

# RICHMOND

## COMMUNITY NEWS



Avebury House: 9 Eveleyn Couzins Avenue

Phone: 381-6615

Email: rcn@aveburyhouse.co.nz

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Issue 121

## 373 River Road

That's the address of our old home, the section dubbed 'The Quarter Acre Pavlova Paradise' by Austin Mitchell in the seventies. The house and garden began their life together in 1920, just after our young soldiers came back from the nightmare of World War I.

In 2011, we were evacuated to Hei Hei for nine months. I came home every day to our beloved house, the portable dunny on the street and the healing magic of the old garden. Our brilliant neighbours along that block of River Road moved away for evacuation breaks as we had, then returned and finally left for good.

Rubbish collectors came every Wednesday until we had all gone; we were the second-last house to vacate. By then the shy little cat who had come every night to eat on the front lawn, was trapped by Jane Newman, a charming scientist who saved so many moggies scattered by the earthquakes and found homes for them.

### The Inevitable...

Breens Demolition, arrived early 2013. Angie, sensitive to tears and loss, and Darrell, carefully saving the garden as the house went down. The young EQC staff based at Marian College brought their lunches for a quiet break in the now expanded garden. People brought their dogs, and their secateurs. Fences protected our properties from night dumpsters.

But I couldn't say goodbye. Every fortnight for the past five years, Vaughan Ching has mown the lawns and we've had the occasional working bee organised by Evan Smith of Avon/Ōtakaro. LINZ now gives

permission for caregiving.

Last month a team of enthusiastic gardeners from the new Richmond Community Garden on the river bank at Avebury House walked down the road with their three wheelbarrows loaded with spades and rakes, and a fruit pie. The sun was shining and before long, other good people turned



Photo by Diana Madgin

up in response to Cathy's call on Facebook. At least twelve of us dug, pruned and mulched with the truckload of material delivered kindness of TreeTech.

The old card table under the cherry tree was covered with food and flasks. The stainless-steel bucket was filled with water and Sunlight soap for washing hands. Spare sunhats, sunblock, Band-aids and Rawleighs antiseptic, just in case.

Discussion and friendship swirled around the activity. People who had never met talked warmly as they puffed with spades and clumps of weeds. "We haven't finished," they chorused after three hours. "When will we finish it?" Musical words. Sometime in Matariki might suit. Gardens have their own voice, their own magic, their own peace.

*By Diana Madgin*

Richmond Community News is brought to you by Avebury House Community Trust and the following people:

Editorial: David Hollander.

Layout: Kristine Spoor.

Advertising: David Hollander.

Many thanks to our team who deliver the RCN to 2000 households and businesses throughout Richmond.

The RCN is now available online:

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Contact us at: [rcn@aveburyhouse.co.nz](mailto:rcn@aveburyhouse.co.nz) or ring Avebury House: 03 381 6615.

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## Dudley Creek Project Depots

The City Council have stated that work on the Dudley Creek Remediation Scheme will be completed by the end of August. By that time the scheme contractors, Downer Ltd., will vacate the two remaining works depots: one occupying part of the ex-Shirley Community Centre site at 10 Shirley Rd and the other on the south end of the ex-Churchill Courts site on Guild St. The sites will be cleared and 'returned to a condition specified by the owners'.

Earlier this year Downer vacated the works depot located on red-zone land at the eastern end of Medway St and this area has been grassed. This will also happen at the Shirley Rd site, which is owned by the City Council, while the council decides what the long-term future of that space will be.

The ex-Churchill Courts site is owned by Anglican Care. Patrick Murray, Executive Officer of Anglican Care, states that there are no plans for the site at this stage. When Downers vacate the site, they will apply a spray-on polymer coating to suppress dust. The Downers depot occupies the southern part of the site which housed Churchill Courts and before that, St Saviour's Orphanage. The works depot area is divided by a wooden paling fence from a public space on the northern part of the site.



The northern part of the area has been an unofficial 'park' since 2012, when the Richmond Community Action Network co-ordinated local people and the Student Volunteer Army to brighten up the abandoned site. In early 2013 a local talent competition was held on the site. The work done back then is starting to look a bit tired now — perhaps it is time for another round of local energy and involvement. A small community garden managed by Mary Tingey of Delta Community Trust brightens the space — see Mary's article elsewhere in this issue. Patrick Murray says the fence will remain and the public will continue to have access to the land.



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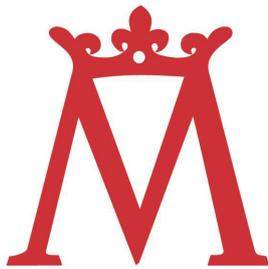
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WITH MARY IN FAITH  
TATOU KO MERE E  
WHAKAPONO ANA



## Marian College

“We have many fond memories of North Parade and connections that still remain today, however we have learned that the heart of our school is in our special Catholic character and our people – not the buildings,” says Mary-Lou Davidson, principal of Marian College.

Since 2012, Marian College has shared an inner-city site with Catholic Cathedral College, on its site adjacent to the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Barbadoes St. But for many years before that the school formed a vital part of the educational fabric of Richmond.

In 1914, a large, graceful house on a 1.5-acre section on the banks of Dudley Creek was built for Alfred Craddock at 126 North Parade. Later the house was bought by Dr Maurice Louisson and it remained a private home until 1949. In 1950 a Juniorate was established on the site, for training young aspirants to Catholic religious life. This operated until 1971. In 1972, a new school was opened on the site; McKillop College, which was administered by the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart.

The school included a boarding hostel for students from rural areas.

In 1982 the school amalgamated with St Mary’s College which had been run by the Sisters of Mercy in Colombo Street since 1893. The new school was named Marian College and was officially opened in 1982, on the North Parade site, on the feast day of the Annunciation — 25 March. Feast Day is a highly anticipated and celebrated religious event on the Marian College calendar every year.

For the next twenty-eight years the school occupied the site. Over these years the school expanded with new buildings and facilities, while the original homestead remained as the administration block. During this time the roll grew and Marian College established close relations with other nearby schools, including its neighbour, Shirley Boys’ High School; the schools combined some senior classes, and together joined in the original 5-Schools Exchange programme in 1997 (see our June issue).

Marian College was largely undamaged by the September 2010 earthquake and subsequent tremors, but the earthquake of 22 February, 2011, caused major land damage on the site beside Dudley Creek. It was clear that the school could not continue to operate on the site. Many of us remember those days when our schools developed innovative solutions to their earthquake-related problems. For the rest of 2011 Marian College shared St Bede’s College campus, with the host school operating in the morning and Marian College in the afternoon.

Throughout this period, and since, the school roll has remained steady near its capacity of 430 students, support for Mrs Davidson’s statement that people and faith make the school, not its location. At the end of 2011 it was decided the school would move again to its current site at Catholic Cathedral College’s city campus. The old Marian College site on North Parade was cleared and the buildings were demolished in early 2016. The site has remained empty since.

Marian College is a diocesan school; it is owned by the Bishop of Christchurch on behalf of the Catholic Church. Final decisions about the school’s future have been on hold while the church appointed a new bishop after Bishop Barry Jones died in office in 2016. His successor, Bishop Paul Martin S.M., was appointed earlier this year and he will make the final decisions about the school’s future. Until those decisions are made, it is unclear what will happen with the North Parade site.

The Diocese is investigating sites which could be suitable for a new school. “We are hopeful for a decision in the near future,” Mrs Davidson says.

Lindsay Jago  
physiotherapy

67 North Avon Rd  
Ph: 03 381-0105  
Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Saturdays by appointment

# Social Housing for Richmond

We all know there is a housing shortage in New Zealand. Well, part of the solution is happening right here in Richmond. Housing New Zealand (HNZ) has recently completed new houses in Flesher Ave and Warden St, and is working on new accommodation in Alexandra St. But the largest project locally has been building replacements for the six state houses on the west side of Eveleyn Couzins Ave that were damaged in the 2010–11 earthquakes.

Those houses were part of the state housing boom of the 1940s & 50s and conformed to the standard plan of a standalone weatherboard family dwelling on its own section. That plan may have been suitable for 1950s but doesn't fit today's needs. Starting well before the earthquakes, Richmond has seen an increase in high-density housing replacing standalone houses and cottages. Some people deplore the change, but it reflects the wants and needs of New Zealanders today.

The development in Eveleyn Couzins Ave is being built in two stages. Stage 1 consists of 23 one-bedroom units in a three-storey block at the south end of the section. These are due to be ready for occupation in July. The tenants moving into the new apartments will be people most affected by the housing shortage. Housing New Zealand expects there will be a mix of singles, couples and small families in this complex. Placement of tenants is managed by Housing New Zealand. Tenants who meet the criteria for one of the new apartments will be offered a place; they do not have to accept the offer. Everyone who moves into these homes qualifies for social housing assistance through the Ministry of Social Development.

Housing New Zealand is the largest supplier of social housing in New Zealand. In Richmond, HNZ lost 44 houses to the red zone and have demolished another 49 post-earthquake. They have since completed 30 new houses in the area. As well as the Eveleyn Couzins site,

they have plans to build another eight homes in Alexandra Street later this year.

Fraser Benson, area manager of HNZ, sees this as an opportunity to update and improve the housing stock for people most affected by the housing shortage. He says that HNZ are planning an open day on the Eveleyn Couzins site for local people to view the complex and talk to HNZ staff. The date for the open day has not been finalised, but HNZ will advertise the date in the surrounding community. Construction has started on Stage 2 of the project, which will consist of 14 two-bedroom, two-storey units on the north end of the site. These are planned for completion later in the year.

There have been some misgivings amongst the local community about the scale of the new development and the associated noise and disruption of construction. Construction brings with it its own issues and problems; such issues are found all over our part of the city as various projects of private and public works take place to repair or replace earthquake-damaged properties. There is longer-term concern amongst some people in our community about the development of high-density housing in Richmond.

Perhaps we need to think about the costs of homelessness and the problems faced by people who cannot afford a decent place to live. We all need shelter; hopefully we can all enjoy safe housing that is warm and dry. These developments in Richmond are part of the solution for our nationwide housing shortage.

Let's leave the last word to Carol Penfold, Community Development Worker at Avebury House, which is next-door to the new development. Carol is keen to connect with the new residents and help them settle into their new homes. She says: "We look forward to welcoming our new neighbours into our warm Avebury community."

# Churchill Park Community Garden



By Mary Tingey

Churchill Park community garden is back on its feet after someone broke into our shed and stole all our tools. We spent many hours rebuilding the shed. The new shed was donated and the concrete supplied by Ashby's. The regular volunteer group and other Richmond locals built all the boxing and strengthened the shed.

The gardens have been revived and are looking good. The food in the garden is for the Delta Community Meals, Foodbank and volunteers. We work in the garden each Friday, 2:30–4:30 p.m. We welcome new volunteers.

Most of Delta's community garden at Delta House, 103 North Avon Rd will be closed from July 28. This in preparation for the Delta rebuild that will be taking place in 2019. A small garden will be left for Delta's kitchen. We will be joining Avebury House Community Garden and working there on Friday mornings, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 noon. We are glad to have this opportunity to work with Avebury House.

There will be a gardening and cooking course, '**Grow Your Own Free Lunch**' held on Thursdays at Avebury House from August 9.

Please contact Delta Community Trust on **(03) 389-0212** if you want more information, or just come and see us at Churchill Park on Friday afternoons.



Shirley Stream runs into Dudley Creek from the north; the two waterways combine at the eastern end of Julius Terrace. Like all our urban waterways, Shirley Stream has been 'highly modified' over the years through rural, then urban development, as Christchurch city has expanded. The stream has been confined within a narrow course and the banks largely cleared of vegetation. Back in the early 1990's Shirley Stream was the first stream restoration project that Christchurch City Council undertook and remnants of that planting are still evident. However, the stream remains in a degraded state.

Over the last few years, several families living along and near Shirley Stream have decided to try to do something about it. Since 2014 they've been getting together

about once a term to clear rubbish and debris from the waterway and keep an eye on water quality. This activity has evolved and grown into an informal group, 'Shirley Stream Care'. Paul Roper-Gee is a Shirley resident, landscape architect and a member of the group. He says it is a great way for local families to meet and help their children develop knowledge and understanding of the natural environment in their local community.

Recently the group discussed ideas with the City Council to take their involvement with the stream further and enhance the appearance and ecological values of the stream. Paul developed a planting plan for a section of the stream; the City Council supplied plants and arranged support from Citycare. The Shirley Stream Care group recently hosted a planting day at the end of May. The word spread and several dozen people of all ages arrived, from the local area and beyond, to help plant



a range of native shrubs and grasses along the stream banks from Orion St north for a few hundred metres. The weather was kind and everyone enjoyed the chance to commune with their local natural environment and each other.

The plants have been given the best chance to thrive by the application of weed-mats to suppress competing weeds and protective sleeves to provide shelter and a positive microclimate.

The Stream Care Group will work together with Council to maintain the plantings, and hope to undertake further planting and ecological enhancement along the stream in the years to come.



## Community Fridge & Pantry

By Rachel Thwaites

We have identified an opportunity to provide a "Community Fridge & Pantry"-style service to help those in need and to reduce food waste in Richmond. Our intention is that

Our Richmond team working on this include people from Delta, Presbyterian Support Services, Crossway Church and Richmond Community Garden. There are issues to work out, such as funding, opening hours, volunteer availability and location. We are also in a position to learn from the challenges faced by New Brighton Pantry and how they were overcome. Keep an eye out for more updates in future issues of Richmond Community News.

the pantry will be sited at Delta House and will link with the services already provided by Delta in supporting our community.

In June 2017, a community fridge & pantry was successfully set up by Trudy Burrows in New Brighton, to take excess food donated by the community and local businesses and share it with people in need. The fridge at Brighton is open daily from 7 a.m.–7 p.m. A dedicated group of volunteers check, pack and label all food, ensuring it is safe to share, and keep the fridge clean. Everybody is welcome to use the fridge on a 'take what you need, leave what you don't basis'.

### Emz Nook at the Richmond Club

New faces, new menu.

*Thursday club night roast and dessert \$17.00.  
Full menu, snacks, light meals, mains & kids' meals  
and blackboard specials.*

**\$12 Lunch menu:** *Fish & chips, Soup & chips  
Cottage Pie & chips, Small Roast*

Come down and see Emma and the team.

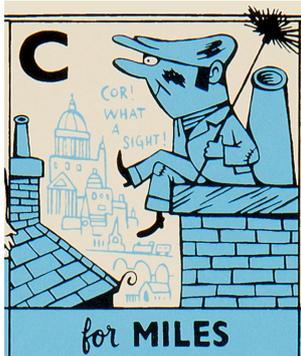
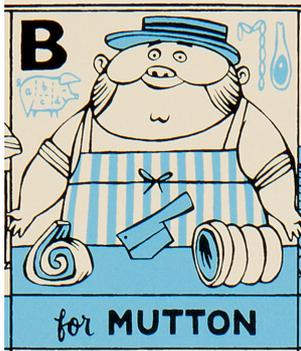
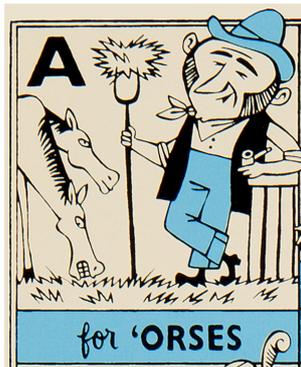
# Mind Yer Language

We hope to include a regular column related to language in future issues of the RCN. This month's column relates to the alphabet; not only a huge advance for written language but surely one of the great human ideas.

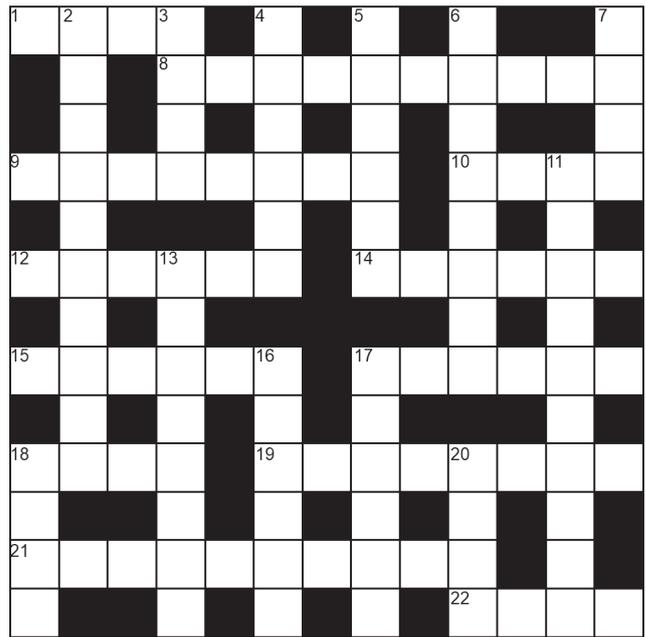
We are all familiar with the English alphabet, which we learn when young: *A is a for Apple, B is for Ball, etc.* Well, there are other ways of describing or memorising our alphabet. Many people will be familiar with the phonetic alphabet: *Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, etc.*, which was designed to assist accurate and unambiguous communication in difficult conditions.

Yet another variation on this theme is the Cockney alphabet — and it is much more amusing than either of the previous examples. No one knows quite how old this is and there are many variations. Even if you already know it, the Cockney alphabet continues to raise a smile.

- A for 'orses (hay for horses)
- B for mutton (beef or mutton)
- C for miles (see for miles)
- D for 'ential (deferential)
- E for Brick (heave a brick)
- F for 'vescence (effervescence)
- G for police (chief of police)
- H for retirement (age for retirement)
- I for Novello (Ivor Novello)
- J for oranges (Jaffa oranges)
- K for 'ancis, (Kay Francis)
- L for leather (Hell for leather)
- M for 'sis (emphasis)
- N for 'adig (infra dig.)
- O for the garden wall (over the garden wall)
- P for a penny (pee for a penny)
- Q for a bus (queue for a bus)
- R for mo' (half a mo')
- S for you (it's for you)
- T for two (tea for two)
- U for me (you for me)
- V for La France (vive la France)
- W for a quid (double you for a quid)
- X for breakfast (eggs for breakfast)
- Y for Gawd's sake (why, for God's sake)
- Z for breeze (zephyr breeze)



# Puzzle



## Across

1. Type of fish (4).
8. Commonwealth capital city (9).
9. Cut off top (8).
10. Horse's gait (4).
12. \_\_\_\_\_ State Building (6).
14. Person's assets (6).
15. Positive electrodes (6).
17. Indian city (6).
18. In statu quo (2-2).
19. Flows slowly (8).
21. Hunting dogs (9).
22. Ornamental scarf (4).

## Down

2. Flats (9).
3. Large water-bird (4).
4. Give satisfaction (6).
5. Ancient galley with two banks of oars (6).
6. Stirred up (8).
7. Rope joint (4).
11. Extravagant or offensive (9).
13. Diligence (8).
16. Breed of dog (6).
17. Unmarried woman (6).
18. Hair style popular in 1970s (4).
20. Osculate (4).

## Solutions to June's crossword:

Across: 1. Optimist 7. Inner 8. Termagant 9. Egg 10. Noir 11. Mirror 13. United nations 15. Astray 16. Wane 18. Let 20. Muttering 21. Agile 22. Argonaut.

Down: 1. Often 2. Termini 3. Moat 4. Station master 5. Enter 6. Wrights 7. Iterate 12. Bedtime 13. Unclear 14. Ocarina 15. Attic 17. Eight 19. Zero.

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# Matariki in the Zone 2018



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**Meeting Places in Richmond**  
 Hayley Guglietta's article in our June issue stated that 'there is nowhere for large groups (40+) to meet in our area.' Ian Burn of Delta Community Support Trust points out that this is not accurate; there are two spaces within Delta House on the corner of North Avon Rd and Chrystal St 'that can easily house 60 and 90 people.'  
 So, if you wish to host a large meeting, without going far afield, contact the good people at Delta: Audra Given, Delta Community Trust (Audra@deltatrust.org.nz).



Photos by Kristine Spoor



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# What's on in Richmond

**AVEBURY HOUSE,**  
9 Eveleyn Couzins Avenue  
Phone (03) 381-6615

The **Avebury Community Library** is open every day, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. in the Margaret Deakin Room at Avebury House.

## **Monday**

**Chit chat Club:** 10–10:30 a.m. The Chit Chat Club is for the older adults (55+) in our community to get together and have tea and a catch up.  
**Gentle Exercise:** 10:30–11:30 a.m. Gentle exercise class is led by a tutor who guides you through an exercise routine designed to keep those muscles moving! \$5/session.

## **Tuesday**

**Yoga:** 8:45–9:45 a.m. and 6–7 p.m. Join us for a good stretch! Beginners welcome. \$6/session.

## **Art Class:**

10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Bring a project along or work on some skills. Drop in anytime. \$5/session.

## **Wednesday**

**Richmond Community Garden:** From 9:30 a.m. onwards. We welcome volunteers, be they seasoned gardeners or newbies, to help create a beautiful veggie garden for our community to enjoy! Also Saturday, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

**Hugs All Round Quilting Group:** 1–3 p.m. We make quilts for children who need an extra hug. Join us to learn more about quilting; this includes machine and hand-sewing.

## **Thursday**

**Yoga:** 6:00–7 p.m. Join us for a good stretch! Beginners welcome. \$6/session. Also Tuesday morning.

**Hope Group:** NA. Thursdays 7:00–8.30 p.m.

## **SHIRLEY RECREATIONAL WALKERS**

**Mondays & Thursdays:** Meet at Shirley Community Centre site, cnr Shirley Rd & Chancellor St, 9:30 a.m. Walks around Christchurch. All ages welcome. For more information and a copy of the programme, contact Sue (03) 981-7071 or 027 775-4635.

**HOLY TRINITY AVONSIDE,**  
168 Stanmore Road,  
Ph 389-6948

## **Services**

**Parish Eucharist:** 9.30 a.m. every Sunday.  
**Prayer and Praise:** 11:00 a.m. on 3rd Sunday.  
**Quiet Eucharist:** 10:00 a.m. every Thursday.

## **Tuesday**

Every 6 weeks: **Foot Clinic** — start with a cuppa. Our registered nurse will clip your nails and then you will have a foot massage. Cost \$10. Next date is 24 July. Bookings essential. Ph: 389 6948

## **2nd Wednesday of Month**

**Wednesday Café:** From 11:30 a.m. Come enjoy friendly company, listen to a speaker or take part in an activity and join us for lunch. Small charge.

## **Thursday**

**Exercise Group:** 11:00 a.m. All abilities catered for, sitting and standing, cost \$4, followed by light refreshment.  
**Activities** at 1 p.m.: Knit, embroider, paint, play cards or board games.

## **4th Saturday of Month**

### **Association of Anglican**

**Women:** 10:30 a.m. We start with a hot drink before listening to a speaker or undertaking some activity together. Everyone is welcome.

## **Have you ever wondered what Christianity is about?**

Come to **Holy Trinity Avonside**, 168 Stanmore Road on Tuesdays from 17 July until 28 August, 10:00 a.m. to midday. Everyone welcome. Please register with parish office 389-6948.

## **CRYSTAL PALACE,** 12 Chrystal Street

Come belly dance with Soul Star Tribe: all ages, backgrounds, and fitness levels welcome! All classes \$10 casual. For more information, contact Sam: **027 6525 993**.

## **Friday**

Intermediate Skirt, 6:30 p.m.

## **Saturday**

Gypsy Caravan Beginners, 10 a.m. Gypsy Caravan Intermediate, 11 a.m.

**SHIRLEY LIBRARY,**  
36 Marshland Road  
(by the Palms Mall)  
Phone (03) 941-7923

## **Monday**

**Book Discussion Group:** 10:30–11:30 a.m. Second & fourth Monday of the month. \$60 for year.

**Activity Zone:** 3:45–4:45 p.m. After school club for 6–10-year olds. No charge.

## **Tuesday**

**J.P. Clinic:** 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Weekly. No charge.

**Storytimes/Wā Korero:** for over two-year-olds. 10:30–11 a.m. Weekly during term time. No charge.

## **Reading to Dogs:**

3:30–4:30 p.m. For age five plus. No charge, but book in advance.

## **Wednesday**

**Scrabble:** 1:30–3:30 p.m. No charge.

## **Thursday**

**Babytimes/Wā Pepi:** for under two-year olds. 10:30–11 a.m. Weekly during term time. **Book Discussion Group:** 6–7 p.m. Second Thursday of the month. \$60 for year.

## **Friday**

**Card Club:** 1.30–3.30 p.m. No charge.

## **Saturday**

**Super Saturday Storytimes:** 2–7-year olds. Weekly during term time. 11–11:45 a.m. No charge.

**Magic: The Gathering:** First Saturday of the month. For 8–18-year olds. From 1 p.m. No charge.

## **NORTH AVON BAPTIST CHURCH, 101 North Avon Road**

**Sunday Services:** Every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. at the Delta Community Trust building (Cnr of North Avon Rd and Chrystal St).

## **Mid-week Lunchtime Church**

**Service:** Join us for a friendly informal re-energising time of worship.

**Where:** North Avon Baptist Church, 101 North Avon Road.

**When:** Wednesdays 1–1:30 p.m.

All are welcome.

Senior Pastor Mary, North Avon Baptist Church.

**DELTA COMMUNITY TRUST**  
105 North Avon Road  
Phone (03) 389-0212

*Delta's Food Bank is generously supported by 'Z' petrol station Shirley.*

**Free bread,** Monday–Friday: 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m., as available.

## **Monday**

**Food Bank:** 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Free, some criteria apply.

**Footprints Café:** Coffee, rolls & toasted sandwiches, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Items as priced.

**Craft Group:** 10 a.m. –1 p.m.

**Addington Net:** Computer & tech help for all. 10 a.m.–12 noon.

## **Wednesday**

**English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL):** 10:00 a.m.–12:00 noon. \$2, at 103 North Avon Rd (next door to Delta). Pre-schoolers welcome.

**Food Bank:** 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Free, some criteria apply.

**Footprints Café:** Coffee, rolls & toasted sandwiches, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Items as priced.

**Fruit & Veggie Co-op:** \$12/\$6 a bag. Pay weekly in advance each Wednesday, great value.

## **Friday**

**Delta Inn:** 2-course community meal. Every Friday 12:00 noon, \$3.

## **Food Bank:**

10:00 a.m.–12 noon, & 1:00–2:00 p.m.

Free, some criteria apply.

**Second Hand Goods/Clothes store:** 1 p.m. Goods as priced.

## **Shirley International Playgroup:**

9.30 a.m.–11.30 a.m. at the Shirley Hub, 69B Briggs Road. For mums & under 5's from refugee & migrant backgrounds – playgroup & English class. \$2/session or \$10/term.

**Gardening:** 10:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Mary welcomes interested volunteers to help her in the Delta vegetable garden.