



## *An Avebury Childhood*

*By Lois Daly*

After James A. Flesher died in 1930, his son Hubert de Rie Flesher inherited Avebury. Hubert, and his wife Ella lived there with their two children, Roger and Barbara, until 1945, when the Crown became the owner.

Recently, I spoke with Barbara about her memories from the time when she was a child at Avebury. Her bedroom was the room under the turret. Here are some snippets of memories she shared.

The first vivid memory she talked about was going to school. In her early years at school, during the war, travelling to and from St. Margaret's was not the kind of journey many children might have today (e.g. shuttled in an SUV). She recalled walking down the long drive to the Avebury entrance on North Avon Road, where the terminus for the Richmond bus was. Getting to the Junior School in Papanui Road necessitated first taking the bus to the Square, and then the Papanui tram.

The family had a maid, not live-in, but who cycled from the orphanage each day. The maid she remembered best was Gladys, who sometimes gave her a ride on her bicycle down to get the bus.

As well as a maid, her parents employed a gardener who helped to maintain the lawns, extensive flower garden, vegetables and orchard ("including a beautiful cherry orchard"). With the vegetable garden, orchard, and a house cow (milked by her father and avoided by Barbara - "I didn't want to get kicked"), the family was obviously well supplied with fresh



*From top: A young Barbara; Roger and Barbara Flesher.*

food. An artesian well provided water. "We loved putting our hands over the end of the pipe, so that the pressure built up and sprayed high when we took our hands away". Also, Barbara liked climbing up the high back wall to see the whare with Maori carvings in Willie Bassett's garden. Willie Bassett's property fronted River Road and is now a part of the Richmond Community Garden.

The children were both interested in sport, so the tennis court behind the house (now the children's play area and paddling pool) was an asset. She said that, because she was the younger sibling, she played what her brother was keen on, and she had vivid memories of playing cricket, "on the drive and the front lawn – but it had to be with proper wickets, not with a box or any other substitute!"

Barbara obviously later became more comfortable with animals, because she married a farmer, and is now a knowledgeable gardener with a lovely country garden.

*Acknowledgement: I enjoyed meeting Barbara Taggart (née Flesher) at her home, and would like to thank her for sharing her memories, and for permission to use two of the family snapshots.*

We could never have loved the earth so well if we had had no childhood in it.  
*George Eliot, The Mill on the Floss, 1860*

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

Editorial: Tanya Didham.  
Layout: Kristine Spoor.

Many thanks to our team who deliver the RCN to 2800 households and businesses throughout Richmond.

The RCN is now available online:  
[www.aveburyhouse.co.nz/newsletter.html](http://www.aveburyhouse.co.nz/newsletter.html)

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

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against  
COVID-19



## The Golden Rules for life at Alert Level 3

1. Stay home. If you are not at work, school, exercising or getting essentials then you must be at home, the same as at Alert Level 4.
2. Work and learn from home if you can. We still want the vast majority of people working from home, and children and young people learning from home. At-risk students and staff should also stay at home, and they will be supported to do so. Early learning centres and schools will physically be open for up to Year 10 for families that need them.
3. Make your business COVID-19 safe. COVID-19 has spread in workplaces, so the quid pro quo of being able to open is doing it in a way that doesn't spread the virus.
4. Stay regional. You can exercise at parks or beaches within your region, but the closer to home the better. Activities must be safe – keep 2 metres away from anybody not in your bubble. Make minimal trips.
5. Keep your bubble as small as possible. If you need to, you can expand your bubble a small amount to bring in close family, isolated people or caregivers.
6. Wash your hands often with soap. Then dry them. Cough and sneeze into your elbow.
7. If you are sick, stay at home and quickly seek advice from your GP or Healthline about getting a test. There is no stigma to COVID-19. We will only be successful if everyone is willing to play their part in finding it wherever it is.

For more information go to [Latest Updates](#).



Red zone rambblers.

## AVEBURY AT ALERT LEVEL 3

**At Alert Level 3 Avebury House remains closed.**

**We will open our doors again when we drop to Alert Level 2.** At that point we will likely resume most of our regular classes. Continued social distancing of 1m will mean some classes, yoga for example, may require booking. We will notify who to contact and changes as they happen via our facebook page, website ([www.aveburyhouse.co.nz](http://www.aveburyhouse.co.nz)), and in the Richmond Community News.

Meanwhile, with the house not being used, our cameras continually monitor activity, and we have security folk go through every day, keeping an eye on our property and the gardens out back. Richmond Community Gardeners who live within walking distance have been looking after their space. Apart from one or two acts of vandalism/theft, overall we are still seeing lots of people using the park for their dose of nature and exercise. It's great to see people getting the benefit of the river corridor - riding, walking, running, kayaking – and it is looking spectacular in its Autumn colours.

Until Alert Level 2, Avebury staff are still working from home. If you are thinking about a future booking, or have an idea for something you want to do when the house re-opens, or if you want to write something for the RCN, email us at: [admin@aveburyhouse.co.nz](mailto:admin@aveburyhouse.co.nz) We are checking emails daily.

For information on Alert Levels click [here](#).

## An Intern Abroad – Chapter One

By Brandon Shaughnessy

Standing at the airport security gate, I gave my mom a final hug. It didn't help when she started tearing up because it made the goodbye that much sadder. Nonetheless, I was filled with optimism, because for the first time in my life I was leaving the United States and boarding a flight to New Zealand. I had grown up in colorful Colorado, on the doorstep of the Rockies, playing soccer competitively and trying my best in school. Growing up, I rarely traveled. By the time I was entering my fourth year of high school (or senior year as us Americans call it), I had only visited a handful of neighboring states in order to meet family or compete in tournaments. **As an eighteen-year-old, I hadn't even seen the ocean as it is a two-day drive to the nearest beach.** I had met a lot of people like me growing up: people that mostly stayed in the same place, however, I knew there was more to the world than just Colorado. There are so many beautiful landscapes and different cultures to experience, and I was prepared to leave the comfort of my home to see them.

I was truly blessed when the perfect opportunity presented itself to me, spending a semester abroad in college. Before even starting the application process, I knew I wanted to go to beautiful New Zealand. As a child, I remember watching a movie unlike any other. It was almost magical how the film captivated my imagination. None other than masterpiece, 'Lord of the Rings'. My brother said it was filmed in New Zealand, and that day I promised myself I was going to visit that magical place. So in short, I was totally nerding-out because I got to travel halfway across the world to visit Middle-Earth.

Ironically, when I landed in Aotearoa, exploring mountains and wandering through forests was the last thing on my mind. I texted my mom, of course, that I had landed safely. On the way to my accommodation, my eyes were glued to the window taking in every bit of detail I could; I was fascinated at driving on the left side of the road. Compared to home, the cars in New Zealand seemed very tiny. Even crazier, the one-lane roads felt very, very small to me. Just behind my house lays a six-lane street, three going each way.

**I found myself sitting in my room alone surrounded by empty walls, a desk, and two suitcases.** Not only was I jet-lagged, I was hungry as well. However, I didn't have access to wifi and I still had my international sim card, so I had no way of finding directions to the nearest

market. It was at that moment I truly pondered my decision to leave home. Silence surrounded me, my family was far away, and I was in a foreign place all by myself. I did my best not to cry, made my bed, and finally fell asleep.



When I woke up, I sat there among my thoughts for an hour or two then the flat door opened and a smile came across my face - here was my first roommate. He said 'hello' in a very northern English accent, and we compared how miserable our flights were. Our internal clocks were still funky, after some more sleep we found ourselves shopping at New World the minute it opened at dawn. I found it funny the store forced us to walk through the healthy fruits and vegetables section before we could access the rest of the store, since American supermarkets would never do such a thing. I was used to Costco and Walmart, so I found the New World to be quite small. I browsed every aisle looking for familiar food brands. Apart from Kellogg's, Coca Cola, and Pepsi, all of the food brands were new to me. Even crazier, all of the items had a health star rating, so now I felt even more guilty buying unhealthy food. In my first year of college I went to a dining hall for every meal - this was my first time buying and preparing food for myself.

*While attending the University of Canterbury as an exchange student, Brandon spent some time as an intern at Avebury House. The covid outbreak saw him returning abruptly to the U.S. at the end of March. Follow his New Zealand adventure over the next few issues.*

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# Greta the Duck

By Lauri Lee In-Jung Shore

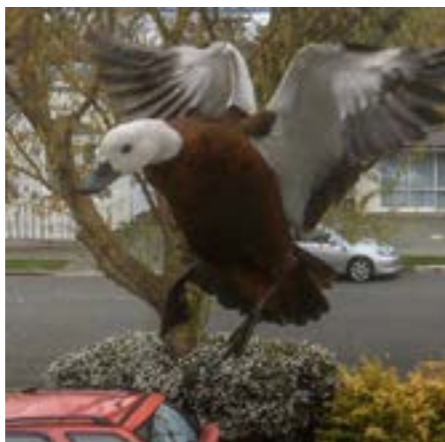
Greta flew into my life the morning after The Dogs' Day Out 2019, having spent the previous night on top of a mobile home.

And by flew I mean she flew up at my second storey window again and again, seeking our attention. She was so persistent, we conceded, and as a result she inveigled herself into our hearts.

I sought advice from various bird mavens on what to feed her, and hoped respite was what this flustered Pari needed before returning to the river. She engaged us with her bright dark eyes, and fearless vocal bossiness charging at us and then demurring, her way of asking to be fed. She shrieked at passing dogs and stalking cats, though made an exception for my own friendly cat. I named her Greta after learning she had flown alongside Climate Change strikers as they cycled into town. Some know her as Jemima.

We encouraged her down to the river, and realised it was not just her fear of dogs that had scared her into our lives, but intense territorial disputes with other pairs of Paradise Shelducks. They would turn up to the driveway for shrieking matches and aerial dog fights. Poor single Greta was no match for the tag-team pair bullying, and would sometimes hide from these attacks.

During her last moult she lost the few dark feathers left on her snowy white head suggesting she was still young and yet to find a mate. I tried to introduce her to a single male Shelduck, he made friendly overtures, but she became distressed, cautioning him if he approached too close. It's likely one of the pairs of Shelducks driving her off were her parents which squeezed her between them and an aggressive downstream pair. A recently dead female was likely from that pair. Because of Greta's unusual nature we worried she would not know



what to do when she was supposed to go for the moult, but I needn't have worried. We did our evening walk to the river early and she swam over but didn't fly up as normal to demand an extra feed. The next day she was gone. During the summer we searched for likely moult sites but were never able to identify her.

Then earlier this year, she was back around her Swanns Rd bridge site. She seems happy down there loudly defending her territory. My husband and I have visited her a few times, but we are careful lest she feels like re-domesticating herself. She has lots of people who care, who stop by to say hello, some who feed her. If you do feed Greta please don't feed her bread, as this isn't good for either waterfowl or the river's health. She likes Topflight Lucky Duck feed sprinkled on the ground in front of her and loves a few dried mealworms. Also a big bowl of clean water with some clover and sometimes dandelion or puha greens chopped small floating in it. I could never get her interested in peas.

Greta is Richmond and Avonside's neighbourhood Paradise Shelduck. We wish her the best in her interactions with people, may they always be well-meaning, and we hope someday she will have a mate who understands her special personality quirks and helps her keep her territory.

There is also a [Greta The Richmond Paradise Shelduck facebook group](#).

## Tuition

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Been using the red zone during lockdown? Greening the Red Zone would love to hear your stories! Get in touch with them at [greeningtheredzone@gmail.com](mailto:greeningtheredzone@gmail.com)

# WHO'S OPEN LOCALLY?



We Are Richmond is the on-line presence of the Richmond Residents' and Business Association. They have been working hard setting up a local directory on their website to keep you updated about who's open locally and who isn't, during the Covid outbreak. If you are not on this directory and would like to be – let them know - they would love to capture all local businesses, big and small, to encourage people to support local. You'll find the directory at this [link](#). Below is a partial list of businesses that are open.

Visit the We Are Richmond [website](#) and pop onto their [Facebook page](#). Give them a 'like' to keep in the Richmond loop! If you would like to become a member or want to be added to the list of businesses trading, you can do so simply by emailing: [secretary@wearerichmond.co.nz](mailto:secretary@wearerichmond.co.nz).

## Shop Local

**Akiva Limited** supplies cloud based technologies to businesses, internet connections, SIP phones and business technology. We also do home wiring, wifi, security systems. 03 9827180.t

All Suburbs Glass. Available for all your glazing needs. 24 Petrie Street, Richmond. 03 3386860.

**Bin Inn** is open from 9.30am-3.30pm Mon-Sat. There will be a limitation of customer numbers in store and no own containers refill at this stage. We still offer contactless home delivery service at the meantime. 341A Stanmore Road. 03 381 5199.

**Bombay Brasserie** will be open for Takeaways during Level 3. 74 North Avon Road. 03 389 9978.

**Burger Station** 3/249 Stanmore Road. 03 6660546.

**Chillax Filipino Restaurant and Cafe** are available for deliveries and contactless-pickup. Check out their website for menu and ordering. 249 Stanmore Road. 03 2601649..

**Cocopelli** is open during Level 3 for contactless pickup and delivery service through ordering app Extraorder from the app store. Min \$20 order, delivery within 7km \$5 fee. 18 Marshland Road. 386 2220.

**Coffee Skills** is open at Covid Level 3 for contactless Coffee Deliveries, call for details. 027 9433503.

**Coffee Vice.** Text Paul and collect, Coffees, Hot Choc, Chais, Thickshakes, Iced Coffee, Iced Choc, Iced Chai, Muffins James is also doing there local contactless deliveries. 0224019911.

**Dan's Fresh Produce** is open and has a 5 person in policy and they have installed a perspex screen and contactless pay wave payment. 231 Stanmore Road. 03 389 9570.

**Flower Bazaar** is open for deliveries and collections – contactless outside shop. Some flower stocks will be limited but we will work with you to create something special to suit your requirements. 406 Innes Road. 03 386 1711.

**Indian Grill** the perfect place to get your favourite Hyderabadi dum BIRYANI and all other Indian grill's delicious curries, and see all of your smiling faces again. 90 Hills Road. 03 385 0050.

**Indian Paradise** are taking phone orders or you can order online by clicking onto their website. 270 Stanmore Road. 03 381 1738.

**John Rhind Funeral Directors** is open. We are determined to provide the best care and guidance for you at this difficult time. 19 London Street. 03 379 9920.

**Nanny's Food Truck** is open for online orders with future pick ups in Covid Level 3. Click on their weblink for more details. 32 Avalon Street. 027 344 6657.

**New World Stanmore** is open 7am-9pm everyday, social distancing procedures will still be in place during Covid 19 Level 3. 300 Stanmore Road. 03 3897617.

**North Avon Medical Centre** are open with limited service please contact them to be triaged before you make an appointment. 28 North Avon Road. 03 3896655.

**North Avon Pharmacy** is open normal hours, social distancing regulations apply so please knock or phone in for access, if you are ill they ask that you phone in before you come into the store. 28 North Avon Road. 03 389 6275.

**Richmond Drycleaners** we are able to pick up, dryclean and drop off any clothing, bedding etc that anyone requires starting Tuesday 28th April. Contact us on our Facebook page or call 03 3896995. 71 North Avon Road.

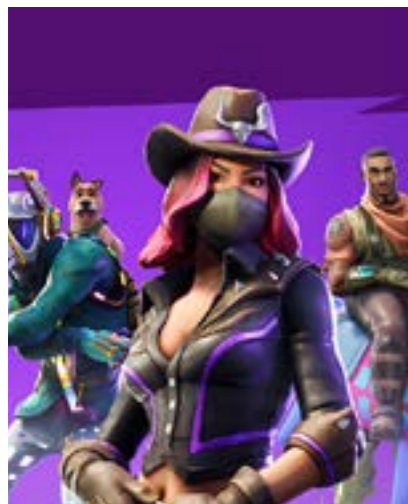
**Sun Ning Takeaways** will be open in the afternoons and evenings. Phone orders are preferred during this time, click on their website link for the full menu. 273 Stanmore Road. 03 3893113.

**The Food Factory** is open normal trading hours during Covid 19 Level 3, 6 in store at any one time and they have in place strict hygiene and personal distancing rules. 239 Stanmore Road. 03 3738924.



# Mind Yer Language: Another Fortnite (TM)?

By Tanya Didham



Going into lockdown some people joked (or maybe they were serious) about learning a new language. In my bubble, I have been learning the language of *Fortnite*. For those of you without access to anyone between the ages of 10 and 16, *Fortnite*

is a surreal, multiplayer, video game, in which gamers from around the world can interact and live chat. It has three modes: 'Save the World', where you and up to three friends take on the zombie hordes; 'Battle Royale' starting with 100 players, ending with one; and 'Creative', where players can free-roam, build and create their own environments. It's like social media, but in a whacky, alternate universe you can build, fly and shoot each other in. Players collect various character avatars which are called 'skins' – anything from a viking to a walking fish. Skins come with 'back-bling' – a sort of bizarre back-pack which could be an actual bag, or a sloth, or a small hovering ufo... There's a huge variety of victory dances you can purchase called 'emotes'. None of these items improve gameplay or offer any strategic value, they just cost 'v-bucks' (in-game currency that costs real money to get...Caveat Emptor!). You can be a 'sweat' or 'sweaty beast' (impressive player) or a 'sweaty noob' (annoying try-hard - noob derived from newbie). You can 'no-scope, one-tap' an enemy (kill from a distance with one shot, without zooming in to aim). That would be a 'beast' move and 'O.G.' (Original Gangster). If you are building you are 'cranking' and if you're 'cranking 90s', you're building a tower very fast, with zero respect for physics or gravity, to escape a shooter and gain strategic height. Need a pee-break? You can 'go AFK' (away from keyboard). In the midst of a game I overheard my son say to his mate, "Oh yeah, bush camp is one of the most OP strats in the game." This translated to "Hiding in a bush and killing people is one of the most dominant (Over-Powered) strategies in the game [of Battle Royale]." We've come a long way since Spacies. At the end I hear the familiar sign-off.. 'Gotta go guys, G.Gs' (Good Games).

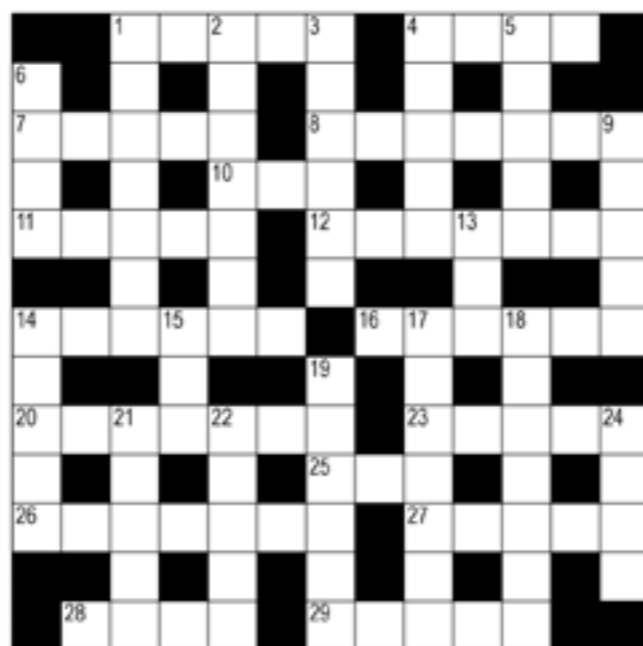
# Puzzle Crossword

## Across

1. Recover (5)
4. Indian prince (4)
7. Stone monument (5)
8. Best situation (7)
10. Male cat (3)
11. Not here (5)
12. Depart suddenly (7)
14. Stretch (6)
16. Conical tent (6)
20. Temper fit. (7)
23. Avarice (5)
25. For each (3)
26. Fundamental (7)
27. Turn away (5)
28. Snare (4)
29. Surrender (5)

## Down

1. Clothing (7)
2. Portable lamp (7)
3. Small landholder (archaic) (6)
4. Religious observances (5)
5. Large elephant (5)
6. Improvised jazz singing (4)
9. Small insect (5)
13. Signal (3)
14. Go in (5)
15. Consume (3)
17. Inscribe (7)
18. Make believe (7)
19. Use (6)
21. Lowest point (5)
22. Summarise (5)
24. Palm fruit (4)



## Solution to April Crossword

**Across:** 1. Westminster 8. Narrows 9. Romeo 10. Onyx 11. Emirate 12. Red 13. Urge 15. Late 17. Tie 19. Debacle 20. Idea 23. Route 24. Spanish 25. Disgruntled.

**Down:** 1. Window 2. Stray 3. Moon 4. Nested 5. Terrible 6. Rampart 7. Spoken 12. Rescuers 14. Rebound 16. Adored 17. Teaser 18. Washed 21. Drill 22. Gain.



# What Lockdown Level 3 means for Delta

Here at Delta we are all doing our bit to keep everyone safe. We are keen to engage with people in the community but we also need to be mindful of people's health and safety at this current time. So unfortunately that means we can't yet open our doors to the public, and a lot of our programmes aren't able to run in the normal way.

But that doesn't mean we're taking a holiday! We are continuing to work with our existing higher need clients - phoning about 150 people a week to keep in touch, show we care, and help them feel connected during this isolating time. Dropping to Level 3 means we are also now able to take cooked meals to our older adults (over 65's) from our 'Evergreen Club' programme, along with some activities and crafts for them to do.

To all our lovely Delta Volunteers – we miss you, and we will be in touch once we are in a position to have you back helping again.



Our new 0800 phone number, **0800 2 DELTA (0800 233 582)** is being answered remotely Mon to Fri between the hours of 10am and 2pm. Please do call us if you have any questions, or need our help.

## How we are supporting our community:

Our Foodbank is still OPEN. We are operating it in a non-contact form, so if you are living in Richmond or a neighbouring suburb and you are struggling financially, please call us and we will arrange for a food parcel to be delivered right to your door.

We are still accepting referrals for FREE counselling, advocacy and budget advice, which are currently being run via phone or online sessions. If you need any of these services please call us and we can arrange for someone to help you.

## How YOU can support us

If you would like to support us to help others in need, we would gladly welcome donations in the following way:

Putting non-perishable items (like cans of food or packets of biscuits etc) in the Delta collection bins at Stanmore New World, or Moorhouse Pak 'N Save when you shop at those supermarkets.

Donate to our [Givealittle page](#).

Deposit directly into our bank account:

**Delta Community Support Trust**  
**03-1700-0122695-00**

Keep safe and we look forward to seeing you all again soon.



## The Garden Goes On



The Richmond Community Garden are not holding their regular garden sessions but if you are walking through you may see some of the team working alone here and there following a covid plan, we would also ask the community to be guardians of the site and keep an eye out for us. Community harvesting, 'take a little, leave a lot'



Please help us out by filling in this [survey](#) regarding our Artisan Shed! The shed will be a space for artists to create, and share their skills with the community. We would like to gauge interest and create a space that is desired by the community.

## Council Notices

Starting on **Tuesday 28th April**...Buses will be moving to a Saturday timetable running Monday to Saturday, with the Sunday service running on Sundays, (for most services). The physical distancing requirement will mean that - depending on the vehicle - a smaller number of passengers than usual can be carried. The number will depend on the size of the vehicle, but will generally be between 7 and 11.

<http://www.metroinfo.co.nz/>

**Kerbside recycling** will resume from **May 4th**. For our Materials Recovery Facility to work recycling bins must be free of contamination from non-recyclables. Continue using your yellow bin correctly, and remember to leave space between your bins so drivers don't need to adjust them for collection. Click [here](#) for more information.

Only the following items can be recycled:

- Clean paper;
- Clean cardboard
- Aluminium cans;
- Clear and coloured glass bottles and jars - lids in red bin;
- Metal tins;
- Coloured plastic containers such as yoghurt containers, tomato sauce, fabric softeners - lids in red bin;
- Aerosol cans;
- Clear or frosted plastic bottles such as soft drink or milk bottles - lids in red bin; and
- Empty household cleaning containers - lids in red bin.

The **EcoDrop transfer stations** at Parkhouse Road, Bromley and Styx Mill will reopen to the public when the country moves to Alert Level 3. Residents will be able to drop off rubbish, greenwaste, hazardous items and select recycling. Reusable items will not be accepted as the Eco Shop is still not open. Strict controls for contact-tracing means **people will need a booking to drop off their material**. <http://www.ecocentral.co.nz/>

Council's **building and infrastructure projects** will resume under Level 3.

**Community facilities**, such as libraries, pools, sports facilities and playgrounds will remain closed, although the Botanic Gardens will open.

"While normal social activities are still curtailed under the Level 3 restrictions, we can get a lot more economic activity happening. This is a significant milestone for the city and will help us chart the way forward as we begin the journey to recovery." - Mayor Lianne Dalziel



### A Community Message from Senior Sergeant Roy Appley

#### Support through local Civil Defence Emergency Management Groups

For people who have an urgent need for essential supplies and do not have the means or transport to get it themselves, they can contact their local Civil Defence Emergency Management Group (CDEM) for help. This service is intended for people and whānau who do not have any other options available to them. The service operates seven days a week from 7am to 7pm.

Canterbury CDEM COVID-19 lockdown phone: **0800 24 24 11**

#### Public Safety: SCAMS

Unfortunately there will always be those criminally-minded people who will seek to take advantage of others during difficult times. I recommend you trust your gut instinct and always seek a second opinion about any offer that seems to be too good to be true. If you feel unsure about something then you are probably right.

No credible organisation will seek to contact you directly or ask you for personal details at this time. Even if they did there will never be a problem in delaying your response until you have checked the validity of any offer.

A current scam is an offer of winning a \$1000 grocery voucher. You are required to give personal information to go into the draw. **Not legitimate**.

Another involves emails seeking information about your health. You are asked to provide personal information including cell phone numbers. Once the scammer has your details, your email and phone are locked until a ransom is paid. **Not legitimate**.

Please be careful with emails you are not expecting or can't trust the source of.

Good strong communities are those where individuals care about their communities and work hard to support all the members of that community through proactive messaging and reassuring delivery of services. Please continue to work hard for your community as New Zealand is well known for its capability due largely to the efforts of the volunteer groups which make up our society. My thanks to you all for your selfless attention to others.

*Senior Sergeant Roy Appley  
Community Services Manager  
Christchurch Metro/Acting Area  
Prevention Manager*  
☎ **03 363 7400** | **DDI 0211921311**  
[roy.appley@police.govt.nz](mailto:roy.appley@police.govt.nz)



### Student Volunteer Army: Grocery Delivery Service

I'm pleased to let you know that the Student Volunteer Army Grocery Delivery Service is fully operational throughout Christchurch (including Kaiapoi, Rangiora and Rolleston).

The SVA Grocery Delivery Service (in partnership with New World), enables people who cannot go to the supermarket to get groceries. You can order online or via **0800 005 902** using a debit or credit card. A screened and vetted volunteer collects the items from the supermarket and delivers them to the door. SVA then charges the pre-authorized credit card with the exact amount spent at the supermarket following delivery.

Head to [www.sva.org.nz](http://www.sva.org.nz) to shop, or call our friendly team on **0800 005 902**.

*Sam Johnson*