

Richmond Community Garden & the Riverlution - Celebrating Success!

By Morgane Honoré

We are thrilled to announce that Riverlution has been honoured by Keep New Zealand Beautiful: Winner of the Community Group Category!

A heartfelt thank you to the judges for recognizing our commitment to community and sustainability. Their commendation highlights our diverse programs, remarkable achievements, and impactful work, within just two years of establishment.

Key achievements include:

- Repurposing Red Zone Land: Transforming three acres of red-zoned land into a thriving community space.
- Waste Diversion: Successfully diverting eight tonnes of food waste from landfill, contributing to a greener environment.



- Educational Workshops: Hosting an impressive 150 workshops, fostering knowledge and sustainability within our community.

- Native Plantings: Enriching our environment with native plantings, contributing to biodiversity and ecosystem health.

Repair Revolution: Pioneering the Repair Revolution, advocating for a more sustainable and circular approach to our daily lives.

This recognition fuels our passion to continue making a positive impact, one workshop, one garden bed, and one community event at a time. Thank you for being part of our journey! facebook.com/riverlutionhub/

Find out more about the Beautiful Awards here: www.knzb.org.nz/



RCG December Events

Envirokids Seeds & Leaves Workshop - 9 Dec, Sat 10am at the Kiosk in the Botanic Gardens.

Join Envirokids for a FREE event where we will be focusing on planting seeds, and looking at leaves!

<https://fb.me/e/7VSBk22W8>

Craft a Green Gift - 13 Dec, Wed. 1pm - 5pm. Shirley Library and RCG

Craft a green gift for your families or friends before festival celebrations! <https://fb.me/e/4Dy3zYqRS>

Foraging Walk - 16 Dec, Sat

10am - 12:30pm at the Fungi Farm

Come on down to the Richmond Community Garden for a fun family event to learn about new plants! This walk will start at the Fungi Farm and we'll explore one of the nearby red zone areas.

Repair Riverlution - 19 Dec, Tues. 5:30 - 7:30pm at 46A Vogel St

Revolt against throw-away culture. Let's reclaim the things we own and take pride in maintaining and repairing them.

Thursday Evening Gardening - Thursdays until before Xmas at the RCG. 6pm - 8pm

There is always plenty to do at the Community Garden, volunteer days are Mon, Weds & Sat, 10am - 1pm.

All ages and abilities are welcome! To keep in the loop, the Garden also has their own digital newsletter, subscribe by email to:

morgane@richmondcommunitygarden.co.nz

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

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

Disclaimer: Views and opinions expressed in the Richmond Community News are not necessarily those of the editor or Avebury House Community Trust. No responsibility is accepted for incorrect information contained in advertisements or editorials. Advertisements for publication are accepted in good faith and publication of an advertisement does not imply endorsement by Avebury House Community Trust.



The Wit of Sam

You've heard of Murphy's Law, but do you know Cole's Law? It's pretty much just cabbage and mayonnaise...

• • • • •

Somebody should market a beer called 'Occasionally', so when asked I can say "I only drink occasionally."

• • • • •

I grilled a chicken for 2 hours. It still wouldn't tell me why it crossed the road!

Illustration by Stephanie Terris

CCC Transport Consultation



Council is asking for feedback on what it's like getting around Christchurch!

You can complete their 10-minute feedback survey using this link:

<https://letstalk.ccc.govt.nz/safer-shirley>

Please complete the survey only once. All responses will be anonymised for reporting.

Please provide your feedback by 11:59pm Sunday 17 December.



Avebury House, the Workshop and the RCN take a break over Christmas. The office closes on **Thursday Dec 21st**, and reopens on **Monday Jan 15th**.

Though please note the house continues to be available for hire during this time, and the email and facebook page will be checked regularly.

The newsletter skips over January, so first for 2024 will be published on Feb 1st. A very happy festive season to all from the RCN team. See you in the new year!

Holiday Dates for Avebury Exercise Classes

End dates and starts dates.

Yoga:

Mondays with Robyn: 18 Dec - 15 Jan

Tuesdays with Alison: 12 Dec - 23 Jan

Wednesdays and Thursdays with Timea: 22 Dec - 31 Jan

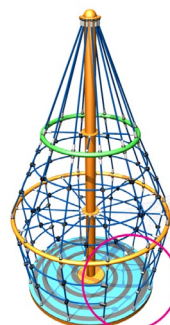
Thursdays with Dakota: 14 Dec - 11 Jan

Pilates with Dee:

Tues, Wed and Thurs: 14 Dec - 9 Jan

Gentle Exercise with Dakota: Mondays: 18 Dec - 15 Jan

Tuesday Tai chi with Roger: 19 Dec - 16 Jan



Avebury Playground Upgrade Update

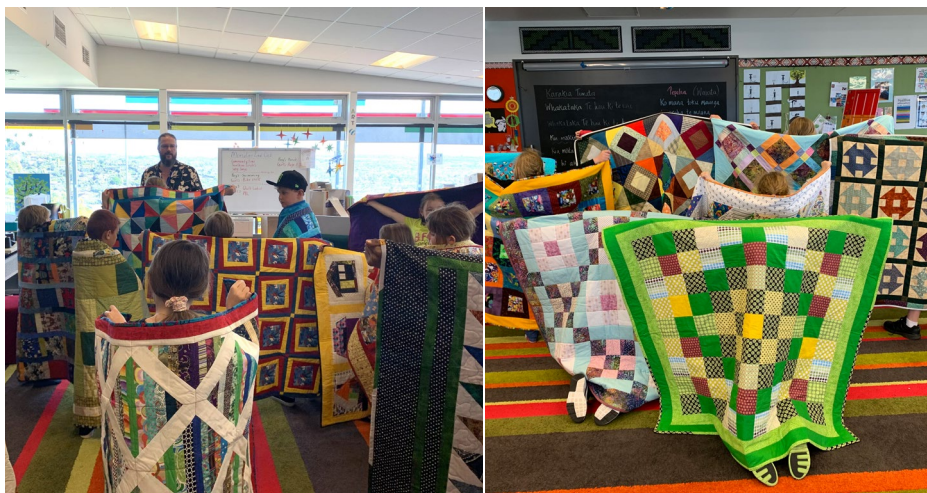
Council sought feedback on the Avebury Park playground upgrade earlier in the year. 214 people responded, essentially choosing from a selection of play equipment options.

Many people requested no metal slide because of the way it heats up, but Council have decided to keep the metal, and face it away from the sun in a shady area. Unfortunately the existing mound slide has to be removed as it is non-compliant with safety guidelines.

The community board have approved the proposal, so replacement equipment includes: a swing set with 2 standard strap seats, a toddler seat, and a you-and-me swing • Interactive musical flowers • Ladybird and Bee springy rockers • Orion spinning climber • 1m wide stainless steel embankment slide • Accessible drinking fountain • Two accessible picnic tables • Additional park seat with back and armrests.

Projected construction start is from mid-2024, aiming to be done by October 2024.

"Once you stop believing in Santa, you get underwear for Christmas." — Anon



Hugs for Everyone!

Our amazing Hugs All Round quilting group distributed a massive 271 quilts to children in need during 2023. The quilts find homes via schools, and places like the Methodist Mission, and STAND, pictured receiving their quilts. Well done team, making a thoughtful difference in children's lives!

Eat! Play! Love!

By Dean Holden

Meepleopolis, the family-friendly and much-loved game cafe, has a mission to foster community growth through the joy of games. We are excited to announce our relocation to a vibrant new spot in Richmond! Nestled conveniently next to the Richmond Club, the doors of Meepleopolis will swing open at 319 Stanmore Road in mid-December.

Meepleopolis boasts an extensive library of hundreds of games available for both rental and in-store play, as well as a comprehensive retail section featuring games and accessories in-store and online. The new location has been designed to offer an immersive gaming experience, complete with a selection of delectable food and beverages.

Eager to engage the community, Meepleopolis has a reputation for putting on a diverse range of



events, classes, competitions, and promotions, so watch this space! From seasoned gamers to novices, our friendly team of Game Guides are ready to assist individuals of all experience levels, in finding the perfect game for them.

We're so excited to join this vibrant community - come and

discover the fun Meepleopolis will bring to Richmond!

For more information visit our website at www.meepleopolis.com and get ready to Eat! Play! Love! at Meepleopolis on Stanmore!



Thank you Steve Jones-Poole!

By Tanya Didham

The Shirley Village Project is farewelling Community Activator, Steve Jones-Poole. Anyone who knows Steve knows he has worked with passion and focus to make his community a better place over the last five years. His background in community policing offered great insight into the needs of communities and created a desire to address issues from the ground up, with community-led initiatives. And such great initiatives, including the graffiti-free suburb, family violence prevention, finding people jobs, community murals, the Shirley Tool Shed, and most recently, making Monday mornings fun for Shirley Primary pupils! We salute you Steve, best wishes for your future endeavours, and thank you for the mahi and the inspiration that continues.



Steve (left) at the Monday morning celebration at Shirley Primary that has attracted the attention of Chris Lynch and other media. Photo: Chris Lynch.



PLAYING DIRTY

Matty from the Avebury Workshop has given the mud kitchen area a pretty swank facelift. It is ready for a workout this summer! Proudly brought to you by the Richmond Community Garden, you'll find it in the garden on River Rd, between Eveleyn Couzins and Swanns Rd, not far from the chicken house!

Avebury Cottage Garden Makeover

The Canterbury Horticultural Society (CHS) is creating an Ornamental Garden for Avebury House. They have a Memorandum of Understanding with Christchurch City Council to redesign the plot out back of Avebury's kitchen where the Richmond Community Garden was originally founded. Designed to bring garden lovers together, the project is a community effort.

The vision is to create a beautiful, exotic ornamental garden filled with roses, perennials, bulbs and tubers. Traditional styling will use symmetry and repetition and include a perennial border of buxus. Roses will ramble over a timber arch and trellis, with brick steps going down to a sunken garden with plant collections from various CHS Garden Clubs.

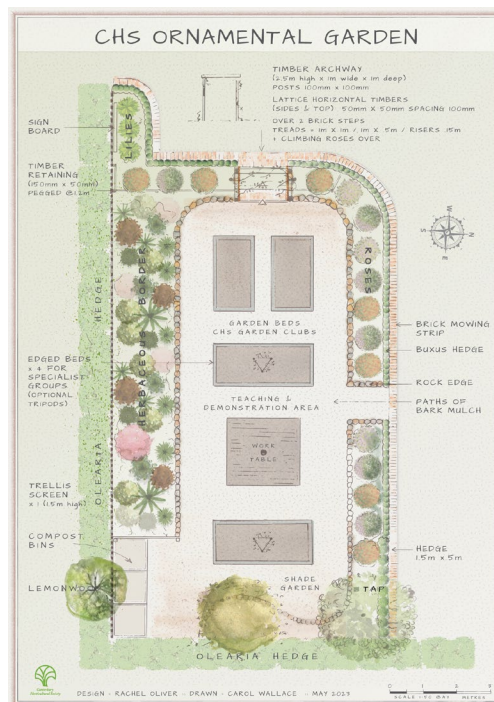
Monthly working bees led by a committee of four women from CHS are keeping things moving. Our mission is to create a garden where people can meet, admire the plantings and learn gardening techniques through CHS workshops and courses. A large teaching table in the middle of the garden is designed for lessons in propagation, division and pruning.

The project was conceived five years ago, but good things take time.

With just over 100 square metres of land and an enthusiastic team, the plan is to start planting in March 2024. Soil levelling is underway after which retaining walls, irrigation and steps can be built.

If you are in the Richmond area, pop in and have a look. The garden is situated on the south-eastern side of historic Avebury House, 9 Eveleyn Couzins Avenue.

Project coordinator for CHS, Rachel Oliver, would love to hear from you if you'd like to volunteer! Email her at rachel@chsgardens.co.nz



Roads, Pools and BBQs

By David Duffy, Chair of Richmond Residents' & Businesses' Association (We Are Richmond)

As the year hurries towards Christmas, so too does the work We Are Richmond is doing for the betterment of our neighbourhood and beyond.

On November 21 we held a planting and planning evening at Petrie Park. This regeneration project, led by Hayley Guglietta and Brigid Allen, now has a land contamination assessment meaning we can move into the next planting phase. And there will be more BBQ-fuelled community consultation to come!

Road works signs are up in Averill Street where Isaac Construction have started improvements on all three intersections between North Parade and Stapletons Road. This work aligns with the Greenways Cycle Route project and all work is done at once to avoid separate contracts.

We continue in our efforts to improve the Richmond Village environment but materials and delays with negotiations are hampering progress. We did meet with



the pool rebuild sub-committee from Shirley Intermediate, they are working to maintain attention on the project and are researching and exploring fundraising opportunities.

Attempts are also being made to set up a meeting point for Police and local residents, to discuss crime-related activity in Richmond, and to seek solutions such as more regular patrols. We would be keen to hear from any resident who has been the victim of a local crime in the past year; this would give us solid data backing the need for greater Police commitment in our area. Privacy is guaranteed, you can respond to this request through our secretary on the website: WeAreRichmond.co.nz Or email: secretary@wearerichmond.co.nz

As the year draws to an end, I would like, on behalf of our committee, to wish all residents a safe and relaxing Christmas and New Year over the forthcoming holiday period.



We had a lovely Xmas Market on the afternoon of Friday Dec 1st. Crafty and creative stalls started rolling in from as early as 11am. Food vendors were not far behind - did you know Wildfire's mobile pizza oven takes 2 hours to get heated up!? The Natural Magic Pirates got the party started at 3.30pm with their salty seaside energy! We had to rescue the Garden City Orchestra from our marquee which tried to attack them mid-set - crisis averted and the jolly carols continued until 6pm, when those magical Soul Star belly dancers came on and had everyone mesmerised! To those who asked me what kind of belly-dancing it was, it comes from Middle Eastern traditions, but also includes a bit of world dance fusion! Just gorgeous.



Santa was a huge drawcard and we had lots of happy kids - young and not so young - getting their Xmas snaps in the house.



A thousand thank yous to the staff and volunteers who worked tirelessly throughout the day, to the craft and food vendors who put so much into their stalls, to our fabulous entertainers including our super Santa, and of course to the many people who came along to celebrate Christmas with us. Thank you and best wishes for the season and the summer, from all of us at Avebury House.



Mind Yer Language: Spruced Up

By Tanya Didham

Bringing greenery, like a spruce bough, into the house during winter solstice (20th-22nd December in the northern hemisphere), has pagan roots in northern Europe, but also in Rome, ancient Egypt (they used rushes there), China, and other places. It symbolised the anticipated return of Spring greenness, and survives today in the form of Christmas trees.



Each year as the Earth journeys around the Sun, it hits reliable seasonal markers, thanks largely to its off-axis tilt. Only during the Spring and Autumn equinoxes, for example, does the sun rise due east, and set due west. For the rest of the year, the Sun appears to crawl along the horizon from its most south-easterly rising point in summer, to its most north-easterly rising point in winter - the 'solstices'. At these times the sun appears to rise in the same place, or stand still, for around 3 days, before starting its journey back in the other direction. 'Solstice' entered English around the 13th century, from the Latin '*solstitium*' meaning literally 'sun stands still'.

But to 'spruce up' isn't exactly to do with trees, and the term well pre-dates Christmas trees in England - they weren't a 'thing' til Queen Victoria and Prince Albert embraced his German yuletide traditions. 'Spruce' goes back a few hundred years more, an English misinterpretation of *Prusse*, the old French name for Prussia. In medieval Europe, Prussia was known for its leather crafters, and fine couture. The 'spruce jerkin' was a neat fashion statement made from 'spruce leather', essentially anything 'spruce' was considered highly presentable, and 'sprucing up' became all the rage.

Those stylish Christmas tree pines just happened to be associated with Prussian forests and so became known as 'spruce trees'!

"I'm dreaming of a white Christmas. But if the white runs out, I'll drink the red."

— Anon

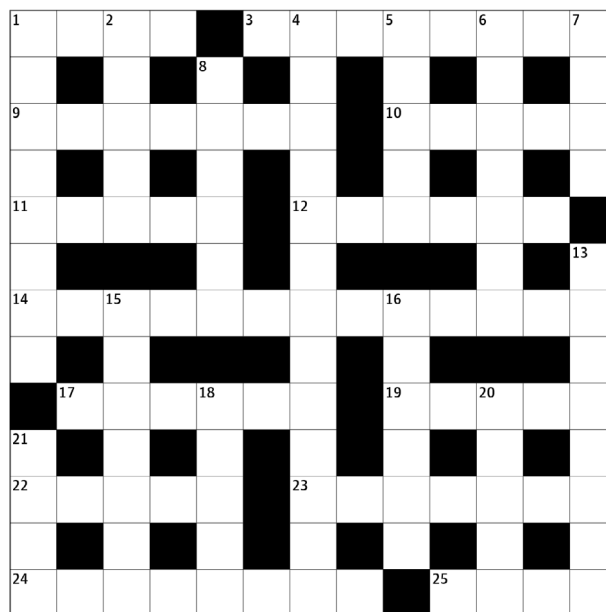
Puzzle Crossword

Across

1. Rotate (4)
3. Shook from cold (8)
9. Family relationship (7)
10. Low guttural sound (5)
11. Sports ground (5)
12. Lively dance (6)
14. Fear of spiders (13)
17. Squandered (6)
19. Musical instrument (5)
22. Not left (5)
23. Approximate (7)
24. Begin (8)
25. Not new (4)

Down

1. Food to go (8)
2. Wash lightly (5)
4. Person worried about their health (13)
5. Strict vegetarian (5)
6. Garden plant with edible stalks; Rheum. (7)
7. Romantic assignation (4)
8. Beat soundly (6)
13. Pranced (8)
15. Mercury compound, used in dentistry (7)
16. Occur (6)
18. Formal name (5)
20. Water: ____ ale. (5)
21. ____ Clapton, guitarist (4)



Solution to November Crossword

Across: 1. Imposing 5. Fair 9. Tutor 10. Munches
11. Obsequiously 13. Evenly 14. Nimble 17. Extravaganza
20. Brioche 21. Icons 22. Rose 23. Mainland.

Down: 1. Iota 2. Potable 3. Surveillance 4. Nimbus 6. Ashes
7. Restyled 8. Intoxication 12. Remember 15. Bazooka
16. Camera 18. Twins 19. Used.

KmBE
KM Business Equipment NZ Ltd

Copiers • Printers • Document Solutions • IT
Kyocera • Samsung • Fuji Xerox
03 366 2217
www.kmbe.co.nz



Heard the one about the buyer who complained to Facebook Marketplace and got no satisfaction?

Sadly, it's no joke. Shopping online is convenient, enticing and fun... if you are wary of fake sellers, dodgy tactics and Christmas stress-mas, that is. Before you click "buy", ask yourself:

- Does this bring me festive joy? How cute is that doodah?
- Does the offer sound too good to be true, too good not to be a scam? Do I feel lucky?
- Is price hype being used to sweep me into a purchase I had no intention of making? How close is that shark?
- How sharp is that price, once courier and credit card fees are added?
- Ditto for an overseas seller. What's not shown upfront? Is it really such a bargain once GST, customs duty and biosecurity fees are added at the border?
- Overseas seller? What if things go pear-shaped? What then? Do they know New Zealand consumer laws don't

apply to them?

- The best protection is a professional trader based in NZ, right? Too right.
- Does the seller identify themselves clearly and prominently? Are they registered on companiesoffice.govt.nz?
- Is it worth the nervous wait for delivery, the risk of damage in transit or a disgruntled call to my credit card company? Am I sitting comfortably?
- If I weren't over tired and under pressure, if I really sat down and thought about it, I wouldn't click "buy" right now, would I?
- Want more? www.cab.org.nz/article/KB00000343



Over the Christmas holiday break, you can find serious answers to many questions on the Citizens Advice Bureau website (www.cab.org.nz). Meri Kirihimete.

DELTA FOODBANK DRIVE!

Want to make a difference this Christmas?
Our Foodbank needs HELP!

We're running very low on food for our December parcels - for the first time in a long time boxes do not have the essentials to keep families fed.



If you can help us to help others, please drop cans (or other non-perishable grocery items) to our reception at **101 North Avon Rd, Monday-Friday 10-2pm.**

Thank you so much, and we wish everyone a happy Christmas!

Tuition

Reading, Writing, Spelling, Maths (Y1-Y12)
Qualified local teacher, individual programmes, great results.

P: 021 197 8383 or E: katharineabeaumont@gmail.com

Clarinet, Sax, Flute, Guitar, Bass, & Piano—Experienced local teachers. Phone Nicola & Ivan
(03) 385-3856.



COMPLIMENTARY HOUSE CLEAN

List and sell your property with Charlotte and receive a complimentary professional clean of your home prior to settlement, saving you a task and ensuring your move goes as smoothly as possible.

Get in touch now for an obligation free appraisal of your property.

"I cannot recommend Charlotte enough, from the moment we signed up to settlement of our property, she continually communicated with us. Her knowledge and understanding of the process was exceptional and made us feel at ease." - L Slater



Charlotte Heaslip | 027 386 0667 | charlotte.heaslip@bayleys.co.nz

WHALAN AND PARTNERS LTD, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008

PROUD TO BE A RICHMOND LOCAL



ALTOGETHER BETTER

Residential / Commercial / Rural / Property Services

What's on in Richmond



AVEBURY HOUSE,
9 Evelevyn 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 Ian 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: 5:30pm with Robyn

Tuesday

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

Tai Chi: 10:30 a.m. \$10/session

Small White Teapot Group: Haiku group meets every 4th Tuesday of the

month at 12pm. Contact Barbara at **021 171 8622.**

Pilates: 6:00 pm \$10/session.

Wednesday

Yoga: 9am. Yoga with Timea.

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

johnlois@posteo.net.

Pilates: 11am & 6pm. \$10/session. With Dee.

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.

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

Thursday

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

Pilates: 11 a.m. \$10/session.

Yoga: 6-7 p.m. \$10. Evening yoga. Join us for a good stretch! With Dakota.

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

Monday

Fiero Code Club: 3.45–5.15pm

Suitable for ages 8–16. Free. Bookings required.

Tuesday

JP Clinic: 10am–1pm

Free. No bookings required.

Wā Kōrero: Storytimes: 10.30–11am

Suitable for ages 2–5. Free. No bookings required.

Wednesday

Knit 'n' Yarn at Shirley: 10.30-12pm. Come along and knit and natter in a relaxed and friendly environment. Also Sat at 1pm.

Scrabble Club: 1:30pm–3:30pm

All materials are supplied.

Free, no bookings required.

Sensory Craft for Pēpi:

11–11.30am. Suitable for ages 0–2

Free. No bookings required.

Thursday

Wā Pepi: Babytimes

10.30–11am. Suitable for ages 0–2

Free. No bookings required.

Me Kōrero Tatou (Te Reo Language Group):

1.30–2.30pm. Suitable for all ages. Free.

No bookings required. All skill levels welcome.

Friday

Card Club: 1.00–3.30pm. Free. No bookings required.

Saturday

Family History Help: 10.00am–Midday

1st and 3rd Saturday of the month

Ran by the Canterbury Genealogy Society.

Free. No bookings required.

Mahjong Club: 1.00–3.30pm

Free. No bookings required.



RICHMOND COMMUNITY GARDEN

Riverlution EcoHub, 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!

Riverlution Eco Hub: Mon-Fri, 9:30am-4pm & Sat, 10am-1pm.

Repair Revolution: Every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm.



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

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 Mondays, Park Centre

Nurse-led Foot Care Clinic: Tues, 10am, Park Centre. Appointments essential. Call **022 6218269.** \$10.

Knit & Knatter Group: Fortnightly Wed, 10am. Yellow bin weeks. Park Centre.

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

Gardening: Thurs, 1:30pm, Comm. garden (off Jebson St)

MacFarlanes on the Park Cafe: Fri, 9:30am, Neighbourhood Centre.

EASTERN COMMUNITY SPORT & RECREATION,

Email: Kate@easterncommunity.co.nz

Ph: 027 728 3005

Avon Hub has community meeting space available for small groups to hire for a very low fee, please email Kate with your details and dates

Football Fun Drop In: Wednesdays, 3:15pm. Kicks, fun & goals suited to 5+years. Under 8 years will need to be accompanied by caregiver. Avon Hub. 77 North Parade.

Pickleball Play: Tuesdays, 9am. \$5 per player for social, mixed games. Roll up no need to book. Nets will be set up for play, bring your own paddle if you have one. Avon Hub, 77 North Parade.

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 Chrystal 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/