

THE HUBBUB

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Newsletter for Richmond Ward – Tasman District Council



Photo: Nelson Mail

The Last of the Summer Fayre is a great social event for Richmond.

Join in Richmond's big night out at Sundial Square

Once again the annual Last of the Summer Fayre is upon us. Traditionally the free community event has been held around harvest time – a celebration of the best bounty the district has to offer.

Started in 2001, this year's Fayre will be in a new location, Richmond's Sundial Square. Organiser Pam Williams, from Richmond Unlimited, said the medieval theme of last year's event was so successful they had decided to stick with it. People are encouraged to come in costume, with prizes for doing so. The theme will be carried throughout with banquet tables and candlelight.

Sponsor Tasman Brewing Company will provide beer, and local wineries will sell wine and cider. Soft drinks and juice will be on hand, as well as gourmet food.

Entertainment will be provided by two bands, Podryan, a celtic group, and rock'n'roll band Flashback. As well as music, Faery Lou will bring a little magic to the evening, while unicyclist and juggler Gareth Childer will hold lessons for kids.

There will be plenty of merriment, feasting and fun, so bring along the whole family and dance the night away under the stars.

Last of Summer Fayre

Date: Friday 27 February 2009, 5.30 pm to 10.00 pm

Location: Sundial Square, Richmond

Art and about at Rabbit Island

Mermaids and whales dotted the shores of Rabbit Island on Sunday 8 February 2009 for a colourful Beach Art Day. Creative locals had fun making sculptures on the sand with only one rule - creations had to be made from natural materials found on the beach.

Larger-than-life creations abounded, including sea creatures sculpted from sand and accessorised with cones, grass, stones and shells.

The emphasis was on fun and participation, and bonus prizes were awarded. Family groups *Ben, Gemma and the Internationals*, and *The Burgerring Boongers*, won main awards, and all children participating received Arts Council Nelson Certificates of Merit.

Organiser Lloyd Harwood, manager of Arts Council Nelson, said it was a great day, with really positive response from the public.

"Nearly all of them asked for it to happen again next year," he said.

Rainbow Flight and Nelson Kite Club provided colourful flags to mark the area, and provided free sand buggy rides for children.



One of the creations at the Rabbit Island Beach Art Day.

Richmond's downhill dash on soon

Richmond's main street running race will clock up more than a quarter century when the starter's gun goes off at 11.00 am on Saturday 21 February 2009.

The inaugural event was run in 1983, where young local middle-distance runner Rod Dixon took out the race in a time of 3 minutes 48 seconds. Later in the year he won the prestigious New York Marathon.

After several years' hiatus, the race was reinstated last year by Council's community recreation officer Paul McConachie.

"Nothing beats a good old-fashioned running race," said Paul. "Olympians have been racing each other for almost 3000 years. Now Richmond has the opportunity to create its own racing history."

The search for the quickest downhill dasher begins at 11.00 am and pre-registrations are being accepted at Council's Richmond office.

The Royal Dash, formerly known as the Undie 500 fun run, will also entertain the public from 11.20 am. A colourful collection of participants will be dressed up as royalty as they run up Richmond's main drag, with participation the name of the game.

Both races finish at Sundial Square, where there will also be entertainment throughout the morning, including a bouncy castle for the kids and live music for the adults. Race prize-giving is

at 11.45 am and a post-race social function at the square will conclude the event.

Prizes will be awarded over several categories including spot prizes, as well as best-dressed awards for the crowned King and Queen of the fun run. Both events cost \$5 to enter.

For more information, contact Paul McConachie ph 543 8525 or Pam Williams ph 544 4898.



Participants in last year's fun run.

Join the fun in the cycle lane for Bike Wise Month

Dust off your bike this month and get out on one of the many cycleways around Richmond, because February is Bike Wise Month.

Bike Wise Family Fun Ride

Sunday 22 February 2009, 10.00 am - noon

Location: Start and finish at ASB Aquatic Centre, Champion Road, Richmond

Cost: free

For more information contact Mike Tasman-Jones, Ph 03 543 8403.

For more information about Bike Wise Month visit www.bikewise.co.nz



Men's workout

Due to high demand, a men's only workout session is now being held at the Tasman Recreational Resource Centre. The new Blokes Session takes place on Mondays from 1.00 pm. Men of all ages are invited to visit the centre in Cambridge Street for a 40-minute circuit workout.

The exercises are designed to improve strength, flexibility and balance. The session is ideal for those men who wouldn't normally go to gyms, but could do with some exercise.

Other great programmes are on offer at the TRRC. Check out the walking group on Mondays at 9.30 am – all ages and fitness levels are catered for. The fast and social walkers take 60 minutes, while the easy walk takes 30 minutes.

Sit and Be Fit classes are very popular – you'll be surprised at how good a workout you can get on a chair! Classes are Fridays at 10.30 am and cost \$2.00.

Lots of new activities are starting this year for both adults and kids, so grab a timetable or check out the What's On guide in the window of the TRRC at 9 Cambridge Street.

For more information contact the programme director, Jackie Hardy, Ph 544 3957 ext 4.

Richmond Community Forum

This year one of the Richmond Community Forum's major projects is to develop a portfolio of ideas for beautification and display of art works in Richmond. Forum members are seeking residents' ideas on sculptures or other works of art including flags, banners, murals, painted panels and landscaping. These could be set up in key sites around Richmond. Anyone with ideas, or who is an artist or landscaper, or who represents an interested local group, is welcome to contact Richard Everts to discuss this.

Richard Everts, Chairperson Richmond Community Forum
Phone 544 4519
chairperson@livinginrichmond.co.nz

The Richmond Community Forum is also looking for someone to employ part-time to assist with project work during 2009 – a position requiring communication and computer skills and offering very flexible hours.

Next meeting:

Meet the Richmond Ward Councillors on Tuesday 21 April 2009 at 7.30 pm in the Council Chambers, Queen Street, Richmond.

Friends of Library seek new members

The hunt is on for local bookworms who are passionate about their library. Friends of the Libraries Tasman branch is on the lookout for new members. Subscriptions are \$10 per person or couple per year.

To make the deal even sweeter, members are offered several special deals:

- Tasman District Libraries offers \$10 off services (i.e. rentals and reserves).
- Page and Blackmore offers 10 percent off books.
- Whitcoulls offers a free subscription (worth \$10) to their Whitcoulls Rewards programme.

Robyn Venning, secretary of Friends of the Tasman Libraries, said the group meets at least once a month, usually in the Richmond branch's meeting room. It usually has an interesting book-related speaker.

"We promote the library and encourage people to use it."

To join the Friends of the Libraries, email robynvenning@xtra.co.nz. Otherwise, staff at the Richmond library are happy to take subscription payments.

Next Friends of the Libraries event

Date: Thursday 19 February 2009 at 7.30 pm.

Location: Greenhough Vineyard, Paton Rd, Hope

Special guest: Mary McCallum, author of *The Blue* and winner of the Montana Readers' Choice Award 2008

Tickets \$20 available from Richmond Public Library, 280 Queen St, Richmond.

This fundraising event is generously sponsored by Greenhough Vineyard and the NZ Book Council.

Libraries turn up the heat

Ten new computers with free broadband have been installed for local use in the Richmond Library, allowing residents to update their computer skills, Skype their family and friends or create a CV.

The Richmond Library has also started a DVD collection. Get in and check it out.

The library has also played a major part in the creation of new history website *The Prow*. Check out www.theprow.org.nz for local history in stories and pictures. It's an accurate source of quality information, using resources from across the top of

the South such as the photograph collections at the Nelson Provincial Museum, the Marlborough Museum and collections of local history books in libraries.

Whether you're a student or parent, teacher, iwi member or tourist, the website will have something for you, including the Aorere Goldfields and Maungatapu Murders. It also lists references for further research, such as newspaper articles, websites, images and books.

Find out more about your library at www.taslib.govt.nz.

Councillor Comment

The New Year has begun well for our family, with all making it home for Christmas. Seasonal growth on the Waimea plains and in the gardens of Richmond has been high, followed by a hot summer time. While river flows are dropping, the Wai-iti storage dam is proving to be a good template for the Waimea river augmentation project. Water users for both irrigation and household supply are planning to build a water storage dam in the Lee Valley to overcome summertime water restrictions that regularly occur. It has been interesting to note that with the natural variation in seasonal rainfall, the modest storage facility for the Wai-iti is consistently meeting river flow needs there.



Cr Michael Higgins.

Most in our community will have been pondering over economic changes in the world with its implications for us, and it is a relief that our market opportunities remain as 2009 begins. Within Council, debate has flowed from the threat of financial disorder to the pressing needs of our day. For six months now, many hours of strategy review, funding implications and options have been considered. Urban growth demand statistics, for housing, transport and employment, project the requirement for infrastructure development going forward over ten years and indicate the growth for decades ahead. Despite the uncertain times around us, we all get up in the morning to work, create and achieve. For my part as a community representative, it is important to provide for a lifestyle and opportunity that makes the hard work all worthwhile.

The expense of rate demands and user charges are something we live with, they are difficult to minimize and require a commitment to meet. In considering the budgets, the question of 'value for money' provides a good benchmark. What would we pay for the provision of services if the TDC didn't provide them? As a TDC Member, I have found that within our community, small amounts of expenditure often go a long way to encourage or facilitate community interaction in sport, entertainment and sector wellbeing. Looking forward, I do think that there will be difficulty for a time, in business and employment. I note President Obama's comments about pulling together, helping each other along and working through troubled times. They apply to us here in Richmond and the Tasman District just the same.

In March, after much debate and consideration, the opinions and proposals of the TDC will be published. The decisions that they will lead to affect us all, and are worth taking time to read and think about. I urge you to do that.

In the meanwhile, Council business continues. Resource Consent proposals continue to be heard. Town Planning and zoning issues continue to be resolved. The provision of water and waste water services continue to demand decisions, and much more. As a Council, the TDC is on to it and will see to it that our part of the world is good.

Michael Higgins – Richmond Ward Councillor.



Washbourn Gardens

Keeping Richmond looking its best

Keep Richmond Beautiful is gearing up for a big year of work in 2009. The group's volunteer members, along with Council staff, are in the process of confirming projects to be completed this year. Their hard work planting, weeding, painting and constructing in our green spaces during the winter means the local environment benefits and we have beautiful and clean areas to enjoy.

Here are the planned areas for work in 2009:

- Craft Habitat – planting and creating a barrier for plants
- Dellside Reserve – planting about 200 trees and replacing failed ones
- Alexandra Walkway – planting grasses and kowhai, and new section of track
- Will's Track – general maintenance and rebuilding side timbers, hand-rails, steps and a new loop track
- Bill Wilkes Reserve – building and maintenance of picnic tables, painting, planting stream banks, tree replacement
- Rabbit Island – building picnic tables, foreshore grass planting, tidying and replanting KRB sails area
- Extra project – planting road reserve at swimming pool frontage

For more information on Keep Richmond Beautiful contact chairman Colin Andrews ph 544 6176 or secretary Jenny Daniels ph 544 6884.

Boosting confidence behind the wheel

Older drivers are being offered free refresher courses to boost their confidence while driving.

"Some older drivers find driving in today's traffic daunting and are too nervous to venture further than their local areas," said Krista Hobday, Road Safety Coordinator for Council.

The course, which qualifies drivers for a subsidy on a professional driving assessment, will be held in Richmond on Thursday 12 and Friday 13 March 2009, from 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm. Both days must be attended.

To enrol or for more information on the Older Driver Refresher Course please phone John Steel on 547 4010.

Rates

Ratepayers who have not yet paid their third instalment of the 2008/09 rates are reminded that this should be done by 28 February 2009 to avoid incurring a penalty.