

Richmond Community News

•March 2006 •

Vol 4 No 2 Issue 34

Seventeenth in the Historical Homes of Richmond Series



The Huggins House 65 Alexandra Street

Albert Edward and LillyMay Huggins bought this house over 80 years ago, it is now over 100 years old. They had five children and the youngest, Henry, married "girl-next-door" Dorothy Grenfel. THIS IS THEIR STORY.

"We were married 54 years ago and took over the house, with Henry's mother living with us for 17 years until she passed away at 81 years of age. When we moved in, the kitchen was tiny, just a wooden bench, a basin for washing up, a small gas cooker and only cold water. The bathroom was large and consisted of a copper, a tin bath and wooden tubs. Water had to be heated in the copper then ladled to bath or tubs. With two children under thirty months, washing took all day. Alterations were made over time, as money became available, an extension to the kitchen, with a zip over a sink for hot water. What an exciting day, four years later, when we bought a washing machine and had hot water connected in the bathroom. A room was added and a bull-nosed verandah removed. We have a wonderful poplar tree on our boundary with Pavitt Street which we watched our neighbours, (the Noonan family of fifteen) plant 65 years ago. It is just a picture in Autumn!"

Dorothy and Henry have both lived in Richmond all their lives and have very happy memories of school days, family friends, knowing all the local children, days at the local pool (in Pavitt Street) etc. One particular memory of Dorothy's as a child, was standing at the blacksmith, on the corner of Alexandra

Street and Stanmore Road, watching a draught horse being shod. She was eating the middle out of a loaf of bread, when suddenly the horse bolted and so did she, never to watch again! But she continued to eat the delicious bread on the way home from the shop, as we all did in those days! Henry and Dorothy H.

Huggins Place off Hills Road was named after a John William Huggins 1891 -1981, a Health Officer with the Christchurch City Council in the 1940's

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What's on in March

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 2nd Wednesday of each month. No cost.

Next meeting Wednesday 8th March 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 has been set up at Avebury. These resources are available to the public at no charge.

Embroidery Group

Thursdays 10am - 12 noon

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. Contact Kim on 366-5434 for details

Music & Movement for Babies & Preschoolers

This popular group meets on Fridays 11am - 12 noon from the 10th February 2006 Cost \$3 per family
For enrollment/enquiries ring Ursula on 332-0633

Flax Weaving Courses with Ali Brown

March 11th 10am - 4p m

Ph Ali Brown 329-7051 for registrations

Angels With Hidden Wings

Remembering your wings self intuitive and spiritual development course starting March 20th. Free

introductory evening March 6th 7 - 9pm

For further details Ph Janine 387 0323

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

Lesley McMillan

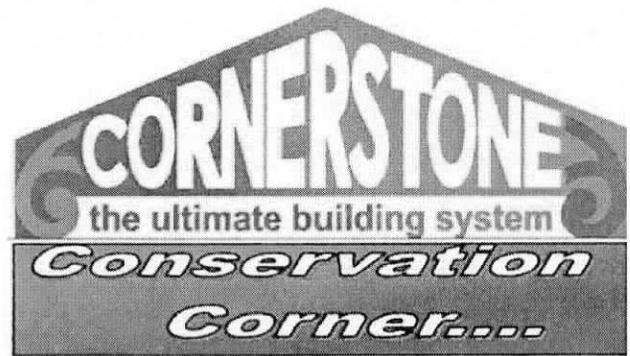
Community Development Worker

Ph 381-6615

LYFE Festival Linwood Park Linwood Avenue

March 12th 2006 12:30pm to 4pm

The linwood Youth Festival celebrates the diversity of young people in the Linwood area, by showcasing the talent of local youth. We cordially invite you to join us at Linwood Park to experience local musicians and dance performers as well as innumerable food and market stalls.



The benefits of building with the polystyrene in the are many since insulation has a direct impact on healthy homes... along with durability in respect of the fact that it does not break down.... The Cornerstone Building system along with other like solid wall type of structure of concrete or polystyrene block, tilt slab panels, are not so prone to the the problems of rotting timbers, as these systems have nothing to break down. In terms of durability, the minimal non-structural timber used around windows of the Cornerstone system of construction has always been treated and any moisture is able to disburse easily at the base, keeping the timbers dry.

The High R value of 4.3 for the 200mm thick wall (twice the standard recommendation), and the fact that the system is 2-3 times higher in bracing against earthquake and high wind conditions makes it an ideal cost effective method of construction.

If the government made a further step and made all of the Housing NZ homes to this standard, offering a rent to own system to the tenants, this would make further savings to the maintenance bill of Housing NZ'S rental property and give the occupants a sense of achievement, while freeing up further funding for further housing.

At present the whole industry is in turmoil as the shake up goes on to bring in a whole lot of standards and details, which are quite complex with regard to the weather tightness issues. I am quite sure the details and standards from the past which went out the door when the cost cutting shortcuts came in, to when the clients went shopping around for the cheapest price for their biggest investment, however the simple and effective methods of waterproofing did not come back. After all it is the more modern homes with modern building practices that have been leaking.

Cornerstone is committed to working toward minimal energy requirements in the home and more affordable options as the world looks seriously at the matter of sustainable energy.

The logo for Enviro Developments Ltd features a stylized sun with rays on the left and a circular arrow symbol on the right. The text 'ENVIRO DEVELOPMENTS LTD' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the logo, there is a list of benefits: '- no rot', '- healthy and safe homes', '- eco friendly homes', and '- eco heat'. At the bottom, the phone numbers 'Ph 03 381 6612' and '0800 426 763' are listed. The tagline 'Sun's free power' is written in a cursive font at the bottom left of the logo area.

- no rot
- healthy and safe homes
- eco friendly homes
- eco heat

Ph 03 381 6612
0800 426 763

HISTORY BEHIND THE MANTEL

In March 2005, the newspaper published an article on two certificates of baptism found behind a fireplace at 88 North Avon Road. Below is a critique of another, accompanied by the certificate and a photo of Mr. E.King, at his farewell from Rangiora High School.

Eric Walter KING was born 26 August 1911, in Linwood. He married Margaret (Peggy) Elizabeth FOSTER in 1944. His parents were Samuel W.KING, born Scotland, 1874 and Annie (Anne). M. SOWTER born England, 1874. His grandparents were Robert I.KING, born England 1851 and Mary L.J.SHARP, born England 1845, and John Y.SOWTER, born England 1845 and Rebecca WEIGHELL, born England 1843.

Mr. Eric Walter King was educated at Christchurch Boy's High School, Canterbury University and the Canterbury School of Art. He eventually attended Teacher's College; becoming a qualified teacher.

Ms Helen Templeton began coaching at Loburn North School c1949. Mr. King began as headmaster there 1953. She said, "He was bright, good fun (from a child's point of view); he was a nice headmaster."

Another teacher, Ms Helen (Johnston) Bassett was a junior teacher there (1952-53) when Mr. King taught Std.3 up. She recalled he would talk to other people as if he had a bigger staff, "Have you met my staff?" There was only Ms Bassett; it was a two-teacher school.

Ms Bassett remarked, "He had a degree in psychology and used it so well manipulating the children (and myself I guess) so well - in a very subtle way. We all towed the line. He was hilarious fun, a bright spark, which made all the difference to my years; he made them fun. He was also innovative, cheerful and amusing. The children loved him & he had a great way with children! He had twinkling blue eyes, a mischief creature, not foolish; he had a brain and a great sense of humour, always coming out with another scheme." Ms Bassett also said Mr. Eric King was good at woodworking and showed her proudly the furniture he had made that furnished his home.

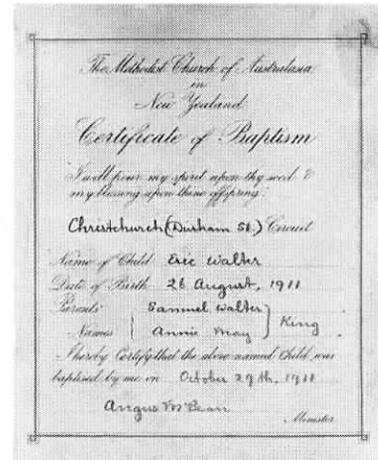
Mr. Eric King moved on from Loburn North in 1961 and began teaching at Rangiora High School in 1963 as head of the Art and Craft Department. The school had this to say about him on his departure in 1972. "He had the ability to 'tune in' to a pupils personality, and took a real interest in pupils who showed little aptitude in more academic subjects. Eric's' brand of humour saved many an awkward situation around the school, and brought a welcome light note to the tedious business of staff meetings. His ability to put people at

their ease and his interest in the younger members of staff will be much missed."

Ms Helen Bassett is sure he would smile and find humour in my researching him. She said he would probably say something like this. "What do you know about that, fame at last?"

Jennifer Pope

* Many thanks, Rangiora and Districts Early Records Society for providing the Rangiora High School photo and information.



Rangiora High School Farewell E. King Centre



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A Piece of History from 80 Years ago

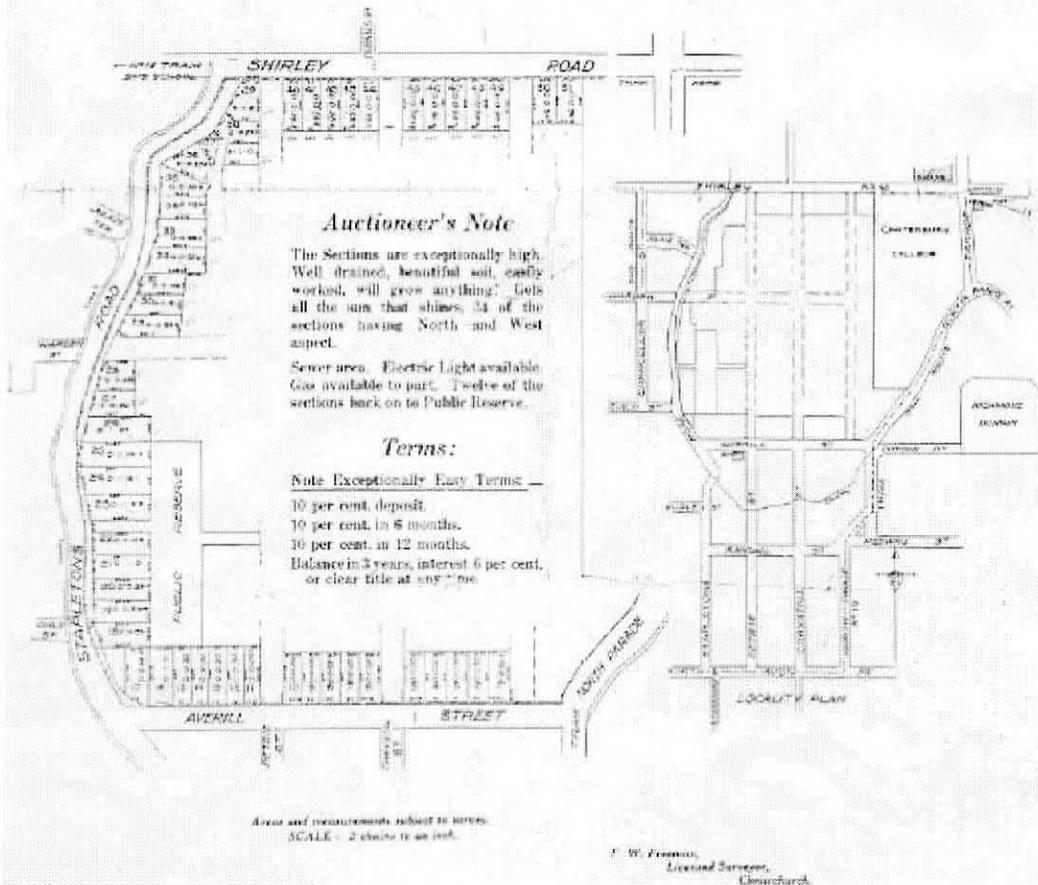
SALE PLAN OF LONG LOOKED FOR SUBDIVISION AUCTION SALE OF 51 MAGNIFICENT BUILDING SITES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT, NOVEMBER 18th, 1925, at 7.30 p.m., in our Land Sale Rooms, corner of Cashel and Manchester Sts. On Account of D. Neil, Esq., who purchased from the Church Property Trustees. Fronting on Averill Street, Stapleton's and Shirley Roads. These Sections are served by No. 10 and No. 16 Trams and the Shirley Bus. The Block is close to Shirley School. (The areas range from 28 perches to 1 road 14 perches, frontages from 75 links to 186 links.

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Apply to join the "Live to the Max" Course by phoning Marlys or Rebekah on 389 0219.

"Explore" Course.

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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 please phone Marlys or Tony on 03 389 0219/0212.

Delta House, 105 North Avon Road, Richmond.



LIME TREES PLANTED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE BOULEVARD BELOW SWANN'S ROAD BRIDGE, 1929; PHOTOGRAPHED 50 YEARS LATER.

In the early 1920's, a Christchurch tailor, R.B.Owen, had a vision to improve and enhance the banks of the River Avon, from the Carlton Mill Bridge all the way to New Brighton. He later became known as "River Bank Owen." He set up a River Improvement Fund, which was subscribed to by citizens and business firms and subsidised by government grants from the Public Works Department; and it was used for paying unemployed men to work at improving the riverbank. He was the driving force behind the creation of the

Millbrook Reserve and the picturesque area round the Band Rotunda and Victoria Square. In 1928 he obtained nearly a mile of river frontage below Swann's Road Bridge with a view to creating a boulevard on the north bank. One of the residents who gave land for this project was W. Bassett. The boulevard was to be 29.7 metres wide, comprising 13.2 metres of riverbank reserve, 12 metres of carriageway and 4.5 metres of footpath on the residential side. On 1st September 1929 a civic occasion marked the completion and the planting of 53 small lime tree saplings between Eveleyn Couzins Avenue and Medway Street on River Road. Further downstream on the other side of the river, another 34 lime trees were planted and most can be seen today in their splendid maturity, forming a fine avenue. Riverbank Owen's scheme was only partially carried out, but it continued a tradition of tree planting that has been part of our city's history since its beginning.

Taken from "The Story of a River FROM THE BANKS OF THE AVON" by Robert C. Lamb.

Closing Date for copy and advts. for the April issue is March 20th 2006

Working for Families

Parliament is now in session. I have spent a lot of the last few weeks in Wellington playing my part, working within a Labour Government that wants our country to be more affluent and dynamic. We want the families of Richmond, young and old, to enjoy more opportunity and security, and to share in the progress the whole country makes.

During the election Labour made promises, and we are now developing our policy programme to ensure we deliver those, whilst balancing both economic and social needs. We need a strong economy to deliver the living standards and the services that you would expect as a New Zealander living in our country.

One of these promises is our Working for Families package. It is designed to make it easier to work and raise a family. The income thresholds for Family Assistance will increase on 1 April 2006 to include families with higher incomes, like the many working families within Richmond. A new In-Work Payment is replacing the Child Tax Credit part of Family Assistance and changes have been made to make housing more affordable. The Accommodation Supplement has increased and is available to more working families and many people without children. Subsidies for pre-school and out-of-school care have increased and are available to parents with higher incomes. There is now greater financial support available for almost all families with children, earning under \$70,000 a year and for many families with children, earning up to \$100,000 a year.

I work closely with many Richmond families, schools and community organisations and understand how difficult it is to balance the demands of working and raising a family. Particularly around this time of year as children return to or start school and there are many

associated costs.

Contact your local Work and Income office or the Inland Revenue Department as there are staff who can assist you with any queries you may have about your entitlements and how to apply for them. Or you can check out the Working for Families web site on www.workingforfamilies.govt.nz

Tim Barnett
Member of Parliament
Christchurch Central

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Nau mai, hoki mai ki te tau hou, ki te wahanga tuatahi hoki. Kua powhiri mai ngaa tamariki hou ki toou taatou kura. Kua timata nga tamariki ki te piki ake i te poutama marautanga, e kapohia ngaa whetu i te paepae o te matariki.

My name is Christine Weepu. My husband Maui and I have been married for 27 years and we have six children. Maui jnr is 26, Awhina is 23 and Ratangihia is 22, both girls live in Wellington. Ihaia is 20 and works as a roofer. Irai is 19 and is currently attending Canterbury University. Margaret is 16 and has passed her NCEA level 2, so will be a year 13 student this year. We are also raising our mokopuna (grandchild) Sumner who has just started at Richmond School this year. And yes, Piri Weepu the awesome All Black halfback is my nearest and dearest nephew.

I have taught at Richmond School for six years and now hold the position of Principal for the next three terms. My teaching career has been to encourage a love of learning and to provide a solid foundational knowledge for children. I have worked at Christchurch Polytechnic and Te Wananga o Raukawa (New Zealand Tertiary Education Institution), as a tutor for students entering the teaching service, helping them to complete the requirements for a teaching diploma. I have also taught in Matura and Arahura Kohanga Reo, Hokitika Primary, and for the West Coast Rural Education Programme.

In January of this year, family and friends came to Arahura (West Coast) for our moko's "going to school" celebration. It was a special honour to have his Cambodian whanau attend so Maori, Cambodian and English were the languages spoken at the powhiri and poroporoake. With fifty people attending for two days, there was plenty of swimming, bonfires, barbecues and greenstoning at the river.

When I first came to Richmond Primary as a student teacher in 1998, I didn't know where this school was, now I want everyone to know because of the amazing learning that happens here. I learnt about William Glasser (a renowned psychiatrist and author). His vision is in creating "Schools without failure" and there are many schools around the world working towards becoming a Glasser Quality School. *So what does being a Glasser Quality School mean?* This is only some of the information. It is a school without rewards and punishments. At Richmond School there is no coercion. This does not mean that there are no boundaries and we allow pupils to do whatever they want. What we believe is that the only person we can

control is ourselves. Attempting to control others will only cause them to resent us and the relationship will move further apart. As staff and teachers at Richmond School we believe in doing all we can to build and enhance relationships with children so we can influence and persuade rather than control. Dr Glasser says that if you like and respect the teacher what they ask you to do will become important to you. Children learn what habits connect them to and disconnect them from a relationship. We want a safe school where children can come everyday without fear of being hurt as quality learning and teaching will only happen when there is a warm supportive environment. Dr Glasser states "In a Quality School, no pupil has the right to remain in class if he behaves in a way that is harmful to others or disrupts the teaching." We remove pupils from the environment where this is occurring and talk together using Reality Therapy to equip pupils with other ideas about behaviours to choose. Reality Therapy is a method of counselling that avoids criticising, blaming, it focuses on the present and avoids discussing the past. It remains non-judgemental and non-coercive, but encourages people to judge all that they are doing by the Choice Theory axiom: *Is what I am doing getting me closer to the people I need?* If the choice of behaviours is not getting people closer, a counsellor works to help them find new behaviours that will.

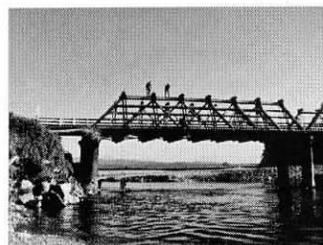
Pupils and staff are taught to use Choice Theory in their lives and work. Choice Theory is the theory which explains why and how we behave the way we do. It states all we do is behave, that almost all behaviour is chosen, and that we are driven by our genes to satisfy five basic needs: *survival, love and belonging, power, freedom and fun.* In practise, the most important need is *love and belonging*, as closeness and connectedness with the people we care about is a requisite for satisfying all of the needs. I decided that this was the school I wanted to be at to learn, teach and although my children did not learn at their schools about Choice Theory/Reality Therapy, they do know now and apply this in their adult lives.



Bonfire Night



Cycle Safety



Swimming on the Awa

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