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April 20, 2018

**Ironman helps nab
burglar... p3**

**Dog Parade marred by
vicious attack... p5**

**Interview: forester
Garth Cumberland... p18**

Devonport Wharf upgrade tops \$6 million

The costs of upgrading Devonport Wharf have gone well over \$6 million.

Auckland Transport spent \$4,047,450 on the first stage of the wharf upgrade.

The stage 2 redevelopment has so far cost \$2,737,077, according to documents obtained

by the Flagstaff under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act. The completion of the project is also running about a year behind schedule.

The stage 2 costs have blown out after it was discovered the wharf roof and internal

floor needed replacing at a cost of \$920,000.

The stage 2 project was awarded to Palatine Construction Ltd in May 2017 for \$1,817,077.

“During construction, it was discovered that the roof of the building was severely

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Designer doggie dress-ups at Devonport Dog Parade



Mythical creatures... Unicorn Olivia (left) and Princess Elsa Charlotte Grielen with matching dogs Daisy and Esme. More pictures p 28.



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NEXT ISSUE: May 4
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Vandals blamed for destroying Easter cross

Vandals are to blame for destroying the Procession of Witness cross left at the top of Takarunga/Mt Victoria.

But it appears the broken remains of the wooden cross were taken away by Maunga Authority contractors.

Mystery surrounded what had happened to the cross, which has been traditionally left at the top of the mountain on Good Friday after the procession. When church leaders checked later in the day it had disappeared.

Maunga Authority chair Paul Majurey said church leaders had applied for a permit to walk to the summit carrying the cross. This was approved by the Tūpuna Maunga Authority. "The church leaders did not advise that they would leave the cross unattended for four hours, nor did they inform the Authority that they would attach it to a structure.

"We are advised that when the contractor arrived on-site, he photographed the cross and then went about his usual maintenance work at the tihi."

The contractor did notice that three young men were sitting on the bench beneath the

intact cross when he first pulled up, "though cannot confirm if they were responsible for the subsequent destruction of the cross," he said.

The contractor had no way of knowing that the cross was supposed to be there, Majurey said.

"However our contractor did not take it down. The information we have suggests that the cross was destroyed by members of the public sometime early afternoon on Good Friday.

"Indeed, when the contractor returned, someone had smashed the cross and it was laying in pieces. As a health and safety precaution, he removed and disposed of the pieces – there were nails, rope and broken pieces of wood strewn across the ground."

The Tūpuna Maunga Authority anticipates an application by church leaders next Easter and looks forward to working with them to ensure that appropriate conditions are in place to prevent this occurring again, said Majurey, in an email obtained by The Flagstaff.

Community engagement tees off at golf club

Proposals for movies in the park at Waitemata golf course and a cycleway around its perimeter are under investigation.

Waitemata Golf Club is part of a nationwide move by golf bosses to engage better with grass-roots community organisations, NZ Golf Chief Executive Carl Fenton told the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board in a presentation.

Other initiatives being adopted or considered by the club include:

- open days
- working with local schools
- helping out other local groups, such as Plunket and Devonport RSA
- helping the nearby North Shore Croquet Club help with mowing and weeding

- planting more bird-friendly trees to help grow the native bird population of Devonport
- providing better signage and paths for people wanting to walk through the golf course.

Waitemata Golf Club has more than 800 members, and 35,000 to 40,000 rounds are played on the course each year.

The club's general manager Haydn McCullum told the board the club was developing a community engagement plan.

"We are keen to have clear paths through the golf course... it can be dangerous with golf balls flying around.

"Better signage and clear pathways will make it safer for people."

The club is also in the process of installing new bridges, he said.

Board member Jan O'Connor said she had received letters from Waitemata club members annoyed by the public walking across the course while games were in play.

Board chair Grant Gillon said the public has a right to walk through the golf course as it is a park, and right of way for walkers is part of the club's lease.

Gillon was pleased with the Waitemata initiative, as the green space provided by the course is a key element of Devonport, even for non-golfers.

Editor a national finalist

Devonport Flagstaff editor Rob Drent is one of five finalists for Best Community Journalist of the Year in the national Voyager Media awards.

His entry included an investigation into Vista Linda, a major Devonport landlord, and its tenants, who felt they were being forced out by rent rises; the controversy over a trucked-in villa in Cheltenham; and a background on the revived Devonport Heritage group.

Catching a burglar – one for the people of Devonport

A thief attempting an early-morning burglary had the misfortune to try his luck at the home of ironman Hamish Wilson.

Not only was Wilson up and set for training, he confronted the man and chased him down.

“I could have chased him for 15 to 20 km if I had to,” laughed Wilson a few days after the event.

As it was, Wilson hardly needed to get up a sweat, as the burglar was eventually nabbed by police in Wilson’s street.

The drama unfolded at just after 5am in Mays St. Wilson, who gets up at 4.45am each morning for training, saw a man in the family car “going through our stuff.”

“I yelled out oi” and then the man aged in his mid-20s was off, said Wilson.

Wilson grabbed his cell phone and didn’t hesitate to give chase, calling police at the same time:

“I’d been robbed in London and I’d been through a lot over that, and I didn’t want that to happen again.”

“I was starting to catch him – I can still do four-minute kilometres, said Wilson. In fact, he had completed half-ironman triathlon events in December and January, so fitness wasn’t a problem.

“I was yelling, ‘you can run but you can’t hide’, when he ran down the driveway to number one (Mays St).”

By this time the police helicopter was on the scene, hovering from above, and it appeared to have located the man. Then a police team “with the biggest German shepherd I have ever seen” arrived and apprehended the burglar.

Wilson said the man had watches, keys and two bags of money on him – more than likely from earlier burglaries. Indeed, a notification on Facebook revealed a number of people were missing property.

He knows police advise against putting yourself at risk and to let an offender run, and inform police and let them do the rest.



Iron-willed... Hamish Wilson, next to the car that was broken into, and later fingerprinted

But Wilson said: “For me it was one for the people of Devonport. We all work hard for our money, so they (burglars) can work hard for theirs’ too.”

“Devonport is full of people who work hard for their money – many have got high mortgages too. The last thing they need is some jerk stealing from them.”

The whole incident was caught on film by Wilson’s next door neighbour’s security camera. The first segment has the burglar surveilling the neighbour’s house.

The second part has the man “flying down the driveway, and there’s me 15 seconds later, chasing him.”

The man was arrested, but Wilson has yet to hear how he fared in the judicial process.

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New group wants zero-waste Devonport by 2040

Almost 90 per cent of waste received at the Devonport Recycling Centre in February was diverted from going into landfill.

The aim for Devonport is to be waste-free by 2040, the newly formed Devonport Zero Waste group said in a presentation to the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board.

Andrew Walters, a director of Global Action Plan Oceania, which runs the Devonport Recycling Centre, said February's top result is one the centre is aiming at as a benchmark.

Around 11,000 tonnes of waste has been diverted from landfill by the centre over the last two years.

Other Devonport Zero Waste members present were Jane Walters, community worker Stephen McLuckie and Richard Tong, the town clerk at the Devonport Borough Council in the 1970s – the first council in the country to introduce recycling.

Other members of the recently formed group include Devonport Business Improvement District Manager Toni Van Tonder.

Devonport Zero Waste is promoting community relationships to push the waste-minimisation message.

The Devonport Recycling Centre employs

10 people, five of them under 25.

If the amount of products put through the centre increased, more people could be employed.

One of the challenges for recycling is the comparatively cheap costs of landfill dumping in Auckland.

Local board member George Wood said Auckland Council charges \$10 per tonne for tipping, compared to \$110 per tonne in New South Wales, Australia.

Walters said council should increase the levy. "It costs us more to send to recycling than landfill at the moment."

Contractors and the public probably don't want the tipping charges to go up though, he said.

Inorganic material trucked out

Only two trucks of goods went to the Devonport Recycling Centre from the Devonport inorganic collection last year.

"It's something we need to work on," the centre's Andrew Walters told the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board.

"It's silly having all these trucks going to Pannmure when it can be recycled locally," he said.

After the meeting, Walters said last year's inorganic collection was a trial, and the council was keen to make improvements this year.

Recycling-centre goods "too expensive"

Goods for sale at the Devonport Recycling Centre are too expensive for them to be sold on, according to a Devonport-Takapuna Local Board member.

Mike Sheehy told the centre bosses other similar centres he had visited in Wanaka and Hawera sold goods at giveaway prices to keep the items moving.

A surfboard he had seen at the Devonport centre on sale for \$150 was "a dog". If it was on sale for \$25 a local kid could have afforded it, Sheehy said. "Some of the desks I saw there are too dear – you are going to sell a lot more if things were cheaper."

Representatives from the centre told the board that pricing was under review.

From page 1

Devonport Wharf repair costs soar

deteriorated beyond repair and needed replacement, as did the interior floor," said Tony McCartney, Auckland Transport group manager of assets and maintenance.

"It was also discovered that some of the building interior framing had rotted along with rust in the roof purlins and main building portal frame. This has been rectified," said McCartney.

The project is now substantially complete

and is awaiting the newly leased tenancies to undertake their consents and internal fit-outs (at tenants' cost).

The "toilet amenities and wharf storage room" cost \$504,850, according to a Project Initiation Document also obtained under the Official Information Act.

The forecast revenue for the new stage 2 retail is \$191,475 per year, based on an estimated rental of \$300 per sqm.

The documents show major hold-ups in completing the second stage of the project, which was supposed to be finished in time for the World Masters Games in April 2017.

"It is expected Devonport will attract a large number of visitors during this time, therefore this date is a suitable target in which to have the Stage 2 Refurbishment Project completed," stated the document dated September 6, 2016.

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News hound attacked at Devonport Dog Parade

A vicious attack by a large unleashed dog at the Devonport Dog Parade left a puppy with head wounds requiring a visit to the vet.

Flagstaff employee Emelia Lake was at the parade with her puppy, Chance, and a colleague's dog, Ivy, taking photographs for the paper and enjoying the atmosphere.

She had been at the event for three hours and describes it as "friendly, with all the dogs behaving," when the attack happened around 3pm.

Lake was walking alongside stalls and seats near the Victoria Rd side of Windsor Reserve. She was passing a group of three young men when Chance sniffed a "large black dog" which Lake estimates to have been about 60 kg. The larger dog barked aggressively, and Chance jumped away in fright. The older dog chased the puppy, biting him in the face.

The dog "latched onto Chance for about five seconds. Chance was still attached to his lead, yelping. There was blood everywhere," says Lake.

One of the young men managed to drag his dog off. But Lake was unprepared for the tirade of abuse she received. The owner provided her with his contact details, but also another volley of abuse.

"Everyone watching was in shock at what had happened... afterwards people came up to ask me if I was alright," she says.

Surprisingly, the man stayed at the event and his dog remained off the lead.



Once bitten... dog-attack victim Chance, with owner Emelia Lake

Lake took Chance immediately to an off-duty vet's nurse. He had lacerations outside and inside his nose, a whisker ripped out, and a swollen face.

The next day he was taken to Shore Vets, Devonport, where he was prescribed antibiotics.

Lake complained to Auckland Council dog control who are investigating the incident.

The dog parade was a well-run event, says Lake, but could have included an instruction requiring attendees to keep dogs on a lead.

"It was a shock. You don't expect people to bring an aggressive or anxious dog to a dog parade and have it off the lead." She suggests that future parades could have Auckland Council dog-control staff and a vet on hand.



Devonport 10 Burgess Road

Family villa in superb location

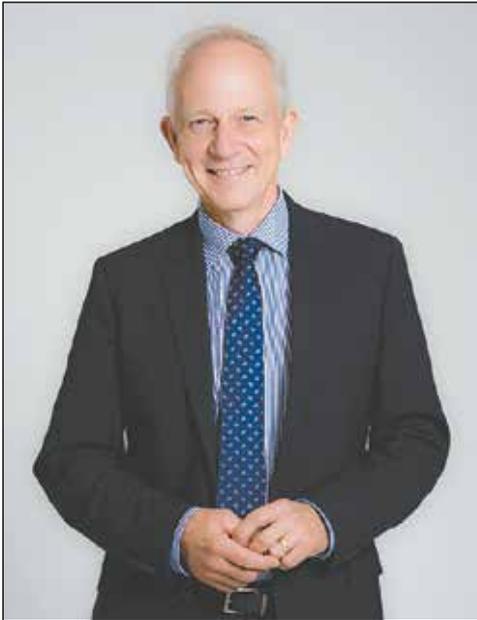
This home with four bedrooms, two bathrooms, two living and separate studio with bathroom is superbly located an easy stroll to beaches, schools, cafes, parks and ferry. The expansive open plan kitchen/dining/family room with fantastic bifold doors opening onto the sunny, safe, fully fenced lawn and wide entertainer's covered decking is brilliant for creating special memories with family and friends. Central heating and an HRV system make this home warm and dry and there is plenty of parking. It is ready and waiting for you to add flair and creativity. Instructions are to sell - owners have made plans and are on the move.

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4/5 2 3 2

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How's the property market looking?



The fact is the property market is changing – we've experienced a real boom for the past few years. The future, whilst by no means bleak is going to be more challenging.

Equally our world has changed beyond recognition in the past 20 years as technology has pervaded our lives, hopefully for the good!

I've spent the past 12 years leading the digital evolution of real estate in NZ working with Realestate.co.nz and Trade Me. Now I'm taking that experience and skill and applying to my home suburb of Devonport as a Real Estate Professional at Bayleys.

As well as extensive experience in digital property marketing, I've a passion for property data and analytics and have written and commented on the property market extensively for many years. So naturally I've applied this skill to the Devonport market with a dedicated monthly property report and website www.devonportproperty.nz

If you would like to chat about the local market and any aspect of your next move – call me anytime

Alistair Helm 021 610 510
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An evening with Bernard Hickey

Thursday 10th May @ The Vic

I've invited Bernard to come to Devonport and share his wisdom and insights. Bernard is a financial commentator who keeps a close eye on the economic and political drivers for housing. He regularly appears on television and radio to analyse the outlook for supply and demand for housing, including for the key markets in Auckland. His engaging style and sometimes controversial views always make for an entertaining and informative evening.

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DevonportProperty.nz Report — March 2018

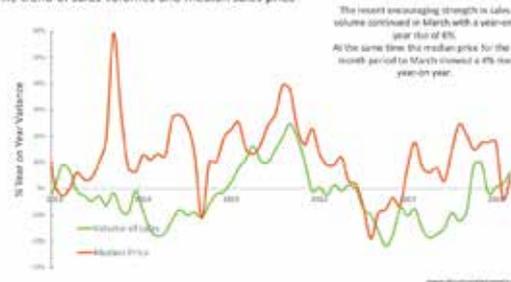
Those days of a red-hot Devonport property market through 2014 to 2016 are now well behind us, as are the double-digit percentage price rises that were experienced back then.

Today, the Devonport property market is best described as steady. Such a market though offers benefits for both buyers and sellers, allowing more time for consideration and contemplation. The challenge for buyers today undoubtedly remains the level of available stock. At the end of March, there were just 43 properties on the market, down from 48 last month. These levels remain low compared to historical averages.

For sellers the main issue is pricing. Median sales prices are still rising, albeit at a slower rate, so the issue is all about setting a clear

Devonport Property - March 2018

The trend of sales volumes and median sales price.



price expectation. In the past three months, the median sales price for all Devonport property edged up 4% to \$1.58m, a rise of \$68,000 over the past year. In terms of the number of sales, activity is relatively healthy with 53 properties sold in the first three months of 2018, up 6% year-on-year.

In summary, if price expectations are realistic to this changed market situation then there are buyers out there looking to move.

HOUSE SALES

The median price for houses sold in the three months to March was \$1.84m, up \$90,000 vs. same time last year. In total, 41 houses were sold over these first three months of 2018, up 12% year-on-year.

UNIT SALES

The market for investment and owner-occupied units is, however, a very different story to house sales. In the past year, total sales of units have fallen from 34 in the 12 months to March 2017, to just 24 sales in the most recent 12 months; a fall of 24% year-on-year. The median sales price is currently fairly weak at \$776,750 for the the first three months of this year, down 4%.

For more comprehensive details on the Devonport property market, view online at www.devonportproperty.nz

March 2018	Properties on the market (as at 31 Mar)	Properties Listed (Jan/Feb/Mar)	Properties Sold (Jan/Feb/Mar)	Change in moving annual total	Median Sale Price (\$M) (Jan/Feb/Mar)	Variance compared to last year
All Properties	43	68	53	▲ +6%	\$1.58m	▲ +4%
Houses	33	50	41	▲ +12%	\$1.84m	▲ +5%
Units	4	10	6	▼ -24%	\$776,750	▼ -4%
T/houses Apartments	6	8	6	▲ +16%		



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3/4 3 2.5 2

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By Rob Drent

The \$6 million-plus bill for the Devonport Wharf two-stage refurbishment will be a shock to some. Building costs have soared in recent years, but is the money spent a good use of ratepayers' money? I had always wondered what the final cost would be, and if the wharf building – a poorly built structure with many construction flaws – should have been pulled down and started from scratch.

I'm no engineer or quantity surveyor, but \$6 million goes a long way to replace what was there with something new. By comparison, the nearby Devonport Library cost \$8 million, and was much more complex to design and build.

The \$500,000 bill for the new toilets at the wharf may also raise a few eyebrows. The previous toilets were in serious need of upgrading, but at what price?

Moreover, I do wonder at the wisdom of Auckland Transport being lumbered with the business of securing tenancies for the new wharf building. In the past, it has proved a thankless task. North Shore City Council, which had control of the wharf prior to the formation of Auckland Council, had great difficulty finding tenants or a business operator to work as a partner.

Shouldn't Auckland Transport be sticking to its knitting and concentrating on the provision of public transport and roading solutions?

Last issue's Notes column had something of a reverse commentator's curse about it. I was moaning about Auckland's public transport woes, the lack of consistency by councils over decades to address it and the need for the government to step in and offer leadership from the top. Then, as the paper was being printed, boom! The government announces a major shift in transport policy away from roading, with a huge shot in the arm for Auckland's public transport improvements, paid for in part through a petrol tax.

Transport Minister Phil Twyford was oft quoted that Labour was moving ahead on Auckland transport after nine years of neglect by a National government. In reality, future-proofing Auckland's transport system has not been given enough attention by any government since World War II, whether that be Labour or National.

I hope the current government continues along its public-transport path, provides the desperately needed solutions to get people moving around Auckland efficiently and cheaply, and it doesn't lose its funding bottle in the face of equally compelling demands from the education and health sectors.

This move by the government seems like good common sense to me. Another one would be for Auckland Transport to purchase any bus services that came up for sale around the city, so fares, timetabling, marketing and future planning can all be under one roof.

While the government is in change and reforming mode, local government needs

attention. For the last 20 years, I've covered the Devonport Community Board and North Shore City Council, and then the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board and Auckland Council

The amount of attention paid to local board politicians by city-hall officials seems to have reached new lows.

Last week, street trees in Devonport were chopped down and local board members were in the embarrassing position of having no knowledge of why it happened. No consultation, or even a heads-up from council, it seems.

The same goes for council-affiliated bodies like Auckland Transport (over a period of several years) and the Maunga Authority, most recently over the ban of vehicles from the summit of Takarunga/Mt Victoria. Both have treated the local board in a patronising fashion, rather than as an equal partner offering meaningful input into Devonport issues.

I'm a staunch supporter of local voices in a big city. But the way the council is treating the local board at the moment isn't working and it could be seen as a waste of ratepayers' money.

Congratulations to our two medallists at the Commonwealth Games. The radiant smile and gracious sportsmanship shown by silver-medallist pole-vaulter Eliza McCartney are well known to readers. But well done as well to the Navy's Ordinary Medical Assistant (OMA) Tasmyn Benny, who put in a not-so-ordinary performance in the women's 48 kg boxing to earn bronze.

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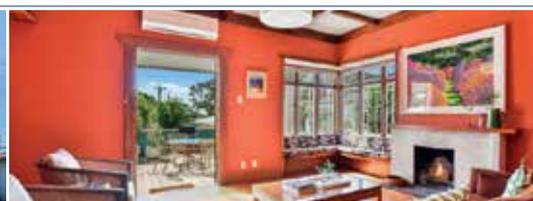


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Glenice Taylor

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 glenice.taylor@harcourts.co.nz



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Harcourts

OPEN HOME



Devonport 6/7 Owens Road

2 1 1 1 1

Central, Sunny, Elevated Apartment
 Located on the top level of this 1970's apartment complex #6 has the prime position! If you have been looking for a lock up and leave this little beauty could be just the thing.
 Priced to sell this apartment is well worth your attention.

For Sale \$790,000
View Saturday 12.00 - 12.30pm
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9683

Diana Murray
 M 021 911 522 P 09 446 2115
diana.murray@harcourts.co.nz
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd
 Licensed Agent REAA 2008

OPEN HOME



Devonport 7c Handley Avenue

2 1 1 1 2

Owners Next Chapter Begins....
 Finally, an opportunity to purchase a single level townhouse offering low maintenance living in a very desirable location, so close to Narrow neck beach that on certain days you can hear the sea! This home which is orientated to the North, was designed to ensure that the living, dining and main bedroom areas all benefit from the sun and the wonderful private aspect.

Tender
 Tender closes Tuesday 24th April at 3:00pm (unless sold prior)
View Sat & Sun 11.00 - 11.45am
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9732

Diana Murray
 M 021 911522 P 09 446 2115
diana.murray@harcourts.co.nz
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd
 Licensed Agent REAA 2008

OPEN HOME



Devonport 49a Mozeley Avenue

3 2 1 1 1

Landlord Wants It Sold!
 If you're a young family, professional couple or looking for a great investment, this opportunity to purchase in central Devonport with all that it has to offer should not be missed. 49a Mozeley Avenue is a freestanding, two level, cedar weatherboard home with three bedrooms, two bathrooms, an internal access garage. Please call now for a private viewing or come to our open homes.

For Sale \$995,000
View Sat & Sun 1.00-1.30pm
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9648

Glencie Taylor
 M 021 943 021 P 09 446 2112
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd
 Licensed Agent REAA 2008

OPEN HOME



Devonport 32a Albert Road

3 1 1 1 1

Deceased Estate - Must Sell
 This deceased estate will be sold, it is well under the current rating value (\$1,600,000), come and see for your self. It is the first time on the market since 1994. This will be great buying, don't miss out, live the easy life now.

For Sale \$1,425,000
View Sat & Sun 1.00 - 1.45pm
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9622

Peter Ayton
 M 021 336 300 P 09 390 0111
peter.ayton@harcourts.co.nz
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd
 Licensed Agent REAA 2008

Belmont 99 Lake Road

5 4 2 2 2

Approved Home & Income
 Set well back from Lake Road & surrounded in a peaceful garden setting is this lovely character style home offering a multi-generational/multi-income floor plan. This home is split into 3 separate residences with plenty of off street parking. Pop by for an inspection to find out how this home could work for you.

For Sale \$1,525,000
View Call to inspect
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9624

Matt Hunt
 M 0274902555 P 09 446 2130
matt.hunt@harcourts.co.nz
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd
 Licensed Agent REAA 2008

Takapuna 16 Norman Road

5 4 2 2 3

Home Is Where The Heart Is
 Grab this exceptional opportunity in the heart of Hauraki. Excellent school zones and spacious living for even the busiest of families. Fantastic set up for a home business also. Call today to view!

For Sale \$2,295,000
View As advertised or by appointment
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9594

Jemma Glancy & Victoria Mules
 M 021 246 5300 & 021 679 349
jemma.glancy@harcourts.co.nz
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd
 Licensed Agent REAA 2008



Harcourts

OPEN HOME



Devonport 21 Waterview Road

4 1 1 5

Childcare Centre And Villa
 • Close to Stanley Bay Primary School
 • 34 years of ownership - 959m2 of land
 • Purpose built kindy at the rear with separate entrance
 • Operated and leased by experienced third parties. Lease \$41,000 plus GST p.a. paid monthly, reviewable every 2 years
 • 4 bedroom villa, rental assessment \$850-\$900pw

For Sale \$2,350,000
View Sat 1.30 - 2.00pm, Sun 2.00 - 2.30pm
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9652

Jane Hastings & Jackie Mark
 M 021 735 263 & 021 458 797
jane.hastings@harcourts.co.nz
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd
 Licensed Agent REAA 2008

AUCTION SUNDAY



Belmont 4 Egremont Street

3 1 2 1 2

You Wont Believe
 What's on offer here, beneficiaries are over being on the market and want to see a result.
 • Character Transitional Villa Prime investment potential
 • Fully fenced family sized section (525m2)
 • Light Bright with good spaces
 • Excellent indoor/outdoor flow to decks and a sunny North facing garden
 • ZONED business mixed use

Auction
 On site, Sunday 22nd April at 12.30pm (will not be sold prior)
View Sat & Sun 12.00 - 12.30pm
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9554
Jackie Mark & Jane Hastings
 M 021 458 797 & 021 735 263
jackie.mark@harcourts.co.nz
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd
 Licensed Agent REAA 2008



Devonport 22a Summer Street

3 2 1 1 2

Perfect Picture In Stanley Point
 This charming villa on a freehold site in Summer Street oozes charm and character while still offering the living space and flow desired in modern times.
 Having been re-piled, re-wired, both the interior and exterior painted and the kitchen modernised - just move in and enjoy this beautiful home in an excellent family focussed community.

Auction
 On site, Sunday 29th April at 10.45am (unless sold prior)
View As advertised or by appointment
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9736

Jemma Glancy & Victoria Mules
 M 021 246 5300 & 021 679 349
jemma.glancy@harcourts.co.nz
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd
 Licensed Agent REAA 2008

NEW LISTING



Devonport 6/93 Vauxhall Road

1 1 1

Beach Hop Hideaway
 A cute home, meters to the sands of Cheltenham Beach. This is the perfect hideaway for a single person. Warm north facing lounge and bedroom, the easy life assured. Secure in your own affordable piece of paradise. In the Vauxhall shops, so great coffee on the doorstep and bus stops at your service. This is not available for more than one person occupancy. View now!

For Sale \$495,000
View Sat & Sun 12.00pm-12.45pm
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9723

Peter Ayton
 M 021 336 300 P 09 390 0111
peter.ayton@harcourts.co.nz
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd
 Licensed Agent REAA 2008



Bayswater 2/59 Norwood Road

2 1 1 1 1

City Views In A Beautiful Location
 This tidy and newly renovated property is an absolute 'must see'. Not just a unit, a peaceful, quiet home with a captivating view. Offering 2 double bedrooms with built-in wardrobes, a good sized bathroom & laundry space, this unit really does stand out above the rest. A MUST VIEW on your Open Home list or call today for a private viewing.

For Sale \$945,000
View As advertised or by appointment
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9692

Jemma Glancy & Victoria Mules
 M 021 246 5300 & 021 679 349
jemma.glancy@harcourts.co.nz
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd
 Licensed Agent REAA 2008

OPEN HOME



Belmont 7 Opua Street

4 3 2 2

Family Home And Legal Granny Flat
 Fabulously located with Bayswater Primary just at the end of the street (actually a quiet cul-d-sac), Belmont shops and transport to Takapuna and the Bayswater ferry are all very close by making this home a winner all round! Elevated, this home has a massive entertaining deck straight off the open plan living/dining/kitchen area which captures all day sun.

For Sale
 By Negotiation
View Sat & Sun 1.00 - 1.30pm
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9642

Maria Stevens
 M 021 979 084 P 09 446 2111
maria.stevens@harcourts.co.nz
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd
 Licensed Agent REAA 2008



Harcourts

OPEN HOME



Devonport 6 Lake Road

3 1 2 1

Devonport's Doorstep
Quick sale required!
• Look at the position - so handy!
• Fantastic outdoor flow at the rear
• Excellent garden with a great outlook
• Wonderful large spaces within
• New roof, great kitchen and bathroom
• All on 513m2 of land!
Our sellers are deadly serious!

Auction
On site, Sunday 29th April at 6.00pm
(unless sold prior)
View Sat 12.45-1.15pm, Sun 1.15-1.45pm
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9728
Jackie Mark & Jane Hastings
M 021 458 797 & 021 735 263
jackie.mark@harcourts.co.nz
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd
Licensed Agent REAA 2008

NEW LISTING



Bayswater 33 Cassino Street

3 1 1 2 1

Outstanding Brick & Tile Do-Up
Sitting proudly at the end of a quiet cul de sac is this original Brick & Tile home on 685sqm of free hold land. After 45 happy years at the property, Eileen the owner has moved on & into a retirement home leaving the new buyer the opportunity of putting their own touches on this special home. Her instructions are to sell, so get ready for this humdinger because it won't stick around!

Auction
On site, Sunday 6th May at 12.00pm
(unless sold prior)
View Sunday 1.00 - 1.30pm
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9699
Matt Hunt
M 0274902555 P 09 446 2130
matt.hunt@harcourts.co.nz
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd
Licensed Agent REAA 2008

OPEN HOME



Bayswater 3/56 Beresford Street

2 1 1 1

You Will Be Delighted!
In 16 years of selling real estate I have not come across a home as cute as this! Oozing charm this home is also full of surprises. Lovingly renovated by the current owners you can just move in and enjoy their hard labour. Private garden, separate laundry and office a total bonus! View A.S.A.P.

For Sale
By Negotiation
View Sunday 10.30 - 11.15am
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9582
Maria Stevens
M 021 979 084 P 09 446 2111
maria.stevens@harcourts.co.nz
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd
Licensed Agent REAA 2008



Devonport 30a Fraser Road

4 2 1 1 2

Sitting Pretty On Fraser Road
Now is your chance to own this fantastic four bedroom, two bathroom home. Sitting at the end of Fraser Road just a short walk to popular Narrow Neck Beach. Close to public transport and local shops this is a very easy home to live in and to enjoy the lifestyle Devonport offers. Please call us for more details and a viewing.

For Sale \$1,195,000
View By Appointment
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9668
Gary Potter & Glenice Taylor
M 021 953 021 & 021 943 021
gary.potter@harcourts.co.nz
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd
Licensed Agent REAA 2008



Takapuna 3/31 Tennyson Avenue

2 1 1 1 1

Get That City Feeling
Put this stylish and spacious 2 bed plus office unit at the top of your Open Home list! Finally a unit with garaging, storage, sun and elevation. Great buying in Takapuna so close to transport to the city as well as access to beautiful beaches for excellent weekend living. Seriously motivated vendors say present all offers.

For Sale
Price By Negotiation
View As advertised or by appointment
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9588
Jemma Glancy & Victoria Mules
M 021 246 5300 & 021 679 349
jemma.glancy@harcourts.co.nz
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd
Licensed Agent REAA 2008

OPEN HOME



Devonport 16 Russell Street

5 3 2 1 1

Connoisseurs' Choice In Devonport
• 4 generous bedrooms, 3 of which have large built in wardrobes
• Designer open plan kitchen with dining area & breakfast bar
• Sun drenched BBQ deck area
• Modernized Self-contained guest house with bathroom
• Hop skip & a jump to Stanley Bay School with a quick walk to Stanley Bay Ferry

Auction
On site Sunday 6th May 2018 at 5.00pm
(unless sold prior)
View Sunday 12.00pm-12.30pm
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9748
Matt Hunt
M 0274902555 P 09 446 2130
matt.hunt@harcourts.co.nz
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd
Licensed Agent REAA 2008

Trees and birdlife always compromised when development occurs

We now understand that the first stage of the Hillary Cres development at Rutherford St, off Eversleigh Rd, will remove all 28 trees, and further trees will be lost due to levelling out the Northboro Reserve to improve recreational access.

The first casualty to the environment during development in Auckland are always the trees and biodiversity. Local morepork and other birds such as grey warbler, silvereye and tui will lose this habitat. At Rutherford St, this is thanks to our local board signing off the Northboro Reserve land swap on the advice of council officers. It appears that our elected representatives have no interest in this environment, which goes against the fact that they fund and profess to support the North-West Wildlink concept of a tree corridor link between the Hauraki Gulf islands and the Waitakere Ranges.

Trees, particularly large old trees, are rare in

the area and essential for wildlife, including owl roosting (resting) and nesting sites. The morepork I listened to in this area this week is maybe the same bird that lost a huge old established oak tree on the Esmonde Rd side of Shoal Bay to an infill development last year.

Large trees cannot be replaced by 'artist impression' small trees, as illustrated on the Rutherford St development plans. Many of these newly planted trees will not survive and will have little benefit to the environment for many years. That's if they are even planted in the first place. It's unlikely that they will be allowed to grow into large trees due to their closeness to intensive development and no legal ongoing protection.

This is all compliant activity of course under the RMA and the Auckland Unitary Plan (AUP). And with no effective tree protection in Auckland, we will continue to see the biodiversity of the local environment degrade, often at the hands of the authorities, who then ask for a targeted rate to improve the environment for biodiversity outcomes. Meanwhile, local volunteers make a small



Local morepork endangered by tree removal

dent in the many issues of pest plants and animal pests, while our local representatives continue to contribute to the larger detrimental environmental outcomes. Come on local board – isn't it about time you wised up with your decisions and came onside with your community of environmental volunteers?

Philip Moll

Barbara Dawson
www.Yogabythesea.co.nz
 class times on website

Rubbish on our beaches: let's pick it up

With one short walk on the beach and one small bag, I collected a small mountain of plastic rubbish.

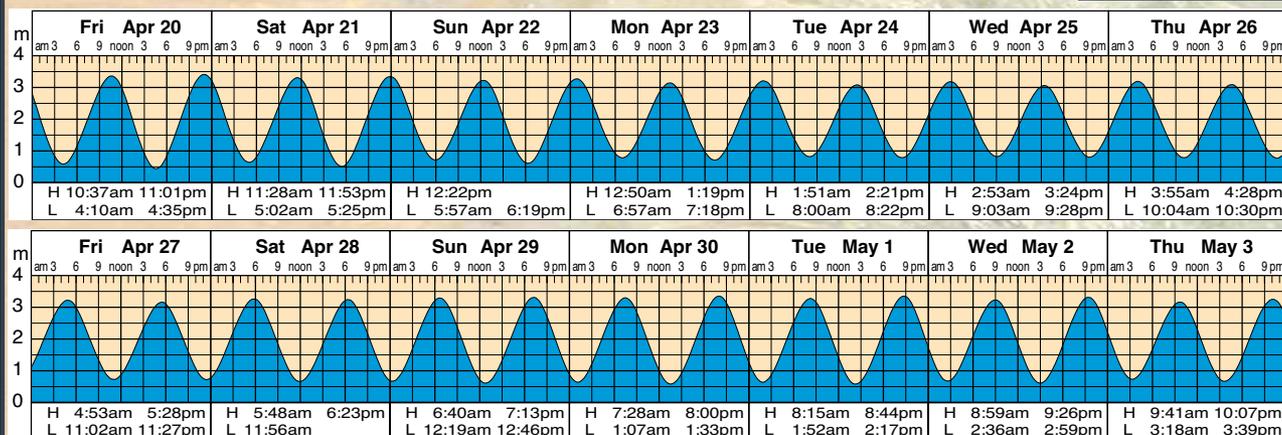
Anyone who lives at or near the beach, or visits the beach, could be helping by picking up all the small bits of plastic that cause such devastation to our marine life. It could be a good educational game for children to play – to see how much plastic they can find – not just on the beach but also in the parks and streets nearby. Auckland Council also needs to play its part by providing adequate rubbish and recycling bins in public spaces.

J Jones



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CONTACT Larissa Williams **P** 446 2108 **M** 021 960 313 **E** larissa.williams@harcourts.co.nz



Lingerie shop a jewel box of goodies

Devonport Lingerie – a jewel box of bright bras, liquid silk slips, pretty nightgowns, cosy pjs, comfy Thunderpants, delicate merinos, knickers, socks, swimsuits, hankies, robes and so much more. The range of goodies, all quality and much of it NZ-made, is astonishing. To women and girls, Donna Gustafson has been a delightful counsellor and a sensitive fitter. To men, she has been a gift suggestor extraordinaire.

I offer my thanks to Donna for all the

voluntary work she does in the community, and my very best wishes for her next adventure. But golly, I'll miss her. Who else would you see walking her children to school through Devonport wearing a pink leopard print onesie? (Yes, it was Pink Breakfast Day.)

Last week, a dismayed client who had just heard the news of closure, marched into that lovely shop and cried "Bloody Hell, Donna!"

And who would not agree?

Miriam Beatson

A fountain full of Easter surprise

Imagine my surprise over Easter to find the memorial fountain by the library refurbished, repainted and looking great!

I've been critical of its lack of care in the past, so here's a 'good on you' to whoever

is responsible for the upgrade. Thank you!

Quite a few tourists were using it as a backdrop for their photos.

Well done.

Max Dennison

Old council chambers should remain in public hands

I am furious, but not surprised, that the community-owned Devonport Borough Council building was hijacked by Panuku to sell off to the highest bidder.

Several years ago, an extremely efficient i-Site in this building was disbanded and replaced by an ineffective information centre on the wharf, with paid employees who knew little about Devonport.

For the past year, a successful information centre has been active back in

the council building, staffed by enthusiastic, knowledgeable volunteers, who wish to continue supporting the drive for visitors and tourists, in a building the community once owned.

If you are against the sale of this historic building and wish it to remain in community hands, please come and sign the petition at the information centre and write to your local councillors.

Sue Lorimer

North Head and Fort Takapuna Historic Reserves Weed Spraying

The Department of Conservation wishes to notify its neighbours and regular users of the above reserves of its intention to carry out maintenance spraying. Spraying will be undertaken on several days between 1st and 30th May 2018. All spraying will take place during the hours of the standard working week.

Spray application will be carried out by qualified chemical applicators. A temporary blue marker dye will be added to indicate plants that have been sprayed. A notice advising the public of the spraying taking place that day will be erected at the main entrance points.

Further information may be obtained from the North Head Office by phoning 09 445 9142.

KIRTSY PRIOR
Operations Manager,
Auckland Mainland



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

A shining light

Thank you for clarifying the history and mystery of the missing lamp (Flagstaff, 6 April). Good to know Nunzio Arabito's skill continues with his great-nephew.

Thank you also to R.H.S. Keely for providing background history.

Vanessa Seymour

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Devonport's independent bookstore stocks new books, cards, gift wrap, book-related gifts and gifts for children's birthdays. We take orders and cater to book clubs.

DEVONPORT
PENINSULA TRUST
Making Community Happen



OUT & ABOUT

Maria Teape Community Coordinator

445 9533 | maria@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz

MARK AND CINDY LEMAIRE AT THE BUNKER

Monday 23 April at 8:00pm

The Bunker, Takarunga/Mt Victoria, Devonport
Here on a visit from the USA, Mark & Cindy share some perfectly matched vocal harmonies, with Mark's unique guitar style incorporating fingerpicking, slap-and-tap harmonics, and hand percussion. **For more information contact the Devonport Folk Music Club. Admission: \$5.**

KAURI DIEBACK PUBLIC TALK

Dr. Mels Barton, The Tree Council

Thursday 26 April, 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Devonport Community House, 32 Clarence St
Restoring Takarunga Hauraki invites you to attend an evening talk about Kauri Dieback. Although there aren't a lot of kauri on the peninsula, there are a lot of implications of the spread of this disease into our forests, and we do need to think about what we have. **For more information email: pestfreedevonport@gmail.com**

TAKAPUNA GRAMMAR SCHOOL PRESENTS "LITTLE WOMEN"

1-5 May 2018 (7.30pm) plus special relaxed performance Saturday 5th May at 2pm
Takapuna Grammar School Hall, 210 Lake Road
From page to stage *Little Women* is the Broadway musical adaptation of Louisa May Alcott's novel of the same name. Featuring four vastly different sisters being raised by a solo mother while their father is away at war.

For pre-booked ticket sales please contact r.dil@tgs.school.nz – limited door sales on the night. Cost: waged \$20 / unwaged \$15

FEISTY FEET DANCE CLASSES FOR SENIORS

Wednesdays, 2 May to 30 May
(5-week trial), 12:30pm-1:30pm
Devonport Community House, 32 Clarence St
Enjoy your physical well-being and confidence in older age — dance your way into the year with fun, social and safe classes. To enquire or book ph: 378 7361 or email yep@nzdc.org.nz. Cost: \$10 per class.

Devonport Peninsula Community eNEWS
To receive the Devonport Peninsula eNEWS, a monthly email listing of community events, and other community notices, please email us at maria@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz

With special thanks to the
Devonport-Takapuna Local Board for
funding the Devonport Peninsula Trust.

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Flying the flag for forests

From his home on the slopes of Maungauika/North Head, Garth Cumberland is completing work on a national forestry policy that embraces both native and commercial forests. It recently won him the industry's top award. The tree enthusiast – and croquet club president – talks to Geoff Chapple.

The year is 1981. The television presenter is Kenneth Cumberland. The five-part documentary series is *Landmarks*, which held the country in thrall that year as New Zealand's first big David Attenborough-style nature series.

Professor Cumberland doesn't break stride as he walks through the New Zealand bush, talking to camera, conjuring broad truths on New Zealand's isolation, its vast blue oceanic surround, and the weather patterns that well up cold from the south in winter, and clamp down warm from the north in summer.

"From whatever direction they come," intones the magisterial Cumberland, "the air masses approaching New Zealand are laden with moisture. The rain they bring made this the land of trees."

"Brilliant! Absolutely right!" says Garth Cumberland, the son. "The rain they bring made this the land of trees." I wrote those very words down for the speech I gave to the New Zealand Institute of Forestry (NZIF) conference at Rotorua. I plagiarised him on that occasion. He was already under the ground, but I wouldn't have asked him anyway."

Garth Cumberland's Rotorua speech, in September last year, was a landmark of its own. It announced, to a diverse audience, a major initiative – a New Zealand forest policy.

In a land so naturally suited to trees, said Cumberland, indigenous forest together with commercial forest, covered 38 per cent of the country. Yet unlike other forested countries that took logs and timber to market, New Zealand had never had a comprehensive forest policy. The National Government, he said, believed market forces alone would solve any problem, yet the industry had been damaged by an Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS), where market forces of supply and demand had been corrupted by a massive influx of worthless international junk bonds. It'd been kneecapped further by numerous carveouts from the ETS for favoured industries like



Forestry fan... Garth Cumberland, pictured with his carved Forester of the Year award

agriculture, where forestry competed for land. Plantation forest acreage, year on year, had begun to shrink in size at the very moment that the natural capacity of trees to sequester carbon had become a vital tool to meet New Zealand's goals under the 2016 Paris Agreement on climate change.

The policy was emerging through successive drafts, and was now undergoing one last integration of submissions before general release, said Cumberland. But he lifted the veil on some of its agreed recommendations. Instead of the Ministry of Primary Industry's generalised and often distracted attention to trees, the policy sought a Government minister specifically dedicated to forestry, and a dedicated forestry agency.

The September conference took place just before last year's election, and was attended by politicians of every stripe. Shane Jones was there, soon to occupy exactly that role – a forestry minister in a new coalition government. Listening. Nodding.

And then, for his work harnessing the many strands of forestry expertise and shaping up the forest policy, the NZIF presented a surprised Garth Cumberland with its most coveted award – the handsome carved plaque

that made him Forester of the Year.

Cumberland is gregarious by nature, enthusiastic, with an energetic good humour that's nicely offset by the mordant wit of his wife Vivienne. Their Cheltenham home has a barefoot informality, and the Cumberlands share it with one young lolloping dog, Maggie, and the older Bruno, a stiff-legged foxy patriarch.

The house was originally designed by architect Neil Simmons and built in 1987 for the late Dr Miles Williamson, and Mary Williamson, who remains a Devonport resident. It rises in three levels against the steep slope of Maungauika/North Head, the second storey set back against the first to accommodate the slope, then heading upwards again by spiral staircase to what's virtually a treetop third floor, balcony attached, overlooking Cheltenham Beach and Rangitoto Channel.

A tall flagpole rises from the garden below and overtops the balcony. If the Cumberlands are hosting anyone from overseas, the national flag of those visitors is always flying high for their arrival. If New Zealand gets a prominent state visitor, or if any country is featuring prominently in the news cycle, its flag may

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it to
US



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also get flown here. Kim Jong Un would have been pleased, over recent months, to see the five-pointed red star of North Korea taut and true in a New Zealand westerly. During the famous John Key flag debate, the Hundertwasser koru, and a 'Black Peak' flag similar to the 'Red Peak' that won late entry into flag finalists got an airing, but no flag that featured a kiwi or a silver fern. On proud and loyal days, like Anzac and Easter, the Cumberlands fly Rangatiratanga, or Moriori flags.

"I came to Devonport in 2013 from 50 years out in the scrub," says Cumberland, "chasing sheep or trees or anything agricultural, which I absolutely loved – farming and agricultural research, and later trees and forest consultancy. Under their breath, some of my mates would mutter, 'He'll never last in town.' But I can remember telling Vivienne, 'If I've got to go to town I really would like to have a view of the bloody harbour, and be able to see Rangitoto, see some pohutukawa trees, on a beach, probably on a volcano as well – that'd be good.' I got all of those five."

The aim was to retire, but there's still a mud-spattered ATV standing beside the front door, evidence of an occasional rough ride in the country. There's also a strong strain of public service in Cumberland's make-up. Two years after his arrival in Devonport, he became president of the Devonport Croquet Club, and the forest policy has taken "more work than I ever expected – by a mile. I'm presently working on 60 submissions for my latest version, reconciling all the different interests."

That loyalty to public service may go back to his father's influence, not just as a broadcaster, and a professor at the University of Auckland, but as an Auckland City councillor.

"Oh yeah. He was a clever rooster and he used to do really interesting things. When I was a boy, I'd follow along with him to the Auckland City Council meetings. He'd take me in the old Ford Prefect all the way from Remuera to the Town Hall, and I'd sit in the back of the public gallery and listen to them talk until 11 o'clock at night. I loved it."

Public service, and a loyalty to public process: when the newly established Tupuna Maunga Authority (TMA) – administrator of Auckland's maunga – published its 2016 Integrated Management Plan (IMP) for the volcanic cones, Cumberland and some neighbours put in written submissions and spoke at the public hearing.

For Cumberland it was partly self-interest, because his property has a common boundary with Maungauika/North Head's reserve land. But it was mostly a genuine concern with the tone of the IMP. Despite the act that sets out the TMA's governance explicitly stating that the cones should be held for the common benefit of the iwi/hapu of Nga Mana Whenua and the other people of Auckland, the language in the IMP appeared to favour only the Maori view, "at the expense of a fair

balance between European and Nga Mana Whenua," Cumberland told the hearing.

"It concerned me then, and it concerns me now, in the way the car ban on Mt Vic was introduced," says Cumberland. "It wasn't explicitly there in the IMP, and there was a lack of consultation, with implications that flow through to a whole lot of other restrictions."

But back to the trees. Cumberland loves them. As a young scientific adviser with the Department of Agriculture, he researched ways to marry forestry and farming on the same property – agro-forestry. He's also planted trees by the hundred on farms at

*"There's also
a strong strain
of public service
in Cumberland's
make-up."*

Brookby and Te Kuiti. And beyond that, he knows the comfort that urban trees and native bush provide.

"I'm not a tree hugger, I'm very much a tree appreciator, and believe that the human race underestimates the incredible subtle values

they have."

One part of the forest policy that's likely to surprise the New Zealand public is represented in the 'Forester of the Year' award carving. It shows, to the left, indigenous forest, and to the right, complete with its stumps, commercial forest. The new forest policy will embrace both types.

"We can do that because both kinds of forest share important services like carbon sequestration," says Cumberland. "That's part of a new appreciation of what they call 'ecosystem services' – services like prevented erosion, shade, water purity and recreation, that both types of forest share. I hear people say the bush doesn't earn money. But now we're looking at the ecosystem services they provide, native trees are bloody valuable. It'll be stressed in the policy we're writing."

Meanwhile, there's a billion-dollar man waiting. Shane Jones is Minister of Regional Economic Development and oversees a \$1 billion regional superfund. The same guy, wearing shades, is Minister of Forestry and wants to plant a billion trees.

"Yes, the policy has ideas that will suit," says Cumberland. "To grab all this dodgy land in sheep and beef – virtually every hill-country pastoral farm has got land that is unproductive in anything other than trees. On some of the steeper high-country land, you'd turn it into indigenous vegetation. And yes, I've had the message that the minister is waiting."



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Twenty years ago: a selection from the Flagstaff files

- Controversial museum owner Bryan Jackson decides to sell his \$5.5 million collection after his museum was closed for several months. Te Papa, (the museum of New Zealand) had earlier turned down Jackson's approaches to buy the whole collection.

- The Wong-Kams fruit market in Belmont closes after 66 years. The business was started in 1932 by Arthur Wong-Kam's father Wong Kam. From the early 1930s until 1949, much of the land around Bayswater Primary had been market gardens.

- The hearing begins into plans for Bell South to construct a cell-phone tower on a site next to Devonport Primary.

- John Leonard, who served more than 35 years in the Navy, rising to the rank of Maritime Commander, dies suddenly aged 55.

- The Devonport Community Board allocates \$2847 for graffiti eradication

- Sunday in Devonport*, a song performed by Jimi Hart, with backing vocals from the kids at St Leo's and Vauxhall Primary Schools and the inaugural recording at the Depot's new studio, is out on sale. The 500 cassette tapes have a price tag of \$6 each.

- Construction work on six new apartments at Elizabeth House on King Edward Parade is about to start.

- A Stanley Bay waterfront home designed



by local architect Geoff Richards is one of 12 finalists in the New Zealand Institute of Architects national awards.

- Devonport GP Erica Lauder is the Flagstaff feature interview.

End of an era...

Arthur Wong-Kam and wife Yim Tong retire from the fruit business



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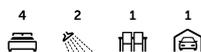
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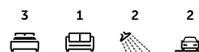
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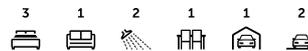
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DEVONPORT 4/53 VAUXHALL ROAD



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Council chops Victoria Rd trees



Ashes to ashes... the stump of an ash tree that was chopped down outside the visitor information centre

Locals were stunned last week when a row of street trees was unexpectedly cut down. But according to council, the trees were either dead or diseased.

Auckland Council Head of Operational Management and Maintenance Agnes McCormack said the ash trees in Victoria Rd “were at a stage that they were becoming a potential hazard for members of the public.”

The trees were either dead or “irreversibly in decline”, she said.

The surviving trees have been retained and will be pruned.

“The removed trees will be replaced with a suitable alternative during the upcoming planting season. However, a replacement species has yet to be decided and we will be approaching the local board for suggestions. The species chosen will need to be appropriate for the location and to avoid future conflict with adjacent structures,” McCormack said.

Council’s tree contractor combined the tree removals with other maintenance work near to

Devonport library, to ensure public safety and for the town centre to look at its best leading up to the upcoming Anzac Day memorial service.

“There are no plans to remove the Phoenix palms. Rather, they are having their dead fronds removed for safety. However, this work has been slightly delayed due to the storm-response work currently taking place,” McCormack said.

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board member Mike Cohen said a letter from the Devonport Business Association around nine months ago, about the state of the trees, had triggered the council action.

However, Cohen was angry the findings had not come back to the board, before the council chopped down the trees at “5am in the morning — not a time we would allow anyone else to do this type of work.”

Given the sensitive heritage nature of Victoria Rd, the board should have been involved in the decision-making process and would consult with Devonport Heritage 2017 and heritage architects on any changes, Cohen said.

TGS cyclists excel

TGS cyclists Lucy Buckeridge and August Elworthy won events in the Ultimo CHB Junior Tour held in Hawkes Bay.

In the under-17 womens division, Lucy placed first in both the general classification (GC) and the Queen of the Mountains points classification (QOM). Lucy rode away from the rest of the field on the last stage, to take the stage win and win the tour, after going into the final stage in third place.

In the under-15 men’s division, August placed first in both the GC and the King of the Mountains (KOM). He dominated the race, winning three of the four stages.

Other results included – Under-15 women: Ella McKinney fourth in GC; Elizabeth Chapman fifth in GC and fifth in the QOM; Brooke Leonard sixth in GC. Charlotte Chamberlain placed second in the prologue time trial, but suffered an unfortunate crash on stage three to end her tour.

Under-19 men: Josh Kench was 14th in the GC, and second in KOM. Josh won the first road stage after spending 100km out in front of the peloton in a two-man breakaway. Callum Erskine was 18th and Patrick Calver 20th in GC.

Under-17 men: Nick Bowen sixth in GC, first in KOM.

Devonport Museum

AGM

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Roger Giles on the Devonport Folk Club and The Bunker

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Devonport's canines captured on canvas and camera



Depot goes to the dogs... Michelle Male with Rhubarb, one of her subjects

Devonport's beaches and its animal-loving community have inspired Michelle Male's collection of dog portraits.

Since moving to Devonport in 1995, Male has painted a vast variety of subjects, including boats, ballerinas and landscapes. But painting dogs has become her favourite. "I walk every morning on the local beaches and meet amazing people with their dogs. I love trying to capture the dogs' characters. They all have different personalities."

Male's golden retriever Rhubarb was her first subject. "I got Rhubarb 13 years ago. She was a rescue dog, and I began sketching her."

Since then, Male has been inspired by the many local dogs she sees on the beaches, in the sea, and around Devonport. Male says she takes numerous photos of different dogs that she sees. "I use the joy Rhubarb brings me, and all dogs, and I try to portray that in my painting."

Male has found Devonport to be the perfect outlet for her art. "There's a real dog community in Devonport. People have even invited me to their dog meets to photograph the different dogs."

The opportunities and support she has had over the past few years drove Male's decision to leave her job in 2017, and focus full-time on her art.

• Michelle Male's dog portraits are on view at the Depot Artspace until April 29.

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Doggie delight when pets are on parade

Several hundred dog lovers and their loyal pets turned out to the annual Devonport Dog Parade at Windsor Reserve.



Treat time... miniature dachshund Chip with owner Berni Griffiths



Real-life teddy bear... Milo the labradoodle and owner Aislinn



Almost as good as the real thing... Anobel (left) and Emily Gray with toy dogs



Lucy Romero with jumping labradoodle Louie

King of the Bays attracts more than 700



Young bloods... togs were ok for these finishers in the 2.5 km King of the Bays last Saturday, which was held in gusty, rainy conditions

A total of 758 competitors completed the 2.5 km Kings of the Bays ocean-swim course on Saturday – the first time it was raced in Devonport, from Balmain Reserve, Cheltenham to Windsor Reserve.

Matt Scott won the race in 28.05, just three seconds ahead of Davey Boles. Stefanie Gilles-

pie was first woman home in 29.55.

The race, which is usually held between Milford and Takapuna beaches, was shifted to Devonport due to persistent water-quality safety warnings at Takapuna. Other races held in addition to the 2.5km main swim were the Torpedo 750m and Ocean Kids 200m swims.

King of the Bays winner... Matt Scott



Shore continues winning start to season

North Shore premiers beat Marist 28-18 at home last Saturday for a three-in-a-row winning start to the season, but it was a streaky performance.

Shore would have fancied itself against Marist, one of the lowest-ranked teams in the North Harbour competition, and without any real stars.

But for much of the match, Shore was inconsistent: periods of forward dominance, followed by time going off the boil; spells of promising attack followed by a lack of organisation; and indiscipline leaking kickable penalties.

To its credit, the Marist pack played with plenty of pep, keeping the Shore eight honest. For Shore, Jacob Pierce shone in the line-outs and the loose.

The Marist backline had little with which to challenge the bone-shattering defence of James Little and Daniel Hilton-Jones.

For Shore, more control was needed from Jordon McGregor at first five – some accurate kicking to the corners in the wet conditions could have built the pressure on Marist, as Shore looked to have the edge in the set pieces.

Shore's back play was also a bit pedestrian. There seemed little structure to free up the outside backs like winger Mosese Pepa, who looked dangerous in broken play and often went



hunting for work.

Shore had dominated much of the second half and were leading 29-13 with five to play. But it let in a soft try right at the death, which summed up the afternoon. Plenty for the young Shore side to work on for the rest of the season.

On the burst... Shore captain Daniel Hilton-Jones makes a second-half break, with James Little (centre) and Donald Coleman in support



Steady Steps Presentation

Wednesday 2 May, 10am – 11.30am

Rose Centre Lounge, School Road, Belmont

We warmly invite you along to hear from Katie Rom (BSc Hons Health Promotion) from Age Concern North Shore, who will provide information and simple tips to help prevent a slip, trip or fall occurring.

Morning tea will be served following the presentation.



For more information phone Mark or Janet on 445 0909

Sales office: Onsite on Ngataranga Road and 29 Lake Road, Devonport



Maunga Authority petition well supported

More than 700 people have signed a petition seeking improved local consultation from the Maunga Authority.

The signatures were gathered online and from street stands in Devonport over the last couple of weeks.

A public meeting in Devonport – to present the petition to Maunga Authority heads – is set for mid to late May at the Community House.

The Maunga Authority decision to close the summit of Takarunga/Mt Victoria to vehicles has been controversial, although codes to open the barrier gate can be given to people unable to walk up the mountain.

The Devonport Folk Club (whose base is at The Bunker on the mountain) and commercial operator Devonport Tours have both negotiated arrangements with the Maunga Authority, allowing restricted access.

A group (which organised the petition) has set up in response to what they see as a lack of consultation with the local community and the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board, over the removal of car access to the summit and associated issues, such as spillover car-parking into nearby streets and money being spent on the mountain.

Taking it to the streets...

Geoff Chapple (left), one of the petition organisers, canvasses passers-by on Victoria Rd



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The art of staying in Devonport

Rising house prices and rents have led to Aucklanders living in garages because they can't afford homes. In an economic twist, some asset-rich but cash-poor Devonport residents rent out rooms in their houses, so they can afford to stay in the suburb. One of these, Monica Sorrenson, has moved into her garage when Airbnb demand is high. Rob Drent reports.

Monica Sorrenson considers herself lucky. She lives 100 metres from the Waitemata Harbour in a quiet cul-de-sac. She doesn't own a car, but is only a short bike ride or walk to the Devonport shops and ferry.

A couple of years ago, she never imagined she would be living in her garage over summer to help make ends meet.

She bought her Duders Ave home in 2011, "before the real craziness" around property prices began. She moved in full-time in 2014.

With a lack of steady work, the former English-as-a-second-language teacher was faced with the problem of how to make ends meet.

She was asset-rich and cash-poor, like many Devonport homeowners. Some said she should scale down: sell up and move out of the suburb.

But Sorrenson decided to give Airbnb and Booking.com a go, renting out a room to get some extra income.

It's a trend that appears to be sweeping Devonport. Apart from the Esplanade Hotel and a few upmarket bed and breakfasts, accommodation options are limited.

In the last couple of years, the online-booking site listings for the suburb have mushroomed. More than 200 Devonport homes are listed on Airbnb and Booking.com. Offerings range from quite luxurious, high-spec sleepouts or granny flats to simple rooms within a house.

Last October, Sorrenson, who had herself stayed as a guest at Australian Airbnbs, started renting out one room in her home, with an option of another for spillover guests.



Guests welcome... Monica Sorrenson has decorated the rooms she rents with travel photographs and art

However, the demand was such that she quickly had both rooms rented out over summer and she was camping out in the garage.

"The guests have a shared bathroom and toilet... in summer, I was having a shower down at the beach."

In February and March, Sorrenson had "one day off each month" without guests at her home. On 15 nights, both rooms were booked.

Reservations are down over the next few months, but she has forward bookings stretching out to February 2019.

Overall it's been a highly positive experience for Sorrenson, who has liked

meeting the guests. It helps that she's a traveller herself. She has visited dozens of countries, and lived in China for four years, travelling to 20 cities there. Sorrenson also speaks French, and a little Chinese, Arabic and Russian.

She also enjoys the challenges around marketing her home. She's called it Art BnB, – a play on the Airbnb name and a nod to the colourful travel photographs and art that adorns her walls.

The timings of the guests arrivals (generally late afternoon) and departures (early morning), leaves her free to pursue other interests. She's currently writing a novel centring on an understanding of Islam. "I've lived in seven countries where Islam is the main religion."

There have been costs involved in letting out her rooms: linen and towels, and increased water bills. She also had to shell out for a new bed. But most of the additional equipment she needed she has purchased from the Hospice Shop in Takapuna or the Anglican Op Shop in Devonport.

Financially, the jury is still out on the returns. Sorrenson is giving it two years to see if it is viable as a 'break-even' source of income that allows her to stay in Devonport.

"I've talked to B&B operators and they've said to me that the income wasn't enough to be the single source of money."

"You never know, I may be better off on the unemployment benefit."

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I have listened to some strongly worded views on the coalition government's new plan for Auckland's transport with many North Shore drivers unhappy we'll be hard hit by an increase in petrol taxes, up to about 25 cents a litre or around \$15 every time we fill up our cars. Around half of this will be from a nationwide tax increase on fuel and the other half from a new regional tax for Auckland, but how will it specifically benefit us here on the Shore to ease the time wasting congestion on Lake and Esmonde Roads for example? I'm very interested to hear your views on what value you think we get for the not inconsiderable rates we give Auckland Council every year. If we had the choice what are our local priorities that would make a difference to our quality of life here on the Shore? I have a brief questionnaire I'm posting on my Facebook and Website which I'll be taking up with Mayor Goff next month and I'd appreciate your views.

We are certainly enhancing the lifestyle and lifespans of our local songbirds and it was good to hear an update on progress ridding the peninsula of rats from DOCs Predator Free 2050 Auckland Ranger. Kat Lane's role in helping coordinate community projects using DOCs expertise, has meant she's been able to work very effectively with Celia Walker from Restoring Takarunga Hauraki. Together with the enthusiastic volunteers, they've made impressive gains with nearly 400 rat traps in a community wide grid network to ensure they don't re-infest. Rat numbers are tracking very low which is why we all heard so many more birds this summer. Congratulations to Kat, Celia and the big team who've made that happen and there's always room for more volunteers to help fight the War on Weeds, holding the line on rat control and helping with the next bird count of our 20 most popular songsters, email Celia at pestfreedevonport@gmail.com or go to www.norats.org or www.doc.govt.nz and look at Predator Free 2050 for other ways to get involved.

When I became the Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage with special responsibilities for WW100 commemorations in 2014, it was my honour to unveil plaques commemorating our soldiers stories in Belgium

and France. As part of my personal contribution, I narrated Nga Tapawae, in the footsteps of the ANZACs recordings featuring moving dramatised extracts from soldier's diaries which you can now download as a free app to enhance your awareness of the soldier's experiences. ANZAC Day has always been a day of commemoration and some sadness in my family, as we remember those who served and those who were not as fortunate as my family and never returned home. My Grandfather fought at Gallipoli and then in Egypt in WWI, and my father and uncle in the Airforce and Navy respectively during WWII so I've always appreciated our country's proud record of service and the sadness of the survivors for those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

The Depot will reflect the mood of our community with 'A Moving Tribute', a photography exhibition which follows the tour of the Victory Medal around New Zealand and Europe. We're looking forward to going to the opening on Monday night with members of the Kiely family whose father Tom is one of the very few surviving children of the brave WWI kiwi tunnellers in Arras.

This year's ANZAC Day for Grant and I will begin with the dawn parade in Browns Bay and as proud members of our local Devonport RSA we will be joining the Parade and laying a wreath at the mid-morning Devonport ceremony. Gary Monk ONZM will be laying a wreath with his granddaughter Ella on my behalf at the Takapuna Commemorations. At the going down of the sun, we will attend the always poignant Takapuna Grammar sunset service with its roll call of honour of the names of the 85 former pupils who died serving in WWII and in Korea.

Lest we forget. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.

From your local Devonport based MP for North Shore,

Hon Maggie Barry ONZM

NORTH SHORE ELECTORATE OFFICE

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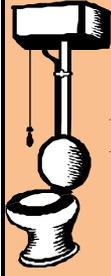
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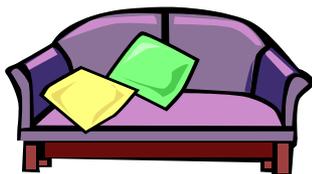
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Origami fish help hook Navy lunch for Tess

A Kiwi do-it-yourself approach won Tess McGregor the Navy Open Day window display competition.

McGregor, manager of the Hospice Shop in Victoria Rd, chose a "flotsam and jetsam" theme for the shop's display, teaching herself how to make origami fish to attach to a collection of fans someone had donated to the shop.

"I try to never spend any money on window displays, but instead use things that are donated," she says.

McGregor's son Finn (13) and daughter Rosie (16) helped her put the winning window display together. They are donating the origami fish to the Devonport Creche.

Commanding Officer of the HMNZS Philomel Navy base, Quentin Randall, visited the shop to present McGregor with her prize, an invitation to lunch on a naval vessel next Auckland Anniversary Day.

Ticket to ride... Commander Quentin Randall presents Hospice Shop manager Tess McGregor with her invitation to an on-board Navy lunch



THE NAVY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

NAVY TRAINEES JOIN IN ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATION AT DEVONPORT

This Anzac Day more than 100 members of the Royal New Zealand Navy from Devonport Naval Base will take part in the commemoration in Devonport.

They will include a platoon of the 94 Basic Common Training (BCT) trainees in the seventh week of their course who will parade along with a guard of 18 trainees from the next stage of Navy training - Basic Branch Training (BBT).

Guest speaker will be Navy Captain Richard Walker and one of our Navy Chaplains, Rich Lander will lead the prayer. The Navy Band will play at this gathering and a Navy Bugler will play the *Last Post*.

In late February more than 90 young civilians signed on in Devonport and began the 18-week BCT course to become a self-sufficient sailor for the Royal New Zealand Navy.

Last Sunday, after completing their first five weeks they paraded to the St Christopher Chapel at Devonport Naval Base for a Church Service, which also marks their first contact with family in those five weeks for most of them.

It's always an emotional moment as the



A catering contestant displays his flambe skills at the Roy Smith Memorial Catering competition

new trainees in their smart white sailor uniforms, are dismissed from formation and are embraced by family or friends in hugs and warm greetings.

During the Church Service, four trainees are chosen to give a personal view of the past few weeks and the struggles they have had to overcome.

For some it is the challenge of leaving family and home, for others it's learning new skills such as washing and ironing or living in close community, and for many it's the discipline required and the demands of

regular physical training.

As well as PT sessions, the trainees had to undertake a swim test from the pontoon at Devonport Naval Base in their BCT overalls, jumping into the harbour and swimming a short distance, as a group.

During BCT Shakedown Week they faced many physical challenges, including a 10-kilometre cross country run, parading for Divisions inspection, and other team exercises including a "longest day" outdoor challenge at Tamaki Leadership Centre on the Whangaparaoa peninsula.

For most trainees, these weeks become some of the most memorable of their time in the Navy, when they form lifelong friendships with colleagues and learn life-changing new skills and teamwork.

This is the first of two BCT courses each year and this one will graduate in early July

Devonport Anzac Day Parade & Service
Parade assembly: 9.25am at New World Supermarket carpark, Bartley Tce.

Parade commences: 9.50am.

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6 Huia Street, **Devonport**

Move in and make history

All the very best things about Devonport come together at 6 Huia Street. A historic 1921 bungalow with period features and kauri floors, an easy, short, flat walk to the village and the ferry, and a rare level section within metres of the harbour. Add to that solid double brick walls, gas heating, cooking and hot water, a kitchen/conservatory that feels like a small café and you begin to see just how good life can be living here. And if you want to feel part of the community, there's no better place. You'll be living on one of Devonport's iconic streets with a real neighbourhood feel. There's even plenty of space to extend into the back garden if you want. Whatever you do to make this house your own will only increase its charm and its value.

Auction

6:30pm, Thursday 12 April
On site. Unless sold prior

View

By Appointment



Petko Petkov
027 302 0686



Matthew Smith
021 924 435



A cold head for a good cause

It's going to be a cold winter for the students who are embracing the bald look after this year's Shave for a Cure, in late March. Each year, participants are sponsored to shave their heads, raising money for blood cancer research. Students gathered in the school hall on a Friday lunchtime to cheer on the brave, as they went under the electric clippers. They all demonstrated high levels of compassion in raising awareness for an issue close to many people's hearts.

Year 12 student, participant Ethan Dawes, remarked: "I did Shave for a Cure mainly because I wanted to help towards an issue that I know causes severe pain for many families. I did what I could and what I felt was right." He also shared that he had a great time fundraising and was surrounded by his close friends during the shave. "Knowing that my friends would help this great cause as well, was always a great feeling too."

Ethan raised \$475, out of a total of \$1707 raised on the day through cash bids, which was additional to each individual's extra online sponsorships.

BY REBECCA LU



Left to right: Head Boy, Lockie McNair, with Louis and Jack McKinney



Art for art's sake

How did the senior NCEA and IB art students end up in Kaipara? It certainly isn't where the familiar BB block art classes are! It is, however, the home of 27 sculptures at Gibbs Farm.

The legion of Art and Art History students took a bus trip — purely for the enjoyment of the art; enabling them to indulge themselves in other artists' work and styles up close, and possibly even drawing inspiration for their own artwork.

Along with Neil Dawson's *Horizons* piece — one of the few sculptures that could also be seen from the road — Year 12 IB student Ella Mishan's favourite part of the trip was the animals. "The giraffes, emus and zebras walking alongside and around us really added to the experience!" Nadia Veljanovska, another IB art student added: "Seeing the sculptures over the hill with the view of the sea and farms beneath, as the sculptures seemed even larger and more dominating".

The vast landscape, roaming animals and, of course, large-scale sculptures, made walking around the 4-square km sculpture park all worthwhile, and this journey to Gibbs Farm unforgettable.

BY AMELIA PRICE



Louis Curham

Takapuna

SCHOOL NEWS



Grammar

APRIL 20, 2018



Being French

The award-winning comedy *C'est la Vie*, which attracted crowds to Berkeley Cinema, has proved itself as both entertaining and amusing for students taking French. For these students, taking part in the French Film Festival has brought the language to life and encouraged a passion for international cinema.

The French Film Arts Trust in New Zealand annually showcases the French Film Festival, one of the largest of its kind outside France. Its main purpose is to encourage an appreciation for France's cinematic industry in this country, in order to pave the way for a continued diversity of actors and experiences in films. This year, 37 of France's most celebrated recent films will be shown across the country.

The main objectives of the outing for students were to present an aspect of French culture that New Zealanders could easily access, and to act as an introduction to the year's course. And, students have responded with renewed interest in the language. According to one senior student, the film was "entertaining and conveyed its message very well," adding that she would definitely see more French films.

BY ELLA SCHENKEL

Food, glorious food

Wonderful food smells filled the Languages department 'alleyway' recently, for the annual International Food Market, organised by the prefect committee. It was a huge success as students from all levels enjoyed organising their stalls and preparing the food.

Amelia, one of the key helpers at the event said: "Being a part of the Spanish stall was such an awesome experience; preparing churros and quesadillas helped me immerse myself in the culture that I am learning about in class and all the food was super delicious!"

Students bought delicious foods inspired by different cultures from

all over the world. Lining the deck of the languages department was tables filled with foods from South Africa and China, as well as Spanish, Vietnamese, Sri Lankan, French, Japanese and Maori food. Students and teachers were able to buy fried rice, dumplings, croissants, spring rolls, quesadillas and heaps of other foods.

Prefect Christine Zhao, a main organiser, reflected on the day. "The market was much more diverse with student input this year, and I hope to see this develop into even more cultural participation in the future."

BY JESSICA HAMLIN

Seniors learning to support their peers



Each year, Auckland Sexual Health Services holds a 'hui' for students recently accepted into the Peer Sexuality Support Programme (PSSP) at their schools. Five of our students attended workshops with students from eight other schools, where they discussed topics surrounding sexuality, and sexual and mental health.

The PSSP is a school-based programme, aimed at helping students to make informed decisions about their own sexual and mental health. TGS is one of 25 schools in the Auckland region currently offering this programme.

"We've seen in Auckland it has been a massive success with many schools becoming increasingly aware not just about the LGBTQ+ community but also with their students understanding pressing issues that dominate a teenage lifestyle," explained Samuel Foster, a member of the Kaipara College PSSP team.

Make yourself familiar with the PSSP members if you ever need someone to talk to, and keep an eye out for this year's health promotions such as the fabulous 'Pride Week'.

BY AMELIA PRICE



from the Lion's Den

THE LATEST IN SPORT

IN THE POOL 1: Water Polo — Our Senior Boys team took out their division in the North West league.

IN THE POOL 2: Synchronised Swimming — Neve Bessell competed at the Australian Championships over Easter.

IN THE POOL 3: At the North Island Diving Championships — Holly Morse won six golds, in the 1m, 3m, 7m platform and open platform, along with two synchronised diving golds.

GOOD LUCK To our Boys and Girls Water Polo sides competing at nationals over the school holidays, and to our Senior rugby side on their South Island tour.

BNZ closure puts focus on other banks

The closure of the Devonport Bank of New Zealand (BNZ) branch after more than 100 years operating in Victoria Rd, has put a spotlight on the other banks in the area.

Until a couple of decades ago, most owned their buildings, but they are now in leased space. The closure of the BNZ sparks fears that personal banking in Devonport may become a thing of the past.

The Flagstaff asked Westpac, ANZ, ASB and Kiwibank what the future holds.



No immediate plans to move... Westpac

Westpac continually reviewing its footprint

Westpac has been at its current location on Victoria Rd since 1991, when it opened as a Trust Bank branch.

The branch is open 9am-4.30pm, Monday to Friday.

It provides full-banking services including a 24/7 Smart ATM (that can handle deposits, withdrawals and bill payments).

Some complex lending contracts (for example, those involving trusts) require a visit to another branch.

“We are continually reviewing our footprint. However there are no immediate plans to change our presence at Devonport,” a spokesperson said.

“We do not disclose staff numbers for security reasons, and our leasing arrangements are commercially sensitive.”

Kiwibank

Kiwibank operates with New Zealand Post through a franchise stationery shop at 18 Clarence Street, Devonport.

Trading hours are 8.30am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday and Saturday 9am to 1pm.

The banking operation is essentially transaction-only: Deposits and withdrawals but not more complex services such as opening accounts, setting up automatic payments, applying for mortgages or other credit.

ASB staying in Devonport

ASB Bank has had a branch in Devonport since 1901.

The bank sold its Devonport building in 2008, and says any details about its lease are a commercial matter between it and the landlord.

The bank has six staff, including a manager. It has a range of digital and self-service options (including ATMs that accept deposits, a coin-counting machine and terminals to access internet banking) along with face-to-face service.

The branch is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 4.30pm.

“There are no current plans to change ASB’s presence in Devonport,” a spokesperson said.



STANLEY BAY SCHOOL

Board of Trustees 2018 By-Election

Nominations are now being accepted for the election of ONE parent representative to the board of trustees.

Nomination forms and information may be obtained from the school office or the Returning Officer.

Nomination forms should be addressed to the Returning Officer and be taken or posted to Stanley Bay School.

Voting papers will be posted to voters on the school roll.

The voting roll is open for inspection at the school and can be viewed during normal school hours. There will also be a list of candidates’ names, as they come to hand, for inspection at the school.

KEY DATES:

Nominations close at noon on Friday 11 May 2018

Voting closes at noon on 25 May 2018 (if more than one nomination is received)

For any enquiries please contact Janie Stone, Returning Officer

0212 965 777 or janiestone3@gmail.com



GUEST SPEAKER DAVID SILVER

‘The Times of the Signs’

Out of Zion Ministries is based on Mt. Carmel, Israel, and was founded in 1997 by New Zealanders David and Josie Silver. David and Josie are involved in taking the Word of the Lord to the Nations. David has a burden to share with the church concerning the signs that point to the soon return of the Son of God.

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Dennis Hale & Nathan Hale

Preference for digital transactions led to BNZ closure

The BNZ had operated a branch in Devonport since 1913. It was based from 1925 until 1974 in the building that is now the Patriot bar and restaurant. Its recent-day premises, further up Victoria Rd, closed on 23 March this year.

“We constantly review the locations of our store network to make sure we are focusing investment in the areas we can best serve the changing needs of our customers,” said Stefan Wajjers, Regional Manager at BNZ.

“We’ve been at 20 Victoria Road, Devonport since 1975, and are proud to have provided services to Devonport customers during this time. But every day we are facing into a banking world that is changing rapidly.

“Our customers are increasingly choosing BNZ’s digital banking channels to fulfil their everyday banking needs, with nine out of 10 transactions now being completed digitally,” Wajjers said.

“When the lease came up for renewal this year, we made the difficult decision to close Devonport, and concentrate our in-branch



Gone for all money... An ATM remains, but the BNZ branch is no more

banking services at nearby BNZ Takapuna.

“The reality of banking today is that 89 per cent of our transactions are made using our digital channels and the continuing decline in demand for banking services at the Devonport branch reflects this fact. On top of this, the

majority of our Devonport customers also regularly visit other BNZ branches.” he said.

All the Devonport customers’ accounts have been transferred to BNZ Takapuna. Staff had moved to jobs at other Auckland branches.

A BNZ ATM remains at the site.

ANZ has no plans to leave Devonport – for now

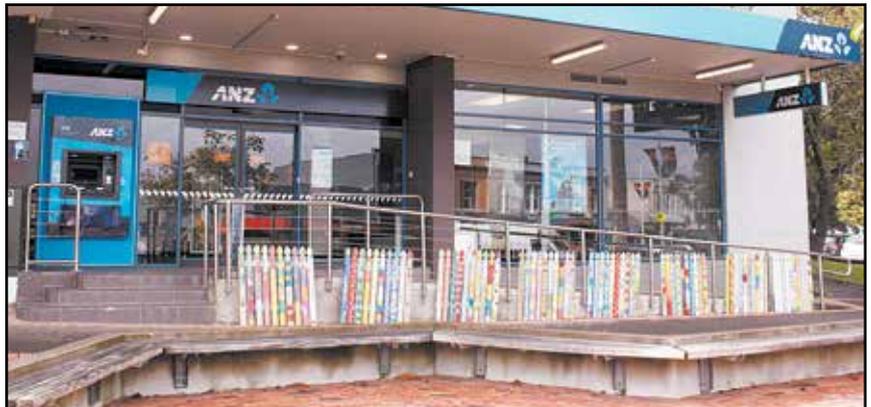
ANZ says it has no plans to exit Devonport.

“However, we are always looking at our branch network to ensure we have branches where our customers need and access them,” a spokesperson said.

ANZ Devonport is open 10am-2pm, Monday to Friday. It offers a full range of everyday retail and business banking services. The branch employs four staff and also has a SmartATM so customers can withdraw, deposit and transfer funds 24/7.

Asked how long it has on its current lease, the spokesperson said, “We don’t discuss the terms of our leases.”

ANZ has been in Devonport since 1951.



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Wakatere sailors dominate Optimist national champs



Wakatere on the podium... George Lee Rush (right) and Josh Hyde celebrate their first and second placings at the Opti nationals

Wakatere sailor George Lee Rush won the New Zealand title at the Optimist Nationals in Picton over Easter.

He also finished the 2017/2018 season as the top-ranked sailor in the class in New Zealand. It was all the more memorable as George turned 13 only a couple of weeks before the nationals (the Opti class is for under-16s).

It was a fantastic regatta for Wakatere with George pipping clubmate Josh Hyde for the national title.

George and Josh were also in the team of four Wakatere Boating Club sailors, along with Mason Mulcahy and Robbie Wooldridge, who took out the New Zealand Optimist Team Racing title at the beginning of the regatta.

All four train in the same squad with coach Tim Adair (also a former Wakatere Optimist sailor). Mason (seventh) and Robbie (eighth) performed well in the individual competition too.

George also qualified for the New Zealand team going to the Optimist world champs in Cyprus in August – the second year in a row he has made it into the worlds team.

George showed great mental strength throughout the regatta. He won the first race, but was judged over the line at the start and heavily penalised. He sprang straight back and won the second race and continued through the regatta in similar vein.

The last Wakatere winner of the Optimist nationals was Henry Haslett, six years ago, and before that Logan Dunning-Beck in 2008.

In his prize-giving speech, George said he could not have won the title without the help of his Wakatere teammates.

Wakatere Boating Club Opti rep Greg Lee said: “These guys have pushed each other hard all season and remain the benchmarks against which they could test themselves.”

Contractor standards frustrate

Weeds growing to more than half a metre, residents clearing street gutters and drains, and workers returning several times to complete a job were just some of the council-maintenance issues plaguing Bayswater over the past year, the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board was told last month.

Problems got worse from 1 April 2017, when new council-maintenance contractors were appointed, Bayswater resident Chris Mullane told the board in a deputation last month.

If problems emerged, it was extremely

difficult to get through to a council call centre and then supervisors often blamed the contractors. Issues remained unresolved, Mullane said.

Board chair Grant Gillon said multiple complaints had been received from around Devonport over the past year about council parks and reserves contractors. It had been frustrating for board members as well.

New standards had been introduced in March so “hopefully we will start to see an improvement,” Gillon said. The situation had been made worse by a warm and wet summer, he said.

North Shore Cricket girls crowned Auckland champs



Bringing home the trophy... Back row (from left): Jemima Biss, Jasmine Perry, Izzy Fox, Scout Hallman, Natasha Busch and Lucy Collett. Front row (from left): May Cousins, Summer Lear, Giselle Den Breems and Issy Smith

North Shore Cricket Club's under-12 girls team won the Auckland title in the 2017-18 season, winning all but two of its games.

The team – Jemima Biss, Jasmine Perry, Izzy Fox, Scout Hallman, Natasha Busch, Lucy Collett, May Cousins, Summer Lear, Giselle Den Breems and Issy Smith – went to Eden Park to receive the trophy.

The captaincy was rotated each week, with Scout winning the team manager's award for most inspiring leadership.

Giselle, an all-rounder and talented

wicketkeeper, was the most valuable player; Jasmine was most improved player; and Izzy the best emerging player, with Summer runner-up.

Jasmine took the most wickets, 21 for 208 runs, with a strike rate of 11.14.

Summer had the best bowling figures across the season, with an economy rate of 3.78 and the most maiden overs, with three.

Izzy scored the most runs over the season. Her total of 143 included 17 boundaries. Summer posted the highest score in any one game with 30.

Izzy, Scout, Summer, Giselle, Jasmine, Natasha, May and Jemima have been selected to play rep cricket.

Manager Karl Lear said it was a fantastic team to be involved with and the success was aided by the support of parents, particularly Gavin Busch, Susan Collett (scorer) and Kent Hallman.

Pleciak wins Auckland Cricket Award

North Shore Cricket Club's Steven Pleciak is Auckland Cricket's Volunteer Administrator of the Year.

At the Auckland Cricket Association Cricketer of the Year dinner last week, Pleciak was awarded the Carson Cup for his work at the club. This included chairing its Junior Committee; overseeing the Junior World Series competition; representing the club at North Harbour meetings; attending Auckland Cricket meetings on junior and youth cricket; and sitting on the club's Executive Board.

He also umpires at North Shore and plays for its Presidents team.

Heavenly High Tea

3:30pm - 6:00pm, Sunday 6th May 2018
McHugh's Of Cheltenham, Devonport

- Speaker: Dr Michelle Dickinson (NANOGIRL)
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