

# Richmond Community News

• July 2007 •

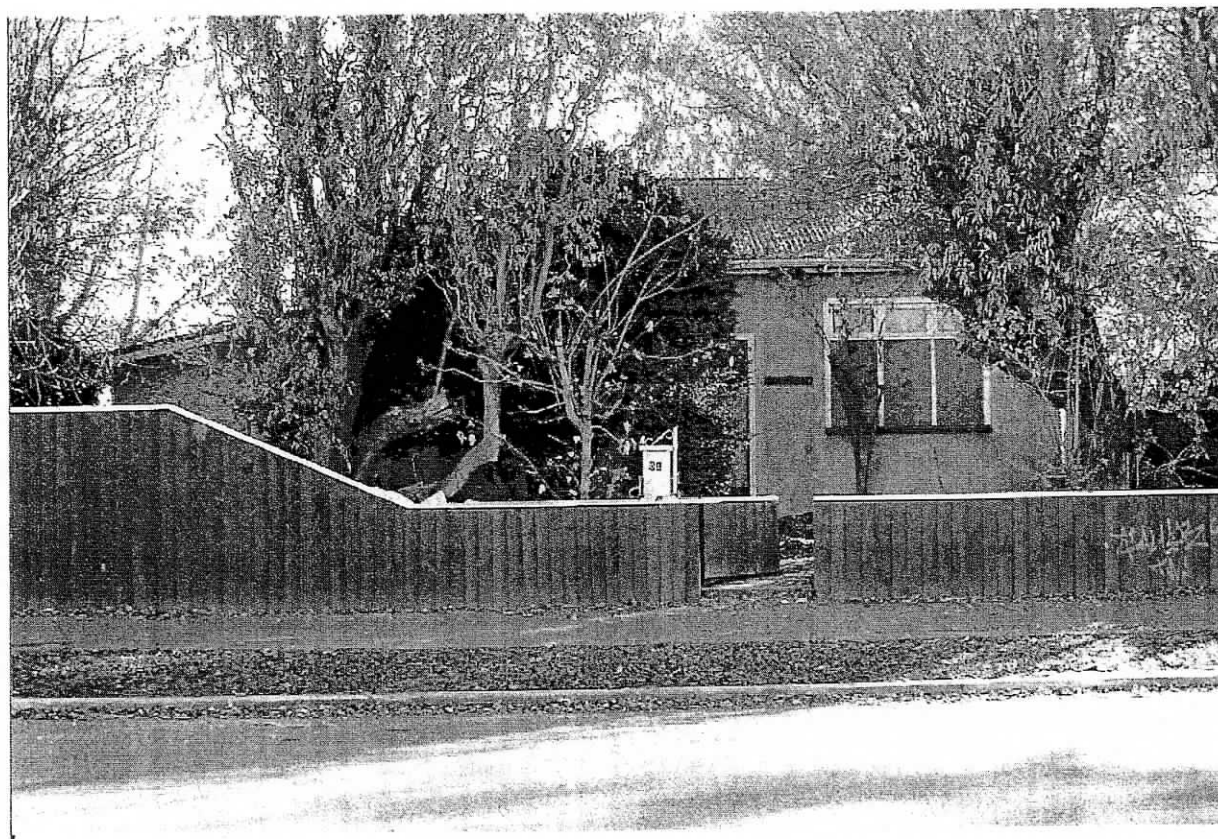
Vol 5 No 6 Issue 49

## Thirtyfirst in the Historical Homes of Richmond Series

### A TRIBUTE TO A WELL-KNOWN RICHMOND IDENTITY

Who lived and died here at the age of 90, Dr. John L. Moffat. He encompassed eccentricity and brilliance, and was steeped in the classics, languages and philosophy. He composed and played serious music, painted, drove and tinkered with classic cars, knitted and sewed clothes, wrote books, articles and a weekly column for the *Christchurch Star*. He was superbly fit through the practice of yoga and was a flamboyant figure with the ability to entertain, instruct and shock. He was described as being 'honest, out-going, peculiar, idiosyncratic and an exhibitionist.'

John Lawrence Moffat: b 1916. d 2007



### 51 LONDON STREET SOUL'S REPOSE

This house was built in 1906 with kauri and black pine from the International Exhibition in Hagley Park. It does not have a foundation, but sits on big stones and the floor is so hard it is impossible to drill a hole in, and despite the weight of 7,500 books, three 4-drawer filing cabinets, two organs and two pianos, it is still perfectly level. The name painted on the nameplate by the front door is one hundred percent classical, being an inaccurate translation of a Pharaoh's splendid title for a collection of remedies for diseases of the soul. (Soul's Pharmacy)

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Pilsner  
Lager  
Draught  
Dark

**68b North Avon Road  
Ph 381 5980**

Last month's solution



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

## Crossword

CLUES

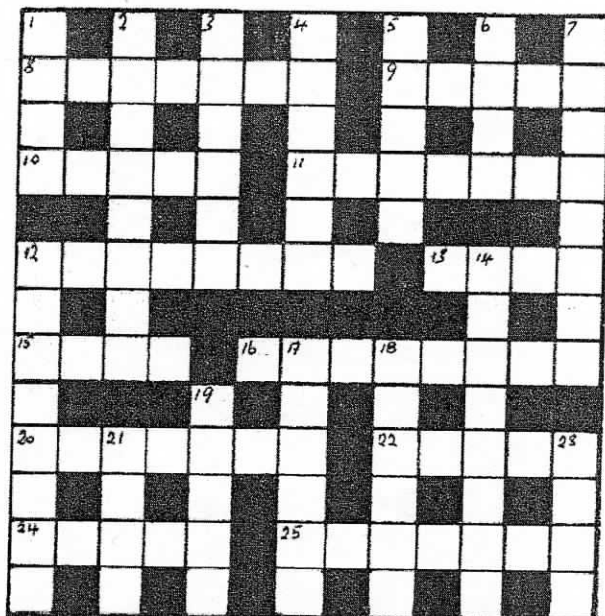
ACROSS

8. Mothers (7)
9. Respond (5)
10. Two times (5)
11. Enfeebled person (7)
12. Perspiring (8)
13. Extinct bird (4)
15. Scold angrily (4)
16. Adulterates (8)
20. Downpour (7)
22. Commonplace (5)
24. Departing (5)
25. Non-attendance (7)

DOWN

1. Overlook (4)
2. Raucous (8)
3. Harass (6)
4. Allot (6)
5. Solemn (5)
6. Metal spike (4)
7. Scholarly (8)
12. Game plan (8)
14. Adversary (8)
17. Bandit (6)
18. Sturdy (6)
19. Border (5)
21. Surprise attack (4)
23. Vegetable (4)

RCN CROSSWORD No. 1342 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

## What's on in July

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- 2pm

(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 11 July 4 - 5pm.

The History Group meets to share resources and research on items of Richmond's heritage. The Richmond Room, a resource room with displays, magazines and items of interest has been set up at Avebury. These resources are available to the public at no charge.

### **Embroidery Group**

Mondays 1 - 4pm.

Beginners to advanced. Tuition available from a patient, experienced tutor.

Please ring Allison on 388-9377 for more information.

### **Shirley Brownie group**

Meets at 6pm every Tuesday at Avebury House, excluding school holidays.

Contact Kim on 366-5434 for details.

### **Music & Movement for Pre-schoolers**

This popular group meets on Fridays 11am - 12 noon, excluding school holidays. Cost \$3 first child, \$1.50 for each subsequent child.

For enrolment/enquiries ring Ursula on 332-0633.

### **Flax Weaving Courses with Ali Brown**

21 July 10am - 4pm. Ph Ali Brown 329-7051 for registrations.

### **Hugs All Round Quilt Project**

Wednesdays 1 - 4pm, enquiries to 381-6615.

### **Tai Chi Class – Especially adapted for older adults**

Fridays 12 noon – 1pm. Cost \$3

Ring Avebury House for details.

### **Music Together of Christchurch**

An internationally recognised and research-based programme; Song book and CDs included. Birth to age 5. Avebury House Thursdays 9.30-10.15am. 10 week programme. Register now! Contact Jennifer: 328-7787

[director@musictogetherofchristchurch.com](mailto:director@musictogetherofchristchurch.com)

[www.musictogetherofchristchurch.com](http://www.musictogetherofchristchurch.com)

### **Wu Tao - The dancing way**

A fusion of free dance and oriental medicine.

Thursday morning 10-11.30am - Evening 7-8.30pm

Ring Karen Lewis for details 021-944675 or email:

[wutaodance@ihug.co.nz](mailto:wutaodance@ihug.co.nz)

**For further information about facilities and classes etc.**

**please contact: Lesley McMillan Community Development Worker: Ph 381-6615**

I believe that you only get out of life what you put in. So for me it is vitally important that our young people have the chance of a good education and the training that they need to create great futures for themselves and for New Zealand. A good job provides so much more than just a wage. Work is where you make friends, you learn and you grow. When you do a job well, you feel good about yourself and your confidence and ability increases. Everyone deserves that opportunity, so I am particularly concerned that Technology training in our schools is in crisis. Schools are being forced to cancel or reduce their trades and industry training programmes. There is a shortage of teachers, a lack of resources and direction from the Government, and not nearly enough engagement from industry. John Key is focusing on this area and said in a recent speech, 'It's time to put hands-on, trades and industry training back into the heart of our school system.' National has a vision for doing it. Right now, it's not happening and young New Zealanders are paying the price. Secondary school students should be exposed to the hands-on businesses that can fire up their appetite for learning – industries that play a crucial role in our economy such as building, horticulture, automotive repair, farming and plumbing. Trades and industry training can inspire students who struggle in more academic subjects. It can encourage them to stay in school, which is so important. It can motivate them to get the skills they need to make the most of their talents.

Let's work together to put trades and industry training back into our schools. Let's provide an environment that inspires all students to learn. Let's give our teenagers the opportunities they need to succeed.

## Nicky Wagner

NATIONAL PARTY MP

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## Margaret Sutherland

### The woman who went to the Western Front, during World War 1 (1914-18)

The woman concerned was my grandmother (on left of above photo). In the centre is my mother, and on the right my aunt.

In 1914 the trio were walking down the main street in Gore when they were stopped by two men who asked my grandmother if she would have her photo taken. When asked what for they replied, for patriotic reasons, and so my grandmother duly allowed the photo to be taken.

Some weeks later she received a letter enclosing some of the photos. One had been made into a postcard (see below). As you can see, the flower has been shifted to a more central position. This postcard showing my grandmother was sent overseas. Many Anzacs used postcards such as this to write home to their families and loved ones.

The soldier shown above is my late father, later to marry my mother. He had seen this postcard and remarked that she had a serene face.

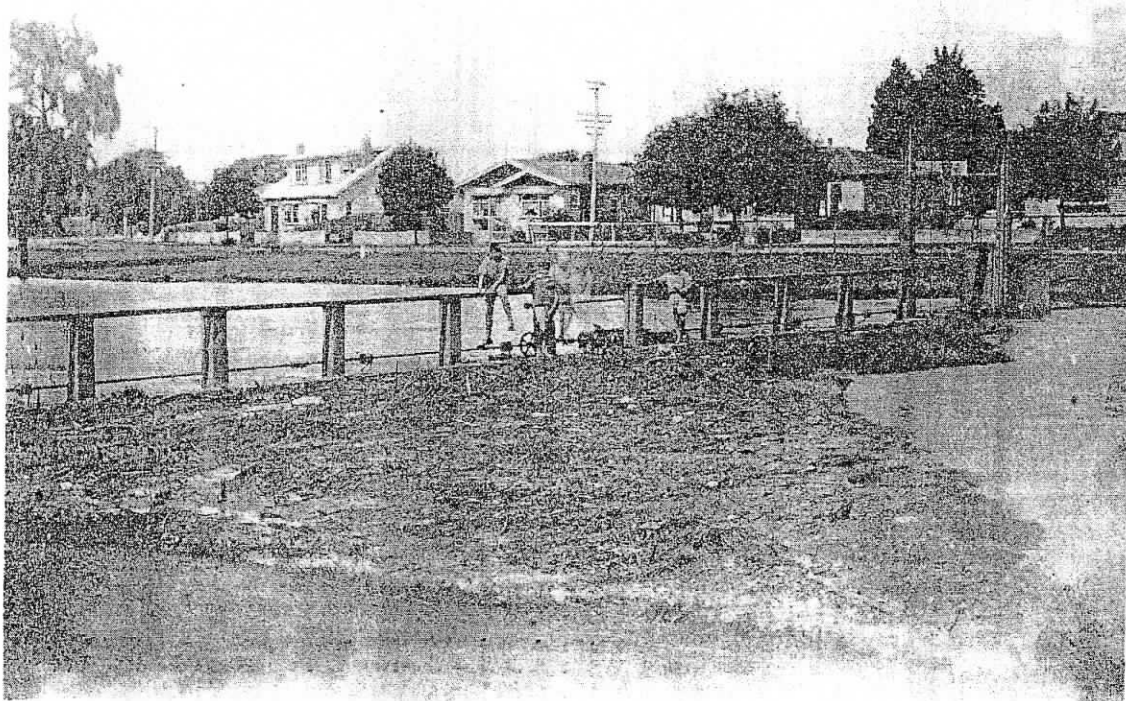
Mauri Neilson



### 'Idea' Wai Cards

For the last few months we have been producing cards for sale. This project was started after someone commented that photos of our monarch butterflies would make great cards. Since then the branch committee has provided the funds for a camera and the variety of cards has increased, as have sales. Cards are \$1.00 each and excellent quality, so make us your first call. Following on from the above we applied to the community paper *The Mail* 'Make it Happen' for an application for funds to purchase further equipment to produce cards, so that the Wai Camera Club could focus on this project as part of Community Participation, enabling new skills to be gained as well as being able to sell the cards. We were thrilled to be awarded \$699.00 for this project and are grateful to the Combined Insurance Co. of New Zealand who, with the *Christchurch Mail* and *The Press*, promoted 'Make it Happen' in the Christchurch community. We were privileged to be among the 19 chosen from so many applicants. We were invited to the Award Ceremony at which Marg Foster was guest speaker. This was an interesting and stimulating evening when each recipient spoke briefly about their project and the way their gift would assist them. Since these articles were printed we have moved to 277 Stanmore Rd (next to the park). Cards are still for sale with more to be produced in the near future. In the coming weeks and months we hope to be a very busy part of our new community.

Janice and Team



### WEIR ON THE AVON. OPPOSITE MEDWAY ST

In its formative years, Christchurch was the wettest city in New Zealand. Underfoot that is. It was a veritable swamp. There was so much water around, that when the sewers were laid, near the turn of the twentieth century, there was sufficient ground water available, even though there was no domestic water reticulation in the city at that time. Busy little pumps clattered away in suburban backyards supplying each household's needs throughout the year. The Avon, Heathcote and Waimakariri Rivers ensured that city flooding would be a regular fact of life. Heavy winter fogs and water-borne diseases plagued the city for many decades.

During my boyhood in St Albans, we still had our little water pump clattering away in our backyard. We could dig a hole not much deeper than a metre and it would have water at the bottom of it. I expect that the same hole today would have to be a hundred times deeper to obtain the same result. Nearby Dudley Creek inundated parts of St Albans and Shirley until the late 1950s when a series of large concrete pipes were laid from Aylesford through to Horseshoe Lake. They were very large in diameter and provided endless fun for small boys to horse around in, despite dire and colourfully articulated threats from the contractors.

The head of the creek is in Bishopdale. It wends its way into Papanui and touches the northern extreme of St Albans along Aylesford Street, before passing through Shirley then bordering Banks Avenue to its discharge point, into the Avon River, in Dallington. During flooding, in the Aylesford Street area, local residents who already had water up around their doorsteps, resented the bow waves of nosy sightseers' motorcars. They complained loudly but to no avail. In winter, Dudley Creek became a torrent. At its terminus, its waters would rush out into the Avon as if they had been ejected from generator penstocks. The diversion changed it all. Today the creek is as much a muddy embarrassment as a blessing to many who built their houses on its banks to enjoy the pleasures of riverside dwelling. While the weir at the end of Medway Street in Richmond retained the Avon River's depth, it was a larger and deeper waterway than it is today. My rowing career started under Henry Bedford, a tiny ex-jockey, in 1960. We rowed out of the old Union Club, just up river from the Fitzgerald Avenue bridges. It was the last local club to re-establish at Kerrs Reach. The water depth was more than adequate and we could easily pass the Christ College lads' boats. Their rowing shed was about 200 metres below the bridges.

It all came to an end one wet and stormy night when someone raised the weir dam in the middle of a rising flood tide. A young lad had been drowned there a short time before, and it was a commonly held belief that locals had done the deed in an effort to remove what they saw as a dangerous obstruction in the river. After that it was off to Kerrs Reach for training. The genuine Christchurch pea-soupers of my childhood have waned thanks to a drier city environment. Flooded streets are a rarity and the mandatory gumboots of yesteryear almost confined to storybook fiction. In fact, the water-logged city of the past is in danger of becoming a parched desert. We have squandered the most essential of natural resources and allowed our rural lands to be converted into water-intensive agricultural ventures. Our earlier generations would shake their heads in disbelief, if they were able to see what we have done to our once abundant water reserves today.

*Taken from an article by John Nimmo*



Do you want to 'Live to the Max?'  
Do you want to make changes to your life?

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 and then, using a self-assessment profile, brainstorm new directions and set goals. Participants are then linked to a support group of four or five others, meeting weekly for two hours to help each other work toward their own individual goals. The group meets every four months. But it's not all hard work - participants enjoy meeting new friends and have lots of fun and laughter as well.

Find out more about joining Live to the Max by phoning Marlys or Tony on 389-0219 or 389-0212. Delta Community House, 105 North Avon Road, Richmond

## Explore!

Do you want to 'explore' your world? Discover new places? Have new experiences? Discover more about yourself and make new friends? Delta Community Support Trust would like to invite you to join us once a week for 10 weeks to broaden your life experiences through fun-filled mystery adventures! To find out more phone Marlys or Tony on 389-0192 or 389-0212.

Delta Community House, 105 North Avon Rd, Richmond

## 'FOOTPRINTS CAFE'

105 NORTH AVON RD OPEN NOW Hours: 10am - 1pm Mon & Wed Coffee Tea & Food

### **Richmonds Te Mana Mahi OSCAR Program**

The Richmond Out of School Programme is happy to announce we have our CYF OSCAR Approval. This means all parents wishing to enrol can now collect a WINZ Childcare Subsidy Form from the programme between 3 and 5.30pm, Monday to Friday during term time.

We are located in the Richmond Primary School Hall, 9 Perth St, Chch. We provide both After School Programmes, and Holiday Programmes which run for the first week of each school holiday.

We have both After School Care and Holiday Programme spaces left and invite you to come and meet with us, watch us in action, and we can also provide you with all the information regarding WINZ Child Care Subsidies.

If you have any questions or would like more information please contact Adele or Tui on 389-6610 or via email: [pd11@xtra.co.nz](mailto:pd11@xtra.co.nz) Alternatively, Adele can be reached on 027 542-0082.

**Closing Date for copy and advts. for the  
August RCN issue is 21 July 2007**

### **Mr & Mrs Carl Smith - Richmond Mission**

On Thursday morning 31 May, I was one of the walkers in Graeme Stanley's active Christchurch walking group and he told us about the Smith family of Richmond, who founded the Richmond Mission in North Avon Road in 1911. Graeme had invited Mr and Mrs Smith to join us on our walk, as he would be talking about Mr Smith's parents, David and Florence Smith. They arrived by wheelchair taxi, Mr Smith (age 102) and Mrs Smith (age 95). It was really great to see these two enjoy the company of our 45 odd walkers, as we walked from River Road to the Richmond Mission in North Avon Road, then on to the Smith family home in Siddal Place (off Stanmore Road) which was named after Siddall Hall in Yorkshire, where David came from. Beverley Evans.

### **Advt**

Jennifer Dalziel, Chartered Accountant. Monthly and annual accounts prepared. GST Returns and Income Tax Returns prepared and filed. Rental properties a specialty. Advice and assistance regarding Companies and Trusts with all taxation needs. Phone 385-4015. email: [jdalziel@inet.net.nz](mailto:jdalziel@inet.net.nz).



## Lowering the Cost of Doctor's Visits

Most doctors and nurses will tell you that getting on top of your health problems early is the best way to stay healthy in the long run. What seem like small issues today can sometimes become serious health problems further down the track. For many, the reality is that the cost of a doctor's visit has to stand in the queue with all the other financial demands – the rent, power bill, registering the car or the other hundred and one things needing payment!

When a member of the family is sick, the last thing you want to do is have to choose between making ends meet and paying for the price of a visit to your local GP.

When Labour was elected in 1999 high costs were a problem for too many families. A lack of investment in general practices and community health services meant many GPs were struggling to cover the increasing costs of delivering care and paying their staff without passing on costs to patients. This was an unacceptable situation and the Labour government has invested heavily in turning this around.

For people aged over 45 and under 25 the price of seeing the doctor has been cut by half over the past few years and the cost of standard prescriptions has fallen from around \$15 to \$3. From 1 July, the 25 – 44 year age group will also have cheaper doctor's costs as they join the other three million New Zealanders already accessing cheaper health care. These falling costs have been achieved as a result of a \$2.2 billion, seven year investment in primary health care.

Cheaper doctor's visits are only part of the bigger picture. We have nearly four million New Zealanders now enrolled in Primary Health Organisations which gives a great opportunity to identify and address the major health issues in our communities. We will be stepping up efforts to work with doctors, nurses and community health workers to screen for diabetes and breast cancer, reduce rates of obesity and cardiovascular disease and make sure more of our children get the health check ups they need.

This investment in primary health care is an investment in keeping families well. Lower costs enable better access to health care, as you need it, allowing you to stay ahead of health problems that could become more serious problems if left untreated.

By Tim Barnett, MP Christchurch Central

HUGS ALLROUND

WOULD LIKE TO INVITE HAND OR MACHINE  
SEWERS TO JOIN THEM MAKING

QUILTS AND COMFORTERS

FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN AGED BIRTH  
TO 15 YEARS.

THIS IS A 'NOT FOR PROFIT' PROJECT

**Wednesdays 1pm-4pm**

**at Avebury House**

**9 Eveleyn Couzins Ave**

**All materials provided**

Volunteers who are not so confident with their sewing skills are also welcome as there is plenty help available. Ring OLGA 980-1654

**Donations towards the cost of this project would be welcomed. Please contact Lesley at Avebury House Ph 381-6615: Monday - Thursday**

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Te Rito O Te Hānakeke  
Richmond School  
PO Box 26025, North Avon, Christchurch  
Phone/Fax (03) 3897 168,  
Email:office@richmond.school.nz

## Kia Ora Community

Happy New Year! We have just celebrated Matariki (The Maori New Year). Our focus this year was the Kaumatua (Elders) of our school/community. At midnight on Thursday 14 June we were having karakia and the Atua (God) parted the clouds and presented the stars to us, the teachers, and whanau that braved the midnight weather. Everyone watched in awe, as soon after, the cloud returned to cover the stars, leaving some of us in tears. These tears were tears of joy and the group was left to ponder their future with the coming of the new year. At dawn we planted native trees and bushes and this proved to be a very spiritual and enlightening encounter as well!

We would like to share a lovely email from one of the many grandparents who came to the Kaumatua (Grandparent) Pamper Day:

*I am the grandfather of one of your students. As such my wife and I attended 'Pamper your Grandparents' morning at the school. We really enjoyed ourselves, the kids, and the contributions from your staff. I thought the whole exercise was a great example of school / home interaction, as well as an opportunity for building the relationship that obviously already exists between the children and those grandparents who made the effort to come. Thank you for giving us that opportunity, we found it well worth the trip in from North Canterbury. Please pass our thanks also, to the staff members involved.*

We have celebrated Matariki for four years now and will incorporate the Kaumatua Pamper Day as an annual event. Well done to Te Roopu Awhina for organising this celebration and a huge thanks to the Board of Trustees for supporting this wonderful occasion. A special acknowledgement to Tim Barnett for taking time out to be with us as we know he is a very busy person. To the tamariki and Kaiako of Te Kura Whakapumau I te reo tuturu ki Waitaha, thank you for supporting the kaupapa. And lastly to Nannie Heeni Phillips who is always our inspiration. He wahine purotu, he wahine ataahua.

**THE LONGEST DOCKET:** We would like to thank the Richmond Community for supporting our school and sending in their New World docketts. We managed to accumulate 91 metres worth of docketts.

Annie Bowden  
Principal



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