Avebury House: 9 Eveleyn Couzins Avenue Phone: 381-6615 Email: rcn@aveburyhouse.co.nz

Vol. No 21 No. 2 March 2023 Issue 172

The Steadfast & The Doctor

By Tanya Didham



Four-year-old barque 'Steadfast' arrived in Port Cooper (Lyttelton) on the 8th of June, 1851. It made good time, arriving 101 days after shipping out from Gravesend, on February 27th. It was scheduled to leave on the 26th, but on discovering he was boarding a 'temperance-principled' boat, the ship's carpenter had scarpered.

Captain Spencer had to quickly find a chap who could manage 3 months dry! A couple of days in, two Irish stowaways were discovered in the hold - they just had to see the amazing Canterbury Settlement! Also on board, Dr. John Seager Gundry was heading out to start a new life with his wife and children, in Britain's new colony. He worked his passage as the ship's Surgeon-Superintendent, a role second only to the Captain. Gundry and Spencer got on well, and the doctor also became fast friends with passenger Edward Fooks. (Fooks went on to design local villa, 'Englefield', for his uncle William Guise Brittan.) On arriving Dr Gundry penned an account for *The Lyttelton Times**, describing the journey as a happy one, even if it started out a little rocky:

"In crossing the Bay of Biscay, sea-sickness, with all its horrors and selfishness, was, of course rife amongst us. The females especially suffered, but the 'Steadfast' showed a clean pair of heels and we soon left the Bay behind us..."

Once they'd found their sea-legs, the tee-total passengers were a jolly bunch and always up for socialising:

"This evening all hands were mustered on the main deck for dancing, both cabin and steerage passengers united most cordially in the amusement, which was prolonged until 10 o'clock, when 'God Save the Queen', and three hearty cheers for Capt. Spencer, was the signal for turning in."

The Lyttelton Times had also published 2 gushing thank you letters to Captain Spencer**, one from a collective of passengers, and one from the good doctor - who now

heaped on more praise and made humble mention of himself:

"Our excellent Captain appeared delighted with the happiness that pervaded all his passengers, and his kind manner to one and all, will be long remembered by us with deep and heartfelt gratitude. Dr Gundry also, although somewhat invalided, did everything possible to promote harmony and good feeling amongst us..."



Dr Gundry came from Avebury in Wiltshire. When he bought 50 acres of Christchurch riverside property for £150, in the burgeoning suburb of Bingsland, he named it 'Avebury Farm'. A small cottage was built for the dairy farm manager, while Dr Gundry's home and surgery were on Cashel St. However just 7 short years later he returned to England, disenchanted with the uncultured antipodes and an unsuccessful run at parliament. It was not until 1871 that upwardly mobile shoemaker, Willliam Flesher bought 25 acres of Gundry's land, building 'Avebury House' for his family in 1885.

Dr Gundry went on to become a vicar in Devon. He kept a brief but fascinating diary of his Canterbury adventure, which was published by Nag's Head Press in 1982. A copy survives in the City Libraries Collection. Only 300 were printed, if you've seen one, we'd love to know!

*https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers/ LT18510628.2.4

** <u>https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers/</u> LT18510621.2.5 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 available in colour by email and archived online: www.aveburyhouse.co.nz/newsletter.html

Contact us at: rcn@aveburyhouse.co.nz or ring Avebury House: 03 381 6615.

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The Wit of Sam

My wife wants me to blow air on her whenever she overheats, but honestly... I'm not a fan.

I wrote a book on how to fall down stairs. It's a step by step guide.

Job interviewer: Where do you see yourself in 5 years' time?

Me: I would say my biggest weakness is listening.

Illustration by Stephanee Terris



Next three markets: 4th March, 1st April & 6th May. Cor Worcester st & Stanmore Rd 10am to 1pm (cancelled if wet) Music, dancing, all sorts of stalls & fundraising raffle!



Vintage Market at Avebury House

Bringing all things retro and vintage, the Vintage Market at Avebury House has set dates for this year's markets! Come for some quirky bargains, a bite to eat, and as always the mellow tones of busker Jerry Taukamo.

This year's dates are: 2 April, 11 June, 3 September, 21 Oct (Spring Fair), 19 November.

Council Consultation - Avebury Playground Upgrade!

As a cherished community asset, we at Council want to ensure Avebury Playground meets the needs of everyone who uses it. We're seeking your feedback



to help us decide what kind of play equipment gets installed. The paddling pool will not be impacted by this upgrade.

Make your voice heard and help shape the future of Avebury Playground by visiting ccc.govt.nz/aveburyplayground before 22 March 2023.

Tuition

English, Maths (Y1-Y12) Qualified local teacher, structured programmes, supporting school learning.

P: **021 1978383** or

E: katharineabeaumont@gmail.com

Clarinet, Sax, Flute, Guitar, Bass, & Piano — Experienced local teachers. Phone Nicola & Ivan

(03) 385-3856.



Allan the Appliance Guy will collect *for free* scrap metal, old appliances, computers, dvd players etc.
No printers pls.

Call him on 027 756 2718.

Rateable Valuations & Rates

We Are Richmond (RRBA) have been fielding questions from residents on what the large lift in rateable valuations means in relation to CCC rates. So we raised this with Council and they shared the following information:

2022 General Revaluation

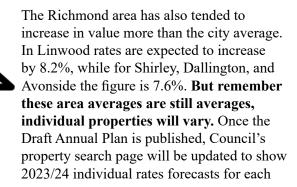
The Council is required to revalue all properties in the district for rating purposes every three years. This does not affect the Council's overall rates income at all, but it does affect the distribution of those rates between different ratepayers. QV are our valuation service provider – they determine the valuations on the Council's behalf.

The revaluation determines for each property a capital value, land value, and improvement value. It's the capital value that is used for rating purposes in Christchurch. This figure is based on actual sale prices for similar properties in the weeks and months around, in this instance, 1 August 2022.

On average, Christchurch residential properties increased in value by 47.7%, however, some areas have increased in value by more than others. For example houses in Linwood increased on average by 52.7%, while houses in Shirley, Dallington and Avonside hit an average of 51.2% - both above the Christchurch average.

The Council is currently planning an overall residential rates increase 5.66% (TBC). But some properties will be charged a higher percentage, and some a lower one,

based on the individual valuations. Basically if your house valuation has increased by more than 47.7%, your rates increase will be higher than 5.66%; and if your house valuation increased by less than 47.7%, your rates increase will be lower than 5.66%.



property.

Ratepayers should have received their valuations in the post from Monday 13 February. They are also available on the Council's website (searchable by address) at ccc.govt.nz/services/rates-and-valuations/rates-and-valuation-search. You can object to a valuation, directly to QV, at ratingvalues.co.nz.

The next RRBA Meeting Working Group will be held on 28 March at 7pm. Venue TBA. Learn about and share local issues, discuss and create solutions together, and get involved! We welcome residents and new members at any time, all are welcome. For more info email secretary@wearerichmond.co.nz



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- L Slater



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Richmond Community Garden March Events

Bottling Purple Peaches

When: Sat 4 March, 10am Where: Avebury House Kitchen

Cost: \$25 per person

Join Hayley & Cathy to learn how to

preserve purple peaches: Bottling using the overflow method these are so yummy, with your cereal, yogurt, ice cream, smoothies, custard, dark chocolate, or simply by themselves.



So You Want to be a Beekeeper

When: Sat 11 March, 10am

Where: Riverlution Eco Hub, 46A Vogel St

Cost: \$30 per person

Come along for a morning session to learn what you will need, the compliance

requirements, the costs, as well as practical time in a live hive where we will show you what happens inside, and things like how heavy the boxes are! You will even take home some honey that you have harvested. Gear provided.

Repair Riverlution

When: Tues 21 March, 5pm-7pm

Where: Riverlution Eco Hub, 46A Vogel St

Wānanga Ikura for whānau

When: Wed 22 March, 5:30pm Where: Riverlution Eco Hub The Para Kore Wānanga Ikura aims to provide a safe space to learn about te ao Māori understandings of our Ikura (menstrual cycle/s), and to raise awareness about the



waste associated with menstrual products. By allowing space for whanaungatanga and korero about our ikura to occur, we will work together in understanding how to



best care for ourselves and for Papatūānuku.

The whakapapa of the word ikura reminds us that as wāhine Māori, we were fashioned by atua at Kurawaka. The many

names for our menstrual flow in te ao Māori signals our connection to atua, to our lands, to generations before and those yet to come. For more info or to book contact: miriama@parakore.maori.nz

Free Green Waste Day

When: Sat 25 March, 10am

Where: Riverlution Eco Hub, 46A Vogel St

Come along to the Riverlution Eco Hub for our free green

waste day drop off.

Garden Working Bees

When: Mondays, Wednesdays, &

Saturdays, 10am

Where: Richmond Community

Garden

Late Night Gardening

When: Thursdays, 6pm - 8pm Where: Richmond Community

Garden

For more information contact Moragne at admin@richmondcommunitygarden.co.nz

And of course we'll be at The Richmond Gala!

Teacups for Devonshire!

Avebury's Devonshire Teas are always a hit, but they sure do keep our volunteer dishwashers busy! If you have any china teacups you'd like to give a good home, we'd love to add them to our collection! Give us a call on **381 6615**, or pop into Avebury House during office hours, 9am - 1pm weekdays.

On March 18, we'll have the good china out! Come to the Gala for a scone with cream and jam, and a dainty cup of tea!





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The Richmond Gala - March 18



Coming up on Saturday the 18th of March, from 10am to 3pm, the Richmond Gala is back! If you noticed a name change, that's because the Avebury Gala

grew so big we wanted to encompass all the amazing organisers in Richmond making it happen.

This includes Avebury House, the Richmond Community Garden, We Are Richmond, The Richmond Club, and many others who will be representing at this fun, family day out.

This year, the Community Garden is bringing back the Preserves Competition! (See below for details). They'll also be making ice cream from the garden's fruit bounty; and have live entertainment including demos from the Polish Society at 10.30am, and the Royal Scottish Society at 11am and 12pm! Plus the

Car Boot Sale will





be parked up by the Ecohub on Vogel St. If you'd like a Car Boot spec, contact Cathy on coordinator@ richmondcommunitygarden.co.nz

Connecting through the garden and the Avebury playground, various local organisations will be providing



free activities for kids, have a chat to them about what they do in the community; plus a team from Council will be down to talk about the

playground upgrade. Over at the Fungi Farm, Haven on Avon will have the mud kitchen open and more fun stuff for kids.

Up on the Avebury House lawn, we'll have an eclectic collection of craft, hobby and garden stalls, while inside we'll be fundraising with our signature Devonshire Tea for



koha. Tasty food trucks include favourites the Romanian BBQ, Japanese Dumplings and Upbeet Kai. And new to us, Filipino street-food vendor Sangkutsa, and Hungry Potato with chips, potato spirals and Indian goodies too! Along with the Avebury scones, there's delicious treats from the Real Fruit Icecream Truck, Sweet As Waffles, and more.

Entertaining on the lawn is Jerry the Busker from 10am til 12.30pm; we're happy to welcome back the wonderful Soul Star Tribe Bellydancers for a performance at 12.30 pm; between 1pm and 2pm the Garden City Orchestra will bring the atmosphere, and then one more spin from the Soul Stars. It's going to be a great day out in the neighbourhood!

Come join us, from Avebury House, 9 Eveleyn Couzins Ave to the Ecohub, 46A Vogel St in Richmond! Saturday March 18th, 10am to 3pm.

Preserves Competition!



Richmond Community Garden invites you to put your preserves to the test and bring them along between now and March 15th. They will be carefully labelled and then judged by a panel of expert picklers, preservers, and punters! Results will be revealed at the Gala! Please contact Morgane at admin@richmondcommunitygarden.co.nz for further details.

Deadline for entries: Wed, 15 March

Drop off: Riverlution Eco Hub, 46A Vogel St

Categories: Jams, pickles, & chutney; drinks; vinegars

Mind Yer Language: Life at sea

By Tanya Didham



In reading accounts of the *Steadfast* and Dr Gundry's sea journey, I was reminded of the uniquely charming nautical slang so embraced by landlubbers.

'Scuttlebutt' is a term you perhaps don't hear much anymore, but it entered common usage in the 1900s to

describe a gossip-monger. Ship-board, the scuttlebutt was a barrel (or butt) of fresh water, with a scuttle (or hole), cut in it for a dipping spoon. Sailors gathered to drink fresh water and swap goss, just as folk do today around the water-cooler! We still use the term 'scuttle' with its 17th Century meaning, to purposefully sink a boat; and figuratively from the 1880s, to scuttle someone's plans.

In the navy, if you were 'over a barrel' at sea, it meant you'd been tied over the barrel of a cannon and were about to be flogged. Sometimes known as 'marrying the gunner's daughter', in any case you were 'in a bind'. You were also not permitted to whistle on-ship as it could be confused with the bosun's call. The one exception was if the ship was becalmed. In this instance, sailors could 'whistle down the wind.' This phrase kept the connotation of being set free, but also came to mean letting something hopeless go, "I had to whistle them down the wind..."

A 'loggerhead' was an iron ball attached to the end of a wooden pole. When heated it was used for sealing the pitch into deck seams. However its other popular use, as a weapon for arguing sailors, gave us the term, 'at loggerheads'.

No such conflict occurred during the 1851 sailing of *Steadfast*, though the crew did catch two tiger sharks. Known to be crafty and to have created havoc and injury on deck, even when thought dead, sailors called sharks, and tiger sharks especially, 'sea-lawyers'.

"They were unanimously condemned as hideous monsters," wrote Dr Gundry after arriving in Lyttelton, "and the sailors did not forget their antipathy to 'Sea-Lawyers' in the indignity with which they treated them after being hoisted on deck." Fortunately he does not elaborate on said indignities!

https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers/LT18510628.2.4

"The secret to living well and longer is: eat half, walk double, laugh triple, and love without measure" - Tibetan Proverb

Puzzle

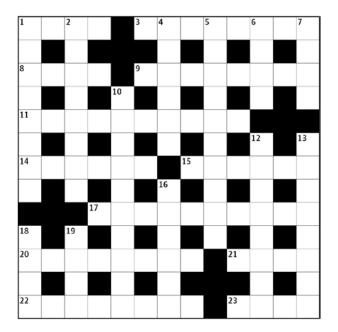
Crossword

Across

- 1. Period of time (4)
- 3. Small part (8)
- 8. Precious stone (4)
- 9. Marine crustacean (8)
- 11. Forecast (10)
- 14. Royal residence (6)
- 15. Walk leisurely (6)
- 17. Science of poisons (10)
- 20. Wickedness (8)
- 21. List (4)
- 22. In an evil way (8)
- 23. Inflated wheel cover (4)

Down

- 1. Sailors' dance (8)
- 2. Rain protection (8)
- 4. Cooks (6)
- 5. Mixture (10)
- 6. Unit of length (4)
- 7. Require (4)
- 10. Admission (10)
- 12. Board game (8)
- 13. Childhood friend (8)
- 16. Handgun (6)
- 18. Outlook (4)
- 19. Element (4)



Solution to February Crossword

Across: 1. Caftan 4. Office 8. Recto 9. Exclude 10. Edifice 11. Steep 12. Nightmare 17. Alpha 19. Radical 21. Initial 22. Sloop 23. Steals 24. Cohere.

Down: 1. Carpet 2. Fiction 3. Aioli 5. Fuchsia 6. Inure 7. Exempt 9. Electoral 13. Glacial 14. Enclose 15. Rabies 16. Elapse 18. Price 20. Disco

Proposed Development of Petrie Park

By David Duffy for We Are Richmond

Among the many projects 'We Are Richmond' is involved in, is an exciting proposal to reinstate the area of Petrie Park formerly occupied by the Bowling Club. Abandoned after the 2010/11 earthquakes, the buildings had suffered structural damage and the greens were left covered in liquefaction.

A few years ago, prompted by local school kids who wanted better play equipment, committee member Hayley Guglietta began researching the idea of remediating the bowling club land using planting techniques. Once restored that section of the Park could then provide a space for locals to enjoy all kinds of activities.

On February 12, between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., 'We Are Richmond' organised a community consultation opportunity, including a barbecue and activities for the children. It was well-attended, and many ideas were put forward on how people would like to use the park and what facilities they would like to see.

Site restoration presents some challenges, most notably establishing the presence of any hazardous substances in the soil. Soil testing has now started and analysis of the samples will continue for some weeks. If hazardous substances are present, the soil has to be made safe before any recreational or food production activities can be initiated. Normally, this would involve the complete removal of hazardous soil layers, which would then go to landfill. It's an expensive option, so an alternative remediation approach, with a fun, interactive planting programme over the next five years, has been proposed. It





involves successive planting year by year, with plants that absorb hazardous substances.

The proposal includes continued consultation with Richmond



community members, ensuring the outcome provides the kind of environment people want. Information panels are proposed for the concrete block walls which once provided the framework for the bowlers' seats.

'We Are Richmond' has also employed a student, Elizabeth Rowell, through the University of Education Pace Intern Programme. Her tasks will be to carry out research, collate community responses and work alongside the experts from C.C.C. (Park Rangers) and ECan (Science Analysts).

The Ancient Art of Tai Chi

By Roger Chance

If you are ready to slow down but looking for something to maintain your physical wellbeing and mental health, then this Modified Yang style class could be for you!

The benefits of tai chi include improved circulation, better balance and coordination, improved concentration and much more. A special feature of this class is that, weather-permitting, we can choose a shady spot on the lawn.

I am a registered group exercise instructor and have spent many years teaching different formats of educational and physical wellbeing classes across the city, of which Tai chi is one. Other formats I teach at various other venues include senior movements, Pilates classes, and 1:1 coaching and mentoring. You can find out about those here: Holisticexercisepractitioner.co.nz

The Avebury tai chi class is generally an intimate 8-12 people making it a very friendly and social environment

to be in. So if you are feeling like you need to put aside time each week to switch off from the pressures of work, social media



overload, pent up frustrations and/or stress, then come along! Find out how a little knowledge of this ancient martial art could change you and the strategies you use to deal with the uncertainness of what life can throw at us.

Where: Avebury House, 9 Eveleyn Couzins Avenue Outside, weather-permitting or an upstairs room

Time: Tuesdays, 10.30am [60 mins]

Cost: \$10.00 per session

Contact Roger 0212089196 or Tanya to book 03 381 6615

What's on in Richmond



AVEBURY HOUSE,

9 Eveleyn Couzins Avenue. Phone (03) 381-6615 The office is open Mon to Fri

from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Monday

Men's Shed: Contact John at 022 5891141 or lan at 027 555 8368. 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 a catch up.

Gentle Exercise:

10:30-11:30 a.m. Gentle exercise class with a tutor who guides you through an exercise routine designed to keep those muscles moving! \$5/session.

Yoga: with Robyn. 6pm \$8/session.

Tuesday

Yoga: 9:00-10:00 a.m. Join us for a good stretch! Beginners welcome. \$8/ session.

Tai Chi: 10:30 a.m. \$10/session Small White Teapot Group: Haiku group meets every 4th Tuesday of the month at 12pm.

Wednesday

Write Your Own History: Every 2nd and 4th Wed of the month. 10 a.m. -12 noon. Please call to confirm.

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.

Pilates: 6pm. \$8/session.

Stress Release: 7:30pm, guided relaxation & tension release. Contact Kathy **022 6507896**.

Thursday

Yoga: 9:00 a.m. Beginners welcome!

Pilates: 11 a.m. \$8/session.

Yoga: 6-7 p.m. \$8. Evening yoga. Join

us for a good stretch!

SOUL STAR TRIBE: beginner belly dance classes 5:30pm Tuesdays (CWEA, 59 Gloucester Street, City Centre), and 10am Saturdays from (The Chrystal Palace, 12 Chrystal Street, Richmond).

\$10 casual, concession cards available. For more information, please phone Samantha on **027 6525 993**.

CROSSWAY COMMUNITY CHURCH

North Avon Community Centre. 105 North Avon Road (entry off Chystal St) Sunday Services: Every Sunday at 10am Family friendly with children's programmes. For more information you can find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/crosswaych/

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.

RICHMOND COMMUNITY GARDEN

46A Vogel St

Garden Days: Monday - Wednesday & Saturday from 10am. to 1pm. We welcome volunteers to help create a beautiful veggie garden for our community to enjoy!

Night Gardening: Thursdays, 6-8pm.

Riverlution Eco Hub: Mon-Fri, 9:30am-4pm & Sat, 10am-1pm. **Repair Revolution:** Every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 5pm.

DELTA COMMUNITY TRUST,

101 North Avon Road (Entrance off Chrystal St) Ph: (03) 389-0212, Free

phone 0800233582. Check our Facebook page or website

www.deltatrust.org.nz

Foodbank: Please phone first. Monday, Wednesday, Friday (except public holidays) 10am-2pm.

Monday Café: Every Monday except public holidays. 10am-12.30pm \$2 Hot Toasties, Tea & Coffee 20cents Friday Drop-Inn café: Every Friday except public holidays. 10am-12.30pm. Choice of 2 mains only \$2,

Dessert \$1, tea & Coffee 20cents. Free Budgeting Advice and Advocacy: Please ring for an appointment.

North Avon Community Centre

ESOL/English Class: Every Wednesday 10am-12.30pm (except Public & School holidays). \$3 Fee. Please Contact stefanie@deltatrust.org.nz for more information.

Delta International Playgroup: For mums and children under 5. Every Friday 9am-12pm(except Public & School holidays). at the North Avon Community Centre. \$2 for the session, \$10 per term. Please bring your own morning tea for your child. NO shared morning tea. Music and stories at 10.30am. Please Contact stefanie@deltatrust.org.nz for more information.

Filipino Playgroup: Every Wednesday 9:30am-12:30pm (Except Public & School holidays) For more information contact Jo jo@odt.org.nz or 021-1151657

SHIRLEY COMMUNITY TRUST,

Ph: (03) 981 5521, 77c Briggs Rod. **MacFarlane Park Neighbourhood Centre:**

17 Acheson Ave

Park Centre: 19 Acheson Ave. **Community Hub & Barista Training:**

Mon & Wed at Neighbourhood Centre. 10am - 2pm during term time. Training is

\$5 per person.

Sparkling Stars: Mondays, 9:30am Park Centre. For 0-5yo. Music & movement. \$3/family.

Te Reo Maori Class: 5pm, Park Centre Nurse-led Foot Care Clinic: Tues, 10am, Park Centre. Appointments essential. Call

022 6218269. \$10. Children's Gardening Club: Tues, 3:15pm, Community Garden (off Jebson St). Knit & Knatter Group: Fortnightly Wed, 10am. Yellow bin weeks. Park Centre.

Kidzone: Wed. 3:30pm. Park Centre. For primary-aged kids.

Gardening: Thurs, 10am, Comm. garden. MacFarlanes on the Park Cafe: Fri, 9:30am, Neighbourhood Centre.

SHIRLEY LIBRARY,

36 Marshland Road (by the Palms Mall). Phone (03) 941-7923

Monday

Shirley Library Book Discussion Group:

10:30am. Held on the 2nd Monday of the month. Bookings essential. Please phone or email to enquire about availability and cost.

Tuesday

J.P. Clinic: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Weekly.

No charge.

Wā Kōrero: Storytimes: 10:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Recommended for over 2s.

Wednesday

Scrabble Club: 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. No obligation, just come along and join our friendly group. All materials are supplied. Free.

Thursday

Manga Club: 3rd Thursday of the month. 3:00pm. Enjoy all things manga? Come share your favourites, find a new one, or just have a chat! Free, no bookings required.

Babytimes/Wā Pepi: for under twoyear olds. 10:30-11 a.m. Weekly during term time. Free.

Friday

Card Club: Just come along and join the fun. Free.

No bookings required.

Saturday

Family History Help: 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month. 10a.m. A member of the NZ Society of Genealogists will be available to help with your family history questions. Free.

Mahjong Group: 1:00 p.m. For beginners and advanced players alike. If you have your own set, please bring it along, otherwise come along and join in a friendly game.