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Voyager Media Awards:
Community
Journalist of the Year
Winner 2018

devonportflagstaff.co.nz

Exit stage left for
Rufio the theatre cat... p5

North Shore cricketers in
promotion hunt... p13

Interview: Tourism NZ boss
Stephen England-Hall... p24

Fullers ferries reach new crisis point

Chaos threatens the Devonport-Auckland ferry service with the Kea now taking up to five minutes longer for her journey.

With its double-ended design, the Kea has

been able to enter the downtown terminus directly, but now the Auckland Harbourmaster says Kea has to follow the same circuitous route as other ferries.

This change is expected to add up to five minutes to her travel time, Fullers360 chief

To page 12

Family fun trail around Devonport



A winning combination... cousins **Jemima Johnston** (left) and **Olive Judson** (both 6) were rapt to win **Victoria Theatre** movie tickets at the **Devonport Community family fun trail** on Sunday. More pictures pages 48-50.



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The Devonport
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Best Community Involvement: 2016, 2014, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2008, 2005
Best Special Project: 2016

Most Improved Newspaper: 2011, 2010
Best Young Journalist: 2014, 2012, 2013
Best Sports Journalist: 2018, 2017, 2016
Best Senior Feature/Lifestyle Writer: 2014, 2017
Best Junior Feature/Lifestyle Writer: 2014
Best Headline: 2017, 2018

VOYAGER/CANON MEDIA AWARDS

Community Reporter of the Year: Winner 2018
Community Newspaper of the Year: Finalist 2017

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ADVERTISING DEADLINE: March 29

Movies in Parks cancelled after Christchurch massacre

The *Peter Rabbit* Movies in the Park event planned for Woodall Park last Sunday was cancelled following the 15 March tragedy when a gunman killed 50 people in two mosques in Christchurch on Friday. The movie event was cancelled as a mark

of respect to those who had lost their lives. A large police contingent had also been deployed to Christchurch, Auckland Council said. In contrast, the Devonport Community family fun trail event went ahead as planned last Sunday.

Cost of free public transport put at \$236 million

Free public transport in Auckland would cost around \$236 million per year, according to a council report.

The figures were put this week to a meeting of the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board who had requested the data.

A fare-free public transport policy for Auckland would cost approximately \$176 in revenue, and a minimum of \$60 million in increased-services cost to meet additional demand, a report from Auckland Transport (AT) said.

The estimated cost of the policy would be \$236 million, without assessing potential savings from ticketing systems, the report said.

“If this was subsidised through increased rates and taxes, it would represent a 15 per cent increase to Auckland ratepayers,” the report said.

Auckland already has free travel for senior citizens through the SuperGold and Senior concession fare schemes, along with significant

child, secondary and tertiary discounts. Overseas, fare removal was only possible in small or mid-sized towns with less than 100,000 people, the report said.

“Even with new ways of funding transport, it will not be a reality for major cities in the future.

“The revenue from public transport is simply too great to remove,” the report said.

“While it may revitalise a struggling small-town transit network, bigger cities don’t need to incentive mass transit in the same way.”

Local board member Grant Gillon had investigated the AT report. He felt the costs were important to line up against other figures – such as the potential \$50 million bailout of Eden Park – when council was making budgetary decisions.

The Auckland public transport system has 92 million trips per year: 1316 buses, serving 506 bus routes, a large fleet of ferries sailing to 15 ferry destinations, and four train lines.

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Devonport leads port-expansion protest



Community action... Devonport local Julie Stout stirs up the crowd at the protest

About 300 people, including a number of Devonport locals, attended a rally on Queens Wharf to protest against a proposal to install two mooring dolphins that would effectively extend the wharf 90 metres into the harbour. The dolphins have been proposed to cater for increasingly large cruise ships to berth.

Urban Auckland chair Julie Stout, a Narrow Neck resident, addressed the crowd at the event, which was organised by advocacy group Stop Stealing our Harbour.

Around 30 yachts did a 'sail-by' at the 10 March protest to demonstrate opposition from boating associations to losing more of

the harbour. Sailor Chris Dickson was among six speakers who addressed the crowd.

A page has been set up to fundraise for the legal costs incurred by groups trying to fight the extension.

- For more information go to givealittle.co.nz/cause/urbanauckland

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Enrolment at the school is governed by an enrolment scheme, details of which are available from the school office.

Applications for 15 out-of-zone places in year 1, 0 in year 2, 2 in year 3, 2 in year 4, 2 in year 5 and 2 in year 6 are now being invited for those students who will become eligible for enrolment during the period 29 April to 2 July 2019.

The deadline for receipt of applications for out-of-zone places is 29 April 2019.

If a ballot for out-of-zone places is required, it will be held on 29 April 2019. Parents will be informed of the outcome of the ballot within three school days of the ballot being held.

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Report — February 2019

The market is awash with property for sale

As a buyer, what you most want to find is choice. The property market in Devonport is currently a haven of choice. As we enter autumn there are more properties for sale than we have seen for many years. A record 79 properties are currently on the market. Up a staggering 75% compared to this time last year. A fresh new selection of 71 properties was listed in the past three months, with 40 properties listed in February alone.

This rich shopping list of options is certainly attracting buyers, who are noticeably active in the market. Evidenced by the number of people attending open homes, which have been incredibly busy during February. However, all this activity and abundance of stock is not leading to higher sales. A total of just 38 properties were sold in the three months to February.

This was down 14% compared to last



year, at a median price of \$1.43m, which was down 10% compared to last year.

This sluggish pace of the local property market is replicated across the rest of Auckland, as the pressure of bank-lending restrictions continues to bite and buyers become more cautious.

Having said that, the fact is the right property, well-marketed, will continue to sell, with at least two properties in the

past month selling within the first seven days on the market. The key to success in this market is the right presentation of the property, matched to a smart marketing campaign and strong negotiation skills of the agent.

Drilling deeper into the latest statistics sees that the somewhat unexpected spike in median house prices in January of \$1.82m, was, as predicted an anomaly. The three months to February saw the median sale price of houses return to the December level of \$1.6m, representing a 12% fall compared to this time last year. Additionally, that flush of life in the market for units, heralded last month, quickly petered out with sales and prices falling this month.

For a more detailed analysis and commentary of the local property market, visit www.devonportproperty.nz

28 February 2019	PROPERTIES				PRICES	
	Properties on the market at 28 Feb 2019	Properties Listed (Dec/Jan/Feb)	Properties Sold (Dec/Jan/Feb)	Variance in moving annual total sales	Median Sale Price (\$M) 3 months to Feb	Variance compared to last year
All Properties	79	71	38	▼ -14%	\$1.429M	▼ -10%
Houses	67	55	29	▼ -14%	\$1.600M	▼ -12%
Units	2	5	3	▼ -18%	\$651,000	▼ -17%
T/houses Apartments	10	11	6	▼ -9%		



The monthly DevonportProperty.nz Report is written and produced by Alistair Helm, Licensed real estate salesperson.

Tel: 021 610 510
www.devonportproperty.nz
www.alistairhelm.co.nz



Fans will miss purr-fect theatre cat Rufio

Rufio, the Rose Centre's beloved theatre cat, will no longer "strut and fret his hour upon the stage", after moving out of Belmont.

The tabby cat has frequented the centre for many years and even made an appearance in a play a few years ago.

"Rufio decided that the couch in the scene was a very nice place for him to have a little snooze," says Rose Centre chairperson Raewyn Nevin, who was performing in the play.

"Between acts, Rufio slipped in. So, when we started again, he was sitting there. We just ignored him."

Rufio didn't like it when an actor sat on his couch and exited stage right.

The audience was in hysterics, which was good, as the play, *Off the Hook*, was a comedy, put on by Phoenix Theatre, Nevin says.

"Most of them would probably have known Rufio, because he'd been going there for so many years."

Rufio originally moved into then manager Richard Parmee's office, but also enjoyed sitting on the theatre's chairs near the heat pump in winter.

His owner, Lynden Shanahan, said Rufio originally arrived through the cat door and settled in.

No amount of advertising in the area uncovered his owners, so the lost cat stayed on with Shanahan and was named Rufio after the leader of the Lost Boys in *Peter Pan*.

When the family moved across the Belmont Primary School fields from the Rose Centre,



Treading the boards outside Devonport... Thespian Rufio takes a breather while at the Rose Centre, prior to his shift to Pt Chevalier

Rufio discovered the theatre, where there were plenty of people, offering pats and snacks.

"He'd come home to eat, then he'd 'go to work' at the Rose Centre," Shanahan says.

Shanahan has now shifted to Takapuna and Thespian Rufio has moved to Pt Chevalier with family members, where he has happily settled in and bonded with toddler Louis.

Get used to tighter credit

I see property sales figures are down in Auckland, relative to the rest of the country. One of the reasons for this is the tighter credit and servicing requirements from the main banks (who are increasingly sensitive to the Responsible Lending Code and the Australian enquiry into bank lending practices), making Auckland prices least affordable so buyers are looking elsewhere..

Prospective borrowers must show a regular PAYE income or business/contract income supported by definitive tax-paid earnings and an ability to service the debt. We are seeing more and more examples of difficulty in raising debt without absolute proof of sustainable income.

Having said that, banks seem extremely busy (often understaffed) as borrowers check the market. But each bank has slightly different criteria and appetite for lending, so it is important to speak with us to see which is the best bank to approach for various circumstances. Astute customers know an independent advisor finds the best deal in the market and advisors are widely used in US, UK, Australia and NZ.

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Talks aim to reopen Polly's Park

Moves have begun to reopen the coastal track at Ngataranga Bay, below Ryman's retirement village development.

The walkway, which runs through Mary Barrett Glade (known also as Polly's Park, after its creator Mabel 'Polly' Pollock) has been closed during construction.

While no date has been set for a reopening, the Department of Conservation (DoC) is in talks with Ryman about restoring public access.

DoC senior ranger for statutory land management, Peter Smith, says a crane that was posing a risk has been moved and there's a fence around Ryman's works, so it should be safe to reopen the walkway.

"Let's get people walking along there," Smith said.

Under Ryman's consent, it doesn't need to

reopen the reserve until the development has finished, but Smith is keen to work with Ryman to get the fence down sooner.

The first task is clearing two coastal slips that occurred in June last year.

DoC administers the 20-metre marginal strip along the coast, which was created when the then Crown land was transferred to Ngati Whatua as part of a Treaty settlement.

Any work on the strip needs DoC's authorisation.

The slips were not connected to Ryman's works, Smith said, adding there had been numerous coastal slips in the past five years.

It is possible the stability of the coast may have been affected by illegal reclamation and unconsented retaining walls.

Smith said the slips have not reduced the

size of the marginal strip. They could be cleared away and the walkways reopened. While the slips may not be completely stable, the path would be as safe as any coastal track.

DoC will discuss with Ryman getting the work done by its track contractors, which would cost far less than any building contractors Ryman might be considering, Smith said.

Ryman confirmed members of its health and safety teams were due to meet with DoC to talk about a plan to work on the track.

"Because it is a steep site, there are some challenges in terms of working safely – and that's why our health and safety team is involved," Ryman corporate affairs manager David King said.

"It comes under DoC's governance but Ryman wants to help find a solution."

Wonderfish Collective with strings attached

The Wonderfish Collective's show at the Devonport Arts Festival will feature a 16-piece orchestra, with profits from the show donated to Harbour Hospice.

Four songwriters from the band (Al Baxter, Robbie McKegg, Alex McKegg and Nick Edgar) will perform their original material along with some of the Collective and the orchestra.

The first half of the show will be an intimate affair with Alex McKegg and Edgar on guitar, Baxter on banjo/guitar, Emily Allen on violin/viola, Maxine Cunliffe on cello, Glenn Coldham on bass and Rusty Knox on drums. The

Crooked String Quartet of Helen Crook, Robyn Strange, Allen and Cunliffe also makes a guest appearance.

Things step up in the second half when more 'strings are attached'. The singers and band will be joined by the 16-piece string orchestra, drawn largely from the Devonport Chamber Orchestra.

It will be led by Helen Crook, with Ryan Youens conducting and writing the orchestral arrangements.

- Songs from the Wonderfish Collective with Orchestra. 8pm, 6 April, Victoria Theatre.



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Writer Ian Rockel: daily literary stroll fosters poetry



Writer's retreat... Bookmark provides a comfy chair and the inspiration of books, when Ian Rockel feels a poem coming on. (Photo: Elise Clark)

Devonport's friendly village culture has fostered poet Ian Rockel's writing habit and nurtured a few of the poems in his soon-to-be-launched memoir with poems, *This was Then*.

Rockel, 80, stays up until the early hours of the morning, reading and thinking, sleeps until noon, then goes to Lily's cafe for coffee, to Devonport Library to see whether any interesting books have come in, then on to Bookmark second-hand bookshop.

"If I feel a poem coming on, I sit in a chair among the books and write. That's the pleasure of living in Devonport," Rockel says.

On a fine day, he will write the first two

lines in Bookmark and then, en route, sit on a wall in Anne St and write some more, often finishing before he gets home.

Rockel launched a book of 50 poems spanning 50 years, *What Know You Stars?*, at Depot Artspace in 2017.

In his second collection, there are about 75 poems, including some that couldn't be fitted into the earlier book.

At the request of his publisher, Roger Steele, *This Was Then* includes a 60-page memoir.

Steele describes the poetry as "cryptic" and says he wanted to give readers an insight into the man behind the collection.

The memoir encompasses a traumatic surgery as a child in Blenheim, a difficult OE in London, including brushes with mental illness and a formative period living in a large flat on Webb St, Wellington, in the 1960s.

Flatmates included a shady figure who seldom moved, known as "Petrified denims", the late painter Barry Lett, who surreptitiously removed a wall to let light into his downstairs room, Rockel's future brother-in-law Ian Mune and many others.

One flatmate was so short of clothing, she doubled as a life model for the flat's artists, when she did her laundry.

Rockel even encountered a couple of ghosts in the Webb St flat and the paranormal guests make an appearance in this new collection.

Other themes recur from the earlier collection, including English winters and climate change, which worries Rockel a great deal.

This is Rockel's third book. He wrote a historic work, *Taking the Waters*, while working as director of Rotorua Museum, a publication Steele says "made a terrific contribution, recording the history of the volcanic plateau and acknowledging Te Arawa".

Rockel also edited and wrote a chapter for a book on painter Charles Goldie.

• *This Was Then* launches at Depot Artspace on Sunday 31 March at 4pm.

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From page 1

More pressure on Devonport ferry services

executive Mike Horne said.

“The impact of this is likely to be felt by Devonport customers travelling on Kea, causing additional commuting time and delays,” Horne said.

“We’ll do our best to keep to the current timetable, and we thank customers for their patience.”

The ferry service is already under intense pressure. The Flagstaff counted 43 Devonport ferry text alerts between 9 Feb and 9 March, many covering multiple services.

Fullers concedes the Devonport service has been impacted by delays and cancellations in January and February, which Horne blames chiefly on Auckland’s biggest-ever cruise season.

The twin factors of ferries having to wait for cruise ships arriving and departing in the harbour, and the extra numbers of cruise-ship passengers placed pressure on ferry services.

“Even the Kea cannot keep to timetable with the combination of high-passenger volume and increasing congestion in the harbour,” Horne said.

Other factors causing delays were speed restrictions imposed in January, which have now been reversed, and vessel breakdowns.

One commuter, Devonport resident James Powell, described the service as “a disgrace”, citing the daily text alerts in February.

“Not a day goes by when I don’t receive a notification through the MyFerry app or Fullers text service that a ferry service is either delayed,

not running due to a mechanical breakdown or the latest and greatest of excuses, ‘Traffic in the harbour’,” Powell said.

Fullers is undergoing a full review of its service, including looking at whether the vessels are appropriate and considering changing the ferry journey times to 20 minutes rather than 15, Horne said.

Despite the large number of alerts, Fullers’ data shows the majority of Devonport services ran on time, even in February.

“The Devonport route has consistently aligned to our overall key performance indicators on punctuality” (98 per cent). However, for the months of January and February, the Devonport route dropped back to 93 per cent; meaning 93 per cent of Devonport services left within five minutes of the scheduled timetable, Horne said.

Fullers also measured reliability, which was 99.3 per cent in January. This equates to 18

cancellations out of 2519 sailings on the Devonport service in January. In February, Fullers’ reliability rate was 98.4 per cent.

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board chair George Wood says the real issue is Auckland Transport (AT) has limited jurisdiction over Fullers, as the company sits outside the Public Transport Operating Model, which gives AT legal powers to control fares and timetables.

“It is a serious situation, which AT has got to do something about. In the meantime, the people of Devonport, Bayswater and Stanley Pt suffer because of these inadequacies,” Wood says.

AT says it recognises there are ongoing customer concerns with the performance of the ferries, but the services are exempt and therefore not provided under a contract.

AT will continue to work with operators to seek to address issues using available mechanisms under legislation.

Security threat sparks evacuations

Just days after the mass shooting in Christchurch, Devonport ferry passengers faced delays because of a security alert.

The ferry basin was closed for about 20 minutes on 18 March at approximately 6.40am, after crew spotted a suspicious passenger on the 6am ferry service arriving into Auckland from Waiheke.

Witnesses said armed police arrived at

the scene. The Kea from Devonport waited in the harbour while the situation cleared.

Pier 1 was evacuated, as a precaution, Fullers360 chief executive Mike Horne said.

“Fullers360 crew alerted the police, and authorities met the vessel and took the passenger into custody as he disembarked the ferry.”

All passengers, staff and crew were safe.



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North Shore cricketers in promotion hunt – with Beghin and Hira on board

The North Shore Premiers go into the final match of club cricket this weekend with a narrow lead as they attempt to gain promotion to Auckland’s top division.

After a draw last Saturday against Birkenhead in a rain-affected match, Shore has a five-point lead over Eden-Roskill.

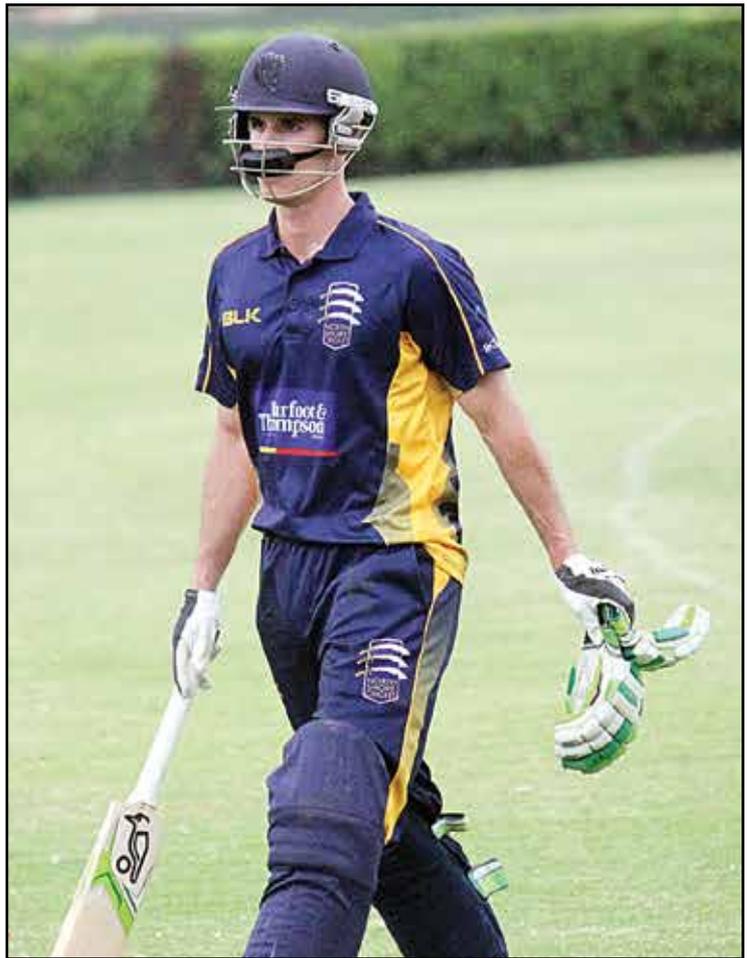
However, Shore’s two Auckland rep players – Graeme Beghin and Ronnie Hira – are back for the match, which will markedly bolster the side’s chances against Waitakere at Te Atatu.

First-year coach Chris Reed said the team was in the “promotion zone – that’s about all I can commit to at this stage.”

However, leading into the final two-day match of the season is better than being behind and Shore beat Waitakere outright in a previous match this season.

The match against Waitakere plays out over the next two Saturdays. But Shore will have a clear indication this week if it will have an easy run into the final day.

It is eight years since Shore played in Auckland’s top division.



Back on the pitch for Shore this weekend... Auckland rep Graeme Beghin



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By Rob Drent

Some may have felt I've been a bit hard on councillor Chris Darby over his enthusiasm for Lime scooters.

In contrast, I'm full of praise for his work – over many years – in progressing moves to get rail to the North Shore. Darby was instrumental in making sure that bus lanes on the Northern

Motorway were future-proofed so they could accommodate trains.

That time may be closer than all of us thought. The harbour bridge is rapidly reaching capacity, as are bus numbers on the Northern Busway. What seemed a lifetime away – rail to the Shore – may happen sooner. It will be costly – a tunnel under the harbour is the most likely option to allow extra traffic and a rail line.

If this happens, a tram spur to Devonport and Takapuna/Milford would be a real possibility. A hundred years ago, trams ran from Bayswater ferry terminal to Milford.

Darby's scepticism over the benefits of building 'dolphins' on the city side of the harbour, to cater for big cruise ships, is also to be commended.

A Devonport-Takapuna Open Space Network Plan made public this week contains some interesting statistics on recreation. Parks, reserves and public spaces in the local board area total 216 ha.

I thought of Darby again when reading this figure. Both he and The Devonport Flagstaff were called racists (by a select few) for questioning the process that led to the Ngati Whatua Treaty Settlement, which allowed the tribe to purchase 28.7 ha of Defence land on the Devonport peninsula. If this land had been returned to the public as reserve, parks or sports grounds, it would have added more than 10 per cent to the total open space in our region. The settlement was worth debating a decade ago – open space in a developing city is paramount.

In one of the world's most enduring sporting contests, Belmont squash club last week beat Devonport 24-14 in the B & D challenge. Importantly, more than \$1300 was raised for the family of Devonport squash player Damon Lord, who died last month after a two-year battle with brain cancer.

Last week marked the launch of our sister paper, the *Rangitoto Observer*, which serves Milford and Takapuna.

While the gestation had the inevitable squeaks and wobbles, it came together without too much pain. Delivering the first issue around Milford, I was surprised at the number of people living up there who had moved out of Devonport.

The warm welcome for the *Observer* ("It's a little bit like the *Flagstaff*," one said) showed there is a real desire for locally sourced news.

It's what we have done for 25 years in Devonport: local stories about local people.

The *Observer* launch event was held in Takapuna, several hours after a gunman killed 50 people in Christchurch. Driving up Lake Rd, I was talking to my son, who had just landed at Christchurch Airport, to be confronted by, what seemed to him, a mass of armed police.

We decided to go ahead with the launch anyway and paid tribute to those who died. I'm glad we continued with the event. Likewise, full marks to the Devonport Community family fun trail, which was held last Sunday. The sane way to react to the lunatic fringe is to carry on with normal life, and celebrate the good things we have.

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Private 1-hour session (max 3)
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Speak to Ian 09 419 6611**

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Thirteen street car parks to make way for bus stop



Stop right there... Angered by plans to move a Cheltenham bus stop, residents Ann Andrews and Yvonne Learmonth would like AT to maintain the status quo

Residents in Cheltenham are up in arms over Auckland Transport's plans to move a bus stop and install broken yellow lines, removing 13 car parks.

Auckland Transport (AT) requested feedback from immediate neighbours, saying the intersection of Tainui and Cheltenham Roads was a "pinch point" and the changes would make it easier for buses to enter and exit safely, and avoid delays.

"The location has been identified as problematic if vehicles are parked close to the intersection and large vehicles are waiting to turn right out of Tainui Rd and left from Cheltenham Rd," the letter from AT said.

However, Cheltenham Rd residents Yvonne and David Learmonth say the road is very wide, the buses bigger than necessary for the low number of passengers, and the stop on the opposite side of Cheltenham Rd serves only a school bus.

Plus, there's another bus stop 50 metres away.

They are upset they will have a bus stop right outside their gate, if the existing bus stop is moved.

"Our gate opens directly onto the footpath. It will make it hazardous to get in and out of our driveway. There's then the aspects of noise and fumes. It's a major intrusion," said Yvonne Learmonth.

The other concern is the loss of 13 car parks at the intersection of Tainui and Cheltenham Rds.

In AT's letter to neighbours, which the Learmonth's received a day after the feedback period closed on 4 March, AT's Kevin Huang said, "There is widespread on-street parking available in the surrounding area."

However, Yvonne Learmonth said, "That's simply not true."

On a summer's day, Cheltenham Beach and North Head are popular destinations. If there's a regatta, people flock to North Head for a view of the races.

In addition, the North Shore Cricket Club nearby is very popular.

"In summer, there are literally hordes of children going there, to the grounds, to train."

She said she had never seen two buses pass each other and queried whether the buses were ever full on the 807 route.

She suggested AT could help the environment and maintain the status quo by simply using smaller buses.

Changes are planned for mid-2019.

AT media manager Mark Hannan said a standard small bus operated on this route. The corner needed to be suitable for use by a number of vehicles, including buses and delivery trucks.

Local residents were sent letters for a two-week feedback period, which AT would extend to 22 March, Hannan said.

"We know this service only carries an average of three passengers, but we are looking at ways to grow the service," he added.

It is particularly important the service

runs on time, because it serves the ferries, Hannan said.

Ann Andrews, who lives on King Edward Parade, was disappointed not to be asked for feedback.

"This impacts on the whole neighbourhood. To lose 13 valuable car parks in a popular area, close to two beaches and with large visitor numbers to North Head, puts pressure on all the surrounding houses," Andrews said.

Now management of Maungauika/North Head has been transferred to the Tupuna Maunga Authority, it is likely the volcanic cone will be closed to traffic, with the loss of around 40 car parks, Andrews wrote.

The historic bus stop, should not be moved, Andrews said.

Meanwhile, a Narrow Neck resident is asking when AT will finish the job after bus stops were closed in the service changes late last year.

In some cases, berms have been concreted over and the disused bus stops have purple signs, stating they are no longer in use.

"They [AT] have not cleaned up after themselves. How long will these signs stay up for?" asked Wicklow Rd resident Guy Robinson.

AT said, following the introduction of the new bus network, there were bus stops right across Auckland that were now not used.

"AT is working through an assessment of costs and the procurement of contractors to remove them, but this will take some time," Hannan said.

Lake Rd improvements won't happen this decade

Structural improvements to Lake Rd are at least two to three years away, says Auckland Transport (AT).

AT has appointed a project team to undertake the detailed business case for the Lake Rd improvements project.

But "physical construction, of any viable project being developed, is likely to be at least 2-3 years away due to the design, approvals and procurement processes required," AT said in a report to The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board.

In the meantime, AT will continue to use existing programmes, such as travel planning and network optimisation, to help ease Lake Rd congestion.

Fruit-fly restrictions extended

The fruit-fly zones in Devonport have been left in place for another week as a precautionary measure.

One male Queensland fruit fly was found in Rattray St, on February 13. While no other fruit flies have been found in Devonport, six have been discovered in Northcote and three in Otara.

Last cash from heritage fund

A fund that has supported heritage restorations in Devonport has dried up, after Auckland Council cut a \$50,000 annual grant to the North Shore Heritage Trust.

In the past 16 years, the trust has funded numerous large projects in Devonport, as well as giving many homeowners up to \$5000 for work on their heritage-listed homes.

"You can see how much pride people have taken in the restoration of their properties and to get it right, and that's really what the grants were all about," trust founding chair Paddy Stafford-Bush says.

Stafford-Bush says the trust has made a difference to the fabric of Devonport heritage and she is saddened by the council's decision.

Originally, the funding came from North Shore City Council and grants have all gone to projects within the old city boundaries.

Two years ago, Auckland Council decided to stop the funding.

More than 45 grants went to Devonport projects over the years, including: restoring Narrow Neck Beach's starting tower; the Vic Theatre's conservation plan; the 'Bear Garden Wall' in Anne St and a restoration at the Wilson Home.

The Devonport Museum and the Takapuna Boating Club's Bayswater clubhouse also received grants.

A pool of \$30,000 remains for a community project that could become the trust's swansong. To apply, email northshoreheritagetrust@gmail.com.

Solar panels stolen from school roof

Thieves have stolen solar panels from a school roof.

Around \$15,000 worth of panels were taken from the roof of Bayswater School in the hours between the school closing on March 12 and it reopening on March 13.

The panels were one of three arrays installed by the school as part of its commitment to green technologies.

Principal Lindsay Child said the theft was "highly annoying".

The panels would be replaced, but the time dealing with police and making claims to insurance companies would have been better spent in the classroom with children, Child said.

The array was heavy and would have taken at least two men to lift it off the roof, she said.



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Narrow Neck 3/15 Hanlon Cres

3 **2** **1** **1**

Walk to Narrow Neck Beach!

- Views of Rangitoto and a peek of the sea
- Upstairs there are two bedrooms, open plan kitchen/dining/living area, and a separate sun room
- Downstairs a very spacious bedroom with en-suite with its own separate access if required or potential work from home
- A single garage with workshop or utility at the rear

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PRIVATE SALE

\$1,279,000

26 Aramoana Ave, Devonport

4 bedroom bungalow

Private sale listed on TradeMe GED179 to view please contact **Joelle on 029 7717 234**

OPEN HOMES

Saturday and Sunday
March 23 and 24, 1.15pm to 2.00pm.




Agent's spin earns him top spot out of 5300 riders

Devonport real estate agent Ian Cunliffe topped the Auckland Bike Challenge, a contest aimed at getting more people cycling.

Cunliffe gained the most points in the Auckland Transport-organised competition in February, through a combination of riding distance, number of days riding and number of people he inspired to ride.

"The challenge was great fun and I encouraged some work colleagues plus a few Devonport Rotary friends to ride a bike," Cunliffe says.

The Barfoot and Thompson agent cycled more than 2000km during February.

Achieving this feat, in a field of more than 5300 participants from workplaces across Auckland, involved getting up at 5am and cycling 50km before work, then doing another 50km after work, and adding some more kilometres on days off.

Cunliffe, a past Devonport Rotary president, cycled the length of the UK, from Lands End to John O'Groats, three years ago. Last June, he did a UK charity ride, with two Devonport friends, from Newcastle to Exeter, which was about 800km and raised \$20,000 for a dementia care unit in England. He's hoping to do a similar ride in New Zealand to raise money for dementia care here, in honour of a friend who died.

The Auckland Bike Challenge was free for organisations to enter and this year raised money for Variety – The Children's Charity. Cunliffe's prize was a \$100 Bike Barn voucher and a \$100 Lululemon voucher for sports apparel.

In the saddle... Cyclist and Devonport real estate agent Ian Cunliffe put in the hours, kilometres and encouragement to win the Auckland Bike Challenge



THE NAVY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Navy boosts recruit numbers

A record number of new recruits arrived at Devonport Naval Base in February to begin training for a career in the Navy.

The first step for the 130 recruits – 91 men and 39 women – is completion of a 16-week 'Basic Common Training' (BCT) course to introduce our new sailors to the Navy way of life.

Personnel training numbers are being increased in preparation for the arrival of the Navy's two new vessels, a dive and hydrographic ship, HMNZS Manawanui in June, and a support ship, HMNZS Aotearoa, in early 2020.

"BCT intakes wax and wane all the time," says Assistant Chief of Navy for Personnel and Training, Captain David Fairweather. "There were, for example, three intakes as recently as 2014."

"We're getting some new capability

and the Navy has to grow in the total number of people," he says.

"It's a good time to join the Navy with the new ships arriving and the ANZAC Frigates (HMNZS Te Mana and HMNZS Te Kaha) undertaking significant system upgrades."

"We're not lowering our standards. You still need to be fit and if you have the requisites we need, life could be good in the Navy," says Captain Fairweather.

"The probability of doing deployments across the Asia-Pacific, Antarctica and around New Zealand is good," he says.

"The Navy is about going and doing stuff with people and having that shared bond. You are joining a family of people who spend a lot of time together. And like all families, that's sometimes challenging, but mostly enjoyable," says Captain Fairweather.

Navy Base hosts MPI team

Devonport Naval Base continues to host members of the Ministry of Primary Industries diagnostic and field teams as a result of the recent Queensland fruit fly incursion.

Two portable laboratories and several equipment storage containers have been sited on the Base.

"We have had excellent support from the Naval Base team," says Diagnostic Work Stream Manager for MPI, Sherly George. "I want to thank everyone for their hospitality – it's great."

"We will be keeping a close eye on the fruit fly traps for another few weeks," she says.

**Congratulations? Thanks?
Problems? Complaints?**

DEVONPORT NAVAL BASE TEL 445 5002





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Devonport 11 Buchanan Street

6 3 2 3

Dawning Of A New Era!

This wonderful character bungalow is situated 150 metres from our beautiful harbour waterfront and a very short 5 minute walk to the ferry. This home is being sold for its residential value but until recently it was run as the Devonport Motel utilising the two units at the rear. Gorgeous 612m2 sunny fully landscaped back section . Central location one street back from the heart of Devonport shops, restaurants, movie theatre and cafes. Don ´t hesitate you may miss the opportunity of a lifetime.

Tender

Closes Tues 26 March 2019 at 4pm. (unless sold prior)
View Saturday & Sunday 2-2.45pm
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22432

Jackie Mark
 M 021 458 797 P 09 446 2113
jackie.mark@harcourts.co.nz



Jane Hastings
 M 021 735 263 P 09 446 2116
jane.hastings@harcourts.co.nz



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Devonport 41 Hanlon Crescent

3 1 2 1 2

Narrow Neck Supreme
Last Open Homes before Auction.
An excellent example of the classic Kiwi bungalow with a fresh and stylish finish awaits you in this ever popular seaside suburb. This cute and comfortable home has all day sun, plus beautiful planting and entertaining area outside. The hard work has been done so move in and enjoy all this lovely home has to offer.

Auction
On site, Sun 31st Mar 19 at 11.00am (unless sold prior)
View As advertised or by appointment
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22439

Victoria Mules & Jemma Glancy
M 021 679 349 & 021 246 5300
victoria.mules@harcourts.co.nz
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OPEN HOME

Devonport 7 Merwood Lane

4 2 2 1 4

Large Home, What A Location!
This is very special to the market, a large, 210sqm home on a 751m2 section set amongst an enclave of four other homes surrounded by native bush which is home to Pukeko's, Tui's and lots of other native wildlife. Amazing views to the inner harbour and Auckland Harbour Bridge providing a day and night vista rarely available. Start your family memories now.

For Sale \$1,275,000
View Sat 11.00 - 11.30am
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22265

Gary Potter
M 021 953 021 P 09 446 2106
gary.potter@harcourts.co.nz
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OPEN HOME

Devonport 13 Domain Street

3 1 1 1 1

Brick Home + Stand Alone Flat
Looking for a property with potential? Renovate, re-build or re-develop. All the options here are worthwhile considering the only thing you can't change is the fantastic Devonport location of 13 Domain Street. Tightly held for over 60 years, this beloved family home is YOUR opportunity! The standalone rental income is a bonus or it's a great one bedroom flat for family.

Tender
Tender closes 27 March at 4:00pm (will not be sold prior)
View Sat & Sun 12 - 12.30pm
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22278

Jenny Hinton
M 021 773 1841 P 09 446 2126
jenny.hinton@harcourts.co.nz
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Torbay 50 Cliff Road

5 3 2 1 2

Beautiful Views.....Well Below C.V
Panoramic sea views, a large family home, sunny and private. A realistic vendor who understands the market is ready to down size after 20 happy years by the sea at this excellent Olde Torbay address. This lovely home offers real flexibility to all for well under CV. Don't miss out, call now to view.

For Sale \$2,645,000
View As advertised or by appointment
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22276

Victoria Mules & Jemma Glancy
M 021 679 349 & 021 246 5300
victoria.mules@harcourts.co.nz
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OPEN HOME

Devonport 2/175 Victoria Road

2 1 1 1

Entry Level-Fantastic Devonport
A golden opportunity to own a great 2 bedroom home very close to the Devonport Village. Drenched in sun, north facing deck for entertaining, views of city skyline and Mt Victoria. This is a perfect home for young professionals or perhaps those looking for a lock and leave. There is potential to add value if you like.

For Sale \$799,000
View Sun 1.00 - 1.45 pm
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22283

Phil Clark
M 021 940041 P 09 446 2125
phil.clark@harcourts.co.nz
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Devonport 1 Achilles Cres

4 2 1 1 1

First Move In 24 Years!
• Priced to sell - true value for money here
• Large family home, perfect for entertainers
• Love the pool, the spa and the short walk to Narrow Neck Beach
• Perfect for kids, they can walk to school
• Solid, reliable, well maintained
• What more could you ask for?

For Sale
\$1,499,000
View By appointment or as advertised
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9924

Jane Hastings & Jackie Mark
M 021 735 263 & 021 458 797
jane.hastings@harcourts.co.nz
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Devonport 2/7 Eton Avenue 2 1 1 1

Future Proofed Apartment
This very private apartment sits smack bang between the sands of Cheltenham beach on one side and Torpedo Bay and the waterfront on the other. Looking out across the cricket ground with a small peep of the harbor, location wise it can't get much better, but wait...if you are worried about apartment living and access to the upper level this apartment is future proofed with a lift!

For Sale
By Negotiation
View by appointment
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22364

Maria Stevens
M 021 979 084 P 09 446 2111
maria.stevens@harcourts.co.nz
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Devonport 18 Vauxhall Road 4 3 2 2

Beautifully Renovated Villa & Flat
Immerse yourself in the heart of the golden triangle from the sparkling waters of Cheltenham Beach and specialty Vauxhall Rd shops, the bountiful Cambria & Mt Victoria reserves, to the apex of Devonport Village and Ferry Terminal, this impeccably presented Villa offers an abundance of lifestyle matched with extended family living.

Auction
On site 24th March at 2pm (unless sold prior)
View Sat & Sun 1.15 - 2pm
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22354

Peter Restall
M 021 808 808 P 09 446 2114
peter.restall@harcourts.co.nz
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Devonport 12 Allenby Avenue 5 2 3 2

Large Allenby Ave Villa
Are you looking for a home with plenty of space, a big backyard, and a granny flat? This home has all of the above and a whole lot more! Originally a single level dwelling, which was lifted and a lower level added to accommodate garaging and granny flat, this home offers plenty of options for the next owner. Don't miss an opportunity like this, with scope to still add value.

Auction
On site, Sun 31st March at 12pm (unless sold prior)
View Sat & Sun 11 - 11.30am
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22373

Diana Murray
M 021 911522 P 09 446 2115
diana.murray@harcourts.co.nz
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Devonport 5 Aramoana Avenue 2 2 2 1 2

A Home With A Difference!

- Two dwellings linked together - all on one title
- Almost 60 years of ownership coming to an end
- 531m2 freehold section
- Original cottage in the front
- 1970s Lockwood extension at the rear
- Intrigued? Call us to view today!

For Sale \$995,000
View As Advertised
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22244

Jane Hastings & Jackie Mark
M 021 735 263 & 021 458 797
jane.hastings@harcourts.co.nz
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Devonport 1/47a Vauxhall Road 2 1 1 2

Owners Ready To Meet Market!
Move straight in - This renovated 2-bedroom free standing brick & tile house with views of Mt Victoria is the perfect package for buyers looking to downsize, families looking for a first home or an investor looking for a low maintenance ready to rent property in a fantastic position.

For Sale \$959,000
View Open Home or Private Appointment
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22222

Matt Hunt
M 0274902555 P 09 446 2130
matt.hunt@harcourts.co.nz
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Devonport 1 Owens Road 4 2 2 1

Great Bones - As Is Where Is!
If you have been looking for an opportunity to secure a family sized home close to the village that offers great potential, we would advise you view this home without delay. This iconic home in Owens Road is in need of some finishing, ideally suited to an aspiring builder or a family that would like to get an affordable foothold into the area.

For Sale
By Negotiation
View By appointment
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22292

Gary Potter & Glenice Taylor
M 021 953 021 & 021 943 021
gary.potter@harcourts.co.nz
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NEW LISTING

Devonport 120a Vauxhall Road

3 1 1 1

The Rose Between Two Beaches
 • Affordable buying in a blue chip location
 • 1940s brick beauty on 423m2 land
 • Tastefully renovated throughout
 • Low maintenance, easy to live in
 • 6 years of ownership coming to an end
 • Be quick for this one!

Tender
 Closes Tuesday 9th April at 4pm.
 Devonport office (unless sold prior)
View By appointment or as advertised
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22443

Jackie Mark & Jane Hastings
 M 021 458 797 & 021 735 263
jackie.mark@harcourts.co.nz
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Devonport 6a Handley Avenue

4 2 1 1 2

Immaculate In Narrow Neck
 Architecturally designed with family, sunshine and a private outlook in mind, this sturdy home has been meticulously cared for and maintained over the years.
 A mix of weatherboard and insul-clad plaster on the exterior together with a well laid out 3/4 bedroom open plan interior makes this home a real winner in this excellent seaside suburb.

For Sale
 By Negotiation
View As advertised or by appointment
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22434

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



OPEN HOME

Devonport 13 Grahame Street

4 3 3 1 2

Grand Colonial Family Home
 This large, well maintained, two storey, Colonial home provides many practical options to suit any family. A gorgeous kitchen/dining area with plenty of storage, a sunny deck with a view that won't be built on, four bedrooms, two living rooms, three bathrooms (two brand new), an office, a big garden and a double garage with internal access gives you the space to entertain.

Auction
 On site, Sun 31st March at 1pm (unless sold prior)
View Thurs 21st 6.30pm, Sat/Sun 1-1.30
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22252

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



Devonport 17 Albert Road

3 2 2 1 3

Seriously For Sale
 • Our vendor knows the market has changed
 • Her future plans rely on this sale
 • Such a pretty home with so much to offer
 • Enjoy an income and easy walk to the Village.
 • Renovated and ready, serious buyers wanted!

For Sale \$1,695,000
View By appointment or as advertised
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22269

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 29b Hemi Street

5 4 2 2 2

Family Home + Granny Flat
 Are you after a well-constructed large family home with double garage & separate granny flat? Then here we go, this free hold semi-detached property has so much on offer with its flexible floor plan & amazing location at the cul de sac end of this blue-ribbon street & only minutes from Narrow Neck beach, fantastic schools, cafe's & so much more.

For Sale
 \$1,549,000
View Open home or by appointment
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP9935

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



OPEN HOME

Devonport 32 Abbotsford Terrace

4 2 1 1

Immaculate Village Bungalow
 Abbotsford Terrace is a quiet street that only the locals know, tucked away close to the village with a safe, family friendly vibe. No 32 sits on a corner site with a pretty cottage garden at the front entrance welcoming you to the beautifully renovated bungalow. Many original features still remain with the gorgeous bay window, wooden floors and original ceilings.

For Sale
 By Negotiation
View Sat 2-2.30
www.harcourts.co.nz/DP22246

Gary Potter & Glenice Taylor
 M 021 953 021 & 021 943 021 P 09 446 2106
gary.potter@harcourts.co.nz
Cooper & Co Real Estate Ltd
 Licensed Agent REAA 2008

Light rail a dream from green wonderland

In response to Chris Werry, who responded to my email regarding light rail (Flagstaff, 8 March):

Chris, you came out guns blazing – well done. I like your vision of supporting renewable energy. You have yet to tell me what happens when a cyclist transitions over these rails buried in the tar seal.

You also did not elaborate on where the tram stops fit into this “middle of the road solution” you refer to. I take it that if light rail arrives, buses on these roads will be removed. So bus stops are removed and tram stops are erected in the middle of the road, together with the tram lines. This would push the car lanes further out and cycle lanes will be history.

Bus stops are currently spaced every 800-odd metres, sometimes more, sometimes less. To replace bus stops, patrons on the light rail will expect similar stop intervals. Who wants

to disembark from a tram only to have to walk kilometres to where they want to be?

At every tram stop there will have to be a pedestrian crossing to enable people to safely cross to the side of the road, supposedly with traffic lights, further impacting normal traffic flow. To this, you might answer that tram users will cross via a tunnel under the traffic lane, exiting on the sidewalk. We only have an Auckland budget, not a Singapore budget.

Now apply all the above to a light-rail system down a narrow Lake Rd on the Devonport peninsula, as Rob Drent suggested in the Flagstaff. Where is this light rail going to go to? Devonport to Takapuna? What a waste. Devonport to the city? Good luck.

I honestly think you are living in your own little green wonderland Chris. But trust me, you are not alone.

Ian Cunningham

No taste for 4x4s

What's the deal with all the ugly, enormous and inappropriate 4x4 mommy wagons that now thunder along the streets of Devonport?

It is possible to have both wealth and taste, surely?

Isaac Donaldson

North Shore's only NZ Owned Family Funeral Home



Husband & Wife Team
Professional & Personal Touch
Full Services & Direct Cremations
From \$2,999.00

09 486 2631 – 027 486 2050
www.northshorefunerals.co.nz
157 Shakespeare Rd, Milford

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SAVE **30¢** OFF
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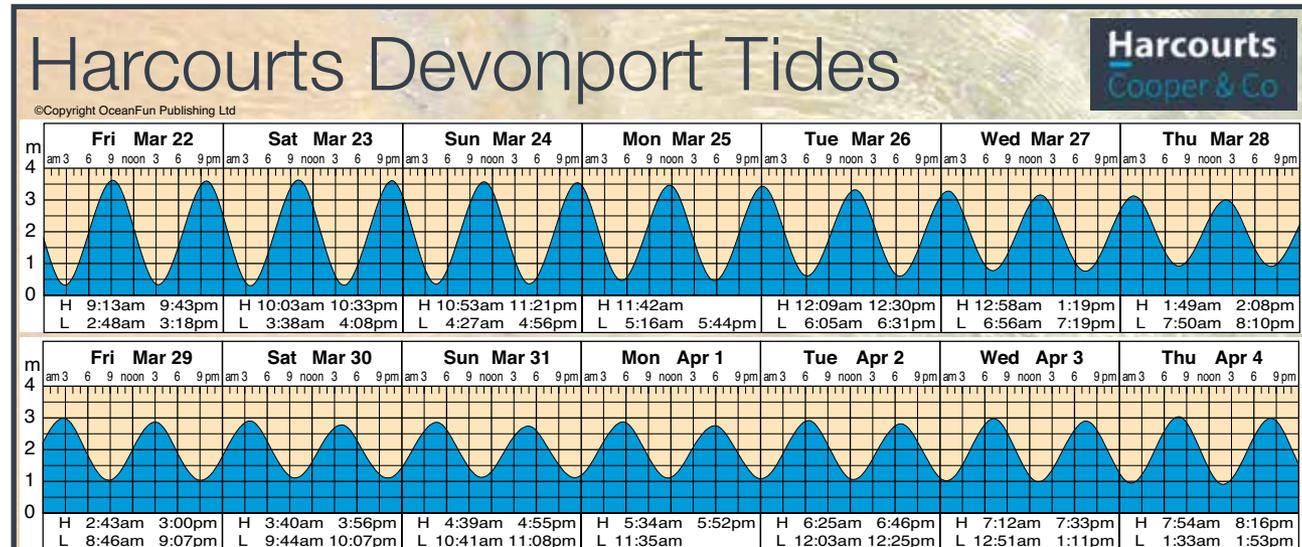
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Internal wrangling hamstrings gulf forum

The poster of the Hauraki Gulf distributed by the *New Zealand Herald* and produced by the Hauraki Gulf Forum is colourful and

informative and should be on display on classroom and bedroom walls.

Sadly, it appears to be one of the few tangible outputs last year from a largely dysfunctional Hauraki Gulf Forum, which is so preoccupied by internal wrangling that it is failing to deliver on its environmental responsibilities.

When the new forum chair expressed his vision at the February meeting for future projects such as targets for water quality, re-establishing mussel beds and creating marine parks in the gulf, you would assume that there would have been unanimous support, at least in principle. But no, he was immediately strongly criticised by the tangata whenua members for not having consulted with them first. His report was not passed unanimously and his ideas look dead in the water.

It would appear that this 'co-governance' committee has devolved into a power struggle as tangata whenua collectively aim to gain the predominant influence on the activities and direction of the forum, instead of just getting on with meeting the responsibilities for which they were appointed.

Derek Stubbs

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Dr Andrew Steele BDS OTAGO

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Making Community Happier



OUT & ABOUT

Maria Teape Community Coordinator

445 9533 | maria@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz

KIDS ATHLETICS SERIES

Tuesdays, 19 Feb–26 Mar, 4pm–6pm

Vauxhall Sports Reserve (rugby club grounds)
Kids aged 5ish to 11ish can have a go at a variety of athletic activities for free in a non-competitive environment including high jump, long jump, running races, agility games and more.

For more info contact Maria or Carolyn ph: 445 9533 or maria@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz

DEVONPORT FAMILY FUN PICNIC

Sunday 24 March 2019, 4pm–6pm

Windsor Reserve, Devonport

Bring a picnic, your family and invite your neighbours to join us at Devonport's Windsor Reserve to celebrate Neighbours Day! There will be a preschool play zone, bouncy castle, face-painting and live music to keep us entertained along with a sausage sizzle and ice cream for sale. **Cost: FREE!**

More info at www.devonportpeninsulatrust.nz

WORKING TOWARDS PLASTIC-FREE SHOPPING

Tuesday 26 March, 8:00pm–9:00pm
Devonport Library

COST: FREE! Concerned about your household's plastic waste? And the link between waste and climate change? Come to a free presentation by Niccy Fraser, zero-waste advocate, on practical steps towards making positive household changes.

SUMMER FUN PRESCHOOL PLAY MORNINGS

Tuesdays (@ Windsor Reserve) & Thursdays (@ Bayswater Park) 9:30am–11:00am

A FREE fun time for preschoolers to play with big toys, be active and to make new friends. Bring your toddler and a coffee and enjoy our beautiful parks! Caregiver supervision is required and sessions are weather dependent. For more info, contact Carolyn or Maria on ph: 445 9533 or email: maria@devonportpeninsulatrust.nz

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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THE ROSE CENTRE, BELMONT

8PM WED - SAT, SUNDAY 2PM

BOOK @ ITICKET.CO.NZ

Tourism boss shares ideas for Devonport

Tourism New Zealand chief and Devonport resident Stephen England-Hall believes the area could make better use of its golf course as part of a push to get tourists spending more when they visit. He talks to Helen Vause about his tourism vision, telling the New Zealand story and suggestions for his local patch.

The man leading the promotion of New Zealand as a tourist destination is a Devonport resident and has some ideas about how the area could attract more visitors.

Stephen England-Hall has for nearly two years been chief executive of Tourism New Zealand, the agency responsible for promoting our country as a destination.

Locally, he suggests there is an opportunity to “turn up the volume” on the marketing and utilisation of the Waitemata Golf Club course.

“The golf course could be a city country club, with tourists and business people coming across for lunch and a game. It’s a lovely course in a very nice setting so it’s not difficult to see how much it could appeal. Probably it is the closest to the city and it seems a lot more could be made of its potential appeal to another market.

“Devonport appeals to everyone and it’s a sure thing that the tourists, both New Zealanders and internationals, are going to keep coming over on the ferries in increasing numbers. It’s perceived as a quaint and cute place. No doubt they have a pleasant experience here, but currently much of that experience is absolutely free.”

The idea, he reckons, is to get tourists spending more, and doing more while they are here, without upsetting the locals.

“Obviously Devonport’s demographic is changing and that will keep on happening. We owe it to our community to stand for the future that we want. We can have ambition for an extraordinary future here.

“Of course there needs to be a balance but holding on to some attitudes is not going to fix anything. If the thinking stays in the past, we



Floating ideas... Ferry-riding tourism chief Stephen England-Hall at the Devonport ferry terminal

stay in the past.”

England-Hall also believes more people should be able to live in the heart of Devonport and that increasing the central population would support an increase in core services, open up more options and bring more things to do.

He’s keen to see redevelopment of the New World car park and smarter use of space in the village centre.

“This is a beautiful place with so much on offer and there is an exceptional community here full of warm, lovely people,” he says.

On a national scale, the plan to get more money out of those who come to New Zealand is bearing fruit, England-Hall told a breakfast meeting in Devonport, where the Flagstaff caught up with him.

Tourism contributes over \$39 billion to our economy, with about \$16.2 billion of that coming from international visitors. It’s our largest export earner and a significant employer, with about one in seven Kiwis directly or indirectly employed in tourism.

Certainly, tourism is growing. By 2024,

visitor numbers are expected to reach more than five million a year and those people are expected to spend an additional \$4.6 billion in hotels, cafes, shops and attractions.

To many, the visitors may seem like a mass influx and, depending on who you ask, they can be a worrisome pest or an opportunity on legs. It’s not news to England-Hall and his team that we have mixed feelings about visitors, and the pressure they put on infrastructure in some places and communities, including Devonport.

Increasingly, most Kiwis are coming round to feeling international tourism is good for New Zealand, he says.

Tourism New Zealand’s latest survey of national sentiment showed that public concerns about visitor numbers had stabilised and around 95 per cent of Kiwis now agree that tourism is good for New Zealand. Visitor surveys show that around 94 per cent report that their visit to New Zealand either met or exceeded their expectations.

Who comes here, what they do, where they go and what they spend is a complicated mix

Devonport Chamber Orchestra

Strauss: Horn Concerto No. 1
Beethoven: Symphony No. 1



Horn Soloist: Anita Austin
Conductor: Warwick Robinson

Sunday 31st March, 2pm
Holy Trinity, 20 Church St, Devonport
Admission: Adults \$15,
Children under 12 free

44-year-old England-Hall is in the thick of – with the help of sophisticated technology, data analysis, and targeted marketing.

A key part of the job, he says, is to keep targeting high-value visitors, who spend more here than their counterparts used to. And, to get more of them into the regions and coming here across all seasons.

Telling the New Zealand story isn't where England-Hall originally thought he would find himself, and the career pathway he was on didn't obviously point to tourism.

He was recruited for his job when he was chief executive of Loyalty New Zealand – a company best known for the Fly Buys programme – after returning home from working in the Northern Hemisphere. His international experience was in the world of digital marketing, with data and technology companies in the UK and North America.

Earlier in his career he'd made a good enough impression to get into the University of Cambridge MBA course – without an undergraduate degree. Now he serves as a member of several Cambridge University advisory boards.

Alongside the Tourism New Zealand job, England-Hall also sits on the New Zealand Screen Production Grant panel and is a founding member of the New Zealand Data Futures Partnership think tank.

It's no accident that England-Hall, his wife Suzie and their children, Hudson and Evie, are living in Devonport.

When the family returned to New Zealand

six years ago, they were looking for the pick of the city's locations and somewhere near the sea to make a home. England-Hall says Devonport was an easy choice and it's the place he wants to stay.

He's a ferry commuter and away from work he pounds the pavements on regular runs or is

“No doubt they have a pleasant experience here [Devonport], but currently much of that experience is absolutely free.”

out on his paddle board.

In tourism, England-Hall says, we need to make sure it brings more to the country than it takes away. “There is the opportunity for tourism to enrich the country socially, environmentally and economically.”

It's no secret that some regions are feeling the pressure and will need support to get tourism working well for both local communities and the visitors, he says.

“We're using sophisticated targeting to attract visitors to contribute to New Zealand in the

best way possible and to get better outcomes in many ways.

“I see myself in this job very much as a guardian of this fantastic country and all we have to offer.”

For many years we've been sold to the world as '100 per cent pure', but in line with the latest promotional strategy, we can expect to hear more about 'enrichment' very soon, he says.

Research shows as many as 140 million people are currently considering New Zealand as a holiday destination (along with many other places). They're not all coming, says England-Hall, but getting the attention of those we do want to come is a huge job.

In fact, according to a saying in the business most of those travelling millions would be more likely to buy an Aston Martin than choose to come to New Zealand. And of the 2500 planes leaving the US every day, only a handful are bound for New Zealand. And just a fraction of the 115 million travelling Chinese pick New Zealand to visit.

When they do come here, some just want an Instagram moment while others may want much more active outdoor experiences. Either way, there are many untapped opportunities for them, and for this country, England-Hall says.

“Our story is by no means just about scenery. There are beautiful lakes, beaches and forests in many other places. The job is about selling the whole country and selling ourselves as people. We're unique people and we have an incredible story here. Already we have a reputation for being generous, warm and welcoming.”

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DEVONPORT

143 VICTORIA ROAD

- 5
- 3
- 3
- 3
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TENDER

Closes on 10 Apr 2019 at 4:00pm
 (unless sold prior)

VIEWING

Sunday 3:00-3:45pm
www.barfoot.co.nz/772248



Ian Cunliffe
 027 227 9322
 i.cunliffe@barfoot.co.nz
 Devonport 09 445 2010



Tracey Lawrence
 021 1720 681
 t.lawrence@barfoot.co.nz
 Devonport 09 445 2010

THE EPITOME OF STYLE

Beautifully refurbished with meticulous attention to detail, this double storey character residence contains an embarrassment of riches. Perfectly positioned within a few minutes walk to the boutique shops, school, cafes, parks, beaches and the CBD ferry service, the property has wonderful street appeal and is set behind a secure and private entrance way. The views to the west are of course panoramic and the sunsets magnificent over the Auckland City Skyline and beyond. An added bonus to this truly stunning home is a lower level encompassing the third living area, fifth bedroom and third bathroom. This is ideal for extended family or guests. There's also copious amounts of storage available. Welcome to one of the finest homes Devonport has on offer.

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BAYSWATER

2/45 BERESFORD STREET

- 4
- 1
- 3
- 1
- 2
-

TENDER
Closes on 27 Mar 2019 at 4:00pm
(unless sold prior)

VIEWING
Sunday 12:00-12:45PM
www.barfoot.co.nz/772100

BAYSIDE SENSATION!

Beautifully positioned for all day sun and right on the 'dress circle' waterfront at Shoal Bay, this magnificent contemporary style executive residence is the stuff that dreams are made of, a truly inspiring and faultlessly designed Bayswater Palace. Accessed via a private driveway, the property boasts four double bedrooms, three bathrooms, open plan living and an expansive lounge that can be closed off to serve as the family office. A large double garage is ideal for all of the waterborne items you'll need. Top quality fixtures and fittings are a given in a home of this calibre and the views are of course panoramic from the home, outdoor entertaining areas, and your swimming pool. Bayswater Marina, the CBD ferry, local parks, and high decile schools are all close by.



Carol Wetzell
027 245 3392
c.wetzell@barfoot.co.nz
Devonport 09 445 2010



Ian Cunliffe
027 227 9322
i.cunliffe@barfoot.co.nz
Devonport 09 445 2010

OPEN HOME



DEVONPORT 90 NGATARINGA ROAD



FOR SALE
 \$1,995,000
VIEWING
 Sat/Sun 1:00-1:45pm
www.barfoot.co.nz/772681

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Lance Richardson
 021 796 660
 Devonport 09 445 2010

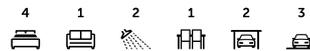


Kim Byrne
 021 473 262
 Devonport 09 445 2010

AUCTION SATURDAY



TAKAPUNA 53 SEACLIFFE AVENUE



AUCTION
 On site at 12:00pm 23 Mar 2019
 (unless sold prior)
VIEWING
 Saturday 11:30am-12:00pm
www.barfoot.co.nz/771537

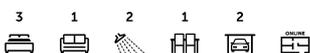
In a world of cookie cutter homes and conformity, this elegant residence is something very special! The striking lines and symmetry immediately resonate and hidden away on 764m², this home is well thought out, quiet, restful and refined. Located just an easy walk to Takapuna Grammar, Narrow Neck and Takapuna Beach the position is perfect!



Lance Richardson
 021 796 660
 Devonport 09 445 2010



DEVONPORT 1/24 HEMI STREET



FOR SALE
 \$1,150,000
VIEWING
 Sunday 1:00-1:45pm
www.barfoot.co.nz/769766

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Tina Rackley
 0275 135 870
 Devonport 09 445 2010



BELMONT 2/221 LAKE ROAD



FOR SALE
 By Negotiation
VIEWING
 Sat/Sun 11:00-11:45am
www.barfoot.co.nz/771388

THE START OF SOMETHING SPECIAL!
 Sitting elevated up a drive is this 1950's cottage built of brick and roughcast, positioned perfectly for the sun with a North/West aspect. Plus there's the bonus of a double garage that's been converted with glass french doors, gib finish and carpet.



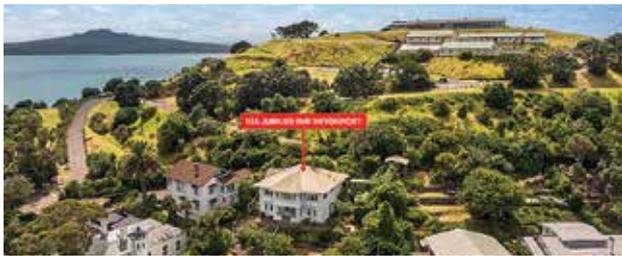
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 Devonport 09 445 2010



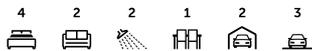
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TENDER
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VIEWING
Sat/Sun 2:00-2:45pm
www.barfoot.co.nz/770506

MAGNIFICENT IN EVERY WAY
Harbour views are absolutely stunning from this iconic Devonport home which spans two levels. Close to local beaches, parks, schools, boutique cafes, and the CBD ferry service, this is your once in a lifetime chance to secure one of Devonport's premier homes and an amazing Americas Cup opportunity.



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027 227 9322
Devonport 09 445 2010



Tracey Lawrence
021 1720 681
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DEVONPORT 36 KIWI ROAD



TENDER
Closes on 11 Apr 2019 at 4:00pm
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VIEWING
Sat/Sun 12:00-12:45pm
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OPEN HOME



OPEN HOME



BELMONT 1/9 OPUA STREET



AUCTION
10:00am 21 Mar 2019 at QBE Stadium, Albany (unless sold prior)

VIEWING
Sat/Sun 1:00-1:30pm
www.barfoot.co.nz/770978

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Sue Harrison
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Toni Gregory
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DEVONPORT 2/7 FRASER ROAD



FOR SALE
\$995,000

VIEWING
Sat/Sun 2:00-2:30pm
www.barfoot.co.nz/771501

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NEW LISTING



DEVONPORT

38 MOZELEY AVENUE



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Built right on the cusp of the Edwardian-Victorian era, this beautiful villa situated on a large corner section, provides a picture-perfect example of the elegance and refinement so characteristic of this architectural period. The wide, beautifully proportioned hall welcomes you home, centrally connecting the four bedrooms and formal living areas to the dining/kitchen area. The real highlight of this home is the french doors opening out from the kitchen and dining area onto the north facing architecturally designed outdoor living area. Call me now!

AUCTION

On Site 2:00pm 6th April 2019
(unless sold prior)

VIEWING

Sat/Sun 2:00-2:45pm
www.barfoot.co.nz/772350



Lance Richardson
AREINZ
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Stop work at Maori burial site

Bones have been found at a controversial building site on the Cheltenham Beach foreshore, stopping works for several months.

The bones, or koiwi (human skeletal remains), were found before Christmas and work on the site, which involves extensive excavations, stopped and has not restarted.

The landowner has been working closely with Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, consultant archaeologists, Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki [Tribal Trust], and all proper processes have been followed," northern regional archaeologist Isaac McIvor said in a statement.

Canavan House is a 1941 heritage B-listed property at 26 Oxford Terrace, undergoing renovations that include moving the house and installing a turning bay, a large garage and a swimming pool.

In November 2017, residents and heritage advocates gathered on the property to try to stop the felling of a mature pohutukawa, but last-minute checks with Auckland Council found the tree had no protection.

The renovation plans sparked some public discussion, but the consent was eventually approved without notification.

Devonport archaeologist David Veart hadn't heard about the discovery of bones, but was not surprised, as Devonport has been settled for 700 years.

The area was populated as it had fertile volcanic soil and access to both harbours. Bones are often found near the coast as sandy soil is easier for digging graves.

The discovery at Torpedo Bay of moa ovens shows Maori lived in the area in the first 200 years of arrival, before moa were hunted to extinction.

An Auckland Council media officer said no one in its compliance, building control or heritage teams knew about the discovery of koiwi at the address.

The process outlined by Auckland Council for anyone finding human remains, includes notifying the council and police.

Neighbour David McAlister said he had seen police at the site. But police told the Flagstaff they had no record of the find.

McAlister said he not seen any iwi groups at the site either.

Cheltenham and the wider Devonport area was residentially developed prior to any legislative provisions for the protection of archaeological sites, Heritage New Zealand's McIvor said.

"As a result, relatively few archaeological sites have been recorded in the area.

"There remains the potential for previously unidentified subsurface archaeological sites relating to earlier pre-European Māori occupations, as well as nineteenth-century activity.

"We therefore recommend that Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga is contacted for advice in relation to any proposed de-



Discovery of human bones stops works in Cheltenham

velopments in the area."

McIvor refused to answer further questions. "The landowner is not comfortable

about us talking about the archaeological remains beyond what we've said in our statement."

DEVONPORT *Family* MEDICINE

New and exciting changes are about to take place at Devonport Family Medicine.

To ensure continuity of care to all our loyal patients, with Dr Grant Smith leaving Devonport Family Medicine at the end of March, I will be taking over his share of the practice. I'm sure that over the years I will have been your doctor at some point.

The change brings with it an opportunity to freshen up the practice and upgrade systems. A new website allowing you to book your appointments and repeat scripts online will be available. The Practice is going to have a makeover providing patients with a more modern and restful space, including a play area for children.

I look forward to continuing to provide all our patients with my care as your general practitioner.

2 Fleet St, Devonport, North Shore



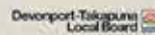
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North Head and Fort Takapuna Historic Reserves Weed Spraying

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 April 2019 and 31st May 2019. 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

Band with primary-school roots releases EP



Local trio... Slipstream members (from left) Filip Kus, Hank Trenton and Justin Pereira

Local band Slipstream, which had its origins at St Leo's School, has released a self-titled EP.

The group's Justin Pereira, aged 17 and Hank Trenton, 18, are Devonport lads, who have been playing together as Slipstream since they were 9 and 10 years old and at St Leo's. The third band member, Filip Kus,

17, joined in 2013.

Justin is on vocals and guitars, Hank plays bass and Filip is the drummer.

Justin wrote the songs on the EP, and the band has always played originals.

The EP, which was recorded locally at Depot Sound, is available on Spotify, Tidal, Amazon, GooglePlay and similar platforms.

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Pip Irwin
Jenny Smith



New Zealanders have put their trust in Forsyth Barr for personalised investment advice and service for over 80 years. We are proudly 100% New Zealand owned by shareholders working within the business. Pip Irwin and Jenny Smith are Authorised Financial Advisers available to give you professional, personalised and confidential investment advice.

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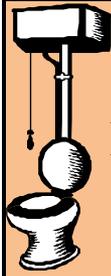
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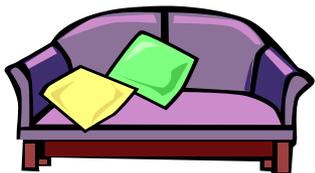

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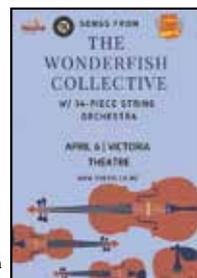
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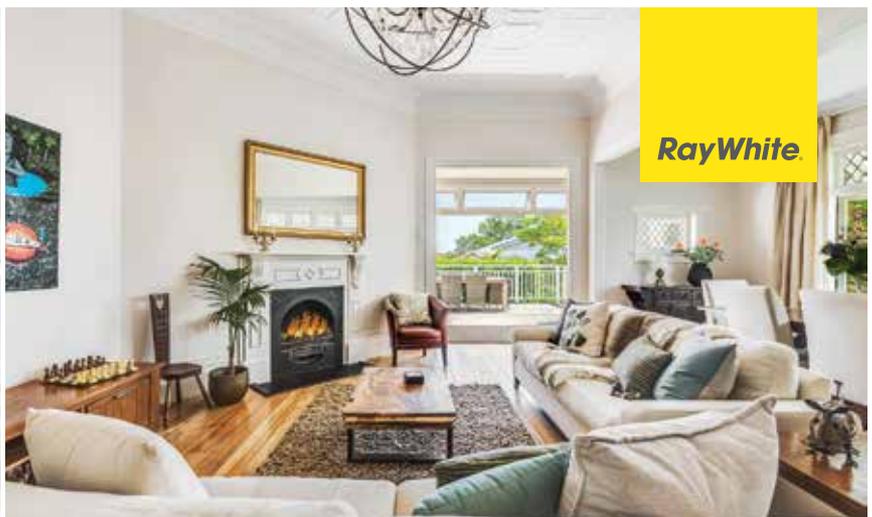
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Nigel and his wife moved to Auckland almost 30 years ago and fell in love with Devonport and its villas. They bought a do-up as soon as they could and they've certainly done it up beautifully since moving in, in 1991. They've also enjoyed bringing up their family here, sending their children to Stanley Bay Primary and Takapuna Grammar. All in all, if you want a real estate agent like no other, talk to Nigel. You'll both enjoy the experience.



I wanted to say how pleased I was with the support and efforts of Nigel and his team at Ray White. There was a clear sales strategy and advice around how to present and market the house. I was kept well informed at each step, and felt assured we had the right plan in place. I was very pleased with the outcome and believe that any other approach would not have generated the same result in this market. I would highly recommend Nigel and appreciate the extra efforts made to ensure this was as successful as it could be. Many thanks.

Richard Warfield

Takapuna

SCHOOL NEWS



Grammar

MAR 22, 2019



Swimming Sports

It's one of the biggest events of the year. With record times dating back to the 1950s, the swimmers were getting ready to dive into the chilly pool to be a part of another year of Swimming Sports at TGS.

Fortunately the sun was blazing, without a single cloud, which heightened the spirits of all the students. From period one to period four, the competitive swimmers raced the two lengths and three lengths age-group events of each stroke (butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle). After the age-group events, the quickest swimmers raced in the two lengths fly, medley and the six lengths backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle open events.

Jade Hollick, who currently holds three record times, said: 'I'm so glad to have participated in my fifth and last year of Swimming Sports'. Hollick also said it has "always been a pleasure to compete alongside my partner in crime, Hannah Kim," and praised the sense of community at the event.

Soon after, period five came around, when all the year 9s and 10s came out poolside to support their houses in the relays. From flutter-kick relays and fast-walking in water, to the classic medley relay, an immense amount of shouting, laughing and splashing enhanced the atmosphere. The blasting music got everyone hyped up as they cheered on the swimmers in the pool.



Although everyone tried their hardest, there could only be one winning house. First place went to Wehi house, who smashed the competition with 216 points. Second place was awarded to Wana with 105 points, while Maia finished third on 86 points. Fourth-equal and sixth went to Mana and Ihi on 84 points and Kaha on 73 points respectively. Overall, the swimming sports was a clear success as everyone left the pool smiling.

BY HANNAH KIM

The Little Mermaid

Takapuna Grammar students have been working their tails off rehearsing for the upcoming school show *The Little Mermaid*. With at least two or three rehearsals a week, the directing team, made up of students Patrick Cunneen, Emma Hitman, Esther Howie and Rosie McGregor, have had their hands full ensuring everything runs smoothly.

"The rehearsal schedule is very intense and calls for a lot of work," says Rosie. "Luckily I'm working with a great group of hard-working people so it's actually a lot of fun".

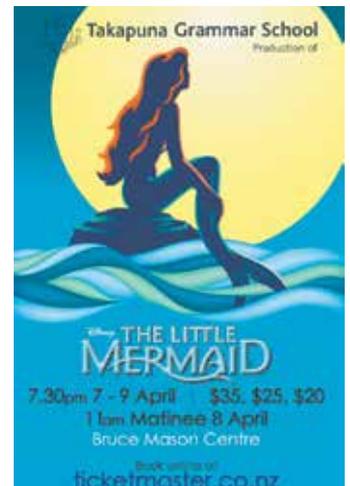
The cast is currently running through the acts of all the songs, and they're moving quickly to perfect everything. India Worsnop, who plays Ursula, comments that "the show is really coming together now and it's exciting

to watch all the progress".

Student artists are working extremely hard to make the props and create a beautiful set. Not only are they painting the boat, Ariel's Grotto, and the clam shells and organising all the food for the show, but they are also making Ursula and Triton's thrones. The make-up team, which is being led by Siobhan Taylor and Rosie McGregor, has also been working hard designing a number of spectacular looks.

The show is running 7-9 April, and tickets are on sale from Ticketmaster right now. A third of the tickets have already been purchased, and the school's matinee has completely sold out, so get in quick if you want to get tickets!

BY ANYA FRY



Takapuna

SCHOOL NEWS



Grammar

MAR 22, 2019

Year 12 PE camp



From the third to the fifth of March, year 12 PE students set out on their annual PE camp. The camp was held at Matakana Military Arts, where students participated in a variety of challenging activities designed to bring their PE lessons into the real world.

The students first took part in a confidence course, which was part of their 2.10 PE Internal, where they were required to 'analyse group processes in physical activity'.

Students repeated the course at the end of the camp, aiming to beat their previous time and work

better as a team after a few days on camp.

The students also completed a tramp up Mt Tamahunga and went snorkelling on Goat Island to complete another internal. The camp was a great learning experience for those involved.

Catherine Fairbairn explained that "it was a good experience to take classroom learning into real life". Snorkelling was a particular source of enjoyment for the students, with Tayla Wheeler noting that "the snapper were captivating".

BY AISLIN WELLS

from the Lion's Den



THE LATEST IN SPORT



MATT BROWNING scoring 102 off 115 balls for the 1st XI cricket team against Western Springs.

Sailing – Auckland Secondary Schools Regatta. Great work by the 13 TGS students who took part, coming second overall as a school (17 schools competed), with **JOSH SCHON/JAMES BARNETT** winning gold in the 29er and **CONRAD BUTLER/CALLUM RICHARDS** bronze in the Feva.

Mountain Biking Auckland school champs at Riverhead (series 1 of 5). U15 boys first – **JOE MILLINGTON**, U17 boys third – **CHARLIE MILLINGTON** and a first place in the U16 boys team relay of **JOE MILLINGTON, JACKSON HARVEY** and **ALEX SKILTON**.

North Island rowing champs results - **EVAN WILLIAMS** first in U17 Single Sculls, **EVAN** and **JACOB DAVEY** second in U17 Double Sculls

TGS Volleyball Senior A Girls came second in Div 2, and the Boys A came ninth in Div 1 gaining promotion into the Premier Grade!

The **Girls Senior A Tennis** team remains unbeaten in their Monday night competition. The boys are performing well too, with just one draw to go with their winning ways in Term 1.

In **North Harbour Zone Athletics** results, our NH champions are **GERRI GIBSON** – first Int High Jump, **ANNA TUCKER** – first Int 400m, **GIGI CLIFFE** – first Snr 400m, and in the team relay a first place in the Int Girls 4 x 100m featuring **GERRI, ANNA, GEORGIA ALMITH** and **SAMANTHA KORCK**.

In Sports Alumni news, congratulations to former 1st XV player **JAMES LITTLE** for making the New Zealand Rugby 7s team!

Avant-garde artist Blake Feeney

The striking work of Blake Feeney is testament to the fact that adults needn't be defined by their teenage school experiences.

The 23-year-old artist found success after his first solo exhibition *Parvus Magnum*, held at The Depot Artspace last year and comprising 24 paintings on canvas, all larger than a square metre.

Feeney pays homage to his family and early-Renaissance art, and says that he always felt a lack of support and a disconnect from the Devonport community where his family spent a large portion of his school years.

"We never felt like we belonged. My family has always found their sense of belonging and security in art."

In 2013, Feeney was asked by a dean to leave school. "They put a list of names up on the board and asked us to come to his [the dean's] office. He said to us 'I suggest you leave and take up a trade.' I had passed year 12 with excellence, but I felt uncomfortable being at school after that – so I left."

It wasn't until he got to university that the ex-Takapuna Grammar student found his passion for painting. "I was studying fashion design. I didn't know what I was into," he says.

"I took a compulsory painting class and they were like 'you have to change your major.'" Feeney began exploring his style, and decided he needed to leave university to develop further as an artist.

Feeney's art has strong feminist tones which, he says, come from his upbringing.

"A large part of growing up was making sure mum was comfortable and satisfied. She was such a good mum."

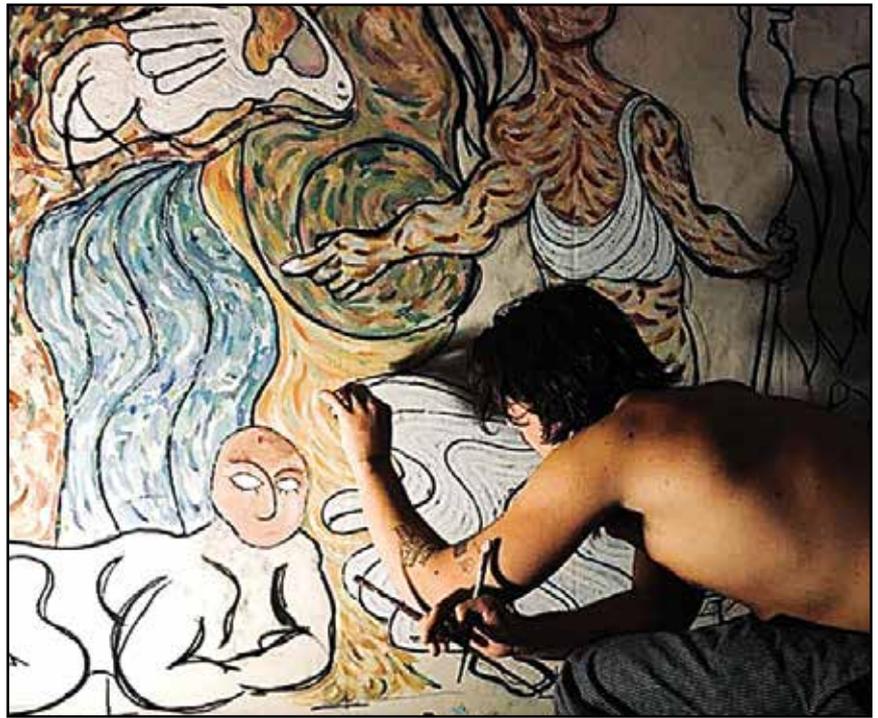
He explains that he has always been in tune with his feminine side. "Mother Nature has always attracted me; pretty much all of my paintings have water and bush. Women are so much more organic, so much more in touch with nature."

One of Feeney's biggest supporters and inspirations is his great-aunt, renowned Auckland artist, Jacqueline Fahey.

"I was so nervous for her to see my work. When she liked it I was like, that's all that matters. That's all I need."

Fahey's art often challenged accepted archetypes of the female experience. This was also reflected in her personal life says Feeney.

"Back when she was at art school, the women would wear men's clothing to appear masculine but she [Fahey] would turn up in a full-on frock. That's the kind of feminism that really turns me on."

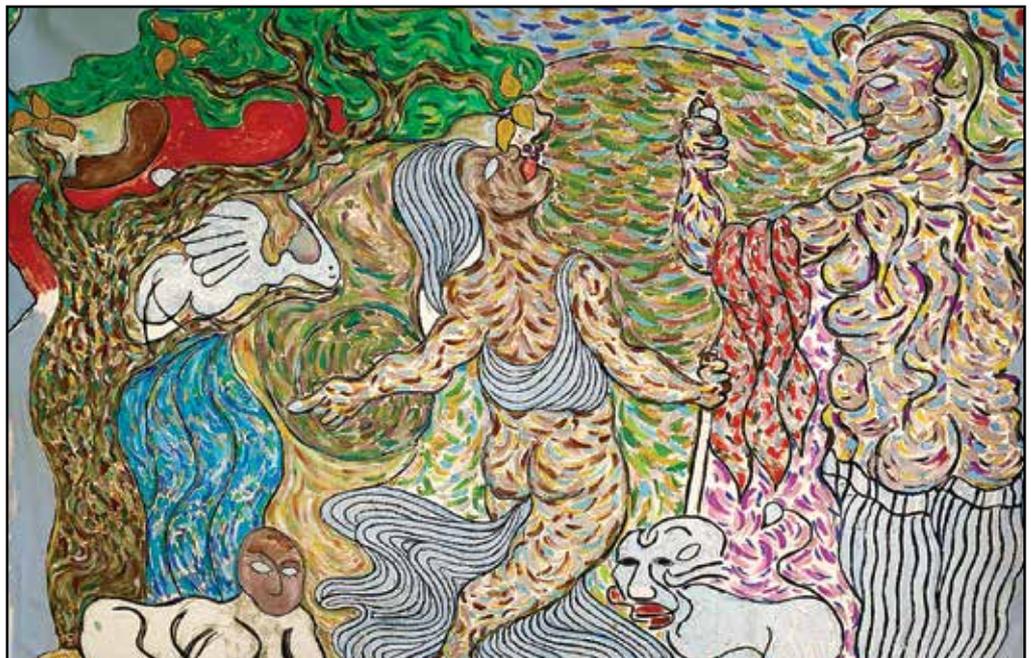


**Inspired by Mother Nature...
Blake Feeney (right) and at work
(above)**



Feeney is currently working on his second exhibition, which he hopes will be ready by the middle of the year. He will continue to challenge the status quo and the minds of the generation who didn't believe in him.

"This is my way of saying no thank you to what the boomers have created for us."



END OF LIFE CHOICES...A PUBLIC DEBATE

No matter what your age, the topic of end-of-life care is an important one. It will inevitably affect all of us and the people who matter to us and although the subject is difficult at the best of times, it is a discussion we need to have as a compassionate country.

David Seymour's End-of-Life Choice bill aims to change the Crimes Act to allow euthanasia and assisted suicide as they have in Holland and Canada and will be returned to the House at the end of the month. Ninety-two percent of the 37,000 submissions on this bill were opposed to a law change and I commend in particular the courage it took to appear in front of a group of strangers in a public select committee hearing about why they were in favour or against the bill.

As the deputy chair of the Justice Select Committee, I have personally found it an often harrowing experience listening to around 1000 first-hand accounts from people who shared distressing life and death events, and I respect their views even if I didn't agree with them.

After listening carefully and going through the bill in line-by-line detail, I am more convinced than ever that legalising euthanasia and assisted suicide through this bill would forever change the way we treat our most vulnerable – the elderly, mentally ill, suicidal and disabled New Zealanders.

This bill is not about turning off life support, 'do not resuscitate' requests, refusing medical treatment or using morphine for pain relief. Those practices are ethical and already legal, and would not change. But this bill is not just talking about the terminally ill. Under the term 'grievous and irremediable condition', your loved one with dementia, depression, arthritis, diabetes, multiple sclerosis, blindness, eating disorders, tinnitus or with a general belief that they are 'sick of life' may be eligible for assisted suicide.

Your local North Shore MP

Hon Maggie Barry ONZM

Member of Parliament – North Shore

National's Spokesperson for Seniors, Veterans', and Associate Health

worst statistics for youth suicide in the world, and the often desperate efforts to reduce those heart-breaking figures feature regularly in the headlines. A law change to enable access to euthanasia and assisted suicide will send confusing and mixed messages that it is okay for some people to be helped to end their lives while we spend millions on programmes trying to prevent others committing suicide. As the disabled community told us repeatedly, their lives would be defined as suffering from 'grievous and irremediable conditions', so their lives would be seen as being of less value than people who are able-bodied.

My mother had a 10-year journey with dementia and, as her only child, I saw how at risk and vulnerable older New Zealanders without advocates and family can be. As the former patron of Hospice NZ and Mary Potter Hospice in Wellington where my father died, I know that the right level of expert care at the end of people's lives is precious and transformative.

I have drafted my member's bill 'Access to End of Life Palliative Care' which is currently in the ballot, to require all DHBs to fund and provide end of life care for people in their own homes, hospices, hospitals and aged care facilities. With demand for palliative and hospice care expected to increase by 51% in the next two decades, this is a discussion we need to have now.

This is an opportunity to find out more about legalising euthanasia and assisted suicide and making your views known. It's a question the Government has said will be included in a binding referendum at the next election so it's important to understand what's at stake.

Contact 486 0005 for more information.

End of Life Choices Public Debate

Monday 25 March, 7-9pm

Netball North Harbour,
44 Northcote Road, Takapuna

Join Sir Bill English, Hon Maggie Barry, Canadian palliative care expert Dr Leonie Herx and euthanasia advocates to discuss the David Seymour Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide Bill. Make your views on this subject count.

RSVP to northshore@parliament.govt.nz



Hon Maggie Barry ONZM
MP for North Shore and National's Spokesperson for Seniors, Veterans and Associate Health



Sir Bill English KNZM
Former Prime Minister of New Zealand



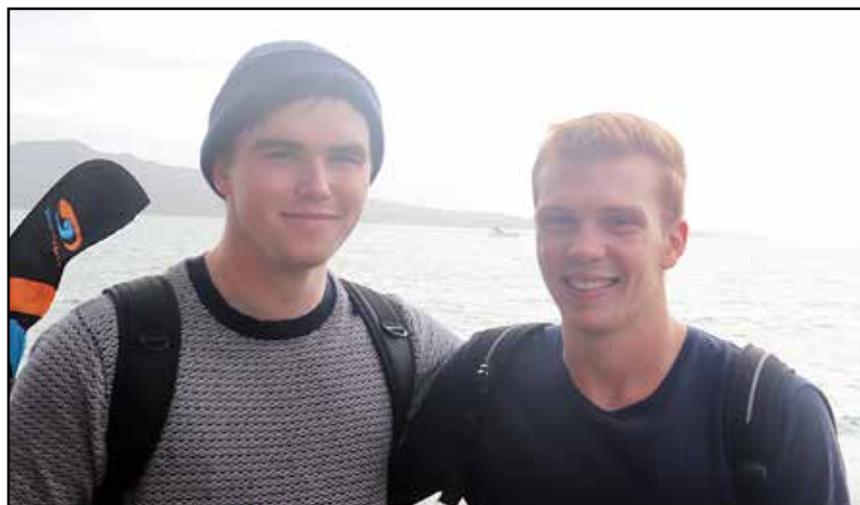
Authorised by Maggie Barry MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.

Beach-to-beach swim attracts 200



They're off... swimmers hit the water at Narrow Neck

Pictures by India Worsnop



Around 200 competitors braved choppy conditions on 9 March for the Devonport Swim Club's annual Cheltenham Swim, on a 2.2km course from Narrow Neck Beach around the coast to Balmain Reserve on Cheltenham Beach.

Results: Senior males – 1. Nick Bone (21min:54sec) 2. Michael Worsfold (22:06) 3. Chris Moors (23.16); Senior females – 1. DJ Smith (27:05) 2. Kylie Bradley (27.22) 3. Karyn Kemp (28.15); Junior females – 1. Gabriella Jacobs (26:53) 2. Estee Jacobs (27.36) 3. Isabella Webb (31.56).

Post-swim recovery... Competitors Zane Kelbrick (left) and Michael Worsfold



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Happy finishers (from left)... John Porter, Kristyna Sebkova and Chris Kidd (above) and Dana Glenie and Louise Daniels (below)



First ashore... Senior male winner Nick Bone exits the water

Community casts light on dark spaces



Home is where the heart is... Elise Barker (6) makes a hut from materials sourced from the Devonport Community Recycling Centre at the conclusion of the family fun trail last Sunday

Several dozen families took part in the Devonport Community family fun trail event last Sunday, which followed a path from Windsor Reserve to Devonport Museum.

The possibility of cancelling the event was floated following the massacre of 50 people in Christchurch last Friday, said Dave Veart, chair of the organiser Devonport Peninsula Trust.

“But we thought a community gathering in the openness and sunshine away from the dark corners some people inhabit was very healthy.

“Thank you for bringing your families.” he said.

A new addition to the programme this year was material from the Devonport Community Recycling Centre, which kids used to build new structures.



It's a plant... co-organiser Caroline Pomeroy hands out the prizes at the family fun trail last Sunday

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Taking his eye off the ball... four-year old Otto Rhodes (left) doesn't look too confident on how his brother Zachary is loading the golf-club at the family fun trail



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Prize-giving time...Devonport Community family fun trail participants wait patiently for the prizes to be handed out, while Devonport-Takapuna Local Board member Mike Cohen (left) mans the barbecue with Tim McBride (below)

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Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

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Murky response to pollution complaint

A pollution event near Shoal Bay went unchecked for five days, after a concerned resident was ignored by Auckland Council's call centre.

On 7 March, the woman noticed chalky, smelly sedimentation in the Northboro Reserve creek, near Watercare's pumping station and only metres from Shoal Bay, which is home to rare and endangered wading and migratory birds.

She called the main council number, and the call centre, where she was told it was not a council matter and she should call Watercare.

The woman, who asked to not be named, called Watercare, where she got to an automated message and was cut off.

The resident did the right thing by calling the main council line, Bayswater Environment Action Committee's Iain Rea said.

It is disturbing that Auckland Council's system couldn't handle a simple pollution complaint, he said.

"Shoal Bay is in the Unitary Plan as a significant ecological area...meaning it has the highest degree of protection possible in the Unitary Plan.

"When this is the council call centre's response to a complaint that could potentially affect that area, what confidence can the community have that council is looking after our waterways and our environment?" Rea asked.

The Flagstaff met the woman on 8 March and alerted a Watercare officer, who called his manager. We also emailed Devonport-Takapuna Local Board members George Wood and Grant Gillon that day.

A team from Watercare attended the incident, tested for sewage (and didn't find any) and reported the pumping station was working correctly, media adviser Maxine Clayton said.

The Flagstaff sent questions to council on March 11. But it was not until the next day it logged receiving an official complaint and compliance officers attended the scene that morning. They did not observe any discharge



Unholy water... sediment in the creek at Northboro Reserve

then.

However, the officers did note a slight discoloration in one section of the pond below the waste-water pump station, team manager compliance investigations Kerri Fergusson said in a statement.

"At this stage, it is unclear where the source of the sediment discharge has come from.

"Council's resource consent monitoring

officer will inspect nearby developments to ensure sediment and erosion controls are appropriately installed and maintained," Fergusson said.

By press time Auckland Council had not responded to questions about whether it would review its call-centre practices.

Auckland Council's 24/7 pollution line is 09 377 3107.

Repairs made to silt ponds

Developers have made repairs to silt ponds at Ngati Whatua's Hillary precinct development in Belmont.

Auckland Council compliance officers inspected the ponds on 13 March and found no significant issues, but asked Ngati Whatua to maintain the ponds given impending rain, Steve Pearce manager regulatory compliance said.

When the Flagstaff met members of Bayswater Environment Action Committee at the reserve on 15 March, workers could be seen repairing a silt wall, which architect Graeme Pitts had photographed collapsing earlier in the week.

Pitts visited again on 16 March and observed additional coir rolls installed as barrier,

albeit with gaps visible, at the perimeter fence intended to capture silt in the event of a spill.

Pitts had numerous concerns about the construction of the silt ponds and sent a report to Auckland Council, as well as logging an issue with the call centre, on 15 March.

The earthworks at the Hillary Crescent sites are up to 100 metres from Shoal Bay at the closest point and the entire site slopes towards Northboro Reserve, which has a creek draining into the sensitive bird-nesting area.

In December, the committee photographed major silting events polluting the bay in heavy downpours on 5 December and Christmas Day.

Ngati Whatua said it regularly checked and maintained its silt ponds.

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Name game... Oscars Bar & Cafe, annexed to Devonport's cinema, is forced to change its name by the Academy of Motion Pictures. Three Cinemas manager Scott Brown (left) and Bar 3 manager Jimi Hart (right) carry the Oscars sign across Victoria Rd.

- Dog-walking pals form the Friends of North Head group to protest at the Department of Conservation (DoC) spending \$80,000 to relocate its area office to North Head. DoC defends the spend, saying it is cheaper than leasing commercial premises and includes \$15,000 for improving safety on the summit in order to open it to the public. The Friends are unconvinced and gather submissions in support of a litany of complaints. These include a lack of disclosure to the public of DoC's plans, the commercial tone of DoC's plans for the summit, and no definite notification of when the summit fence will be removed. A lack of a clear plan of attack for noxious weeds is also cited by the group, who say the cone is more unkempt than ever.
- A High Court judgement comes out in support of a fight by Devonport locals and the North Shore City Council to save the Tamaki Land, a reserve at Narrow Neck, including Fort Takapuna and land leased by the Defence Force. The judicial review costs the council \$30,000 to save the Crown-owned reserve from sale. The judgement from Justice Anderson, which protects the reserve, including the land beneath the navy's officer training school, is heavily critical of DoC and Conservation minister Nick Smith.
- Stanley Bay brothers Cameron and Conor McLaren win the senior and junior sections of the Devonport Arts Festival photography competition.
- Letters to the Flagstaff include a poem by Lee Dowrick inspired by the council's filming of ageing drain pipes, called *Absolutely everything's on videotape these days*.
- A Devonport dating agency, Link-Up, advertises in the Flagstaff: "We make the match, you get the catch".
- Oscars bar and cafe makes a splash in national and international media, for being forced to change its name in response to a legal threat from the Academy of Motion Pictures. The academy even wants the cinema cat Oscar to be renamed, but he eventually keeps his moniker.

Part-Time Work

Casual delivery duo wanted to hand out the Devonport Flagstaff and our new publication The Rangitoto Observer to businesses and stands. One afternoon per week.

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Evergreen rugby stalwarts retire... ‘pretty definitely’

The word at North Shore Rugby Club is that two of its evergreens – James Hinchco and Willie Walker – have finally retired.

Both Hinchco and Walker, star players for many years, have ‘retired’ then returned to play for the Premiers numerous times, most commonly in recent years to fill injury gaps.

New North Shore coach, former All Black Frano Botica, said: “Hinchie has pretty defi-

nately retired but you can never say never.

“We’ve got a lot of good number 10s this year, so I don’t think Willie will be back.”

Botica said the side was shaping up well after several years rebuilding and a semi-final finish in 2018.

“The previous coaches (Grant Simpkins, Robert Todd and Alan Pollock) have done a great job moulding the team. They are

mature players now and we hope to see the rewards of that this year.”

One loss is experienced midfielder Ben Stewart, who has retired after marking 100 games in 2018. But he is available to help out if the side is struck by injury.

North Shore may also see Blues lock Jacob Pierce pull on the green and white jersey in the early stages of the season.

“Jacob’s injured at the moment but should be back within the month and he’ll have to play a few games for us to get some match time before heading back to the Blues,” Botica said.

Shore players had shown good early-season form in trial games against Waikato champions Hautapu and top Auckland side Ponsonby.

One young player to impress was Caleb Leef, the Takapuna Grammar fullback from 2018, who is in the North Shore senior squad and likely to get some game time off the bench, Botica said.

- North Shore Premiers play Kumeu at home on 30 March.

Coleman gets international opportunity



Cutting through a gap... Donald Coleman in action for North Shore

Former TGS rugby star and North Shore Premier player Donald Coleman hits the international stage next month.

Coleman will play in the Frano Botica-coached Philippines side at the Hong

Kong Sevens from 5-7 April.

Coleman’s mother is a Filipina. His international selection means he will be missing for the first two matches of the North Harbour club competition.



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Fresh faces line up for Shore's long-awaited top-tier entry

North Shore United debuts in the Northern Premier League on 30 March with a new coach and virtually a whole new team.

The side was promoted in 2018, after 11 years in the second division.

Its first match is at home against Glenfield at Allen Hill Stadium, and coach Malcolm McPherson has high hopes for North Shore's chances.

"I do not have the mentality that we will play the season to make up the numbers," he says.

"We have recruited well in the off season and have signed a number of ex-professionals and others who are former national league players."

Among the newcomers from Europe is goalkeeper Silvio Rodic a former Croatian under-21 player, who turned out more than 160 times as a professional in the northern hemisphere.

McPherson has been a top coach in New Zealand for 15 years, including a stint with Eastern Suburbs in the National League, and has worked with many of the country's most promising players.

One of those is Chris Carpenter, who McPherson first met as a 14-year-old junior and will turn out as centre back for North Shore this season.

Ironically, one of the few players left from last season, Max Drake, has been selected to join the Phoenix academy and will leave North Shore for Wellington at the end of March.

"Max has been playing well in all our pre-season games. The Phoenix selection is great for him, and players developing and making the most of their opportunities is something we love to see."

Shore beat Birkenhead 2-0, and drew with Bay Olympic 0-0 in two pre-season games.



Taking flight... North Shore United's Max Drake, pictured (left) in action last year, has been selected to join the Phoenix academy in Wellington

McPherson expects a tough first match against Glenfield.

"They've recruited really well and their

top 11 would be one of the best in the league," he says.

• Kick-off is at 3 pm.

So French is coming.



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