank all our manuhiri (visitors) who joined us. Tim Barnett and his office, our parents and grandparents, just to mention a few. Well done everyone.

Even the snow does not stop our enthusiasm for learning. It was so great to see so many parents, caregivers and staff having so much fun in the snow. Plenty of snow angels and snow people were created and were sadly missed when they eventually melted away.

A wonderful group who visited us recently were a trio from the Court Theatre. They performed the

Ugly Duckling as a road show, a wonderful and positive theme for our tamariki. All three are so talented and gifted that we hope to see more in the future.

Our Senior Kapa Haka Group, with 4 special juniors, joined in the awesome experience of performing in the Town Hall in the Cultural Festival recently. It is such a privilege to see all the tamariki perform.

We would like to wish Peter Rahui, a teacher aide here at school for the past several years, a very happy 60th this coming weekend (03/09/04). Peter works in room 2 with Janet Pask and all of our babies. Peter is from Whangarei and will be celebrating with his whanau and some of the staff.

School Holidays are fast approaching. Have a safe and relaxing break. Take care.

Annie Bowden

PRINCIPAL



## RICHMOND

WORKING MEN'S CLUB & M.S.A.

**P.O.Box**  
**26-036**  
**Christchurch**

**Phone**  
**389-5778**

[www.rwmc.co.nz](http://www.rwmc.co.nz)

**WE ARE PROUD TO  
SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY**